



# Stewards Academy Newsletter May 2019



## HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is wonderful once again, to address you in our half-termly newsletter. Last half-term, albeit a rather short one, has once again been very busy, with a wealth of opportunities to grow and learn for our young people.

I am very pleased to inform you that our **Year 11 students have made an excellent start** to their GCSE examinations, showing resilience and maturity during the first two weeks. We are all very proud of the young people they have become and we look forward to celebrating their success in the summer.



**Year 10 finished the half-term with a week of Work Experience**—a valuable opportunity to consider the world of work. Well done to Year 10, who as expected represented our school with their excellent attitude, with employer feedback being very positive.



We welcomed back our **Year 9 students from the Ardeche**, where they had an amazing opportunity to try out numerous outdoor pursuits—such wonderful memories made, I am sure. Do watch out for our special edition newsletter on residential that will be issued later this term.

During **Reading Week**, we had a visiting poet, Joelle Taylor, who ran a number of workshops for our younger pupils. The theme this term was 'Wellbeing' and I have very much enjoyed reading the poems that were written for the competition. Well done to all those that entered!

Last half-term we congratulated **Miss Rafferty**, on being awarded this year's **Jack Petchey Leadership Award**, having been nominated by both staff and pupils. Miss Rafferty has worked at Stewards Academy for just over 4 years. After just two years, she became Subject Leader and has transformed the department, through her excellent leadership, achieving outstanding results last year. She is extremely organised and enthusiastic, and a very supportive subject leader who leads by

example. As a teacher, she is passionate and motivating, with her pupils always going the extra mile because of her encouragement and dedication. A well-deserved award indeed!

Of course the highlight of last half-term has to be our **Presentation Evening**, when we celebrated the achievements of some very special young people. I am sure you will enjoy reading about this inside.

In this new half-term **we welcome some new members of staff**: Mr Sharman (Music), Ms Lindo (Drama and Child Development), and Mr Young (PE). Ms Watson (English) is also returning to the Stewards Family, after a period of time working for the National Literacy Trust and we also welcome back Ms Elsdon, who is returning part-time following maternity leave. **We said goodbye** to Mr Greenall, our cover supervisor as he leaves us to spend more time on his many pursuits. We also wish Mrs O'Grady well as she begins her maternity leave.

In the first week of this half-term, **Years 7-10 will be introduced to their new pastoral team** in assembly to prepare for the new academic year, lead by **Mr Treamer** - Pastoral Lead for Year 8 and 9 (current Year 7 and 8); and **Mr Hughes**— Pastoral Lead Year 10 and 11 (current Year 9 and 10). **Ms Bartlett** will be taking the time to prepare for the transition of Year 6 into 7.

As we begin the last half-term of the year, may I wish you all well as we continue to work together to ensure the very best educational experience for our young people.

Kind regards,  
Helen Ginger



# Stewards Learner : Parents' Information

## Parents' Evening - Information regarding changes for 2019-20

At Stewards Academy, we have always recognised the importance of working collaboratively with parents . For many years, we have welcomed parents to our traditional Parents' Evenings whereby parents have the opportunity to meet with their child's classroom teachers to discuss their progress.

In my first year as Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral), it was my responsibility to oversee Parents' Evenings. I took the opportunity to talk to as many parents as possible about their experience at Parents' Evening. I noted that although parents valued this opportunity, the evening did afford a variety of frustrations.

After much consultation and assessment of our existing structure, we decided to trial a new model for Year 7 in March of this year. Our new model was designed to improve the evening and give a balanced, informative overview of each child's progress. The event was split over two evenings (Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March & Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019); and Year 7 parents were able to make one 10-minute appointment on one of the two dates with their child's tutor. By offering two evenings, this gave more flexibility to parents and ensured all were able to attend this important meeting. It also avoided an evening of queueing and possibly disappointment when it was not possible to see all staff, due to the number of pupils taught by each teacher.

During the appointment, the child's tutor discussed with the parent the child's progress in all subjects, their attitude to learning and attendance, and their homework record. Parents were able to discuss their child's general well-being and set some challenging targets for the future. Parents were provided with a pack of information, which included curriculum information of topics studied in each subject. We envisaged this would ensure that parents had a well-rounded view of their child's overall progress at school.

The evening also provided an opportunity for all parents to complete a questionnaire, which included an evaluation of the new style Parents' Evening,

The evaluations of both parents and staff were overwhelmingly positive and the general consensus was that this model was preferable to the previous one. Tutors and parents both felt it was an excellent opportunity to build the important relationship with home and school, in order to work more effectively together. It was helpful that many parents had also experienced the previous model and were able to make a fair comparison. However, It was noted by parents that they would have liked this information earlier in the school year if possible.

Following this successful trial we have decided to roll out this model to all years in the next academic year. **The new model will include two meetings per year with each child's tutor in years 7-10. In Year 11, parents will meet once with the child's tutor and once with each subject teacher.** This is set out in the table below.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Tutor Meeting	Tutor Meeting	Tutor Meeting		Tutor Meeting
<b>Spring Term</b>				Tutor Meeting	Tutor Meeting and Subject Teacher meeting
<b>Summer Term</b>	Tutor Meeting	Tutor Meeting	Tutor Meeting	Tutor Meeting	



The Year 7 Tutor Team found the new Parents' Evening a valuable experience. All agreed that two such opportunities a year will enhance the working relationships between parents and school.

**Mr T Hughes Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral**



# Stewards Learner: Parents' Information

## Changes for the new academic year 2019-20

Please make sure that you have noted the following changes that will come into effect from September 2019.

### Uniform Update

Please make sure that you have noted the **change to our uniform requirements for September.** We have included a copy of the letter sent home in case you missed it.

Dear Parent / Carer,

#### **Uniform Requirements: School Skirts – IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR SEPTEMBER 2019**

As you know at Stewards Academy, we pride ourselves in having high standards in all aspects of school life. As such, uniform is checked daily by tutors to ensure it meets school policy.

