



**EASTER
2014**

Stewards Academy

Newsletter



Name _____

Tutor Group: _____

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

This has been an eventful term and I am sure everyone is looking forward to the Easter holiday. Enclosed you will see details of the Year 11 Easter Revision Programme (7 days over the 2 weeks). We are also running a 3 day Maths Revision Programme for Year 6 pupils from Longwood, Katherines, Water Lane and Abbotsweld, funded by Essex Local Authority. A highlight of the Spring Term is the School Production. My congratulations to the wonderful Performing Arts Team, all the performers:- singers, dancers, musicians and our superb backstage and support crew for making "We Will Rock You" such a fantastic show. It is a superb team effort from making the costumes to painting the stage set, through to hours of dedicated rehearsals and practice – but it is all so worthwhile. This year the technical elements of the show were also superb. My thanks to Miss Johnson and Ms Batterham, the co-directors, to all the staff and to all the students who worked so hard to reach such a high standard of performance – enjoyed by so many.



After over 20 years at Stewards we are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Archer, Head of History and RE who will be retiring at Easter. As all her students will know, Mrs Archer is an outstanding teacher and a brilliant historian who has a wealth of subject knowledge and can convey to all her pupils a genuine love of history and a depth of understanding that is unrivalled. We wish her a very happy retirement and she leaves the History department in good hands with Mr King, himself a former student of Stewards.



Congratulations to Miss McDevitt who has been promoted as Subject Leader for Maths as Mrs Ginger, Assistant Headteacher, takes on the new role of Pupil Premium Co-ordinator. To assist Mrs Ginger we have two new posts of Academic Mentor – Miss Dangerfield and Mr Rooney, who will start their new posts later this summer. Congratulations also to Miss King who has been appointed Assistant Subject Leader for the Maths department.

We have a number of staff who work in other schools across the County for various reasons and often they will say to me that there is no other school like Stewards. The professionalism and dedication of the staff is part of the reason for this; the support systems and genuine desire for everyone to succeed is another part; the sense of collegiality and being part of something special is yet another and of course the fact we have so many delightful, kind and thoughtful young people completes the picture. We strive to ensure that our students will have outstanding teaching and achieve well, that they will have wonderful opportunities across the curriculum, enjoy a rich extra-curricular programme and that they will grow into confident and accomplished young people who will be successful in whatever field they choose.

To all of our parents we express our appreciation of your support.
I wish you all a very Happy Easter.



Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher

Important Information

Year 11 Easter Revision/Catch-up Extended Schools

Week 1

	Monday 7th April	Tuesday 8th April	Wednesday 9th April
10.00am – 3.00pm (Lunch – 12.30–1.00pm)	<p>Geography in Room 41 with Mr Hickman and Room 40 with Miss Connaughton</p> <p>Art in Art Room 3 with Mr Scholtes and Art Room 2 with Mrs Warren</p> <p>Maths (invited students only) in Room 38 with Mr Oranye till 12.30pm</p> <p>Maths in Room 19 with Miss King</p> <p>French in Room 37 with Miss Gilmé</p> <p>Spanish in Room 36 with Miss Dove</p> <p>GCSE & A Level Polish/ Russian (EAL students) In the Library with Miss Wichowski</p>	<p>Drama in Drama Studio with Miss Johnson & Mrs Batterham</p> <p>Art in Art Room 3 with Mr Scholtes and Art Room 2 with Mrs Warren</p> <p>Maths (invited students only) in Room 38 with Mr Oranye till 12.30pm</p> <p>Core Science in Lab 4 with Miss Walsh</p> <p>ICT in ICT2 with Mr Locke</p> <p>French in Room 37 with Miss Gilmé</p> <p>Geography in Room 40 with Miss Connaughton</p> <p>GCSE & A Level Polish/ Russian (EAL students) In the Library with Miss Wichowski</p>	<p>Drama in Drama Studio with Miss Johnson & Mrs Batterham</p> <p>Media in ICT6 with Miss Francis</p> <p>ICT in ICT2 with Mr Locke and ICT4 with Mr Marriott</p> <p>BTEC Science (all welcome) in Lab 5 with Miss Ellis</p>

Governors News

As I write this, the Easter Holidays are fast approaching, although two of my favourite events are still ahead of us, Presentation Evening and the Cultural Fashion Event. These two together with the school production really make this term both busy and enjoyable for us all. The amount of effort and enthusiasm that goes into these events is really remarkable from both pupils and staff and it is wonderful to see how much enjoyment they get from participating. We should congratulate all those involved.

Next term sees the exam season starting in earnest. May I on behalf of all the governors wish all those involved success in your exams and, for those leaving in the summer, for your future careers. I hope to see you on results day.

Mr Tarling
Chair of Governors

Important Information

Year 11 Easter Revision/Catch-up Extended Schools

	Thursday 10 th April	Friday 11 th April	PLEASE NOTE -
10.00am – 3.00pm (Lunch – 12.30 – 1.00pm)	<p>Sociology (invited students only) in Room 34 with Mrs Sherwood</p> <p>ICT in ICT2 with Mr Locke and ICT 4 with Mr Marriott</p> <p>Maths in Room 42 with Mr Shah</p> <p>Media in ICT6 with Miss Francis</p> <p>BTEC Science (all welcome) in Lab 5 with Miss Ellis</p>	<p>Dance in the Dance Studio with Miss Holden</p> <p>Maths in Room 42 with Mr Shah</p> <p>Maths in Room 19 with Miss King</p> <p>Media in ICT6 with Miss Francis</p>	<p>Students do not need to be in school uniform, but will need to bring along the correct equipment for their classes and their own refreshments, as the school canteen will not be open. A register will be taken at each session.</p> <p>All students and staff must sign in as they arrive in school in the green folder located in the Student Entrance.</p> <p>Drama sessions take priority over other revision classes.</p>

Week 2

	Tuesday 15 th April	Thursday 17 th April
10.00am – 3.00pm (Lunch – 12.30 – 1.00pm)	<p>Triple Science in Lab 3 with Mr Perrin</p>	<p>History in Room 28 with Mrs Erwood</p> <p>Geography in Room 41 with Mr Hickman</p>

2014 UKMT Mathematics Challenge

We are very proud to announce that 25 talented mathematicians in Years 9, 10 and 11 have been awarded certificates after competing in the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge.

The Intermediate Challenge is aimed at pupils in Year 11 or below and involves answering a series of multiple choice questions focused on mathematical problem-solving which challenges students to think creatively and logically. Gold, Silver and Bronze prizes are awarded to the top 40% of participants entered nationally.

Our top performers were William Payne, Shiv Sharma, Isaac Lucia and George Strachan. They are invited to participate in the Intermediate Maths Olympiad and the 'European Kangaroo' challenge. These are maths papers taken by pupils from more than 30 countries. Congratulations to all the students that took part in this years' Intermediate Maths and especially to our award winners below:

Gold Award: William Payne, Shiv Sharma, Isaac Lucia, George Strachan

Silver Award: Becky Dodd, Filip Kusnir, Emma Lidbury, Alex Dodd, Matthew Fleming, Philip Howlett, Ewan Isted, Jacob Juniper, Harry Butler.

