



# Stewards Academy Newsletter April 2019



## HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the Spring Term comes to a close, it is wonderful to address you once again in our academy newsletter.

As ever, this has been a busy term. As I write we are in the midst of our **Celebration of Culture Week**. The week began with a **SEP workshop** in which tutors worked with their tutees to explore issues around **cultural diversity and racism**. This was well-received by pupils and some interesting discussion and debate took place. We are currently looking forward to the music and drama showcases that will take place this week.

Ensuring that the education we provide develops the whole child, '**... leading to safe, fulfilling and purposeful lives**', continues to be a priority. This term demonstrates this with a whole host of events and activities. Of course high quality teaching and learning is at the heart of everything we do and I continue to be impressed with the quality of work I see on my daily Climate Walks. I hope you enjoy reading about our exceptional educational provision inside this edition of our newsletter.



I was delighted to receive the names of all the **Year 6 pupils who have been offered and accepted places in Year 7** at our academy. We were yet again oversubscribed, with many more families giving first place priority to our school than places available. In recognition of this, the Governors agreed to **offer an additional 20 places** to ensure that as many local pupils as possible are able to attend the school of their choice. In September we will welcome 230 pupils to the Stewards Family.

Last week, Mr Scholtes sent a letter to you all, explaining **the exciting change to the curriculum** that will take place in September. This involves **changes to the timings of the school day** and so it is important that you note this, as you may need to consider how this will affect your family routines. We have included this information overleaf for your convenience.

Next term we welcome some **new staff** to the Stewards Family: **Ms Reeves** joins us as our new Subject Leader for Music and **Miss Wilson** as an English teacher. We say goodbye to **Miss White**, who has been supporting us in Food Technology and to **Mrs Wood** (HLTA—English). We wish them both well as they move on to new challenges.

We continue with our **commitment to high standards of uniform, attitude and behaviour**. With this in mind, I would like to **remind you that jewellery of any kind is not permitted**, with the exception of a single wristwatch. If jewellery is brought into school it will be confiscated in line with policy; I thank you for continuing to support us in our drive to maintain standards.

May I wish you all a wonderful spring holiday; I look forward to working with all in the Summer Term.

Kind regards, Helen Ginger

## GOVERNOR'S REPORT

One important function of the Governing Body is the overview of finances. You may be aware that there has been a lot of coverage in the media on the subject of school funding. We are pleased to say that Stewards has been able to manage the budget without having to resort to any of the extreme measures you may have read about; our thanks must go to Mrs Avis and the finance team for all their hard work.

There have been a number of changes to the Governing body since half term, as I mentioned in the last newsletter, Andy Bower stepped down as a governor at the end of March; we thank him for his contribution to Stewards over many years. We have also been able to welcome two new staff governors, Mr. D Tremer and Mrs. Atkinson. We look forward to their contributions in the future.

On behalf of the governors may I wish you a relaxing Easter holiday.

**Mr Tarling, Chair of Governors**



# Curriculum—Important Information

Please find below a copy of the letter sent to parents on Monday 25th March.

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Important Information regarding timings of the school Day from September 2019

I am writing to inform you of an exciting **change to our curriculum for the next academic year** from September 2019. Although you may feel this communication is early, it is important that you are aware as **this affects the timings of the school day**, which may have implications for your family routines.

Time	Activity	Minutes
08:30-09:00	Breakfast Club (Optional)	30
09:00	<b>Start of School Day</b>	-
09:00-09:15	Morning Prep	15
09:15-10:30	Period 1	75
10:30-10:45	Break	15
10:45-12:00	Period 2	75
12:00-12:40	Lunch	40
12:40-13:55	Period 3	75
13:55-14:10	Break	15
14:10-15:25	Period 4	75
15:25	<b>End of School Day</b>	-
15:25-16:00	Afternoon Prep (Directed pupils only)	25

As is always the case, every decision that we make is in the best interest of our pupils and is intended to improve their educational experience and academic progress. I would, however, like to share with you a brief rationale for this development.

Firstly, the school day will begin at a later time, based on research showing that this better suits the teenage biological clock. School will continue to be open from 8am for pupils arriving earlier, with the library available and breakfast club open from 8:30am.

Pupils will still receive five hours of teaching in a day as is currently the case, but lessons will be extended to 75 minutes each. We welcome this additional time to allow lessons to include regular review of previous learning at the beginning of each lesson and additional time to deepen understanding and master topics.

You will notice that this reduces the number of subjects your child will study within a day. Recent cognitive science has shown that pupils can be overloaded with too much information leading to less academic progress, so this will also be beneficial.

Following each lesson pupils will have a break, which will allow them mental and evaluative space to prepare for the next lesson. You will also notice that lunch is now earlier in the day, following feedback from pupils, allowing them to be appropriately fuelled for learning in the afternoon.

School will finish **at the later time of 3:25pm for most pupils**. Extra-curricular activities will still be available as currently, with timings published at a later date. For those pupils directed to Afternoon Prep, this will finish no later than 4pm.

We recognise that this may inconvenience some parents, but we anticipate that you will support this, understanding that the benefits will enhance the learning and wellbeing of our pupils.

Kind regards,

**Mark Scholtes, Senior Deputy Headteacher – Curriculum Lead**



# Stewards Learner—Culture and Character

## Team Kindness

This January has seen the launch of the **Stewards Kindness Project**.

Over the Spring Term, we have been encouraging all pupils across Years 7-9 to take part in our exciting **30 Day Kindness Challenge**. Pupils have been invited to carry out **Acts of Kindness** as tutor teams and individuals, and so far the response has been fantastic.

At Stewards, we believe that all of our pupils **“deserve to learn in a safe, supportive and caring environment”** so the Kindness Project has provided us with a powerful tool to engage our pupils with this idea.

