



February
2016

Stewards Academy

Newsletter



Cultural Diversity
Quality Standard



Leading Space Education
Quality Mark

Name _____

Tutor Group: _____

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

This year we have introduced a new assessment and marking system to respond to changes in assessment nationally. Briefings for parents have regularly been appearing in the School Newsletter. Pupils have been positive in their response to the new marking system now we have 'life without levels'. If any parent would like to let us know your views about the new system we would be pleased to hear from you.

On 25th January Mr Cooper and I had the pleasure of taking 4 students to Madingley Hall in Cambridgeshire to speak at the Prince's Teaching Institute, Annual Secondary Headteachers Conference. Becky Dodd, Alfie Babb and William Johnson, Year 11, and Emily Oliver, Year 9 were asked questions about their secondary school experiences by an audience of 40 Headteachers. The questions covered a range of themes: ethos and culture of a school, leadership, assessment and feedback, what subjects they enjoyed most and why, the qualities of excellent teaching, their ambitions for the future and the opportunities they were given to extend their interests at school. Finally our students were asked the following:- *"There is a saying that education is what is left after all you have learned through your subjects is forgotten – what then would your education provide for you?"* A challenging question for anyone!

This is what they said:

....*"self-confidence to speak in front of you as I am today"*

....*"Knowing that it is ok to fail sometimes and try again"*

....*"moral purpose and valuing everyone"*

....*"the importance of creative subjects like Art and Drama which enable you to explore your own emotions and face challenges"*

Needless to say the students did themselves and Stewards Academy proud. They held the audience for 40 minutes with their thoughtful, reflective and individual responses showing maturity beyond their years. This is the third PTI Conference where Stewards students have spoken on the pupil panel to groups of Headteachers across the country. Each time the Directors of the PTI say that the pupil panel is a highlight of their Conference.

Bernice McCabe, Headteacher of North London Collegiate School and Co-Director of the PTI has written to our students to thank them. She stated: *"To include in the Conference the thoughts and reflections of pupils as articulate as you were was inspiring for all of us"....*



Sara Loveday, Place2Be Manager has taken up a promoted post in charge of a cluster of schools, of which Stewards remains one. We would like to extend thanks to Sara for her years of service in the school, having started Place2Be some 6 years ago. Jo Diribe has been appointed as the new Place2Be Manager and we welcome her to Stewards Academy. Finally my congratulations to the singers at the Choir Performance on 28th January, a lovely occasion for everyone who was involved. My thanks to Miss Thurley for leading this event.

Rhonda Murthar

Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher

Madingley Hall

We were delighted to be invited again to attend the Prince's Teaching Institute Headteachers Conference, this year held at Madingley Hall near Cambridge on the 25th January. Ms Murthar and I travelled with students, Alfie Babb of 11JK, Becky Dodd of 11CH, Emily Oliver of 9GMW, and William Johnson of 11JK, from our Gifted and Talented group. We made good time on the M11 and, as the weather was fine, found time to look around the grounds of this magnificent 16th century building, taking some photographs as we went.

The Conference involved Headteachers from around the country, meeting to discuss how they would like to develop aspects of their own leadership. Our small group was shown to the Saloon where the afternoon session was to be held, and shown their seats on the small stage area! Finally 'miked up' they were ready to meet the questioner.

The session started with some questions about personal preferences, favourite subjects, and future ambitions, but this led to some quite thought provoking questions being posed to our young representatives such as "What do you feel makes a good teacher?" "What are the qualities you look for in a leader?" and "How do you feel the ethos of Stewards Academy has developed over the years?" All the students were able to give excellent responses that were both mature and assured. The session developed to accept questions from the floor and finally our panel joined individual tables to talk to the smaller groups about their experiences at Stewards. We can now be confident that many schools across the country are now thinking about our Yes/No process and the 5 R's ethos of Reflection, Resilience, Resourcefulness, Responsibility and Respect, all of which were displayed by every one of the students.

Amazingly, the session had lasted 40 minutes, and we were thanked for making such a valuable contribution to the event. We were informed that the applause at the end was three times longer than had previously been seen at similar events, so I think we can safely say that this was a very successful day.

Student comments afterwards included:
"I am so glad to have experienced such a prestigious event, and feel that I have made a difference by voicing my opinions on teaching".

"This experience will help me with future public speaking and being able to think on the spot".

Mr Cooper A, G&T Mentor/Guidance



Attendance News

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

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
97%	96%	96%	95%	96%
WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TO DATE = 96%				

THIS IS FANTASTIC – WELL DONE – KEEP IT UP!

AWARDS

If you achieve continuous 100% attendance during the Autumn, Spring and Summer Term you will be awarded an Attendance Award badge - go on see if you can achieve this!

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Term time is school time – please remember that regulations state leave of absence will not be authorised during term time. If there are **exceptional circumstances** you must apply in writing **BEFORE** you make your arrangements and **at least 4 weeks in advance**. (Exceptional circumstances are where 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).

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**

Important Information

Weekend GP appointments are now available across West Essex
A new Weekend GP Service is being trialled in Epping Forest, Harlow and Uttlesford which allows parents and children to access routine appointments on Saturdays and Sundays.

The NHS service is based out of five hubs across West Essex. Appointments are accessed through your own GP surgery for a booked appointment only and it is not a 'walk-in service'. Most GP practices in West Essex are taking bookings for the service, which is staffed by local GPs, healthcare assistants and nurses. You can book routine appointments, health checks and treatments. You can also ask for an appointment to discuss or manage long term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes and skin conditions.