Bronze Award: William Johnson, Alice Neville, Bethan Rumsey, Mason Cook, Kyle Francis, Holly Humphreys, Jack Melluish, Chloe Mitchell, Joseph Thomas, Olivia Warnes, Joshua Wayman, Thomas Goodenough.



William Payne and Shiv Sharma with Mr Shah

Mrs Patch Maths Curriculum Development Technician

Sufiya Ahmed Visit

On Tuesday 4th March, Stewards Academy hosted a visit by the author of *Secrets of the Henna Girl*, Sufiya Ahmed, as part of the Essex Book Festival.

In preparation for the event, in excess of eighty students across Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 read the book and, with questions prepared, attended four sessions throughout the day during which Sufiya talked about her educational and working background, her struggle to become a published author and the inspiration behind her novel. Students re-enacted the wedding engagement scene from the book by dressing in authentic Muslim wedding attire and dancing in the best Bollywood tradition.

The main event of the day was open to members of the public, parents and staff. The central

theme of the book is forced marriage and Sufiya read the scene where the main character, Zeba learns that she is to marry her cousin, Asif against her will. A lively and entertaining question and answer session followed with diverse questions ranging from Sufiya's writing technique to her previous working life as a House of Commons researcher and of course, the subject of forced marriage itself.

Feedback from the event has been extremely positive, from both students and adults alike. One Year 9 pupil, Molly Galloway said *"It was a very motivational talk and one of the things that I took away from the session was to never give up on your dreams!"*



Simon Ginger Reading Manager

Technology Department News

BOOK & DESIGNER OF THE TERM

Sir James Dyson, who is a British inventor, product designer and founder of the Dyson Company, is the next designer of the term. Please come and read our books and complete the quizzes located in the Technology corridor.



KS3 CLUBS IN TECHNOLOGY

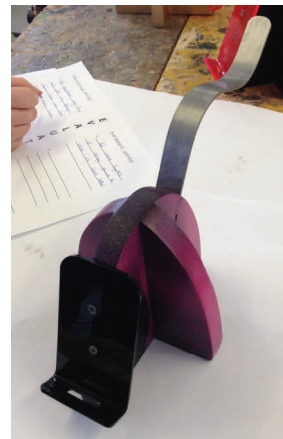
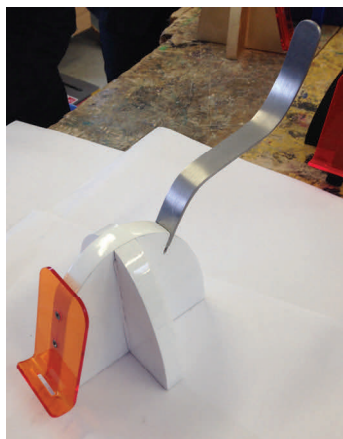
The KS3 clubs continue to be a success and pupils have been making aprons this term. There are still some places available in the Textiles Club on a Tuesday evening. Next term we will be making summer dresses. We hope to see you there soon!



YEAR 10 MP3 DOCKING STATIONS

Year 10 Product Design students had the opportunity to work with three different materials (wood, metal and plastic) to produce an aesthetically pleasing and functional MP3 docking station with headphone holder. Their creativity and hard work paid off as I'm sure you will agree they look fantastic. Well done!

Mrs Martin



YEAR 10 CONSTRUCTION

Year 10 Construction pupils have started the first phase of the landscaping project at the front of the Construction Centre. Pupils are using skills learnt during the last 18 months and putting them into practice to rejuvenate the appearance of the area in which they work and using their skills in a real life project.

Mr Martin



Performing Arts Department News

SCHOOL PRODUCTION – WE WILL ROCK YOU

Told through the songs of QUEEN, 'We Will Rock You' is a story set in the year 2304. All musical instruments have been banned and only digitally created music is allowed, distributed by the Globalsoft corporation and its chief executive, Killer Queen. Our hero is the 'dreamer', Galileo, who longs to 'break free' from this cyber-world and find the answers to all the questions that he hears in his head ('Why do fools fall in love?' 'Do you hear the drums, Fernando?' 'What does the fox say?'). With the help of the Bohemians and his 'chick' Scaramouche, Galileo embarks on a mission to find the lost instruments, destroy Killer Queen and bring back rock and roll!

Preparations for this year's production began right at the beginning of the school year, with singing sessions for keen students to help them learn some of the show's biggest numbers such as 'Radio GaGa', 'One Vision' and 'I Want To Break Free'. These were followed by the auditions, where students had to learn a short dance routine and sing an extract from one of the show's songs. Rehearsals then began in November, with the selected cast members working hard to learn all their lines, songs and dance routines and even attending a Sunday rehearsal to perfect their scenes. Students from Year 10 and 11 also participated by being part of the pit band, stage crew and technical team.

As the production drew nearer, there was a buzz around school as each year group was treated to a taster performance from the show as part of their assembly; Hannah Kizilcan's performance of 'Somebody to Love' accompanied by the five 'Teen Queens' (Molly-Nicole Snow, Rosie Hummerstone, Maisy Treacher, Aimee-Louise Shipp and Poppy Rogers). During lunchtimes, the principal actors walked around the school as part of a 'spot the character' competition for Year 7 and 8. The week ended with a performance in the quad in front of the whole school which featured the songs 'I Want It All', 'Hammer To Fall', 'We Are The Champions' and of course 'We Will Rock You'.

The final rehearsal was seen by pupils from 10 of our local primary schools. Here are a few of their comments: *"I loved it! The show was great. The outfits, actors and singers were fantastic."*

"The performance was outstanding. All the hard work definitely paid off."

"It was awesome and joyful."

Evening performances took place on 12th, 13th and 14th March and were enjoyed by parents, families, pupils,

staff and even past pupils, all of whom came to support the show. Overall, the production was a huge success and a great reflection of the many months of hard work, dedication and commitment from the cast and crew. For many of the Year 11 students involved, it was their final performance at Stewards and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their efforts and wish them well in their future endeavours.

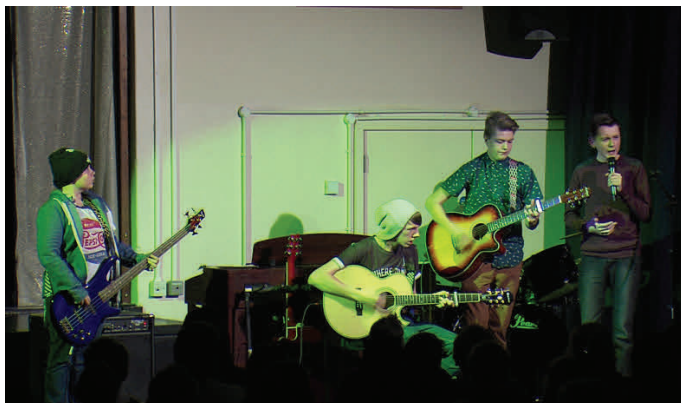


THE PERFORMING ARTS TEAM

Performing Arts Department News

YEAR 9 EVENING

For our Year 9 Performing Arts students taking their first steps at GCSE, this event was an opportunity to showcase some of their current work to an audience. Drama work included devised pieces 'Appearances', 'Choices' and 'Cold War', plus extracts from Benjamin Zephaniah's play 'Face' which they are currently studying in class. Both dance classes performed their own renditions of Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' and there was also a piece from the Twilight Dance group, 'Puppets v. Robots'. Music students formed bands and played songs including 'Boulevard of Broken Dreams', 'Counting Stars' and 'Let Me Go'. The evening ended with Harry Burling and Tyler Causton's performance of 'Hey Jude', which had the whole audience joining in. It was a very successful evening and the students performed confidently and professionally.