The Stewards Kindness Project is actually part of a much wider international campaign called **The Great Kindness Challenge** which is spearheaded by **Kids for Peace**. The challenge began as an American neighbourhood project in 2006, but since 2011, it has grown into a worldwide movement spanning over 100 countries. In 2018 “The Great Kindness Challenge” took place across 103 countries, in 19,000 different schools; it involved over 10 million pupils and recorded over 500 million **Acts of Kindness** around the globe.

At the heart of The Great Kindness Challenge is the simple belief that **“Kindness Matters”** and it promotes the idea that if kindness is repeated enough, then it becomes a habit, and in turn helps to create better schools, workplaces and communities.

Pupil commitment to the challenge has been great and here are just a few examples of our kind deeds and thoughts to date.

## Sweet Treats

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January was National Croissant Day and to celebrate this event, Lexi and Millie of 7ROG decided to carry out a very thoughtful act of kindness. The girls brought in a croissant for every member of their tutor group so the children could share in a tasty breakfast together.

“The cold and dark morning of January 30<sup>th</sup> was brightened through a delightful act of kindness that also saw us fuelled for the day! Thank you Millie and Lexi for your thoughtful gesture.” Mrs O’Grady.

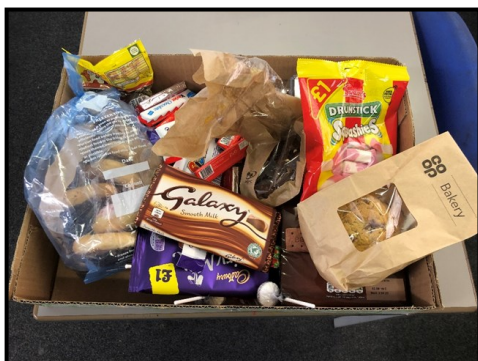
This isn’t the only act of kindness from ROG, Millie, Nora and Anita decided to treat the form class again and made some beautiful cakes for Valentine’s Day, and the form set up a World Book Day Prize Giving too! Well done 7ROG, you are certainly leading the way with the kindness challenge.



## Supporting Year 11 pupils

The latest round of PPEs made February a very stressful month for Year 11 and Miss Rafferty’s Year 11 Spanish class were certainly feeling the strain. With this in mind, a group of pupils from 9LCR decided that the Year 11 pupils should be given some much needed support. 9LCR put together a big box of cakes, sweets and biscuits for the Spanish class and presented it to them in their lesson. The gift really helped to boost the class energy levels and the Year 11 pupils were very grateful indeed!

A big thank you to Meadow, Meshayam, Lucy, Lewis Qadir, Brianna, Joudi, Callum, Alina, Daisly and Ela of 9LCR.







# Stewards Learner—Culture and Character

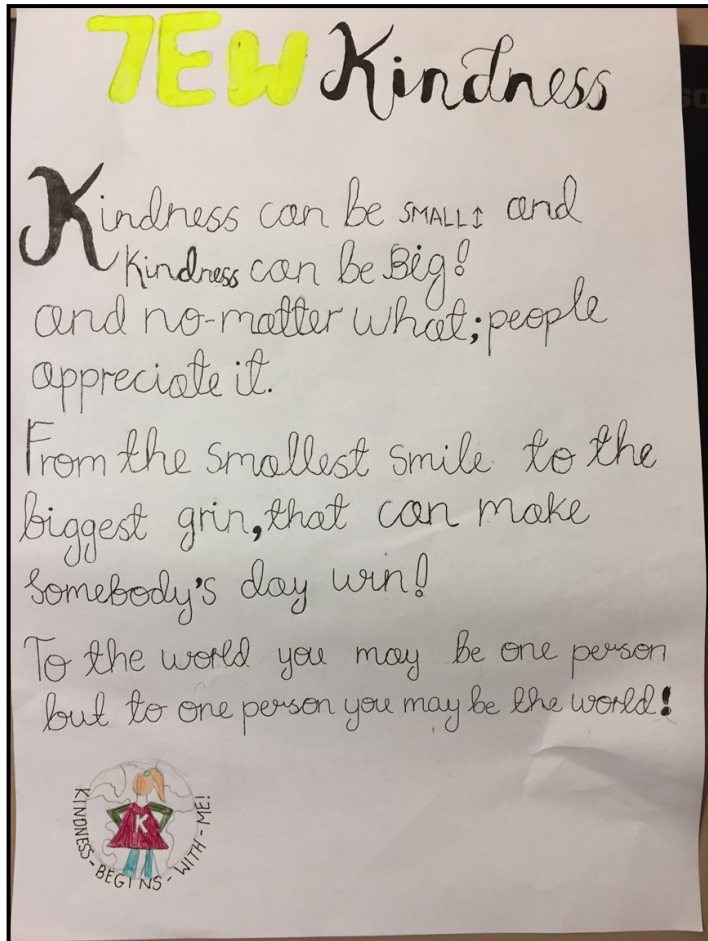
## Extending Kindness Outside of the School Gates

Whilst each form class have been working on their kindness projects in school, **the Year 9 and 10 Form Representatives** have been busy planning how we can extend kindness outside of the school gates.

Faye and Ellie lead the way with a visit to a Chelmsford Soup Kitchen and a London Bridge Walk for Kidney Research and this has motivated the team to set up further Kindness projects for 2019. Planned events include a Pretty Muddy Fun Run for Cancer Research, an Eco Waste campaign, an Anti Bullying Week, Remembrance Day activities and The Samaritans Christmas Box Appeal in December. The pupils have lead a series of assemblies to Years 7-10 to introduce these projects to the school and we are really looking forward to each event over the coming year.



## Year 7 Kindness Poetry



kindness  
**MATTERS**



### Kindness

Kindness: a simple, selfless act.  
Some might say it's magic and we think that's a fact.

Kindness can brighten the darkest of all days  
It means being helpful and giving out lots of praise

Cheer someone up when they're feeling all down  
Make someone feel special when you are around

One simple gesture can bring joy and smiles  
It's there in your heart, not kept in some file!