To book an appointment, simply contact your GP in the usual way or to find out more, please go to www.weekendgpservice.net

*Weekend GP
appointments
now available*

Stewards Enrichment Programme

Stewards Academy had its first 'Department' Stewards Enrichment Programme Day on Tuesday 15th December 2015, where students worked on different projects and tasks designed to enrich their knowledge in each subject. Year 7 completed the 'Christmas Lectures' which involved many different experiments and demonstrations to capture students imagination. Year 8 worked on a project 'Christmas Enterprise' creating Christmas basket which helped build their creativity and teamwork skills. Year 9 worked in English looking at the peculiar ways of Miss Havisham from *Great Expectations*, through the lens of the poet Carol Ann Duffy and a group of Year 9 students went on a History Trip to the British History Museum. Year 10 worked on 'progress' with an aim of getting as many students off any NO's in GCSE subjects as well as catching up on vital pieces of course work and working on exam preparations. Year 11 used an idea of a 'walking talking mock' on that day which involved using specific techniques to break down problems, completing a Mathematics paper and then completing a reflective feedback task.

Ms Mohamed, Teacher in charge of Stewards Enrichment Programme

YEAR 7 SCIENCE CHRISTMAS LECTURES

On Monday 14th December, Year 7 took part in a series of Science Christmas lectures as part of the first Stewards Enrichment Programme day for the academic year. Students had four different lectures to attend on the day including Seismic Santa, A Very Metal Christmas, Winter Wonderland and Christmas Delights. Each lecture had a range of activities for the students to do.

Students witnessed a host of different demonstrations including Methane Bubbles, Elephant toothpaste, 'burning' money, the screaming Jelly Baby and burning Magnesium.

These festive and scientific demonstrations were backed up with the scientific theory to explain what they had observed.

Students were challenged to help Santa and Rudolph deliver presents by designing and building a strong bridge to replace one that was destroyed during an earthquake.

Students also had an opportunity to make their own Christmas decorations in the Very Metal Christmas lectures. A fantastic day was had by all. Students finished the day by watching Tim Peake's momentous journey to the international space station.



Students watching the Methane Bubbles demonstration during the Winter Wonderland Lecture.



Practical work in front of the Chemis-tree



Students in the Seismic Santa lecture with the bridges they had built.

Stewards Enrichment Programme

Year 8's - Enterprise Day in Technology

Year 8 pupils learned the importance of working as a team, budgeting, planning and developed their creativity to produce a Christmas hamper. Hampers included biscuits, Christmas decorations, cards, wrapping paper and an array of personalised gifts. Pupils presented their work to



their year group and each Year 8 tutor received a hamper at the end of a very successful day.

"I had a really good day making the hamper with Mrs Martin. I didn't know that learning could be such fun!" Kaine Fry



Mrs Martin, Subject Leader for Technology

On Tuesday 15th December, the History Department took 52 Year 9 students to the Imperial War Museum in London. The students visited the various exhibits in the museum including, the Secret War, Peace and Security 1945-2014, Turning Points 1934 – 1945 and the spectacular First World War Galleries. The purpose of the visit was to give History students an opportunity to see how warfare has

progressed over time to give them perspective for when they start their GCSE module 'The Development of Warfare over time' at the beginning of Year 10. All pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed the trip with many commenting of how informative an experience it had been.

Thank you from the museum

They were all polite and respectful and several of my colleagues have commented to me how well behaved they were. My supervisor said that Stewards could come back whenever they wanted!



Mr Hawk, History Department

The Year 10's had a mock practical day followed by a theory exam. The students worked incredibly hard taking part in 4 sporting activities under exam conditions and then having to find the drive and determination to be successful in a theory exam. The day was a perfect opportunity for the students to experience what their final moderation will be like and to experience the pressures that are associated with the day. All of the students showed a good attitude and came away with the results they deserved.

Mr T Hughes

Year 10 spent the day doing some very useful catch up and revision to embed their knowledge of their current GCSE Geography topic "Changing Coasts". We revised case studies and the core processes and landforms found around the UK coastline.

Mr Hickman

We did first aid, the St John's Ambulance Young First Aider award which involved learning CPR, the recovery position, how to put a sling on an injured arm or hand, how to deal with a spinal injury, and how to cope in an emergency.

They then went swimming in the afternoon...

Mrs Munro

Art Department News

YOUNG CURATORS

'Young Curators' is a course run at the Gibbered Gallery (in Harlow Water Gardens), which aims to teach young people to learn how to curate (organise and set up) art exhibitions.

On the 23rd January, Hazel Cash and Natasha Spencer both received their Silver Arts Award for successfully completing the course. Their awards were presented to them at the Private View for the annual 'Harlow Open Exhibition' (a show of residents' work). Throughout the course, both pupils worked with a group of students from across Harlow to set up exhibitions. They also wrote individual reviews of exhibitions they have been to see and produced a personal development project and the end of the course.

Hazel and Natasha have had to dedicate a substantial amount of time and hard work to achieve this award. We are very proud of their achievement and offer our congratulations to them.

This year's successful candidates for the 'Young Curators' course are Louis Cousins, Rosi Pite, Courtney Kelly and Ryan Lynch. They wrote detailed letters of application and on the strength of those were all invited to attend an interview at the Gibberd Gallery. During the interviews, pupils were asked challenging and thought-provoking questions. Every pupil answered with clarity, honesty and passion and represented Stewards Art and Photography Department with pride. Well done!



TOTEM POLES

The current primary transition sculpture project being run at Stewards Academy is based on the design of the totem pole. The first school to be involved in this is Nazeing Primary School. Their pupils have worked independently to design and create a fully 3D standing totem pole which has a sub-theme of the Victorian period. I have been extremely impressed by their creative skills.

This sculpture has been inspired by the development of the textiles industry and architecture during the Victorian period.

