

Monday 4th April to Friday 8th April 2022



Headteachers' Blog

Covid

The decision to stop supplying free Covid test kits is not one I support. The impact of the continuing pandemic can be seen in schools across the country, across Suffolk and across Stowmarket. Some schools in Suffolk are having to send whole year groups home, such is the impact of staff absence. We are not far off this ourselves, but so far have managed to survive by the skin of our teeth. On some days I have only two senior leaders in school, and we have up to eight supply staff in, with other staff covering more than they are contractually required to do.

My concern is that with all other costs going up, hard pressed families will prioritise the heating and food rather than a test kit – and I understand why. The problem is then the virus becomes unchecked and can continue to multiply and mutate. We do have some stock of kits, and we will be issuing them as prudently as we can, until our stocks have been emptied.

Business Studies

On a more upbeat tone, the Year 9 Business students raised a total of £632 pounds through their efforts last week. With three groups still to declare their takings 9C have a total of £187.50 and have donated to the two chosen charities of the WWF and Lend with Care. 9A, led by an extraordinary young entrepreneur, Harrison Hunn, have made an amazing £444.47 with Harrison's group contributing £170 of that and donating all of their £150 profit to UNICEF. Each group has also contributed their £5 to the Business charity which means we have £65 to sponsor an animal of the students' choice with the WWF and invest into a micro-finance business whereby the money will be repeatedly returned to us to reinvest.

Bobby Clancy's group discovered one of their 50ps is in fact worth £3.49 and so they are now looking into plans to sell that!

Jo Churchill MP

Our long-time supporter Jo Churchill MP will be in school on Tuesday, as she, alongside the Trust, looks under the skin of the school at some key aspects of our work. She will also join me as I meet Mid Suffolk and other key players in an ambitious scheme to improve the facilities on the site, something Jo has been championing for some time.

More Cerebral work

Good luck to Year 11 students undergoing examinations this week in PE and Hospitality and Catering.

On Thursday we have the Youth Empowerment Conference involving selected students from each Year group to engage in an excellent range of workshops and talks about the future of employment – really looking forward to this.

Friday – Non uniform day, and HPV immunisations for Years 8, 9 and some 10's and 11's.

Then the Easter break – but we don't stop, as we are leading revision workshops on every day for Year 11 students, in every almost every subject. The details can be found on our website: [CLICK HERE](#)

Not going anywhere

Recently I was showing the Head of Abbots Hall Primary our facilities ahead of her school booking our space for their annual Year 6 production. I subsequently met her again at a dinner event, whereupon she told me some of her parents had been asking her about when she was leaving her post, to take up the Headship at Stowmarket High, as she had been seen on interview at the High School!

Wishful thinking! You can't get rid of me that easily, and despite Mrs Bailey being an excellent leader, she is quite happy leading a school of littler ones. So, you are still stuck with me.

Have a good week, and then a good Easter. I look forward to seeing students back on Monday 25th, when Covid will be over, all my staff and students are fit and healthy and the sun will shine throughout a calm and peaceful summer term!

Mr Lee-Allan

Year 7 Easter Egg Hunt

It's about Charity, Competition AND Chocolate!

On Tuesday 5th April Year 7 students have the opportunity to take part in the Easter Egg Hunt. Students will line up on the field and wait for the starter to sound, then find as many easter eggs as they can in the time allocated. There will also be a special egg hidden in the school somewhere. The clue for this golden egg will be shared with students at the end of period 2. Please pay your £1 to take part on the day at the event.



On Friday 8th of April it is non-uniform day and our Egg Decorating Competition for Year 7 – 10. Students grab a hardboiled egg, decorate it and bring it to the atrium before or during registration on Friday 8th April - there will be a prize for the best one.



Tuesday 5th April 2022 – Year 7 Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 7th April 2022 – Share your Future – Youth Empowerment Day

Friday 8th April 2022 – HPV Immunisations

Friday 8th April 2022 – Non-Uniform Day

Friday 8th April 2022 – Egg Decorating Competition

Easter Holidays Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd April 2022

Monday 25th April 2022 – Return to School

Friday 29th of April – 2022 – Year 11 Group and Individual Photos



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	Mr J Margetson	j.margetson@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

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