



Christmas
2014

Stewards Academy

Newsletter



Name _____

Tutor Group: _____

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

The festive season is upon us and Christmas activities such as the Christmas Concert, the Year 7 trip to the Pantomime and the School Choir singing at St Clare Hospice mark the occasion so well. This term we have been host to visitors who live not too far from Lapland itself.

On 1st December 4 teachers from Puistola School in Helsinki visited Stewards to learn more about the English education system and to build links to generate cooperative learning. Stewards was one of 4 Essex schools they visited during the week. This follows a trip to Finland that I made with a group of Essex Headteachers earlier this term. The education system in Finland is recognised as achieving very good results as measured by international tests (the PISA tests) in Maths, English and Science. The 4 teachers enjoyed their visit very much and they were particularly impressed by...

- pupils with a desire and enthusiasm to learn
- pupils commitment, pride and love for their respective schools and teachers
- the exceptional professional development opportunities for teachers to maintain and develop their pedagogical skills
- the high quality of teaching in lessons and
- the intense accountability regime in the UK. (There is no Inspection system in Finland and students sit only one set of national examinations at the age of 18)

Milla Honkanen, an English teacher said she was struck by the excellent relationships between students and staff at Stewards and the good behaviour and politeness of our students. Jouni Kuisma, a Maths and Computer Science teacher said he was envious of the ICT resources we have and the technical support available both for ICT and Science.



Teachers from Finland visit Stewards



Milla Honkanen

The visits were arranged by the Association of Secondary Headteachers in Essex and the Finnish Embassy. Our Maths, English and Science departments will soon be exchanging resources and ideas about teaching and learning with the teachers from Puistola School for mutual benefit. The Finnish teachers will be returning in the autumn term, this time with a group of students, and the plan is to set

up a student exchange. Stewards Academy is going to be the host school in Essex for the visit and Mr Hickman, International Dimensions Co-ordinator, will be planning the activities with the help of Mr Hughes, Mr Ford and the Year 9 team.

This will be an incredible opportunity for the Stewards Community to forge links with a school abroad and we are looking forward to planning an exciting student exchange with the support of host families.

EXAMINATION SUCCESS IN 2014

I received a letter of congratulations from Tim Coulson, Regional Schools Commissioner for the East of England and North East London, in recognition of outstanding examination results and pupil progress in 2014. He said "I was delighted to see the KS4 results for your school this year. Congratulations to you and your colleagues on this achievement. We know that such progress is based on hard work and an unrelenting determination that all children will have the opportunity to succeed. There has been an overall national fall in KS4 attainment this year and Stewards Academy has done very well to buck this trend and show continuous improvement". Data indeed shows that our students made exceptional progress and this letter of congratulations is well deserved.

CONGRATULATIONS

Sara Loveday recently received the award of 'Clinician of the Year' for Place 2 Be, from the Duchess of Cambridge. Our congratulations to Sara for the support she and her team provide at Stewards.

THE BLUE GARDEN

We now have a third garden at Stewards to add to the Food/International Garden and the Chinese Garden. This garden is named 'The Blue Garden' and is located outside the Construction Centre. My thanks to the Construction students and Mr Martin who built the terraced garden, completely transforming the area to a place of beauty. Thanks also to Mr MacLeay our groundsman for the design, selection and planting of our beautiful blue and white plants. Ms Webb and the 'Plant Patrol' students have pledged to tend the garden and look after it.

GOVERNORS

Stewards Academy has 3 new governors. Mrs Waters (SENCO) replaces Ms Johnson as Teacher Governor. Ms Johnson has served as a Governor for 8 years and we are very grateful for her work. Mrs Avis (Business Manager) replaces Mrs Jenkins as Associate Staff Governor.

Mr Farrow, Operations Director for Stansted Airport, is a new Community Governor. Stewards was chosen as a partner school to Stansted in a new "Business Class" initiative and we look forward to developing much closer links and opportunities for our students through this scheme.

STAFFING

Two very special people will be leaving Stewards at Christmas in order to start their retirement: Mrs Jenkins has been Business Manager for 15 years and Mrs Hampstead has worked as Vocational Learning Mentor for 10 years. We are deeply indebted to both of them for the tremendous contribution they have made to Stewards during their careers and we wish them every happiness and a more relaxing time in the future. In the New Year we welcome Mrs Marcano as the new Head of Modern Foreign Languages. My very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.



Rhonda Murthar

**Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher**

Attendance News

SCHOOL TARGET 96%

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%	96.8%	95.6%	95.6%
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 as shown below. Go on see if you can achieve this!