You will be aware that our current uniform policy allows two styles of skirt: pleated and straight. After many conversations with parents this year, we have learned that sourcing the sizes for straight skirts has been a problem in some cases and we had been working with our supplier, Top Form, to try to rectify this situation. It has taken some time to be assured that straight skirts of all lengths are available, and this took longer than we would have liked.

In order to ensure that this problem does not recur and to simplify our policy, **we have decided that from September 2019, only the pleated skirt (or trousers) will be permitted.** In consideration of our older students, **Year 11 (as of September 2019) may still wear the straight skirt** but will be expected to source a skirt of the required length. **From September 2020, only the pleated style of skirt will be permitted for all students.**

We thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child meets our uniform requirements.

Kind regards

**Mr T Hughes**  
Assistant Head Pastoral



ONLY PLEATED SKIRTS  
WILL BE PERMITTED  
FROM SEPTEMBER 2019  
FOR YEARS 7-10.

## Timings of the School Day

Please find below a reminder of the changes to the school day as included in the April Newsletter.

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



Mr Scholtes—Senior Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum)



# Stewards Learner—Culture and Character

## Jack Petchey Award Winners

Pupils and staff have nominated a number of pupils to receive a Jack Petchey award for the spring and summer terms. After discussion with members of the Student Leadership Team the award winners have been selected. Congratulations to all of our worthy winners. They will join Connor Gladwin-Brown, Sara Lett and Rosie Smith at the Jack Petchey Awards evening in June at the Harlow Playhouse.

### Megan Jarczuk

Megan has shown great resilience and determination during her lessons, particularly in GCSE Maths. She is a diligent pupil who always works hard at every task and has a desire to succeed. Megan is always supportive of her peers, offering help when needed. She is an excellent role model to younger pupils and many were inspired by a talk she delivered on the importance of taking studies seriously from year 7.

### Amelia Anastasi

Amelia is a kind, courteous and extremely hard working pupil. She is a great role model to the younger pupils and is supportive of her peers. Amelia takes her positions of responsibility this year and has been a dedicated prefect and Head of Charity team where she has helped to lead other pupils in preparations for various charity activities throughout the year. Outside of the school day Amelia commits her time to volunteering at Harlow Gymnastic Club.



### Scott Carpenter

Scott is a lovely young man who is committed to doing well with his studies and in his sports training. He is a keen triathlete who successfully gained a place on the GB team to compete in Spain. Scott manages his time superbly and never lets his dedication to sport impact on his school work. He embodies the 5Rs and has been a pleasure to teach during his 5 years at Stewards.

### Lennon Hickey

Lennon has been a committed member of the School Council throughout his time at Stewards. He is an excellent role model to his peers and the younger pupils; this is demonstrated by his prefecting, charity work, assembly presentations and his term as Deputy Head Boy this year. Lennon has been dedicated to the performing arts, both on stage and behind the scenes; most recently stepping in at short notice as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival cast. He is a wonderful young man and a worthy recipient of a Jack Petchey award.

### Peace Oduware

Peace is a hardworking and diligent young lady. She has the desire to do well and seizes every opportunity to develop and improve in her academic studies. Peace has been an excellent leader of the EMPV group and has offered lots of suggestions to enhance the opportunities for the pupils that attend. She has encouraged and supported younger pupils both through her work with the EMPV group and as a prefect. Peace is a superb ambassador and is admired by both her peers and many younger students for her kindness and commitment to all she does.



### Karolina Mikolayova

Karolina was nominated by her peers for her charity work; including baking cakes and raising money through donating her hair to the Little Princess Trust. Karolina is a great all-rounder and works incredibly hard at all she does. Karolina has been an excellent leader of the EMPV pupil voice group this year and a vocal member of the School Council: Her views and opinions are always well considered and appreciated. Karolina is an excellent role model to others.

**Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher**



# Stewards Learner—Culture and Character

## School Council

May saw the final meeting of our Year 11 Student Leadership Team. Members shared their fondest memories and lessons they have learnt with the younger school council members, before being presented with a red rose as a keepsake. The younger members of the Years 8-10 school council and Year 7 year council shared their memories also and thanked the Year 11 students that have been a support and inspiration to them.



The Year 11 students have been a pleasure to work with throughout the year and should be congratulated on all of their successes. I wish them the best of luck for their final exams and look forward to celebrating with them at Prom in June and results day in August.

## EMPV

Our Ethnic Minority Pupil Voice group (EMPV) is going from strength-to-strength this year and attendance at meetings is increasing. It is open to all pupils and provides an opportunity to share personal stories, celebrate diversity and connect with pupils from all year groups. I would like to thank Ms Edwards for leading on recent meetings and inspiring the pupils that attend.

## Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

The West Essex regional finals of the Jack Petchey speak Out Challenge were held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Eighteen speakers convened at Roding Valley High School for the event and Stewards Academy's finalist, Molly Fincham delivered a lively, interesting and funny speech entitled "So, I'm an Essex Girl!" which explored the topic of prejudice and judgement. Although not placing in the top three, Molly acquitted herself very well and said after the event, "I've learnt a huge amount from the Jack Petchey Speak Out challenge, which will definitely help me in my future career." Many thanks to Mr Ginger for coordinating.



**Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher**

## Pretty Muddy

Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> will see the current Year 9 and 10 Form representatives take part in this year's Pretty Muddy race for life event in Essex. Pupils have signed up to take part in the assault course on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June in Enfield. Pupils are very excited about the event and are busy planning their "pink" outfits for the race. Pupils will be visiting students and teachers during Morning Prep over the next few weeks to ask for their support and donations towards this very honourable cause. All proceeds raised will of course go to Cancer Research and I look forward to reporting back about the success of the event in the next newsletter.

## Form Representatives

As we approach our final half term, the Year 7 and 8 Form Representatives are moving on to pastures new. The Year 7 team are now the founding members of the new Year Council and I will continue to work with them in this respect, while the Year 8 members have become a part of the upper school representatives, working with Miss Francis and Year 9 and 10 pupils. I have really enjoyed getting to know them during the year and am sure that I'll be writing of their successes in future editions of our newsletter!

