



October  
2016

# Stewards Academy

## Newsletter



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

### HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents/Pupils,

A highlight of the school's history must be Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016 when Stewards received a Royal Visit from the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. You will no doubt have seen lots of press coverage and followed the day. The Duke and Duchess said they were very impressed by our students and recognised the excellent pastoral systems we have in place, including Place2Be which is part of the Heads Together Campaign that the Duke and Duchess are supporting. It will surely be a day we will all remember for a very long time.

My thanks to all the students, parents and staff for their support with the organisation and running of such a special event. Particular mention should go to Mrs Erwood, Mrs Orwin, Mrs Avis, Mr Ford and the Site Team who helped co-ordinate the day and ensure that it ran like clockwork (no mean feat!)



**First News Journalists (Darcie Pretious and Charlotte Goodenough)**



**Students, Miss Brigenshaw, Mrs Erwood, Ms Murthar, Duke and Duchess**

A number of guests enjoyed the day with us and I have received letters of thanks from them. You can read a few examples below:

*"It was a great pleasure to participate in the Royal Visit to Stewards Academy. It was particularly encouraging to hear so many delightful and articulate youngsters speak of their school and teachers with such enthusiasm and obvious pride"* – Lorna Rolfe JP, High Sheriff of Essex

*"I am writing to let you know how impressed we were at the way the Academy received their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. There is no doubt in my mind that the stars of the show were the boys and girls. Not only those that spoke so nervelessly on the stage but all those who greeted us and made us feel so welcome on such an auspicious day"* – Councillor John Aldridge, Chairman of Essex County Council

*"What an amazing visit... I thought the children were totally brilliant all round...the classroom, the confidence of the assembly, the parents, the cheering, it was all wonderful and I know both the Duke and Duchess were both really happy with the visit. I heard many people say 'what a fabulous school!'"* – Dame Benita Refson DBE, President and Founder of Place2Be

*"The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge thank you so much for a wonderful visit to Stewards Academy. Their Royal Highnesses thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many children staff and parents and were delighted to join the School Assembly. They were most touched by the warm welcome they received from everyone at Stewards Academy"* – Miss Rebecca Deacon, Private Secretary to HRH The Duchess of Cambridge

*"A momentous day...a great success. The whole visit was absolutely fantastic and a credit to all those involved"* – Ruth Naunton, Civic Officer with The Lord Lieutenant's Office, Essex  
*"The students were an absolute credit to you, the school and of course to Harlow. They spoke very clearly, passionately and with enthusiasm. Congratulations to all staff and students"* – Councillor Edna Stevens, Chair of Harlow Council.

## **OPEN DAY**

On Open Day we welcomed over 800 visitors / prospective parents to Stewards Academy and were able to show some of the excellent work that goes on here in terms of teaching, learning and extra-curricular opportunities. My thanks to the staff and pupils who made the day and evening a great success.

## **INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD FROM THE BRITISH COUNCIL**

Stewards Academy has been re-accredited with International School Award for 2016-2019 in recognition of our work to foster an international dimension in the curriculum and through our school visits, so our young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need to live and work as global citizens.

John Rolfe (British Council) stated *"Stewards fantastic international work has rightfully earned it this prestigious award. It is a testament to your whole school commitment to embedding a rich and creative range of international work and is an outstanding achievement"*

My thanks to Mr Hickman (International Dimension Co-ordinator) and Ms Mohamed (Stewards Enrichment Programme) who do so much to promote this aspect of Stewards school life.



## **INCLUSION QUALITY MARK (IQM)**

Once again Stewards has been successful in achieving the IQM for our inclusive practice. The assessor who visited in July had discussions with me and key members of staff, evaluated progress, had a tour of the school and scrutinised documentation. His report said the following:

*"Stewards Academy is an outstanding example of inclusive practice. Inclusion is evident in all aspects of the school's work and there are outstanding links with the community to offer support for families"*

*"Stewards Academy puts its students first and is outstanding in its implementation of inclusive practice. It is an outstanding, caring environment for students where excellent staff/student relationships have a huge impact on attainment, progress and well-being"*

Inclusion is a whole school ethos from Governors and the Leadership Team through to all staff, prefects and students. My thanks to Mr Naunton (Inclusion Manager) who leads the Learning Mentor/LSU team and whose passion and commitment is clearly recognised in the IQM Report.

At a time when examination success in certain subjects seems to be the only measure that is important in terms of accountability, it is good to know that Stewards has the support of our staff and parents in recognising education is for the whole child and for all children.

We are successful in terms of our exam results and pupil progress but it is important also to celebrate other achievements and the Royal Visit, International Award and IQM Award certainly are testament to this.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Murthar".

**Rhonda Murthar**  
**Headteacher**

# A Day To Remember

In amongst the initial images of the day- the Duke of Cambridge assisting the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Essex to his feet and Kate's outfit- came the real story of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's visit on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016. This was truly a memorable day for Stewards Academy and Place2Be, a school-based partnership that has flourished over the last eight years, where we were extremely honoured to host a Royal visit.

In May 2016 the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, alongside Prince Harry, launched the "Heads Together campaign to end stigma around mental health. Heads Together aims to change the national conversation on mental health and wellbeing, and will be a partnership with inspiring charities with decades of experience" (Heads Together website).

Stewards Academy was selected to host this prestigious visit due to our long standing relationship with Place2Be, a charitable organisation that provides counselling and mental health services in schools and one of the charities working in partnership with the Heads Together Campaign.

The day has been well documented on both the Place2Be and Heads Together websites as well as extensive media coverage in the national and local press. The Duke and Duchess participated in a lesson that focused on 'Big Changes', attended assembly where Prince William addressed students in year 7 and met a group of parents to discuss ways to support children as they grow up.

