



Onehouse Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1QR

Tel: 01449 613541

Email: enquiries@stowhigh.com

Web: www.stowhigh.com

· ACHIEVING SUCCESS TOGETHER ·

Headteachers' Newsletter

Monday 4th March 2023



Dear Families

Our team is gearing up for a new survey in which we'll be giving you the opportunity to express your opinion on parent and guardian engagement at Kingfisher Trust and your overall confidence in the school's strategy. Our goal is to open up a communication channel where your voice is heard and organised in such a way that we can create the best learning environment for your child. To help us with this, we're working together with the Edurio survey platform.

To complete the survey, please click here: <https://edurio.com/poll/JSDejR>

Surveys are completely anonymous and confidential, though the responses will be aggregated for the purpose of analysis. The survey will be available until 20th March 2023.

Your child will also be completing this survey in school during this time.

Your opinion and honesty are much appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns, please be in touch.
edurio.com edurio@edurio.com

We look forward to your feedback! Senior Leadership Team at Stowmarket High School.

Kind Regards

Lucie Hernandez

Lucie Hernandez
Headteacher

How can I support my Child at Stowmarket High School

Guidance and Advice

Tracking their Progress

- As a parent you have 24/7 access to Go 4 Schools. This allows you to see their curriculum subject progress. <https://www.stowhigh.com/parents/go-4-schools/>
- If you wish to discuss further, you can e-mail their HOY or Director of Faculty/Subject Leader directly - <https://www.stowhigh.com/parents/staff-details/>
- Face to face Tripod evenings are held once a year so parents can join teachers in discussing pupil progress. Additional Tripod evenings are scheduled for Year 7 and 11 families.
- If parents wish to discuss issues before or after these events during the academic year, e-mail their HOY or Director of Faculty/Subject Leader directly. Their details can be found here: <https://www.stowhigh.com/parents/staff-details/>

Understanding their Curriculum

- The school uses Learning Journeys as a way to demonstrate the curriculum your child will undertake. These can be found on our website: <https://www.stowhigh.com/curriculum/learning-journeys/>
- The school will also be publishing updated 'Teaching Schedules' with a breakdown of each topic for you to see in the summer term.
- The options process for pupils in Year 9 can be found here: <https://www.stowhigh.com/curriculum/option-process/>

Supporting Homework and Learning at home

- Stowmarket High School uses an online platform Show My Homework to support learning at home. It can be accessed 24/7 via the website or app. Details can be found here: <https://www.satchelone.com/login>
- Parents can have their own login to compliment the pupil dashboard. You can track work, see supporting materials and identify upcoming deadlines.
- Parents guide to SMHW - <https://www.stowhigh.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/a-parents-guide-to-show-my-homework.pdf>
- The school runs workshops for pupils taking exams so that parents are informed about supporting their children at home.
- If any parent wishes to have advice or support at home at any point, please feel to e-mail: enquiries@stowhigh.com

Behaviour and punctuality at school

- Please click here to log-in to Go 4 School where you will be able to access behaviour records and timetables for your child: <https://www.stowhigh.com/parents/go-4-schools/>
- It will also highlight any attendance or punctuality issues.
- Parents can contact their Heads of Year or any teaching staff: <https://www.stowhigh.com/parents/staff-details/>
- Stowmarket High school recognises positive behaviours and attitude through celebration assemblies, badges for merits, postcards, emails and phone calls home as well as celebration breakfasts throughout the year.

Supporting Attendance

- As a parent / carer please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance to discuss concerns you have regarding attendance.
- The school closely monitors attendance and may be in touch to discuss patterns to support strong attendance at school.

Addressing Bullying

- Everyone has the right to study and work in an environment free from discrimination. If your child has been exposed to unpleasant behaviour, please encourage them to speak to their Head of Year. For more information on who to contact please refer to the safeguarding section of the school website.

