



NEWSLETTER

Friday 11 September 2026 : Term 1, Week 1



It was lovely to welcome our students back into school on Monday for the start of what has been an extremely productive week. Students had made an excellent start to the new academic timetable back in July, which allowed them to really hit the ground running on Monday morning.

Although the summer holidays already feel like a dim and distant memory (What happened to that glorious sunshine!), I just have to take this opportunity to congratulate last year's Year 11 and 13 students on their outstanding outcomes. A link to the press releases we sent out on the results days can be found [here](#). We couldn't be any prouder of these young people; it is a genuine privilege to be a

part of their journey that is leading to such exciting opportunities.

I must also mention our new Year 11 students, who received their GCSE grades for Religious Studies and their option A subjects in the summer holiday. As a group, they achieved the school's best ever outcomes for these two subjects. This means they start Year 11 in the best possible place, full of confidence that they can achieve the ambitious target grades that have been set for them.

This week I have had the pleasure of attending Year assemblies and took the opportunity to present "Keys to Success" to those students who stood out for all the right reasons in Term 6. A growing number of students have secured all 5 keys for upholding the school values through: hard work, respect for all, making a positive contribution, honest intentions and displaying a can-do attitude. In Year 11 the Golden Key was presented to David Brown, Aaron Burfield, Rohan Franklin, Aphaia Geogalakis, Isobel Herbert, Grace Lancaster and Bethan Lewis at their assembly on Monday morning. Unbelievably, two of our Year 9s have already achieved this and I was able to present Freyja Jordan and Isla Aeberhard with their Golden Keys on Tuesday.

This week we formally started our formal partnership with the catering company, Innovate, who are working across both sites. The feedback regarding the quality of the food has been exceptional. As well as the healthy options and overall quality, I have been particularly impressed by how the Innovate team respond to suggestions from staff and students. We will be looking at scheduling meetings with them so that parent/carer and student groups have the opportunity to offer feedback. School catering will also be on the agenda for the first Parent Forum meeting of the year which has been scheduled for the 1 October. The last Parent Forum meeting was devoted to a screening of the Public Emergency Briefing and all Seaford Head staff have now seen the film. The forum will also be able to discuss how the issues raised in the film can be addressed by the school and the wider Seaford community.

Later in this week's newsletter there is a wonderful report on our team of "World Challengers" who visited Ecuador over the summer holiday. Activities ranged from contributing to a conservation project to white water rafting down the Amazon. Our young people are incredibly fortunate to have this opportunity. A massive thank you to Miss Fraser and Mr MacDonald for leading the trip and a huge well done to our challengers for making the most of this opportunity.



Headteacher's Star of the Week

David Brown, Bella Edwards, Hettie Franks, Celia Jones, Dylan Kristiansen (Friston), Sienna Etherington, Eloise Grey, Ollie Mewton-Welch, Max Michael (Cuckmere Haven), Isabelle Armstrong, Aaron Burfield, Max Hiles, Bethan Lewis, William McFarlane, Ava Sapsford, Sabina Sayenthiran, Lucas Underhay-Walsh, Grace Walken (Beacon) and Isobel Douthwaite, Dylan Gomez, Isobel Herbert, Rowan Lally, Jessica Mason, Sophie Simcock, Daisy Venables (Blatchington) :
Working Hard Key

As outlined above, our new Year 11s were also celebrating on the GCSE results day. We introduced 2 GCSEs into Year 10 almost 5 years ago to reduce the exam pressure in Year 11 and this cohort have secured the best ever outcomes at this stage. The students above have already secured 2 GCSEs at grades 7 – 9 which gives them great momentum to start the new year. Celia also secured an A grade in her level 2 project to go with her 8 in Art and 9 in RS, whilst Sienna achieved a grade 8 in German to go with her grade 7 in DT and grade 8 in RS.

The small number of students in Year 11 who were disappointed by their results for the 2 GCSEs can now apply themselves to ensure that their next results day in August 2027 is more positive.



Head of Year : Stars of the Week

Year	Name	Reason
7	Amber Sevilla	For a great design for the pull along toy project, with detailed annotation and 3D oblique drawing of a final design. Very well done.
8	Halle Winder	For a great start to term, always so positive and happy. Her attitude to work is infectious among the students around her... keep it up!
9	Rocco Murphy	For a fantastic first (double!) lesson back! Keep it up and you will be able to progress incredibly in Spanish! Muy buen trabajo, Rocco.
10	Brandon Sistrom	For his heroic effort in the community, quick thinking and level headed response to helping a woman in need.
11	The whole of Year 11	For receiving the best Year 10 GCSE exam results ever.
12	Amy Rigby	For being so warm and helpful in helping new students from other schools settle in.
13	Joshua Turner	For starting the year amazingly by coming in early for extra study periods.