Kindness costs nothing, in fact it's quite free,  
A gift great and wonderful, yes Kindness is key.

A slice of toast, a cup of tea,  
A door held open especially for me.

A kind little word, you look nice – thanks so much!  
Makes a world of difference – creates happiness and such.

Kindness: a simple, selfless act.  
Some might say it's magic and we think that's a fact.

By 7ROG



# Stewards Learner—Culture and Character

## A seven letter word

Kind words can go through one ear and out the other but cruelty stays in your head.

Acts of kindness can wash away negative thoughts and make someone's day.

Being nice costs nothing but a little time, and we have all the time in the world.

It isn't always about making grand gestures, it's about lighting up someone's tunnel; when all they could see is darkness.

It could be something as little as holding a door for someone, or simply smiling when greeting another.

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

Always be kinder than necessary to whoever you meet, you have to respect whatever battle they're fighting.

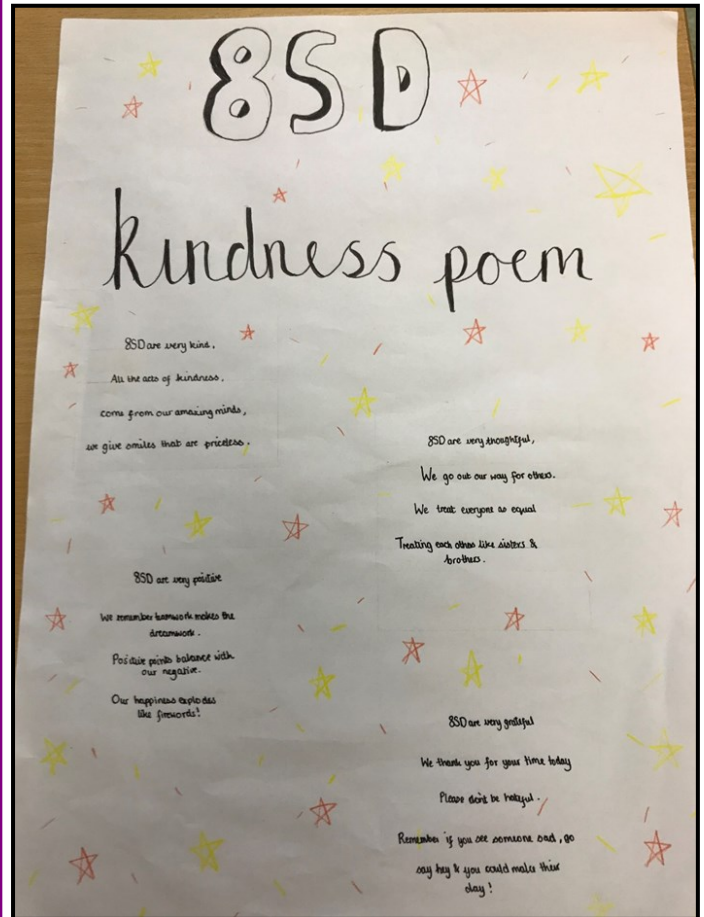
If you think kindness is a weakness that can be taken advantage of, it's not.

It's a strength to be cherished and praised.

Kindness is a gift that seems to prolong our existence, making the world a better place one act of kindness at a time.

Kindness is a simple way of telling another struggling soul, that love can be found in this world.

Aleena



A big thank you to all who have been involved in the Stewards Kindness Challenge this term!

Miss Francis, Lead Teacher Culture and Character

## Safeguarding Update

Earlier this term, pupils in Year 9 were visited by **AlterEgo Creative Solutions**, a theatre group commissioned to raise awareness around Child Criminal Exploitation. They focused specifically on *"the strand of the County Lines drug trafficking model that sees vulnerable adults and young people targeted by organised groups and gangs to groom, trick, trap and manipulate them into trafficking drugs and sometimes weapons"*.

The performers took us on a journey through:

- ◆ County Lines, and how can it affect young people
- ◆ The Grooming Process and how it can apply to County Lines
- ◆ The similarities and potential crossovers between Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
- ◆ Where to go for help & advice

It is absolutely critical, that we work together to educate and protect our young people in regard to the dangers and challenges that they may face in today's society, and the performance delivered a hard-hitting and powerful message to our Year 9 pupils.

Further information on County Lines can be found at:

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-is-county-lines>

<https://www.essex.police.uk/news/news-and-features/2019/03mar/parents,-did-you-know-campaign-launches-today/>

Mrs Ramsey: Assistant Headteacher Responsible for Safeguarding, and Character and Culture