Coverage on the day started with 'Good Morning Britain' interviews with a representative from Place2Be and Marie Erwood MBE and Emily Oliver a year 10 student. The visit also featured on the BBC news and Heart radio later that day. News articles featured in many national newspapers including The Telegraph and Evening Standard and in Hello! magazine. All of which helped to promote the key messages of the day.

Local press coverage of the event captured the true joy of the occasion and it "was widely hailed as a proud day for Harlow" by William Mata, Harlow Star. Your Harlow captured the assembly in full and has posted a wonderful video of the occasion on their website. All of the speeches in the assembly focused on the idea of change and ways to cope with it.

The Royal Visit has been both an opportunity for the Stewards Academy community and Place2Be to highlight the great work that goes on throughout the Academy and to help highlight the importance of looking after and talking about mental health. The Duke of Cambridge captured this in his speech:

"Catherine and I are really impressed by what we have seen of Stewards Academy, as we're both strong believers in schools where the emotional wellbeing of young people is nurtured and protected just as much as your learning and academic skills." This is at the heart of Stewards Academy ethos and we are proud to have it and the work we do in partnership with Place2Be recognised nationwide.

**Miss Johnson**  
**Head of Performing Arts and Media liaison.**





# Royal Visit Pupil Quotes

Today I was given a once in a lifetime opportunity to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. I also got the chance to teach them in a classroom about big changes in our lives. Standing in front of them I felt extremely honoured and privileged. I don't think I will ever forget this moment and I will treasure this day for the rest of my life.

**Hilary West**

Today has been amazing, meeting the Duke and Duchess and being able to speak to them was an honour. I will never forget this day and this one sentence the Duchess said to me will stay with me for the rest of my life 'Always keep performing.' It has been a huge privilege speaking in front of them and being able to share my changes and my journey.

**Hannah Furness**

Today Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September I had the honour of meeting and talking to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. It has been and will be for many years the most memorable and exciting experience of my life. It has made me even more proud of Stewards.

**Max Leijs**

I feel privileged to have been able to meet the Duke and Duchess. It was an experience I will never forget and cherish throughout my life. After the event was over I was excited for days and honoured to have met the future King of England.

**Katie-Mae Braham**

It was a dream come true meeting the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge face to face. It was so spectacular, the Royal Visit. On top of that I got to write an article with my friend Darcie. It was published on 23<sup>rd</sup> September in the 'First News' newspaper.

**Charlotte Goodenough**

This day today has meant the world to me due to the fact that I met Their Royal Highnesses and that for me is a lifetime achievement and I am very very proud and this is all because of my cousin Jonathan. He helped me become who I am today happy and eccentric.

**Myles Leverington-Poole**

Today was amazing! It was such an honour to meet Their Royal Highnesses' they were so kind and I will remember this day forever!

**Mia Christie**

Meeting the future King and Queen of England was the best honour and the best thing that has happened to me and I will cherish this moment forever.

**Kai Henson**

Today I had the honour of meeting the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and speak to them about opening up about any problems. I will treasure and remember this moment for the rest of my life and understand what a privilege this is.

**Seven Hassan**



# Royal Visit Pupil Quotes

Today was one of the best days of my life because I was privileged to meet Prince William and Kate. When I was talking about one of the big changes in my life I could just tell how interested and focused William and Kate were. I feel I was in a dream but the dream really came true.

**Franklin Nzeh**

Today I have had such an amazing experience meeting the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. The preparation that has gone into this event has definitely been worth it. It has been a privilege meeting them and I feel like I have really bonded with the other Year 8 and Year 10 pupils involved in the classroom session. We have had such an amazing yet sometimes emotional rollercoaster and it has been a once in a lifetime experience which I will never forget. It was quite nerve racking at first, especially during the interviews yet it has been such an exciting day and I will never forget this experience.

**Emily Oliver**

Today has been indescribably amazing. I feel extremely lucky to have sat next to the Duchess and even have a conversation with her! I will remember this day for the rest of my life. The Duchess is one of the nicest people I have met and having a conversation with her was....well, indescribable!

**Megan Taylor**

Today was such an honour to meet their Royal Highnesses as it is a once in a lifetime opportunity. It is a day I am never going to forget. They made us feel so natural and are such kind people. They are such 'down to earth' people and I will never forget this day ever.

**Hannah Donnan**

Today was the best day of my life, I shook both of the Duke and Duchess' hands and we spoke for a few minutes. I also enjoyed the interviews with ITV, BBC and the Hello magazine.

**Libby Morland-Banks**

Meeting and speaking to their Royal Highnesses was amazing as they are so down to earth and kind. I'm going to remember this forever! I even got a hug.

**Klaudia Chochorowska**

Today I had the honour of meeting the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. They were so friendly and not people who think they're better than everyone. I was the only Year 7 to be chosen to give a speech. When I was delivering my speech at the podium I felt like I was going to pass out, you may think I'm being dramatic but I'm not. Then after the assembly William came and talked to me about sports and me being games captain. Then Klaudia, Libby, Hannah and I rushed quickly to join the guard of honour.

**Robert Gregory**





# A Day To Remember



# Careers and Work Related Learning News

In the Summer 2016 Newsletter we were pleased to outline our offer to each of the Years 7-11 within the CEIAG/WRL (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance/Work Related Learning) Programme.

We record below the progress made in each Year and indicate events and activities planned for the future.

