



Tuesday 3rd January to Friday 6th January 2023

Headteachers' Blog

Dear Families – welcome back to school in 2023. I hope Christmas and New Year were the holidays we all needed them to be – full of family, joy and Brussel sprouts. Before I outline the new year ahead at school, I must update you on the wonderful end of term we had.

The final week was packed with variety and quality. We had the Christmas Concert, organised by Year 10 BTEC students and performed by a whole host of talented young people. With a varied programme that included a piano concerto by Haydn, drum solos, choirs and rock and roll bands, the packed hall was treated to an exceptional evening, which was rounded off with a glimpse of the forthcoming school production, Matilda! The number that was presented, so many weeks before the final show was already full of talent, energy and choreographed brilliance, that I think an early prediction of 'it's going to be a smashing hit!' should be a confident one. Mrs Blakey Stoppard and her team put on a great evening, which was supported brilliantly by FOSH who raised £200 to go towards kit and equipment for students.

We then held two days of Christmas dinners – basically adding an extra lunch slot for those who had signed up – and a lovely time was had by all!

On the last Friday, accompanied to tune of festive carols played by the wind band, students started to bring down their hamper creations which once again thrilled us all with their creativity, generosity and flair. The atrium truly comes alive at moments like this, and we get to see the very best of our school. There is always a darker note to be hit when mentioning the hampers, and this year was a note right at the end of the keyboard (A0 I believe). Stowmarket Foodbank said that traditionally they organise around 80 hampers over the Christmas period – this year they had already delivered 80 before they had even got to us – so the financial pain many are suffering is plain to see.

On a more positive note, Christmas jumpers looked great, Year 11 enjoyed an excellent production of A Christmas Carol and the online whole school assembly helped avoid spreading too much of the winter bugs that were starting to run riot across the school.

Director of Maths

I am delighted that Mrs Fisher has taken on the role of Director of Maths now that Dr Taylor has departed on her desperately needed maternity leave. Mrs Fisher was Head of Maths at King Edwards in Bury St Edmunds before becoming a Deputy Headteacher, and so we are exceptionally lucky to be able to call on her experience, knowledge and energy.

WarHammer

Forget the World Cup – look at this from Mr Furlong;

“Just an FYI: It's a way off yet, but I've managed to get Stowmarket High into the Schools Warhammer competition in June up in Warhammer World in Nottingham (essentially the Wembley of the wargaming world! 😊) - There will be 56 competitors from schools around the UK on the day. Mr Thompson and I will work on training and finalising the team over the coming months, but exciting stuff, nonetheless.”

Great work sir! Get practising!

