



# Stewards Academy

Summer 2015

## Newsletter



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor Group: \_\_\_\_\_

### HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

This half term has been action-packed as you can see from the Newsletter. We have organised the Ardèche Trip, Leavers Day, Year 5 and 6 Taster Days, Lower School Production, Sports Motivation Day and Sports Presentation Evening, Sports Day and our summer festival 'Wonderland'. (We will publish an article on the Wonderland Spectacular in the September Newsletter).

Sports Presentation Evening was an excellent opportunity to celebrate the sporting achievements of our students during the year. During the day we enjoyed the inspirational talk given by Gail Emms, badminton olympian and in the evening students received their medals and cups. Congratulations to all award winners (see p24-25) and thank you to Mr G Hughes and the PE department for organising such a memorable evening.

In June I attended the Jack Petchey Awards which celebrate the achievements of our young people. Mrs Ginger received the Leadership Award for Stewards Academy in recognition of her contribution to the Mathematics department and her leadership of Assessment and Examinations. My thanks to Casey Hendricks for her singing performance at Harlow Playhouse on the evening. Congratulations to all our Award winners (see p4-5).

At the end of term we say farewell to a number of staff; Mr Ramsey and Mrs Burgoine (associate staff) Mrs Gagliano (maternity leave), Miss Anningson, Ms Connaughton, Mr O'Flaherty, Miss Walsh, Ms Dove and Mr Nestor. My thanks to them for their work and best wishes as they move to other areas. A special thanks and farewell go to two teachers who have made a significant contribution to Stewards and who now come to the end of their teaching career.



Mrs Tripp has taught Science for 11 years and has been an outstanding practitioner and tutor. Her Triple Science lessons have been inspiring and her laboratory is always a centre of the most exciting learning and colourful display. She intends to enjoy retirement and spend more time with her family.

Mrs Batterham has been Head of Year at Stewards for 25 years and is an outstanding drama teacher. Her contribution to Performing Arts has been truly exceptional. She is held in high affection by so many of her students over the years. Her sharp wit and good humour are renowned! She is looking forward to spending more time with her family and enjoying the freedom to do what she wants after a lifetime of teaching.



On behalf of parents and pupils, past and present may I express my thanks to Mrs Tripp and Mrs Batterham for the distinct contribution they have made to the success of Stewards Academy.

Finally may I wish staff, parents and students a good summer break.

**Rhonda Murthar**  
Headteacher

# Happy Birthday Buzz

One of our special Second World War veterans, Buzz, has reached the golden age of 90 and we were privileged to be invited to his surprise 90th birthday party on Sunday 17th May. Three of the pupils who had the trip of a lifetime to the Normandy 70th anniversary events last June, were able to make it to the party. Becky Dodd, Charlie Dowers and Stanley Saunders were all there with their families to celebrate Buzz' special birthday. Other veterans also came along proudly wearing their medals, to join in the festivities. It was a very special occasion and Buzz said how proud it made him feel to know that our pupils wanted to be there with him on his birthday, and that they were so respectful of men like him who had fought for their country.

*Mrs Erwood, Deputy Headteacher*



# Technology News



*Year 8 Technology students have been growing plants and vegetables from seeds in the greenhouse and in the Food Technology garden.*

*Year 8 students have planted out the runner bean plants that they had grown in the greenhouse on the bean frame that the Year 9 students built.*



*Mr Fiddes, Technology Department*

# ATTENDANCE

## IMPORTANT UPDATE – please note -

### CHANGES TO PERSISTENT ABSENCE FIGURE

FROM SEPTEMBER 2015 NEW GOVERNMENT CRITERIA STATES THAT A PUPIL IS CLASSED AS 'PERSISTENTLY ABSENT' IF THEIR ATTENDANCE FALLS BELOW 90% - 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%. IN ORDER FOR CHILDREN TO SUCCEED AT SCHOOL IT IS EXPECTED THAT THEY ATTEND ON A REGULAR BASIS AND BE PUNCTUAL

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### LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Term time is school time – regulations state that Headteachers cannot grant leave of absence to a pupil except where an application has been made in advance and there are exceptional circumstances (this is a leave of absence which we at Stewards Academy feel would be of unique and significant emotional, educational or spiritual value to the child which outweighs the loss of teaching time). Application in writing must be made to the Attendance Manager. Any leave of absence that has not been authorised will be referred to the Education Welfare Service. This may result in the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecution proceedings. A Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued to each parent of each child of statutory school age and carries a maximum penalty of £120 (eg. 2 parents with 2 children could incur a total cost of £480). If the matter proceeds to court this carries a maximum penalty of £1000 per parent per child and a criminal conviction, which may affect your current and/or future employment.

**PLEASE SEE THE TABLE BELOW FOR YOUR YEAR GROUP'S ATTENDANCE TO DATE**

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
96.1%	95.8%	96.2%	95.7%	n/a
<b><i>WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TO DATE = 96%</i></b>				

**THIS IS FANTASTIC – WELL DONE – KEEP IT UP!**

### REGISTRATION

8.45am – REGISTRATION (AM) FOR ALL PUPILS

1.55pm – REGISTRATION (PM) FOR ALL PUPILS

*(pupils arriving late for registration may be issued a detention)*

### ABSENCE

(01279) 772511 (please leave a message)

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

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION IN THESE MATTERS  
FROM THE ATTENDANCE TEAM**

## Joshua Darrington in 8SE

Joshua Darrington in 8SE wrote this at the end of his homework assignment on the Holocaust.

*'If we do not look back at history where humans have made mistakes, we will never improve the world and simply keep making the same mistakes in an endless loop. History is like a guideline for the future.'*

That is why I have relished teaching him this year!

**Mrs Erwood, Deputy Headteacher**



# Jack Petchey Award Winners

PUPILS AND TEACHER ARE WINNERS AT JACK PETCHEY FOUNDATION CEREMONY.



**Winners, (From left back row) Kenan Krkic 11DN, Matt Fleming 11VM, Leilani Mildren 11DN, Joseph Thomas 11MT, Jayme Gisbourne 11NF, Mrs Ginger, Taonga Chabva -Shoperai 11RP, Maddison Davies 11MT, Yasmin de Friend 11AD and Robyn Webb 11NF**



**Casey Hendricks**

The Jack Petchey Foundation honoured young achievers in a ceremony at the Harlow Playhouse on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. We are very proud that 9 of our Year 11 pupils were winners and were presented with a medallion and certificate for their achievement and hard work. Congratulations to them all. Mrs Ginger, Deputy Headteacher also won a Jack Petchey Leadership Award, she has led our staff team in our drive to improve examination results and as a result of her leadership over the years, we now have a very strong Mathematics department. Also well done to Year 10 student Casey Hendricks who performed live on stage with her guitar.

**Mrs Erwood, Deputy Headteacher**

TERM	PUPIL	TG	REASON
AUTUMN 2014	Yasmin de Friend	11AD	For her application and dedication to school she throws herself into all school activities with enthusiasm and dedication. She is an active member of our Ethnic Minority Pupil Voice Group and goes above and beyond to achieve. Her Pastoral Support Manager has called her inspirational.
	Robyn Webb	11NF	For her work as a Prefect and in the school canteen. She ensures that pupils who need help in any way are all catered for and that the lunchtime queue is orderly. Our Catering Manager sings her praises.
	Maddison Davies	11MT	For her work in Performing Arts and teaching Dance also her application to school under difficult circumstances. She supports the Dance teacher with younger pupils and is a regular performer at Stewards. She also performed in the Shakespeare Schools Festival.

