



Southern Cross Newsletter

Summer 2026



Respect • Responsibility • Independence • Creativity

Ducks in a Row

This term, we have had some very special visitors in school! Our students had the unique opportunity to care for a group of ducklings, beginning with the incredible moment they hatched from their eggs, before watching them take their first steps and enjoy their very first swim.

Looking after the ducklings has been a wonderful hands-on experience, giving pupils the chance to develop a sense of responsibility, compassion, and an understanding of what it means to care for another living thing.

We are pleased to say the ducks have now settled into their new home with Ms Ferns, where they are enjoying plenty of space to explore the garden and paddle in the sunshine. Although we'll miss having them around school, it's lovely to know they're in such good hands. A big thank you to Ms Ferns for giving them such a wonderful home!



SATs Success!

Our Year 6 pupils have worked incredibly hard in the lead-up to their SATs, showing real determination and resilience throughout. We are extremely proud of the positive attitude they have shown and the way they have supported each other every step of the way.

SATs capture just a moment in time and only show a small part of a student's abilities. The wide range of achievements we see from our pupils across the year are just as important, and every one of them should feel proud of what they have accomplished.

To celebrate their hard work, pupils enjoyed a well-deserved trip to Sandcastle Waterpark in Blackpool. It was fantastic to see them making the most of the water slides, laughing and letting off steam after such a busy period!

Well done Year 6, you should be very proud of yourselves!



Double, double toil and trouble!

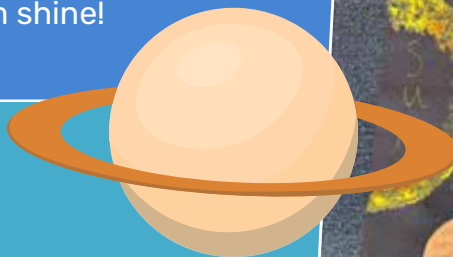
Our Year 9 pupils have been exploring Macbeth, bringing the famous witches' scene to life! We had lots of fun performing the witches' iconic chant together, fully embracing the sense of mystery and eerie atmosphere of the play.

Southern Cross is hugely passionate about promoting a love of reading, showing our students that stories are so much more than words on a page. Whether through reading, performance, classroom discussion or creative activities, we ensure pupils can experience literature in lots of new and exciting ways, inspiring their imagination whilst also strengthening their literacy skills.



Out of This World

This term, we have been learning all about our solar system, exploring the features of different planets and their place within the wider universe. Students created some spectacular artwork to represent what they have been learning. We're very impressed with their creativity and attention to detail. Their fantastic artwork has certainly made our classroom shine!

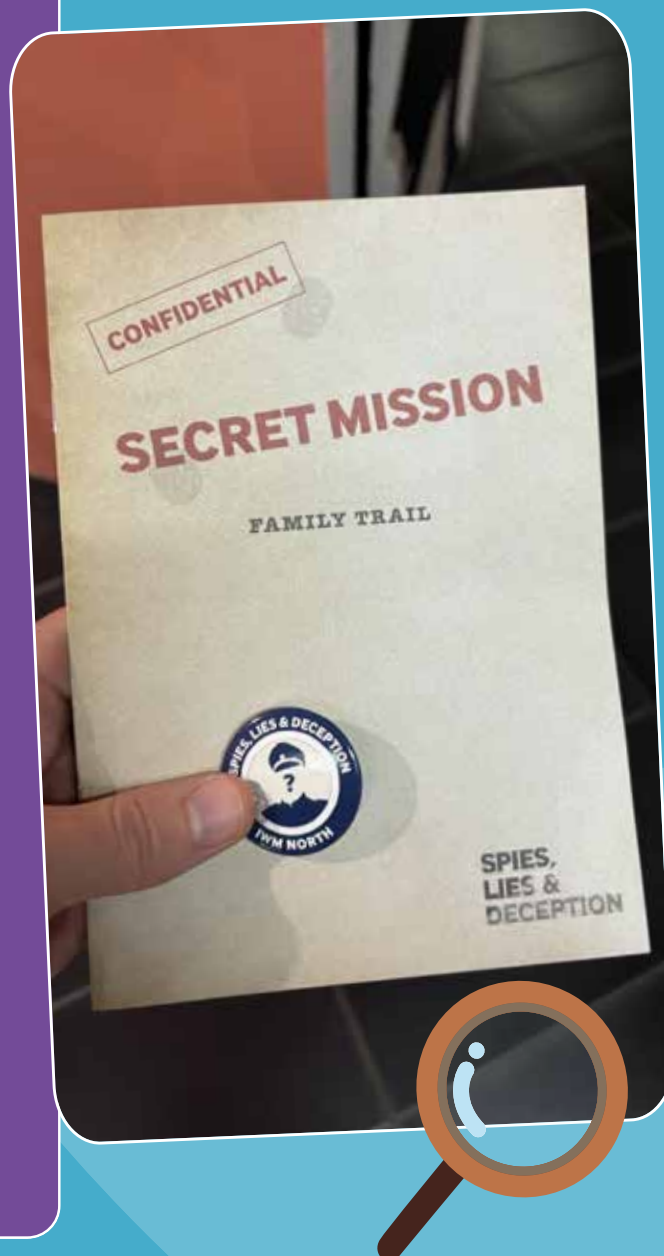


Cracking the Code

Our Year 8 pupils had a fantastic experience visiting the Imperial War Museum, enjoying it so much that we were lucky enough to return again the following week! The museum offered a powerful insight into the conflicts that Britain and the Commonwealth have been involved in since the First World War. Pupils explored all the fascinating exhibits, asking questions and showing a real interest in the stories behind them.

