Year 9 Newsletter

The Sutton Academy

Issue 1 - November 2026

Welcome

Welcome to the first Year 9 newsletter of the academic year. It has been a positive start to the year, with students continuing to work hard, embrace new challenges and make progress across their subjects.

Recently, students took part in their first Tracking 1 assessments, providing an opportunity to reflect on their learning and demonstrate their progress so far. Information regarding these assessments will be shared with parents and carers at the end of November.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the many achievements, opportunities and exciting experiences taking place throughout Year 9 over the coming months.

Year 9 Team



Mr Hughes
Achievement Leader



Mrs Boylan
Head of Year



Miss O'Hare
KS3 Head of Year



Ms Medare
Assistant Principal

Achievement

A huge well done to our students recognised for their fantastic achievements and positive attitudes!

Dwyane F. has won a £15 voucher for achieving 5 or more Resilience Points, and **Ava A.** has won a £30 Just Eat voucher for achieving a Grade 1 in Attitude to Learning (ATL).

These rewards recognise students who consistently demonstrate resilience, determination and an excellent attitude towards their learning.

Aliyah S., Bethany J., Ava P. and Alice G. were also recognised by our Academy Leadership Team, each receiving a positive phone call home to celebrate their efforts.

Well done to all these students — keep up the fantastic work!

Well Done

WINNER

Student of the Half Term



Lola G

Assessment Focus

I have been incredibly proud of the Year 9 cohort and the commitment they have shown towards their learning, particularly in the way they have prepared for their Tracking 1 assessments. Students have demonstrated a positive attitude towards revision, with over 140 students taking part in our Revision Revolution initiative and showcasing a fantastic range of revision strategies across all subject areas. It has been wonderful to see so many students taking responsibility for their learning and working hard to prepare themselves to perform at their best.

As we move through the term, I encourage all students to maintain this positive approach, making revision a regular part of their routine and continuing to build on the excellent commitment they have shown so far.

Visit our Revision Hub:

CLICK HERE!

thesuttonacademy.org.uk/revision-hub



Find us here:

www.thesuttonacademy.org.uk

TCAT

Attendance Matters

We are delighted to be rewarding students for their excellent attendance through our Attendance Rewards Scheme!

We want to celebrate those students who make every effort to attend school regularly, as we know that every day in school counts. Students who achieve 100% weekly attendance will receive 5 House Points and a lucky ticket for our weekly prize draw, where if they win, can choose between a Queue Jumper Pass or a free cookie!

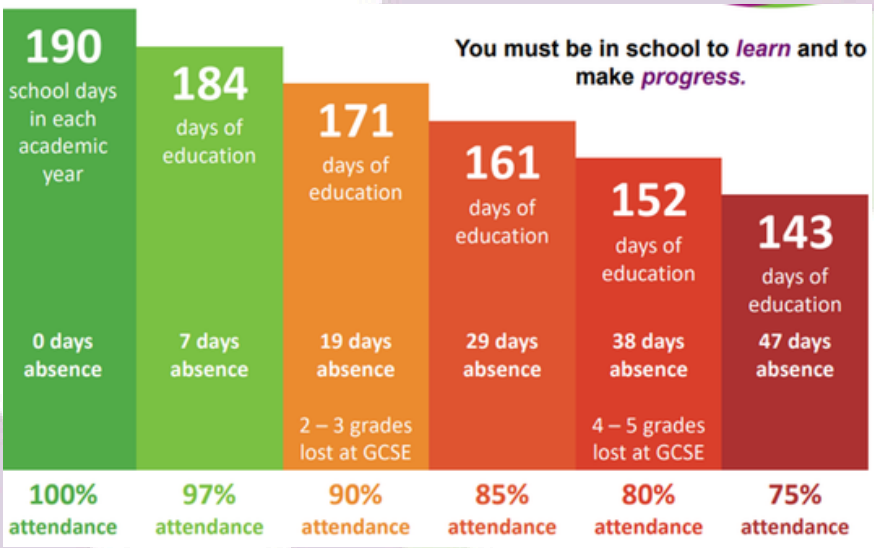
There will also be a chance to win an exciting half-termly prize, with lucky tickets entered into a draw for a fantastic chocolate hamper or vouchers for Starbucks, Greggs or Costa. But that's not all! Students who maintain 100% attendance throughout the term will be in with a chance of winning our amazing Attendance Term Prize – a 40-inch TV!

