

SEDGEHILL

weekly

27 APRIL 2018

MESSAGE FROM MS CASSIDY

I had a very busy day on Monday this week.

In the evening, I went to the London Palladium to see some of our students perform as part of the Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST). I know many of you attended also. I hope those who did had a great night. I know I did and I will write more about it next week.

Today, though, I wanted to tell you about my Monday afternoon, when I went to St-Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square for the 25th anniversary commemoration service of the death of Stephen Lawrence. This was a very moving event - a celebration of Stephen Lawrence's life and the legacy that has been achieved in his name. Both Theresa May and Jeremy Corbyn spoke. Prince Harry and Meghan Markle were there. And Beverley Knight sang with real force and passion.

But the most memorable part of the service was when three young people who have been supported by Stephen Lawrence foundations spoke about their journeys. One is now an architect, another a journalist and a third at university studying economics and finance. They each spoke amazingly well and confidently and showed no signs of being intimidated by either the occasion or stature of the audience.

The whole service was a hugely positive experience - and a reminder of the positive ways that society has changed over the last quarter of the century.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you have not done so yet, please go to www.fsm.lgfl.net to quickly and easily check your eligibility for free school meals. If you are eligible, the school also gains welcome additional funding known as 'Pupil Premium'.

Once you've entered essential details into the web site, the online application process links to the Department for Education system for checking eligibility and gives an immediate 'yes' or 'no' response, and will also notify the school.

If eligible, you are not obliged to accept the free school meals for your child should you wish to make other arrangements, but we do want to encourage applications as the additional funding gained would still benefit education provision at the school, allowing us to take on additional staff and invest in additional equipment, resources and activities to the benefit all children.

By way of a 'thank you' to parents for taking part, and regardless of individual outcomes, The London Grid for Learning (LGfL) would like to provide parents of children attending LGfL-connected schools with Sophos Anti-Virus software, free of charge, to protect the computers used by pupils at home.

PERFECT STUDENTS

Perfect Student is presented to the student from each year group who has, in that week:

- 100% attendance;
- 100% punctuality;
- gained the most achievement points.

This week's Perfect Students are:

- Year 7 **Hanaa Lagzouli / Ruby-May Hollier**
- Year 8 **Nevaeh Julien**
- Year 9 **Ella Bailey / Shamarah Oniri**
- Year 10 **Elena Davidson / Imani Fletcher**
- Year 11 **Nathan Wray**
- Sixth Form **Michael Schweigert**

Well done to all of the above students.

NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE



Before Easter, the National Youth Theatre came to Sedgemoor to deliver a performance and workshop on mental health, housing and counselling to a selection of Drama students in Y9. The experience was thought-provoking and students were excited (although initially nervous!) about getting the chance to act alongside the NYT performers in the forum theatre workshop to see how characters could handle the difficult situations within the story better.

A GALAXY OF HER OWN

To round off our International Women's Month celebrations in the library, we were very lucky to be visited by Libby Jackson, author of *A Galaxy of Her Own* - a wonderful book celebrating the contributions of women to space exploration. Libby, who grew up in Beckenham, is the Human Spaceflight & Microgravity Programme Manager at the UK Space Agency, and inspired our students with tales of Valentina Tereshkova, the first woman in space; Katherine Johnson, the mathematician who calculated the flight paths for the first American in space and the first American to orbit the Earth; and Helen Sharman, not just the first British woman, but the first British *person* in space.



MUSIC EXAM SUCCESS



Five students recently took music examinations with the ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music). We are proud to say that they all passed.

Callan Dixon Merit in Grade 3 Saxophone

Conal Sparrow Merit in Grade 4 Piano

Joseph Thomas Pass in Grade 5 Violin

Shantaya Douglas-Smith Pass in Grade 5 Trumpet

Aimee Befroy Pass in Grade 5 Violin

Congratulations to all of the above students.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 3 May Year 8 Parents' Evening

Monday 7 May Bank Holiday

Sedgehill School

Attendance Procedures



Students are EXPECTED to:

- Attend school regularly
- Arrive at school on time.
- Be punctual to lessons
- Bring notes to school to explain any absence

Parents are EXPECTED to:

- Ensure that their children attend school whenever possible.
- Ensure that their child leaves for school with enough time to be punctual.
- Informs the school of any absence.
- Book medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible.
- Not book any holidays during term time. These will be marked as unauthorised and are likely to be subject to a fine.
- Support the school sanctions if students are late.

If your Child is Absent from School

1. Contact the school on 020 8698 8911 and follow instructions to connect the Attendance Voicemail Service.
2. Leave a message stating your child's name, form, reason for absence and expected return date to school.
3. If your child is absent for longer than 2 days, please contact the Attendance Team with an update.

If your Child's Attendance is 95% and Below

Absences below 95% WILL NOT be authorised unless you provide any of the following:

1. Letter from hospital/doctors confirming an appointment.
2. Copy of prescription or prescription label on medication.
3. Letter from a professional body stating the reason for absence.

If your Child is Late to School

1. Contact the school on 020 8698 8911 and follow instructions to connect the Attendance Voicemail Service.
2. Leave a message stating your child's name, form, reason for late and expected time of arrival to school.

Late Detentions

1. If your child is late to school he/she will receive a 1 hour detention that day.
2. Persistent lateness will result in further actions including, but not limited to:
 - Punctuality Report
 - Punctuality Mentoring
 - School and Parent Meeting

We will ONLY accept reasons/notes relating to lateness from parents which are of exceptional circumstances.

Monitoring Process

The Attendance Team will closely monitor students and may take the following actions:

- Send letters home
- Invite parents for attendance meetings
- Parenting Contract
- Fixed Penalty Notices
- Panel Meetings
- Refer to the Local Authority for Persistent Absence.