MUSIC SCHOOL

Stewards Music School gives students the opportunity to learn a musical instrument of their choice. Lessons take place on Wednesday after school in the Music Department.

We currently have specialist tutors in:

Piano, Keyboard, Drums, Guitar, Clarinet, Trumpet, Saxophone, Flute.

Current fees for lessons are:

£84.00 per term for 10 x 15-minute lessons

£140.00 per term for 10 x 30-minute lessons

Families eligible for Free School Meals can apply for a tuition voucher from Essex County Council which can be used for a substantial discount on fees.

We strongly recommend that any student who is studying, or considering studying Music at GCSE should be receiving formal tuition on their instrument.

Please contact Miss Tovey for further information, or visit essexonlinemusic.co.uk



New York 2014

I have now officially resigned from running any more trips to New York, but don't panic Mr Harman has been trained over a number of years to take over the position of Trip Leader, to be honest he has been doing most of the work for the last three years! This was my 14th Trans-atlantic trip (one being to Toronto) with Stewards Academy. I have decided that although I still love the city and love taking pupils to experience The Big Apple it is time for me to pass on the delightful job.

This trip started before we left when unfortunately at the last minute one pupil had to drop out for medical reasons, her doctor would not let her fly. The response by one pupil was "*Can't she get a ferry?*" This trip certainly increases pupils' knowledge, the pupil who made this comment was immediately sent to look up how far away New York was and to calculate both the distance and the time it would take to go to New York by boat! Before we leave I obviously hold a Parents Information Evening, I give out all the instructions and recommendations of clothes and money etc. One point that I make is that liquids must be in plastic bags (for hand luggage), little did I realise that one pupil would try pouring his mouthwash into a plastic bag to put in his suitcase! This experiment wasn't successful and he did actually take the bottle. This year will be in my memory as the year the snow fell in one lump! After the constant rain of the UK, I was looking forward to the snow and sunny crisp mornings in New York, little did I know what would happen!

We left school at 7.30am and arrived at Heathrow with no incident. We all managed to check in our suitcases and get through security, do our duty free shopping (this group were restrained and didn't buy everything in sight), and eventually head towards the boarding gate. Josh is selected for a "body search" prior to boarding, I am pretty sure that the "onesie" he was wearing was the main reason! There had been warnings about high winds that day but as there were no delays at Heathrow I wasn't that concerned. We



started our take off, I can honestly say that in all my experience of flying (I have been flying for 52 years) and have endured 3 emergency landings (not with Stewards), I have never encountered such an awful take off. The wind was buffeting the plane and it was almost traversing a crab motion along the runway. A long way down the runway we did get airborne and again we weren't going in a straight line, then the roller coaster experience of turbulence. It was hair raising for all! A rather pungent smell of "bad eggs" occurred and we all blamed Mr Harman! Eventually we climbed to a high enough altitude, the seat belt sign came off and it is musical chairs time, so that pupils can sit next to their friends. Next task is looking at the entertainment we have on offer. This was Colyn Edmondson's time to get excited

exclaiming "*Oh wow, they have got Pepper Pig!*" During the flight we had an immigration form to complete, this year it was quite successful and only a few pupils had to re do them, but Holly Fegan asked the inevitable question "*Is Stewards my family?*" Mrs Erwood would have been proud!

We arrive at the hotel, everything is ready, room keys distributed – I give the pupils 30 minutes to dump their cases and check their rooms and we are off out again. Many pupils want to collapse, we have been travelling for 18 hours. I know the best way is to "keep going" so that we move our body clocks on. Once out in the streets of New York the buzz and lights of Times Square invigorate the pupils and energy levels rise again.

I am up early next morning to get my morning fix of coffee, and watch the city begin to wake up, there are some light snow flurries but it's not settling. It seems a lovely morning and I am confused about the debate on TV as to whether schools should open or close due to the snow. We walk the pupils to a typical New York Deli for breakfast, we arrive, all 47 of us unannounced and suddenly the place swings into action, staff arrive from nowhere filling up the self-service trays and seeing to our every need. There is no doubt that New York cafes are never full, they find a way to serve you somehow. Out of breakfast and the sky is full of snow clouds, it's snowing more heavily now, settling and there are already snow

New York 2014

street cleaners on the "sidewalks" shovelling the snow away. I can't see beyond half way up the Empire State Building and the weather is looking definitely worrying. However, we are going on the subway down to catch the Staten Island Ferry so I am thinking it will probably be better in an hour.

We emerge from the subway station to be confronted with a wipe out of snow, it's already about 6 inches deep! I am sure it dropped in one lump as we travelled on the subway. We can't even see the top of the smaller buildings and so there would be no chance of seeing the Statue of Liberty from the ferry. Change of plan is called for, we decide to walk up to the Memorial for 9/11 and do that bit first. This trip is usually about a 10 minute walk, however, I had not contemplated the horizontal blizzard in our faces, not being able to see, and although there were snow ploughs beginning to clear the roads, they stack the snow up against the side walk and you have to climb over it to cross! I am at the back in the most ridiculous snow jacket (green, orange and zebra stripe) but it was TK Maxx cheap and snow proof and highly visible, when Mr Harman comes running back, stating the pupils are "*round the corner*", he goes to check if the memorial is open. I get to the next turning, I can't see anyone! Then I look more closely, they are all huddled in doorways with their backs to the blizzard imitating penguins! Memorial is shut, change of plan again, there is only one thing needed, new boots (mine are soaking), some pupils have converses on (really not suitable), we all need a hot drink. McDonalds it must be! Pupils are given time off to shop in Century 21 (huge discount store) and warm up! I buy new boots, converse child buys more of the same! Sometimes they have to learn the hard way. Back to the ferry, the skies have cleared enough to see the Statue of Liberty and surprisingly there is little wind, it's almost warm!