Year 9 Option Evening

What a very successful event this was with over 75% of families attending and we hope that it was an informative session for you and your child. A letter was sent to you Friday with a link to the Options Form for your child to complete. They will need to log in using their Microsoft 365 login details which they use during Computing lessons in school.

The deadline for the completion of this form is 8th March, 2024.





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I am writing to introduce myself as the new Head of Year 8. I know that many of you will share my appreciation for the effort and hard work that Mrs Goodman dedicated to the year group, and I know she will be missed from the role. I recognise and appreciate that such a change can be difficult for young people, especially when they have built positive relationships with key members of staff. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you all that I have worked very closely with the pastoral team in my current role as Assistant Headteacher, and have taught many students within the year group, giving me a good knowledge of the students who are due to be within my immediate care.

If you would like the chance to speak to me, please feel free to email on a.mclellan@stowhigh.com and will assist you with your queries. I would also like to invite you to attend the Year 8 Parents' Evening on Thursday May 16. The evening aims to provide you with an opportunity to meet with your child's subject teachers, discuss their progress and ask any curriculum based questions that you may have. Please place a note into your calendar and look out for more information in the coming weeks.

In addition to taking on the role of 'Acting Head of Year 8' I will continue to support Mrs Goss with the Year 9 cohort. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything regarding the progress or needs of your child, please get in touch.

Thank you to those of you that attended the Key Stage 4 options evening on February 29. It was lovely to meet and talk to so many families as we work together at this important stage in your child's education where they need to decide upon the courses they will study at Key Stage 4. Please get in touch if you have concerns or worries regarding the options process.

Addressing Online Safety

As a School we take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously. We have online security measures in place, which are constantly monitored to safeguard students from any potential dangers they may experience when using the internet..

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you to ensure the Online-Safety message is consistent. Your help is needed to talk to your children about how they can keep safe and behave appropriately online. The widespread availability and use of social networking applications bring opportunities to understand, engage and communicate with audiences in new ways. It is important that we are able to use these technologies and services effectively and flexibly. You may find your children asking to engage with technology that you have no knowledge or experience of.

Students are accessing a greater amount of content online. Remember that services like Facebook and YouTube have a minimum age limit of 13. They do this for a reason. If you choose to allow your children to have these accounts then you will want to discuss with them the boundaries you expect. We have spoken to students through assemblies about staying safe online and encouraged them to seek help if they are concerned or worried about someone.



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You will find children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to unwanted or unpleasant content or comments online. To support you and ensure the safety of your child, please get in touch as we would be happy to listen, help and understand the issue.

Best wishes,

Andy McLellan - Assistant Headteacher



Kingfisher Schools Trust

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RESPECT

KINDNESS

SUCCESS

INTEGRITY

Year 7 News

The Year 7 students as a whole have had a smooth and positive transition to SHS. I commented to the year group in our Christmas celebration assembly that I feel like I have won the year group lottery and I am so lucky to work with such fantastic students.



Caleb Green



Edward Bell



Harley Bloom



Sienna James



Keri Naivunivuni

These five students above, are the Year 7 students with the highest number of merits so far this academic year. They have shown an exceptional commitment to their class and homework, they display an outstanding attitude to learning and have been also involved in additional activities within the school community. I am so proud of them and wanted their hard work to be recognised in this newsletter.

We have a number of ways to reward students to ensure as many as possible are recognised; for example, we hold celebration breakfasts each term; celebration assemblies; students are selected to take part in drumming workshops each week as a reward and every week in assembly I talk about one or two students that have stood out to me for various reasons that week.

Luckily for me - I have lots of students to pick from as they are an excellent year group, who stand out as having a great attitude to learning and are responsible citizens in school.

Year 7 are consistently wearing their uniform perfectly, bringing in the correct equipment and their behaviour is good.

I look forward to seeing what else they achieve over the rest of the academic year and working with them to ensure their continued success.

