



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

10th Oct 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

We have had another busy week this week with our annual Year 6 Open Evening. It was amazing to see so many Year 6 students attend with their parents and carers, excited about the next stage of their education. Thank you to all of our students who returned to the college in the evening to assist with the open evening, and to parents and carers for bringing them back and collecting them!

We now look forward to holding our Sixth Form Open Evening next week and hope to see many of our year 11 students there!

I am very proud of our group of students who took part in the Firebreak Programme at the Whittlesey Fire Station last week. There is more information about the project inside the newsletter, but I know that the students involved found it to be a really rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Thank you to all of you who supported the Book Fair; we are very grateful as the more sales that we make means the more free books that we can claim for the college library.

Best wishes to you all for the weekend.

Dawn White
Principal



College Book Fair: Thank you!

The College Library hosted its annual Book Fair this week and raised nearly **£300!** The Book Fair is always an exciting event on the college calendar, where students can purchase books & stationery, knowing that their purchases help to fund new books for our school!

Students involved in the College Book Club had the opportunity to help run the Book Fair. A huge thank you to those students who gave up their break & lunchtimes to work on the till, run the raffle and to make the Book Fair look amazing!

The raffle was won by Year 8 student, Layla, who won £25 in tokens to spend at the Book Fair!

The money raised by our fair means that we will receive vouchers to spend on brand new books for our library, expanding our selection of up-to-the-minute fiction as part of our mission to foster a reading culture at SHSCC. Year 7 & 8 students will be able to access these books in their weekly library lessons and the books will also be available for any student to read in the library, or to borrow and take home.

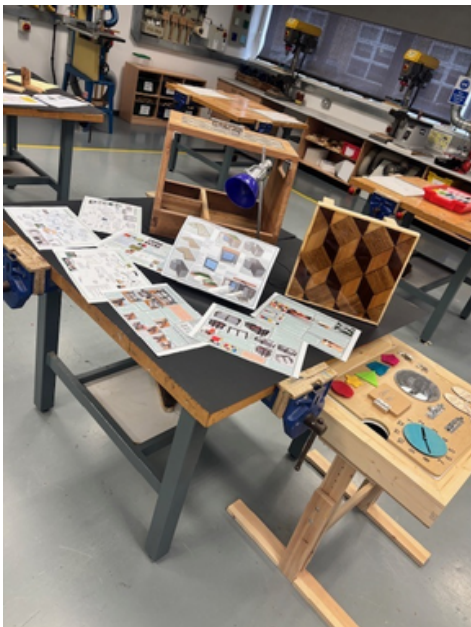
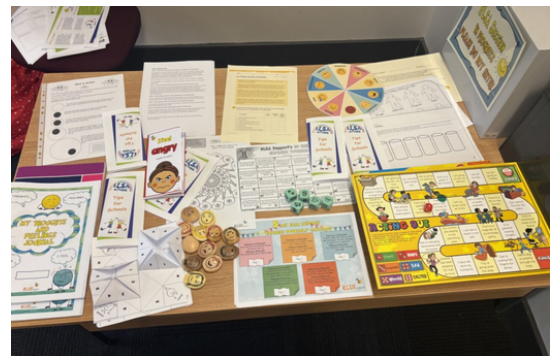
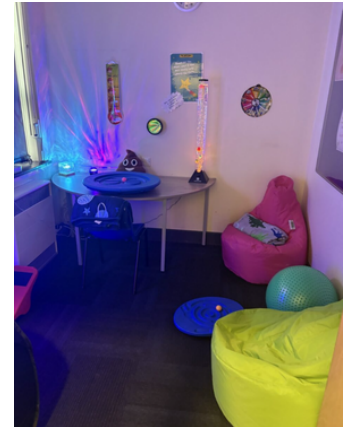
88% of students surveyed in a national study, said they were far more likely to finish a book if they had chosen it themselves, so events like this are vital in promoting reading for pleasure!

Thank you again to all students and staff who supported the Book Fair.