AUTUMN TERM



SPRING TERM



SUMMER TERM

CERTIFICATES

Occasionally pupils may receive a certificate mid-term for either:

- Encouragement to reach the school target of 96% (if almost there)
- Improvement in attendance for whatever reason

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT REGULAR, PUNCTUAL ATTENDANCE IS LINKED TO ACHIEVEMENT

REGISTRATION

8.45am – REGISTRATION (AM) FOR ALL PUPILS

1.55pm – REGISTRATION (PM) FOR ALL PUPILS

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**

Car Parking Reminder

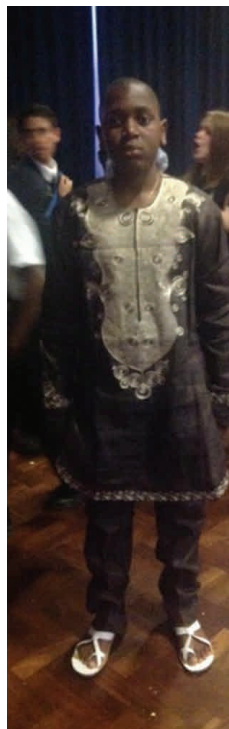
As the winter approaches the Academy is aware that the traffic around the school will increase due to parents/carers choosing to transport their children to and from school. We have contacted Essex Highways on a number of occasions to request assistance in managing the flow of traffic at peak times. While this matter remains under consideration, it would be appreciated if you could ensure that the continuing safety of our pupils remains a priority when parking and driving outside the school. Please note that at the beginning and end of the school day the disabled parking bays are needed to allow our pupils with mobility issues a safe place to be dropped off and collected by their parents/carers. At other times these bays are available to 'blue badge' holders who are here on official school business. Blue badge regulations state that "you should not use the badge to allow non-disabled people to take advantage of the benefits while you sit in the car". Anyone not meeting the criteria will be asked to move their vehicle. Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

Mrs Avis Business Manager

Cultural Food Event

Stewards Academy was delighted to hold it's 9th annual Cultural Food Event recently. The Academy once more opened it's doors to hundreds of people from the local community. Food was cooked and prepared on site and in pupils' homes, representing countries from all around the globe. There was a particularly impressive display of British food this year, produced by pupils from the Food Technology department as well as Stewards' in house caterers. Organiser of the event Ms Mohamed said *'I am delighted with the response of the pupils, staff and parents to what has become a traditional part of the Stewards calendar. Our award winning Ethnic Minority Pupil Voice Group, ably led by Maddison, Hannah, Yasmin, Salma, Becky, Riley, Abdul and Taonga, has done a fabulous job of organising this special event. We are so grateful to everyone who has brought along such a variety of different dishes.'*

Mrs Erwood
Deputy Headteacher



Cultural Food Event



Remembrance Day

Stewards Academy pulled out all the stops to commemorate Remembrance Day, with the whole Stewards community coming together as one. About 1400 people stood in silence in the bright November sunshine to remember the sacrifices of so many in the past 100 years. About 50 pupils wore the uniforms of the Air, Sea and Army Cadets, as well as St John Ambulance Brigade, the Guides and the Scout movement. Representatives of the Armed forces, the Police and the Fire service attended, along with Reverend Barry Johnson.

Parents, governors and specially invited guests also attended. But the guests of honour yet again this year, as in 2011, were the members of the Normandy Veterans Association. Their longstanding relationship with Stewards was strengthened this year when four pupils and three members of staff accompanied the veterans to Normandy to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the D Day landings. The assembled body listened silently to the Last Post, played by Mrs Waters and Mr Plested, and to the Exhortation and the Kohima Prayer, recited by Edward Thomas and Bayley Summerfield. Then a specially selected group of Year 7 pupils scattered hundreds of poppies over the heads of everyone gathered in the school quad. A gust of wind suddenly lifted the poppies up into the air in a hugely symbolic moment. The veterans were deeply moved by the occasion, and presented two wreaths to the school. They all spoke of the warmth of the welcome they are always given at Stewards, and the respect and affection they were shown by all the pupils who queued up to meet them and listen to their amazing stories. Organiser Mrs Erwood said *'These wonderful veterans are very dear to us at Stewards. It was a huge privilege to accompany them to Normandy in June and having them here with us to mark such a significant anniversary is such a joy. None of us will ever forget today, and every single child at Stewards showed due respect for a poignant ceremony.'*



Mrs Erwood Deputy Headteacher



Remembrance Day



ACHIEVEMENT AND SUCCESS FOR ALL

Stewards Academy will provide an enriching and high quality education for all students; working in partnership to ensure they aspire to be the best they can be in an ever changing world. We will nurture creativity, independence and a love of learning. Our students will become confident, principled and resilient young citizens of a global community who strive for excellence.

The aim is to instil these beliefs by promoting a Growth Mindset in everyone at Stewards and develop the language of learning through the 5R's.

LANGUAGE FOR LEARNING – 5R'S

RESPECT — I have respect for myself, my peers, teachers and community.

RESPONSIBILITY — I am responsible for my own behaviour, my work and my future.

RESILIENCE — I believe in myself; when things are hard I try even harder.

RESOURCEFULNESS — I can be independent and look for solutions to problems.

REFLECTION — I can look back at my work and events and can think about what went well and how to improve.

A GROWTH MINDSET



Fixed Mindset	Growth Mindset
Intelligence is static.	Intelligence can be developed.
Leads to a desire to <i>look smart</i> and therefore a tendency to	Leads to a desire to <i>learn</i> and therefore a tendency to
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • avoid challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • embrace challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give up easily due to obstacles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persist despite obstacles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • see effort as fruitless 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • see effort as path to mastery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ignore useful feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn from criticism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be threatened by others' success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be inspired by others' success
<p>As a result, they may plateau early and achieve less than their full potential.</p> <p>All this confirms a deterministic view of the world.</p>	<p>As a result, they reach ever-higher levels of achievement.</p> <p>All this gives them a greater sense of free will.</p>

Congratulations

YoungWriters

She Was My Best Friend!

