

## Headteachers' Fortnightly Newsletter

Monday 13 November 2023 – Friday 24 November 2023



Good Afternoon All,

Happy Friday! I am not sure how it is for you all at home, but life at school is getting busier by the day and the weeks are just flying by.

We have had another action-packed fortnight; you will find some of the highlights detailed below. My personal highlight was the sandwich tasting for the Business Studies Enterprise Week Competition!

Alongside all the extracurricular activities provided for students, over the past two weeks positive actions have been implemented to continually improve your child's educational and nutritional experience.

The first action being lesson observations. These are conducted in every subject, for every teacher, and are carried out by members of the School Improvement Board and Senior Leadership Team. They provide valuable information to ensure the high quality of education being delivered to our students and enables us to ensure that best practices are being followed.

The second being a meeting with the Trust's catering providers, Edwards & Blake. The meeting was attended by the Year 8 Food Champions Team, Mrs Brewster the Subject Coordinator for Food Technology and Textiles, the schools Catering Manager, the Operations Manager from Edwards and Blake and myself. The Year 8 Food Champions Team represented the school and raised several issues including pricing clarity, food theme days, menu choices and cutlery. Edwards & Blake were able to implement several changes immediately and have taken away the other issues to work with the school on.

If you or your child have any catering queries, please email our [enquiries@stowhigh.com](mailto:enquiries@stowhigh.com) mailbox and we will ensure that the schools Food Champions Team or staff investigate it for you.

I have had the pleasure of communicating with many parents/carers over the past couple of weeks and look forward to communicating with more of you in the weeks to come. Whilst I may not always be able to respond to you immediately or directly myself, I regard all parent/carer communication with great importance.

In the first instance, **please contact your child's tutor or Head of Year** with any queries and/or issues, they will happily assist and support you. Have a great weekend!

Ms Hernandez



Cardiomyopathy<sup>UK</sup>  
the heart muscle charity



Stowmarket  
High School  
HELPING OUR BUSINESS

# COLOUR RUN 2023

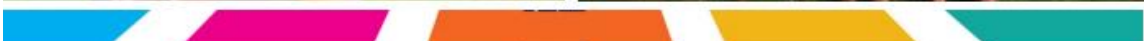
Prior to half term, we saw over 500 of our staff and students across all year groups take part in our third colour run. The afternoon was full of smiles and memories, seeing our school community come together to raise money for a great cause.

We'd like to thank everyone who took part and contributed on the day, helping us to raise a fantastic £1879.90 which we will be donating to Cardiomyopathy UK in the loving memory of Miss Lottie Shields-Bayliss, a much loved and missed teacher at Stowmarket High School.

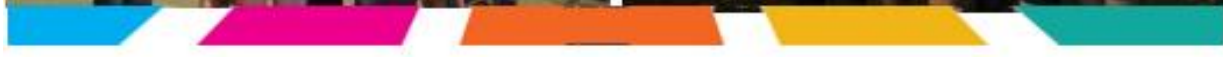
We'd love to reach our target of £2000 and would like to offer everyone the opportunity to help us get there by donating via our Just Giving page using the link below.

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stowmarkethighschoolcolourrun?utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=stowmarkethighschoolcolourrun&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share&utm\\_term=b7a67d12042a4b089b2b7feb9eefc631](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stowmarkethighschoolcolourrun?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=stowmarkethighschoolcolourrun&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=b7a67d12042a4b089b2b7feb9eefc631)

Please enjoy some of the photos from the day. We are looking at opportunities for students to come and look through the entire collection of photos from the afternoon to take home as a memento of the day.



Cardiomyopathy<sup>UK</sup>  
the heart muscle charity



### Global Entrepreneurship Week

For Global Entrepreneurship Week, we worked in partnership with Moments Café - St Elizabeth Hospice.

We have been running a competition to innovate the sandwich! 5 contestants made their sandwich creation last Friday and they were judged by staff from the Moments Café and school kitchen department, along with Ms Hernandez.