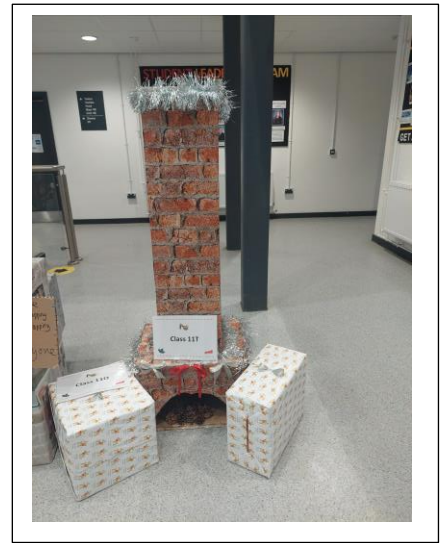
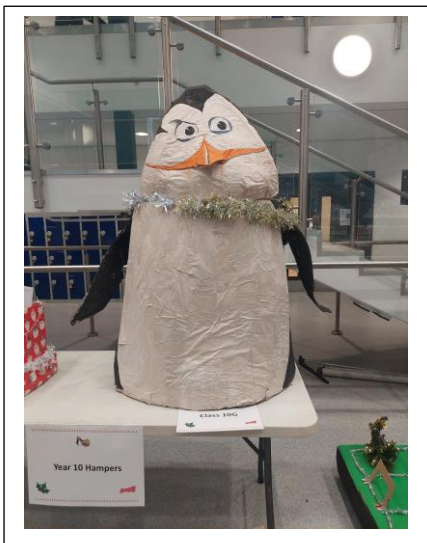
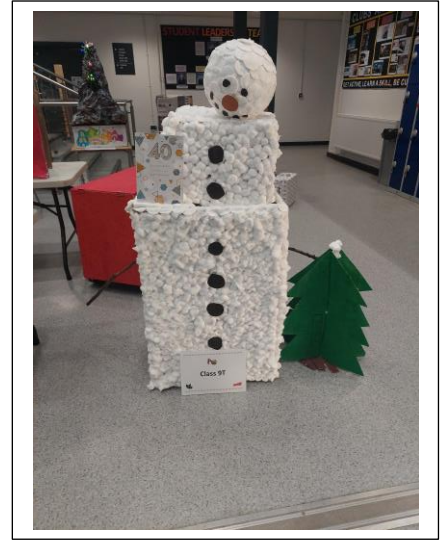
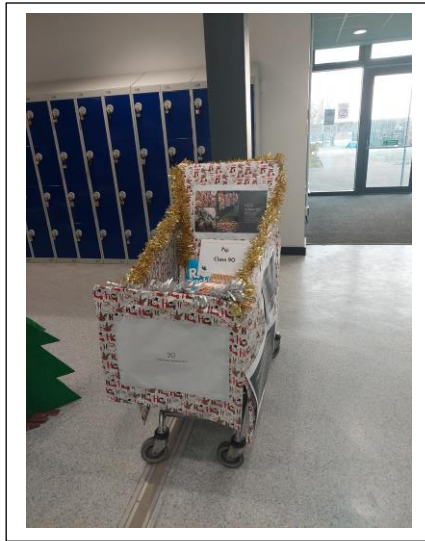
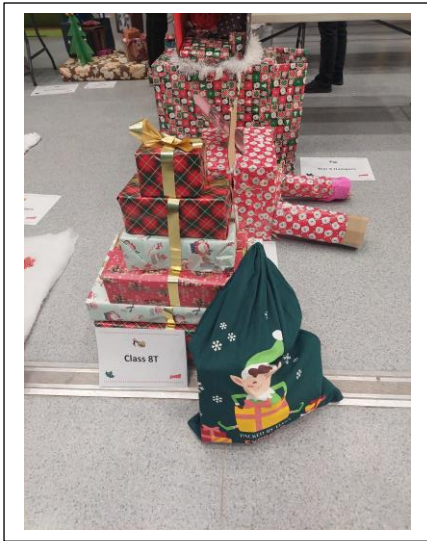
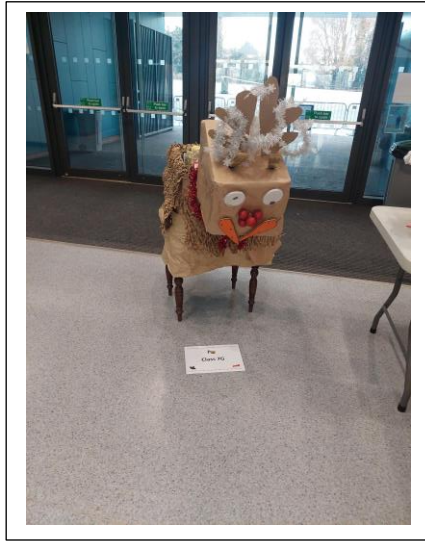
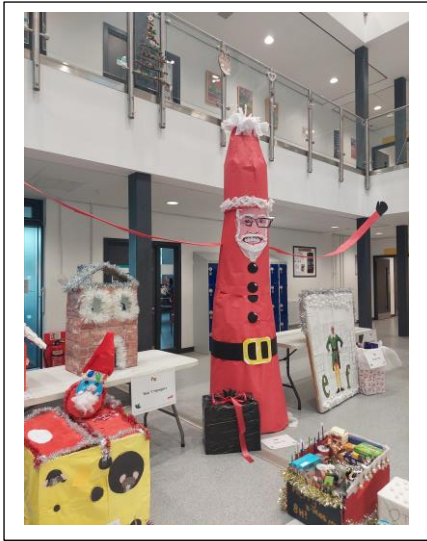
Looking Ahead

We will have trips to Essex University, Year 10 Pre examinations, Year 11 reports, more FOSH meetings, Yr. 11 Tripod evenings, pupil passport evenings, trips to Cambridge and a poetry trip, plus the ski trip leaving and Macbeth causing mayhem in the main hall. All of this will be on top of a packed extra curricular offer, work on the SHELF project, a demanding and rich curriculum, Futures opportunities and wellbeing work. All of these things happen because staff want to do their very best for these young people, and you, the families support us so well.

So, let's get on with it. Buckle that seat belt.

Mr Lee-Allan

Christmas Hampers 2022



Pictured above is an example from each year group of the fantastic hampers

Christmas Concert 2022



Christmas Lunch 2022



Dates for your Diary

5th January 2023 – Year 10 Pupil Passport Event

6th January 2023 – HPV2 Year 9, 10 & 11 Catch Up Immunisations

6th January 2023 – Royal Shakespeare Company Training Event – Ormiston Sudbury

10th January 2023 – Advice & Slice – Life in the Army

11th January 2023 – Trip University of Essex – Dora Love Prize Induction

w/c 16th January 2023 – Year 10 Pre-Exams

w/c 23rd January 2023 – Year 10 Pre-Exams

18th January 2023 – FOSH General Meeting 18.30 – everyone welcome

19th January 2023 – Year 11 Tripod Evening

Useful Contact Information:

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