



Sedgehill in Review

July 2026

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

THIS ISSUE

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Sky Sports

Our students get a glimpse of broadcasting

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Caesar lives!

Mr Gray's multimedia extravaganza

—

A fond farewell

Our 11s enter the next phase of their journeys



Sedgehill Students Shine

With Andrew Lloyd Webber at MiSST Annual Concert

Seven talented students from Sedgehill Academy took to one of the country's most prestigious stages this summer, proudly representing the school at the annual Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST) Concert.

Hosted by the legendary composer Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, the concert brought together exceptional young musicians from across the MiSST network for an unforgettable evening celebrating the transformative power of music education. The event showcased the incredible dedication, talent and hard work of students who have developed their musical abilities through the MiSST programme, which provides high-quality instrumental tuition and performance opportunities to young people across the UK.

Performing alongside hundreds of young musicians from schools across the country, Sedgehill's seven representatives demonstrated outstanding musicianship, commitment and professionalism. Appearing on such a prestigious stage is an achievement in itself, and our students rose to the occasion with confidence, composure and enthusiasm. The concert was made even more special by the presence of Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, whose continued support for MiSST has helped inspire thousands of young musicians to pursue their passion for music. His encouragement and advocacy for music education remind us all of the life-changing opportunities that access to the arts can provide.



At Sedgehill Academy, we are immensely proud of the dedication our students have shown throughout months of rehearsals, sectional practices and performances leading up to this event. Their commitment reflects not only their musical ability but also the resilience, teamwork and discipline that are developed through participation in the arts.

Music plays a vital role in our school community, providing students with opportunities to build confidence, develop new skills and experience the joy of performing with others. Through our continued partnership with MiSST, students are able to access world-class tuition, perform in prestigious venues and become part of a wider community of young musicians who share a passion for excellence. The annual concert is always a highlight of the musical calendar, and this year's performance was no exception. For our seven students, it was an experience they will remember for years to come, performing before a packed audience as part of an orchestra that truly demonstrated the power of collaboration and creativity.

Everyone at Sedgehill Academy would like to congratulate our performers on this fantastic achievement. They represented the school with distinction and embodied our values of hard work, integrity, kindness and excellence throughout every rehearsal and performance. We would also like to thank the dedicated MiSST tutors, our music department and the families who have supported our students throughout their musical journeys. Their encouragement and commitment make opportunities like this possible.

If you missed the performance, you can watch the full MiSST Annual Concert [here](#). Thanks, as always, to Ms Bill & Mr Gentile for their phenomenal leadership.



Will you stay the same house OR will you change?
All will be revealed soon!

House Pride

Recently, our Sixth Form students led the much-anticipated House Balloon Pop, revealing which House each form group will represent in the coming year's House Competition. Gathering together in an atmosphere full of anticipation, every form group waited eagerly to discover their House identity. As balloons burst one by one, students celebrated the reveal with cheers and applause, proudly finding out which team they would be competing for throughout the year. The event was expertly organised by Ms Charles, who brought fantastic energy and enthusiasm to the occasion. Their leadership helped create a memorable experience for younger students while demonstrating the positive role they play within the wider school community. The House Competition is an important part of life at Sedgehill Academy, encouraging students to work together and earn points through academic achievement, attendance, sporting success and wider enrichment opportunities. It provides every student with the chance to contribute to their House while embracing our values of hard work, integrity, kindness and excellence. With Houses now confirmed, the competition officially begins, and we look forward to seeing students proudly represent their teams throughout the year.

Character-full

By Mr Stuchfield, Character Lead

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, it is the perfect opportunity to reflect on the values that have shaped our school community every single day. At Sedgehill Academy, our four core values - Hard Work, Integrity, Kindness and Excellence - are more than words; they are the principles that define who we are and who we aspire to become. This year, we have seen countless examples of students demonstrating Hard Work by overcoming challenges, embracing new opportunities and showing resilience in their learning. These qualities build the strong community we are proud to be part of. Kindness has continued to shine through acts both big and small. Whether welcoming new students, raising money for charity, encouraging classmates or simply looking out for one another, our students have shown that kindness has the power to make a real difference. Finally, Excellence has been evident in classrooms, performances, sporting achievements and enrichment activities throughout the year. Excellence is not about being the best; it is about always striving to be your best. As we celebrate everything our students have accomplished this year, I would like to thank them for the positive contribution they make to our school every day. Have a well-earned summer break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another year of growth, opportunity and success.