Charity Donations from Fundraising Events and Non Uniform Days

We would like to thank you for your generous donations and to let you know which charities your donations have helped:

- October 2023 Halloween non-school uniform day and pumpkin carving competition. £500 donated to Cancer Research
- Xmas Hamper Competition food donated to Stowmarket Food Bank, in total 550kg
- February 2024 Valentines event and non-school uniform day £700 to the charity CRY

Harley Davidson and rider



A light aircraft



Small car



**In total
we
donated
550kg of
food!**

**This is the
equivalent weight
to one of these**

A grand piano



The Speak Out Challenge



Just before half term we took part in the Speakers Trust 'Speak Out Challenge'. A wonderful group of year 10 students spent the day with a speak out trainer working on their self confidence to talk in front of an audience. Developing their communication skills, how to deliver clear and concise impassioned speeches to a wider group of people. They laughed, they cried, and they all bonded as a group, it was so wonderful to witness. At the end of their day, they all carried out a 1.5 minute speech on a topic of their choice, and from this our winners were determined.

Jesse Fox – The past and the future

Safia Fisher – Feminism

Julija Caprina – From Bad to Good

Jessica Granger – Was the Ban right?

Eve Caldwell – Vulnerability

Clara Owen – Mental Health in High School

All 6 of these students will now deliver a 2.5 minute speech to an assembly of their peers, where they will be judged by a panel of our staff. The winner will then attend the regional finals in Ipswich in June. We are excited to continue working with them to improve their skills and develop confident public speakers. We wish them all luck!

Year 11 Success Session Timetable 2

This week Year 11 students will be moving to the Success Timetable 2, which has a focus around the options subjects. This timetable will run over the next two weeks. Please see the latest version below. If you have any questions over a particular subject please contact the relevant member of staff. A reminder that late buses run from Monday – Thursday, picking up at 4pm.

Success Session Timetable 2nd – 4th March – 15th March 2024

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1.30-2.00	Slot 1	GCSE Zone LRC	GCSE Zone LRC	GCSE Zone LRC	iMedia 1.07/ACO	GCSE Zone LRC
	Slot 2	ART 1.19 GPA	Engineering G.01/ADU	Design G.06 JHA	Fre/Ger 1.02 CPA	Drama G07 NRE
	Slot 3	Design G.06 JHA	Graphics G.01/ADU	Drama G07 NRE	GCSE PE C6 DWI	Design G.06 JHA
	Slot 4	Drama G07 NRE	ART 1.19 GPA	Engineering G.01/ADU	ART 1.19 GPA	Engineering G.01/ADU
	Slot 5	Engineering G.01/ADU	Design G.06 JHA	Graphics G.01/ADU	Design G.06 JHA	Graphics G.01/ADU
	Slot 6	Graphics G.01/ADU	Drama G07 NRE	ART 1.19 GPA		ART 1.19 GPA
After School		Design	Humanities	ART 1.19 GPA	History	Geography
		History		Drama G07 NRE		

After School Option Sessions					
Faculty		Faculty		Faculty	
Design	Room/Staff	Arts	Room/Staff	Humanities	Room/Staff
Res Mats	G.06/JHA	Art	119 GPA	History	SSM/LRC
Engineering	G.01/ADU	Drama	G.07 NRE	Geography	2.17 JTO
Graphics	G.01/ADU			iMedia	1.07/ACO/AVW
Food/ HC	G03 LBR			Business	2.21 HUT



Painting Evening

Join us for a fun and relaxing evening of painting

At the end of the event you will have created an amazing piece of artwork to take home and treasure!

Includes refreshments on arrival and all art materials

£28 per person

With expert tuition from Sarah from Sunflower Artistry

**Stowmarket High School
18th April 2024 • 7-9pm**

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!

Please contact us via fosh@stowhigh.com if you would like to book onto this event.

We will then send BACS details to enable payment.
ALL BOOKINGS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE



Useful Contact Information:

Head of Year 7	Miss R Harrigan	r.harrigan@stowhigh.com
Head of Year 8	Mr A McLellan	a.mclellan@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