## Year 7:

- ⇒ Our new intake of students were introduced to Mr Cooper and Miss Care in the Resources Section in the Library as part of the Induction process and shown the location of the careers research booklets and college/6<sup>th</sup> form course guides.
- ⇒ A questionnaire to establish interests and possible future career paths will be completed after Half Term.

## Years 8 and 9:

- ⇒ Our Options Choices preparation programme will commence early in the New Year for Year 8 students, with assembly and tutor time presentations by Mr Cooper and Miss Care. This will be followed by the parent/student information event in March which will set out the full Options available to be taken in Year 9.
- ⇒ Interests and careers questionnaires will be updated for Year 9 students before the end of the Autumn Term.
- ⇒ Both Year 8 and Year 9 students will be introduced to the Resources Centre in the Library before the end of the Autumn Term.

## Years 10 and 11:

- ⇒ Year 10 students have been introduced to the requirements of the Work Experience Programme due to be undertaken during the week of 22<sup>nd</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017 and have been urged to locate suitable placements by asking friends of family and approaching employers direct. A follow up Parents evening event is scheduled for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November.
- ⇒ Year 11 Students and parents attended the Post 16 Careers Event on the 12<sup>th</sup> October at Leisurezone Harlow where over 30 contributors consisting of colleges, 6<sup>th</sup> forms, the military, apprenticeship and training providers attended, and were able to discuss the options available.
- ⇒ Year 11 Personal Statement updating will now be organised in readiness for college and 6<sup>th</sup> form applications due from 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
- ⇒ There will be an Intended Destinations exercise carried out with Year 11 in November where details of likely future plans will be obtained via questionnaire for submission to the Essex County Council opportunity planning department.
- ⇒ The Careers Team will now circulate details of college and 6<sup>th</sup> form open evenings and all Year 11 students are urged to visit those that they are considering. A suitable link will be added to the website so that the details can be accessed at any time. It is strongly recommended that multiple applications are made as back up plans. Those students intent on taking A Levels at 6<sup>th</sup> forms, should also complete an application to a college just in case.
- ⇒ Year 11 Mock Interview sessions are planned for 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December. These consist of scheduled interviews with actual employers who give their time to Stewards Academy so that our students have an invaluable experience of an interview with an employer.

Mr Cooper and Miss Care can be located in the Careers Rooms in Block 3, please feel free to visit and discuss any careers or work related learning issues with them.

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



# Performing Arts News


## SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The Shakespeare Schools Festival is an organisation which gives young people the opportunity to perform Shakespeare plays to an audience at professional theatres all over the country. This year we have two casts taking part in the festival, performing abridged versions of 'Othello' and 'The Comedy of Errors' at Harlow Playhouse.

The performers recently attended a cast workshop at the Playhouse, where they demonstrated a scene from their plays and worked with representatives from the festival to develop a greater understanding of the stories, characters and settings. They were also shown the auditorium and were allowed to stand on the stage for a short time in order to get a feel for the venue and prepare themselves to give a performance which would reach everyone in the theatre. Students from the technical team were taken to see the lighting and sound desks, where they were able to speak to theatre technicians, ask questions and discuss their own design ideas.

The final performance will take place at the Playhouse on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**, with our students performing alongside two other local schools. For more information about Shakespeare Schools Festival, please visit [www.ssf.uk.com](http://www.ssf.uk.com)






### SCHOOL PRODUCTION


*When Elle's high school boyfriend Warner dumps her and heads to Harvard, claiming she's not "serious" enough, Elle takes matters into her own hands, crafting a showy song-and-dance personal essay and charming her way into law school. Befriending classmate Emmett and spunky hairdresser Paulette along the way, Elle finds that books and looks aren't mutually exclusive - in fact, law may be her natural calling after all as she quickly begins outsmarting her peers.*

Auditions for this year's production of 'Legally Blonde Jr' will be held on **8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November** after school; further details will be published shortly. You can follow Stewards Performing Arts on Twitter @stewardspa for the latest news and updates. 'Legally Blonde Jr' will be performed on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**



# LEGALLY BLONDE

*The Musical.*





# Performing Arts News

## GCSE MUSIC SHOWCASE AT THE SQUARE

Following its closure at the end of last year, Harlow's live music venue the Square has now re-opened and this gave our Music students the chance to once again host their own live gig at the venue. This year they were joined by students from Year 7 and 8 who regularly attend Rock Club and, supported by Mr Rooney, they performed their own rendition of Bob Dylan classic 'Knocking on Heaven's Door'. The Year 9 band, who have just begun their GCSE course, displayed confidence and professionalism with their performances of 'Waterfalls' (TLC) and 'Take Me to Church' (Hozier). Year 11s, in their final Square performance, contributed a wide variety of musical styles to the evening; particular highlights were 'A Team' (Ed Sheeran), 'Apologise' (One Republic), 'Do I Wanna Know' (Arctic Monkeys) and 'Sandcastles' (Beyonce). Live performances such as this have given them the chance to display some of the skills they have been developing since starting the course in Year 9, and have certainly contributed towards their preparations for the final performances which take place in February. Ashleigh Jolley from Year 10 sang 'Angels' (Robbie Williams) accompanied by staff band The Cash. Other Year 10 students performed 'Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous' (Good Charlotte) and closed the event with 'Back to Black' (Amy Winehouse).