## Peer Mentors

As the Summer term draws to a close, so does our Peer Mentor Programme. In addition to the regular visits to their tutor groups, the team have been making plans to 'pass on the baton' to next years' mentors. They have been thinking about what their role means to them, the ways in which they've supported their mentees, and how they have, themselves, grown and developed. At the time of writing, they are producing an assembly on their experiences to present to Year 9.

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



# Stewards Learner: Culture and Character

## Safeguarding Update

As you know, we strive to ensure that our pupils both *feel* safe, and *are* safe around school and in the wider community. As such, we have been working on a number of initiatives intended to guide and support our pupils in this respect, the first being a session on Conflict Resolution. Pupils were encouraged to think about the difference between conflict and bullying and were given the opportunity to explore how they might respond to an argument or disagreement between themselves and their peers. They are now also clear about who they should speak to if a difficulty arises, and are aware of the steps that will be taken to support them.

In 2018, there were almost 40,000 knife offences reported in the UK. In Essex, there are between 160 and 180 such offences every month. In light of these worrying statistics, we asked Miss Thurley, who is looking at the issue with her Year 8 Drama group, to lead a series of assemblies focusing on the issue. The first of these was very hard-hitting: with a real-time recording of a knife attack, an interview with the victim of a knife offence, and an explanation as to how a seemingly small puncture wound is potentially life threatening.

Over the coming weeks, we will be leading an assembly on being safe online. The foundation of this will be the tragic story of Breck Bednar, a 14 year old boy, who was groomed and lured to his death through online interaction. There will be an update on this in a later edition of the newsletter.

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

**Mr Ford: Safeguarding Lead**

## Governors Report

The highlight of this half-term was once again our annual Presentation Evening, where we were able to celebrate the achievements of so many of our students as well as listen to musical performances from some of our talented students. Congratulations to all who participated and especially to those who were presented with awards in recognition of their achievements during the past year.

By the time you read this, examinations will be well underway; may I wish all of you taking them success and a successful future after Stewards.

Finally I would like to wish you all a relaxing time over the half term holiday.

**Mr Tarling, Chair of Governors**

**PARENTS, DID YOU KNOW?**

*You can learn more about...*

**Criminal & sexual exploitation • Trafficking  
Gangs • Online sexual abuse • Missing children**

**At one of our all day events across Essex**

**8 June, Chelmsford Library**  
**15 June, Harlow Playhouse**  
**10 August, Basildon Council Offices**  
**7 November, Clacton-on-sea Princes Theatre**

**Why not drop by and talk to a range of experts or book a seat in advance for our specialist talks.**

**For more details visit: [www.escb.co.uk/exploitation](http://www.escb.co.uk/exploitation)**

Believe in children  
Barnardo's

The Children's Society  
No child should feel alone

ESSEX  
Safeguarding  
Children  
BOARD



# Presentation Evening

Stewards Academy celebrated the achievements of its pupils at the annual Presentation Evening on Thursday 2nd May, in front of a hall packed with proud families and staff.



128 pupils received their awards from guest speaker Chris Pope, Co-Director of the Prince's Teaching Institute. Chris spoke with eloquence to the young people with three key messages. First 'yes, you can.' He told the pupils to 'Never say never' and to take every challenge that comes their way in life, even though sometimes the hurdles may seem initially insurmountable. Secondly, 'embrace diversity'; we are all citizens of the world. He recounted a personal recollection of a recent visit to the Lebanon, which is slowly recovering from fifteen years of civil war, where ideologies clashed and a nation was torn apart. He told the young people that we all need to learn to live together in harmony and celebrate

diversity in all its forms. His final message was that we all need to keep listening, learning and, if necessary, changing. Chris started his career in music, but since 2007 has worked with the PTI, a charity which supports teachers with their professional development. So, flexibility is the order of the day for young people in 2019, as life is an ongoing process of learning and adapting.

The prize winners listened attentively to Chris' message; and one young man told his mentor the following day that he had felt inspired by Chris and felt that now anything would be possible for him.

Nine ex pupils came back to receive prizes for their excellent exam results last summer - a total of 99 high level GCSE grades!

Max Leijs, Maizy Egginton, Amie Stingemore, Ethan Baldry, Abigail Johnson, Emily Oliver, Eleanor Sibley, Laura Bracey-Curry and Aileen Bovel, pictured with Chris Pope and Mrs Ginger.



The first of the prizes were awarded to two tutees from every tutor group, who had been selected by their tutors because they had demonstrated the school vision of growing and learning in a variety of different ways.

This was followed by the Subject Prizes for Year 11, with students being nominated by Subject Leaders for their academic progress in individual subjects. The pupils were asked to choose a book for their presentation. It was wonderful to see the range of inspiring topics selected.

The Governors' Awards followed, beginning with the three most prestigious awards of the evening: the Academic Award was presented to Head Boy Bradley Rimell; the Contribution to the Life of the School Award was given to Deputy Head Girl Darcy Wylie and the Gordon Hewlett Prize for Citizenship went to Head Girl Libby Morland-Banks, in the presence of his widow Bettina Hewlett.



The audience were wowed by superb vocal and instrumental performances by pupils from years 7 to 11, Erin Baldry, Sonya Kemsley, Aimee Mayo, Adela Mikolayova, Mia Christie, Charlotte Easby, Fraser Mann, Bradley Rimell and a special mention of George Berry who was in three of the performances.

Mrs Ginger spoke with huge pride of the inspiration she feels every day when she walks the school and interacts with the pupils and staff of her school. She congratulated everybody for their achievements and the evening ended with a delicious buffet provided by the catering team for everybody present on the evening.

Lots of work went on behind-the-scenes to prepare for the evening and we must say a huge thank you to Mrs Bishop, Mrs Rogers, the site team, Mr Saunders and the catering team, and our technical team Mr Finn and Year 9 pupil, Maxwell Shults. 15 pupils also helped to Prefect and support on the evening, including Deputy Head Boy, Lennon Hickey and one of the Heads of Charity team, Amelia Anastasi, both providing valuable support for the smooth running of the evening. Many congratulations to all of the prize winners on their success.