Mr Ford: Safeguarding Lead



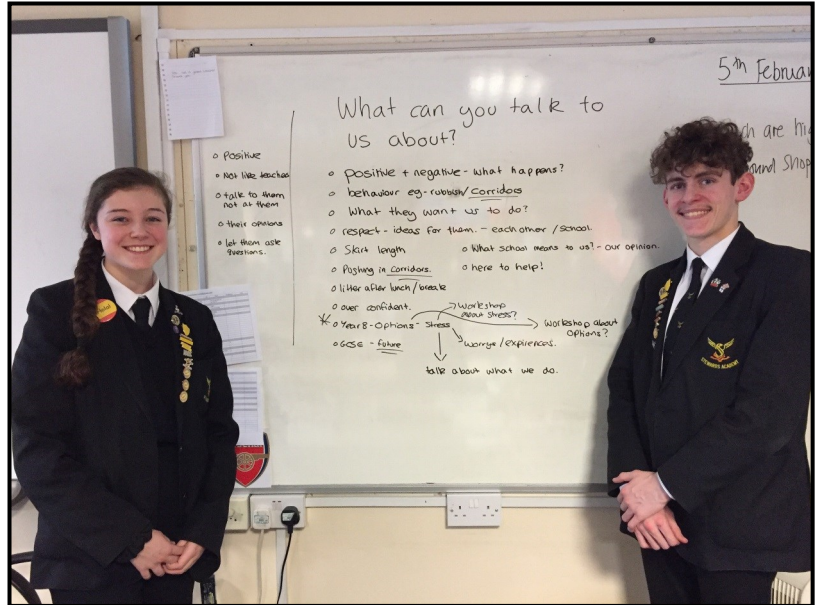


# Stewards Learner—Culture and Character

## Peer Mentors

As we approach our final term, the Peer Mentors have been developing their ideas in terms of the support they offer. In the final weeks of the Spring term, they will work with their Year 7 and 8 pupils looking at our school community, and how we can better respect our school environment, and those who work and study here. The Year 7 team will conduct a 'How's it Going?' review of the year thus far, and the team working with Year 8 pupils will support them through the early stages of their options choices. Following feedback from the Peer Mentors themselves, we are looking towards running a series of assemblies focusing on Kindness, friendship and organisation.

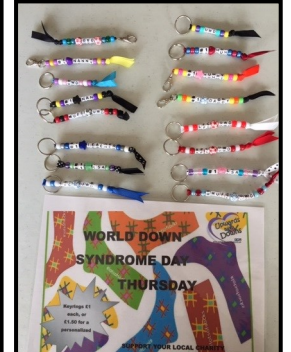
As part of my further study into the Role of the Peer Mentor, I asked a group of Year 7 and 8 pupils for their views on the activities or help that they would like their mentor to offer. Of the responses, the majority said that they would like help with homework, and many of the pupils commented that they would like more time to get to know their mentors better. The responses were very useful and will help us to consider how we approach the Summer Term, and how we might refine the support for the next academic year.



## Charity news

### Upwards with Downs

In support of World Down Syndrome day on 21st March, Year 7 pupils Holly and Billie raised awareness through encouraging others to get involved with #lotsofsocks, wearing bright, colourful or odd socks for the day. They also, with the support of their friends, have made and sold lots of keyrings to raise money for the local charity-Upwards with Downs. The keyrings proved very popular. Well done girls for you and your friends' hard work in raising awareness for this excellent charity.



### St Clare Hospice



Charity reps have been busy selling these beautiful bears on behalf of St Clare Hospice. Certainly a colourful addition to ones home or a lovely gift for someone.



I would like to thank all of the charity reps for their tireless efforts this year and to our Heads of Charity team who have been brilliant so far this year.

If anyone would like to become part of the charity team or has a charity they would like to support in some way do come and speak to me.

**Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher**





# Character and Culture

## Red Nose Day

This has been a busy half term for the charity reps starting with their preparations for Red Nose Day on Friday 15th March. The Heads of Charity team decided on a non-uniform day and bake sale and set about promoting to the pupil body with posters displayed around school and visiting different form groups during Morning Prep. After her superb Pudsey Bear skittle cake, Erin also volunteered to create another masterpiece and the decision was taken to raffle this cake for 50p a ticket.

The Hall was buzzing at lunch time and lots of lovely treats were sold and enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. The raffle for Erin's cake raised £60. It was won by Mrs Patch who kindly shared it with the charity team and staff as a thank you for their hard work. It was delicious!

In total with the bake sale and non-uniform day Stewards Academy raised £983.56! An excellent effort and many thanks to the charity team for their coordination and pupils from all years for their baking skills! Well done.





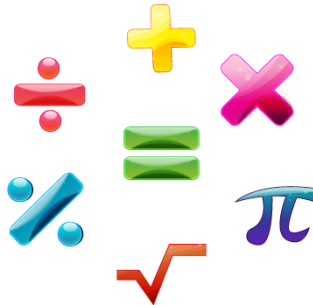


# UKMT Intermediate Mathematics Challenge

Last month a group of pupils from Year 9 and Year 10 took part in the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge. The challenge involves answering a series of multiple-choice questions focused on mathematical problem-solving which challenges pupils to think creatively and logically. Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates are awarded to the top 40% of participants entered nationally.

We are very proud to announce that 18 talented mathematicians have been awarded certificates.

**Gold award:** Katie Smith and Kane O'Connor – Jointly awarded Best in Year 10 and Best in School



Katie and Kane also qualified for the **Intermediate Kangaroo Challenge**, an extension to the Intermediate Challenge. This took place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March and we look forward to receiving their results.

**Silver award:** Harry Neville

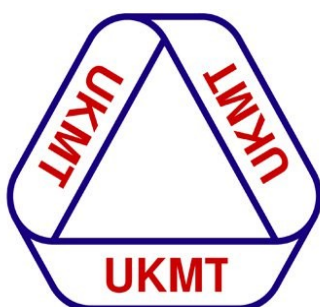
**Bronze award:** Omar Ahmati, Esther Ntow, Marija Bogdanova, Maxwell Shults (also awarded Best in Year 9), Klaudia Chochorowska, Bailey Stringer, Lewis Calvert, Katie Swallow, Charlotte Goodenough, Taisia Tiron, Molly Fincham, Bryony Witt-Davies, Seven Hassan, Taylor Woollard-Bradshaw, Shalon Lasis

Well done to all the pupils who participated in this year's challenge and congratulations to our award winners.

Mr Oranye, Maths Teacher

## UKMT Team Challenge

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, four pupils represented Stewards at the UKMT team challenge held at Bancroft's School in Woodford. Fleur Salhi (8TEC), Poppy Tant (8SD), Maxwell Shults (9CH), and Katie Swallow (9LCR) competed against 28 other schools in the competition which promotes mathematical dexterity, teamwork, and communication skills. The competition was fierce, with four tough rounds spread across the day. The pupils worked hard, and had a great time, finishing in a respectable 15<sup>th</sup> place. Well done!



**Fleur Salhi 8TEC** - "I found the day fun as we managed to meet pupils from another school during one of the challenges. I also liked working in a team."