We will also be running a special prize draw for students who achieve 100% attendance from 28th September to 18th December. We encourage all students to aim high, attend every day and be in school, ready to learn.

Remember, you've got to be in to win!

As always, one of our main priorities is student attendance to school. We strive that all students achieve 96% and above and work hard with them to achieve this. Your support in getting your child to school each day is imperative – thank you for your continued efforts with this.

Poor attendance can result in poor outcomes for your child. Please see the bar chart below at the impact that poor attendance can have on your child's GCSE results.



Reading Spotlight

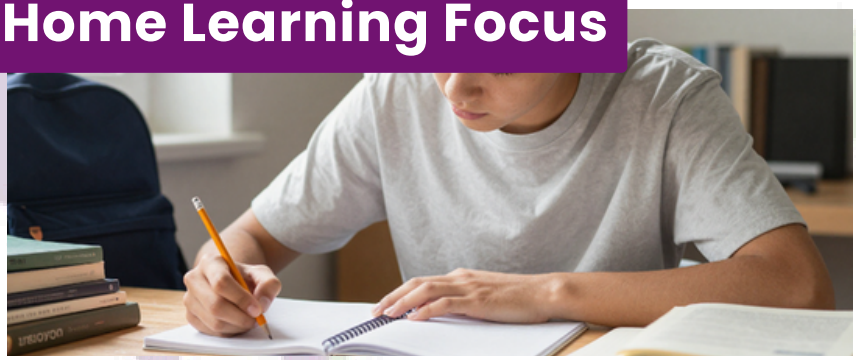


Throughout this half term's Ready to Learn sessions, Year 9 students have been reading Hunger Games: Catching Fire by Suzanne Collins. We encourage parents and carers to discuss the novel with their child and engage in conversations about the characters, themes and key ideas explored throughout the story.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that all Year 9 students are expected to achieve 300 Sparx Reader Points each week. Thank you for your continued support in encouraging students to read regularly at home and complete their weekly reading targets.

Reading regularly plays an important role in students' academic development. It helps to expand vocabulary, improve spelling and comprehension, develop writing skills and strengthen critical thinking. It also encourages imagination, builds confidence and provides an opportunity to relax and enjoy a good book. We encourage all students to develop a love of reading by exploring a range of books and genres, and students are always welcome to borrow books from the academy library to support their reading beyond the classroom.

Home Learning Focus



Home learning is important because it helps students practice and reinforce what they learn in class.

In my role as Achievement Leader, I have spoken to Year 9 about the importance of homework in reinforcing learning and deepening understanding across key subject areas. We have recently streamlined the homework expectations, with students now only required to complete homework in English, Maths, Science and Humanities. For English, students are expected to achieve 300 Sparx Reader Points each week.

Regular completion of homework is essential in helping students consolidate their classroom learning, develop independence and build positive study habits as they move towards Key Stage 4.

Please encourage your child to complete all homework tasks each week and meet the required deadlines. Failure to complete homework may result in detentions, so it is important that students take responsibility for their home learning and stay organised. Your support in reinforcing these expectations at home is greatly appreciated.

All homework tasks can be accessed through Class Charts. If you have any concerns or your child requires additional support, please do not hesitate to contact the Year Team, who will be happy to help.

Extra Curricular & Enrichment

The Sutton Academy provides a diverse and inspiring extra-curricular programme designed to engage students and broaden their experiences. Alongside a wide range of sporting clubs, students also have access to a variety of subject-focused sessions that take place each week.

There are many benefits to participating in extra-curricular activities. Firstly, catch-up and revision sessions provide valuable academic support, giving students the opportunity to revisit learning, strengthen their understanding of key concepts, and receive guidance with coursework to help them achieve their full potential.

In addition, extra-curricular activities help students to develop important life skills beyond the classroom. Through exploring new interests and challenges, students build confidence, teamwork, leadership, and resilience — qualities that are highly valued by colleges, universities, and future employers.

Find out all the amazing clubs we have on offer by clicking the link below:

CLICK HERE



Aspirations

As part of our Ready to Learn programme, Year 9 students have been exploring the world of work and what it means to be successful in the workplace.