**Mrs Erwood and Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher**



# Presentation Evening

## Governors' Prizes



### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Bradley Rimell

### CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Darcy Wylie

### THE GORDON HEWLETT PRIZE FOR CITIZENSHIP

Libby Morland-Banks

## Tutor Prizes

### Year 7

Daisy Chapman, Alex Hundley, Rachael Carpenter, Gabriel Keita, Ella Braby, Andrej Sedliak, Ella Stacey, Nathan Gibbons, Millie Ward, Finlay Thurston-McGowan, Lottie Goodship, Kylan Guest, Shanez Drobot, Freddie Ashton, Madison Lintonbon-Baker, Bradley Bartlett

### Year 8

Steph Nketia, Zeeshan Rahman, Louise Parks, Emmanuel Addo- Sunu, Nancy Osagie, Jamal Mahmood, Elsie Pudney, Luis Ali, Alicia Bovelle, Kieran Criddle, Niamh Stock, Max Arnold, Demi Williams-Cousins, Panos Apostolidis, Lily Dean, Ben Noruwa,

### Year 9

Eva Hart, Levi Green, Mollie Parry, Paul Osazee, Holly Nelmes-Faint, Aaron Robinson, Fay Mills, Jack Smallwood, Alina Cikuna-Zekuna, Patrick Snowdon, Blessing Zimani, Ethan May, Bethany Witham, Musa Hamid, Emma-Lea Bedford, Joshua Palmer

### Year 10

Charlotte Easby, John Worsfold, Esther Ntow, Tyler Ellis, Chloe Bull, Tony Carr, Jessica Harrington, David Kelly, Katarina Jurigina, Tim Baranowski, Zoë Pask, Adam Timmins, Ellie Symons, Seven Hassan, Kate Lidbury, Owen Smith

### Year 11

Megan Bailey, Mateusz Zygadlo, Julia Halasy, Leroy Dube, Jodie Dyer, Billy Eden, Hannah Chadwick, Tyler Hinton, Ellie Lodge, Justin Mako, Aimee Monk, Daniel Hearn, Megan Hayward, George Wells, Abbie Matthews, Reece Maidment

## Special Prize Awards

### RESILIENCE

Tony Carr

### THE TERRY O'NEILL AWARD FOR HONOURS PROGRAMME

Joseph Morgan

### THE RHONDA MURTHAR AWARD FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Sara Ilett

### EXAMINATION ACHIEVEMENTS 2018

Amie Stingemore, Abigail Johnson, Aileen Bovelle, Laura Bracey-Curry, Ethan Baldry, Eleanor Sibley, Emily Oliver, Max Leijs, Maizy Egginton

### LIBRARIAN AWARD

Libby Morland-Banks

### 100% ATTENDANCE AWARD

Nathan Cowland, Louis Golding, Olamide Nduka, Rosie Smith

### EAL

Mateusz Zygadlo

### PROGRESS

Sabina Miah

### 5Rs

Jamie Munslow





# Presentation Evening

## Subject Prizes

### THE LADY GIBBERD AWARD FOR ART

Holly Perrett

### BUSINESS STUDIES

Megan Bailey

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Steven Ma

### DANCE

Jessica Humphreys

### DRAMA

Darcy Wylie

### ENGLISH

Amy Raymond

### ENGLISH LITERATURE

Hollie Wilson

### THE JONATHAN HEWLETT AWARDS FOR MODERN LANGUAGES

**French** - Morgan-June Wharton

**Spanish** - Sophie Hack

### GEOGRAPHY

Emma Galloway

### RE

Felicity Lentz

### THE DR TOMS AWARD FOR HISTORY

Bradley Rimell

### MEDIA

Charlotte Spriggs

### THE JOHN BENDALL AWARD FOR MATHEMATICS

Sabina Miah

### MUSIC

Melissa Mountney

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Alicia Stewart

### GCSE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Aimee Monk

### SPORTS

Denis Martin

### THE JOHN NEALE AWARDS FOR SCIENCE

**Combined Science** - Abigail Hollyoake

**Biology** - Olamide Nduka

**Chemistry** - Louis Golding

**Physics** - Bradley Rimell

### TECHNOLOGY

**Food Preparation & Nutrition** - Rosie Smith

**Construction** - Mathew Crichton

**Design and Technology** - Jakub Bebnista

## Reading Week

Stewards Academy held its Summer term reading week last week and to coincide with Mental Health Awareness week, we chose the theme of Poetry-mindfulness and wellbeing. On Tuesday 14th May we had the privilege of a visit by author and poet, Joelle Taylor. Pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 had the opportunity to attend a workshop with Joelle who performed one of her poems and then they created their own poems which many then performed.

There was a real buzz in the room for the whole period and pupils were excited and engaged in their creativity. Pupils became enthusiastic and animated, using the poetry to express their thoughts and feelings. The performances were phenomenal, with some pupils rapping, singing and reciting their work from memory.

Mrs Bailey, Reading Manager said "It was an honour to witness so many pupils be inspired by a brilliant poet."

Pupil comments.

*"I really enjoyed the poetry workshop because she let us share our ideas and she was very bubbly and funny. She let us all read our poems and she taught us that poetry is very special and you can achieve anything in life."* Ella 7RN

*"I really enjoyed the poetry event because we got to meet an actual poet and we all got to make our own poems. I would really like the opportunity to do something like this again, it was really fun."* Chidera 7VE

*"I was inspired from the workshop as it was eye-opening to some of the serious problems that are in today's society. It also taught me that poetry could be about anything."* Jake 9KT

*"I found the poetry workshop inspiring: Joelle had a way with her words that enabled us to understand even the most implicit of metaphors. It was interesting to see everyone's interpretation and how we all had different ideas from one line."* Bryony 9KT

*"I really enjoyed the poem workshop. I enjoyed writing something that wasn't judged and it was a great way to open up and write what you feel about the subject. I loved listening to Joelle's poem as it was honest and refreshing."* Sidnee 9JS





# Celebration of Culture week

We held our first Celebration of Culture of week in March. This was an opportunity for pupils to explore and appreciate the world around us through SEP (Stewards Enrichment Programme) sessions, a poster competition and performance showcases.

At KS3, pupils worked with their form tutors for two lessons, discussing and celebrating cultural diversity using a variety of activities. At KS4, pupils discussed and considered the hard hitting topic of racism.