She was my best friend,
Until our friendship came to an untimely end.
We were best friends from Year Seven,
But they were all bittersweet memories by Year Eleven.

She started hanging out with the wrong kind,
I knew they were trouble, how could she be so blind?
She went to the dark side faster than Darth Vader
And wouldn't come back, even if we paid her.

They bullied me every day,
Behold the lowlives of the human race.

On that fateful night, after school,
That's when it happened, I was such a fool.
I saw her standing there with her blunderhead mates,
They glared at me, their faces full of hate.

I began walking but they stepped in front,
Cornering me like I was prey on a hunt.
One girl hit me in the face,
It hurt bad, I staggered out of place.

I should have left then, why didn't I go?
I can't believe myself, have I really sunk so low?
Instead of leaving, my hand pulled back,
I beat her down, she fell like a sack.

It was all a mistake, they all jumped me as one,
They hit me and kicked me and I couldn't run.
I didn't know what had happened, I couldn't think straight,
My heart started thumping at an impossible rate.

'Wait a minute, this isn't right,
Please don't hurt her, stop the fight!'
Shouted my best friend,
I couldn't believe it, our friendship could mend.

Her friends left me and turned to her,
I heard a scream and a shout,
But it was all a blur.

My best friend fell with a big thud,
When I looked at her closely,
I saw a dash of blood.

Her friends stood triumphant and bold,
I crawled to her, she was so cold.

Her eyes closed, her breathing stopped,
Her body became lifeless, her head dropped.

Suddenly at the flick of a knife,
It was over,
The end of her life.

I'll never forget what that horrid night brought,
My best friend was dead
And it was all my fault!

Abby-Rose Loader (12)
Stewards Academy, Harlow

YoungWriters

Powers Of War

Torn, distorted, battered,
Gunshot, fire, death.
No place to run, no place to hide.
Men in uniform,
Fear of being killed.
The angry sky,
Becoming over the hills,
In the horizon.

Don't want to live,
Don't want to die.
Don't want to leave,
But want to survive.
Running, hiding,
Hiding, running,
That's all I can't do.
Torn, distorted, battered,
Gunshot, fire, death!

Hannah Chadwick (11)
Stewards Academy, Harlow

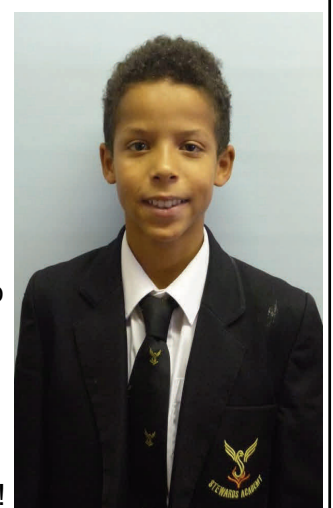


**Well done Hannah Chadwick
7HS on the publication of
your poem**



**Well done Abby-Rose
Loader 8SE on the
publication of your
poem**

Jordan De-Friend
8SB recently
joined Harlow
Gymnastics Club
based at
Sumners Leisure
Centre. After a
successful start to
the sessions,
Jordan has been
selected to join
the Harlow squad
for his age group.
Well done Jordan!



**Here are two of our Year 7
students, far left Jack
Wood-Bargent 7VG and
Jamie Munslow 7VG,
showing the models they
made as part of an English
project.**



Technology & Construction News

BOOK & DESIGNER OF THE TERM

Sir James Dyson, who is a British inventor, industrial designer and founder of the Dyson company, has been the designer of the Autumn term. Next term we will be celebrating the work of Alexander McQueen. Please come and read our books and complete the quizzes located in the technology corridor.



KS3 CLUBS IN TECHNOLOGY

The KS3 clubs continue to be a success and pupils are making aprons and cushions at textiles club which is on every Monday. There are still some places available so we hope to see you there soon!

TECHNOLOGY DESIGNERS OF THE TERM

We always celebrate famous designers but what about the designers of the future? This term 5 pupils have achieved the 'Technology Designer Award' because of their design skills in a Technology Subject.

- Year 7 – Josh Tant 7MR (Resistant Materials)
- Year 8 – Emily Oliver 8GMW (Resistant Materials)
- Year 9 – Ethan Robinson 9CC (Product Design)
- Year 10 – Michael Bow 10CH (Construction)
- Year 11 – Jordan Starkey 11RMP (Catering)

YEAR 8 CLOCK PROJECT

Year 8 pupils were given the brief to design a creative clock for a teenager, inspired by their own personal hobbies and interests. The pupils took on the design challenge and experimented with a variety of materials, which assisted them in producing creative designs and prototypes. Pupils developed their designs further by producing a practical but aesthetically pleasing bag for their clock.

Mrs Martin
Head of Technology



YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION



Pupils have now completed a landscaping project at the front of the construction centre. Planters have been built and now display an array of beautiful flowers. The pupils have also constructed steps to make this area easily accessible. As you can see from the before and after photographs this area has been much improved. I would like to say a big thank you to all the pupils involved in this project, you should be very proud of yourselves.