# Jack Petchey Award Winners

TERM	PUPIL	TG	REASON
SPRING 2015	Matt Fleming	11VM	Matt has been active in supporting the PE Department and the Performing Arts Department, giving up his time to these extra-curricular activities. He is Deputy Head Boy and a fantastic role model to younger pupils. His efforts academically have shown what hard work and dedication can achieve and younger pupils aspire to follow his lead. Matt deserves this award on so many levels and he is a popular recipient of this award with staff and pupils alike. His impact at Stewards has been significant.
	Kenan Krkic	11DN	Kenan has developed his confidence and his interpersonal skills hugely through the medium of performing arts. He has performed in Shakespeare Schools productions and has always been someone to quietly get on with his studies, staying happily in the background. However this year he took the lead role in the school production of 'Back to the 80's' and he astonished everyone. Kenan was pivotal to the success of the show and his decision to follow Performing Arts as a career speaks volumes.
	Leilani Mildren	11DN	Leilani is a young woman who has not always found school easy, but whose dedication to Performing Arts has always given her a sense of worth and achievement. She has striven to overcome her personal difficulties and issues by immersing herself in dance and drama activities, culminating with having a part in the school production of 'Back to the 80's'. Leilani now has much greater confidence and a sense of self-worth which is apparent in the relationship she has now developed with staff and other pupils.
SUMMER 2015	Joseph Thomas	11MT	Joseph is an exceptionally gifted scientist who has been involved with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) project for several years. His work with robotics has been a real passion and has given him an opportunity to express his individuality and showcase his talents. Recently the robotic arm he designed was part of a project which was on show at the Cambridge Raspberry Pi Convention. Joseph had the honour of showcasing his work to Prince Charles who was suitably impressed. Quite an achievement.
	Jayne Gisbourne	11NF	Jayne is an equally gifted student who has also been involved with the STEM project for several years. His area of expertise is within engineering as he has designed and made a Porta-Pi which is a small portable computer onto which he has programmed computer games. At a convention for Raspberry Pi in Cambridge last year Jayme won a pupils' choice award for his design. His extraordinary skills hold him in good stead to ultimately pursue his chosen career of engineering at Imperial College, London.
	Taonga Chabva-Shoperai	11RP	Taonga has been an active participant in the Ethnic Minority Pupil Voice group since he joined Stewards in Year 7. He has taken part in every Cultural Food Event and Cultural Fashion Show and has been tireless in his efforts to promote this group within the school. Taonga leads by example. He is always immaculately dressed, polite, personable and very respectful towards every member of the school community. He is a role model as a young citizen and is held in very high esteem by his teachers and his peers.

# Bude 2015

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, 48 Year 7 students, accompanied by Mr Locke, Mr Coates, Miss Fiddler and myself, set off for Bude in Cornwall at 10am. Seven hours later we arrived and were straight onto the beach to catch the waves on our surfboards. Throughout the week the students participated in abseiling, caving, body boarding, surfing, canoeing, team trials, rock climbing, high wires and mountain boarding. Pupils overcame fears, completed tasks they have never attempted before and they gave their all with every activity even their 7am morning run! We arrived back to Stewards on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May having created memories that will last a lifetime.

*'I think the best thing about Bude is that you face your fears, try new things and meet new people'* –Tilly Halson – 7EB

*'I have had the best time of my life with my best friends'* – Daisy Burns – 7EB

*'I had a lot of fun in Bude. I enjoyed trying different activities like caving and bodyboarding'* – Reece Maidment – 7MR

*Miss Mc Garry*



# Ardèche 2015

What a wonderful trip! It started on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June, leaving the school at 21:30, which meant that no one was going to get any sleep! It took 14 hours, and a surprisingly smooth ferry journey, to get to our destination. It was hot, sunny and not a cloud in the sky - Just the way Ms Morley likes it!

Our PGL site was in Lou Valagran, which is close to the Ardèche River. The Scenery and location was unspoilt, with forest and hills all around. It's a perfect place for all adventure activities.

The first day consisted of mountain biking, raft building, and kayaking and getting to know one another. It was amazing to see students solve problems, work in teams, and overcome any fears they had. Every student got stuck in had a great day.

The second day was something special – canyoning. This was a day of sliding down smooth rock features, jumping off huge rocks and going over the canyon on a zip wire. A huge congratulations to Aileen Bovellet who conquered her fear of heights by building up the courage to zip her way across the canyon!

The main activity was the Ardèche River decent. The students completed 32 kilometres in two days, with a stop for an overnight stay on the river side. The students fuelled up on spaghetti bolognese, cake, hot chocolate, and also a lovely hotdog or two cooked on the barbie by Chef Hughes! The students then slept under the stars in just their sleeping bags. Day one included rock jumping, capsizing and one unforgettable electric storm. Day two consisted of some fast flowing rapids, rock jumping and river surfing. On our return from the Ardèche, students continued to build up confidence, problem solve and climb up some very high ladders! Jacob's ladder is one particular ladder that required team work, communication and strength! Well done to all those that got to the top!

I would like to thank all the students, Ms Morley, and Mr T Hughes for making the trip so memorable. The students were very well behaved and a pleasure to be around. I also know that the new friendship formed will last for years to come.

Thank you!

*Mr G Hughes Trip Leader*



Congratulations to Scott Carpenter 7PM who ran the London Mile on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015, and completing it in a fantastic time of 6 minutes 36 seconds.

Scott trains hard on a weekly basis and is a member of the Hoddesdon Tri-club. He trains on his bike, and goes running regularly as well as swimming for Hoddesdon Swimming team. Scott has also completed an open water triathlon event recently at Writtle. Keep up the good work and well done!



Congratulations to Conor Martin 8SL on completing Basic Training with the Army Cadet Force. Well done Conor!



# Art News

## PARENT ART CLASSES

I would like to say a huge thank you to the parents who have been attending my weekly Adult Art classes this term. During these sessions, we have explored a range of materials and techniques. We have produced still-life studies, have been landscape painting in the local area and have been on a trip to the Tate Modern in London.

It has been a pleasure to work with the adults who have attended the class.

If you are interested in attending classes next year, contact Mr. White at Stewards Academy.

Classes run weekly on a Thursday night from 6.00pm-8.00pm and are held at Stewards Academy. Each session costs £6.00. I hope to see you there!

*Mr. White, Art Department*



On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May, 19 Year 9 GCSE Art and Art Textiles pupils visited the Henry Moore Foundation in Perry Green. Henry Moore is one of Britain's most famous sculptors. He started his career as a War Artist, drawing and recording the experiences of people taking shelter in Underground stations during World War II.

He is now famous for producing large scale abstract sculpture based on the landscape and animal skulls. Pupils were able to experience Moore's large scale sculpture exhibited in the open.



Pupils were given a tour of the grounds and studios and were invited to draw and touch the bronze sculptures exhibited outside.

The research and experiences gained at the Foundation will go towards developing the coursework element of their GCSEs.

The gallery guides commented on the excellent behaviour of our pupils.

Pupils and staff really enjoyed the experience and the department is looking forward to running another trip to the Foundation in the near future.

*'Visiting the Henry Moore foundation was a great opportunity, it was very beneficial to see how a famous sculptor would have worked and lived. It was an incredible experience and is one of the main reasons I feel our school Art department is extremely helpful for a young artist'*

*Louis Cousins (Year 9 pupil of Art and Design)*



If you are interested in seeing Henry Moore's work locally, visit the Water Gardens, Harlow Town Centre.