## Poster competition

Pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 had the opportunity to produce a poster celebrating cultural diversity. Lots of lovely entries were received and the winning design was Lucy Eels 7JAS.



## Performance Showcases

On Tuesday 26th March, music students from Years 7-11 showcased their talents to a packed hall of parents and pupils. The performers ranged from Year 7 ensemble performing for the first time through to the experienced GCSE Music students. What was particularly wonderful about the evening was seeing how pupils from different year groups worked together either in their bands, and the choir or to support each other through their rehearsals. The evening was primarily led by pupils, under the guidance of Miss Doughty, Miss Thurley and Miss Johnson. Particular thanks to Mia Christie, Charlotte Easby and Harrison Matthews who were fantastic mentors and role models to the younger pupils and a great support in the smooth running of the evening. Our new Subject Leader for Music, Mrs Reeves, was thoroughly impressed!



On Wednesday 27th March we held a dance evening to showcase the work of our dance clubs, GCSE dancers and Stewards pupils that attend Dance Fusion. This was a highly entertaining and slick evening showing off the passion our pupils have for dance. One of the highlights of the evening was watching the year 11 choreographies they had produced for their exam work, professional and emotive.



A student technical team of Damien Bidmead, Maxwell Shults and Damion Wint supported the events ably and their help was greatly appreciated.

All monies raised went to the charity Mind.

Pupils were buzzing after the two evenings and rightly so. They have showed real dedication and commitment to the performing arts and embody the 5Rs in their attitude, hard work and perseverance. Well done to all of you involved!

**Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher/ Head of Performing Arts**



# Performing Arts

## Year 11

A fond farewell to all of our Year 11 GCSE students. You have provided us with many moments of joy (and a few tears!) over the years and we have thoroughly enjoyed working with you. The lessons you have learnt both in and outside of the classroom will stay with you, even if you don't believe so at the moment! I have watched you blossom over your time with us and I know you will all go on to be successful in what you choose to do next. Keep your heads held high, believe in yourself and most of all enjoy life and all the opportunities you can!

If you are going on to Performing Arts courses let us know how you get on and when you are performing...

## Congratulations

Huge congratulations to two of our longstanding staff members on their recent successes. Miss Doughty has completed her Grade 8 Bass exam, receiving a Distinction! And, Ms Trowsdale has completed her 3 year Dance degree. Two inspirational role models to our pupils!

## Thank-you and welcome

Mrs Burton has been teaching music with us since October and has worked tirelessly to prepare Year 11 for their exams and coursework components. She has been a fantastic addition to the team and I would like to thank her for her commitment to us this year. She is now ready to hand the reigns over to our new Subject Leader for Music, Mrs Reeves, who has spent this half term getting to know all of our Music pupils.



## Forthcoming events

We are very excited in the department about all of our summer term events...

## Lower School Production



First up will be the Lower School Production– Sparkleshark. After a high turnout at auditions, the decision was made to have two casts. This is an excellent opportunity to develop performance skills, work in a team, and show commitment to the performing arts here at Stewards. The casts will be performing on 3rd and 4th July to the Year 6 pupils visiting for their taster day and both evenings at 6pm (different cast each day).

## Dance Evening

Auditions have taken place and rehearsals are underway for our Dance Evening on Tuesday 16th July. This promises to be an energetic and fun evening full of club dances, GCSE work and pupil choreographies.

## Summer Concert

This year the Summer Concert will be a music event only. Lots to look forward to with performances from the choir, ensemble, GCSE musicians, soloists and combinations in between!

More information regarding tickets will come out via Parentmail and Twitter @StewardsPA later in the term

## Auditions

Auditions for the Shakespeare Schools Festival 2019 will take place later in July. There will be two casts again this year; two new plays for us, The Taming of the Shrew and Hamlet!

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of the events later in the term.

**Miss Johnson, Assistant Headteacher/ Head of Performing Arts**



# Spotlight on ICT

## Key stage 3

Computing, Business Studies and Media Studies make up the ICT Faculty at Stewards Academy. All three departments have been very busy this year supporting pupils to achieve and reach their full potential.

The start of the year saw a number of pupils collaborating with the online supermarket giant Ocado. Ocado have developed the website Code for Life, which is a voluntary-based Foundation to support the new computer science curriculum. Our pupils were involved in a number of visits from Ocado during the testing stage offering advice and improvements to a game called Rapid Router. Our Year 7 pupils are currently studying computing concepts and using the website to embed computing theory. The competitive nature of the pupils means the race is on to achieve the highest level. Pupils will need to demonstrate responsibility and resilience to tackle the more difficult levels. Positive points will be on offer for outstanding achievement. Who will reach the highest level...?



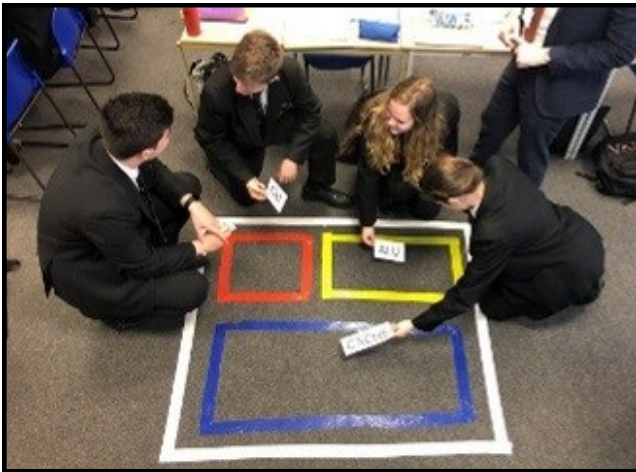
Last term our Year 7 pupils were inspecting how computers work. Looking inside a computer at the components and how they work has offered an intriguing experience for our pupils. Pupils were amazed at how computers store things and communicate with each other using binary. A memorable part of a lesson was watching faces light up when understanding the following joke.

*“There are only 10 kinds of people in this world: those who do understand binary and those who don’t.”*

This joke proved to be a bit of a thinker...