Mr Martin
Construction Skills Tutor

STEM News

ENGINEERING OUR FUTURE: SOFTWARE AND PROGRAMMING EVENT

Year 10 students, who are studying GCSE Computer Science, attended the 'Engineering Our Future' event focusing on programming and software careers after school at the Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford. It consisted of an informal exhibition style event for students and teachers to enable them to discover careers in different areas of science and engineering in programming and software, with the addition of lectures running throughout the night from all the different areas of the industry. The event was designed, developed and managed by young graduates, who were also available to give relevant and recent advice in an informal setting to those students considering a career in programming and software.

There were representatives from: Essex County Council Engineering, E2v, BAE Systems, Selex ES, ARU—Faculty of Science and Technology, ExploreSTEM.

Molly Galloway 10LM, who is studying GCSE Computer Science said: *"This event was really informative and I found out a lot of things I could do after I finish school."*

Emma Lidbury 10 RA: *"I found the lectures very interesting and informative. This may be a career path for me."*



Some of the students who attended this event: Shiv Sharma 10RA, Cameron Wylie 10JK, Crystal Blackburn 10JK, Katy Briant 10RA, William Payne 10RA, Molly Galloway 10LM.

Mrs G Wright, STEM Coordinator

ENGINEERING TOWER CHALLENGE

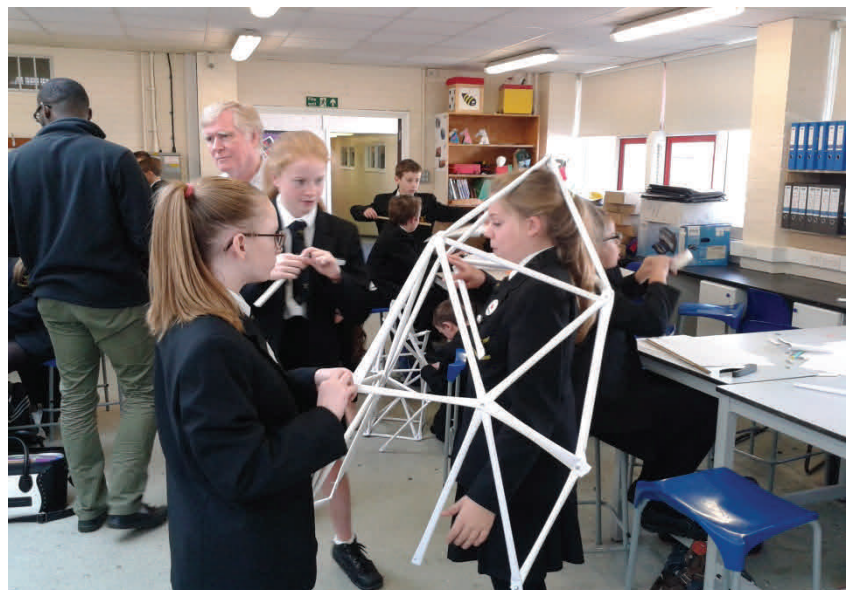
Presented by the Smallpeice Trust

On Curriculum Day, 21st October, two top set maths classes took part in a STEM event presented by Tolulope Olajide from the Smallpeice Trust, encouraging students to look at engineering as a career. After a presentation and a small building challenge the ten groups were asked to build a tower larger than 1.5 meters high that could take a load of 1.5 kg for 30 seconds. They were given a budget of £90,000 and had to purchase all of their building materials, paper, tape, clips, bolts and nuts.

At the end of the day each group presented their design and costs plus the ultimate test of their designs, the load test.



The winning group with their design. Aleasa Ali 7EB, Thomas Harrington 7HMB, Noah Beute 7DJ, Ben Lavery 7MR, Charlotte Reading 7DOF, Vesta Pozenciute 7HMB.



Picture shows how students tackled it, from a different perspective.

Mr B Fiddes, Technology Technician

STEM News

COMMUNITY SKY WATCH : ROSETTA MISSION

The nation was gripped in Rosetta fever at the beginning of November 2014 so our astronomer, Andy Gannon, decided to focus our community sky watch session on this mission so that we could find out what it was all about.

European Space Agency's Rosetta space craft and her charge, the comet lander probe Philae, has been chasing the comet 67P, since it's launch in March 2004. Rendezvous with the comet happened in August 2014, ten years after the launch. The primary mission objectives are to undertake a lengthy exploration of a comet at close quarters, to watch how it is transformed by the warmth of the Sun along its elliptical orbit and to land a probe, Philae on a comet's nucleus for in-situ analysis . Rosetta gets its name from the famous Rosetta stone that led to the deciphering of Egyptian hieroglyphics almost 200 years ago. The original target was comet 46P but after postponement of the initial launch a new target was set: Comet 67P.

Rosetta was the first spacecraft to fly close to Jupiter's orbit using only solar cells as its main power source and was the first spacecraft to orbit a comet and land on its surface.

The Philae lander was named after the island in the river Nile on which an obelisk was found that had a bilingual inscription that enabled the hieroglyphs of the Rosetta Stone to be deciphered.