This sculpture has been inspired by the industrial revolution and is focused on the development of technology.



Art Department News

The following Year 9 Art and Design pupils currently have their work on display in the 'Glass Hide Away Gallery' within the Gibberd Gallery: Joshua Bowden, Lois Brown, Skye Bull, Daniel Donnelly, Zeta Evans, Paula Lela, Grace Melton, Kian Michael, Megan Reynolds and Emily Oliver.

The work being exhibited is the work that made its debut showing at the Remembrance Service at Stewards Academy in November 2015. It is emotive, dramatic and imposing. I would like to congratulate the Year 9 students on making a fantastic start to the GCSE Art and Design course. I am very proud of the quality of work being exhibited.

Mr White, Art Department



Art Department News

PRIMARY SCHOOLS PROJECT

Last year, a number of our feeder schools were involved in an art project as part of the Stewards Academy's transition programme. Groups of ten, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils explored a range of different media and learned about colour theory and relief-based sculpture.

The project was based on the design and planning of Harlow town. Pupils learned about the development of Harlow New Town and the systems used to link the elements of the town. All of the pubs in Harlow were named after different moths and butterflies and this was used as the theme of the project.

Working in groups, pupils produced clay reliefs based on butterflies and moths.

These were cast in plaster, painted, decorated and finally framed.

These are now being exhibited in the primary schools that took part in the project.

The primary schools that took part were: Kingsmoor, Milwards, Water Lane, Katherines and St James.

I would like to thank the primary schools for their involvement in the project and the current Year 7 pupils who were involved in the project, for showing such enthusiasm in the subject.

Mr White
Art Department



Zoe Pask



Bobby Mansell



**Kilian Tebich, Jesse Le-Vien
and Lacey Lewis**



**Tegan Sellick
Jamie-Louise Tovell**



**Harrison Matthews
Alysha Graves**



**Molly Armstrong,
Rebecca Burton and
Hannah Osborne**



**Deja Fabbrini, Arletta Czarnecka
And Oliver Rust**



Millie Parry, Katie Smith

Work Related Learning News

MOCK INTERVIEWS

Colleagues from businesses and the community joined Governors at the Mock Interviews for Year 11 students in December 2015.

The interviews took place over two days and the students dressed in smart attire and all looked very professional. In preparation for these interviews, students prepared a personal statement, ready for our interviewers to evaluate the content to then conduct an interview. Inviting students to share their ambitions for the future, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses, whilst also discussing their hobbies and personal interests can seem extremely daunting, but is invaluable practice for the future.

Our interviewers were extremely impressed with our students and their ambitions. Hopefully this practice will have given the students an insight into how an interview is conducted, along with helping their confidence and encouraging them to show themselves at their best.

Thank you to Stewards Academy friends for supporting our Year 11 students;

David Guest, Jeff Tarling, John Tennison, John Taylor, Rysiu Bendall, James Connolly, Annette Welbourn Davies, Bryan Turner, Kim Allan, Becci Court, Lucy Bourne, Garth Evans, Cliff Mitchell, Martin Scarry, Mick Jenkins, John Phillips, Shakeel Khan, Bob Robertson, Chris Crump, Daniel Black, Heather Patterson, Uzo Chuckwunonya, Edith Ademuyiwa and Claire Wright.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Judging by the conversations we have been having with Year 10 students during the past few weeks about their work experience placements, it seems there will be students enjoying opportunities with many different companies. We have had confirmed placements in restaurants, nurseries, accountancy firms, Primary Schools (to name a few). We look forward to hearing all about their experiences when they complete their placement (work experience takes place 23rd – 27th May). More details and final preparation for all students will take place next term.

Any outstanding placement forms should be returned to Mrs Rogers or Miss Care ASAP.

WRITTLE COLLEGE TRIP

Two groups of students who are currently studying the Land Based Course at Pets Corner, Harlow were given the opportunity to visit Writtle College for the day in December. Whilst we were at the college we were able to see lots of different animals as well as helping to change food and feed the mammals and amphibians. The students were also shown around the campus, including the aviary and outside animal enclosures.

The students were also extremely fortunate that they were able to visit the equestrian centre which was just a small drive away.

During their visit they were able to see students working with the horses and were able to visit the horses in their stables.

Throughout the day the instructors gave us information about different animals and the correct care for them. The students had a fantastic day and learnt lots of useful facts ready to take back to the classroom at Pets Corner.

A massive thank you to the staff at Pets Corner and Writtle College.

Miss Care, Work Related Learning Co-Ordinator



P.E. News

Interform Competitions

The first event of this year's Inter-Form competition was Cross Country. There was an excellent turnout across years 7 and 8 with 85 participants completing the course. The course was organised across the school playing fields and included one or two challenging and surprising obstacles for the competitors taking part.

The races were extremely close in both the boys and girls categories. The results of the cross country and the overall standings across the tutor groups and house colours can be seen below. All points accrued in this competition go towards the tutor groups' sports day totals.