Our Year 8 pupils have been researching how businesses operate and where to source finances. Pupils have been looking at the inflows and outflows of business and generating cash flow forecasts to show how much a business makes. This unit of work has given pupils an insight into business studies at GCSE and has allowed them to make a more informed decision when deciding their future option choices.

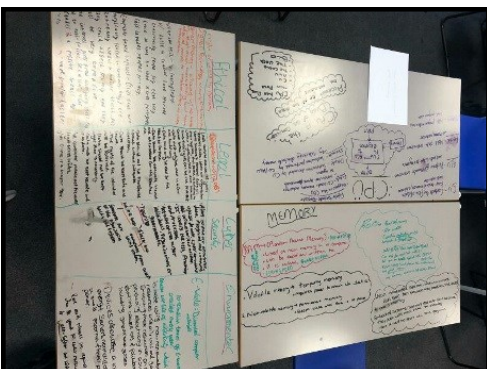
## Computing



Our Year 9 pupils have settled well into the difficult subject of Computing. Pupils have coped well with the different way of algorithmic thinking to solve a problem. Pupils are studying a wide range of topics building a great foundation of knowledge. Our Year 9 pupils are currently studying the programming language Python where they have to decompose tasks and use programming concepts to form a solution.

Recently Year 10 pupils studying GCSE Computer Science have been learning about the Central Processing Unit (CPU). Pupils have created models to demonstrate the fetch, decode, execute cycle, the way that a computer processes information. Pupils in Year 10 are working really hard, focusing on their summer Pre Public Examinations (PPEs) and preparing for the coursework assessment:

a 20 hour programming project using Python to create a computational solution to a real world scenario.



Pupils in Year 11 have been creating learning material for their revision. Working in groups and rotating every few minutes to create a learning mat that they will photograph and add to their revision text books. Using the Pomodoro technique, small chunks of revision broken up by a small breaks, the pupils are enjoying their learning and getting ready for the summer exams at the same time.





# Spotlight on ICT

## Business Studies

Pupils in Year 9 Business Studies have been delivering individual presentations to their peers about an entrepreneur that they have researched. Pupils included a digital presentation, a class hand out and speaker notes that they delivered with incredible confidence and professionalism. Pupils had to determine the factors that made their chosen person a successful entrepreneur, including the risks that they took. The many different routes people took to be successful was a revelation to our pupils.



Pupils in Year 10 have been showing off their creativity by creating revision material for their upcoming exams. Mind maps and flash cards have been a key feature which will help pupils revise. The website Seneca is also a great revision tool which pupils need to utilise to help remember key information.

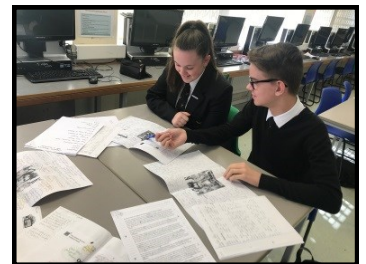
## Media Studies

A new type of Media Studies...

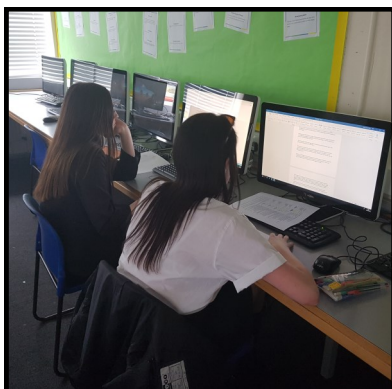
This year has seen the start of the new AQA Media Studies GCSE; a course which is far more academic and theoretical in content. Pupils have been studying hard to get their heads around the theory and have been working to apply their knowledge and understanding to examination questions. The course now requires the pupils to sit two examinations which equate to 70% of their final grade, which is certainly very different to the old specification which focused on 60% coursework. The current Year 11 pupils are rising to the challenge and finding new methods to revise the extensive content and write effective examination answers. I would like to wish the current Year 11 pupils all the best with their Media Studies examinations in June and I very much look forward to their results in August!

## Doctor Who verses Doctor Strange

The Year 9 pupils are really enjoying the unusual topics involved in the new Media Studies course. Pupils are now get the chance to study a wealth of different media platforms. This year, pupils have studied Science Fiction through the first (1963) episode of "Doctor Who" in contrast to the modern drama "Class"; Radio 1's launch with "Tony Blackburn" in comparison to the latest "Beats Radio" station; Marvel's £165million film "Doctor Strange" in contrast to Ken Loach's "I, Daniel Blake". They also have been studying the pop industry through a study of One Direction's "History" videos and the alternative rock genre via an analysis of "The Arctic Monkeys". Topics change annually and so the Year 9s can't wait to see what the Year 10 course will have in store for them. It's bound to be very interesting!

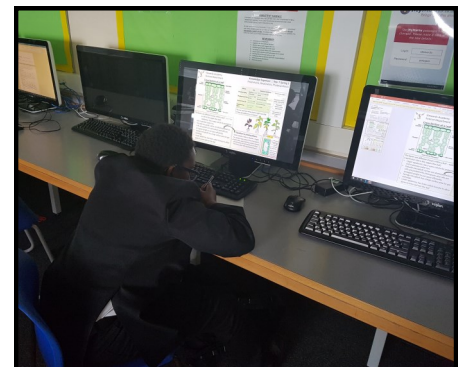


## ICT Homework Club



Our department LSA, Miss Pelka, runs an after school Study Hub which allows pupils from all year groups to complete coursework and homework.

The Hub is open daily from 3pm – 4:30pm in ICT 1 and provides support for pupils who need help or just somewhere to work. Pupils are able to access computers to complete work or just sit at desks and complete independent study.



Mr Locke, Head of ICT Faculty



# Schools Rocket Challenge

Another year has rolled by swiftly and yet again Stewards Academy entered into the now highly competitive arena of Youth Model Rocketry.

This year we fielded two teams of skilled and dedicated rocketeers, though each team did help the other when it mattered. "We all get on so well that despite having two teams we worked as one big team on the two rockets", said Abbie Woollard. Elias Lucia captured the mood of the group when he said that there was a no blame culture, and that everyone was equally valued by the other.

