

Monday 14th March 2022 – Friday 18th March 2022



Headteacher's Blog

Congratulations to **Courtney Cunningham** in Year 10 who has been elected as a Deputy Member of the Youth Parliament. We are all immensely proud of Courtney and know that she will serve the youth voice with great distinction.

While I am congratulating folk, lets extend this to the Year 7 boys rugby team, who attended their first rugby festival over in Bury St Edmunds, and were a real credit to the school, losing one game, winning two and drawing one. Miss Burgoyne and Mr Howes were very proud to see how they played and conducted themselves throughout the afternoon. Well done lads!

Let us keep this going, but now focus on a past student – **Jake Langford**. Jake left us nearly four years ago now, and has been a terribly busy lad – this is his email I received recently:

“Good Morning Sir,

I am soon to be commissioning from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst as a 2 Lieutenant, Royal Army Medical Corps, to command 30 Combat Medical Technicians and professionally qualified personnel, looking towards deployments in Mali and potential future humanitarian aid in the Caribbean, as well as being on standby for any potential future conflicts.

Currently, I am enrolled in a Defence and International Affairs degree whilst also studying Cultural and Behavioural Science and War Studies - although I am looking towards shifting to the medical degree route and potentially a Doctors.”

It is always great to hear from ex-students, particularly when they demonstrate that they are pushing themselves hard, continually learning and striving to better themselves. Hopefully, we will be able to get Jake to come in and talk to students about his experiences so far.

Bone Sparrow Theatre Trip

There was a report in The Observer this weekend that a study has found that trips to art galleries and theatres do not have a significant impact on GCSE success. As with many of such articles, it is only in the body of the piece that a more balanced argument is made, and it concludes with the following;

“Other studies have found that visiting museums, art galleries and theatres could have much broader benefits beyond education. [One study by UCL academics](#) concluded that they could lead to a longer life. The 2019 study found that the more often people engage with the arts, the lower their risk of premature death.

It led to calls for cultural trips to be prescribed as a way of boosting wellbeing and supported studies that found regular cultural visits could improve depression, dementia, chronic pain and frailty.”

Well, goodness, Mrs Arnold, Director of English could not have known the impact she would have by organising a hugely enjoyable trip to see The Bone Sparrow at Bury St Edmunds for Year 9 and 10 last week. At Stowmarket, we have always valued GCSE success, but have always promoted that for us, a broader education that stretches way beyond what can be tested in an exam hall is at the heart of what we do. Students need to see that access to art venues is their right and that huge enjoyment and value can be found in a gallery, cinema, sculpture park and theatre. So regardless of GCSE's, we will continue to offer as many such opportunities that we can – however a word of warning – the fuel costs are starting to affect the prices coach companies are charging, to the point that some are beyond what we see is reasonable. Just another barrier in the way, and we will look to see what we can do to overcome this, but it is worth highlighting to you all.

County Lines Support – From Suffolk County Council

Our Gangs & County Lines Parents' Session consists of speakers utilising their lived experience within the criminal justice system to unpack and explore the realities and consequences of county lines drug smuggling, gang involvement, criminal exploitation, and serious youth violence. Perspectives from previous perpetrators and runners/transporters, combined with relevant case studies, aid audiences in gaining an authentic and credible understanding of this complex and cross cutting issue. The session will allow parents to identify signs and triggers that a young person might be involved in a county line and know how to appropriate respond.

West Suffolk Parent/Carer Session 6.30pm – 8pm 23rd March [Webinar Registration](#)

Emotional Wellbeing Support

The Emotional Wellbeing Hub Service which provides access to mental health services for children and young people aged 0-25, in East and West Suffolk, are working with Barnardo's to provide a new phonenumber service to help guide families and young people to emotional wellbeing and mental health support.

For full details click the link: [The Emotional Wellbeing Hub are trialling a new Barnardo's phonenumber service to help families get help sooner](#)

The Site

Last week I met with some regional leads from the DFE (Department for Education) school building programme, following my persistent criticism of our exterior provision. It was a productive meeting, with a glimmer of hope that I might squeeze a little more out of them. No promises were made, but it was not a flat 'no,' so I live in hope.

With the world in anguish now, let us hang on to hope.

