

Headteachers' Newsletter

Monday 22 May – Friday 26 May 2023



Dear Families

Year 11

Year 11 have been handling the whole exam process well – they fully deserve a week off to recharge batteries, enjoy some good weather and prepare for the next round after half term. I hope all the families are surviving the stress. Today we said our 'official goodbye' to the Year group. It's an important rite of passage, even though they will of course return for their examinations after half term. A joyous assembly, tears, memories, laughter, hot dogs and shirt signing. Always a joy. This year group has had an extraordinary journey through the education system – closing middle schools, pandemic, new school building, to name just three of the biggest challenges. The sun came out for them today as they hugged and celebrated their journey so far – may the road rise to meet them.
(By the way – Year 11 don't forget you have school photographs on Monday 5 June)

GCSE Exams

This year's GCSE exams began in earnest last week, with students sitting exams on every day of the week. We have been really proud of our students, this week, as they have really got stuck in and shown an excellent attitude towards their exams.

Before each of our morning exams, teachers have been providing Exam Warm-up Sessions for students to get them ready and in the right frame of mind for their exams. As well as receiving their subject 'warm-ups' students have also been able to grab a bit of breakfast to make sure that they are 'fuelled-up'! These have been well attended and the feedback from both students and teachers has been very positive.

Students have also been attending special subject success sessions on the days before their exams to give them that last bit of support, which has also gone well.

Here is a photo of the Biology Warm-up on:

The journey is underway!



Uniform

At Stowmarket High School, we are always endeavoring to support families with uniform, so we currently have a second-hand uniform store. In order to continue this support, we need your donations of previously used uniform! This will allow us to loan uniform to students who have grown out of their old uniform and families are waiting to be able to afford new uniform, as well as families that arrive mid-year and are eager to start their child at the school but do not have uniform in the first instance. If you have uniform your child has outgrown or no longer requires and it is in at least reasonable condition, we welcome your donations. Please drop these into reception directly or via your child. Thank you in advance for your support!

Summer Uniform Rules

After half term summer uniform rules apply – basically **no blazers** required. Ties are required. In exceptional circumstances I may make the decision that ties can be removed, but not yet.

As we near the summer holidays and students are excited about the prospect of what's to come, this may well include new piercings and flamboyant haircuts! Can we politely remind you that, whilst in school, the only jewellery which is permitted to be worn by students is:

- Two small studded earrings
- A wrist watch
- One small discreet necklace
- One bracelet/band
- One ring

No facial jewellery is allowed to be worn anywhere on the school site and this includes clear piercings. Students who don't follow the guidance above will have their jewellery confiscated and it can be collected from Student Services at the end of the day. Repeated refusal to follow these rules will result will mean a parent/carer must pick up the items from reception and it could lead to a student being placed in supervised exclusion or refused admittance to the school.

Likewise, any haircuts considered 'extreme' or attract undue attention are not allowed e.g. shaven styles or dyed hair (unless natural colour and appearance). It is important to contact your Head of Year before having a hairstyle which may be considered inappropriate.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Year 7 Tripod Evening

Unfortunately I was not able to attend the evening, but I am told it was well attended. I am keen to hear any feedback, good or constructive about the process and how we can make things work better for parents going forward.

Next half term is super busy, with Year 10 Work Experience, Year 6 transition, Harry Potter trips, engineering roadshows, carnivals, sports awards and sports days, art exhibition and the choosing of the new Student Leadership team. How exciting!

Have a lovely week, if you do get a break. As ever, thank you for your support

Mr Lee-Allan

Math

Junior Maths Challenge 2023

Well done to our amazing Year 7 and 8 Top Mathematicians who took part in this year's Junior 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:

YEAR 7		
Student Firstname	Student Lastname	Certificate
Lucy	Brett	Bronze
Lewis	Carey	Bronze
Oliver	Cleverley	Bronze
Oliver	Coleman	Bronze
Kristina	Cuprina	Silver
Alfie	Doe	Bronze
Andrew	Farley	Bronze
Joshua	Griggs	Bronze
Evan	Hendley	Bronze
Corey	Hill	Silver
Ewan	Johnson	Bronze
Jack	Lodge	Bronze
Peter	Majerczyk	Silver and Best in Year
Tabatha	Margetson	Bronze
Joshua	O'Donnell	Bronze
David	Peck	Bronze
Ellie	Pollard	Bronze
Lewis	Randell	Silver
Emma	Scadding	Bronze
Bobby	Sheppard	Silver
Noah	Trevorrow	Bronze
Maddy	Virdee	Bronze
YEAR 8		
Student Firstname	Student Lastname	Certificate
Teddy	Allen	Silver
Lucy	Baker	Bronze
Coen	Brown	Bronze
Rich	Calabio	Silver
Beatrice	Catchpole	Gold
Leyton	Cook	Bronze
Cori	Cooper	Bronze
Oliver	Deal	Bronze

Emily	Denmark	Silver
Erica	Denny	Gold and Best in school
Penny	Downes	Bronze
Poppy	Healy	Bronze
Daisy	Huggins	Bronze
Oasca	King	Silver
Ella	Lynch	Bronze
Jacob	Minchin	Bronze
Esme	Mixer	Bronze
Heather	Nicholls	Bronze
Layla	Peckford	Bronze
Codie	Rayner	Bronze
Zackary	Stacey	Bronze
Amelie	Stott	Bronze
Oliver	Stubberfield	Bronze
Darcy	Sutton	Silver
Luke	Thorby	Bronze
Maisie	Thorpe	Silver
Freya	Underwood	Bronze
Sophie	Verebelyi	Bronze
Darci	White	Silver

Well done everyone!

Maths Department.

Food & Nutrition

We are developing the environment of Lilies over the coming weeks.

The first change will take place after half term where pupils will see a change to the layout of the tables.

There is also a competition pupils can enter to help design a mural for lilies.

Textiles

If anyone has any old denim garments - jeans, skirts, shirts, any size, any condition, please could you donate them to us in the Textiles room.

We are also collecting old shirts (collars and cuffs type shirt not t-shirts), ideally patterned or coloured, again any size and any condition to the Textiles rooms – it will be greatly appreciated!

Thank you.

Useful Contact Information:

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