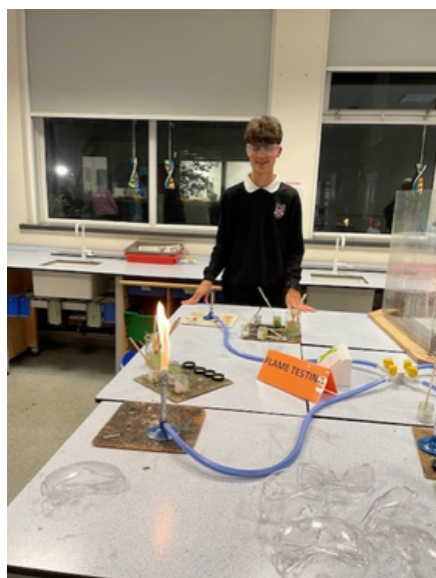
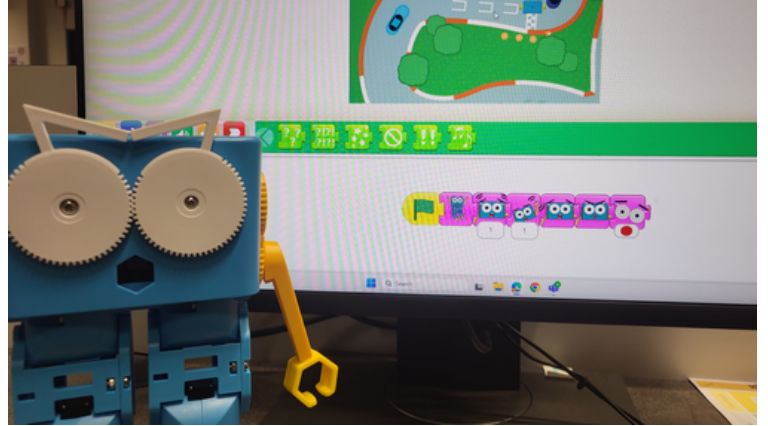


Year 6 Open Evening

It was fantastic to see so many prospective students, parents & carers at our Year 6 Open Evening. Many thanks to our amazing staff who opened their departments, showcasing some brilliant work in their subject areas and putting on such engaging demonstrations and activities.



Year 6 Open Evening



Firebreak Programme

A group of our students recently took part in the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service's Firebreak Programme at Whittlesey Fire Station — an inspiring week designed to build confidence, teamwork, and life skills while giving participants a real taste of what it's like to be a firefighter.

Throughout the week, students learned about fire safety, first aid, and the importance of discipline and communication under pressure. They were challenged with practical drills, fitness sessions, and even experienced using real firefighting equipment. Working alongside local firefighters, the students developed valuable leadership and problem-solving skills that will serve them far beyond the fire station. The week culminated in a passing-out ceremony, where students demonstrated what they had learned to friends, family, and staff. The pride and teamwork on display were truly impressive.

The Firebreak Programme not only gives young people the chance to experience life in the Fire and Rescue Service but also helps them build resilience, self-esteem, and a sense of responsibility — all key qualities for success in school and beyond.

A big thank you to the team at Whittlesey Fire Station and Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service for providing such a valuable opportunity for our students. The students would also like to thank Mr Rothery for organising this and Mark, from Commando Joe, for his support throughout the week.



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**
Working together to improve community safety



Football Successes!

Well done to our Year 7 team for winning their first game 1-0 against a good Kings side. The only goal of the game came from Harry W with a well-placed finish from distance. Special shout out to Tommy A for some wonderful saves, including an impressive double save, and to Jake R for his superb bicycle kick goal line clearance, the only time the ball got past Tommy.



Congratulations to the Year 11s on their first win of the season. In the end they comfortably won the game 4-1 after a tough first half. Once they got into their stride in the second half, they took control and could have scored a few more. Austin H was impressive from the left-hand wing and scored two goals as well as assisting Jack W for his goal. Charlie W also scored with a well-placed finish after purposefully hitting the ball into the ground for it to bobble up over the keeper. Like Mesut Ozil he tells us! Elliot M had a solid game, recovering from an early blunder to make a couple of great saves when the score was 1-1.

Inter-House Photography Competition

We're excited to launch an interhouse photography competition, celebrating the incredible talent and creativity of our student photographers. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their skills, represent their house, and compete for top honours.

Important Guidelines:

- Photos must be taken outside of school grounds.
- Images must not feature any students.

Competition Categories:

- Nature & Environment
- Emotions in Motion
- Culture & Traditions
- Black & White Storytelling

Judging Criteria:

- Creativity & Originality – 30%
- Composition & Technical Skill – 25%
- Relevance to Theme – 25%
- Impact & Emotional Appeal – 20%

Students should submit their entries to their Head of House (HOH). Each HOH will select three standout photographs to represent their house in the final round.

Rewards:

- Every participant will earn 3 house points for their contribution.

Further details will be shared during form time.



Get your cameras ready and let your creativity shine!



Battle of Britain Anniversary: Your WW2 Stories

Many thanks to those students who have already shared WW2 stories from their families. Here are a couple from Alex Stafford & local heroes shared by Whittlesey Museum. If you still have a WW2 story you would like to share as part of our celebration of the 85th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, please send it through to positivenews@sirharrysmith.com

We will share these stories in future issues of the newsletter and they will be featured in our Battle of Britain Memorial Display in the college library.