Mr Lee-Allan

Intermediate Maths Challenge 2022

Well done to some of our amazing year 9 and 10 Top Mathematicians who took part in this year's Intermediate Maths Challenge. This is a 60-minute, multiple choice competition that encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in techniques to solve interesting problems. The questions are designed to challenge and make students think! We had some fantastic results, and we are extremely proud of you all! Everyone who participated will receive a certificate, and the following pupils receive extra recognition for their results

Thomas Maxfield **GOLD AND BEST IN SCHOOL AND BEST IN YEAR (9)**
Connor Stott **SILVER AND JOINT BEST IN YEAR (10)**
James Baker **SILVER AND JOINT BEST IN YEAR (10)**

Abigail Brett **GOLD**

Harrison Hunn, Penny Downes-Grainger and Dakota Edwards **SILVER**

Dylan Gidden, Liam Elliston, Daisy Goddard, Natalia Green, Frances Morris, Jonasz Pakula, Kian Taylor, Peter Dolsky, Isobel Manning, Jake Manser, Hayley Ashby, Maisie Bishop, Harry Bugg, Evelyn Castle, Olivia Castle and Oliver Davy **BRONZE**

Good luck to Thomas Maxfield, Abigail Brett and Harrison Hunn who have qualified to take part in the next round, the Grey Kangaroo.

From the Maths Department

Youth Parliament

Congratulations to Courtney Cunningham who is going to be a Deputy Member of the Youth Parliament. We are very proud of you, well done! Courtney will be working to represent the views of young people at a local and national level to change the world for the better.



Inspirational Futures News



Last week, as part of the Take Your Place project, Ellie our Higher Education Champion continued the Year 10 1 to 1s, ensuring that the Uni-Connect target students have access to impartial information about their KS5 choices ahead of the summer term so they can start thinking about where they may go after Year 11.

She discussed A Levels, BTECS, T Levels and Apprenticeships with all of the students and told them that she will catch up with them again in the summer term to see how their research is progressing.

Careers of interest this week that she will be responding to were Construction, Veterinary Medicine, and Music, and she will be inviting guest speakers from those industries for our “advice and slice” lunch sessions.

What is Happening This Week?

- 14th Neaco – Lesson in a Box - Sociology
Year 11 Sociology Students
- 15th Taylor Made Joinery Apprenticeship Session
- 18th 100 Years of BBC Share Your Story Careers Tour
Years 7 – 9

Don't forget if you have any careers related questions, or would like to offer to come in and speak to students about your own career journey, please email our Futures Coordinator Mrs Mylrea, m.mylrea@stowhigh.com

Job of the Week

JOB OF THE WEEK EPISODE – DENTIST

(Click on Image)



Clubs Timetable

Week A	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Registration			Choir 1.04 All Years			
Lunch	Gardening Club Secret Garden All Years	Film Club G05 Year 7 & 8	Gardening Club Secret Garden all Years	Dance Activity Studio All Years	Table Tennis Activity Studio All Years	
	Dodgeball Hall Year 7	Rowing Activity Studio All Years	Basketball Sports Hall All Years		Manga Club G01 All Years	Prayer Space 1.03 All Years
		Dance Activity Studio	Badminton Sports Hall All Years	Warhammer Club 2.04 Limited Spaces		Russian Club 1.01 All Years
	Warhammer Club 2.04 Limited Spaces	Board Games Club 1.08 Year 7 & 8	Chess Club 1.13 All Years	Writing Club LRC All Years		History Film Club 2.16 Year 9-11
	Pokemon Trading 2.22 Year 7		Stowtalk LRC All Years		Dungeons and Dragons 2.11 All Years	
	3D Modelling and Printing – G01 Years 7-10	Design Club G06 All Year	Design Club G06 Year 11	Computer Science and ICT Homework Club (1.07) All Years	Lego Club (2.07) All Years	
	Lit in Colour Book Club 2.15 All Years	Advice and a Slice or Drop in (LRC) All Year Groups	Design Club G06 Year 11	Design Club G06 All Years	Design Club G06 Year 11	
3D Modelling and Printing – G01 Years 7-10			Dungeons and Dragons 2.11 All Years	Rock Band 1.04 All Welcome		
After School	Running Club Field All Years	Homework Club 2.21 Year 7	Stem Club 2.03 Years 7 & 8	Rugby field		
			Art Club 1.19 Years 7 & 8	Orchestra Drama Studio All Years	Homework Club 2.22 Year 8	
				Design Club G06 All Years	Textiles Club G02 Years 7-9	Design Ventura G05 Years 8 & 9
			Basketball Club Year 7 (Week A only)	Design Club G06 All Years	Design Club G06 All Years	