Future Dates

Monday 21 September : Year 12 Welcome Evening
Thursday 24 September : Year 6 Open Evening



News

You can also find out about our latest news, successes and celebrations within the Seaford Head community on our Facebook page [here](#)



Careers

For the latest information on Careers Fairs, Open Days and Apprenticeships visit our website [here](#)

Our website also has a wide range of information, support and website links to support with your Careers queries and questions, which can be accessed [here](#)

For the latest LMI information, please check our website [here](#)



Community Notices

We have a wide range of community events and notices which can now be viewed on our website [here](#).



Ecuador World Challenge

This summer, a group of Seaford Head students embarked on an unforgettable World Challenge expedition to Ecuador, experiencing an incredible mix of adventure, culture, conservation and personal challenge.

Our adventure began in Quito, where the students spent time acclimatising to the altitude before exploring the city's historic Old Town. They learned about Ecuador's fascinating architecture and culture and even had the opportunity to take part in a chocolate tasting! We also visited the famous Equator, where students could quite literally stand with one foot in the Northern Hemisphere and one in the Southern Hemisphere.

From Quito, we travelled to a conservation project within a beautiful nature reserve, where the students quickly got stuck into the practical work of supporting the local environment. Their activities included feeding animals, planting food and constructing fences to protect the orchards. Alongside the conservation work, the students learned about the production of some of Ecuador's most famous exports, having the chance to make their own chocolate and coffee.

The adventure continued as we headed into the Amazon rainforest, where we camped amongst the incredible natural surroundings and tackled some amazing jungle hikes. The students embraced the challenges of being immersed in such a remote and unfamiliar environment, showing resilience, teamwork and a real willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

The expedition concluded with an exhilarating white-water rafting experience in the Amazon. For some students, this was a real test of courage, with several overcoming initial fears to take part and thoroughly enjoying the experience.

From exploring Quito and standing on the Equator to working on a conservation project, camping in the Amazon and tackling white-water rapids, the expedition gave our students the opportunity to experience a completely different culture and environment while developing independence, resilience and teamwork.

It was truly an unforgettable adventure, and one that has created memories that will stay with our students for a lifetime.



Would you like to be part of the next 'World Challenge' adventure?

The next World Challenge trip will take place in July 2028 to Costa Rica. If you are interested in being part of the World Challenge Team and joining us on the next trip of a lifetime, or you would like to find out more information, please email:

rebeccafraser@seafordhead.org

Year 13 Geography Trip to Nettlecombe Court

From Friday 4 to Monday 7 September, Year 13 Geography students visited Nettlecombe Court in Somerset for a busy and rewarding fieldwork trip.

Students explored Minehead and Porlock Bay, investigating coastal processes, coastal management and developing their understanding of place geography. They also planned and carried out a pilot investigation, helping them prepare for their individual NEA data collection later this month.

Back at Nettlecombe Court, students took part in GIS and statistics workshops, developing their skills in data presentation, analysis and interpretation. The trip provided an excellent opportunity to apply classroom learning to real world environments while building confidence in fieldwork and independent investigation.

A big thank you to all the students and staff for their enthusiasm, hard work and commitment-particularly for giving up their weekend so early in the new academic year!



Book Recommendations

This year we are delighted to share book recommendations with parents and carers. Each week we will be sharing a book suitable for Year 7-8 and one for Year 9+.

Term 1, Week 1

New Kid by Jerry Craft

Genres: Growing Up, Graphic Novel

This award-winning graphic novel tells the story of twelve-year-old Jordan Banks who navigates the challenges of attending a prestigious private school where he faces misunderstanding and prejudice. Balancing his passion for art with his new environment, he ultimately learns to stand up for himself.

This book is perfect for readers in Year 7 – 8.