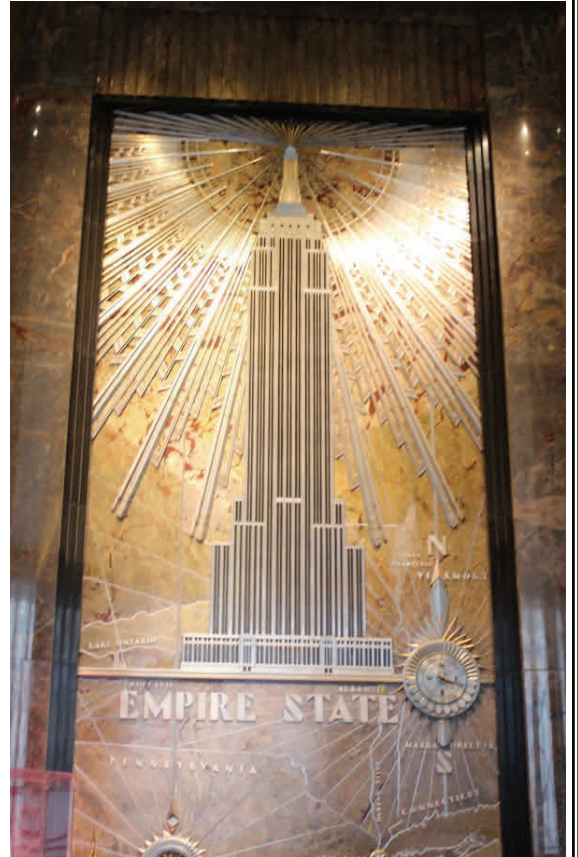
There is one tradition that must be kept, and that's the group photo on the Brooklyn Bridge. The whole of lower Manhattan is "shut", and strangely very quiet. There are few on the

streets except the mad 47 of Harlow, Essex. We are struggling to walk, we lose boots in snow drifts, Jamie Ibbot falls over 3 times. Mr Marriott has to help me across most road crossings! It is horrendous conditions but my huge compliments must go to the pupils, not one of them moaned! And when I announced, after the Brooklyn Bridge photograph, "*This is enough, back to the hotel and shopping in Macy's*" (next door to the hotel) they were so grateful!

Due to the weather this year, we had to re-schedule most of the itinerary. Once the snow passed, it was the slush problem, huge puddles that needed jumping or in my case wading through. We did miss out on the skywalk but other than that we managed to do all on the list. Including the trip over to the Jersey Gardens Shopping Outlet, waiting for buses in -15 temperatures (Penguin formation required again.) We

went to the Stardust Diner, for our "group" meal and were entertained by the singing waiters. Mr Marriot and Mrs Ellis took pupils up the Empire State Building and we all visited Grand Central and 5th Avenue stores.

My favourite part of the trip was due to an unusual mistake by my successor. Due to the difficult walking conditions, we decided to subway to Central Park for Ice Skating. To get off the subway we need to be near 59th street, we jump on to the train. I am on a different carriage with my group and realise it's a fast train, it doesn't stop! At 72nd I do a typical Fargeot reaction, jump off the train and shout. Somehow my voice penetrates the noise of the station and the steel of the subway cars - all disembark including a very confused Mr Harman. "*We need 92nd*" he says, "*No Mr Harman we needed 59th!*" However, many years ago our



New York 2014

hotel was located near here and I know we can walk to the Dakota Building and Strawberry Fields. One pupil asks *"is this where Elton John was killed?"* I inform him Elton John is still alive and it was John Lennon (sometimes I feel my age). We start walking across Central Park to the Ice Skating, the snow is about a foot deep on the grass but every path has been cleared. Large snowflakes where you can see their crystal formation settle on us. Its gentle snow, dry and absolutely beautiful, everything you imagine about Central Park in the snow! We come across a statue of Christopher Columbus, where Mr Harman tries to inform the pupils it is the Chris Columbus of Harry Potter director fame. Danny replies *"No sir, he's the first bloke who went to the moon!"* As I said there is always something to teach these young minds in unlikely environments!

We arrive back to the UK all safe but absolutely exhausted, I spend 2 days sleeping. On return to school we have a meeting to give out the pupil awards. They also give me an expensive fountain pen to say thank you. This was greatly appreciated and will be treasured for my life! They were a fantastic group to take and I hope I have inspired them to travel throughout their lives. My staff were superb; Mr Harman will be an excellent Trip leader, Mr Marriott passed his apprenticeship of trip helper with flying colours (it will be easier in the future as he won't have to look after me!) Mrs Ellis did a sterling HOY job, even though her sense of direction is somewhat limited! Some of my memories are:

- The Central Park snow walk.
- The huge rooms allocated this year, one with 4 double beds (lots of jealousy from others)
- My upgrade on the plane home - thank you Mr Harman for arranging - not business class but I got more leg room and two seats!
- The girls complaining about their heating not working – it helps if you don't unplug it to plug in your hair dryers!
- The snow! Painful and beautiful
- The Penguin formation
- Alistair and Tufail's continuous comments, enthusiasm and charm
- DF's group (we were the best at registering!)
- Tyler Hampson and Daniel Millar photography skills
- The ice skating!
- The fantastic group of 43 pupils!
- My stupid but very effective jacket – allowing all to find me at anytime

Thank you to Stewards Academy, Ms Murthar, all staff and pupils who have been on these fantastic 14 trips!

Mrs Fargeot



Westminster Visit

Pupils from Stewards were among nearly 1000 young people from all corners of the UK in attendance at Westminster Abbey on Monday March 10th for the Commonwealth Day Observance, Britain's largest annual inter-faith gathering. The celebration was attended by Her Majesty The Queen and their Royal Highnesses The Duke of Edinburgh, The Prince of Wales, The Duchess of Cornwall, The Earl and The Countess of Wessex. This year's Observance celebrated the 2014 Commonwealth theme 'Team Commonwealth.' This was the fourth consecutive year when Stewards pupils have had the honour of being present at this service. The pupils were treated to an inspirational speech by the now world famous schoolgirl campaigner Malala Yousafzai. Paralympian Tanni Grey-Thompson and Lord Sebastian Coe also spoke to the congregation. The eight Year 11 pupils who attended found it a very thought provoking occasion and were particularly inspired by the passion in Malala's words. Mrs Waters, who took the pupils on the day, said *'It was fantastic to be part of such an important annual event and listen to the address by The Queen and the other speakers. The pupils have been a credit to Stewards Academy and they will treasure the memory of today for many years to come.'*



Mrs Erwood
Assistant Headteacher

Charity News

SPORT RELIEF

13 staff from Stewards Academy took part in the Sport Relief Games at the Olympic Stadium on Sunday the 23rd of March. Mr Sanders, Mr Li, Mr Harman and Miss Mc Garry all ran 6 miles while Mrs Goddard, Mrs Sherwood, Miss King and Miss Walsh ran 3 miles around the Olympic Stadium. Well done to Miss Mc Devitt, Mrs Morland-Banks, Mrs Deveta, Ms Buckfield and Miss Dangerfield who swam a relay of 5km in the 50 metre Olympic pool.



Work Related Learning News

LEVEL 1 NVQ HAIRDRESSING OPTION

Year 10 Hairdressers completed their first 'customer assessment' earlier this term.

Enlisting volunteers to be their models: **Katie Turrell 10DN, Olivia Mahoney 10MT, Sissy Gumble 10RP, Angel McClair 10RMP, Amber Brown 10 DH, Jaleigh Albone 10MH, Megan Rogers 10RA and Tara Jeffreys 10RMP** washed, dried and then styled their models hair to perfection. All students passed their first milestone test and enjoyed the nerve racking process too. And the models said 'I felt bootiful!'

Harlow College Interviews took place in the Conference Room in February. Year 11 students applied for their courses earlier in the year and met with the College subject leaders to learn more about their chosen courses and to confirm the qualifications they will need to attain, before moving on to the next stage of their education path. Sixth Form interviews and interviews at other Colleges within the area are taking place during the next few weeks too.