Mr Sanders

YEAR 7

FORMS	Boy 1	Position	Points	Girl 1	Position	Points	Total Points	Overall Position
NOC	Kian O'Mahony	4 th	5	Jess Brayne	1 st	8	13	1 st
RT	Jesse Le-Vien	5 th	4	No Runner	-	0	4	8 th
MH	Morgan Arnold	1 st	8	Emmie Harrison-Stent	7 th	2	10	=3 rd
NMK	Billy Michael	8 th	1	Skye Stevens	2 nd	7	8	=5 th
CD	Kai Henson	7 th	2	Faith Idehen	3 rd	6	8	=5 th
VM	Kai Jordan	2 nd	7	Tegan Sellick	6 th	3	10	=3 rd
KED	Franklin Nzeh	3 rd	6	Arletta Czarnecka	4 th	5	11	2 nd
NF	Oliver Rust	6 th	3	Libby Pratt	5 th	4	7	7 th

YEAR 8

FORMS	Boy 1	Position	Points	Girl 1	Position	Points	Total Points	Overall Position
HMB	Kaine Fry	2 nd	7	Aimee Monk	1 st	8	15	1 st
HS	Andy Egharevba	7 th	2	Hailie-Jade Whelan	5 th	4	6	6 th
NOG	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	8 th
DJ	Albie Wickenden	3 rd	6	Kristina Belija	4 th	5	11	=3 rd
EB	Charlie Millross	5 th	4	Felicity Lentz	2 nd	7	11	=3 rd
PG	Joe Morgan	1 st	8	Ellie Savage	3 rd	6	14	2 nd
MR	Shaydon Robson	6 th	3	Leah Fuller	7 th	2	5	7 th
PM	Scott Carpenter	4 th	5	Maddison Gasson	6 th	3	8	5 th

P.E. News

YEAR 9

FORMS	Boy 1	Position	Points	Girl 1	Position	Points	Total Points	Overall Position
JFL	Kian Michael	2 nd	7	No Runner	-	0	7	3 rd
SL	Maksims Sokolovs	3 rd	6	Abbie Stringer	1 st	8	14	2 nd
SB	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=4 th
JR	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=4 th
PH	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=4 th
RL	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=4 th
SE	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=4 th
GMW	Orren Weekes	1 st	8	Courtney Blackburn	2 nd	7	15	1 st

YEAR 10

FORMS	Boy 1	Position	Points	Girl 1	Position	Points	Total Points	Overall Position
JG	Richmond Eghoki	4 th	5	No Runner	-	0	5	5 th
SPL	No Runner	-	0	Julia Noruwa	1 st	8	8	3 rd
THH	Samir Ali	3 rd	6	Elle Gaskin	3 rd	6	12	2 nd
JF	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=6 th
PBT	Owen Harknett	2 nd	7	No Runner	-	0	7	4 th
KT	Lewis Harknett	1 st	8	Emily Horton	2 nd	7	15	1 st
EM	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=6 th
OK	No Runner	-	0	No Runner	-	0	0	=6 th

Upcoming

This year's trip sees 42 pupils and 6 staff embark on a weeklong trip to Altenmarkt, Austria, a first for Stewards Academy. With the 2016 Ski trip to Austria fast approaching pupils are reminded to ensure their attitude to learning and attendance are maintained to their usual high standard. Pupils who are interested in attending next year's trip are encouraged to see Mr R. Treamer or Mr Sanders upon their return from Austria, to get information about the trip to Italy being planned for 2017.



P.E. News

General Information

Over recent weeks Year 11 GCSE PE students have been preparing for their final exam by taking part in their assessment sports before and after school. With their final exam not too far away the students have been working hard to improve their techniques making sure they are fully prepared for the big day. As a PE department we are wishing all of those students the best of luck and hope that all of their hard work pays off.

Girls Fixtures

Netball:

Week beginning 22nd Feb Stewards vs St Marks (home)

Week beginning 29th Feb Stewards vs Passmores (home)

Week beginning 7th March Stewards vs Mark Hall (home)

Monday 14th March Year 7 and 8 Tournament @ St Marks

Wednesday 16th March Year 9 and Senior tournament @ St Marks

Reminder: Please check the girls fixture board regularly as dates and times may change. Girls Basketball and swimming fixtures to be confirmed soon.

Boys Fixtures

Since Christmas the different year groups have been training hard for their upcoming football fixtures against the other schools in Harlow. Over the last few weeks every year group have been taking part in 6 a-side tournaments at Mark Hall and Passmores. Every year group has enjoyed success with the amount of players attending training and games, with Year 7 having used 30 players so far. Hopefully with all of these boys training and playing in the tournaments we will enjoy some good wins in the 11-a-sides!

Mr Hughes

My sporting hero

I recently was lucky to have experienced an awesome coaching session from Jo Harten, England's number one Netball shooter. Jo helped me to develop my netball skills, which will hopefully mean I gain an extra competitive edge. Jo also shared with me her international and professional experience, as well as her training regime, which includes shooting 1000 goals a week. Her coaching was top quality with a blast of fun. I learnt both technical and tactical elements, as well having a unique opportunity to meet Jo Harten ex-Tegate player, my sporting hero!

Fact File:

Name Jo Harten

Age 26

Height 6ft 2"

Hometown Harlow

Positions GS / GA

played

Netball England and WBOP Magic

teams: (New Zealand)

Name Megan Roach

Age 11

Height 5ft 0"

Hometown Harlow

Positions WA / GA / C

played

Netball Tegate and Stewards Academy

teams: Year 7



Outstanding Achievement

On the 23rd of January Lewis Harknett, Owen Harknett, Joe Morgan and Scott Carpenter represented Stewards at the Essex Schools Cross Country Championship in Colchester. The boys gave a great account of themselves with Lewis finishing 7th overall and just missing out the Essex Schools team that is competing at the English Schools Championships. Lewis did however qualify to run at the South East Schools Inter-counties XC Championships representing the Essex Schools. Congratulations to all of the boys from all of the PE Department