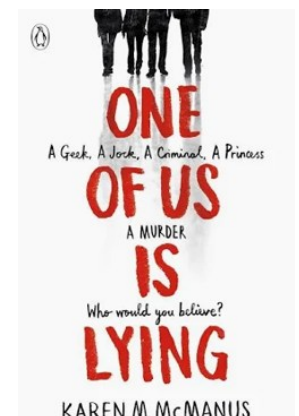
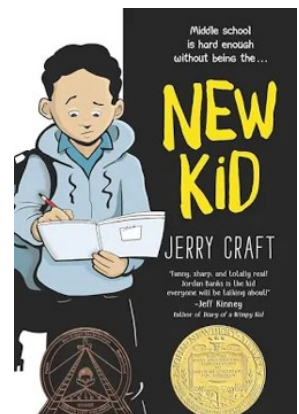
One of Us is Lying by Karen M McManus

Genres: Murder mystery, Young Adult Fiction

Five high school students who enter detention, but only four leave alive. As the police declare the death a homicide, the investigations reveal secrets, lies and a dramatic twist.

We would recommend parents and carers check content warnings.

This book is suitable for readers in Year 9+.



Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Safeguarding Team

These are our Designated Safeguarding Leads at Seaford Head School.

Dr I Wallace

Mrs L Kaukolahti

Mr S Whittaker



If you have a safeguarding concern or query please call the school on 01323 891623 or email safeguarding@seafordhead.org.

The Safeguarding Team



Mr B Ellis
Headteacher



Dr I Wallace
DSL



Ms L K
Safeguarding Manager &
Deputy DSL



Mr S Whittaker
Deputy DSL



Rev J Hollingsworth
Governor for Safeguarding

Deputy DSLs



Ms S Alvarez
Assistant
Headteacher



Ms J Hudson
Inclusion
Practitioner



Mrs T Kelebek
Inclusion
Practitioner



Mrs J Owen
Educational
Welfare Officer



Mrs J Root
LAC Designated
Teacher



Mrs C Callard
Asst Head of Year



Ms E Gallagher
Asst Head of Year



Mrs T Mason
Head of Year



Miss E Phillips
Asst Head of Year

Any member of staff in the school will help support you if you need it. The people shown below have specific training and skills to support young people around their feelings and wellbeing.



Mr Sam Whittaker
Solution Focused
Therapy (SFBT) Certified



Mrs K
Rational Emotive Behaviours
Therapy (REBT) Accredited



Beth
Emotional Literacy Support
Assistant (ELSA) Certified



Julia
Emotional Literacy
Support Assistant (ELSA)



Ms Mason
Miss Fleming
Mrs Moloney
Miss Phillips
Miss Gallagher

Ms Kyprianou
Mr O'Kane
Miss Novitt
Mrs Davis
Mr McLaren

Mr Vaughan
Mr Purdey
Dr Wallace
Mr Beverley
Miss Wells

Miss Britton
Miss Harris
Mrs Martin
Mr Gant
Mrs Callard

Mr Ashdown
Mr Thomas
Mr Osborne
Miss Adamson
Miss Bromley



Tara
Counsellor



Laura
Counsellor



Jennie
Senior Mental Health
Practitioner



Katy
Children's Wellbeing
Practitioner

Mrs Margaret Rooms

We received some extremely sad news over the summer holiday when we learned that our Chair of the Local Governing Board, Mrs Margaret Rooms, had passed away following a short illness.

Margaret joined the governing board in November 2016 and was an integral part of the governor steering group that paved the way for Chyngton Primary School to academise and join Seaford Head as part of the Seaford Learning Trust. Margaret was a committed and energetic governor who was actively involved in all areas of the school. She dedicated her whole working life to education and her specialist field was supporting SEN and dyslexic students; her outstanding work in this area was recognised when she was awarded the MBE.

At Seaford Head, Margaret's contribution extended far beyond holding the Senior Leaders to account and working with the Inclusion team; she was actively involved in delivery and supported individual students through the Nisai reading programme. This input had a huge impact on individual students' literacy levels and overall academic achievement. Margaret's willingness to work individually with students who wanted the specialist support that she could offer set her apart as a truly unique Chair of Governors.

As well as acting as the Chair of the Board, Margaret was a regular presence in the school and was well - liked and respected by all the students and staff that she worked with. School staff were aware that Margaret's questioning was informed by a fierce intelligence and deep understanding of education. As a resident of the town, Margaret was committed to ensuring that all the adults employed by the Trust worked to the very best of their ability for the benefit of Seaford's children. Her passing is a huge loss to the school and the wider Seaford Community.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Margaret's friends and family at this sad time.