Week B	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Registration			Choir 1.04 All Years			
Lunch	Young Carers Club All Years 1.08	Film Club G05 Year 7 & 8	Gardening Club Secret Garden all Years	Volleyball Sports Hall Years	Table Tennis Activity Studio All Years	
	Dodgeball Hall Year 7	Rowing Activity Studio All Years	Basketball Sports Hall All Years	Just Dance Activity Studio All Years	Prayer Space 1.03 All Years	
		Dance Activity Studio	Badminton Sports Hall All Years	Warhammer Club 2.04 Limited Spaces	Manga Club G01 All Years	Russian Club 1.01 All Years
	Warhammer Club 2.04 Limited Spaces	Board Games Club 1.08 Year 7 & 8	Chess Club 1.13 All Years	Book Club LRC All Years	History Film Club 2.16 All years	
	Pokemon Trading 2.22 Year 7		Stowtalk LRC All Years		Philosophy and Ethics 2.11 Year 10 and 11	
	3D Modelling and Printing – G01 Years 7-10	Design Club G06 All Year	Design Club G06 Year 11	Computer Science and ICT Homework Club 1.07 All Years	Lego Club 2.07 All Years	
	Lit in Colour Book Club 2.15 All Years	Advice and a Slice or Drop in (LRC) All Year Groups	Design Club G06 All Years	Design Club G06 All Years	Design Club G06 Year 11	
3D Modelling and Printing – G01 Years 7-10			Dungeons and Dragons 2.11 All Years	Rock Band 1.04 All Welcome		
After School	Running Club Field All Years	Homework Club 2.21 Year 7	Art Club 1.19 Years 7 & 8	Rugby field		
			Design Club G06 All Years	Orchestra Drama Studio All Years	Homework Club 2.22 Year 8	
				Basketball Club Year 8 (Week B only)	Textiles Club G02 Years 7-9	Design Ventura G05 Years 8 & 9
				Design Club G06 All Years	Design Club G06 All Years	
					Duke of Edinburgh (TBC) Year 10 & 11	

Congratulations to Jessica Staines in Year 8

Jessica had a great win over the weekend in a 14u regional tennis tournament in Cambridge. Jessica played an older girl in the final, saving 4 match points to go on to win. She had to dig deep and work really hard for this win. Congratulations Jessica quite the budding tennis star.



Lost Property

Again, we have a huge amount of lost property in Student Services. It is cleared at the end of every term, but very quickly we accumulate more. None of it is named so we cannot return it to the owner.

We have blazers, outdoor coats and jackets, PE kits, pencil cases, trousers, trainers and lunch boxes. If you think that your child has lost anything, please ask them to come to Student Services and have a look. When we break up for Easter it will be donated to a charity shop.

Dates for your Calendar

Thursday 17th March – Year 10 Tripod Evening

Friday 18th March – 100 Years of Our BBC Event

Friday 25th March – Macbeth Performance

Thursday 31st March – Year 11 Tripod Evening

Friday 8th April – HPV Immunisations

Thursday 12th May – DTP/Men ACWY Immunisations



Reporting Student Absence

To report a student absence for any reason, *including positive Covid test results* - please call **01449 613541** and select option: 1

We will NOT authorise holidays as a matter of course. Our default position is NOT to authorise requests for holidays.

Should you have a request for your child to be absent from school please request a Leave of Absence Request Form.

What to do if you are late?

If you arrive during registration, you should go to your tutor room where you will be marked late. If you arrive after registration, you should report to the Attendance office to sign in.



Useful Contact Information:

Head of Year 7	Mrs T Goodman	t.goodman@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 8	Mr S Peckford	s.peckford@stowhigh.com
Assistant HOY 8 & 9	Mrs T Shaw	t.shaw@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 9	Mr M Blewitt	m.blewitt@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 10	Mrs L Wellham	l.wellham@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 11	Mrs R Dolby	r.dolby@stowhigh.com
Finance		finance@stowhigh.com
General Enquiries		enquiries@stowhigh.com