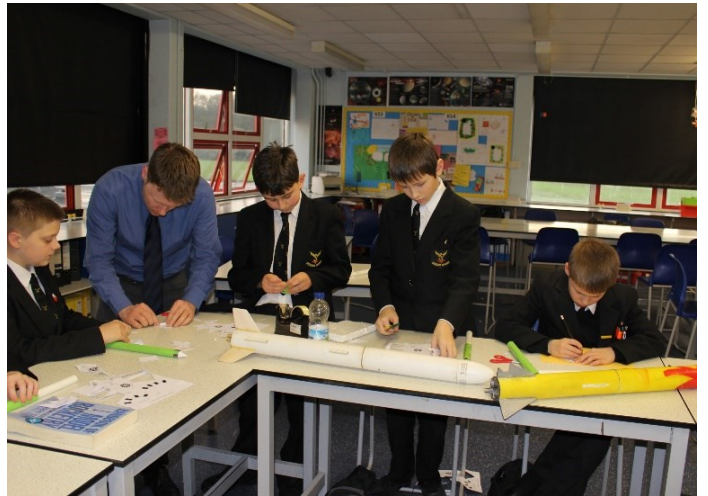
Mr Hughes



STEM News

Many people have heard of STEM but might not be sure what it means. **STEM** is simply an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Within Stewards Academy this covers the key subjects of Science, Mathematics and Technology but often incorporates other subject areas too, such as ICT and Geography. STEM uses a collaborative approach that gives students the opportunity to discover and innovate, using and transferring learning and skills into real life applications. This includes enrichment activities as well as recognising links between STEM subjects and students' everyday learning. Previously, students have been involved with challenges, workshops and trips including "Build a rocket challenge", "STEM 3D workshop", Girls in technology STEM day", "Visit to the Diamond Light Source, Hartwell", "Big Bang near me: Science Fair", "Level 1 award in understanding health improvement course" and "Bloodhound educational roadshow".

Mr Flood said, "STEM clubs such as Rocket club allow our students to be as creative and imaginative as they like without being restricted by the rigours of the curriculum. We focus on the fun side of science while at the same time facilitating a unique and personalised learning experience. We bring the stuff of science-fiction movies into the classroom and the students love it!" Coming up this year there will be some exciting STEM activities such as Quadcopter Challenge 2016 in partnership with Raytheon UK (which we won last year) and the opportunity for students to become STEM ambassadors. If you would like to become more involved in STEM activities or you have an idea for a STEM project, let us know.



Mr Flood and students at Rocket Club

Mr Perrin – Head of Science and Mrs C. Brough – STEM Co-ordinator

Technology News

YEAR 9 CONSTRUCTION

Tool boxes

Year 9 construction pupils have built on their knowledge and understanding of woodwork to produce a tool box. The pupils followed a template to create the outer frame but were able to produce the inside compartments to personalise to their own specifications.

"I really enjoyed making my tool box to the drawing and designing the middle part." Leo Roach, 9SB

Mrs Martin, Subject Leader for Technology



Technology News

YEAR 9 RESISTANT MATERIALS

Metalwork – Pewter Casting

Year 9 resistant material pupils put theory into practice by casting metal to make a keyring. They melted the pewter wearing the correct PPE equipment, and used the ladle to transfer the pewter in its liquid form into the mould. Once the metal had cooled they were able to file away the excess and finish it using wet and dry until the metal was shiny.

"We had learned the theory in class but I gained a better understanding by actually completing the process."
Conor Martin, 9SL



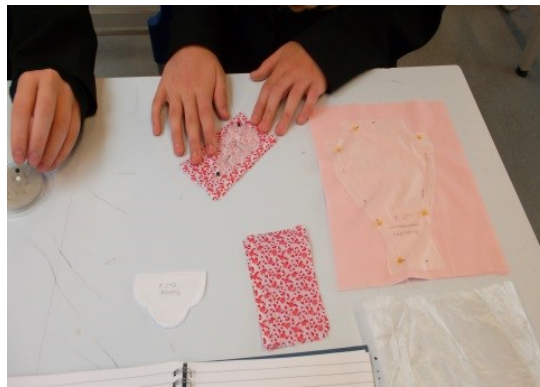
YEAR 9 PRODUCT DESIGN - FASHION

Jewellery Stands

Year 9 product design fashion students have been developing their skill base from September and they can now knit, sew, iron and use the sewing machine. These skills have been used to complete their latest project of designing and making a jewellery stand. Although each pupil followed the same pattern, they were able to put their own spin on it to tailor make it to fit in their bedrooms.

"Fashion can be challenging but also fun. I have learned new skills that will help me in later life and I have developed my creativity skills." Ellie-Marie Taylor, 9RL

"I enjoy coming to this lesson each week. I have learned a number of useful skills such as knitting, sewing and how to follow a pattern. We are allowed to be creative and I have produced some unique designs that I'm proud of." Chloe Munslow 9GMW



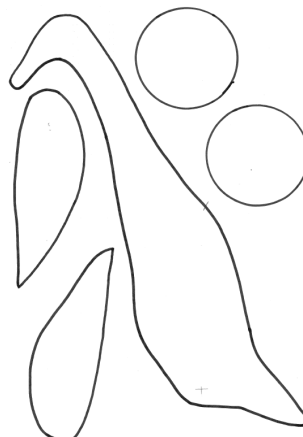
YEAR 9 PRODUCT DESIGN

Woodwork Project

Pupils have had a busy term 'goosing around'. Year 9 pupils have developed their woodworking skills by producing a push-along wooden goose toy and were encouraged to be highly creative by adding an individual theme to their finished toy. The emphasis was on the ability to use templates and whether the toy could successfully be pushed along!

"I really enjoyed using the different tools and being creative when decorating my goose." Brad Walker, 9RL.