# Performing Arts News

## TRIP TO ROYAL ALBERT HALL - 'DISCOVER MUSIC AND SCIENCE'

We took a group of 28 Year 7 students to an educational workshop at the Royal Albert Hall which explored the links between science and sound. Within the venue's Samsung Digital Classroom students learned about frequency, waves and speed of light/sound. They then took part in a variety of activities including creating their own piece of music using a computer, writing their own lyrics and even calculating the circumference of the Hall itself. Finally they were shown into one of the seating boxes within the Hall and were able to get a glimpse inside this visually stunning venue.



## LOWER SCHOOL PRODUCTION - 'THE RAILWAY CHILDREN'

This year's Lower School Production, directed by Miss Thurley and assisted by Mr Robinson, was based on E. Nesbit's celebrated novel, 'The Railway Children'. The novel, set in 1905, tells the story of three children from London who have to leave their lives behind and move away to Yorkshire when their father is falsely accused of espionage.

With over 70 students auditioning from Year 7 and 8, two casts were selected (Blue Team and Red Team) with each performing on separate dates. They performed to Year 6 students as part of their Taster Day followed by an evening performance to families and friends.



**Red Team**

A group of Year 10 and 11 students provided coaching and support throughout the rehearsal process, giving the younger students the benefit of their years of experience in Drama. The older students then provided stage crew and technical support during the public performances.

Both casts did a tremendous job, having to learn many lines, stage directions and a song which included some solo parts. Some of the characters had to speak in a different accent or even a different language than their own - not an easy task for any actor, but particularly impressive for Year 7 and 8 students, some of whom are new to performing on stage.

Well done to all students who took part in the Lower School Production - we hope to see them returning to audition for future productions.



**Blue Team**

## STEWARDS WOODWIND PROGRAMME

In the Music Department this year we launched an exciting new woodwind programme. Our aim was to widen the range of instruments our pupils use and to create a new Stewards Woodwind Ensemble. The programme began in October with 12 pupils from Year 8 and another 12 pupils from Year 7 joined halfway through the year. All of those involved have 1:1 lessons with myself for flute, clarinet or saxophone and the Year 8 pupils also rehearse weekly as part of the Stewards Woodwind Ensemble.



The ensemble has already performed a number of times for our Senior Leadership Team, Primary Headteachers and at our own Wonderland festival. The Year 7 pupils will join the ensemble next year, giving us a much larger ensemble of 24 pupils, which we are sure will continue to grow! Many of our Year 8 students are also studying for their Grade 1 ABRSM exams to give them qualifications on their instruments. All pupils have made a fantastic start to the programme and I would like to congratulate them all on their hard work and dedication to date.

**Mr Reynolds  
Music Department**

# Able, Gifted & Talented News

On the 19<sup>th</sup> June we were pleased to be able to participate in the 'Robogals' Workshop being offered at the University of Sussex near Brighton on the south coast. We have an ongoing partnership with the university within the Widening Participation Scheme to encourage students to consider university in the future. At the same time, the event encourages girls to consider careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) fields, which is currently under represented.

We were able to take 15 girls from our current Year 9 and we made an early start at 7:30am to try to miss the worst of the M25. As it turned out, the traffic was quite light and we made excellent time, even having the opportunity to stop for a refreshment break, and still arrive early.

The workshops involved robotic activities. The first before lunch, demonstrated behaviours by experimenting and studying a light sensor robot by racing and navigating. The group were split into 5 teams of 3 each and quite quickly students picked up the skills to navigate a course set out on the floor area involving strategically placed barriers. This culminated in a race between the teams which saw them demonstrate their newly gained programming and problem solving skills, and brought into play the competitive element!



After lunch, we moved onto the assembling and programming of LEGO Mindstorm robotic kits, helping the students to understand the basics of engineering, robotics and programming in a fun way, whilst supporting the computing curriculum. Again, once the basics had been learnt, the girls were divided into 2 teams and were asked to set up their area to firstly move along and knock as many targets over as possible, and secondly to avoid as many items as possible, by just using the positioning of a light source. This produced some excellent results showing that the necessary skills had been acquired very well.

The students will have developed knowledge and skills, and hopefully be inspired by a subject they may not have considered previously. Although we did not have time for a full tour of the campus, the university area looked attractive in the early summer sunshine, and our guest ambassadors and facilitators explained their roles and their individual subject study areas.

We took the opportunity to discuss individual career ideas during our own time before the day's activities began. This enabled us to establish who had some firm ideas and who, perhaps, were still unsure, and some useful resource information and websites was issued which will be followed up on later.

Our journey home was quite the opposite to the experience in the morning. Once we got onto the M25, we soon joined massive queues in the long approach to the Dartford Tunnel and eventually arrived back at Stewards at 5:30pm, 3 hours after we started out!

This was a successful day with everyone learning new skills, experiencing a day at university, and having an opportunity to think about their future education and careers.

Some quotes from students on the day:

*'I now know more about what life is like at university than I did before'.* Sophie Horton 9THH

*'It helped me think which degree I want and which universities to look at'.* Tania Mamvura 9CC

**Mr Cooper, A, G&T Mentor/  
Guidance Officer**

## SUMMER SCHOOLS

As we go to press, we have four of our current Year 10 students lucky enough to have been accepted to the University of Sussex University, about to travel to Sussex to experience life at a university. They will stay in the student accommodation for 4 days and participate in their preferred schools called, 'Discover, Communicating Science' and 'Explore, Our World'. Molly Galloway, William Johnson, Elliott Johnson and Robert Kelly are looking forward to their adventures and we will be reporting back on their experiences in the next Newsletter. Later in the month, from 28<sup>th</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> July, Katy Briant, Emma Lidbury, Shiv Sharma and Filip Kusnir will be attending the summer school at Imperial College London. They will experience university life in London through working closely with Undergraduate Mentors and staying in University Halls during this residential Summer School. The course will feature a number of social activities in the evenings in South Kensington and central London. Again, we will be following up with our students progress and will get some quotes from them in the next newsletter.

We wish our successful applicants well and expect they will have many stories to tell, and some great experiences to draw on, that will help them in their future careers.

# Able, Gifted & Talented News

## STANSTED AIRPORT PARTNERSHIP

Our partnership with Stansted Airport has continued to develop and we are grateful for the additional opportunities our students are able to experience, including 'Meet the Employers' from industry to learn what they do, to attend mentoring sessions with Stansted management team members, to undertake work experience placements (as reported separately), and to be introduced to the facilities at the newly opened Aerozone Education Centre.

As well as attending our previous Curriculum Days, Stansted Airport representatives have continued to mentor 6 of our students from Year 10 who will shortly be delivering their prepared presentations in front of the whole group as an activity to develop increased confidence in public speaking which will be a very useful skill in the future. As well as this, it has proved a fine opportunity to draft their presentation in a way that will help them to complete their Year 11 Personal Statements which will be used with college and 6<sup>th</sup> form applications. We are hopeful of extending the numbers within the mentoring group to double figures in the Autumn Term.

The new purpose-built Aerozone Education Centre was officially opened on 10th June and Mr Cooper and Miss Care attended, along with 148 other invited guests from local industry, schools and partners with the ribbon being cut by ex Spurs captain Ledley King representing the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, one of the higher profile partners. The Aerozone will provide a flexible and inspirational learning environment aimed at children and young adults. Facilities include a wardrobe of airport uniforms, a scale model of the airport site built by the engineering apprentices, a giant magnetic map of the world, paper plane competition kits and inter-active science sets.

There are many opportunities open to our students to see what options are available at the airport including training and employment at many of the companies based at Stansted, work experience for our future Year 10 students, and apprenticeships in the engineering sector, and we will be expanding our links over the coming year.