UKAYRoC is an international competition for under-18s in which competitors must design, build and launch a model rocket. Whilst the rules are clear, they change each year, so previous builds cannot be reused unchanged. This year's challenge was to build a rocket that was at least 650mm in length, but less than 650g in weight. It had to reach a target altitude of 856ft, deploy two parachutes and safely land a raw hen's egg within 43-46 seconds of launch. That took a great deal of design and testing to get right!

"There were challenges with getting the altitude so we had to use multiple rocket motors," propulsion expert Dylan Beadle said. Maxwell Shults, chief rocket designer said, "After last year we were aware that we had to keep weight down to a minimum", so the job of material choice and testing fell to Liam Holt. "To get two parachutes the correct size and to deploy intact was always going to be tricky", observed Harry Chapman, rocket recovery guru. Daisy Chapman helped her brother and was our official apprentice; she said, "This was really good fun compared with anything we did in primary school". Mia Todd's problem solving skills and dexterity with tools really helped us in the final push to complete the build.

When the two rockets were finally stuck together it was down to Aimee Mayo and Abbie to give them their signature design colours.

How our luck was going to pan out seemed to be summed up when we got a puncture on the way to the practice launch 8 miles from Stow Maries. On the day of the competition our run of bad luck dogged us. Despite five successful launches, a minor rocket malfunction each time lead to us not qualifying for the national finals. A parachute not unfolding, a loose altimeter battery, an awkward landing, etc. were hugely frustrating but despite these setbacks the team remained positive and got on with preparing for the next launch. Jake Salhi summed up the day as "a bit disappointing, but a great experience and lots of fun!"



L to R: Abbie Woollard, Aimee Mayo, Jake Salhi, Dylan Beadle, Mr Rew, Mia Todd, Harry Chapman, Daisy Chapman, Liam Holt and Elias Lucia (front)

Seeing the children go through the months of planning, hours of preparation and the problem solving skills that were developed along the way, was an inspiration to behold. I know teachers at Stewards say this all the time, but once again these children made us feel incredibly proud to be a part of the Stewards Family.

**Mr Rew, Trip Leader**





# Year 10 Careers and Work Related Learning

As Year 10 rapidly passes by, we are now in the process of putting together a programme of activities to prepare your children for the demands of Year 11, which will of course culminate in taking GCSEs next summer.

Our strategy consists of early involvement in the preparation process with some of the activities taking place before the end of the summer term and an assembly will be utilised for promoting this to the current Year 10 prior to moving into Year 11. This will ensure that students will be able to concentrate more effectively once the new year starts in September.

We give below a timetable of the planned activities so that you are aware of what needs to be done and we feel sure this will help you feel more involved in your child's progress towards the GCSE examinations. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Careers and Work Related Learning Team if you have any query at all.

**May - Work Experience:** By the time you read this, most Year 10 students will have completed their one week Work Experience placement during the week before half term. We recognise the enormous benefits that can be obtained by experiencing life in the work place where valuable skills can be gained for use in the future.

**June/July- Personal Statement preparation:** A good personal statement will be very useful in preparing for life after Stewards Academy. It offers an opportunity to reflect on achievements, both in and out of school, and the act of sitting down to prepare one can concentrate the mind on future planning, whether or not firm career ideas have been previously researched. A personal statement is often asked for by colleges and 6<sup>th</sup> forms when applications are made and it can also form the basis of a CV which can be requested by employers when advertising job vacancies. It is expected that introductions and preparation will be carried out in Year 10 SEP/PSHCE periods and will give the opportunity to include evidence of the benefits gained during the recent work experience placement.

**August - Summer break:** We are all aware of the benefits of a relaxing break which allows us to come back refreshed in September. It can also offer the opportunity to think about what career or job could be considered and researched. All pupils need to return back to school in September having given thought to their future plans. We recommend that reference be made to the website [startprofile.com](http://startprofile.com) which is an excellent and valuable resource for all students at any level. This is also an ideal time to find some extra work experience in an area of work that might interest you. Friends and family contacts can be very useful.

**September and ongoing - One to One Careers Discussions:** We are planning to commence interviews in May but the majority will take place throughout Yr11 and offer students the opportunity to discuss their plans for the future and the options and routes available. Any issues can be discussed that might impact on achieving potential and it can be especially beneficial to look at ideas in a realistic and informative way. Meetings will generally last for 30 minutes and invitations will be issued in advance. If any student would like a specific meeting, reference should be made to Mr Cooper to check availability.

**October - College and 6<sup>th</sup> form open evenings:** All further education (FE) providers will offer the opportunity for Year 11 students to attend their open evenings which will allow students to discover the course programmes offered. We will display dates and times of all open evenings early in Year 11 so that students can get dates in the diary. We recommend that a number of FE providers are visited so that comparisons can be made. Furthermore, it is expected that subsequent applications are made to more than one provider to ensure a backup offer can be obtained to reduce the chances of any disappointment.

**Post 16 Careers Event:** Once again we are pleased to confirm that we are delivering this event at the Harlow Hotel in partnership with Passmores Academy and Aspire Academy in October. Attending will be many 6<sup>th</sup> form, college and apprenticeship providers, plus representatives from universities, the armed forces, employers and support services. This is an excellent opportunity to speak to many relevant providers about your plans or just to get more ideas.

**Assembly Presentations:** We will arrange for visits to Stewards of a 6<sup>th</sup> form, a college and an apprenticeship provider who will address the whole of Year 11 during assemblies so that application procedures and course availability can be explained.

**November - Support for applications:** The actual deadlines for applications to all providers will also be circulated during September and support will be available from the Careers Team for any aspect of the process. Most 6<sup>th</sup> form (A Level) applications have to be in by early December, while college (vocational/job related) applications ought to be submitted by Christmas. It should be noted that some colleges offer a 6<sup>th</sup> form programme too, please check with them direct or refer to the Stewards Careers Team if clarification is required.