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Sergeant Leonard (Len) Eyre served as a Flight Engineer in 622 Squadron during World War II, flying on a Lancaster bomber based at RAF Mildenhall in Suffolk. He took part in several night raids over enemy territory, including two notable missions over Kiel, Germany, as recorded in his flight book. Len was also involved in a raid on a ship, which was featured in the newspaper cutting. He recalled after night missions, his crew would return to Mildenhall for a well-deserved full English breakfast.

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope. B or C



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John Searby was born on 23rd April 1913 in Whittlesey. The family live at Low Cross and his father was a wheelwright. At 16, he joined the RAF and went on to have a distinguished career. During WW2 he commanded Pathfinder Squadron 83 and directed the famous Peenemunde Raid on the German V-2 Rocket development site. The raid caused a crucial six-month delay to the V-2 Rocket programme. He was awarded an immediate Distinguished Service Order for his bravery. The citation for the award read: "One night in August 1943, this officer participated in a bombing attack on an important target at Peenemunde. Enemy fighters were extremely active over the target area, but in spit of this, Group Captain Searby executed his difficult task with consummate skill. He displayed faultless leadership, great courage and resolution throughout."

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Useful Information

Upcoming Opening Evenings

Our Open Evenings for September 2026 are as follows:

Sixth Form: Tuesday 14th October 6.00pm-8.00pm



Thank you to all those who attended our Year Six Open Evening this week. It was lovely to see so many prospective students and their parents/carers. A huge thank you to all of our current students who volunteered to help at the event.

Year 7 students will be having their school photographs taken on **Tuesday 14th October**.



A reminder that college will be closed for a Professional Day on **Friday 24th October**. Therefore Half Term break begins on **Thursday 23rd October**.

Useful Information

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ALLERGIES & ANAPHYLAXIS

An allergy is an overreaction of the immune system to a food or substance that's usually harmless. Symptoms can be mild, but for some people they can be very serious. This is known as anaphylaxis.



HOW TO SAY ANAPHYLAXIS: ANA-FIL-AX-IS



ALLERGIES AND ANAPHYLAXIS

- Mild allergy symptoms are treated with antihistamines.
- Anaphylaxis is treated with adrenaline, which is administered via an auto-injector into the outer upper thigh.
- Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency and a threat to life.



WHAT ADRENALINE DOES

Adrenaline reduces swelling, opens the patient's airways and raises their blood pressure. Patients must go to hospital for monitoring, as the reaction could return.



ANAPHYLAXIS SYMPTOMS

AIRWAY

Symptoms include swelling in the throat, tongue or upper airways; tightening of the throat; a hoarse voice; and difficulty swallowing.



BREATHING

Symptoms include persistent cough; sudden onset of wheezing; breathing difficulty; and noisy breathing.



CIRCULATION

Symptoms include pale and clammy skin; dizziness; feeling faint; sudden sleepiness; tiredness; confusion; and loss of consciousness.



In extreme cases of anaphylaxis, there could be a dramatic fall in the patient's blood pressure. The patient may become weak and floppy, and have a sense of something terrible happening. Any of the ABC symptoms listed above may lead to collapse and unconsciousness and, on rare occasions, be fatal.

TOP 14 FOOD ALLERGENS:

(However, be aware people can be allergic to anything.)



CELERY



FISH



CRUSTACEANS



EGGS



MILK



SOYA



LUPIN



CEREALS



TREE NUTS



SESAME



MUSTARD



MOLLUSCS



PEANUTS



SULPHITES

NON-FOOD ALLERGENS:



POLLEN



PET HAIR/DANDER



INSECT VENOM



MEDICATION/DRUGS

LINKS TO FURTHER RESOURCES - Scan the QR codes to find out more



AllergyWise*



EpiPen



Jext



ADRENALINE AND AAI's

Meet Our Expert

Anaphylaxis UK is the only UK-wide charity operating solely for the growing numbers of people at risk of serious allergic reactions and anaphylaxis. While there's no treatment or cure for anaphylaxis, we believe that by providing information, training and support, there's a brighter future for people living with serious allergies.



The National College®

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Key Information

Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Professional Day (college closed to students)	Monday 1st September 2025
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
START OF TERM - <u>Year 7 & 12 students only</u>	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
START OF TERM - <u>All other year groups</u>	Thursday 4th September 2025
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Friday 24th October 2025
Half Term	Monday 27th to Friday 31st October 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19th December 2025

SPRING TERM 2026

START OF TERM	Monday 5th January 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026

Contacting Us

Please visit our website to find out the best way of contacting the person you would like to get in touch with. Please do remember that if you are contacting a member of our teaching staff, they will have teaching commitments during the day so please bear with them. If you would like to meet with a member of staff then please do arrange an appointment first.

In any cases of an emergency, please call the school on **01733 703991**.

Social Media

Please be sure to follow us on social media. We have Facebook pages for Sir Harry Smith Community College, Park Lane Primary School, New Road Primary School and the Aspire Learning Trust.