*The Performing Arts Team*

# Classic Breakfast Club

## BOUDICCA'S LAST STAND – ICENI V. ROMANS

Just before the end of the summer term, a group of 'regulars' from the Classic Breakfast Club (Years 7 & 8) decided to end the school year on dramatic 'high' by acting out the two-thousand-year-old story of Boudicca's brave rebellion against the Romans – led by the powerful Iceni tribe of East Anglia. Having just over a week to prepare did not put the performers off: day after day, they came to rehearsals during lunchtime breaks, before school and after school. One of the pupils, Karolina Mikolayova (8HMB), designed and made all the girls' costumes and Mr Rooney (Academic Mentor) took charge of the soldiers' uniforms. The pupils worked co-operatively: assisting, directing and generally, showing impressive commitment and maturity. After a 'dress rehearsal' in front of all the teaching staff in the main hall, they took their production 'on tour', giving three performances the following day to all year 7 pupils. Rosie Smith (8EB) made some delicious Roman honey cakes which were shared with appreciative audiences after each show.

The performance ended with Boudicca's spirit passing on a message of resilience and courage - with plenty of audience participation!

The Classics Breakfast Club continues this year – every Monday morning at 8am in room 12 – plus, a new Latin Language course is starting: every Tuesday morning at 8am in room 12 for pupils who wish to have a go at the Level 1 Latin Certificate exam in the summer. Ad astra! [translation: 'To the stars!']

**Ms C Cadden, English Department  
Classics teacher**



**Cast - from left in photo: (stage assistant) Amber Withers (8EB); (general) Harry Payne (7NMK); (soldier) Matthew Hatchwell (8EB); (Iceni narrator) Libby Morland-Banks (8DJ); Boudicca's daughter Karolina Mikolayova (8HMB); (Boudicca) Rosie Smith (8EB) and (Boudicca's son) Josh Burling (7RT)**

# STEM News

The 2015/16 academic year was a very exciting time for STEM here at Stewards Academy; a positive trend which we have expanded upon this current academic year. We believe it is essential that students have the opportunity to participate in extra-curricular STEM activities if they so wish to. Students here in Stewards have the advantage of a large range of choice when it comes to STEM clubs. From Rockets, to Quadcopters, to Rampaging Chariots, to the Faraday Challenge, there have never been so many opportunities for students to further apply the knowledge and skills they have learned in their STEM lessons.

The Raytheon Quadcopter regional challenge was held in Burnt Mill Academy on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of June and involved students flying their fully functional quadcopters through an obstacle course against the clock. Months of preparation had taken place previous to this date for students to fully assemble, program, and design their aircraft. Overall we came second in the regional finals, beating the hosts Burnt Mill. A fantastic achievement from our 2015/16 Year 9 students - Emily Oliver, Eleanor Sibley, Max Leijs, Casey Jones, Ethan Baldry, and Charlie Neville. From the beginning of this competition to its conclusion at the regional finals these students consistently demonstrated the Stewards Core 5R values. The team work, enthusiasm, resilience, responsibility and respect exhibited by all these students were outstanding.



**From left-right: Casey Jones, Ethan Baldry, Charlie Neville, Emily Oliver, Max Leijs, Eleanor Sibley and Freddie McCann.**

The 2016 ADS Rocket Challenge went ahead in May of this year and was the third consecutive year that Stewards has entered the competition. Six students from Year 7 and 10 designed and constructed a small scale rocket capable of transferring two raw eggs to an altitude of 820 feet and then safely returning them to the ground via parachute. The aim of the challenge is to encourage teamwork, creativity and innovation as well as provide an insight into the aerospace industry's engineering design and testing processes.



**From left-right: Andrea Danila, Charlie Winter, Alfie Ivison and Callum Hickin.**

The parameters of the competition were challenging, and the objectives mind boggling, but that didn't stop our boys. Each team had 3 attempts to get as close to the required altitude as possible and within a narrow timeframe of 48-52 seconds. Outside of these parameters meant gaining points, so the team with the lowest points on the day would win! Also bear in mind that the two raw eggs had to go along for the ride without breaking! More than 185 students from 34 teams took part nationally, but Stewards' group was flying among the best with our third place finish. Astonishing result for our lads! Their prize of a trip to the International Farnborough Air-show to hear Tim Peake speak about his time on the international space station, as well as all the aircraft aerobatics that you might expect was definitely well deserved!

Going forward into this academic year we've already reconvened our Rocket Club and will be doing likewise

with the Quadcopter Challenge shortly. In addition, we will see the return of our Raspberry Pi computer programming club. It's been a while since this club has run here at Stewards but thanks to Mr. Cooper in the careers department as well as help from a local computer programmer and STEM ambassador Mr. Whale, we have already put the wheels in motion to officially start our Raspberry Pi club within the next two weeks. If there are any students who think they would be interested in computer programming, or who have already dabbled in it, then please contact myself (Mr. Flood) or Mr. Cooper for more information. There are lots of opportunities for fun (and prizes) in this club but initially you will be required



# STEM News

to learn some of the basic code and computing skills necessary to start your Raspberry Pi journey. We have already entered Stewards into one of the Pi Wars in early 2017 so there's something big to work towards. Pi Wars is a challenge-based robotics competition in which Raspberry Pi-controlled robots are created by teams and then compete in various **non-destructive** challenges to earn points. There are prizes awarded at the end of the day.

Finally I'd also like to congratulate Lewis Easton, Emma Galloway, Charlotte Spriggs, Murats Seidovs, and Louis Golding on their successful applications for a prestigious place on the Royal Institute Engineering Masterclasses. These students will be participating in lectures and conducting cutting edge investigations relating to the world of engineering. What a fantastic opportunity.