There are still opportunities to visit Colleges (**see the noticeboard in the Careers Room in Block 3**) not only for Year 11 students but a good opportunity for Year 10 students to get ahead in their research for next year, when *they* will be choosing their courses. Please see Mr Cooper and Mrs Hampstead for further information.

SKILLS SHOW – YEAR 10

Painting and Decorating, Electrics, Hospitality, Childcare, Engineering, Plumbing – Year 10 students had the chance to learn exactly what a career in these vocations meant earlier this term when they visited the Apprenticeship Skills Show.

Parents joined students later in the day to see what they had been up to and learned more themselves about apprenticeship opportunities in the area and how to apply.

Quote from parent:

'Thank you for giving students this brilliant opportunity – I wish I could have done this when I was at School'.

Katie Turrell said 'I was really pleased with how my assessment went. I think I've progressed with my hairdressing since we started in September and I can't wait to learn more hairdressing skills'.

Katie will be travelling to and from the Vidal Sassoon Hair Salon in London, for her work placement.



WORK EXPERIENCE 23RD – 27TH JUNE

Year 10 students are trying hard to find work placements – it's difficult.

If you are able to offer a placement or have contacts who might be able to help – please contact Mrs Hampstead on 01279 421951 or email jhampstead@stewardsacademy.org

Thank you.

Mrs Hampstead
Vocational Learning Mentor

P.E. Department News

ESSEX CUP FINAL!

Huge congratulations to the Year 9 Netball Team for making it all the way through to the Essex Plate Final which was held at Redbridge Sports Centre (Barkingside) on Tuesday 25 March.

The journey to the final...Stewards had a convincing win against Lammas School and Sports College (Leyton) on 11 March: 5-1 up at the end of the first quarter; 14-1 up at the end of the second quarter; 16-1 up at the end of the third quarter. Final score was 24-2. This win took Stewards through to the semi-final of the Essex Plate. Luckily we got a home draw but were up against stiff competition playing Helena Romanes School, (Dunmow). After the first quarter Stewards were down by one goal, 2-3. At the end of the second quarter Stewards were losing 5-6. At the end of the third quarter Stewards had pulled back to take a 2 goal lead, 10-8 and at the end of a very tense fourth quarter, Stewards took a three goal lead to eventually win the game, 13-10.

The final, (Stewards V West Hatch) was a very tense affair ... at the end of the first quarter the score was level at 6-6. At the end of the second quarter West Hatch took a 3 goal lead 13-9 and at the end of the third quarter this lead was extended to 5 goals, 18-13. The last quarter was truly nail biting as Stewards came back very strong but unfortunately the clock ran down too quickly and the final score was West Hatch 20 Stewards 19!

Many congratulations to the Year 9 Netball Team who have worked and trained very hard together throughout the netball season: **Darcy Giddings / Lauren Sykes / Alice Neville / Mollie Jarvis / Sara King / Becky Dodd / Izzy Dorkin / Megan Cunningham.**

Mrs Goddard Assistant Headteacher

Apologies to Alice Neville as her name was unfortunately missed out of the squad list in the last Newsletter.



HARLOW SCHOOLS 7 A SIDE GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Well done to the Year 9 Girls football team who competed in the Harlow Schools tournament at Passmores on Wednesday 5th February. They remained undefeated throughout the pool stages but were knocked out of the competition on goal difference. Well done to the girls. Squad: Becky Dodd, Sophie Blackmore, Lauren Sykes, Phoebe Jewell, Izzy Dorkin, Alex Lubbock, Rebecca Harrison and Mollie Jarvis. Thanks to Ms Blackmore for all her hard work and dedication to the team.

Upcoming Fixtures:

Harlow Rounders League @ Stewards



Wednesday 7/5/14	Thursday 15/5/14	Thursday 22/5/14	Wednesday 4/6/14	Thursday 12/6/14	Wednesday 18/6/14
Year 7/8	Senior (Year 9/10)	Year 7/8	Senior (Year 9/10)	Year 7/8	Senior (Year 9/10)

P.E. Department News

SKI TRIP

Stewards Academy brought the Winter Olympics a little closer to home when 49 pupils and 7 members of staff headed off for the snowy slopes of Folgaria in Italy for a week's skiing trip during February Half Term. This was the first time such a trip had gone for many years, much to the intense excitement of all involved! The majority of those on the trip had never been skiing before, and on arrival at their resort they were all thrown into a whirlwind of activities which included ice skating, swimming and tubing. This packed itinerary made sure that everyone was able to develop, and in some cases enhance, their winter sports skills. The penultimate day of the trip saw pupils take part in a spectacular slalom course, at the end of which they received medals and badges for their efforts. Every pupil was a credit to Stewards.

Pupils statements

"Today I got skier of the day after falling over a lot" Daniel Tinsley

"Skiing was great, loved every bit of it" Aaron Harris

"I had so much fun! On one slope my whole group fell over like dominos" Bradley Leathers

"The trip has been amazing and funny" Tyler Fabbrini

"For all parents this trip is great value for money" Alfie Babb

"Skiing has been really fun I have enjoyed everything I have done" Jamie Berry

"Skiing was so fun especially when you get to go down some of the bigger slopes" Baylie Gasson

"This trip has been the best trip I have ever done. I have a lot of fun memories about this trip" Daniel Smith

"I had a really good week in Folgaria, everything has been fun from the first to the last day" Tommy O'Donnell

"This has been an amazing experience, I wish I was year 9 so I could do it all again next year" Brooke Daniels

"This week has been an unforgettable experience for me. I would do it all over again!" Chanel Cook

"Truly unforgettable" Ryan Clark

"I have enjoyed this week so much, it's so good it flies by, truly an unforgettable memory" Connor Quinn

"I have loved every minute and it is a holiday I will NEVER forget" Megan Walker

"I have enjoyed every minute of this ski holiday. I will 100% be skiing again" Lauren Marsden

"I have loved this week so much. I'm so glad I went!" Michael Harty

"I have enjoyed this trip so much and would love to come again" Mason Phillips

"This is one of the funniest weeks ever" Michael Maidment

"Skiing was awesome this week. We had so much fun on the slopes" Filip Kusnir

"My first and best holiday! Thank you to the amazing staff" Tegan Tukana



P.E. Department News

YEAR 7 AND 8 GIRLS RUGBY

On Wednesday 19th of March the Year 7 and 8 girls rugby team accompanied by Mr Treameer and Mr Mann attended a tournament held at Thurrock Rugby Club. This was the first rugby event where the girls have played contact rugby since starting training. The under 13s category was very well represented with two groups of six teams from all areas of Essex. The Stewards team played some tough fixtures, but were able to finish a very good second in their pool stage only missing out in progressing to the final to the tournaments overall champions Robert Clack. Well done to the team for their performances during the tournament and keep up the hard work for our upcoming fixtures.

The Team

Jasmine Bingham (Captain), Casey Hendricks, Courtney Kelly, Gemma Charles, Julia Noruwa, Esther Kolapo, Megan Hunt, Lois Joscelyne, Carmen Bingham (Vice Captain) and Ellie Cooper.