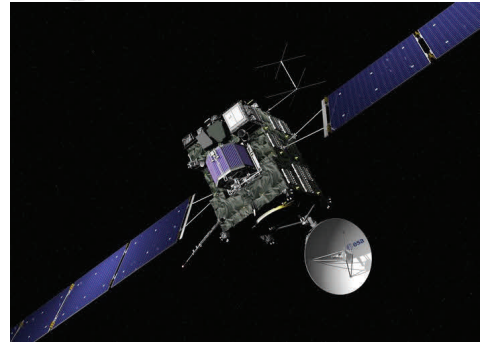
Rosetta spacecraft delivered its Philae lander to the surface of the comet for a dramatic touchdown the day after our session. The lander's planned mission ended after about 64 hours when its batteries ran out, but not before it delivered a full set of results that are now being analysed by scientists across Europe. With the Philae lander's mission complete, Rosetta will now continue its own extraordinary exploration, orbiting Comet 67P during the coming year as the enigmatic body arcs ever closer to our Sun.

Rosetta will become the first spacecraft to witness at close quarters the development of a comet's coma and the subsequent tail streaming for millions of kilometres into space. The space craft will then have to stay further from the comet to avoid the coma affecting its orbit.

In addition, as the comet nears the Sun, illumination on its surface is expected to increase. This may provide sufficient sunlight for the Philae lander, now in hibernation, to reactivate, although this is far from certain.

Early next year, Rosetta will be switched into a mode that allows it to listen periodically for beacon signals from Philae on the surface.

Community Sky Watch member, Mr Robert Allen: *"It was interesting to learn about the Rosetta space craft rendezvousing with the comet 67P and I will endeavour to go to the ESA website to watch the landing of the space probe Philae on the comet. The video footage on comets was interesting and opened my eyes to other possibilities; even if they are a bit controversial. All in all a great evening despite not being able to go outside."*



1ST KINGSMOOR BEAVERS GO INTO SPACE

1st Kingsmoor Beaver scouts came to Stewards Space School to learn enough about space to be awarded their Beaver Space Activity Badges. They learnt about the Moon and the planets and were able by the end of the session to name and identify at least one constellation in the night sky. They all went home with badges and certificates to commemorate the event.

Mrs G Wright, STEM Coordinator



Beaver scout troop with inflatable planets.

STEM News

Maintenance of Stewards Ancient Meadow

Stewards Ancient Meadow is the piece of uncultivated land stretching from Stewards car park to the cycle track. Local historians have shown that it was a meadow in the early 1800's and when Harlow was conceived and built, Stewards Ancient Meadow was identified as being an important piece of land to be conserved because of the Cow Slips and other wild flowers growing there.

For several years now, Harlow Conservation Volunteers (HCV) have cut the grass and generally tidied up the meadow, cutting back bramble and general shrubs to ensure that the area continues to be a meadow.



Harlow Conservation Volunteer mowing the meadow

Since 2009 Stewards students have helped them with this activity.

The HCV use the industrial lawn mower and instruct older students in the method of cutting grass using scythes. Stewards volunteers gathered up the cut grass and put it in compost heaps and picked up litter.

Comment from Mr A. Tomlins (HCV): 'The meadow cutting task certainly made the meadow look a lot tidier even though we only had a few students to help with the grass gathering and compost building activity. The Dog Wood in the centre of the meadow is now under control, which means it can be cut down with the mower each year and a large bramble invading the entrance to the meadow was cut back.'



Sarah Warwick, HCV and Jamie Allen raking the bramble cuttings into a compost heap.

Mrs G Wright, STEM Coordinator

TOMORROW'S ENGINEERS WEEK

Natasha Carpenter, a STEM Ambassador from Vodafone UK, came to Stewards to talk about telecommunication engineering with Year 9, 10 and 11 students during their lesson time to encourage the students to think about becoming 'Tomorrow's Engineers'. Natasha talked about how she uses STEM in her every day job and then set out to encourage the students to think outside the box. First she gave them some brain teasers to work out then she asked them to balance twelve iron nails on one nail which was inserted into a wooden block (see photograph). The students had great fun trying to do this activity and some of them actually worked out how to do it!



Natasha Carpenter, STEM Ambassador from Vodafone



The solution!



Students trying to solve the nail balancing problem

Mrs G Wright, STEM Coordinator

P.E. News

PRIMARY SCHOOL TAG RUGBY FESTIVAL

The Primary Tag Rugby festival at Stewards was attended by 8 schools this year, with St James and Water Lane bringing two teams to the competition. The standard of tag-rugby was extremely high and the games were closely contested. The games were played in an excellent spirit throughout the afternoon. Well done to Milwards who triumphed after a closely contested league phase.

Mr Sanders
P.E.



KEY: Win = 3 points, Draw = 1 point

	Katherines	Water Lane 1	Abbotsweld	St James 1	Longwood	Milwards	Jerounds	Kingsmoor	St James 2	Water Lane 2	Tries For / Against	Pts	Position
Katherines		1-1	1-2	0-0	2-0	1-1	1-0	0-0	3-0	3-0	12/4	16	4 th
Water Lane 1	1-1		1-2	2-1	2-3	2-6	0-2	1-0	3-0	2-1	14/16	13	5 th
Abbotsweld	2-1	2-1		0-0	4-2	1-2	4-3	1-1	2-1	1-0	17/11	20	2 nd
St James 1	0-0	1-2	0-0		1-1	0-1	1-2	0-0	0-0	3-0	6/6	8	=7 th
Longwood	0-2	3-2	2-4	1-1		1-5	2-2	1-1	2-1	2-1	14/19	12	6 th
Milwards	1-1	6-2	2-1	1-0	5-1		2-3	1-0	1-0	1-0	20/8	22	1 st
Jerounds	0-1	2-0	3-4	2-1	2-2	3-2		2-1	2-0	4-0	20/11	19	3 rd
Kingsmoor	0-0	0-1	1-1	0-0	1-1	0-1	0-2		0-0	3-0	6/6	8	=7 th
St James 2	0-3	0-3	1-2	0-0	1-2	0-1	0-2	0-0		0-1	2/14	2	10 th
Water Lane 2	0-3	1-2	0-1	0-3	1-2	0-1	0-4	0-3	1-0		3/19	3	9 th