*Mr Flood, Science Department*



*From left-right: Jamie Harding, Craig Morland-Banks, Charlie Winter, Alfie Ivison and Andrea Danila.*

## Congratulations



### ★ OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

★ On Monday the 3rd of October 2016 Daniel Mackenzie was invited to a Sports Award Ceremony at the Harlow Civic Centre. He was nominated for Young Sports Personality of the Year Award. He got a plaque after getting the most nominations in the entire ceremony. The reason for his nomination was because of all his cycling. He has used his passion for sport to raise money for charities. He also took part in the London Prudential Ride 46 on July the 31st 2016. He managed to complete the ride in just 3 hours 1 minute even after having a terrible crash. He was knocked out for a few minutes and after being seen from a paramedic he was given the ok to carry on with the ride. He was very pleased to complete the ride as he was worried they were going to take him into hospital and he wouldn't have been able to complete his ride and get a medal. He was also please that he completed it because he raised over £200 for Cancer Research. When he was called up to get his award he was congratulated by the Harlow Council Chairman and was congratulated by England and Arsenal woman football player Casey Stoney who also presented his award. After getting this award he is hoping to compete more and carry on cycling.



# PE News

## YEAR 7 GIRLS FIXTURES NETBALL

Year 7 Netball has welcomed over 30 children to Netball Club so far and has seen great progress across a range of abilities, from beginners to intermediate and club players. Training has involved individual and small group practices including passing, catching, footwork, defending, dodging and shooting and the skills developed have been applied every week through in-house games and external fixtures.

Unfortunately, only 7 players can play Netball against other schools on the official 'School Team' and as such, selection is based on strength in performance. The standard in the league across Harlow is very high, so we have to field our strongest team, however we always take active reserves to every game and we try to rotate them on for 1 or more quarters of the match, where viable.

So far, 16 pupils have played in part, or in full in the Stewards Academy Netball team and we have had 1 win, 1 loss and 1 draw. All 3 games have been very fast-paced and exciting to watch, with many thrills and spills across each match. Pupils have worked exceptionally hard in their various roles on court and have given of themselves 100% in the strong performance that they have delivered. Each game has faced different challenges and different setbacks, but all players have worked together to tackle and overcome these and have shown excellent determination, resilience and teamwork!

The matches played to date are as follows: -

Year 7 Netball Results – 2016		
Netball Opponents	Result(s)	Player of the Match
Passmores	17-27 LOST	GA - Lois Bryant
Burnt Mill	16-15 WIN	GA - Grace Clare WA - Willow Fry
St. Marks	9-9 DRAW	C - Emily Kelsey

Although not everyone will make the official school team, please encourage your child not to be despondent, because they will still have the opportunity to participate in in-house matches and tournaments against their peers. Playing Netball week in and week out is not only great fun, but it will also help pupils to develop their coordination, their physical fitness and their social skills, so whether your child is playing for pleasure, or playing in competition, just turning up and taking part is going to have a positive impact on your child. The more your child plays, the stronger they will become, so please emphasise the importance of 'perseverance', as improvement only comes with practice!

Well done to all Year 7 Netballers who have turned out to training and have represented Stewards in fixtures since the start of term. You are a credit to yourselves and to Stewards Academy and I am so incredibly proud of each and every one of you!

*Miss Holden*

## BOYS FIXTURES RUGBY

The boys have really embraced their first taste of contact rugby this half term. We have had a superb 45 boys attending rugby training at least twice a week. From this pool of players we have had over 30 boys represent Stewards in one of the two tournaments to date. Such is the interest we took 2 teams to the recent tournament at Harlow Rugby Club. With further competitions approaching, there are still plenty of opportunities for additional pupils to participate in either training or in competition.

Although the results have been excellent, what has been more pleasing is the way the boys have performed as a team and really developed their skills across the weeks, which bodes well for the future.



***The Year 7 boys who represented Stewards in the first tournament played at Harlow Rugby Club.***



# PE News

## **TRAMPOLINING (MONDAY EVERY 2 WEEKS) & TABLE TENNIS (FRIDAY)**

The Year 7 pupils have really enjoyed the extra-curricular clubs run within PE this half term. Two of their favourites have been trampolining and table tennis. Pupils are not required to sign up for either club but are reminded that they must wear PE kit in order to participate. Both sports will be involved within the inter-form competition this year, so get practicing.

*Mr Sanders*

## **YEAR 8 GIRLS FIXTURES**

We have had a great start to the netball season with 35 girls out to training every Thursday. Games haven't been as successful with defeats to Passmores and Burnt Mill but by small margins in each game. Player of the match were Kate Lidbury and Megan Roach.

We played Passmores in the English Schools Football Championships last Thursday. The girls had an excellent 70 minutes with the full time score of 4-4 with goals from Skye Stevens, Jamie-Lee Hunter and Shania Burgess. Passmores broke through Stewards' tired legs in extra time to defeat us 5-7. Definitely a good foundation for our tournaments after half term.

*Miss McGarry*



## **BOYS FIXTURES RUGBY TRAINING / TOURNAMENTS**

Over 30 boys have trained this half term, with the aim of representing the rugby team central tournaments. The rugby calendar has been transformed for the 2016/17 academic year so that instead of the traditional arranging of fixtures against all other schools in the area, central tournaments have been set up. During the September to October half term three tournaments have been scheduled with the potential to arrange further rugby matches later in the year. After playing in the first two tournaments Stewards Year 8 rugby team have an unbeaten record with five wins and one draw.



*Picture shows the team from tournament 1*

## **YEAR 8 PREMIERSHIP**

The Year 8 boys and girls are into their second taste of Premiership football. It is a mixed 4-a-side competition that takes place during lunchtimes until a season is completed. Eleven teams have entered this years tournament with Liverpool as the early front runners...final table of results and winners to be issued in the next Newsletter.