INTER – FORM COMPETITION: CROSS COUNTRY

The first event of this year's Inter-Form competition was Cross Country. There was an excellent turnout across years 7, 8, 9 and 10 with nearly 100 pupils taking part. 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.

Winning tutor groups for each year in the Cross Country event were; 7SB & 7SE, 8SPL, 9JK and 10RP

CURRENT COLOUR POINTS AFTER 1 EVENT

	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Total	Position
Purple	8	12	8	10	38	3 rd
Dark Blue	11	16	15	5	47	1 st
light Blue	12	0	0	0	12	8 th
Yellow	8	0	10	13	31	=5 th
White	10	0	9	12	31	=5 th
Green	9	10	7	8	34	4 th
Orange	12	14	10	4	40	2 nd
Red	1	0	10	16	27	7 th

YEAR 11 EXAM DAYS

Congratulations to all Year 11 GCSE PE students who have taken part in their final practical moderation this term. All of the pupils conducted themselves well and showed that their hard work over the past three years has paid off. Now that the practical element of the course has been completed we turn our attention towards the theory exam in the near future.

Mr R Treameer P.E. Department

STEM News

'THE EVER EXPANDING UNIVERSE AND DARK ENERGY' PRESENTED BY PROFESSOR CAROLIN CRAWFORD

Seven members of Stewards Community Sky Watch group went to an evening lecture at the Cavendish Laboratories to listen to Prof C. Crawford talk about 'The Ever Expanding Universe and Dark Energy'.

Synopsis of the talk:

We live in an expanding Universe - but how do we know?

What does this imply for how much 'stuff' there is in the Universe, and what does it mean for the eventual fate of everything?

Our story starts with Einstein and Hubble in the 1920's and brings us right up to date with the paradigm-shifting discovery of dark energy (1998) and its implications for 21st century Cosmology.

Eleanor Fleming 8DS: *'Fantastic! Full of informative questions and answers about the ever expanding Universe, Dark Energy and Dark Matter. Very helpful for my science lessons'*

Mr A Bray, member of the community: *'Fascinating lecture. It is so interesting how scientific ideas change radically but also look back for answers to Einstein's ideas!'*

Mrs G Wright, Science Curriculum Development Manager: *'Wow, what a talk! We went through all the theories about the Big Bang, the Big Chill and the Big Rip. But I am still not sure what Dark Energy is!'*



Stewards Community Sky Watch Group:
Murat Seidovs 7SE, Eleanor Fleming 8DS,
Mr Keeble, Mrs McNaughton, Prof
Crawford, Mr Bray, Mr Young.

CAMBRIDGE RASPBERRY JAM

Delegates attending the Cambridge Raspberry Jam were very impressed with the quality of the projects Stewards students presented during the Show and Tell session.

David Whale, STEM Ambassador and Stewards Raspberry Club leader, said the students 'all presented a really good image for Stewards Academy, they were very well presented, perfectly behaved, and good at answering lots of questions from the many attendees.'

Stewards Academy has indeed got a very good reputation and I had a number of people come up to me saying that they were very impressed with the work that they are doing and what they have achieved already.

Ben Nuttall from the Raspberry Pi foundation, and also Carrie Anne Philbin who works for the Raspberry Pi

Foundation and is an award winning author of one of the books we use in the club, took great interest in some of the work that the Stewards Academy Pi club were exhibiting at the Cambridge Jam .

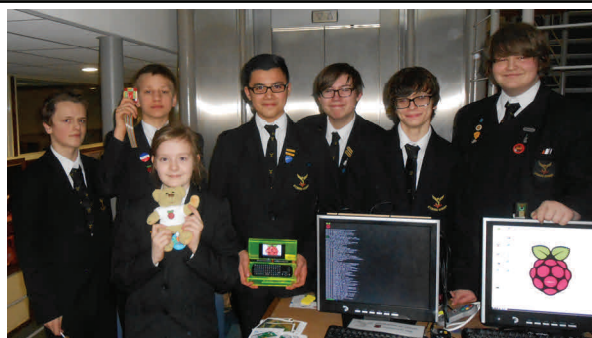
Ben asked for Jayme Gisbourne 10NF to write up the build instructions for his Portable Pi and send them over to the foundation. Jayme has done this and it has been published it as a project for others to do.

Carrie-Anne Philbin, loved some raspberry pi artwork that Murat Seidovs 7SE had done and asked if he could e-mail it over to the foundation, they felt they could use it on the foundations website!

Finally, Carrie-Anne was very interested in the "flashing LED game" that Kyle Francis 10NF and Jayme Gisbourne had written, and asked if the two of them could write this up as a project and send it over to her, and she would see that the foundation blogged about it and perhaps also turned it into a project for others to follow.'

Carrie-Anne took me to one side and said that she was so pleased to have met the children and that she was very impressed with their projects and progress. She also said that "every school needs an Andrew Young" and was really very impressed with a number of the practical innovations that Andrew, Senior Science Technician, has come up with to make the club run smoothly.

Jayme Gisbourne 10NF: *'It was an exciting day. I was able to showcase my Portable Pi.'*



Stewards Raspberry Pi Club:
Kyle Francis 10NF, Murat Seidovs 7SE, Skye
Bull 7JFL, Jayme Gisbourne 10NF, Isaac
Lucia 10NF, Tyler Hampson 11HS,
Joseph Thomas 10MT.

STEM News

CREST DISCOVERY AWARD IN A DAY

During National Science and Engineering week at the beginning of March the Year 8 cohort took part in the CREST Discover Award in a Day, Community Garden Challenge during a scheduled Curriculum Day.

The CREST Discovery Award recognises quality science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) project work that is done during a school day. It focuses on fun, teamwork and transferable skills like creativity, decision making, problem solving, independent learning, organisation and communication in a real world context.

The Year 8 cohort were divided into 16 teams. Each team was asked to plan and design a community garden. To do this they elected a Project Manager to oversee the planning and final design of the garden. Small groups researching into Soil, Plant, Water, Wildlife and Building management were then selected. Eight STEM Ambassador volunteers came into school as facilitators to encourage the students to make their own decisions and to direct the project themselves. At the end of the day, each team gave a 5 minute presentation talking about and showing their design for a community garden.

The students really enjoyed the pupil led activity and they produced some wonderful community garden designs. Each student will be presented with a CREST Discovery Award Certificate in due course.



Year 8 students working on their Community Garden Design



The Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust's Allerton Project in Loddington, Leicestershire

YEAR 8 COHORT WIN A PRIZE FOR THEIR CREST DISCOVERY PROJECTS

The CREST Discovery Award in a Day activity was posted on the National Science and Engineering week website and as a result was entered into a prize draw. The draw took place and Stewards year 8 won first prize: an all expenses trip to the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust's Allerton Project in Loddington, Leicestershire. The students will be visiting the Project Visitors Centre, an award winning sustainable building. They will then visit the Farm Yard, the Orchard, hedgerows and field trees then move on to learn about arable crops.