Maths News

ESSEX ROYAL INSTITUTION MATHEMATICS MASTERCLASSES

For Year 9 students in 2014-15

Year 9 students Enni Nduka and Owen Harknett (9CC) have attended The Royal Institution's Mathematics master-classes, a series of six Saturday morning workshops designed to inspire and engage young people in the art and practice of mathematics outside the curriculum.

Most of these are being held in Chelmsford at KEGs with special events at Essex University in Colchester and at the Royal Institution in Mayfair.

The Royal Institution is a world famous and respected institution that was founded in 1799 with the aim of introducing new technologies and teaching science. Famous members of the RI have included Humphrey Davy and Michael Faraday.

Owen Harknett 9CC "My Maths teacher Mr Oranye nominated me to attend Mathematics Master classes to extend my knowledge. I was surprised I got picked for this opportunity and took it with both hands. When I received an email saying that I got in I was really happy.

I've now attended 2 classes and learnt about Cryptography and Josephus Flavius/Binary. It's been really fun learning about these topics and I am looking forward to the rest".



Mrs Patch Maths Department



P.E. News



YR 9 PREMIERSHIP FOOTBALL

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
QPR	5	5	0	0	20
LEICESTER	5	4	1	0	17
MAN CITY	5	3	2	0	14
BURNLEY	5	2	3	0	11
SOUTHAMPTON	5	1	4	0	8
ARSENAL	5	0	5	0	5

WINNERS

CALLUM MORGAN
RYAN LYNCH
TAYLOR YOUNG
SAM JENKINS
ALFIE POOLE

YR 10 PREMIERSHIP FOOTBALL

Team	Playe	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
QPR	7	7	0	0	28
LEICESTER	7	6	1	0	25
STOKE	7	4	2	1	21
SOUTHAMPTON	7	3	3	1	18
LIVERPOOL	7	3	3	1	18
BURNLEY	7	2	4	1	15
HULL	7	1	6	0	10
CRYSTAL PALACE	7	0	7	0	7

WINNERS

TOMMY WICKENDEN
BRADLEY RUSSELL
STANLEY SAUNDERS
CHARLIE DOWERS

PREMIERSHIP FOOTBALL

Premiership football this term has been successful once again with a large number of teams signing up to play across all year groups. The tournaments take place over one week with all teams playing against each other in a league format. This year's leagues have been fiercely contested with a large number of participants playing. As the standard of football has been so high during the competitions, this has drawn a large number of pupils from different year groups to watch. Praise must go to all of the participants for the standard of football, however special congratulations goes to the winners of this terms tournament. Both teams for Year 9 and Year 10 were called Queens Park Rangers.

Classics Day Trip

Some of Stewards Classics Twilight group enjoyed a dynamic day at Heffers Classics Forum – part of the University of Cambridge 'Festival of Ideas' on Saturday 1st November.

A range of entertaining speakers shared their specialist knowledge with us in a programme packed with topics including: Slavery in the Roman Empire, the Roman Republic, Alexander the Great, Byzantium and Delphi – as well some lively audience participation in a Balloon Debate to decide the most important literary figure in antiquity: a lot funnier than it sounds!

As Joseph Thomas (11MT) remarked afterwards, *"By the end of the day, lots of classical references and characters felt familiar just because there'd been so much information about them from different speakers."*

The trip inspired the Classics Twilight group to find out more about the winner of the Balloon Debate: Cicero, a famous Roman politician, so we're currently reading his 'dodgy' tips from two thousand years ago on 'how to win an election'...

Mrs Cadden
English & Classics Teacher

Reading News

The ability to read is taken for granted by most of us, but it's a skill that needs to be learnt and practiced in order for our students to realise their ambitions both academically and in the wider world and it continues to be a focus here at Stewards. I wanted to take this opportunity to outline the many reading schemes that we operate here at Stewards and update you on their status and the positive impact that they are having for our students.

RENAISSANCE READING

There are now over 800 Year 7-10 students who are actively using the system to practice and improve their reading. At the time of writing, ten weeks into the new school year, there have been 3000 reading quizzes taken and over 66 million words read – that's an average of over 82,000 words per student, the equivalent of each student reading Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets.

BOOKBUZZ

Stewards has once again participated in this scheme which provides all Year 7 students with a free book of their choice from a list of 18. The most popular choice this year was *Geek Girl* by Holly Smale, followed by *Stories of World War 1* by Tony Bradman. The photo shows the books being prepared for distribution to students, no mean task!



READING WEEK

The first of our reading weeks has just finished. David Walliams' new book *Awful Auntie* was read daily in the library, with the opportunity for students to enter a competition to win a pass to the front of the lunch queue for a week. A version of Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) was also run this week with students and staff alike dropping everything and reading for 15 minutes every day at midday. Reading is fast becoming a habit for many of our students and initiatives such as these go a long way towards establishing a love of reading.