# PE News

## ENGLISH SCHOOLS FOOTBALL COMPETITION

We have entered both A and B teams into the competition this year to give as many boys the opportunity to play competitive football against schools outside of our immediate local area. In the second round the A team played a well organised, well drilled team in Roding Valley and unfortunately were on the end of an 8-0 defeat. A poor first half found the boys 6-0 down but a much better performance in the second salvaged some pride. We wish Roding Valley every success in the next round. The B team played a John Warner B team and went three goals down early on in the game. The boys rallied and brought it back to three a piece before eventually running out of steam and losing 5-3 in a closely fought battle. We also wish John Warner every success in the next round.

*Mr Preece*

## NATIONAL SCHOOLS SWIMMING GALA

On the 30<sup>th</sup> September, Dylan Ball, Daniel Monk, Lee McDonald and I went to the national schools swimming gala at Watford Leisure Centre. We were excited and talked non-stop on the way to the gala. We got there and suddenly thought that we were the only year 7 and 8 team there. They were so tall, some twice as tall as us. We strode in confidently and did the best we could have done. We were in the 2<sup>nd</sup> heat of the medley relay and came fourth out of seven. In heat two of the freestyle relay we came fourth out of seven. The trip home was slightly quieter but we were tired as we had swum the quickest we could with all of us getting PBs in the medley relay. We found the time to eat chocolate and watch youtube though. We have since found out we were placed 12<sup>th</sup> overall out of 18 schools. All in all a good evening swimming and will never forget our first time swimming at a national event.

*Kai Henson 8CD*

## YEAR 9 GIRLS FIXTURES NETBALL MATCH REPORT

There has been an excellent turnout to Year 9 Netball training. The team have played 3 matches during September and October: (away game Vs Passmores, home game Vs Burnt Mill and another away game Vs St Mark's). Unfortunately, the team have suffered 3 defeats so far but are focusing on tactical changes and a stronger defence in order to improve their performance in their next game against St Nichs on 13 October. The team are showing lots of promise and commitment in their training and great team spirit during and after matches. There is still a long way to go in the league competition. Good luck for the rest of the season. Captain: Vesta Pozenciute. Player of the game Vs Passmores, Aleasa Ali. Player of the game Vs Burnt Mill, Vesta Pozenciute. Player of the game Vs St Mark's, Aimee Monk.

Year 9 Netball Squad:

Vesta Pozenciute / Aimee Monk / Darcy Wylie / Daisy Burns / Amelia Anastasi / Abigail Hollyoake / Grace Smith / Karolina Mikolayova / Rosie Smith / Aleasa Ali / Maddison Gasson / Dina Naciri / Lulu Graham / Bailey Keown

*Mrs Goddard*

## BOYS FIXTURES

Congratulations to the Year 9 sports teams this half term. Already, we have played 4 rugby matches and 1 football match. Training for both sports have been well attended with numbers of well over 20 attending the sessions.

I have taken the rugby team since Year 7 and I can honestly say that this is the best rugby I have ever seen them play. The team have certainly gelled well this year and I am very proud of them. Our most successful win was beating Burnt Mill 54-10. Keep up the excellent work boys!



*Mr G Hughes*



# PE News

## SENIORS BOYS FIXTURES YEAR 10/11 RUGBY

So far this season the Year 10/11 rugby team have experienced some big highs and some lows. There has been great attendance at training and games with usually more than 20 players available for both and this is credit to the boys for making the time to train and play on top of their studies; some games not finishing until gone 6pm.

The first game of the season saw the boys play against Burnt Mill. Normally a tough game but the boys came through this winning 46-12 in blistering fashion, playing some of the best rugby I have seen at this school in years. After this massive high has come some lows, losing to Passmores and St Marks in successive weeks. This isn't to say the team hasn't been playing well,

they have just come up against some very big sides who play to their strengths. The team has one game left this season against Mark Hall where if they play their systems and work harder in defence a win will be the only result they should accept.

I would like to give a special mention to Sam Dodd and Jordan De-Friend; these 2 players have been playing above their size with hearts lions! Sam Dodd winning Man of the Match in all 3 games so far.

*Mr T Hughes*



## YEAR 10 FOOTBALL

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October Stewards Academy Year 10 played their first football fixture of the year in the National Schools Cup. Playing against a well drilled side the team performed admirably. Stewards went a goal down, but battled well to finish on the front foot at half time. During the second half the team performed really well, but two team errors led to two more goals. A well taken goal, taken by Jake Legallienne, meant that the team ended up with a 1-3 loss. Overall a good team performance that shows lots of promise for the season. Man of the match this game was Niles Osadiaye.

*Mr Treamer*

## INTERFORM

Each tutor group is assigned a colour in Year 7 and they stay in this colour throughout their time at Stewards. The inter-form competition is set up for forms and colours to compete against each other across a number of different sports over the year. Our first competition of the year was Netball shooting. Pupils had 5 minutes per form in which to score as many shots as they could. Below you can see the overall colour results from our first competition.

