

Headteachers' Fortnightly Newsletter

Thursday 4 January 2024 – Friday 12 January 2024



Good Afternoon All,

Welcome to 2024. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year is as equally prosperous for you as we hope it will be for all at Stowmarket High School.

Key Stage 3 Assessment

As a school we are currently reviewing and amending our protocols for how we report to parents. Within the next few weeks, I will be writing to all parents in Key Stage 3 to share our new Key Stage 3 Attainment Statements. Following communication with parents, and feedback from many of you, we are also now going to report both effort (attitude to learning) and attainment to parents/carers three times a year rather than just the once. Can I say a huge thank you to the many parents who have informed this process. Finally, we will also be sending out further guidance on how to use our parent Go4Schools app/login. Watch this space!

Parents' Evenings

We successfully had a fantastic Year 9 Parents' Evening. We have returned to our conventional Parents' Evening, having all teachers on the bottom floor of the school, allowing parents and students easier access to the teachers. The evening had a wonderful feel with many parents commenting on the warm and approachable manner of the school. Again, thank you to everyone for your feedback. Please be aware there is a Year 11 Parents' coming this Thursday 18 January 2024. Parents, please check correspondence for details on how to make bookings. As ever, if at any point you require further information about your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact the school and a member of our team will get back to you.

Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 are now approaching their option choices for final examinations. The process starts next week with assemblies, booklets, streams and lots of other information in place to aid the process of selection. Due to changes from the Department of Education, the option process was not used last year, and as we have now returned to a two year key stage 4, Year 9 are now due to make their selections. Parents, please be aware there will be an Options Evening in the first week after half term. Mr Smith will be sending our further correspondence next week.

Weather

The return to school has been as busy, especially with the weather issues we are continuing to have. I feel it must be mentioned that, in the main, our students manage the problems the weather poses incredibly well and are credit to both yourselves and the school. Can I remind all parents, if you child is absent, due to the weather, or due to any other reason, please report this to the school asap.

Parent Newsletter Frequency

We would be grateful to have your feedback on the frequency that our Parent Newsletter gets sent out. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete the form, the deadline for this is **Friday 19 January 2024 at 12:00 midday**.

And finally, the spring term is often a very busy, and yet, very short term compared to the Autumn and Summer term. There are lots of activities and events being held, alongside lots of changes at Stowmarket High School. Please keep an eye on our website, on your emails, on newsletters and on our social media for any updates.

Take care.

Mr. A Pickering

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 L McLoughlin	l.mcloughlin@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