***Mrs Wright
Science Curriculum Development Manager***

LEGO TOWER CHALLENGE

Presented by Construction Skills, sponsored by Denne Construction Mrs Tripp's Year 7 science class were treated to a very exciting lesson, building Lego towers. The class was split into groups of 4/5 children and were presented with a challenge to build the most profitable Lego tower using just 200 bricks in 5 minutes. The taller the tower, the fewer bricks used and the quicker they build it, the more money their team will make which reflects the importance of efficiency in the construction sector. The students really enjoyed this challenge and several very tall towers of different designs were built.

***Lego Tower Winners: Highest tower built on time within budget:
Leo Roach 7SB, Sandor Guti 7RL, and Jordan Welsh 7AMW
with their winning tower.***



STEM Project

Now that the assembly of the 3D printer is complete, there has been more to do with the programming and design of items. After a discussion, our group, consisting of Blessing Ona, Megan Jenkins, Chloe Eves, Tayla Leathers, Olivia Warnes and Devon Abbott, have decided now to proceed with the manufacture of photograph frames. These will then be produced with individual decoration, and then judged by the representatives of Applied Scintillation Technologies Ltd (AST). We are also updating the logs to show our journey and progress, as well as producing instructions for setting up the equipment and the operation of the printer, to assist future users of the printer in the Technology department.

We are continuing with our weekly sessions now up to Easter and will continue to manufacture our designs for later judgement, updating paperwork, instructions and logs and the integration of the system into the Technology department so that full value can be gained from this valuable asset by the school in future years. The team from AST continue to join us in the weekly sessions to support and mentor our group and this will lead up to the judging of the "Best Student Design Award" and a final presentation event early in the Summer Term. We continue to be grateful for the opportunity, the time, and the support we have been given by our relationship with AST and Essex County Council (ECC), to experience what is still the very latest in technology.

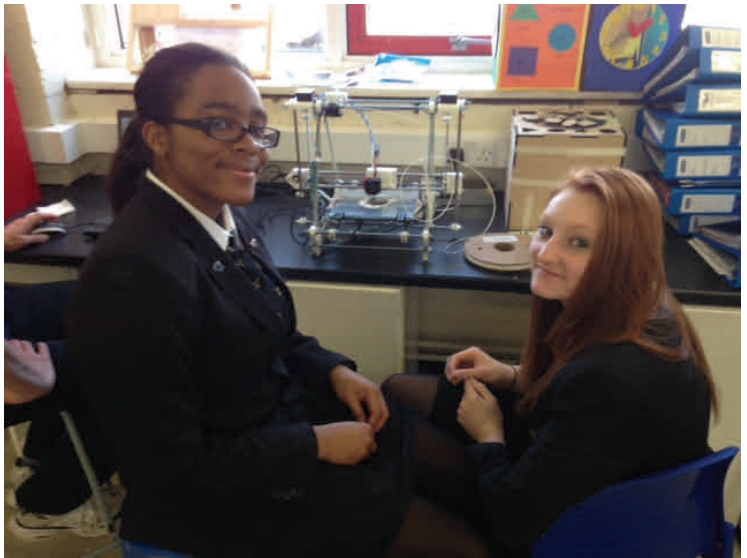
ABLE, GIFTED AND TALENTED NEWS.

We continue to participate in the Widening Participation scheme with the University of Sussex which offers many activities and visits particularly to students from families with no experience previously of higher education. We have recently signed up again to the scheme and have a plaque to display in school as evidence. We have again submitted our nominations for Year 10 students to attend the annual residential Summer School in July this year.

We are keen to also expand our links with other universities, particularly those in the prestigious Russell Group. This Group consists of 24 leading UK universities who are committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience, and unrivalled links with business and the public sector. With this in mind, we have established a new link with the University College of London and now have the opportunity to participate in future Summer Schools, Debating Schools, and Higher Education taster days in the new term for pupils from Years 10 and 11. This is in addition to the visits regularly made to Cambridge University and Oxford University, reports of which have been included in previous issues of our Newsletter. Stewards has participated in the annual Future Scholar Awards in previous years and once again this year, we are hoping for success for our nominations from Year 9, which will enable us to visit the London School of Economics and Political Science in June. This scheme is aimed at high-achieving pupils, to encourage those who may not have considered applying to a top university for any reason.

Anglia Ruskin University have a full programme of non-residential Summer Schools again this year and we will be submitting nominations from Years 10 and 11 for these courses covering subjects such as Journalism, Media, Business, Performing Arts and Architecture, at their centres in Chelmsford, Cambridge and Peterborough during June and July. These offer an opportunity to experience hands-on subject taster activities and sample a slice of university life.

Full reports of these forthcoming activities will appear in the next Newsletter.



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
96.6%	96.5%	95.6%	95.1%	95.1%
WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TO DATE = 95.8%				

THIS IS FANTASTIC – WELL DONE – KEEP IT UP!

ATTENDANCE FACTS

- Parents/carers MUST provide a note or appointment card/letter if a pupil needs to sign in/out of school at any time other than normal start and finish times.
- Attending school regularly and on time enables pupils to realise their full potential and achieve success

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

If you achieved 100% attendance during the Autumn Term you will have received the 'Good Attendance' badge (below left) – continue with 100% attendance for the Spring Term and you will receive the 'Attendance Award' badge (in the middle) – continue again with 100% attendance for the Summer Term and you will receive the gold 100% Attendance Badge!

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**

ParentMail News

Introduction of ParentMail Communication System

A letter has just been sent home to families [via pupils] about the above. Basically this system will be going live with effect from Tuesday 22nd April, when we return from the Easter holidays. The letter explains how you can set yourself up with ParentMail so that we can email you or send a text about school activities, changes of plan, important reminders, etc.

This is a system used by many thousands of schools around the country and is a much faster and more secure means of communication than posting letters or making lots of phone calls. Please register as soon as you can in readiness for next term. This will be our main method of communicating with you, unless you have already expressed a wish not to be included. If you have any queries, you may email studentsupport@stewardsacademy.org or telephone the school and ask for Mrs Lucas.

Cheque payments for school trips, purchases, etc

Please note that from now on ALL payments should be made out to **Stewards Academy Trust** and not Stewards School Fund as previously. This instruction will be included in all letters you receive from us. Thank you