**Maxwell Shults 9CH** - "Although it was hard work, the challenge was fun and definitely worth it! I enjoyed the relay task best as it involved lots of quick mental maths."



Mr Phipps, Maths Teacher



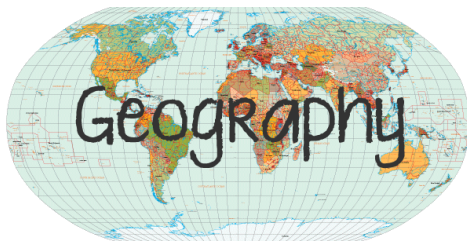


# Spotlight on Humanities

History, Geography and Religious Studies make up the Humanities Faculty at Stewards Academy and it has been a busy year for all three departments so far.



Firstly, we are very excited to be traveling to the **First World War battlefields in Northern France and Belgium** with Years 9 & 10 at the start of April. It promises to be a trip that will allow pupils to reflect upon the significance of the First World War as well as providing them with great cultural opportunities. At Stewards Academy we have always maintained a strong commitment to remembering those that have served their country and this trip is yet another example.



Planned for next year is the Geography trip to Italy which will take place next May 2020. The trip will visit places like Mt. Vesuvius, Pompeii, Naples and the island of Capri which promises to be an educational affair for Geography pupils. The area provides unique and hand-on knowledge of archaeological digs, geothermal processes and coastal landforms. Year 9 and 10 pupils will also enjoy visiting these sites, eating pizza and ice cream all while enjoying the Italian coasts and summer sun.

In Geography KS4 have been studying a range of topics for their GCSEs. For example, in Year 9 the pupils have been looking at the impact of the earthquake in Haiti and Year 11 have been reviewing current geographical issues such as cyclone Idai which has affected Mozambique, Malawi and Mozambique.

Finally, the Geography department would like to recognise Nadeem Ahmed, Kairan Laver, James Newell and Emma Galloway for their commitment to Geography revision this year.



In Religious Studies we will have the first year of the new GCSE and Mr Treamer has been preparing his Year 11 class with revision sessions before and after school. Revision classes in History have been well attended and have allowed pupils to complete revision efficiently at school. A special mention for Alicia Stewart, Felicity Lentz, Bradley Rimmel, Jack Dorkin, Darcy Wylie, Aimee Monk and Louis Golding who have attended every revision session available and have shown great commitment to their GCSE studies.

**Mr King, Head of Humanities**

## Tutees of the Term

Congratulations to the tutees of the term pictured below. These pupils were nominated by their tutors for their contribution to School life this term.—well-deserving winners indeed.



**Ms Francis, Lead Teacher—Character and Culture**



# Magistrates' Court Competition



On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019, sixteen pupils from Stewards Academy attended Stratford Magistrates Court to take part in the National Young Citizens Mock Magistrates' Court competition.

To prepare for this pupils have been studying details of a 'theft of mobile phone robbery case' and organising possible evidence for both defence and prosecution teams. Pupils have been coming into school early to work on their speeches and considering the strength of various witness statements. They have also met two magistrates that visited the Academy earlier in the term. This opportunity allowed them to ask questions about the role of Magistrates; they were very shocked to find out that it is a voluntary position.

On the day itself, the pupils put on two fantastic performances with the defence in action first providing a solid defence leading to a not-guilty verdict followed by a very hard fought battle with the eventual competition winners.



As well as the two rounds in court, pupils were able to meet and question people from a variety of services who support the court system, they were handcuffed, tagged and allowed to visit the court cells and transport vans.

Pupils impressed with their knowledge of the case but also their preparation which meant that they were able to read speeches clearly and confidently without relying on notes. The lawyers gave extremely persuasive examinations of the witnesses called. It was wonderful to see two very strong team performances and testament to the pupils that a spectator from the court system said that they would give real lawyers a tough fight in court!



All of the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience with many considering different law career opportunities. This was our first entry into the competition but you would not have known this from the amazing efforts of Stewards pupils. Stewards was joint runners-up, a superb performance, well done!

Alena Muktiwibawa (Year 8) was our court artist and drew two pictures from inside the court rooms and Mia Todd (Year 9) was our court reporter on the day. Both have submitted their entries into separate competitions, we wish them both the best of luck.



Mrs H Sherwood, Assistant Headteacher





# Stewards Alumni

At Stewards we are always keen to hear how former pupils are getting on and what you have gone on to do. If you would like to update us with your news please contact us.

*Dear Mrs O'Grady,*

*I have finished my A level English course and I was just thinking about how you inspired me to actually love this subject and take it on at sixth form. I've been predicted an A\* in English and I also applied to Oxford university and got an interview but unfortunately did not get in. Nevertheless, I have been offered a place at Bristol university to study law which I am very excited about.*

*Poems still remain my favourite; studying William Blake and Robert Frost was very enjoyable. I also studied Othello, Tess of the D'urbervilles, Death of a Salesman, The Handmaid's tale and Kite Runner.*

*I'm currently finishing off my final draft for my English coursework on eco-criticism and Robert Frost's poetry. I'd love for you to take a look over my work to see how much I've progressed in two years.*

*Kind Regards, Elena Marculescu*



## Performing Arts

### Year 11

Firstly I want to say a huge congratulations to all of the Year 11 performing arts pupils that have now completed 60% of their course. Practical examinations have been taking place throughout the term and the pupils have worked hard and shown great resilience in their preparations.

The drama class, pictured, have been rehearsing and developing their two script exam pieces since Christmas. The road has not always been easy but you were an absolute credit to yourselves on the 15th March when the examiner came to watch. I am incredibly proud of how you performed and how you conducted yourselves so professionally.

The hard work continues for the year 11 pupils in Dance, Drama and Music as they prepare for their final written papers in May and June. Make sure you keep up your focused efforts and revise regularly. Pupils have been issued with revision resources for all three subject areas.