**December - Mock Interviews:** In December we will host a mock interview event when we invite a team of outside representatives from industry to interview our students in a supportive environment. We give preparation in advance and encourage students to dress as they would for a real interview. The experience will prepare students for the interviews to come early in the New Year and beyond. **Mr Cooper, Careers Adviser & Miss Care, Work Related Learning Co-ordinator**



# Year Group News

## Year 7

As we start the last half-term of the year, I would like to highlight a selection of prominent events from last half-term that Year 7 have been involved in and draw your attention to some key achievements.

Presentation evening took place to honour the personal, social, academic, creative and expressive achievements of all our pupils here at Stewards Academy. Well done to our Year 7 prize winners for your stand-out contributions. You are a credit to yourselves and the academy and both myself, Miss Dangerfield and your Tutors are very proud of you!

Last half-term also played host to the UKMT Maths Challenge and I am pleased to report that a number of our Year 7 pupils participated in this. The challenge is set under exam conditions and pupils are required to solve a range of problems based around mathematical knowledge, logic and reasoning. Scores are not back as yet, but I want to congratulate everyone that took part for their efforts and wish them good luck for their results. Well done for your dedication and commitment to this event!

Another highlight was the Year 7 trip to Weymouth. Weymouth is an outdoor adventure activity holiday and those pupils that were privileged enough to attend this were fortunate enough to take part in a wide range of experiences including: Jacob's Ladder, Archery, Rock Climbing, rifle shooting and a number of team building activities. A thoroughly good time was had by all and life-long skills were developed, alongside experiences that will stay with them forever!

Finally, I would like to say congratulations to all of Year 7 for all your hard work this half term and wish you all a restful holiday!

**Mrs Bartlett, Pastoral Lead Year 7**

As we start our final half-term of the academic year, I would like to recognise a few key events and special achievements that have taken place last half-term Year 8.

Assemblies have played a significant role this year in raising aspirations and encouraging your children to achieve and exceed their potential. This half-term, assemblies have explored a range of topics including; leadership, resilience, opportunities, knife crime and the effects of social media. One assembly that was particularly thought-provoking, was based on the recent 2019 London marathon whereby pupils watched some poignant stories about inspirational people taking on the gruelling marathon to raise money for others. This was a heart-warming and moving assembly and many pupils commented on how they felt inspired by the selfless acts of others!



Presentation evening took place to honour the personal, social, academic, creative and expressive achievements of all our pupils here at Stewards Academy. Well done to our Year 8 prize winners. You are a credit to yourselves and the academy and both myself, Miss Dangerfield and your Tutors are very proud of you!

Another highlight was the Year 8 trip to Ardeche. Ardeche is an outdoor adventure activity holiday and those pupils that were privileged enough to attend this were fortunate enough to take part in a wide range of experiences, some of which included; Mountain Biking, Canyoning, High Ropes, Kayaking and Camping. Pupils also had the opportunity to barbeque next to a river.

Finally I would like to say thank you to pupils and parents for your support in getting back your child's option form. Timetabling is now well under way for Year 9 and we will do our very best, where possible, to accommodate your child's preferences. Well done Year 8 on another successful half term. I hope you have a restful and well-deserved holiday!

**Mrs Bartlett, Pastoral Lead Year 8**



It's not long now until our students will be in Year 10. Time at Stewards Academy goes extremely fast, and that's because everyone is working hard to ensure that they leave here as a successful young person. The more I work with our year group, the more I see them change into mature young adults, making them a pleasure to be around.

A few weeks ago, it was excellent to be able to speak to so many parents and guardians during our presentation evening. So many of you were thrilled with your child's success and progress. This just shows that the students thought long and hard about their GCSE choices and are keen to do their very best. I can see that the students are wanting to improve in their studies across all their subjects and that motivation is great to see! Please keep up the hard work and all your efforts will pay off in the end. "Life's rewards go to those who let their actions rise above their excuses."

**Mr D Tremer, Pastoral Lead Year 9**





# Year Group News



There is only one half-term to go and our students will be in Year 11. Their time here has gone extremely fast, and that's because everyone has been working hard to ensure that they leave here a successful young person. The more I work with our year group, the more I see them change into mature young adults, who will leave Stewards Academy as well-rounded individuals with their future ahead of them.

The biggest thing for our students this year is their work experience placement. During the last week of last half-term, all of our students have been out in the real working world. They have independently found a place, worked for a week, and have hopefully learnt many new skills. A work placement offers students the chance to gain valuable experience spending time working for an employer and carrying out duties or tasks as any other employee of the company would.

I do hope this experience has been a positive one for everyone and has supported you in realising how important your education is, for you to be able to pursue your dreams.

Please keep up the hard work and all your efforts will pay off in the end. "The harder you work for something, the greater you'll feel when you achieve it". Enjoy your half term!  
**Mr D Treamer, Pastoral Lead Yr10**

The GCSE exams have now arrived and when your child returns after half term, they will be right in the thick of it. It is vital



that your child attends school regularly and remains focused for the time that is left here at Stewards Academy. The next few weeks are crucial and it is imperative that your child attends every revision session available to them. Whilst they are still in school, the revision programme takes a priority over other subjects. On top of this, they are also expected to revise independently. There are some great websites for them to use to refine their knowledge, allowing them to go into the exam with confidence. Please make sure students are logging on to Tassomai, Maths-Watch and GCSE Bitesize as often as possible. Teachers are also a fantastic resource, so please use them! It seems like there is an awful lot to do, but I can guarantee that it will be worth it in the end.

On behalf of myself, Ms Morley, and the Year 11 tutor team, I would like to conclude by wishing all students the very best of luck in their exams. It has been fantastic to see the year group grow and develop into the young, mature adults they are today. Have a great half term, and don't forget to revise!  
**Mr G Hughes, Pastoral Lead Year 11**

## Key Dates

### May 2019

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

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

**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

**Wednesday 24th July** - School finishes at 1pm



### 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**—Dance Evening 6pm

**Tuesday 16th July** - Year 10 MFL trip to Tapas Bar

**Tuesday 16th July** - Year 8 Girls HPV2 Injection

**Wednesday 17th July**—Summer Concert

**Wednesday 17th July** - Strawberry Tea

**Friday 19th July** - Year 9 French Trip to Calais