	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Total	Position
Purple	5	1	6	4	16	7
Dark Blue	4	7	7	4	22	3
Light Blue	2	5	8	5	20	4
Yellow	7	3	6	7	23	2
White	4	3	4	1	12	8
Green	8	8	4	4	24	1
Orange	2	7	2	6	17	6
Red	6	5	1	8	20	4

# PE News

## PRIMARY FOOTBALL FESTIVAL RESULTS

The Primary Football festival at Stewards was attended by 7 schools this year, with St Lukes and Milwards Primary Schools bringing 2 teams. The standard of football was extremely high and the majority of the games were closely contested. This was most evident in the semi-finals which were decided by a solitary strike and the final going all the way to penalties after extra time couldn't split the two teams. The games were played in an excellent spirit throughout the afternoon. Well done to Katherines Primary School who triumphed after defeating Milwards Primary School 3-2 on penalties after extra time finished 0-0. Thank you to all of the schools for participating and we look forward to welcoming you all back to Stewards for the tag-rugby festival on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

### Group A

	Nazeing PS	Milwards 1 PS	St Lukes 2 PS	Water Lane PS	Kingsmoor PS	Goals For / Against	Points
Nazeing PS		0-1	4-0	1-0	4-0	9/1	9
Milwards 1 PS	1-0		6-0	5-0	5-0	17/0	12
St Lukes 2 PS	0-4	0-6		0-0	0-0	0/10	2
Water Lane PS	0-1	0-5	0-0		3-0	3/6	4
Kingsmoor PS	0-4	0-5	0-0	0-3		0/12	1

### Group B

	St Lukes 1 PS	Katherines PS	Latton Green 1 PS	Milwards 2 PS	Goals For / Against	Points
St Lukes 1 PS		1-1	1-2	4-0	6/3	4
Katherines PS	1-1		2-1	4-0	7/2	7
Latton Green 1 PS	2-1	1-2		3-0	7/3	6
Milwards 2 PS	0-4	0-4	0-3		0/11	0

(3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw)

### Semi-Finals

Winner of Group A **Milwards 1 (1)** vs Runners Up of Group B **Latton Green (0)**

Winner of Group B **Katherines (1)** vs Runners Up of Group A **Nazeing (0)**

### Final

Winner of Semi Final 1 **Milwards 1 (0)** vs Winner of Semi Final 2 **Katherines (0)**

**Katherines won 3-2 on penalties AET.**

Loser of Semi Final 1 **Latton Green (0)** vs Loser of Semi Final 2 **Nazeing (2)**



*The Katherines team proudly celebrating their victory in the Primary Football Festival after defeating Milwards in the final.*



# Attendance News

**668** PUPILS HAVE ACHIEVED **100%** SO FAR  
THIS ACADEMIC YEAR – WELL DONE!

## **IMPORTANT - please note**

A PUPIL IS CLASSED AS 'PERSISTENTLY ABSENT' IF THEIR ATTENDANCE FALLS BELOW 90% AT ANY TIME DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR - 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

\*\*\*\*\*

## **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.

**8.40am** – ALL PUPILS EXPECTED TO BE IN SCHOOL

**8.45am** – PERIOD 1 BEGINS

*(pupils arriving late for school will 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**

# Charity News

Well done to all the staff and pupils, we raised an amazing £905.88 for 'Jeans for Genes' non uniform day.



# Year Group Information

## YEAR 7

As the first half term of the new academic year comes to a close, I would like to congratulate Year 7 on an excellent start to Stewards Academy. On the whole, the transition from primary to secondary school has been extremely smooth and most pupils have indicated that they feel safe, happy and settled in their new learning environment. As HOY, I have had the pleasure of visiting many lessons over the last 7 weeks and I am pleased to report that learning has been calm, positive and productive. I have been extremely impressed with the level of maturity, enthusiasm and dedication that Year 7 have shown towards their studies and have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback that I have received from staff about Year 7, examples of which include; 'excellent', 'fantastic' and an 'absolute pleasure to teach!'.

It has been a whirlwind journey for Year 7 in their first half term at Stewards, filled with a variety of exciting events and opportunities and many BIG changes. In only their 2<sup>nd</sup> week at secondary school, pupils were privileged to be part of a momentous occasion, involving a highly prestigious visit by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Year 7 was selected as the only year group to be part of an important assembly about raising awareness about mental health and were honoured to have the opportunity to listen to Prince William speak about the big changes faced by young people today. The event was a truly memorable occasion enjoyed by all and the conduct of Year 7 was outstanding!

Open Day was another big event in the Stewards calendar and many Year 7's were involved in taking tours around the school, helping out in individual departments and/or delivering speeches to over 400 prospective parents and children in the Hall. It was an extremely busy evening with so many visitors in attendance, but as always, it went very well and this was a reflection of the energy, enthusiasm and hard work shown by both the pupils and staff alike. Well done Year 7, you did a phenomenal job!

Throughout the term I have been undertaking random HOY planner checks and these have focused on the following features; the quantity and quality of homework being recorded, the standard of presentation, organisational skills and merits and detentions. The general outcome from these checks has been very positive. Most children are recording their homework on a regular basis and completing it within the required timescale. Merits for outstanding work in lessons and progress against the 5R's are being rewarded and recorded in planners and homework diaries are generally very neat, professional and well organised. The main issues identified as areas for further development are as follows: 1) The quality of instructions recorded in planners by pupils about homework is not always clear and needs greater clarity and structure. 2) Enrichment merits are not always being recorded by pupils in their planners, even though the majority of pupils are attending one or more school clubs outside of the school curriculum. To support pupils in addressing these issues, tutors have used tutorial time to explicitly teach Year 7 how to record homework accurately in planners. Examples of good practice have been shared & modelled by staff with pupils. In addition to this, expectations for recording homework effectively and the criteria for collecting merits has been clarified and emphasised by myself through assemblies.

Finally, I want to say a big 'thank you' to all parents for your hard work in supporting your child through their first half term at Stewards. The transition from primary to secondary school can be a very stressful and daunting time for pupils and parents alike, but with the support of yourselves and subject staff, pupils have successfully adapted to the big changes that secondary school presents.

Well done Year 7 on a brilliant start at Stewards. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of you!