### Celebration of Culture

The week beginning 25th March was the Celebration of Culture week at Stewards. To mark the importance of the arts the department put on two showcases—one for music and one for dance with a mixture of GCSE work and clubs. The performers are always a credit to the department and to the academy and should be congratulated on their hard work.

Auditions also took place for the lower school production that will be performed in July. More details and photos will follow in the May newsletter.

### Essex Music School

Another busy term for music school, that runs on a Wednesday 3.15-7.30pm, with lots of exciting ensembles running alongside pupils' individual lessons. Next term there will be an introduction of a Bassoon and a Brass ensemble. This will be no extra cost for music school members or an introductory rate of £20 for non music school members.

Essex Music School will now be known as Harlow Community Music Centre. If you have any queries regarding summer term enrolment please contact Tina Hathaway, teacher-in-charge directly on **07554 225645** or [tina.hathaway@essex.gov.uk](mailto:tina.hathaway@essex.gov.uk)

### Music news

The department will be welcoming a new Subject Leader for Music after Easter. Mrs Reeves is an experienced teacher looking forward to joining our hardworking and committed department. She will be working alongside Mrs Burton who will be remaining with the department until May half-term.



**Miss Johnson, Head of PA/Assistant Headteacher**



## Year 7

Year 7 have been absolutely brilliant this year at **Basketball**. They have been a great group of boys who have worked together to be a success. They all worked hard in training and their efforts certainly paid off. It was the first time in many years for our team to get to the district finals. To get there, the Year 7 pupils won every Harlow tournament. They came out top each time and were the highest scoring team for every competition.



Training and hard work also paid off in the finals as they too were the top scoring team. It was just very unfortunate that we lost in the semi-finals to St Marks.

I would like to thank Alvin Ayoubi, George Hill, Daniel Rolfe-Doyle, Alanas Stankus, Gabriel Kieta, Nickerson Said, Jesse Ansen, Ramy Mamouri, Rokas Kalasinskas and Alex Dobson-Ajibola. Alex also received Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the finals. Well done!

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
1st Burnt Mill P3 W3	1st Stewards P3 W3	1st W.Hatch P3 W2 D1
2nd Passmores P3 W2 L1	2nd ESJ P3 W1 D2	2nd St Marks P3 W2 D1
3rd Roding 'A' P3 W1 L2	3rd K.Harold P3 W1 L2	3rd St Nicks P3 D1 L2
4th Debden (DNS)	4th Ongar P3 D1 L2	4th Roding 'B' P3 D1 L2

Semi Final No 1 : Stewards 3 v 4 St Marks  
3rd/4th PO : Stewards 0 v 2 Burnt Mill

Semi Final No 2 : West Hatch 2 v 0 Burnt Mill  
Final : St Marks 4 v 6 West Hatch (OT)

## Year 8 Boys

Since the last newsletter, the Year 8 boys have taken part in the culmination of the Basketball fixtures and have started the football season. After all of the basketball fixtures had been completed and the points added up the Year 8 Boys, ably led by Ben Noruwa, finished top of the pile in the Harlow competition, after conceding zero points in any of their games. The final was against a very good Davenant side but as with the previous games the boys conceded very few points and won the game. MVP and leading scorer for the final was Caleb Ansen, his domination of rebounds in attack and defence really showed what a class player he is.

With the basketball fixtures completed we moved onto the football season. At the moment the team are in a very strong position to make the finals having won all of their games except one where a very good Epping St Johns team held them to a 3-3 draw. I will have more news for you in the next newsletter but for now I wish the boys luck in their last game.

## Year 9



It has been a busy half term of **football** for the Year 9 pupils. They have had some really positive results and much improved from the previous year. The season started well, winning the opening 2 games against St Nicks 5-0 and Burnt Mill 7-5, in a game where neither teams defence emerged with any credit. They then come up against last year's winners St Johns, despite being in the game at half time; late goals settled the game in the oppositions favour. The most recent game saw an unlucky Stewards narrowly defeated against a quick and powerful St Marks team. With one fixture remaining against Passmores, it has been a much improved season for the Year 9 pupils and hopefully they can build on this progress next year. There has been an excellent attendance from a number of players throughout the term. Below you can see the season statistics to date.

Year 9 Football Results - 2018/19		
Opponents	Result(s)	Scorer(s)
St Nicks	Won 5 - 0	Callum Sellick, Lewis Dell, Danny Raymond, Jack Willis, Wisdom Idehen.
Burnt Mill	Won 7 - 5	Danny Raymond x2, Henry Turvey x2, Wisdom Idehen x2, Donald Okafor
St Johns	Lost 4-0	
St Marks	Lost 4-3	Danny Raymond x2, Wisdom Idehen
Passmores	Still to be played	





## Year 10 Football

The football season seems to have come and gone in the blink of an eye this year. Thank you to the following young men who represented the school: Franklin Nzeh, Myles Leverington – Poole, Nathan Luckin, Kian O'Mahony, Cameron Cuthbert, Morgan Arnold, Dean Foss, Kai Jordan, Dylan Ball, Riley Dunn, Malik Hassan, Jesse Le-Vien, Galen Williams, Alfie Fishenden, and Wisdom Idehen Amen.

<b>Epping SJ</b>	<b>Passmores</b>	<b>St Marks</b>	<b>Burnt Mill</b>
<b>D1-1</b>	<b>W3-0</b>	<b>L5-1</b>	<b>D1-1</b>

A mixed bag of a season but the priority now must be to look forward to the year 11 season and a game against the staff team – a game that they are unlikely to win but good luck lads!

## Year 11 Basketball

A huge thank you to the boys for their level of commitment to the basketball team this year. The boys trained themselves on numerous nights in preparation for the league games. Some of the boys involved also supported younger year groups in training and refereeing games.