*Mr Cooper, A,G&T Mentor/Guidance Officer*

# Work Related Learning News

## WORK EXPERIENCE, MAY 2015

During this academic year, Year 10 students were given the opportunity to experience the world of work for a week. Year 10 students have been preparing for work experience since September and their preparation paid off, according to employers across the region.

Some of the quotes received were:

*'His punctuality and attendance was better than some of the employed staff!' and 'got on very well at work experience and has been offered a Saturday job'. 'Able to work on his own initiative and has volunteered to help on Saturdays'. 'An absolute delight and worked in a sensible and mature manner'. 'Received a glowing review- went above and beyond with all tasks'.*

Feedback from the students has been very positive and this should help our students start Year 11 in the best way possible. Thank you to our many businesses and community colleagues for their support during our work experience programme.

Our Year 10 students are about to enter their last year at Stewards Academy and it is time to start thinking about which Colleges/Sixth Forms they would be interested in applying to. The Work Related Learning Team will be on hand from September to guide and support all students in the application process. If you have any questions, please come and see us in the Careers area in Block 3.

*Miss Care, Work Related Learning Co-ordinator*

## STANSTED AIRPORT PARTNERSHIP

We had three very successful Work Experience placements take place at Stansted Airport this year. Keanu Jackson, Belkis Gorur and Brendan Miller all completed their placements at the Fire Department, Security and Motor Vehicle Engineering departments respectively. They all enjoyed their experiences at the Airport and we received very favourable reports from all departments involved.

Looking forward to Work Experience next year, we hope to have more placements available at the airport which will give our students a wider selection. If there are any students who may be interested in completing their work experience at the airport, please come and see the Work Related Learning Team in September.

# St. Pauls Cathedral Trip

Stewards Academy was delighted to be able to send Deputy Headteacher Mrs Erwood MBE and Year 8 pupil Emily Oliver along to St Pauls Cathedral on 18<sup>th</sup> June to commemorate the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo. Stewards was selected by Waterloo 200 to be one of two hundred schools across the country invited to attend the service, in the presence of Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Edward and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

Stewards was given the opportunity to investigate a local soldier who fought at the Battle of Waterloo. History teacher Mr Hawk gave 2 Year 8 pupils, Max Leijs and Charlie Neville the task of investigating a local soldier, Sergeant Joseph Boulcott, who was in the Grenadier Guards and served as the Baggage Master to the Duke of Wellington. The boys have risen to the challenge of the task,



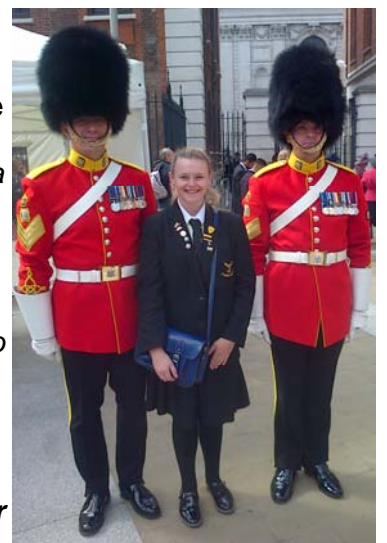
putting all the research they did independently onto the website provided by Waterloo 200.

The E-book can be found at <http://www.theonlinebookcompany.com/OnlineBooks/SchoolsWaterloo/Toc/Index>

The service at St Pauls certainly proved to be an occasion to remember. Emily Oliver said, *"It was such an honour to be invited to such a prestigious event and to hear such moving accounts of the Battle of Waterloo"*. Mrs Erwood said *"This is a really memorable way*

*to bring history to life, as during the service we listened to descendants of some of the men who were in the battle as they read accounts of the Battle of Waterloo and its aftermath"*. Historian and TV present, Dan Snow said *"This project was created to raise awareness of the Battle of Waterloo, a historic and pivotal moment in world history"*. An E-Book compiling work from all 200 schools will be given to all the schools involved.

**Mrs Erwood, Deputy Headteacher**



## CLASSICS CLUB TRIP: THE ROMANS IN BRITAIN

Verulamium Museum in St Albans gave 28 Year 7's a perfect day out on 19th May and a chance to study everyday life in Roman Britain. The museum is next to the town's large and varied park which is dotted with sections of the old Roman walls as well as a hypercaust, showing how Roman central heating worked. We had plenty of time to explore the park and feed the ducklings in between two sessions in the museum. – luckily, the weather was fine all day and it didn't rain until we got back to school!

The first session was a tour of the museum showing how the remains of the ancient city of Verulamium had been excavated. Pupils were able to find out what Romans looked like and what they ate. There were beautiful mosaics and realistic recreations of typical Roman homes and workplaces and streets, complete with Latin graffiti! After a picnic in the park, we returned for the second session where we were able to handle real Roman objects, work out what they were, and compare them to their modern equivalents. The most unusual artefact was a small container which was used to hold the tears of the bereaved, showing how much the 'dear departed' had been loved. (No one guessed that one)

The pupils came away full of enthusiasm and brilliant ideas for future Classics Club activities and trips. A number of them expressed an interest in learning Latin so there will be a new 'Latin for Beginners' weekly twilight course starting in September for Year 7's and Year 8's. This is an exciting venture which will give pupils substantial educational benefits such as an understanding of grammar (which can be applied to all modern languages, including English); it widens pupils' English vocabulary (over 70% of English words are Latin-based); and studying classical myths, legends and history is fascinating and fun!



**Mrs Cadden, English Department**

# English News

It has been another wonderfully busy year for the English Department at Stewards. We have entered students into numerous literary competitions throughout the year including *War or Words* and *Poetopia*. We are very proud to inform you that over sixty children have been published this year. The annual Speak Out Challenge was attended by twenty Year 10 pupils, who spent the day with Jack Petchey trainer AC Gaskell and they went through a variety of confidence building tasks. Katy Briant 10RA was chosen to represent Stewards Academy at the regional final. Even though she did not go through to the next round, she should be very proud of her achievement.

The English and History Departments have worked closely this year and have collaborated on two separate projects which involved trips out of the school. All the way back in November, we brought the whole of Year 8 to see *The Book Thief* at Empire Cinema in Bishop's Stortford. This was part of the *Into Film Festival*, which is the world's largest annual free film festival for young people. Our second cross-curricular trip involved becoming an historian for a day in Hampton Court Palace; an opportunity which was not to be missed! Again, the History and English departments brought a whole year group, this time it was the Year 7 cohort.

There has been a significant drive on literacy this year, not only within the English Department, but school-wide. Students have literacy handbooks, they have been assigned online *Doddle* tasks and regularly have the chance to utilise our new literacy boardgames courtesy of the Jack Petchey funding awarded to our Subject leader, Mrs O'Sullivan. Our usual after school clubs have been running year round including the Writer's Society and Film Club. Film Club will expand next year to include some amateur film making, so watch this space!

KS3 students have been engaging with our 100 Points Project initiative, whereby they have the opportunity to engage creatively with a text through many different mediums at home. We are firm believers here in the English department that our subject is one which fosters creativity and critical thinking every single day. We look forward to more exciting events and even more inspired learning in the next academic year.

