

NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



16 JULY 2026



As another year academic year draws to a close, we would like to take a moment to thank everyone who has been part of the journey this year. We still cannot believe that we have now seen a whole cohort through our school, and are delighted with what the more established Surrey Maths School is now looking like!

It's been a wonderful year for SuMS. We have celebrated exceptional student achievements, moved to our permanent home, and continued to see our school community grow in confidence, ambition and kindness. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our staff, the support of our families and the enthusiasm and commitment of our wonderful students. We thank you all for that.

We take a particular moment to say thank you to Mr Phil Tizard, who has been one of our founding Maths Teachers and Outreach Leads. We are sorry that he is leaving SuMS but are excited on behalf of the students of Godalming College, and wish him all the best from everyone in our community.

To our Year 13 students, thank you for everything you have brought to our school. As you prepare for your next steps, we wish you all the success in the world and remind you that you will always be a part of the SuMS family.

To our year 12 students, thank you for our energy and positivity throughout the year - we look forward to welcoming you back in September and seeing what you do with the school building and programmes as you become the leaders of the school.

We hope that everyone the chance to enjoy a restful and well deserved break. We look forward to welcoming both familiar and new faces back in September for another exciting year.

Nora Kettleborough & Sahar Shillabeer

Co-Headteachers

Celebrating our SuMS values

Every term we take a moment to recognise individual students who have really embodied our SuMS values. Here we'd like to share with you our very worthy winners for this school year:

- Aspiration: Elizabeth, Aditi, Nithya
- Collaboration: Saul, Haylie, Katy
- Compassion: Edmund, Arjun, Remi
- Innovation: Vidula, Nolan, Jake
- Integrity: Ash, Daniel P, Thanos



Keeping you informed

From next term we will be issuing our SuMS newsletter in the last week of each half-term, to celebrate everything that our wonderful students have achieved! You will receive a weekly bulletin by email with important information, so please be sure to keep us updated if your email address changes.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- 13 Aug - A Level Results day - Y13
- 20 Aug - Enrolment day - Y12
- 1 & 2 Sep - INSET days (school closed to all students)
- 3 Sep - Induction day - Y12
- 4 Sep - Re-induction day - Y13
- 7 Sep - Lessons begin - Y12 & 13
- 9-11 Sep - PC4 - Y13
- 9-11 Sep - Cuffley trip - Y12

Planned absence: please request via attendance@surreymathsschool.co.uk - min. 48 hours notice

Unplanned absence: please report via attendance@surreymathsschool.co.uk - by 8.30am - every day of absence



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SO MUCH TO CELEBRATE!

Student Council collaboration with Kings + Imperial

This term, our Student Council joined students from King's Maths School and Imperial Maths School for a collaborative student leadership session. It was a fantastic opportunity to share ideas, compare experiences and learn from one another across the three schools.

The meeting was full of thoughtful discussions about student life, leadership and how we can continue to improve our school communities. Bringing together students from across the maths school network sparked some brilliant conversations, and everyone left with plenty of new ideas to take back to their own schools. **A huge thank you to King's Maths School for hosting such a valuable event.**

SPQ

Our Year 12 students recently presented their final SPQ projects to parents, carers, mentors and staff, and what an event it was! The quality of the presentations was genuinely outstanding, with students sharing thoughtful, ambitious and engaging research on a huge range of topics. The standard of work was far beyond what you might typically expect from 17-year-olds, and they should all be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

A huge thank you goes to our partners at the University of Surrey, whose mentors have generously supported our students throughout the project, and to Dr Kirby for overseeing the programme and helping make it such a valuable experience.

Prom

This year marked a very special milestone as we celebrated our very first Year 13 Prom! It was a fantastic evening filled with laughter, dancing and plenty of memorable moments. Of course, it wouldn't be a Surrey Maths School event without pizza, and the pizza van was a huge hit!

A massive thank you to all the staff who gave up their evening to celebrate with our students, and to our brilliant Prom Committee, who worked so hard with Mrs Joyce and Mrs Spiller to organise the event, set everything up and even returned the next day to tidy away. It was the perfect way to celebrate and say goodbye to our very first Year 13 cohort—we couldn't have asked for a better send-off.