Possibly the biggest highlight of the whole visit was the opportunity to take part in the "Spies, Lies and Deception" exhibition. Pupils embraced their Secret Mission, stepping into the role of young recruits as they explored the world of espionage and undercover agents. They enjoyed piecing together clues in the Mission Room and discovering how intelligence and deception have influenced the course of conflict over time.

It was brilliant to see pupils so engaged throughout the entire experience, working together, problem-solving, and showing a genuine curiosity for history. Proof that sometimes the best way to learn history is to immerse yourself in it!



City Inspires

Our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils had a brilliant day at Wigan Athletic Stadium as part of the City Inspires Mental Health Festival. The day began with an engaging workshop, where pupils explored the importance of looking after their wellbeing, before taking to the pitch to compete in a friendly football tournament against other schools.

Pupils represented the school with excellent energy, enthusiasm, and teamwork. They embraced every challenge throughout the day, showing outstanding sportsmanship both on and off the pitch.

City Inspires is all about providing young people with opportunities to develop the resilience, confidence and life skills they need to succeed. We look forward to taking part in many more events like this in the future!



City in the Community

Masterpieces in the Making

Our Year 11 learners should be incredibly proud of their achievements this year. They have successfully completed both their Arts Award qualifications and their GCSE examinations, showing real commitment and resilience through the whole learning journey.

They have produced some marvellous artwork as part of their course, demonstrating excellent skill, talent and artistry. We've loved watching the progress of our young artists and we can't wait to see where their creative journey will take them next. Thank you to Southern Cross Bravesouls who provided an amazing performance at the end of year Art Exhibition



Serving Up Success

Our Year 11 students have been cooking up a storm in the kitchen this term, working very hard to complete their Food Technology assessments. It's been really rewarding to watch our young chefs grow in confidence each week, mastering new recipes and adding their own flavour. And the results really speak for themselves!

Pupils should feel really proud of what they've produced. They've shown great creativity, skill and independence in the kitchen, proving they have all the right ingredients for success!



On the Right Track

Well done to pupils who have successfully completed their Level 1 Mechanics qualification! They've gained a strong foundation in routine vehicle maintenance as well as the fundamentals of engine, braking, steering and electrical systems. After keeping everything running smoothly in the workshop, they've taken that knowledge straight out onto the track!

A special mention goes to CJ, who is currently our fastest racer with an impressive personal best of 33.3 seconds! Well done also to Thomas (36 seconds), Zion (36.9) and Harry (48.4), showing great skill and determination. A brilliant performance all round!



Black Inclusion Week

This term, pupils had an amazing opportunity to visit Auto Trader as part of Manchester Digital's School Safari for Black Inclusion Week. Throughout the day, students gained a valuable insight into the world of technology and all the careers available within the industry.

We enjoyed a wide range of coding activities, marketing workshops, creative problem-solving sessions, as well as an exciting cybersecurity code-breaking challenge. One of the highlights of the day was hearing directly from professionals across engineering, product, marketing and data about their own career journeys. It was great to see pupils meeting positive role models, asking questions and learning about pathways into tech.

This was a wonderful experience that helped our young people build confidence and broaden their aspirations. Well done to everyone for representing the school so brilliantly!



A Piece of Cake!

Students took part in a charity bake sale, raising £18.50 with a delicious range of cakes, biscuits and sweet treats. Pupils enjoyed the opportunity to put their baking skills to the test, working together to get the mixtures right and add the final touches to their finished bakes. Once everything was ready, there was, of course, the important job of taste-testing...luckily, we had lots of volunteers willing to step up to the task!

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to buy a treat and support our budding bakers!



Duke of Edinburgh

Well done to all our Duke of Edinburgh students who successfully completed their expedition in Newborough, Anglesey! It's been wonderful to see pupils rise to the challenge, showing outstanding teamwork and determination throughout.

Pupils threw themselves into all aspects of camp life, navigating routes, pitching tents and cooking meals together. Our adventure took us through coastal paths and rolling countryside, taking in some incredible views along the way. We even headed down to the water to go swimming and enjoyed flying kites together in the open air. A fantastic experience full of laughter, teamwork, and unforgettable memories. We look forward to seeing where the Duke of Edinburgh takes us next!



Words in Action

At Southern Cross, we're passionate about helping our learners to develop their communication skills, express their ideas and have their voices heard. This term, break times have been filled with lively discussions as pupils have been researching topics that interest them and working together to create PowerPoint presentations. It has been brilliant to see them bouncing ideas off one another, growing in confidence as they share their learning with others.



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@Southern_Cro1



www.southerncross-ebisd.co.uk



0161 881 2695



admin@southerncross.manchester.sch.uk