***Miss Holden, Head of Year 7***

## YEAR 8

What an eventful first half term for Year 8. They have hit the ground running and the successes are flowing in. With the new bi weekly Yes/No progress checks the students have been working extremely hard to keep themselves on track with their classwork and homework. I must highly commend the 123 students who have achieved two consecutive sets of 'YES' marks but also recognise the hard work each student on a 'NO' mark is doing to move themselves from a 'NO' to a 'YES'. Homework after school each day is available and is highly effective to those students who need to complete their homework with the support of teaching staff.

This term has also seen some outstanding achievements in the field of Performing Arts with inspired musical performances at The Square, ongoing rehearsals for Shakespeare Schools Festival and choir competitions. Congratulations to all of the Year 8 cross country runners who competed at the West Essex Cross Country championships and the Swim team who did extremely well at the English Schools Swimming Gala. Year 8 have continued their dedication to their sporting commitments in all areas this half term.

There is an important date for Year 8 next half term: their Year 8 parents evening on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> of November. I look forward to seeing you all there.

***Miss Mc Garry, Head of Year 8***



# Year Group Information

## YEAR 9

Year 9 have now started their GCCE courses, and seem to have settled into them well. It is really important that they get into the right habits with regard to their studies and ensure that they meet all deadlines with regard to coursework and homework. Homework needs to be written in planners in detail, so that parents also know what is expected. In addition, due dates need to be put in. With regard to progress checks, can I please ask that parents write their signature in the space underneath the columns that have been filled in, to confirm that you have seen how your child is getting on.

After recently completing a planner check, it appears that not all students are getting involved in activities outside of the curriculum in order to get enrichment merits. There are numerous opportunities available to students: art, dance, drama and PE to name but a few. Please try to encourage your children to make the most of these clubs and activities.

***Mrs Ellis, Head of Year 9***

## YEAR 10

It was lovely to see pupils return from their summer break refreshed and ready to face the challenges of the new term. We have a busy and productive year ahead, and now that we are well into our GSCE phase, we are confident that Year 10 will embrace the academic and extra-curricular opportunities on offer. In order to ensure that pupils continue this positive start, I would ask that you remind yourselves of our expectations regarding uniform and equipment, and to familiarise yourselves with the new pages in the pupil planner.

We have just completed our first collection of Yes/No data. As you know, we use this tracking system to monitor pupil progress. In response to this data we identify those who are not meeting expectations and consider how we might support them. Where pupils are identified, they will discuss the barriers to learning with their tutor and will be expected to speak to their subject teachers to establish what they need to do to improve. As of this academic year, pupils have time in their tutorial sessions to improve or complete outstanding work. Should they fail to do so, they will be expected to attend a compulsory catch up session, held on Fridays from 3 – 4pm. This information will be recorded in pupil planners and letters will be sent home via Parentmail. Should your child need to attend one of these sessions, I would ask that you discuss the subject/s of concern with them, and sign the relevant section of the pupil planner, to ensure that you are fully aware of the situation.

I would like to remind you, that should you need to contact school to discuss subject related matters, to contact subject teachers directly. Should you wish to discuss a personal or pastoral matter, tutors should be contacted, via a note in the pupil planner or telephone call, in the first instance. In all cases, and in line with school policy, we will endeavour to contact you within 24 hours. I would ask that, as Mrs Wilson and I are not always on hand to meet parents at short notice, that you contact school to make an appointment should you wish to arrange to meet with us.

***Mrs Ramsey, Head of Year 10***

## YEAR 11

As the first half term comes to a close, I would like to congratulate Year 11 on an excellent start. With a new structure to the day, it has not been easy for Year 11 to adapt, but they have taken the new change with great resilience and I am very proud of the maturity and responsibility they have shown.

Uniform, behaviour and attitude from the majority of our students has been fantastic and I can see that they mean business. Realisation is starting to kick in about it being their last year here and that hard work is the only thing to do to ensure they are successful. Their hard work now will most certainly help them gain a place in either college, sixth form or an educational apprenticeship.

The Yes/No data collections are proving to be invaluable as students can identify which subjects they are behind in, and therefore have the ability to 'close the gap' before it's too late. There are now compulsory twilight sessions for students to attend, as well as catch up sessions during tutor time. With all of this going on, our students MUST be organised and well prepared.

I am fully aware that this year will be tough one for our students, and that some may start to feel the pressure of meeting deadlines and preparing for exams. Please understand that we are all here to help so don't be afraid to come and speak to us (parents included!).

Enjoy your half term.

***Mr G Hughes, Head of Year 11***

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### OCTOBER

**21ST**                      **INSET DAY (Non Pupil Day)**

**24TH-28TH**          **HALF TERM**

### NOVEMBER

2nd                      Shakespeare Schools Festival Performance  
(Playhouse) 7.00pm

9th                      Parent Work Experience Briefing 6.00pm

**14TH**                      **INSET DAY (Non Pupil Day)**

17th                      Year 8 Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm

29th                      Ski Trip Parents Evening 6.00pm

### DECEMBER

1st                      Year 10 Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm

15th                      Christmas Dinner

Year 7&8 Christmas Disco 4.00pm

19th-20th              Year 11 Mock Interviews

20th                      Year 7 Science Christmas lectures

Christmas Concert 6.00pm

**21ST**                      **TERM ENDS 1.00PM**

## ABSENCE LINE



The absence line to report pupil absence is

**01279-772511**

Please give your child's name, tutor group and reason for their absence. Please follow up the absence with a note on the **first day back** explaining why your child has been absent from school



**Attendance Team**

### LOST PROPERTY.

As winter approaches and winter coats come out, Please remember to label all items that your child brings into school.

### CONTACT DETAILS.

If you have changed your telephone number or moved house please remember to inform the school office.

[studentsupport@stewardsacademy.org](mailto:studentsupport@stewardsacademy.org)