A winning stride

Congratulations to Ms Morris on completing the London Marathon and raising an incredible £3,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Her determination, resilience and generosity have inspired our whole school community. We are immensely proud of her fantastic achievement and grateful for the difference her fundraising will make to people and families affected by cancer. Well done, Ms Morris!



Around the Academy

Learning, exploring, and having fun whilst doing it



Sky's the limit

Broadcasting careers in focus

Students recently enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Sky Studios, thanks to Mr Schweigert and Mr Bailey-Wilson, gaining a fascinating insight into the fast-paced world of television and media production. During the visit, students were given exclusive access to the Sky News studio while it was broadcasting live and were also able to observe the Sky Sports studios in action. Seeing professional presenters, producers, directors, journalists and technical teams working together in real time gave students a unique understanding of what it takes to deliver live television. They learned about the many roles involved behind the scenes, from lighting and sound to directing, communication and live production. The highlight of the day was the opportunity to become filmmakers themselves. Working in state-of-the-art studios, students were challenged to create an original movie trailer in just 45 minutes. From developing a concept and filming scenes with professional cameras to editing the finished product, every stage of the creative process was completed entirely by the students. The finished trailers showcased their teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills. Experiences like this provide valuable insight into careers within the creative industries while allowing students to develop confidence and practical skills.



Across the Academy

Future-proofing



Fair aspiration

Annual Careers Fair opens eyes and doors

Students across Sedgehill Academy enjoyed an exciting and inspiring Careers Fair, bringing together more than thirty employers, colleges, universities and training providers to showcase the wide range of opportunities available after school.

Throughout the event, students from every year group had the chance to speak directly with professionals from a variety of industries, ask questions about different career pathways and gain valuable advice on education, apprenticeships, university and employment. From healthcare and engineering to the creative industries, public services, business and further education, the fair offered something to inspire every student.

Events like these play a vital role in helping students make informed decisions about their futures, broadening their horizons and encouraging them to explore opportunities they may not have previously considered. By engaging with industry experts and education providers, students developed a greater understanding of the skills, qualifications and experiences needed to achieve their ambitions.

A huge thank you goes to Ms Edwards for organising another outstanding Careers Fair. Her hard work and commitment ensured that every student had the opportunity to engage with a diverse range of employers, colleges and training providers, making the event a valuable and memorable experience for our entire school community.

Ending on an ace

Students Enjoy Unforgettable Tennis Experiences at Queen's and Nottingham



Students from Sedgehill Academy enjoyed two fantastic tennis trips this term, giving them the opportunity to experience professional tennis at the very highest level while gaining unique behind-the-scenes insight into the sport.

Year 7 and Year 8 students visited the WTA HSBC Championships at the historic Queen's Club, where they watched world-class players compete on the newly named Andy Murray Arena.

Students witnessed thrilling matches featuring some of the biggest names in women's tennis, including Emma Raducanu, Katie Boulter and defending champion Tatjana Maria. They also had the exciting opportunity to meet professional players, including Jaqueline Cristian and Tatjana Maria, with many students taking home signed tennis balls as memorable souvenirs.



Meanwhile, a group of Year 9 students travelled to the Lexus Nottingham Open for an unforgettable day of tennis and exclusive access. They met Australian professional Kimberley Birrell in the Media Centre, where they interviewed her about her career, training and life on the professional tour. Students also stepped onto the court to play mini tennis with

doubles
star
Anirudh



Chandrasekhar, currently ranked among the world's top 100 doubles players, before watching an outstanding Centre Court match featuring Olympic gold medallist Qinwen Zheng and Grand Slam finalist Maria Sakkari.