Sports Day

With the heat easing just a little, our Year 12 students headed to Surrey Sports Park for this year's Sports Day. The afternoon was packed with house rounders, relay races and plenty of friendly competition, with Murphy House emerging victorious in the rounders tournament!

As always, the day wasn't just about sporting success. Medals were also awarded to students who showed outstanding house spirit and enthusiastic support for their teammates, helping to create a fantastic atmosphere throughout the event. We rounded off the afternoon with a well-earned frozen ice pop before heading home.

A huge thank you to Mrs Joyce, Mrs Bourne, Mr Hart, Mr Gates and Dr Kirby for supporting the event, and to Surrey Sports Park for hosting us—not only for Sports Day, but for all of our sports sessions over the past two years.



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UMaths conference

Eight students from Surrey Maths School joined around 200 students from across the U-Maths network for the very first annual U-Maths Student Conference, hosted by Lancaster Maths School at Lancaster University.

Across three packed days, students enjoyed a fantastic programme of talks, workshops and activities. Highlights included Colin Wright's fascinating talk on the mathematics of juggling, hands-on sessions in Chemistry and Engineering, and plenty of opportunities to make new friends with students from maths schools across the country.

The conference also gave students an excellent insight into their post-18 options, with sessions covering university, careers and apprenticeships. **A huge thank you to Mr Hart for accompanying our students, and to Lancaster Maths School and the U-Maths network for organising such a brilliant event. We hope this is the first of many annual conferences!**

Careers Day

For the second year running, our students joined their peers from across the U-Maths community for an inspiring Careers Conference in London. Hosted at King's College London, Denmark Hill, the event gave students the opportunity to network with professionals from a wide range of industries, meet Maths School alumni and explore the many exciting pathways that STEM can offer.

The day also featured a captivating keynote speech by Eugenie von Tunzelmann, which had students completely engrossed and provided plenty of food for thought about their future careers.

A huge thank you to U-Maths for organising such a fantastic event. We're already looking forward to next year!

Summer Schools

This term, we were delighted to welcome more than 70 Year 10 girls to Surrey Maths School for our Outreach Summer School. Organised by Ms Cameron and delivered by staff from across the school, the programme gave students a real taste of life at SuMS while exploring some fascinating STEM ideas. The day included a hands-on physics session, "Where's the Moon?", where students built models to investigate lunar motion, followed by a collaborative maths challenge that put their problem-solving skills to the test. **It was wonderful to see so much curiosity, enthusiasm and teamwork on display, and we can't wait to welcome the next generations of STEM students through our doors in years to come.**

Offer holders Taster Day / Wildwood

It was a real pleasure to welcome more than 90 of our Year 11 offer holders to Surrey Maths School for a day of SuMS learning. Students enjoyed a maths session on Fermat factorisation, took part in a *Maths for Scientists* lesson, and were introduced to the pastoral support and wider opportunities that make life at SuMS so special.

We rounded off the day with a wonderfully chaotic (and highly competitive!) team challenge, with plenty of laughter along the way. It was fantastic to see so many students already getting to know one another, and we left feeling even more excited for September.

The event was followed by two days at Wildwood Adventure Park, where our new students had the chance to build friendships, challenge themselves and have fun together before the new academic year begins. **We can't wait to welcome them all back as the newest members of the SuMS community in September!**



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Grand Opening

What an evening! This term we officially celebrated the Grand Opening of our new home, welcoming so many of the people who have been part of the Surrey Maths School journey. It was a wonderful opportunity to pause, reflect on how far we've come and celebrate this incredible milestone together. The fact that the air conditioning was keeping everyone cool during the heatwave was an added bonus! The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the speeches from our students, Noah, Eloise, Yajat, Farhad and Emaan. They spoke with such honesty, thoughtfulness and eloquence about their experiences at SuMS that there were more than a few misty eyes in the audience.

As much as we love our beautiful new building, we're even more excited about what it represents: a place where young people can flourish, friendships can grow, and futures can be shaped. **We can't wait to see what the years ahead will bring.**

SuMS Speaks

Monday 6th July saw the return of SuMS Speaks, our annual keynote speaker event bringing exceptional voices from the world of STEM to our community. This year, we were honoured to welcome Auriol Stevens, Global Vice President at Kyndryl. Auriol is a highly respected technology leader whose career has spanned digital transformation and strategic leadership at the highest levels. Alongside this, Auriol has maintained a passion for supporting underrepresented groups in STEM and is Chair of the board of trustees of Tech She Can.

