

Monday 9th May to Friday 13th May 2022



Headteachers' Blog

Design Show

When the decision was made to not run with a Sixth Form, the subject that was discussed the most about a negative impact was of course Design Technology. The long history of exceptional standards, creativity, attention to detail, ambition and desire to excel has often been cited by myself as the jewel in our crown.

In simple terms, the worry was that a design show without those spectacular 6th form pieces would seem empty. Well, quite the opposite has happened. Despite the limiting facilities provided by the Priority School programme, Mr Hawkins and his team have driven up standards in Year 11, so that they are now producing pieces that other institutions would offer at the end of the first year of A Level.

The range of pieces, and frankly, the size of some of them, is close to miraculous. The students can rightly be very proud of the products on display. Alongside the resistant materials pieces, we now see increased numbers of graphics pieces and engineering too. It is lovely to see GCSE Textiles resurfacing, with much credit to the students who produced some high quality pieces.

The show also included work from every other year group, showing that the future looks bright for the designers of the future.

Great to see so many guests, including primary partners and local business, and I was very proud to show the Primary Heads the work on Friday.

Parent Voice/FOSH

I held my Parent Voice meeting last week, and we focussed on the ambitious plans for the site and the challenges with introducing more technology into the hands of students. My thanks to the few parents who signed up, your voice, whilst small is important to helping my thinking. I intend to hold a second meeting in the very near future, and would welcome greater attendance.

If you would like to be involved, please email Julie Cooper, liaison@stowhigh.com

On this theme – the following from Miss Ferguson;

We are continuing to develop our school's Relationships and Sex Education policy and would like to engage with more families about the content of our RSE programme.

As the DfE statutory guidance states: 'Parents should be given every opportunity to understand the purpose and content of Relationships and Sex Education. Good communication and opportunities for families to understand and ask questions about the school's approach help increase confidence in the curriculum.'

If you would like to be involved in a small working group, please get in touch with me and I will be able to give you more information and answer any questions you may have about the role. Email c.ferguson@stowhigh.com

Meningitis ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio Vaccination

On Thursday 12th of May your child in Year 9 is now due their Meningitis ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio booster. These vaccinations are part of the childhood immunisation schedule. We will be visiting your child's school to complete the vaccinations it is therefore important that you complete the consent form, the closing date for this is tomorrow, Tuesday 10th of May at midnight.

To complete the consent form please click here <https://eastanglia.schoolvaccination.uk/dtp/2021/suffolk>

Poet Lemn Sissay

Last week Mrs Arnold took Year 10 students to hear the author and poet Lemn Sissay speak about his adaption of Benjamin Zephaniah's book, Refugee Boy. Lemn was kind enough to tweet his admiration for the quality of questions asked by our students – what an honour. More great work from English.

D of E Bronze Practice Expedition

Last weekend Mr Wright took students on their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze practice expedition. The students started at Needham Market Train station and then walked across fields following footpaths to Little London, Combs and then on to the High school, where they camped for the evening. On the Sunday they walked to Onehouse, Harleston, Buxhall, Great Finborough, finishing at Battisford free church.



Design Exhibition

Last week GCSE pupils at Stowmarket High School were showcasing their design projects at our annual exhibition. There was a range of projects on display from a variety of design disciplines such as Product Design, Textiles, Engineering and Graphic Design. It was a great opportunity for pupils to showcase their projects after months of hard work. The school is in partnership with several local businesses that sponsor the event and award prestigious prizes to students that show creative design.

There have been some truly excellent pieces of work produced this year.

“As head of the design department, I am privileged to have a team of such supportive teaching staff and hard-working pupils. It has been a long process of design and manufacture and it certainly hasn't been without its difficulties. However, looking at the final products I couldn't be more delighted. Despite the learning missed over the last two years and the difficulties presented carrying out practical work with covid restrictions our students have shown exceptional resilience and determination to produce some truly stunning projects” - **Jim Hawkins Director of Curriculum - Design Technology**



The Hold

Miss Hewitt and Mrs Relf took a group of Year 8 Students to the Hold, the historical archive base in Ipswich. The day was fantastic, and the students behaved impeccably. They got the chance to handle original historical documents, learn about archives and study some local history. The staff passed on how amazing the students all were- great work History!



Wednesday 11th May – 7G to Stowmarket Library

Thursday 12th May – DTP/Men ACWY Immunisations

Thursday 12th May – 7H to Stowmarket Library

Friday 13th May – Year 11 Leavers Assembly & BBQ

Friday 13th May – 7S to Stowmarket Library

Thursday 19th May – Sports Tour Information Evening

Thursday 26th May – Year 7 Tripod Evening

Friday 27th May – Non-Uniform Day

Monday 30th May Bank Holiday & Half Term



Useful Contact Information:

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| Head of Year 7 | Mrs T Goodman | t.goodman@stowhigh.com |
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| Assistant HOY 8 & 9 | Mr J Margetson | j.margetson@stowhigh.com |
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To report a student absence for any reason, **including positive Covid test results** - please call **01449 613541** and select option: 1