Mrs Martin, Subject Leader for Technology



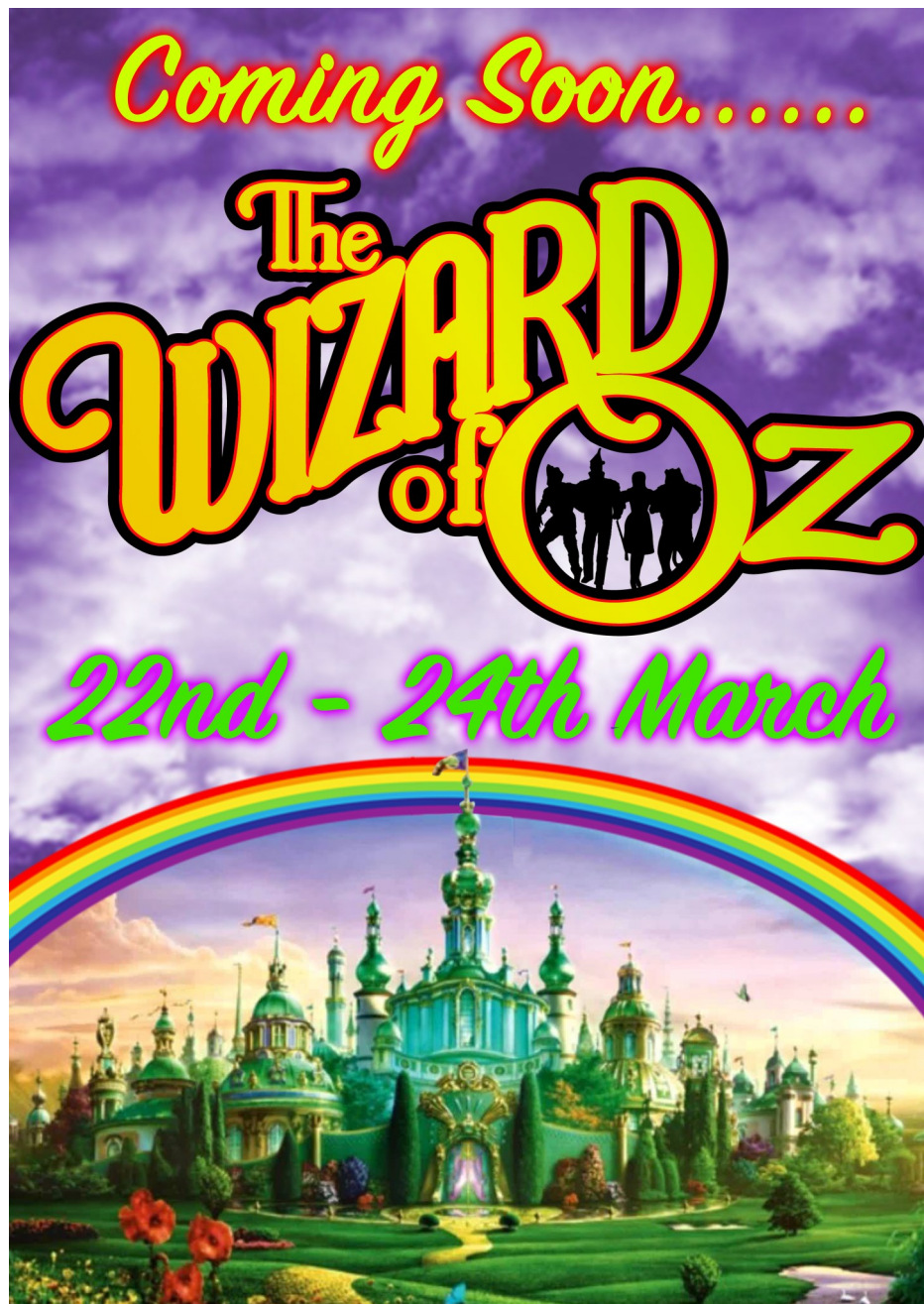
Performing Arts News

Our annual Christmas Concert took place at the end of last term. Students from across the school performed a variety of festive entertainment to a hall packed with family and friends.

Stewards Dance Clubs gave energetic and lively performances throughout the evening, with 'Santa Claus is Coming' by Year 7 Dance Club, 'Rudolph and the Eight Days of Christmas' by Year 8 Dance Club and 'Nutcracker Dubstep' by Advanced Dance Club. All dance pieces were choreographed by Miss Trowsdale. Students from GCSE Music formed bands and each selected a favourite Christmas song to learn. Year 9 students performed 'Last Christmas' and 'Carol of the Bells'. Year 10 bands performed 'Love is Everything', 'Baby It's Cold Outside' and 'It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas', alongside a solo performance of 'Silent Night' by Josie Jacobs. Year 11 performed 'All I Want for Christmas is You', 'Little Drummer Boy' and 'Christmas Thoughts', an original composition by Year 11 student Ellie Fennell. Lower School Choir sang 'Deck the Halls', joined by the audience, and Upper School Choir combined forces with Drama Club to present their very own rendition of 'Twelve Days of Christmas', complete with actions and movement. Also on the programme was 'Jingle Bells' by the newly-formed Woodwind Ensemble led by Mr Reynolds, in their first performance at Stewards.

The concert concluded with 'Away in a Manger', performed by the entire Year 11 GCSE Music class and supported by Year 9 musicians who attend Guitar Club. Well done to all students who took part; it was a very successful evening.

THE PERFORMING ARTS TEAM



Where Are They Now

To Parents and Students of Stewards,
I recently came to visit Mrs Erwood. She asked me to write about what I have accomplished in the 10 years since graduating as an example of how many opportunities are out there.

Now to start with, I'd like to say I was no A* student, I managed C and B grades in my GCSE's because I worked hard, not because I was the smartest.

After Stewards, I went on to College and then University. Shamefully I did not make it through University, after 6 months I had realised that tertiary education was not for me at that stage of my life.

