



# Sedgehill in Review

April 2025

A look back at some of the fantastic goings on at Sedgehill Academy

## THIS ISSUE

### The Youth Film Foundation

Hands-on with the film industry

### The Royal Courts of Justice

Invaluable career insights

### Careers Day

From theatre to the National Grid



## Viva Roma!

### Rome-ing the streets of history with the English Department

Mr. Bonfield and Ms. Lennon recently led a group of KS5 students on an unforgettable trip to Rome.

The journey, which combined history, culture, and adventure, allowed students to explore some of the most iconic landmarks in the world. From the awe-inspiring Colosseum to the grandeur of St. Peter's Basilica, the students had the chance to experience ancient Roman history up close.

The trip also included visits to the Roman Forum, where students were captivated by the timeless art and architecture. Beyond sightseeing, the group engaged in thought-provoking discussions about Roman civilization and its influence on modern society.

The trip proved to be an invaluable educational experience, deepening students' understanding of history and literature and providing lasting memories.



## Order! Order!

### **Justice was served at the Royal Courts of Justice, thanks to Sedgehill's Sixth Formers**

Sedgehill Sixth Form students had an enriching experience at the Royal Courts of Justice this term. They participated in a mock trial, reenacting a real case from the 1930s.

The trip provided a unique insight into the legal system, allowing students to engage with history while gaining practical knowledge about courtroom procedures.

They observed live trials, interacted with legal professionals, and learned firsthand about the justice process. This experience is part of Sedgehill Academy's commitment to providing a complete education, offering students opportunities to explore various careers and deepen their understanding of different fields.

By immersing students in real-world experiences, the academy helps them connect classroom lessons with future career possibilities.

## Just a Feeling

By Tom Stuchfield, Character Team

In today's world, schools should prioritise building character above all else. Academic success is important, but instilling values like empathy, integrity, and resilience will shape students into well-rounded individuals. By fostering a positive school culture that emphasises personal growth, kindness, and responsibility, we equip young people to navigate life's challenges with confidence and compassion. Character development should be the foundation upon which academic achievements are built.

Walking around Sedgehill Academy, it's clear that kindness and good citizenship are at the heart of the school's culture. Students consistently show respect for one another, offer help when needed, and take pride in their community. Their positive attitudes and collaborative spirit make Sedgehill a welcoming and supportive environment. It is the type of thing you can feel as soon as you enter the building.



## Skills you could put money on

### **Barclays helps Sedgehill students 'bank' on their future success with life skills session**

Barclays recently led a life skills session for Sedgehill Academy's Year 9 students, offering valuable insights into financial literacy, goal setting, and career planning. In a rapidly changing world, it's crucial to help young people develop the skills needed to navigate their futures. The session equipped students with practical tools to make smart decisions and build a strong foundation for success.



# Around the Academy

---

Learning, exploring, and having fun whilst doing it



## Science Week Sparks Curiosity

### **Learning chemistry and making heart-felt discoveries are all part of the equation**

Sedgehill Academy's Science Week was a thrilling and educational experience, offering students the opportunity to dive deep into the world of science through hands-on activities and engaging competitions.

The week kicked off with a poster competition, where students showcased their creative skills and scientific knowledge. Throughout the week, participants got the chance to dissect a heart, gaining a deeper understanding of anatomy, and explored the fascinating process of crystallisation.

In another exciting activity, students learned about energy transfer during a practical session, which demonstrated how energy moves through different materials. Nature walks allowed students to observe the natural world up close, fostering a greater appreciation for environmental science.

The week culminated with a wild and exciting encounter, as students met various animals in a special 'wild visitors' session, giving them the chance to interact with living creatures and learn more about animal biology. Science Week was a truly unforgettable experience for all involved.





# Sporting Excellence

Shooting the hoops



## A Dynasty at Sedgehill?

### Sedgehill's Slam Dunk to Tier 2

Sedgehill Academy's basketball team has achieved an incredible feat, winning the South East CBL Championship and securing promotion to Tier 2 in only their second year of existence!

After a dramatic final regular-season game, the team not only clinched the league title but also progressed to the final, where they faced Chessington Academy. In an intense and hard-fought game, Sedgehill Academy came out on top with an impressive 80-60 victory. The Year 13 boys, playing in their final regular-season game at home, were determined to leave their mark, and they did so in grand fashion, leading the team to this historic achievement.

This victory marks a monumental moment for the academy, as the basketball program has risen to new heights in just two years. From securing promotion to Tier 2 to winning the championship, Sedgehill Academy has set the stage for an exciting future, with even greater success on the horizon!

For regular updates on the progress of all Sedgehill sports fixtures, please follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#).



