



Monday 20th February to Friday 24th February 2023

Headteachers' Blog

Welcome back everybody. I hope half term provided your sons and daughters with an opportunity to recharge and relax.

On the Thursday before we broke up, we waved goodbye to the lucky students heading off to Austria for the ski trip, once again run by the marvel Mr Wright. It was great to see their excited faces as they boarded the coach, with anxious but proud parents checking and double checking their bags. The trip itself was a great success – it always is, and Mr Wright contacted me to say what a great experience was had by all. As someone who has never been skiing myself, I love the fact that we can offer this amazing experience to our students, some who might never would have gone if it were not for the school trip. Of course, families have had to make significant sacrifices in order to afford the experience, and I hope that the stories and memories that their sons and daughters have returned with are clear evidence of the value of that investment.

As we waved goodbye to the bus, I turned round to be greeted by numbers of girls who had just taken part in a rugby tournament held on our site. The pride of the Year 11's who beat Finborough School was a delight! I watched in awe as girls from across the county battled away against each other. Girl's rugby has come a long way in recent years, and it was inspiring to see.

This came at the end of a very busy week for apprenticeships and also for Year 11 who got to see Macbeth performed in the main hall.

Ofsted

Some parents have contacted me about when I will release the report following the visit last half term. The answer lays with Ofsted themselves. I still have not even seen a draft report – when I do I have to fact check it, then send it back for final approval, and then I am contacted with the approval to share it. When this happens, I am required to send it to all families – so don't worry – you will see it.

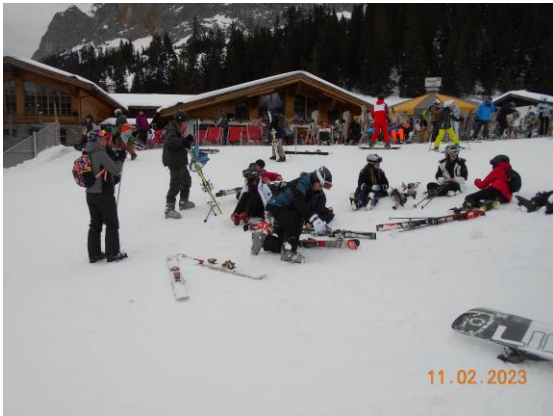
On Wednesday we are holding our Year 8 Pupil Passport Tripod evening, and on Thursday Year 11 have their Sport and Coaching practicals. The English team are being visited by a representative from a refugee charity, to help students who have been studying Refugee Boy to have a better understanding of what being a refugee actually means.

On a pastoral note, we are having a drive on improving uniform – removing outside coats in the building and ensuring students are not wearing hoodies. Assemblies will focus on perseverance and learning from mistakes.

Hopefully this weather holds – it brings cheer to everyone's faces!

Mr Lee-Allan

Ski Trip 2023



National Apprenticeship Week

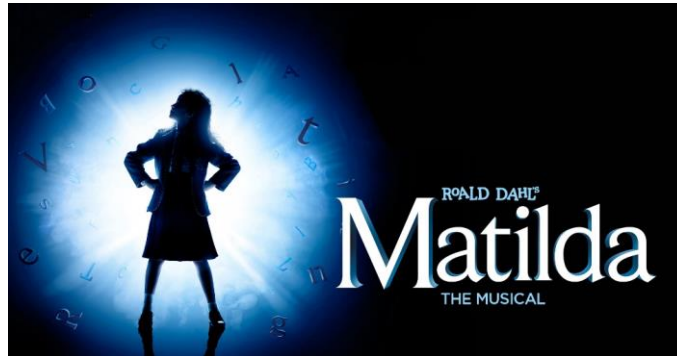
Monday 6th February – Friday 10th February was National Apprenticeship Week and our Futures Coordinator, Mrs Mylrea invited representatives from Suffolk New College, Suffolk Rural College, West Suffolk College, Apprenticeships Suffolk, Taylor Maid Joinery, Access Creative College and Stowmarket Police in to school to chat with students about apprenticeships available to students.



Matilda Tickets Now Available to Purchase

We are pleased to announce that the tickets are now on sale for the school performance of Matilda. The performances are on Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Friday 17th of March. Friends of Stowmarket High School will be there offering refreshments during the interval (please bring some change) and there will be a competition to win a chocolate Fudge Cake.

[Click here to purchase tickets](#)



Year 8 SEND Pupil Passport Event

We would like to invite you to our second pupil passport event on Wednesday 22nd February, 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm. **You do not need to attend this event, if you do not have any concerns or if you do not want any part of your child's pupil passport updated.** If you cannot make the meeting but would like us to catch up with your child, please could you email t.gerrard@stowhigh.com and we will happily arrange an appointment with them.

The meetings are in school and the slots fifteen minutes long. We have an online booking system for Parents' Evenings and here's what you need to do:

Go to: <http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/stowmarket>



Reporting a student absence

When reporting a student absence please call us on 01449 613541 and select option 1. Could you please also clarify the reason for their absence, we are receiving some messages that just say, "will not be in". You can also email us using: attendance@stowhigh.com

Dates for your Diary

22nd February – Year 8 SEND 2nd Pupil Passport Event

23rd February – Year 11 Sports & Coaching PRE-Exams

27th February to 6th March – Year 11 Core Exams

6th – 10th March – Matilda Rehearsals

6th March – Year 11 Hospitality & Catering Exam

7th March – Trip to Cambridge University Year 11 MAP Group

7th March - Year 11 Practical Food Exams

10th March – Year 11 Practical Food Exams

13th March – Parent Information Evening French Trip

Useful Contact Information:

Head of Year 7	Mrs T Goodman	t.goodman@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 8	Mrs N Goss	n.goss@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 9	Mrs A Hackett	a.hackett@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 10	Ms Z Rudling	z.rudling@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 11	Miss R Harrigan	r.harrigan@stowhigh.com
Finance		finance@stowhigh.com
General Enquiries		enquiries@stowhigh.com
Attendance/Student Absence		attendance@stowhigh.com

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