

Headteachers' Fortnightly Newsletter

Monday 11 September 2023 – Friday 22 September 2023



Hi All

The academic year is already three weeks old, and all students have settled into school life extremely well. We are very proud of our Year 7 students who now seem like they have been part of the Stowmarket High furniture for many a year and we thank Miss Harrigan for her leadership of the year group. Additionally, we have seen our first trip overseas leave and return, successfully – Mrs Relf took several students to Ypres and all returning comments were of excellent conduct by our students and an invaluable experience had by all. In respect of extra-curricular activities, we pride ourselves on the opportunities we offer our students outside of the classroom, including the clubs programme we offer all students on a daily/weekly basis - please see our website for further information.

A key strategic focus of the school is to ensure all learners of the ability to recall and retrieve the knowledge that has been taught to them. You may have heard from your child, the use of 'Do Now' starters at the beginning of all lessons. The purpose of these tasks is to give the students a short period at the beginning of each lesson to recall and retrieve the learning gained from the previous lessons, securely embedding key knowledge that they will use throughout their curriculum. We are thrilled with the impact of these directed tasks, allowing all lessons to have a calmer, swifter, and direct start to each lesson; we congratulate and celebrate all students for the way they have taken to such learning.

As previously mentioned, please be aware the school will have an early close of 2:00pm on Thursday 5 October for our Open Evening, where many of our students are supporting the evening, celebrating the school's offer to those students who are transitioning to us in September. Additionally, Friday 6 October is a non-pupil day, and the school will be closed. As mentioned last week by the Headteacher, communication is at the heart of our progress at Stowmarket high, please do continue to feedback your comments and observations so we can work together to support your child.

Thank you.

Mr Pickering
Deputy Headteacher

Greetings All,

Thank you for the wonderful start to the new term, we are really impressed with the start our students have made and the focus in lessons. I am increasingly proud of the wider opportunities several of our staff create for your children from the Battlefields in France, Duke of Edinburgh, Ski trip, Zoo visit in Holland and many more- please do keep an eye out in the newsletter for more information.

It is also important to remember that as the days get shorter and the weather changes that getting into routines such as sleep patterns, packing bags the night before, uniform ready and breakfast will support a calm and orderly start to each day. If you are entitled to FSM, then this is also a reminder that your child is entitled to a free breakfast every morning in Lilies from 8.00am. A reminder that there will be an early close on Thursday 5 October at 2.00pm to support the open evening set up.

Communication is key, so please do engage with the school with any feedback or concerns you may have about ways we can work together to support your child.

A promise from me and the team that together we are determined to ensure your child makes progress and is tolerant and respectful.

Also, a piece of information for your reference, students will be finishing school early on the last day of term in December (Tuesday 19 December 2023) at approximately 1.30pm. There is also a potential staff PD Day on Wednesday 3 January 2023, more details and information on this will follow in the coming weeks.

Have a lovely weekend.

Ms Hernandez

Colour Run!

Please keep an eye out for more information regarding this year's colour run coming soon!



English

We are delighted to announce that Daisy Abbott, of Year 11, has won the Primadonna writing competition for young writers, run in conjunction with the University of Suffolk.

This competition ran at many schools across the county and therefore represents a great achievement. Daisy's story is an inventive recontextualisation of the *Cinderella* story, giving the 'ugly' sisters' side of the tale. She invites us to consider whether Cinderella was really all that she seemed!

Daisy won the Year 10-13 category, where Olivia Castle, Archie Underwood, Ashleigh Baker and Violet Ali all had stories that were shortlisted. Meanwhile, Theo Donovan was shortlisted for the Year 7-9 award. This is fantastic news, and we send out our warmest congratulations to all. Thank you to everyone that took the time to submit a story. It is great to see so many enthusiastic writers at Stowmarket.



To read Daisy's story please click [here](#)

Drama

On Thursday 21st, the Drama department took a group of students to The Regent Theatre in Ipswich to watch a live production of 'Blood Brothers' to enhance their learning and knowledge of the play ahead of their studies.

