

SWR WEEKLY

Striving for Excellence Together



ELLEN

We're thrilled to share that Ellen has been selected for the U13 County Netball Development Programme—a fantastic achievement!

With netball being highly competitive in Gloucestershire, earning a place in this programme is a true testament to Ellen's talent, dedication, and hard work. Well done, Ellen!



It has been a wonderful first week back at SWR, welcoming our new Year 7 students and greeting returning students for the 2025/2026 academic year. We have been delighted with everyone's return and would like to extend a big thank you to parents for all the effort involved in preparing students for the year, from uniform to equipment. We know how tricky those early mornings can be for some teenagers after six weeks of holiday, so well done for getting everyone up and ready for school this week!

We began the year under a shadow of sadness, following the news over the summer that Amelie Zeal had passed away after a courageous battle with brain cancer. During assemblies and tutor periods, we took time to remember Amelie, celebrate her life, and honour the legacy she leaves with everyone who knew her. Her passing has deeply affected us all, and in this week's edition of SWR Weekly, we have included a special tribute to Amelie (tribute on page 3). As a community, we will continue to do what we do best: support one another. In the coming days, we will speak with the wider school community about our loss and ensure that every student and staff member has access to the support they need. We will also work with Amelie's parents and friends to decide how best to honour her memory at SWR.

I am also pleased to share that the school has had a very successful transfer window and we are now fully staffed. We warmly welcome Mrs Hoffman-Beer to the MFL department and Mrs Clark to Science. Both bring great experience and exceptional skill to their roles, and we wish them every success at SWR. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Begum and Miss Watson-Beer as Teaching Assistants and look forward to the contribution they will make to our community.

In assembly this week, we focused on the importance of positivity, encouraging students to notice the progress they make each day. By celebrating these moments, we help them build confidence, resilience, and a strong foundation for success. This week, our focus on celebration includes recognising each member of staff's Star Student of the Day and Tutee of the Week.

We are very excited about the year ahead and look forward to sharing many successes in future editions of SWR Weekly.

Mr Ruscoe



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SWR STARS

Ellen - Ellen has been selected for the U13 County Netball Development Program

Florence - for helping with a medical incident

Jacob - for having a really positive start at SWR and making the most of everything that secondary school has to offer

Lily - for helping with a medical incident

Scarlett - for having a really positive start at SWR and making the most of everything that secondary school has to offer

Vanessa - for helping with a medical incident



PARENTPAY

Please ensure that ParentPay accounts are regularly topped up, as sufficient funds are required for students to access the canteen facilities.

PARKING

We've recently been contacted by a resident of Conygar Road regarding an ongoing issue with driveway access during school pick-up times.

The resident reported that his driveway has been repeatedly blocked by cars collecting students.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to avoid blocking driveways and to park responsibly when collecting students, particularly on Conygar Road and surrounding streets.

OPEN EVENING - EARLY CLOSURE

We will be closing at 12:30 PM on Thursday, 25th September. We apologise for any inconvenience - thank you for your understanding!

KEY DATES

Thursday 11th September - Y7 BBQ

Thursday 25th September - Open Evening

Monday 29th September - Open Morning

Tuesday 30th September - Open Morning

Wednesday 1st October - Open Morning

Friday 3rd October - School Walk

Saturday 4th October - Open Morning

Thursday 9th October - School Information Evening

Wednesday 22nd October - Y11 Parents' Evening



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AMELIE ZEAL

The summer holidays began with a profound shock for our community. We lost Amelie, one of our Year 10 students who was preparing to enter Year 11.

Amelie had been appointed Head Student, a role she thoroughly deserved through her hard work, positivity, and the respect she earned from both staff and peers. Sadly, her illness meant she never had the chance to formally take up the position, but the fact that she was chosen reflects the kind of young person she was and the qualities she brought to our school.

Amelie was often celebrated as an SWR Star on a Friday, whether studying with determination or contributing to school life. She excelled across our community, on the football field, in her dedication to rowing outside of school, and on stage where she sang with confidence and led the band during our end-of-term assembly. Amelie was admired by students and staff alike, a loyal friend, and a true embodiment of our school values of aspiration, collaboration, and resilience.

She was also someone who spoke her mind with honesty and humour. Staff remember her frustration that boys would not let her join their football games at break and lunchtime, although in truth it was probably because she was better than them. That combination of determination, openness, and wit made her stand out even more.

Amelie lived with a sense of adventure and made every day count. At her funeral, we heard about her love of the water, her excitement for surfing, and her dream of one day riding a motorbike, something she thought would be “so much fun.” We also learned about her passion for skateboarding, racing down the hill through Nailsworth to meet friends. Even during her illness, Amelie’s courage, warmth, and energy continued to shine through, as her family and friends so often said.

Losing someone with such zest for life at such a young age is impossibly cruel. Yet Amelie’s legacy will remain with everyone who was fortunate to know her. At the funeral, Mr Farr, Amelie’s tutor, spoke of the “Zeal Way,” a phrase that perfectly captures her approach to life: positivity, making the most of each day, embracing adventure, laughing often, and supporting others with kindness and loyalty.

At Amelie’s funeral, Mia Scanlon and Oren Gibson in Year 11 sang the song Home, a piece of music that held special meaning for her. Mia shared a light-hearted memory from rehearsals in the Music department, when Amelie asked her to sing the male part of the song so that she could practise. She encouraged Mia to “find her inner male voice” to bring it to life, another example of Amelie’s humour, warmth, and spirit.

During our whole school assembly we played Home in tribute to Amelie. The song’s theme, that “home is wherever I’m with you,” symbolises our school community coming together during this sad time. Its uplifting nature also celebrates the energy, joy, and happiness Amelie brought to everyone around her. It reminds us that even in loss, supporting each other creates a sense of home and belonging.

Amelie’s parents, Matt and Tara, have embarked on an extraordinary 1,200-mile walk from John O’Groats to Land’s End to raise awareness and funds for vital brain tumour research and end-of-life care. They have asked us to share their fundraising page, which provides more information and an opportunity to support their remarkable challenge.

[Click here to donate](#)

We kindly ask that families and students continue to respect the family’s privacy at this time.





SIR WILLIAM ROMNEY'S SCHOOL

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER



SCAN HERE TO
BOOK YOUR PLACE!

OPEN EVENING - THURSDAY 25TH
SEPTEMBER

OPEN MORNINGS - 29TH & 30TH
SEPTEMBER 1ST & 4TH OCTOBER



Sir William Romney's PTFA

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Everyone is welcome.

Stay informed and get involved.

Tuesday 30th September

7.30pm

The Priory snug

(The end room with the sofas)



Parentkind
Member Association