

NEWSLETTER

6 JUNE 2025

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

We realise that this term is very busy time for many of our students and their families, with lots of external visits going on, so we'd like to clarify our procedures around absence:

- **Illness:** if your child is absent from school due to illness, please inform us by 8.30am on each day of their absence by emailing office@surreymathsschool.co.uk. Please do not use MCAS for 'on the day' absences.
- **Planned absences:** e.g. medical appointments, university visits. These should be requested at least 48 hours in advance using the MCAS app in order for the absence to be authorised. For medical appointments, please attach a copy of the appointment reminder/confirmation if possible, so that we can attach this to your child's attendance file. We are aware that there are currently limitations with the mobile version of MCAS; if you have any issues using the desktop version then please notify us via the office@surreymathsschool.co.uk email address.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Gender disparity in STEM continues to be a persistent and complex issue with gender stereotypes and a lack of representation perpetuating the notion that certain fields are more suitable for men than they are for women.

Our **Women in STEM Summer School** aims to tackle this, providing female Year 10 students with engaging sessions and the opportunity to network with one another to build a sense of belonging in STEM.

This week it was amazing to welcome over 60 students to the first half of the Summer School, discussing everything from the achievements of Maryam Mirzakhani to applications of Graph Theory. The day wrapped up with a visit from our amazing female SuMS students, answering questions on everything from subject choices, the SPQ and how many microwaves we have!

We look forward to welcoming the students back in July for the second half of the Summer School and perhaps seeing them in our 2026 cohort.

Very early indeed on Monday morning our Silver and Gold **DofE Award** students set off for their practice expeditions in the Brecon Beacons. They were all well-prepared (thank you for all of your support with this) and they came back exhausted but definitely invigorated! They reported that they had learned a lot, challenged themselves and importantly really enjoyed this fantastic experience.

We recommend that they catch up on some sleep this weekend!



WHAT'S HAPPENING?



Whilst around half of Year 12 were out doing their DofE practice expeditions, the other half were enjoying a few days of extension activities, culminating in a beautiful Surrey hike on Wednesday!

We explored the local countryside, and discovered some beauty spots that many of our students hadn't come across before, giving them a valuable opportunity to step away from studying for a moment and enjoy their wonderful community. We even tried to celebrate Mrs Robinson's birthday with a cake and candles - not so easy on a breezy day!

We loved how engaged the students were with all of the different activities across Monday-Wednesday.



COMING SOON

The second half-term of the summer is always a brilliant time in Year 12, with the students having completed the end of year exams and starting to think seriously about life post-SuMS. We are excited to dive back into our curriculum with them and get absorbed in some more high-quality teaching and learning over the coming weeks.

There are also lots of exciting events this half-term for our students (and you!) to look forward to, including:

- SPQ presentations: 19 June
- Cambridge Chemistry Challenge
- Helen Sharman lecture: 23 June
- INSET DAY: 30 June
- Tuesday sports: 10, 17 & 24 June - as usual
- Sports Day: 1 July - competitive (optional) and fun events
- Inter-maths Schools Careers Fair & Workshops at Kings College Maths School - 8 July (details to follow)
- End of year celebration - 10 July (lunchtime onwards - details to follow)
- Term ends: 11 July at lunchtime (lessons will run right up until 11 July!)



AND FINALLY...

We've been working on setting up a parent and carer donation fund as a way to support financially disadvantaged students and the school as a whole. We will launch this soon - please watch this space!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- SPQ Presentations event - 19 June
- Helen Sharman lecture - 23 June
- Predicted grades sent home - 27 June
- INSET day - 30 June
- Sports day - 1 July

- **Planned absence:** please request via MCAS - min. 48 hours notice
- **Unplanned absence:** please report via office@surreymathsschool.co.uk by 8.30am - every day of absence