These experiences gave students a fascinating insight into elite sport and the many careers that exist both on and off the court.

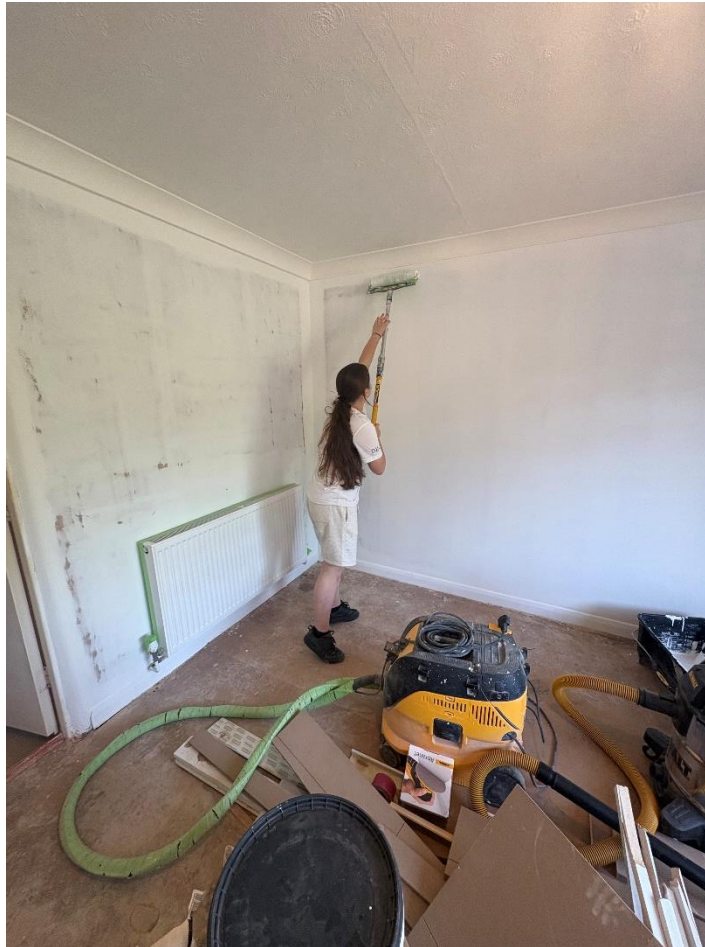
A huge thank you goes to Coach Adam for organising these exceptional opportunities. His dedication and commitment continue to provide our students with unforgettable experiences that

inspire a lifelong love of sport and broaden their aspirations beyond the classroom.

Work Experience Week

Building CVs and confidence

This summer, almost 250 Year 10 and Year 12 students took part in Sedgehill Academy's annual Work Experience Programme, completing placements with more than 200 employers across a wide range of industries.



From universities and schools to local businesses, retail, skilled trades, healthcare and sports organisations, students had the opportunity to experience the workplace first-hand while developing the skills, confidence and professionalism needed for their future careers. Whether they were supporting lessons in primary schools, assisting in busy shops, working alongside university staff or learning practical trade skills, every placement offered valuable insight into the world of work.

Work experience is a vital part of our careers programme, allowing students to explore potential career pathways, build meaningful connections with employers and gain a

greater understanding of the qualities and expectations needed to succeed in different professions. Many students returned with increased confidence, new ambitions and a clearer sense of their future goals.

One particularly enthusiastic student embraced every opportunity during their painting and decorating placement. Working alongside experienced professionals, they quickly developed practical skills, showed a fantastic work ethic and threw themselves into every task with enthusiasm. The accompanying photograph perfectly captures the pride they took in their work and highlights the value of learning through real-life experience.

We are incredibly grateful to every employer, organisation and placement provider who welcomed our students so warmly and invested time in supporting their development. Their generosity has helped create memorable experiences that will have a lasting impact, equipping our students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to take their next steps towards successful futures.