Workplace standards

Students have been learning about workplace standards and expectations, including professional behaviour, responsibilities and a positive attitude at work.

Getting paid and employment

They have also explored how people get paid, different aspects of employment and what to expect when entering the world of work.

Employability skills

Students have been developing essential employability skills by learning how to complete job applications effectively and prepare for job interviews, presenting themselves confidently to potential employers.

These experiences are helping students build their knowledge, confidence and skills as they begin to consider their future careers and aspirations.

Trips and Events

Trip to Japan

Year 9 students recently enjoyed an exciting and memorable trip to Japan, providing a fantastic opportunity to experience a different culture, explore new places and develop their understanding of the world beyond the classroom. The trip was a great success, with all students having a wonderful time and making memories that will last a lifetime. It was a valuable experience that allowed students to immerse themselves in Japanese culture, discover its unique traditions and enjoy a range of unforgettable experiences. We are delighted that everyone had such a fantastic time and hope the students will treasure the memories of this special trip for years to come.



School Production - Matilda

We are delighted to announce that this year's school production will be the much loved musical Matilda! Performances will take place on Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th December, with 200 tickets available for each show. We look forward to welcoming families to what promises to be a fantastic production.

For further information and details on how to purchase tickets, please visit Arbor Pay.





Our Houses & Events

This autumn term, The Sutton Academy is bringing our five Houses together through an exciting programme of House events designed to encourage participation, teamwork and community spirit.

From our Bonfire Night Firework Photography Competition on 5th November to our Food Bank and Christmas Card collection supporting local families and care home residents, there are plenty of opportunities for students to get involved and earn valuable House points. On 16th November, we will celebrate Odd Socks Day, standing together against bullying and embracing what makes each of us unique.

In December, students will have the opportunity to show their appreciation through our Thank You Teacher Cards, followed by our festive Five Days of Christmas challenges, taking place from 14th–18th December, with each day celebrating one of our House values. These events are a fantastic way for students to represent their House, demonstrate kindness and creativity, support others and strengthen our academy community.

Five Houses, One Community – let's get involved, earn points and show our House spirit!





Parent Communication

Our Approach

At the academy, we see the relationship between home and education as paramount. We are aware that there are a number of reasons that parents and carers would want to contact staff at the academy.

Our Communication Promise

The Sutton Academy is an organisation with a large number of staff and students and so we want to ensure that there is clarity on how to contact certain staff and what the expectations are on our 'communication promise' to you in terms of responding. We appreciate that at times parents/carers may request a face-to-face meeting with staff. We will always endeavour to facilitate parental meetings; however, we cannot guarantee this if a parent/carer arrives at reception without an appointment. This is because staff have a range of duties and commitments that cannot be covered at short notice.

A parent/carer contacts us via telephone, email or the Arbor Parent Communication app wanting to speak to a member of staff.

Serious Nature	Pastoral	Academic
• Safeguarding • Welfare	• Friendship group • Bullying • General queries	• Set change • Queries over progress • General academic queries • Homework support
A senior member of staff will be made available to ensure that the telephone call is taken or that the message is responded to immediately	Transferred to the relevant Year Team. If they are not available, every attempt will be made to return the call that day by the Head of Year. This may not be possible due to staff absence or the time of the day the call is taken **but there will be a response within 24 hours.**	Transferred to the relevant Year Team. If they are not available, every attempt will be made to return the call that day by the Achievement Leader. This may not be possible due to staff absence or the time of the day the call is taken **but there will be a response within 24 hours.**

If the query is not addressed or responded to within the agreed time frames above, parents/carers are then please asked to email the communicationpromise@thesuttonacademy.org.uk which will make the Principal and Director of Operations aware so that they can ensure that contact is made.

Appointments & Safeguarding

If a parent/carer arrives at reception without an appointment, they will be able to leave their details and an appointment will be made with the relevant Year Team for a later date. In the case of a serious safeguarding issue, a member of the safeguarding team will be made available immediately. The promise is related to telephone contact made or by messages sent in via email or the Arbor app. We understand that some parents/carers will contact staff direct via email but unfortunately, we cannot monitor when or how these are responded to, and so we advise that if you have any concerns to click on the image opposite.