ESSEX BOOK AWARDS

Students across Years 7 to 10 have been selected to participate in this scheme which involves reading books by six short-listed authors, writing and posting a review online, voting for their favourite book and attending the awards ceremony in March where they can meet the authors. Further information about the scheme and student reviews of the books can be found here: eba2015.blogspot.co.uk/

Christmas is a great time to get stuck into a good book and escape the ravages of winter, so I hope that you and your family will find some time to indulge in what is increasingly becoming an enjoyable activity for the students here at Stewards.

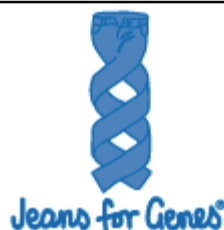
Finally, I'd like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mr Ginger Reading Manager

Charity News

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Pupils and staff raised a considerable amount through donations to several charities this term, those charities being 'Jeans For Genes' - £878.09; 'Macmillan Coffee Morning' - £356.42 and 'Children In Need' - £961.78 making a grand total of £2,196.29. Well done and thank you to everyone who contributed.



Performing Arts News

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Rehearsals for this year's school production of 'Back to the 80s' are now in full swing! The cast members are starting to learn lines, songs and dance routines in preparation for the public performances which take place on 4th, 5th and 6th March 2015. Ticket information will be published in the next edition of the newsletter and on our website. You'll have the time of your life!



Where Are They Now

JACKIE BARRY

Stewards School 1978-1985
Member of last ever Stewards 6th Form 1983-1985
BA (Hons) English Literature & History, Teesside University 1985-1988
Executive Personal Assistant Diploma
Executive Personal Assistant to President of Bechtel Global Infrastructure (the largest construction and engineering company in the United States)
STEM Ambassador
Kickboxer and writer



JADE LUCAS

Since leaving Stewards I have studied Fashion and Clothing at Harlow College and am applying to Bournemouth to study Special Effects Hair and Make-up



Jamie Sams went to University Campus Suffolk (UCS) his degree is a BA Honours in Computer Games Design.

Year Group Information

YEAR 7

A large number of Year 7 have had a very positive start at Stewards Academy, but I am concerned by the number of detentions that are being handed out for lack of homework or poor behaviour. Can you please ensure that you check and sign the planners regularly, and please contact tutors in the first instance if you get the impression that not enough homework is being set. There has also been a noticeable deterioration in the number of properly equipped pencil cases. Can you please refer to the planner as to what



equipment is required, and ensure that your child has it all stored in an appropriate pencil case for the start of the new term.

On a positive note, we are in the middle of enterprise week, and all tutor groups are working very hard to raise money for local charities, bringing in cakes, sweets, prizes for tombolas and arranging various competitions. With just two days to go, we have already raised well over a £100, and PM are in the lead raising almost £80 in 2 days. I would like to wish you all a very Happy Xmas, and look forward to seeing all of Year 7 starting 2015 on a positive note.

Mrs Ellis Head of Year 7

YEAR 8

This half term has, once again, been an industrious and productive one. As well as working hard to meet and exceed their subject targets, pupils have also enjoyed a range of exciting and enriching extra-curricular opportunities.

On Friday 7th November, we were invited to participate in the Schools' Film Festival 2014 showing of *The Book Thief*. Our thanks go to Miss Lavelle for organising the trip. I would also like to congratulate our pupils on their excellent behaviour and mature attitude throughout the day.

In the Spring term we will invite parents and pupils to an Upper School Courses evening. The aim of the event is to support pupils in making decisions about the courses they will study in Year 9. There will be information on the guidance available, the courses on offer and progression routes open to pupils. Subject teachers will be available to discuss the course content and to answer any questions that pupils or parents may have. Further Education and Careers advisors will also be able to offer information on planning for the future. To further support this process, pupils will have the opportunity to participate in options 'taster' sessions, the first of these being on Wednesday 17th December.

On behalf of the Year 8 Team, I would like to thank you for your support throughout the term. We look forward to working with you and your children again next term and wish you all a peaceful Christmas break.

Mrs Ramsey Head of Year 8

YEAR 9

Congratulations on completing your first term in Year 9.

You should be very proud of the way you have conducted yourself so far. The majority of you are quickly becoming mature students, demonstrating the right credentials to be very successful in Year 11. It is great to see you working hard in your core subjects as well as your GCSE options. Please keep up the good work.

If you do feel you need to improve in your studies then please remember the 5 R's that we have talked about in assemblies. Using the 5 R's will allow you to study more effectively. You will also soon realise that you need to work with those around you, rather than working against them.

Resilience - Do you have the ability to work through hard tasks, stay away from distractions and can you respond to pressure?

Respect - Do you respect yourself and the staff around you from the moment you walk through the school gates?

Resourcefulness - Can you work effectively with the resources around you? Do you have the confidence to ask staff for help?

Responsibility - Do you take responsibility for your own learning? Are you capable of being organised with your studies and equipment?