Festivals of Sport

The annual Sedgehill Festival of Sport brought the whole school together for a fantastic celebration of teamwork, determination and House spirit. Students from across the academy competed proudly for their Houses in a wide range of sporting events, demonstrating resilience, enthusiasm and excellent sportsmanship throughout the competition. The festival was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate participation as well as performance, with every competitor contributing to an exciting and memorable event. It was fantastic to see so many students encouraging their teammates and embracing the spirit of friendly competition. Congratulations to everyone who took part and showed such determination in challenging conditions. Your effort, resilience and positive attitudes made the day a great success. A special thank you goes to Mr Jones and the PE Department for organising another outstanding Festival of Sport and providing such an enjoyable experience for our entire school community.

Celebrating Y11

By Ms Thurston, Assistant Principal

As another academic year comes to a close, I would like to congratulate our Year 11 students as they leave Sedgehill Academy to begin the next exciting chapter of their journeys. This has been a remarkable year group who have approached challenges with resilience, maturity and determination. Throughout their time at Sedgehill, they have embodied our values of hard work, integrity, kindness and excellence, and it has been a privilege to watch them grow into confident young adults. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved, both inside and outside the classroom, and we know they have bright futures ahead. One of the highlights of the year was the Year 11 Prom, which provided a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate the end of their secondary school journey together. It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying the evening, reflecting on shared memories and marking such an important milestone in style.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Ms Hird and Ms DeRosa, whose hard work and dedication made the evening such a memorable success. Their careful planning created a celebration that our students will remember for many years to come. To our departing Year 11 students, thank you for everything you have brought to Sedgehill Academy. We wish you every success, happiness and fulfilment in whatever path you choose next. Once part of the Sedgehill family, always part of the Sedgehill family.

Drama is always an option



Students from Sedgehill Academy recently enjoyed the opportunity to watch To Kill a Mockingbird through Munya Chawawa's Black Boys Theatre Club. The experience gave students access to outstanding live theatre while encouraging thoughtful discussion around justice, prejudice and empathy. A special thank you to Ms Lennon for organising this inspiring opportunity for our students.



Preparing for the future

Looking forward and upward

The future is bright

A Fitting Farewell for Our Year 11 Students

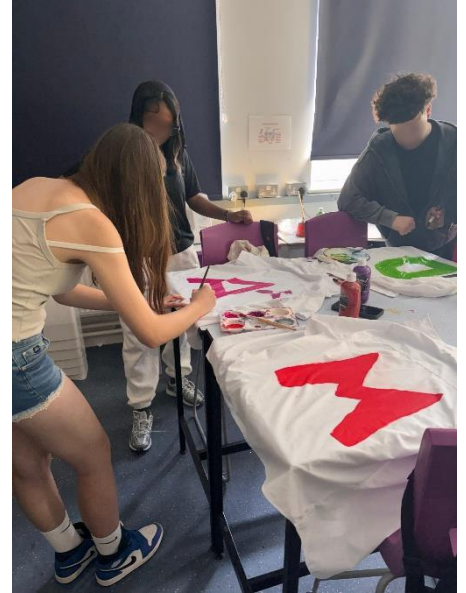
As the academic year draws to a close, we would like to congratulate our Year 11 students on the exceptional way they have conducted themselves throughout this important final term at Sedgehill Academy.

From approaching their GCSE examinations with resilience, determination and maturity to embracing the many opportunities that marked the end of their secondary school journey, our students have been outstanding ambassadors for the school. Their positive attitude and commitment throughout the examination period reflected the hard work they have invested over the past five years.

Following their exams, students enjoyed a range of memorable milestones, including sixth form and college taster days, giving them an exciting glimpse into the next stage of their education. They also took part in the traditional shirt signing, sharing messages of friendship and celebrating the memories they have created together during their time at Sedgehill.

The celebrations concluded with a truly beautiful Year 11 Prom, where students came together one final time to mark the end of this chapter in style. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying the evening and reflecting on their achievements.