**Miss Lavelle, English Department**



# STEM News

## QUADCOPTER CHALLENGE

Earlier this year, a group of Year 10 pupils from Stewards Academy were invited to participate in a quadcopter challenge hosted by Raytheon UK. The event, which aims to promote STEM careers to students, tasked the group to create a unique quadcopter by adjusting flight controls and customising some of the parts. They will then compete against other schools in Essex in a series of tasks designed to test for innovation, speed and accuracy. The winning team will be invited to the 2015 Royal International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford in Gloucestershire, which takes place in a few weeks' time. Throughout the year ambassadors from Raytheon have assisted the pupils in their design, and explained some of the science behind the quadcopters. Here's what some of the team have said about the experience;

*"I enjoyed working with the ambassadors and learning how to fly the quadcopter"* – Katy Briant

*"I enjoyed being part of a team and building the quadcopter. It was a great experience, and I hope to be a part of something like this again."* – James Clarke

*"Being part of the quadcopter team has been amazing. There is nothing I love more than solving a problem, and there were quite a few!"* – William Payne

*"It was great fun, and I hope we win the competition!"* – Molly Galloway

**Mr R. Perrin Head of Science (KS3) & Mr J. Phipps**



# Photography News

## PHOTOGRAPHY ROYAL LONDON TOUR

On 16<sup>th</sup> June Mr Li, Mrs Daveta and Ms Darling took a group of Year 10 photography students to London for a walking tour of 'Royal London'. The theme for the students was 'Street Photography' and each student was able to take photographs as we walked and paused to listen about the historical importance of the buildings and places of interest we passed. We joined the tour guide at Parliament Square and after a brief talk about the Palace of Westminster moved on past statues of Winston Churchill, Mahatma Ghandi and Nelson Mandela to name just a few of the figures represented in the square. We moved on to Westminster Abbey and then past The Treasury and into St James' Park. From the park we went to Horse Guards Parade and The Mall. As we approached Buckingham Palace the changing of the guard was in full swing with a military band and mounted troops passing within touching distance. From The Mall we walked to Kensington Palace, another royal residence. We finished our tour in Trafalgar Square where we parted company with the tour guide.



In Trafalgar Square there were lots of street entertainers with living statues, chalk artists and bubbles, these provided fantastic photo opportunities for the street photography theme. We stopped for lunch in Leicester Square here photo opportunities were provided by a group of break dancers. Moving on through China Town the shop fronts and street furniture were again great subjects for photographs. The final stop before our journey back was Covent Garden, again fabulous architecture inside the covered market and lots of characters entertaining in the streets and the chance to try some very welcome ice cream! We made our way back to Epping on the tube and were met by the school mini buses for the drive back to school. Everyone enjoyed the trip and I would like to thank the mini bus drivers and Mr Li for organising a memorable visit to London.



*Ms Darling, Art Technician*



# Maths Trips

## BRITISH MUSEUM TRIP

In May, the Mathematics Department took 80 Year 8 pupils to the British Museum for a day of exploring maths in an inspirational setting. During the day groups of students rotated through nine activities in different galleries. From the Egyptians to Ancient Rome, and all the way to China, the students were able to solve real-world maths problems related to some of the most fascinating periods in global history. The challenges were designed to focus on developing students' mathematical thinking by using key processes and applying a variety of mathematical concepts to unfamiliar challenges. The children practised their problem-solving ability; saw a vast range of exciting objects and artefacts; and just as importantly, thoroughly enjoyed the day out.



## WATER ROCKET CHALLENGE

A small group of Gifted & Talented Year 7 Mathematics students were invited to the National Physics Laboratory to take part in the annual Water Rocket Competition in mid-June. Over the preceding weeks, they had been using their knowledge of angles, volume and other complex mathematical concepts to create, test and improve several rockets powered solely by water pressure. They were joined by two Year 6 pupils who had excelled during the Stewards Gifted & Talented Maths Club this year, which they had attended along with the Year 7s. The competition consisted of approximately 40 different schools showing off their rockets and taking part in other, smaller contests throughout. Our team performed admirably, with a mid-table finish, and even won an award for being the



Wettest Team (a result of our first couple of rockets drenching our entire team with the water that was propelled from the end)! In addition, we launched our rocket with an egg attached to it in a protective casing, and were one of the only teams not to have their egg scrambled on landing. A successful outing all round!

*Mr Bruccoleri, Maths Department*

## 'The Little Princess Trust'

I have always liked my hair long and have never had more than 3cm cut off at one time, but when I found out about The Little Princess Trust I thought I'd go for the big chop! The Little Princess Trust is a charity that takes donations of hair and has them made into wigs for little girls with hair loss through illness. Last week I cut 17cm off my hair and donated it to the Trust. They will mix it with hair from other people and make it into a beautiful wig.

Libby Morland-Banks 7DJ



*Before and After*

# P.E. News

## BISHOP STORTFORD RUNNING CLUB CHARITY FUN RUN AND SCHOOLS CHALLENGE.

On Sunday 5th July four runners from Stewards Academy took part in the Bishop Stortford running club charity fun run and schools challenge. The challenge was to take part in the 2 mile run, which was open to any children in school Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. If you wanted to enter the schools challenge you needed to have a team of 4. For Lewis and Owen this was their second appearance at this event, Joe Morgan and Scott Carpenter both from Year 7 were brought in to help the boys compete.

Despite a wet start to the day the sun was out for the start of our race and Lewis lead superbly from start to finish followed by Owen who was being chased by Joe and a battling Scott who had a great performance. The race finished with Lewis 1st, Owen 2nd, Joe 3rd and Scott 7<sup>th</sup>; a great result for all of the boys, not only did we achieve the top 3 individual trophies we also achieved the senior boys schools challenge trophy for Stewards Academy, which is a fantastic achievement. Congratulations to the boys for their fantastic result and dedication to their sport.



**Team Stewards Academy: Joe Morgan, Lewis Harknett, Scott Carpenter and Owen Harknett**

## ESSEX COUNTY SCHOOLS TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lewis and Owen Harknett took part in the Essex County Schools Track and Field Championships on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Lewis ran the 1500 metres heat and qualified for the final, where he went on to have a fantastic competitive race and finished 3rd to receive a well-earned Bronze medal as well as a PB of 4 mins 30 seconds. Owen ran the 800 meters heat and qualified for the final, where he equally had a fantastic race and even though he was boxed in at the start he remained calm and battled on to claim a well-earned Bronze medal as well as a PB of 2 mins 12.63 second. Another wonderful achievement for the two boys, well done on your fantastic results.



## U15 GIRLS CHANCE TO COMPETE

A group of Year 10 girls were selected to play in the U15 Girls Chance to Compete competition played at Springfield cricket club. The competition was aimed at raising the profile of young girls playing cricket in and around Essex.

The girls all took turns in batting and bowling in each innings, bowling six people out throughout the day. All the girls who took part played extremely well winning two games throughout the day.

Well done to: Megan Cunningham, Georgia Whitefield, Rexhina Kotarja, Jodie Sangster-Dean, Emily Mead, Izzie Dorkin, Lauren Sykes, Darcy Giddings, Mollie Jarvis and Sara King.



# STEM News

Students from Year 7 and Year 8 along with Mr. Flood and Miss Walsh attended the final of the Essex County Council "Build a Rocket Challenge" on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The event was held at Stow Maries Aerodrome in Chelmsford. The students have been working very hard over the last number of months designing, building and testing their model rockets. For the launch each rocket had to carry a fragile payload (a raw egg) to a set altitude with a specific total flight duration. After an early start on Saturday morning the group attended a safety briefing at the aerodrome and then went about some last minute preparations for the launch. Schools from all over Essex were in attendance and there was a real air of excitement! Our students were some of the first to launch and recover their rockets so we had a long wait until the results were announced. However, there were plenty of activities to keep the students busy. British Aerospace and the Royal Air Force held a number of very impressive science demonstrations on site. There were also a number of life-size model planes and gliders for the students to take photographs with. After lunch Councillor Hume, Chairman of Essex County Council and Suzanne Jude, Chair of Essex



Employment and Skills Board addressed the competitors and announced the winners.