Reflection - Can you take on board constructive criticism? Are you prepared you improve your work? Take time over the Christmas period to think about this and how you will better yourself in the New Year. You could set a new goal maybe or think of a New Year's resolution? The Christmas period is also a time to relax and unwind as I know this term has been very busy for you.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr G Hughes Head of Year 9

Year Group Information

YEAR 10

As the end of a busy term approaches I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the year 10 on a very productive first term. With our bi weekly progress checks the students have been working extremely hard to keep themselves on track with their coursework and homework. I must highly commend the 45 students who have achieved an astounding complete set of 'YES' marks for this term. I would also like to recognise the efforts of those students trying to convert a No to a Yes whether it is through 1:1 support, revision classes or study hub. Their positive attitude towards their learning is having a clearly marked effect on their progress.

Thank you to everyone for their attendance at parents evening. I hope you found the evening as productive and informative as the staff and students. The successes this term are endless congratulations to the players in the Harlow Girls football tournament and senior basketball fixtures. Well done to Keanu Jackson, Lee Hoare and Liam Goward who passed out with honours from the Essex Fire Cadet Training course this week. We have also had a number of published authors within the year group and I look forward to reading the publications in the New Year. Finally to commend the six students who spoke with such confidence and clarity to the visiting teachers from Finland on the 1st December. They represented Year 10 with confidence and did themselves, their families and Stewards proud.

I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Miss Mc Garry Head of Year 10

YEAR 11

Applications for 6th Form and college are in full swing and it is important that all pupils complete these carefully and preferably in pencil first. The applications should also go to Mrs Hampstead or Mr Cooper who will check and send as appropriate. I suggest that they also keep a copy for their records. This year group is casting its sights far and wide with applications to London, Essex and Hertfordshire. I am really happy to report that Isaac Lucia has passed the entrance exam and interview and has been offered a scholarship to the prestigious City of London Boys School. Isaac was one of five pupils from approximately 150, to be offered a full scholarship. We are all really proud of his achievement.

The English Literature GCSE exam is on January 8th. All students know what needs to be revised and should be doing this over the holidays. The Year 11 trial exams begin on January 19th. These are extremely important and are a real indication of the progress the students have made. Regular revision should be taking place.

As we approach 2015, exams and leaving get ever closer. The staff are here to support both the students and the parents. Any concerns need to be raised sooner rather than later to avoid unnecessary stress. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful new year. Thank you all for your on-going support.

Ms Batterham Head of Year 11



Isaac Lucia 11NF

Important Information

SCHOOL CLOSURE GUIDANCE

Essex County Council has introduced a new system to allow parents/carers to access information about school closures faster and more effectively via the internet. The link to the relevant page is <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx> Alternatively you can access the information by selecting the Essex County Council website, click on 'Education and Schools' at the bottom of the page, then select 'schools', 'dates' and 'emergency closures'. The Essex County Council website will be updated by Stewards Academy as soon as any decision to close has been made. The radio stations will still continue to support schools in advertising closures and will also refer listeners to the new Essex County Council website. Any school closure will also be advertised on Stewards Academy's website and by e-mail via 'parent mail'. Please note that any decision to close the Academy will only be made in extreme circumstances.

Mrs Avis Business Manager

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

19th

TERM ENDS - 1.00PM

JANUARY

5th

TERM STARTS

7th

Music School Enrolment 4.00-6.00pm

14th

Music School Starts

15th

Year 7 Parents Evening 4.00pm

FEBRUARY

5th

Year 8 Parents Evening 4.00pm

9th

Curriculum Day

11th-15th

New York Trip

13th-22nd

Ski Trip

16th-20th

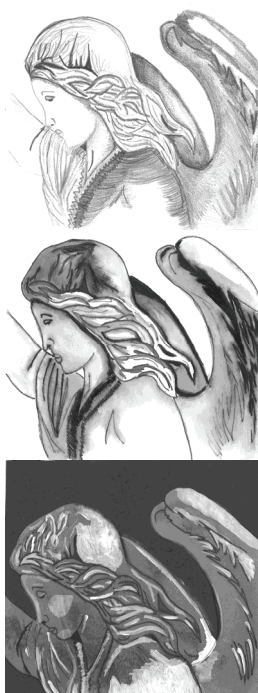
HALF TERM

Following a recent visit to St Clare Hospice by the school choir we received a letter of thanks from Mrs Joolie Harper. *"Your students did Stewards and themselves very proud they showed total respect to all of the patients and maturity beyond their years. It is something special we all remember for ever."*

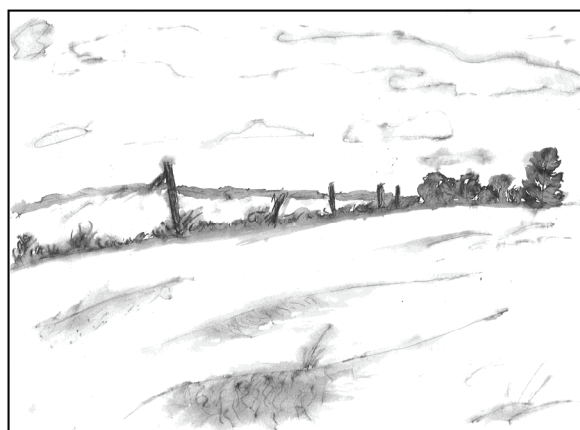
Christmas Card Competition

1st - Martha Nyemba 9EM

2nd - Nicole Blake 10JS



3rd - Paula Lela 8SL



*Merry
Christmas*