Auriol's talk was pertinent for our students as they begin to consider their next academic steps. She reminded us all that a successful career path is not necessarily one which is linear and there is value in recognising that there's no such thing as a backwards step. Her advice on networking was also crucial and we hope that our students remember to be loud about their passions in their aims to build connections, showing integrity and desire to reciprocate the support we receive with others. **Ultimately, her overarching message of "Do well. Do good" aligned perfectly with our SuMS values of being innovative in our aspirations to be our best whilst remaining collaborative and compassionate at all times.**

First ever inter-school football match

A huge well done to Daniel C, who took the initiative to organise Surrey Maths School's very first football fixture against King's Maths School. From arranging the match to bringing the team together, it was a brilliant example of student leadership and initiative. Representing SuMS were Felipe, Hidde, Charlie H, Charlie T, Jiawei, Abdul, Arjun, Lucas B, Misha, Raghav, Christan, Youssef, Nick and Daniel. The team put in a fantastic performance, securing an impressive 6-3 victory, with Nick earning a well-deserved Player of the Match award. **We love seeing our students creating opportunities like this for themselves and their peers. Here's hoping this is the first of many sporting fixtures and friendly rivalries between Surrey Maths School and King's Maths School!**

Richmond half

This term, one of our students took on an incredible challenge at the Richmond Half Marathon, organised by Ms Kettleborough in partnership with our friends at King's Maths School.

A huge congratulations to Arjun, who completed his very first half marathon. Showing remarkable determination and resilience, he dug deep, pushed through the inevitable aches and pains, and crossed the finish line with a fantastic time. **Completing a half marathon is an achievement to be incredibly proud of, and we're looking forward to many more community sports events next year.**

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Integration Bee

This term, Hugh, Charlie and Karina represented Surrey Maths School at an Integration Bee hosted by Sutton Grammar School. Following a mainly self-taught crash course in integration by parts, substitution and the King's Rule, they were ready to tackle a series of challenging calculus problems as a team.

Although they didn't quite break into the top five in a very strong field of competitors, they represented SuMS brilliantly, showed great teamwork and had a fantastic day. A huge thank you to Mr Hart for preparing and supporting the team.

Who knows...perhaps this is just the start of the SuMS Integration Bee story, with a Surrey Maths School-hosted competition in the future!

2026 House Cup winners

Over the course of the year our students have been collecting points for their Houses through personal achievements and their contributions to our community, along with inter-house challenges and competitions. It was a close-fought battle but we are delighted to announce that the 2026 House Cup was awarded to Hamilton! **Well done to every student who contributed to this victory and we look forward to a new era of inter-house competition starting in September.**

Y12 Treasure Trail and Ice Creams

We rounded off the school year with a fantastic final day for Year 12. Students took on a treasure trail around Guildford in teams, making the most of the sunshine while exploring the town and tackling a series of challenges together.

Back at school, we were treated to our very own ice cream van, with students and staff enjoying ice creams and lollies in the garden – the perfect way to end a brilliant year.

It has been another incredible year at Surrey Maths School, and we are so proud of everything our Year 12 students have achieved. **We hope everyone has a wonderful, well-deserved summer break, and we can't wait to welcome them back in September, ready to take on the challenges and opportunities of Year 13.**

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Our second ever Gold and Silver groups have had a tremendously successful year participating in the DofE Award scheme. They quickly got up and running in the autumn term, selecting a very wide range of sectional activities, from football, dance and cooking to learning Korean, playing the viola, and tutoring younger pupils in Egypt online! They have risen to the challenges that they have set for themselves with huge enthusiasm and this term has culminated in both the Gold and Silver participants embarking on their Qualifying Expeditions, in the Brecon Beacons and Dorset respectively. We know from experience that they will learn some extremely useful life skills as a result of this; working as a team, being resilient when needed and always representing themselves strongly in the face of challenge. **We are proud of them for embracing this experience and can't wait to enjoy their Expedition presentations early in the Autumn term.**



PHOTO GALLERY



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