Unfortunately neither of our rockets won the competition but

our students represented Stewards Academy brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed the day. Now back to the drawing board for next year....

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Design and Technology department and the Art department for all their help during the build. We would also like to thank our STEM Ambassador Mr John Tennison from Smith's (Harlow) Group for all his support and advice.

Students involved: Leo Roach 8SB, Alycia McLeod 8AMW, Ellie-Marie Taylor 8RL, Jack Whitting 8SL, Jamie Bryant-Woodard 8RL, Skye Bull 8JFL, Jack Lassen 8SL, Kian Michael 8JFL, Connor Gladwin-Brown 7DJ and Erin Healy 8JFL.

**Miss Walsh, Science Department**

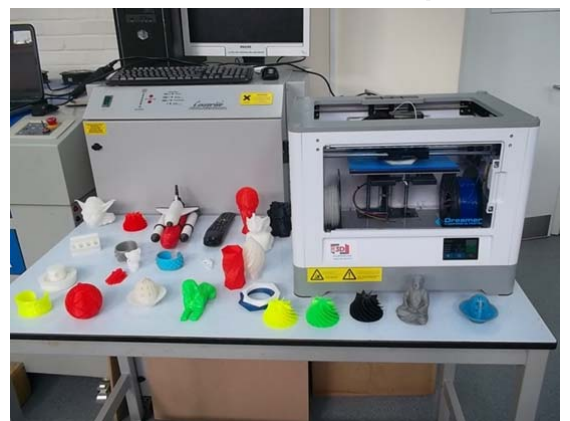
## STEM 3D WORKSHOP

On Curriculum Day a group of Year 9 Technology students had the opportunity to take part in a 3D workshop. All students designed a chess piece using 3D design software. The aim was to get different designs to enable them to make a complete chess set.



The students were shown how to design using advanced 3D software, scan objects with a 3D laser, 3D haptic modelling and printing with 3D printers.

The company took away the students designs so that they can be produced and return when printed. This cutting edge, innovative technology is transforming worldwide industries and the pupils engaged in discussions about the benefit of 3D printing from fashion to medicine to manufacturing tools for use on the International Space Station. A truly inspirational day for all involved.



**Mr Fiddes, Technology Department**

# Curriculum Day

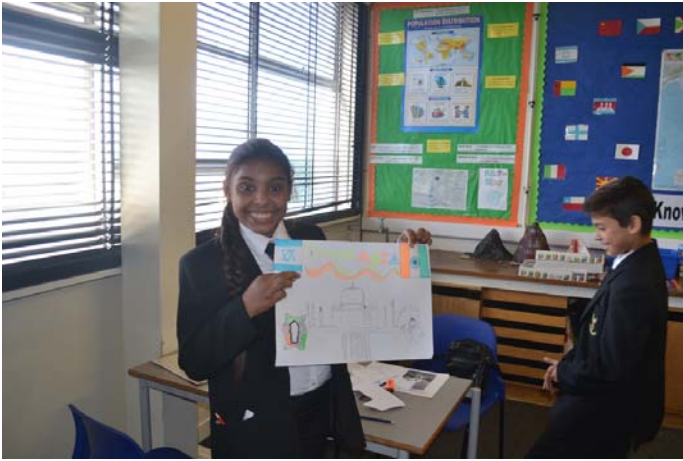
## CURRICULUM DAY – INTERNATIONAL DIMENSIONS DAY

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015, Stewards Academy held another successful International Dimensions Day for Year 7 pupils. Each tutor group was allocated a part of the world which included South Asia, Middle East, Far East Asia and Africa. Fact booklets were produced along with a working booklet which students completed during the day. The international dimensions day helped to give pupils a more informed view of different parts of the World; they were given the chance to explore the culture, food, language, religion, music, art, history and traditional dance.

Overall a very successful day and one that we hope to repeat in the near future.



# Curriculum Day



## Cultural Diversity

*Africa is full of wonderful things,  
Like lions ruling the land like kings.  
There are not just lions, but penguins too,  
And hippopotamuses that are bigger than me and you.  
Camels are there and so are elephants,  
And even cute mole rats that are only infants.  
Not only are there animals, but humans are there,  
Dancers and artists like P Square.  
There are many different countries: Sudan, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria,  
Namibia, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Nigeria.  
The fashion has changed from long dresses and geles,  
To short dresses, accessories and even heels.  
A golden head band and long white dresses,  
Is a girls guide to wedding express.  
White shoes and baggy white robes,  
Is a groom's wedding outfit shared around the globe.  
This is Africa a place of adventure.*

*Poem by Melissa Mountney 7DJ*



# Reading News

As you will see from the statistics below, reading continues to go from strength to strength at Stewards Academy. I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the activities that have taken place this year to enable the pupils to achieve this phenomenal success.

## RENAISSANCE LEARNING

All Year 7-10 pupils participate in this reading programme, which allows us to assess reading ability and growth over time and enables the students to test their understanding of a book through comprehension quizzes. Because these activities take place on a computer, there is a wealth of data that we can report on. Here are the highlights from a very busy year:

33 pupils have read more than 1 million words each this year. In fact, they have collectively read more than 56 million words across 811 books! More than 220 million words in over 7,000 books have been read by our pupils this year. That's the equivalent to 855 readings of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (the largest Harry Potter), or about 275,000 words per pupil on average. The average reading age of pupils in all classes (years 7-10) has grown.



**The photograph shows some of the "word millionaires" in the library.**

## AUTHOR VISITS

Authors Rob Lloyd-Jones and Richard O'Neill visited Stewards earlier this year and spent time with year nine and ten pupils. Rob spoke about the inspiration for his book *Wild Boy*, through the legend of Robin Hood and the crusades. Richard, as part of the Essex Cultural Diversity project, talked about his Romany background in the north of England. He spoke eloquently about his experiences of prejudice, giving the pupils much food for thought.

## QUIZZING FOR NEPAL

Back in May, Renaissance Learning pledged to contribute £1,000 to Médecins Sans Frontières if a target of 100,000 reading quizzes taken across all of their customer sites in the UK was reached. Our pupils contributed 119 quizzes (passed at 85% or higher) to this target. So as well as enjoying their reading, the pupils helped to raise money for a very worthwhile cause.

## READING WEEKS

Once per term, reading week allows us to promote books and reading amongst the students and staff. Activities this year included:

- Walliams' week. Lunchtime readings of his latest book, *Awful Auntie* and a competition to win a pass to the front of the lunch queue which was won by Brodie-Lea Franks-Whelan of 7DJ.
- Staff favourite books: Staff wore "book badges" displaying the title and author of their favourite books. Pupils collected details to win a small prize.
- Drop Everything and Read (DEAR). For 15 minutes at midday every day, pupils and staff were invited to stop what they were doing and read for 15 minutes. This consistency of reading daily, even for small periods of time, really helps develop a love of reading.

## LOWER SCHOOL INTER TUTOR-GROUP READING COMPETITION

Years 7, 8 and 9 have been participating in an inter tutor-group competition which has two aspects. The first is the number of words read and the second is the number of 100% quizzes scored. Individual contribution to the former is limited to one million words, thereby stressing the importance of all members of the tutor-group doing their bit for their team.

## 121 READING SESSIONS

Some Year 9 students were selected to participate in one to one reading sessions in the final half term of the year to provide them with renewed motivation to read.