The winner will have their sandwich offered on the menu for a week in the café.

Congratulations to all the finalists, they all made some really tasty sandwiches!



Well done guys!



## Personal Development Update

We have been working hard this term to continue to progress our Personal Development programme. We now have five clear key areas to focus upon; **Equity, Wellbeing (Oasis), Careers (Inspirational futures), Character and Community, Cultural Capital**. Look out for the logos that represent the five areas.



We will be posting regular updates in this newsletter to let you know of past and future experiences from the Personal Development team.

To enhance our student's cultural capital and ensure they have a broader understanding of British Values, we enjoyed a guest speaker from UK Parliament last week. The year 8-10 students experienced a 45-minute assembly explaining how our government is made up, how its members work and what Parliament is like. We are planning a trip to Parliament in the new year, so watch out for the opportunity to attend!



Four of our students across year 7-11 have applied to Suffolk Youth Parliament this week. Good Luck to those students, we wish them well and hope they get to share their manifestos! Please see this link for more information <https://thesource.me.uk/our-groups/uk-youth-parliament/>

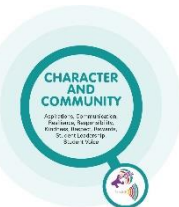
Our Character and Community student leads team are currently working on a Litter picking campaign with year 7's. We have a 'Keep our Community Clean' poster competition and an opportunity to be a volunteer in our litter picking crew. **Sign up at Mrs Harrigan's office** and enter your creation for the competition. These posters will be displayed all-round the school!





We are happy to welcome Stuart to the Oasis team this term. Stuart is a mentor through the Starfish mentoring programme that is co-ordinated by the Salvation Army. He has a full case load of young people already, but we are working on increasing his time so we can offer this opportunity to more young people soon.

Year 10 students will have their work experience week launched this term; they need to watch out for an assembly before Christmas that will explain the process. We will be in touch with parents soon. Please feel free to start looking and contacting people for work experience opportunities – this will run the week commencing the **13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**.



Finally, we are applying for a workshop with The Speakers Trust, called *Speak Out and Be Heard*. This is a workshop and competition that allows young people to develop their public speaking and communication skills. More information will be provided through form tutors in due course

## Countdown to Christmas!

Please see below a summary of events we are holding in the run-up to Christmas.

- **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** – Christmas Tree decorating with Ms Ferguson (select classes)
- **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Celebration Breakfast for invited students (Year 7 & 8)
- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Celebration Breakfast for invited students (Year 9 & 10)
- **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Lunch (early lunch at 13:10-14:10) and Christmas Jumper Day (Wear your best Christmas jumper!)
- **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Hamper judging and donation.
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Celebration Breakfast for invited students (Year 11)
- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Non-uniform day and early finish at 1:10pm.



## 12 days of Christmas Wellbeing Plan!

We invite you to join us in a '12 days of Christmas Wellbeing Plan' in the run up to the end of term. The aim of this is to unwind and relax in time for Christmas! Please click [HERE](#) to view the schedule.

### Useful Contact Information:

Head of Year 7	Miss R Harrigan	<a href="mailto:r.harrigan@stowhigh.com">r.harrigan@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 8	Mrs T Goodman	<a href="mailto:t.goodman@stowhigh.com">t.goodman@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 9	Mrs N Goss	<a href="mailto:n.goss@stowhigh.com">n.goss@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 10	Mrs L McLoughlin	<a href="mailto:l.mcloughlin@stowhigh.com">l.mcloughlin@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 11	Ms Z Rudling	<a href="mailto:z.rudling@stowhigh.com">z.rudling@stowhigh.com</a>
Finance		<a href="mailto:finance@stowhigh.com">finance@stowhigh.com</a>
General Enquiries		<a href="mailto:enquiries@stowhigh.com">enquiries@stowhigh.com</a>
Attendance/Student Absence		<a href="mailto:attendance@stowhigh.com">attendance@stowhigh.com</a>