We are incredibly proud of this Year 11 cohort and the maturity, kindness and respect they have shown throughout the year. We thank them for the positive contribution they have made to our school community and wish every one of them the very best as they move on to the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.



Speaking out



Congratulations to our Year 10 students for the mature and confident way they completed their English Speaking and Listening assessments this term. Students delivered engaging presentations on a wide variety of topics, from sport and music to identity, culture and current affairs, before responding thoughtfully to questions from their peers. Their preparation, communication skills and confidence were outstanding, and they should all be incredibly proud of the professionalism and enthusiasm they demonstrated throughout this important qualification.

Hail Caesar!



This year's school production of Julius Caesar was a spectacular showcase of talent, creativity and ambition, leaving audiences thoroughly impressed by the outstanding performances of our students.

Under the expert direction of Mr Gray, the production offered a fresh and innovative interpretation of Shakespeare's classic tragedy. Blending live theatre with filmed sequences, the performance created a dynamic and immersive experience that brought the story vividly to life. The combination of stagecraft and cinema added a modern dimension to the production while remaining faithful to the power of Shakespeare's original text.

The cast demonstrated exceptional commitment throughout, delivering confident, thoughtful and emotionally engaging performances. From the principal roles to the ensemble, every student played an important part in creating a production of remarkable quality. Their dedication during months of rehearsals was evident in every scene, and the confidence they displayed on stage was a credit to their hard work.



Productions such as Julius Caesar highlight the wealth of creative talent within our school while giving students invaluable opportunities to develop confidence, teamwork and communication skills. Congratulations to the entire cast and crew for an unforgettable performance, and a special thank you to Mr Gray for his vision, creativity and tireless dedication in bringing this ambitious production to life. It was a truly memorable celebration of theatre at Sedgemoor Academy.



Fun in the sun

Year 8 Camp creates lasting memories

Our annual Year 8 Camp was once again a huge success, giving students the opportunity to step outside the classroom, challenge themselves and create unforgettable memories with their friends. Across the trip, students threw themselves into a packed programme of exciting activities. From conquering the heights of the abseiling tower to testing their teamwork and navigation skills during orienteering, every challenge encouraged resilience, confidence and collaboration. As the sun shone throughout the camp, students also enjoyed a range of outdoor games and activities, making the most of the fantastic weather. As evening fell, everyone gathered to toast marshmallows around the campfire before embarking on the ever-popular ghost walk. Filled with laughter, excitement and just the right amount of suspense, it was a highlight of the trip and an experience students will be talking about for a long time. Year 8 Camp is about much more than adventure. It helps students develop independence, strengthen friendships and build confidence while creating shared experiences that will stay with them throughout their time at Sedgehill Academy. A special thank you goes to Ms Luck for organising another fantastic camp, as well as to all the staff who gave their time to make the trip such a memorable success. Their dedication ensured every student enjoyed a safe, rewarding and thoroughly enjoyable experience.

A note from the Principal

By Ms Cassidy

As we reach the end of another academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the many achievements and successes that have made this term so special at Sedgehill Academy. Firstly, I want to thank our students and staff for the incredible way they have continued to work together throughout the recent heatwave. Despite conditions, everyone has shown resilience, patience and a commitment to maintaining the high standards we expect across the academy. It has been wonderful to see our careers programme continue to flourish, with outstanding opportunities for students across all year groups. From our Careers Fair to work experience placements and university engagement, we remain committed to ensuring every student understands the possibilities available to them. I am also incredibly proud of the continued development of oracy across the academy. Giving students the confidence to articulate their ideas, challenge perspectives and communicate effectively is a vital part of preparing them for future success. Our sports provision continues to go from strength to strength, with specialist coaches supporting our basketball, tennis and football programmes. These opportunities allow students to develop skills, teamwork and confidence beyond the classroom. Finally, our recent Art Evenings were a wonderful celebration of creativity and talent. The quality of work displayed was exceptional and showcased the dedication of both students and staff. Thank you to everyone in our Sedgehill community for making this year such a success. I wish all families a restful summer break.