## ESSEX BOOK AWARDS

During the spring term, 24 students across Years 7-10 participated in the Essex Book Awards scheme. Six novels were shortlisted for the award and the scheme involved reading the novels, writing a short review for the EBA website and voting for a winner. Over 35 reviews were written by our students and Katy Briant of 10RA won a prize for her review of *The Bubble Wrap Boy*.

## LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT

Over the summer holiday, the library is going to be refurbished with new shelving, soft seating and improved technological capability. It's going to be a wonderful space in which students can work or read quietly. I will publish more details (and photographs) in the autumn term Newsletter next year.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a very enjoyable summer break and many happy hours of reading!

**Mr Ginger, Reading Manager**

# Technology News

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Stewards Academy has invested time and money into the continued development of the food garden. During technology lessons, small groups of pupils have used this area to extend their knowledge of how food is grown. Pupils have also had the opportunity to dig the ground, sow the seeds, harvest the foods, and cook and eat the food which is a brilliant lesson in life. Food such as runner beans, onions, leeks, potatoes, mixed herbs and strawberries have then been used in technology lessons and the 'Let's get cooking' club held at Stewards Academy. Most recently the year 10 catering students used the strawberries grown in the garden to make jam.

*"It was an excellent opportunity to grow the strawberry plants, tend to them as they grew and then finally make them into an enjoyable product to eat."*

Megan Clark

The garden has added significant value in terms of learning, physical hands-on activities and building stronger links with different departments within the school. Growing fruit and vegetables has had a significant impact on the children's understanding of where food originates. Children enjoy nurturing and harvesting their produce as well as cooking it within their food technology and GCSE catering lessons.

*Mrs Martin, Subject Leader for Technology*



## RAMPAGING CHARIOTS 2015

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, a team from Stewards Academy consisting of Mitch Hanrahan 9EM, Filip Szymanski 10JK, Cameron Wylie 10JK and Jackson Rushbroke 10MW, travelled to Basildon to compete in the annual Rampaging Chariots event hosted by Selex ES. The team did very well competing in all the events (Sumo, Time Trail and Football), reaching the semi-finals in two of them. The team's greatest achievement of the day however was receiving the prestigious Engineering Design award for their Knight Rider inspired 4-wheel drive chariot called "Hoff Timetable".

This is the second year running that Stewards Academy has received the award and has reinforced the school's reputation as one of the leading competitors in the competition. It was a remarkable achievement and well deserved for the months of hard work put in by the team during their weekly Rampaging Chariot after school club in the Design & Technology department.

A special thanks to Del O'Sullivan and Bill Fiddes for their help and guidance from start to finish.

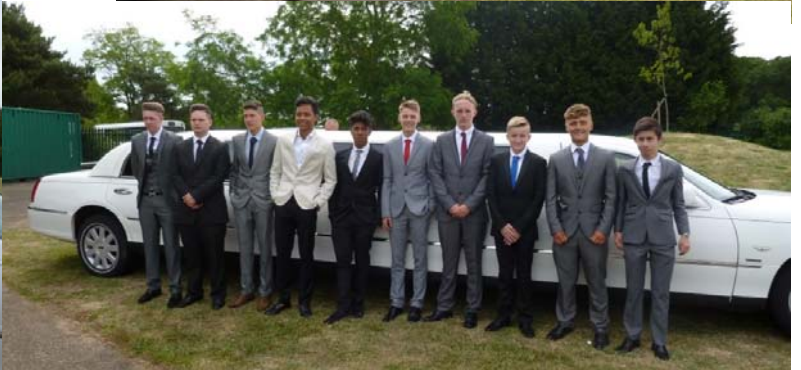
*Mr O'Flaherty, Technology Department*



# Leavers Day 2015



# Leavers Day 2015



# Sports Presentation Evening

Award	Year Group	Winner
Player of the Year (Football)	7 8 9 10	Albie Wickenden Marley Jackson Taylor Young Kelvin Uhunmwangho
Players' Player (Football)	7 8 9 10	Charlie Millross Archie Savage Samuel Jenkins Sebastian Dawicki
Player of the Year (Girls Football)	7/8 Senior Girls	Libby Morland-Banks Becky Dodd
Players' Player (Girls Football)	7/8 Senior Girls	Jodie Dyer Sophie Blackmore
Player of the Year (Rugby)	7 8 9 10	Albie Wickenden Owen Higgins-Edwards Owen Godsolve Zac Rogers
Players' Player (Rugby)	7 8 9 10	Joshua Kalema Benjamin Smith Ryan Lynch Nayeem Ahmed
Rugby Recognition Award (Girls Rugby)	7	Faith Ivison Daisy Burns
Player of the Year (Netball)	7 8 9 10	Aleasa Ali Destiny Ayliffe Emily Horton Mollie Jarvis
Players' Player (Netball)	7 8 9	Vesta Pozenciute Olivia Callegari Izzie Dorkin
Player of the Year (Basketball)	7 10	Albie Wickenden Joshua Donovan
Players' Player (Basketball)	7 10	Nadeem Ahmed Kelvin Uhunmwangho
Player of the Year (Cricket)	7/8	Ben Willis
Players' Player (Cricket)	7/8	Owen Hunt
Player of the Year (Rounders)	7 8 Senior Girls	Lulu Graham Amie Stingemore Alice Neville
Players' Player (Rounders)	7 8 Senior Girls	Aleasa Ali Holly Saunders Emma Lidbury

# Sports Presentation Evening

Award	Year Group	Winner
Sports Achiever of the Year – Lessons Award	7 8 9 10	Amelia Anastasi and Joseph Morgan Ashleigh Rowland and Charlie Neville Erin Cassidy and Adam Donnelly Becky Dodd and Tommy Wickenden
Sports Participation Award - Extra Curricular	7 8 9 10	Daisy Burns and George Woolley Amy Battelley and Ben Willis Julia Noruwa and Samuel Jenkins Mollie Jarvis and Charlie Dowers
GCSE Award Year 9		Brooke Stringer, Julia Noruwa, Tania Mamvura, Dan Willbourn, Ryan Lynch and Samir Ali
GCSE Award Year 10		Lauren Sykes, Olivia Sullivan, Emma Lidbury, Alfie Babb, Cameron Govender, Nayeem Ahmed and Jim Cooper
Dance Award	7 8 10	Darcy Wylie Chanel Jordan Keanu Jackson
G&T Award Year 7		Rosie Smith and Alfie Gaskin
P.E. Department Award Year 10 Girls		Darcy Giddings, Lauren Sykes, Alice Neville, Mollie Jarvis, Sara King, Becky Dodd, Izzie Dorkin, Megan Cunningham, Emma Lidbury, Georgia Whitefield, Rebecca Osborne and Sophie Blackmore
Premiership Winners	7 8 9	Joshua Kalema, Joseph Padbury, Albie Wickenden and Edward Grainger Charlie Barclay, Jake Legallienne, Archie Savage and Brandon Mercurio Callum Morgan, Ryan Lynch, Taylor Young, Samuel Jenkins and Alfie Poole
Team of the Year - Year 10 Rugby		Charlie Dowers, Anthony Davison, Zac Rogers, Nayeem Ahmed, Jim Cooper, Kelvin Uhumwangho and Louix Moakes
Dedication to Sport Award		Alex Curaba and Tommy Wickenden

# Year Group Information

## YEAR 7

I can't believe that the year has gone so quickly, and that this time next year all the pupils will have chosen their options for GCSE. There have been a number of highlights for me this year which I would like to share: The fact that we entered the Year 7 netball team into the Essex competition which gave the players an opportunity to play against schools, not in the local vicinity. One match was played at a private school, called Bancroft, in Loughton, which was described as "bigger than Buckingham Palace". Watching the fantastic performances of the dancers, and hearing the lower school choir have also been highlights for me.