But this did not stop me from trying to find the life I wanted to live. I made the choice to go travelling, with a Working Holiday Visa and return flights to New Zealand I set out to explore a new country and its culture.

Within one year I was hooked, I loved life in New Zealand and enjoyed traveling to new places.

I have now lived in New Zealand for 4 years and spent time in many different towns. I have worked as a Snowmaker on ski fields every winter as I realised how much I loved the snow and thoroughly enjoyed the work. My summers have been spent going new places and trying new things; I've had various jobs from working in a Furniture shop, to a Tour Guide / Coach Driver for a Jet Boat company.

I also spent 4-5 months travelling in Australia to see what it was like; I found it harder to find work but very rewarding.

This is my first trip back to the UK to see my family and spend Christmas at home. I have brought my partner with me and we are travelling around Europe as she is a Kiwi (New Zealander). We have travelled the length of the UK and been to Ireland. In the New Year we are heading off through France, Spain and Andorra to enjoy lots of skiing and sightseeing.

In a few months once we are done with our travels around Europe, we are heading back to New Zealand for another winter season. We may stay in one spot and work for a year or so but then we have plans to travel some more. I want to visit both Canada and Japan during their winter seasons and I will hopefully be able to work there as you can get work visas for these countries also.

I feel very privileged to have had so many great opportunities and still more adventures to look forward to. It comes down to the person I have become through the strength and confidence given to me by the wonderful teachers at Stewards whom I consider family. They didn't just give me an education; they taught me how to be the best person I can be.

So if you are struggling or even if you are not, outside of Stewards there is a big wide world to explore, it's not just the boundaries of Harlow you can reach, but the edges of the world if you only try.

**From Past Student
Mark Lewis**



Chloe Pringle 2006-2011
Now 2nd year Dance Theatre Student at Plymouth University

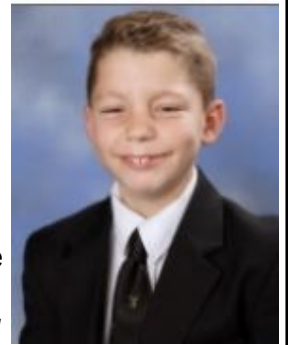


Daisy Fitt 2007-2012
Now working for Next as a Sales Co-Ordinator

Congratulations

On the 6th October 2015 I was selected to represent my boxing club (Repton boys club) which is one of the most famous and historical boxing clubs in London. I have trained there for almost 2 years now and I was privileged, alongside 7 other team mates, to have a team match against Monkstown boxing club in Ireland. We travelled on the Friday by ferry, it was a long journey. When we arrived we had a light training session in the gym which was a privilege. We boxed on the Saturday afternoon the boxing was held in St Joseph's football club it was an experience I won't forget. The result was a draw, everyone came home with a trophy which will be treasured for the rest of my life, I hope there to be many more matches like this in 2016.

Alfie Gaskin 8PM



Charity News

Charity Fundraising

Christmas is a time for giving and Stewards has contributed the following to various charities over the Christmas period. Donations from the Christmas Concert refreshments collected £17.38, staff contributed £228.30 instead of sending Christmas cards to colleagues and Morgan Arnold of 7MH collected £145 from taking part in the Pool Christmas Gala making a total of £390.68 which has gone to St Clare Hospice. Also on the last day of the Autumn term pupils and staff had the option of wearing a Christmas jumper; £173.09 was collected for the 'Text Santa' appeal, donations being shared between Macmillan Cancer Support, Make-A-Wish UK and Save The Children. Well done and thank you to everyone who donated.

First I collected raffle prizes and raffle tickets at the Stewards Christmas swimming gala. I went around selling raffle tickets at the start and the end, we raised £145, this money will go to St Clare Hospice.

**Morgan Arnold
7MH**



Enterprise Week

Year 7 students at Stewards Academy learned the process of making profit and being enterprising during an energetic week of making and selling their wares to staff and pupils of the Academy. Christmas decorations, raffles, cakes, biscuits and other goodies were sold. Games, tombolas and tasks such as guessing the weight of a cake and the number of sweets in a jar took place in the hall at lunchtimes.

All 8 tutor groups competed to see who would earn the most profit with the winning group choosing the charity for the profit to be donated. After an extremely competitive and successful week the grand total of £1,139.65 was raised and the winning tutor group chose to donate the money equally between St Clare's Hospice and Cancer Research UK.

The sense of achievement throughout the year group was immense and everyone was very proud of themselves.

**Mrs Erwood
Deputy Headteacher**



Year Group Information

YEAR 7

Time seems to have flown by and our students are now half way through Year 7 at Stewards Academy. Firstly can I say how pleased I was at the turnout of parents and student at our recent parents evening. The feedback was extremely positive and reflects the excellent start the pupils have made to their secondary education. A strong bond between school and home is vitally important in ensuring each and every one of our students is happy and successful. The recent Yes/No checks are proving highly effective and with a decrease in the number of 'no' marks across the year group it is evident the students are working hard to improve to achieve a full set of yes marks and reach that goal of attendance at the celebration event each term.

It has become apparent that as the year progresses some of our students may not be using their planners as effectively as they could. Homework tasks and due dates will increase as the year progresses and in preparation for end of unit tests. It is therefore vital that students write cohesively and in detail and discussing homework tasks and expectations with your child will help support them through the rest of their year. All assessment ladders for each of the subjects pupils are studying are available on the school website to support pupils and parents in each area of the curriculum.