Every game was fiercely competitive and the team was made to work hard for every basket scored. After 4 games the team looked odds on to reach the finals before meeting St Marks in a league deciding game. St Marks proved a very strong opponent; this led to an excellent game played with passion and desire. Stewards played well but the St Marks fitness levels paid off and they ran out victors 31 points to 22. Although defeated and the chances of reaching the finals dashed, the boys came away feeling proud of their achievement, knowing they couldn't have given anymore!

<b>W 18-15</b>	<b>W 22-17</b>	<b>W 36 - 18</b>	<b>W 41 - 16</b>	<b>L 31 - 22</b>	<b>L25 - 23</b>
<b>Burnt Mill</b>	<b>Epping SJ</b>	<b>Mark Hall</b>	<b>Ongar</b>	<b>St Marks</b>	<b>Passmores</b>

A good season all in all with 4 wins and 2 losses with consistent deciliation from Rhys Rigby, Isuf Kotarja, Andrei Ciupercovici, Mattenai Chigavazira, Regan Swallow, CJ Mazengwe and Anas Butt **Mr Sanders , Subject Leader PE**

## Girls basketball

Lots of interest has been shown from girls across all age groups in the basketball fixtures this year. Alongside Passmores, St Marks and Burnt Mill we hosted the first girls Basketball tournaments for years 8 an 9 with multiple teams in each age group.

Year 8 played some hard fought games scoring many baskets and showing a good attacking awareness and determination to win. Year 8 girls played really well and came out 2<sup>nd</sup> in the tournament. Well done girls!

Year 9 girls also played extremely well, attacking the basket on each drive and defending the basket together well. The girls scored the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest amount of baskets in the tournament and came out 3<sup>rd</sup> overall,. Another well done girls!

## Girls football

Girls across all year groups have had football tournaments and the football finals in January.

Year 7 played really well in their warm up tournaments winning majority of their games, fielding two teams at each tournament. The girls managed to keep clean sheets in 4 of their 5 qualifying games putting them through to the semi-finals. Unfortunately they didn't progress further than this, coming 4<sup>th</sup> overall. A good performance from all involved.

Year 8 and 9 combined for a team this year, putting in strong performances each tournament; unfortunately the girls didn't have the easiest run of games in the final tournament, although scoring some excellent games, a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish was all we were able to grasp. A promising team going forward to next year!

The Year 10 team where unlucky with the weather this year with their tournaments being re-arranged for later in the year, more news on this to follow.

## Netball

The second half of the netball season has now begun with all year groups starting their second round of games. A high number of girls have shown up to netball training, showing commitment and resilience to improve upon their skills and game awareness. Games are happening each week with big improvements being shown from all involved in the teams. Keep up the hard work girls!

**Miss Venables, PE Teacher**





# Year Group News

## Year 7

As we bid farewell to the second term and year 7 prepare to enter their final school chapter this year, I would like to give you an outline of some of the things that have been happening in the year group.

Comic Relief played a prevalent role in the Stewards Calendar this term and Year 7 played an integral part in raising money for charity. The majority of pupils donated £1 or more to come to school in non-uniform for the day and many pupil's wore costumes or pyjamas to

have fun and raise awareness of the significant causes that comic relief sponsors. The children also took part in various charity events during lunch to raise additional funds, and these included a bake sale, a raffle and various PE related activities.

Year 7 Parents' Evening was another important feature of the school calendar this term and facilitated an important link between parents, pupils and staff to have an open dialogue about their child. Parents/pupils met with tutors to discuss their child's general progress across the school and pupils were set personalised targets for development, to support their individual learning needs. Appointments generally ran to time which was met with much appreciation by parents and the atmosphere was calm and purposeful, enabling productive conversations to take place. The feedback from the evening was, on the whole, very positive, and a number of parents commented that they found the information provided 'useful' and 'informative' which was pleasing to hear! Thank you for coming to Year 7 Parents' Evening and thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on your child's experience of Stewards Academy.

'Rewards week' was another highlight this term and it was a pleasure and privilege for me, as Pastoral Lead, to be able to recognise the hard work of pupils across the year so far by accommodating a number of requests for activities/facilities that pupil' cashed in with their positive points. Rewards took the form of 'free equipment', 'area passes' during lunch, access to snacks and beverages from the 'tuck shop' and the option to have one free period out of lessons to benefit from a 'film afternoon'. It really was a lovely week and all pupils involved were truly deserving of their rewards! Well done Year 7, I am very proud of you!

**Year 8 Option** choices have played a major focus this half term and pupils have been introduced to and talked through the different option pathways available to them. An Upper School Courses booklet was distributed near the beginning of March for pupils to begin to look at the different courses on offer, and an Upper School Courses Evening was held following this, to explore (in more detail) what the various subject choices would look like.



The evening was highly successful and well attended by the majority of the year group and I was pleased to learn of some very mature, sensible and relevant questions raised by Year 8 pupils on the night. Since this informative evening, option forms have been distributed to all pupils in Year 8, and pupils, in collaboration with parents/carers and tutors are now required to think about what options they would like to study next year.

There is no obligation for pupils to hand back this form immediately as this process does NOT operate a first come first served policy; however the final deadline for submission of this form is Friday 26th April, so I would appreciate your full support in meeting this deadline. When completing your child's option form it is imperative that they record their subject choices in a 1-4 rank order, with 1 being their most favourite/preferred option at the top and 4 being their least favourite choice at the bottom. Pupils should then hand this form to their form tutor who will pass it through to Mr Scholtes (Senior Deputy Headteacher in charge of timetabling) to be reviewed.

This is a very important time for Year 8 because the choices they make now will shape their learning journey over the next three years, so please take the time to talk through your child's options and help them to make the right decision **for them**. The decision-making process can be quite overwhelming for some children, so please encourage your child to speak to their teachers about what the different courses consist of and where they think their strengths and weaknesses lie, in order to make an informed decision about suitable option choices.