I recently watched 2 performances of The Railway Children, with a different cast on each night. I was hugely impressed by the pupils in Year 7 who made up almost half of the casts, and had to learn so many lines, and different accents in some cases. There is a wealth of talent in this respect which bodes really well for the future. In the Let's get cooking club, 60 pupils have had the opportunity of learning new skills, and producing some lovely dishes. The greatest pleasure I get is when students say that they have cooked the meals again for their families. One student even asked for an extra copy of the recipe to give to their neighbour, who was also keen to cook the dishes we had made. I was also extremely impressed with the quality of the speeches made by those standing for school council, and it was very difficult for the students to nominate the best 5 boys and girls. Those students who managed to get on the Council will all be very positive role models, and will get fully immersed in school life.

I would urge all pupils to try and join an extra-curricular activity next year, as there really is something for everybody. In the meantime have a lovely summer holiday, and come back refreshed and energised for the new school year.

*Mrs Ellis Head of Year 7*

## YEAR 8

Year 8 have had a busy and productive year both academically and personally. They have been active members of our School Council and EMPV groups; undertaken the role of prefect at school events, participated in a number of sporting and performing arts events and have enjoyed a variety of extra-curricular opportunities.

With the support of their tutors, subject teachers and parents, Year 8 have had to make some very important decisions about the courses they will study at examination level. I would like to congratulate them on the maturity and independence shown whilst making those decisions and feel confident that they will continue to develop their sense of commitment and focus as they move into Year 9.

In September pupils will begin the next phase of their education and will start laying the foundations for their formal examinations. This is a critical stage in their school career and I would ask that parents continue to support us in ensuring that pupils maintain their good attendance, arrive punctually and are well equipped for lessons.

Sadly, we say farewell to Mrs Daveta and Miss Venables, who are taking on new responsibilities, to Miss Trowsdale who leaves us as co-tutor for 8SB, and to Miss Walsh who is moving on to pastures new. We would like to thank them for their support and wish them well in their endeavours.

I would also like to add my thanks to the year team for their dedication and contribution throughout the year. Special mention must go to Mrs Wilson whose guidance and support, for both staff and pupils, has been invaluable.

All that remains for me to do is to wish everyone a restful and peaceful summer break on behalf of the year team. We look forward to seeing pupils in September, refreshed and ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges of Year 9.

*Mrs Ramsey Head of Year 8*

# Year Group Information

## YEAR 9

Congratulations to everyone on completing their third year here at Stewards Academy, but more importantly, completing the first year of their GCSE's. Their time in and out of the classroom has been very worthwhile. Many of the students have continued to make excellent contributions to school life by being part of the wonderful extra-curricular activities we have on offer.

### GCSE's

It is evident that all the students thought long and hard about what choices to study for their GCSE's as the work and progress has been excellent this year. I can see the motivation, focus and enthusiasm as I observe lessons and firmly believe that the students in our year group will continue to work hard to ensure they are successful and prepared to the real working work.

If anyone hasn't worked as hard as they should have, then Year 10 is the time to get it right. Get organised, get prepared and seek the support you want and need. Please don't leave here at the end of year 11 knowing you could have worked harder.

### School life

Yet again, many of our students have engaged in the extra-curricular activities we have on offer. This year we have had a range of Curriculum days, a brilliant Sports Day, our annual Sports Presentation Evening, our School Presentation Evening, The Cultural Food Event and the Cultural Fashion Show. Students have also been inspired by a world champion Badminton player – Gail Emms. Gail Emms MBE is a retired English badminton player who has achieved international success in doubles tournaments. She clearly has had to work very hard to be the best. Listening to Gail Emms during the motivational assembly, really does prove that hard work is the key to success.

### Work experience

Towards the end of May 2016, your child will be on work experience, which they will need to organise themselves. Please take time over the summer holidays to think about what would suit your child and what sort of experience would support their future. This is something that needs to be organised early so that everyone has a week of valuable experience and enjoyment. If your child has something in mind, please let myself or Mr Ford know as early as possible.

### Reflection

After such a busy year, you all deserve a well-earned break (parents included)! However, your time away is also a time to reflect. As a whole, the students have been fantastic, but I do believe there are students out there who could have worked harder, could have applied more time to their studies, and could have focused more. Your next two years are the most important and valuable years for your child. All students need to be focused, organised and dedicated. They must also realise that we are here to support, guide and help them with their studies. If they need help or if you feel they need help then please let us know. The pressure will definitely increase in year 10 so it is in the interest of the student that they work with the teachers around them, and not against them.

Enjoy your summer!

*Mr Hughes Head of Year 9*

## YEAR 10

Over the past year it has been a pleasure working with Year 10. In September they hit the ground running and they have increased the momentum as the year went along. Throughout the year their commitment and dedication has been exceptional across all subjects, with the same focus on hard work next year, I have every confidence that when they leave us in a year's time they will be in a position to say 'I did my best' and be proud of their achievements. As well as working hard academically, many students applied to be prefects, school council representatives and Head Boy and Head Girl. This is just another example, among many this year, in demonstrating what responsible young adults they are becoming.

Writing this is bitter-sweet, as it will be the last piece I write as Head of Year 10, as we welcome back Miss Holden as Head of Year. I have had an amazing year working with such a fantastic year group and look forward to keeping a close eye on their progress next year. I look forward to working with everyone in Year 11 and hope that they all remain focused throughout their most important year at Stewards so that they achieve their true potential. To all the pupils I would like to say 'Congratulations, you have made me very proud to be your Head of Year' and to all the parents/carers 'thank you for your support', enjoy the summer everyone and I'll see you in all as Year 11 students in September.

*Miss McGarry Head of Year 10*

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### JULY

17th School Finishes 1pm

### SEPTEMBER

3rd Inset Day  
 4th Year 7 only (9.30)  
 7th School resumes for all year groups  
 Staggered start time;  
 Year 7 arrive at 9.00am for tutor time  
 Year 8 arrive at 11.15am for assembly  
 Year 9 arrive at 9.00am for assembly  
 Year 10 arrive at 10.00am for assembly  
 Year 11 arrive at 12.15pm for assembly  
 17th Open Day

### YEAR 11

I had checked the weather forecast regularly for the week preceding Leavers' Day and each day told a different story! Fortunately, the day itself dawned bright and the rain stayed away enabling everyone to have a wonderful day.

Students arrived in a variety of cars, but the high-light by far was the arrival of Nigel in a radio controlled car belonging to Mr Harman's son! Nigel had also found himself a date in the shape of the lovely Nigella. After all 35 cars had arrived everyone went in to the hall and experienced a range of emotions from sadness to joy. There were performances from the GCSE drama group, Tegan Tukana and the Year 11 band, The Lampshades, featuring Caitlin Clancy. The wonderful Year 11 tutors had made a film where they lip-synced to a variety of 'goodbye' songs. It was an emotional tribute to the pupils that they had worked so hard with over the past 5 years.

As is tradition at Stewards, no-one knew where the prom venue was. However, on arrival at Down Hall Country Hotel I got the distinct feeling that the year group was suitably impressed. Everyone looked beautiful and elegance was the byword that summed them all up. As you know, this is my last term and I couldn't have wished for a better group of students to finish my teaching career with. I have very fond memories of them and I hope to keep in touch and watch their progress as they make their way in the world. I would also like to thank you, their parents, for the support that you have given. It has been a privilege to be a part of your child's life.

**Ms Batterham Head of Year 11**