All students had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the production, huge thanks to the Drama department for providing this excellent opportunity!



FOSH



The FOSH (Friends of Stowmarket High School) AGM will be held on the Wednesday 18 October 2023, 8.30pm (directly after the Halloween quiz).

The FOSH restarted last year and have run fundraising events throughout the year as well as creating the float for the Stowmarket Carnival. We are a friendly group of parents and will welcome anyone who wishes to help at events or become a part of the team.

If you would like to join the committee or take up a role please see the separate email with further details of the AGM and nomination form.

If you have any questions or would like any further information about being a Committee Member, please speak to Paul Bearman (Chair of FOSH) by emailing fosh@stowhigh.com





Inspirational Futures News

Inspirational Futures What's Coming Up?

September 2023

26th



Advice & Slice – Open to All Years

Lunch Time: 1.30pm – 2.10pm – G.02

Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Inspirational Futures Centre

Zoe Durrant – Life as a Pathologist

28th

Year 11 Next Steps Evening

5.30pm – 6.00pm – SEND Families

6.00pm – 7.00pm - Main School Hall, Activity Studio

October 2023

3rd

Years 10 & 11 – Young Professionals - Your Child Their Future Families Information Evening

6.00pm – 7.00pm – Virtual

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2QH3DSN>

10th



Advice & Slice – Open to All Years

Period 4 – Room 222

Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Inspirational Futures Centre

TBC

12th

Year 10 – Army Event

31st



Advice & Slice – Open to All Years

Lunch Time: 1.30pm – 2.10pm – G.02

Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Inspirational Futures Centre

Lt Jake Langford – Life in the Army

November 2023

14th



Advice & Slice – Open to All Years

Period 4 – Room 222

Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Inspirational Futures Centre

Joe Sadler – Music & Working with the Stars

17th

Year 7 & Year 8 - BAE Systems, RAF & Royal Navy Education Programme 2023 Periods' 1 and 2 – Main Hall

28th



Advice & Slice – Open to All Years

Lunch Time: 1.30pm – 2.10pm – G.02

Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Inspirational Futures Centre

PC Levett & PC Henriksen – Suffolk Police – Life on the Beat

December 2023

12th



Advice & Slice – Open to All Years

Period 4 – Room 222

Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Inspirational Futures Centre

Stuart Lipscombe – Criminology

On The Horizon



October – The Mix Career Mentoring Service

December – Year 10 Work Experience Parents Evening

February 5th – 11th - National Apprenticeship Week

March 4th – 9th - National Careers Week

March Youth Empowerment Conference 2024: Celebrating Diversity

May 13th – 17th – Year 10 Work Experience



Sessions

Dates in 2023	Period	Time	Location	Speaker	Topic
Tues 26th Sept	Lunch	1.30pm - 2.10pm	Textiles Room G02	Zoe Durrant	Life as a Pathologist
Tues 10th Oct	Period 4	12.30pm - 1.30pm	Room 222		TBC
Tues 31st Oct	Lunch	1.30pm - 2.10pm	Textiles Room G02	Lt Jake Langford	Life in the Army
Tues 14th Nov	Period 4	12.30pm - 1.30pm	Room 222	Joe Sadler	Music & Working with the Stars
Tues 28th Nov	Lunch	1.30pm - 2.10pm	Textiles Room G02	PC Chloe Levitt & PC Stef Henriksen	Police - Life on the Beat
Tues 12th Dec	Period 4	12.30pm - 1.30pm	Room 222	Stuart Lipscombe	Criminology

Sign-up sheets are on the door of the Inspirational Futures Office or email Mrs Mylrea m.mylrea@stowhigh.com you cannot attend without signing up to ensure we have enough Dominos Pizza. For all those signing up for a Period 4 Session, you will also need a Pizza Pass from Mrs Mylrea to show to your teacher after registering.

Job of the Week

Sound Engineer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCc0ZdU2oIU>



Useful Contact Information:

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