If you do have any worries or queries about this process, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor for assistance with this. Well done Year 8 on completing your second full term. I hope you have a lovely Easter break and a well-deserved rest!

**Mrs Bartlett, Pastoral Lead For Years 7 and 8**





# Year Group News



The second full term has flown by again and the pupils' attitudes are still excellent. The pupils are continuing to work hard and perform to the best of their ability. I have seen some brilliant work this half term. The pupils are focused and are really enjoying their lessons. Not only are the pupils working hard in lessons, but there are a large number of pupils engaging in extra-curricular activities.

Another great trip to Austria is taking place with this year's Ski trip. In preparation pupils have visited dry slopes and for most of the group, it was the first time they had set foot on the high slopes. The pupils learnt how to ski, work with each other, support one another and as a result of this, great times were had.

Congratulations to the group of pupils who have been nominated for awards at Presentation evening. I'm very proud to see the hard work they are putting in is certainly paying off!

Enjoy your Easter break and have a well-earned rest!

You are now over half way through **Year 10**, and I am very pleased to say that the majority of you have shown dedication, motivation and a desire to make your GCSE journey a great success. The most recent IPR data looked very positive and any organised catch up sessions have been well received.

### Work experience

Please remember - a work experience placement **MUST** be organised. The placement is your child's responsibility so please ask them to organise it. Work experience week starts on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and will last for the full week.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break, enjoying time with your family and friends.

**Mr D Tremer Pastoral Lead Years 9 and 10**



When you return after Easter, you will have **just over 3 weeks** until your real GCSE exams! Therefore, the time from now until then is paramount. My key message for you is **Revise, Revise, Revise!** You need to make the most of every opportunity possible. Work hard in every lesson, take up every revision session available, and use the resources around you.

When you are revising, you will need to consider the following to ensure your time is effective:

- ◆ Don't leave it too late.
- ◆ Be organised – Use a timetable, use a planner and know when your exams are.
- ◆ Lose the distractions – keep your mobile phone away from you when revising!
- ◆ Find a quiet place to revise.
- ◆ Use the schools resources to your advantage – teacher, books, computers.

Revision techniques work differently for everyone. Here are a few ideas to help you:

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| ✓ Mindmaps               | ✓ Record            |
| ✓ Index/flash cards      | ✓ Games and quizzes |
| ✓ Past papers            | ✓ Websites          |
| ✓ Memory skills          | ✓ Group revision    |
| ✓ Look/cover/write/check | ✓ Video/audio       |

Good luck and please don't forget we are here to help. Enjoy your Easter break. Work hard so you can be proud of your results.

**Mr G Hughes – Pastoral Lead Year 11**



## Key Dates

### April 2019

Friday 5th April - Term ends 1pm

Tuesday 23rd April - Summer Term Starts - Week 1

Wednesday 24th April - Thursday 25th April - Year 11 Art exam

Wednesday 24th April - Music School Enrolment

Friday 26th April - Monday 29th April - Year 11 Photography exam

Monday 29th April - Friday 3rd May - Year 11 Language orals

Tuesday 30th April - UKMT Junior Maths Challenge Years 7 and 8

### May 2019

Thursday 2nd May - Presentation Evening - 7pm

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday

Monday 13th May - GCSE Exams begin

Monday 13th May - Friday 17th May - Weymouth Trip

Saturday 18th May - Sunday 26th May - Ardèche Trip

Monday 20th May - Friday 24th May - Year 10 Work Experience

Wednesday 22nd May - Year 9 Art Trip

Thursday 23rd May - Year 9 Photography Trip

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May - Half Term

### June 2019

Monday 3rd June - School returns - Week 2

Thursday 20th June - Jack Petchey Awards Evening - Harlow Playhouse

Friday 21st June - GCSE Exams finish

Thursday 27th June - Year 11 Prom

### July 2019

Tuesday 2nd July - New Parents Evening - 6pm

Wednesday 3rd July - Year 6 Taster Day

Wednesday 3rd July - Lower School Production - 6pm

Thursday 4th July - Year 6 Taster Day

Wednesday 4th July - Lower School Production - 6pm

Monday 8th July - New Parents Interviews

Tuesday 9th July - Sports Presentation Evening

Friday 12th July - Sports Day

Tuesday 16th July - Year 10 Spanish trip to Tapas Bar

Tuesday 16th July - Year 10 French trip to Crêperie

Tuesday 16th July - Year 8 Girls HPV2 Injection

Thursday 18th July - Strawberry Tea and Summer Concert

Friday 19th July - Year 9 French Trip to Calais

Wednesday 24th July - School finishes at 1pm



## Attendance

**640 PUPILS ARE AT SCHOOL TARGET OR ABOVE**

**WELL DONE TO ALL OF YOU!**

**SCHOOL TARGET IS 96%**

If you fall below school target you could detriment your place on school trips.

Good attendance = a good education = more choices once you leave your education

School prepares you for adult life – being punctual, attending regularly and structuring your day/week

½ day off a week? No employer would accept that amount of absence.

### PERSISTENT ABSENCE

If your attendance falls below 90% you are classed as being persistently absent.

In line with this the attendance team will start early intervention if any pupil shows a decline in their attendance and they fall below our school target of 96%.

### PUNCTUALITY

**8.40AM – ALL PUPILS EXPECTED TO BE IN SCHOOL FOR MORNING PREP**

Being late for school causes disruption to the learning of others and your child

(pupils arriving late will be put into afternoon prep)

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Term time is school time – please do not take your child out of school for a holiday.

Leave will not be authorised.

### ABSENCE

Please call the absence line on (01279) 772511 and leave a message with your child's name, form and reason for absence.

**FAILURE TO REPORT YOUR CHILD ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN AN UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE BEING RECORDED AND FURTHER ACTION WILL BE TAKEN**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION IN THESE MATTERS**

**THE ATTENDANCE TEAM**