The school is a hive of activity as I am sure you can see from the content of this newsletter and Year 7 is no exception. With an utterly amazing enterprise week, inter-form events, choir performance, football, netball, G&T events, enrichment activities and school council, Year 7 seem to be taking every opportunity that comes their way. I am confident that each student has the drive and ability to achieve anything they put their minds to

Miss McGarry, Head of Year 7

YEAR 8

It was pleasing to be able to send so many letters home recently, praising students for achieving a large number of merits achieved already this year. Students now need to be aware that this is a very crucial time for them, which could have an impact on the choices they are able to make in terms of further education or careers. In March they will be starting the process of making their option choices for GCSE, starting in year 9. As some of these options are heavily oversubscribed they need to ensure that they have a very positive attitude towards work in all lessons, and compete work set to the best of their ability, including handing homework in on time. It is essential to take this opportunity to get themselves organised and meet deadlines, as the demands on them will only increase as they start their GCSE courses next year. The first opportunity for students and parents to find out more about the choices available will be on Thursday the 10th March at 6pm. I highly recommend that you attend this evening to get all the information you need to make educated and informed decisions.

Mrs Ellis, Head of Year 8

YEAR 9

Our celebration event, designed to mark the end of the first term of our new rewards system, was a resounding success. Throughout the term pupils were rewarded for prompt and regular attendance; meeting the 5Rs; showing a positive attitude to learning; maintaining a high standard of class and homework and involvement in the wider school community. Attended by over 100 pupils in the year group, the event offered activities ranging from arts and crafts to a swimming pool party. Our next event is to be held on Wednesday 23rd March and we look forward to celebrating the success of eligible pupils once again.

Homework and organisation is becoming an issue in some cases. I would ask that when signing your child's Planner, you check that homework tasks and submission dates have been written in. Discussing homework tasks is of great benefit to your child. Ask them to explain what needs to be done and when it's due in. When looking through Planners I have noticed that detentions set are not always acknowledged by parents. Again, I would ask that you check the Planner to ensure that you are fully aware of your child's attitude to learning and to support us in helping them to move on in a positive direction.

As the weather continues to be cold and wet, we would encourage pupils to wear their winter coats for the journey to and from school. We must however, remind them that outdoor wear should be stored in lockers during lesson time. The same applies to footwear. Waterproof and anti-slip shoes are particularly useful during wet and icy journeys but should be changed for school shoes once in the building, and again, these should be stored away until the end of the school day.

Mrs Ramsey, Head of Year 9

Year Group Information

YEAR 10

Time is flying by...

This time next year you will be sitting your Year 11 mock exams, as well as applying for College and Sixth Form placements. Are you ready? The work you do now really is paramount in preparation for your success. Take the Premiership League for example, and link it to how hard you are working. Are you in the top four, or are you stuck in the relegation zone? Wherever you are, you need to step up a gear. If you want that placement in the College then you'll need the best grades that you can possibly achieve. Remember, there are over a thousand students in Harlow wanting a college placement, so you need to be better than they are!

Work with your teachers, because I know just how hard they work for you. Lets' make it a team effort. You don't have long left here at Stewards Academy, so make every lesson count.

Work experience

Please remember - You **MUST** organise your work experience placement. The placement is your responsibility so please organise it. All placements are invaluable as they will be able to highlight which skills you excel at and which will need more work on. All experiences will look great on your CV and can be a great talking point in an interview. If you haven't already organised your placement, speak to your parents, family friends and other relatives for ideas.

Skiing

For those going on the Ski trip, have a wonderful time. It is a trip that you'll never forget.

Everyone else - have a great half term.

Mr G Hughes, Head of Year 10

YEAR 11

As the first half of the second term draws to a close, I would like to congratulate Year 11 on successfully completing their mock exams. I know that so many of your children worked really hard over the Christmas holidays and the first couple of weeks back, to prepare for these exams and I know it was an extremely challenging time for Year 11. Pupils had to face many formal tests, back to back, for two solid weeks and I'm sure for some, lost a lot of sleep worrying about them, but as stressful as it was, (for pupils and parents alike!!) they all rose to the occasion, and they all demonstrated great maturity and resilience, so well done!

The trial exam process was carried out in the exact same format that pupils will have to go through in the Summer and this proved to be an important learning curve for Year 11. I am pleased to report that many of the grades acquired were very promising, with a large proportion of the year group achieving or exceeding their predicted outcomes. Pupils picked up their grades in a formal results assembly and it was lovely to see so many happy faces, as pupils learned of their successes across the range of subjects! Sadly for some, this wasn't the case, but for those that didn't achieve what they were hoping for, it is now time to stand up and take action! Feedback must be sought by pupils to find out what they need to do to improve their grade and any areas of weakness must be addressed asap. Teachers will be more than happy to help pupils, both inside and outside of the curriculum, but individuals must take responsibility for their own learning and students must independently seek advice and guidance to improve their knowledge, skills and understanding.

It is never too late to turn things around, but it is down to the individual child to make the difference, so please, encourage your child to take every opportunity available to improve their learning and support us, in supporting them to achieve their potential!

Don't forget, if you do have any queries or concerns about your child's progress or wellbeing, please feel free to contact myself or Mrs Atkinson and we will be happy to assist you in resolving these issues.

Additionally, Year 11 Parents Evening is coming up after half term on **Thursday 25th February**, so please make every effort to attend, to work with us, in supporting your child through their last couple of months at Stewards.

Miss Holden, Head of Year 11

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

15TH-19TH
25th

HALF TERM

Year 11 Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm

MARCH

8th
10th
17th
21st
22nd-24th
24TH

New York Awards Evening 6.00pm
Upper School Courses Evening 6.00pm
Ski Trip awards Evening 6.00pm
Enrichment Day
Production 7.00pm

INSET DAY

(School closed for Pupils)

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