## Lights, Camera, Action!

### KS3 students reel in success

Sedgehill Academy's KS3 students recently had the exciting opportunity to create their own short films, thanks to a partnership with the Youth Film Foundation. The foundation led the project, guiding students through the process of filming, camera work, and editing. Working in teams, students brought their unique ideas to life, producing a variety of engaging short films. This hands-on experience not only sparked their passion for storytelling but also provided valuable insight into the world of media and film production. It was a fantastic way to inspire the next generation of filmmakers at Sedgehill!

## Integrity: a core value at Sedgehill

By Miss Cooper, Assistant Principal

At Sedgehill Academy, integrity is at the heart of everything we do. It's about doing the right thing, even when no one is watching, and building trust within our school community. We believe that fostering a culture of honesty, responsibility, and fairness is essential to student growth and success. To encourage this, Sedgehill rewards students who demonstrate exceptional integrity, whether in their academic work, behaviour, or interactions with peers.

At Sedgehill Academy, we actively reward integrity through various incentives, including reward trips, praise, and house points. Students who consistently demonstrate strong character are celebrated during Fun Fridays and Proud Fridays, where they are recognised for their positive contributions. These initiatives create an environment where integrity is both encouraged and celebrated.

Of our four values - hard work, integrity, kindness, and excellence - it is often integrity which is easiest to overlook. I am proud that all of our students embody this value - even when nobody's looking.



## Making Notes

### Students strike a chord with international star

Sedgehill Academy students recently had the unique opportunity to work with Taneisha Jackson, a talented singer/songwriter from South East London. Known for her blend of old-school soul, funk, pop, and dance, Taneisha has made waves in the UK music scene. Her song "A Place Called World," recorded by John Legend in 2014, became the soundtrack to a San Miguel campaign, marking a major milestone in her career. Currently, Taneisha is collaborating with renowned artists and producers, including Electric (Little Mix, Fleur East) and Sub Focus. Her session with Sedgehill students provided invaluable insight into the music industry.



# Beyond the Classroom

Promoting the speakers of tomorrow



## Standing Ovation

### **Sedgehill shines at the Jack Petchey Awards**

The final of the Jack Petchey Awards at Catford Broadway Theatre was an inspiring celebration of talent, confidence, and achievement. Our Sedgehill Academy girls truly shone, demonstrating outstanding oracy skills and the ability to command the audience's attention with ease.

Each student spoke with clarity and conviction, sharing their remarkable journeys and accomplishments. It was clear that they had prepared diligently, and their confidence on stage was a testament to their dedication and growth. Their speeches captivated everyone in the audience, leaving us all incredibly proud of their achievements.

Equally deserving of recognition was Ms. Bill, who was awarded a prestigious staff award. Ms. Bill has been a pillar of support for our students, always going above and beyond to nurture their potential and encourage their personal development. Her dedication to helping students find their voices and believe in themselves is unmatched. Her unwavering commitment to our school community, along with her ability to foster a positive and inclusive environment, makes her a truly deserving winner of this award.

The Jack Petchey Awards were a powerful reminder of the incredible talent within our school, and we couldn't be prouder of both our students and staff. It was a night of celebration, and we look forward to even more achievements in the future.





## A note from the Principal

By Ms Cassidy, Principal

As the Principal of Sedgehill Academy, one of the greatest joys I experience is visiting lessons and witnessing the "joy factor" in action. There's something truly special about seeing students genuinely engaged in their learning, excited to explore new ideas, and eager to contribute.

Whether it's a science experiment, a creative writing session, or a history discussion, I'm always struck by the energy and enthusiasm that fills the classrooms. It's clear that our teachers are passionate about creating an environment where curiosity thrives, and learning becomes an enjoyable journey.

The "joy factor" isn't just about having fun; it's about sparking a love for learning that stays with our students for life. At Sedgehill, we believe that when students are excited about what they're learning, they are more likely to excel and build the skills they need for the future. It's a privilege to witness this every day.

I hope every member of the community has a joyful Easter.

## World Book Day

### Bah Humbug!

Sedgehill Academy's World Book Day celebrations were a vibrant display of creativity and literary passion, as both staff and students embraced the opportunity to dress as their favourite book characters.

From fantastical creatures to iconic heroes, the range of costumes was truly impressive, reflecting the diverse world of literature. Students were encouraged to immerse themselves in their characters, sparking excitement and conversation about books across the school. Of course, one of the highlights of the day was Mr. Dodds, who seemed to make the transition into Ebenezer Scrooge rather too easily...



## Above and Beyond

### Visible signs of excellence

Sedgehill Academy's enrichment leaders recently received new high-vis jackets, symbolising their dedication and leadership. These students have gone above and beyond, promoting various activities this term and supporting Fun Friday. We're confident that the jackets will enhance their visibility and continue to boost their impactful role within the community.