Mrs P Jenkins Business Manager

Presentation Evening 2014

Subject Prize Winners

ABLE, GIFTED AND TALENTED

Howard Mash and Luke Sams

CITIZENSHIP

Josh Wix

LADY GIBBERD AWARD FOR ART

Lukman Kazeem

BUSINESS STUDIES

Daniel Coleman

EAL

Emilija Pazaksina

EMPV

Wiktorija Zygodlo, Tariq Mujkanovic,

Hannah Kizilcan and Chris

Richards

ENGLISH

Francesca Wintie

THE JONATHAN HEWLETT

AWARD

FOR MODERN LANGUAGES

French - Rebekah Gibbins

Spanish - Chris Richards

GEOGRAPHY

Charlotte Geddis

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Zoe McBeath

DR TOMS AWARD FOR HISTORY

Eleanor Burns

ICT

Nick Richards

JOHN BENDALL AWARD FOR

MATHEMATICS

George Strachan

MEDIA STUDIES

Chloe Scott

MUSIC

Hannah Kizilcan

PEER MENTOR

Poppy Rogers

PERFORMING ARTS

Dance - Rebecca Pressman

Drama - Megan Baldwin

Performing Arts - Chris Richards

PHOTOGRAPHY

Connie Clark

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GCSE - Maisy Treacher

BTEC - Taylor Walsh

PROGRESS

Tyler Bashford

RE

Louis Giddings

SOCIOLOGY

Rosie Hummerstone

JOHN NEALE AWARD FOR SCIENCE

BTEC - Nathan Rudgley

Double - Sean McGill

Triple - Hannah Kizilcan

TECHNOLOGY

Hospitality - Hannah Burns

Resistant Materials - Shannon Andrews

Product Design - Aimee Shipp

VOCATIONAL STUDIES

Shannon Lassen

WIDER SKILLS

Chloe Russell

Special Prize Winners

CHARITY AWARDS

Sam Smith, Alessandro Danila, Elena Marculescu, Emma Evans, Phoebe

Douglas, Ali Altajer, Parris Franklin,

Millie Burns, Olivia Clare and Olivia Howland

Presentation Evening 2014

Special Prize Winners

LIBRARIAN AWARD (for 5 years)

Thomas Goodenough, Chris Richards
and Owen McCullagh

100% ATTENDANCE AWARD

Megan Baldwin, Connie Clark, Chris Richards and
Chelsea Townsend

TECHNICAL SUPPORT AWARD

Joe Leadley and Daniel Millar

EXAMINATION ACHIEVEMENTS 2012

Jasmine Hind, Anastasiya Smirnova, Kimberley Ndungu, Louise Martin,
Victoria Whay, Lewis Townsend,
Sarah Warby and Aphra Boittier

GOVERNORS' AWARDS

Academic Achievement

George Strachan

Gordon Hewlett Prize for Citizenship

Mason Arnold

Contribution to the Life of the School

Megan Baldwin



Tutor Prize Winners

Year 7

Laura Bracey-Curry, Leo Roach, Ellie Hind, Murats Seidovs, Abbie Weir, Oliver Lucia, Grace Melton, Max Leijs, Ellie-Marie Taylor, Casey Jones, Faye South, Conor Martin, Alycia McLeod, Tom Clancy, Courtney Blackburn and Charlie Hughes

Year 8

Ila-Marie Chaplin, Ethan Robinson, Phoebe Douglas, James Anderton, Lauren McLeish, Ben Humphries, Brooke Stringer, Callum Morgan, Shannon Smith, Ty Hunter, Bethany Isted, Dave Haslen, Tegan Wright, Johnny Martin, Freya Bowden and Bambo Komolafe

Year 9

Gemma Burton, Harry Titchen, Sophie Blackmore, Kieran Miller, Mollie Jarvis, Charlie Mash, Bethan Rumsey, Jake Merritt, Sara King, Stanley Saunders, Jodie Sangster-Dean, James Clarke, Kassandra Carter, Brandon Magumise, Paige Abbott and Tyler Causton

Year 10

Katerina Smyk, Mason Cook, Olivia Myers, Ryan Pike, Lauren Spencer, Josh Eke, Alarna Mace, Daniel Tinsley, Tegan Tukana, Jacob Juniper, Blessing Ona, Jordan Starkey, Bethany Mead, Matt Cox, Alisha Mountney and Mark McElwain

Year 11

Wiktoria Zygałło, Colyn Edmondson, Allannah Barke, Mason Joscelyne, Sophia Wrenne, Taylor Walsh, Poppy Rogers, Luke Sams, Rosie Hummerstone, Hayden Cook, Aimee Hunt, Nicolas Myhre-Downes, Sophie Johnson, Connor Lynch, Louise Baker and Joshua Wix

Year Group Information

Year 7 Year 7 are now two-thirds of the way through their first year at Stewards Academy and continue to approach their school life with focus and enthusiasm. If it were possible to sum up this term in one word it would be this: Participation. The Year 7 team continue to receive pleasing comments from subject staff regarding the positive attitude pupils show towards their studies. At the time of writing this article, Year 7 have been sitting their first formal examinations. The exam period can be an anxious time. Yet once again, pupils have been sensible and committed. They have been punctual, well equipped and have met the challenge with a maturity beyond their years. We, as I'm sure you are, feel very proud of them and are confident that they will take this excellent attitude with them as they progress through the school.

It is not only in their studies that Year 7 show a willingness to be involved as they continue to embrace their role in the wider school community. Two of our tutors group have lead assemblies for us this half term. On Monday 10th March, to celebrate World Book Day and to coincide with our visit from published author, Sufiya Ahmed, 7GMW explored 'a world without books'. Much effort went into producing an exciting, entertaining and thought provoking assembly as we were asked to think about how different our lives would be without reading. On Monday 17th March, we enjoyed a history of the Patron Saints of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales presented by the pupils of 7JFL. Their assembly was both interesting and educational, explored traditional folklore and encouraged us to consider our role in an ever changing cultural landscape. To conclude their assembly, 7JFL invited us all to join with them in singing 'Hey, Brother' which was a fitting way to celebrate our place in the Stewards Family!

If I were to write at length about all of the activities that pupils have been involved in I would take up the entire Newsletter! However, I thought you'd like to hear more about some of the extra-curricular opportunities available to your children in order that you can join with us in celebrating their achievements:

- Participation in sporting activities include: inter-form swimming, cross-country and dodge ball competitions.
- Renaissance Reading Challenge.
- Acting as *Prefect* for school events.
- Supporting wider school community in attending the Year 9 Showcase and the 'We Will Rock You' Production.
- Rock Club, Drama Club, Choir and Science clubs
- Cultural Fashion Event – 36 Year 7 pupils involved in showcasing traditional and ceremonial dress from around the world.

On behalf of the Year 7 team, I would like to wish you all a peaceful Easter break. We look forward to seeing pupils refreshed and ready to face the opportunities and challenges of our final term of this year.

Mrs Ramsey Head of Year 7

Year 8 The question is "Have you earned an Easter Egg this year? Do you deserve a reward from the energy and efforts you have put in this half term?" For most of you, the answer is YES! Many of you have shown an excellent attitude towards your studies and are really maturing in preparation for your option choices. Well done!

Curriculum Day

Curriculum Day was a great day for all years this half term and I was lucky enough to see you all in action for myself. In the Science department, you were displaying thought, creativity, team work and dedication. The end results were great to see. It was a pleasure to see you all working so hard.

Equipment

I'm a little concerned about the lack of equipment that many of you currently possess. I would be very grateful if you could refer to the student planner to ensure you are equipped with the required items. School does have a stationary shop so if items are needed then please go to Resources. Get the small things right and the big things become easy!

Upper School Options Evening

Information for parents - On Thursday 20th March, many of you attended the Upper School Options evening. I do hope it is clear in yours and your son/daughters mind about how to select their options. The thought process can sometimes be a difficult one, so if you have any concerns please contact me. I am more than happy to answer any questions you have. The Easter break will be a good time to discuss the option choices with your child and work out which subjects will keep them interested and enthused for the next three years. Please enjoy a well-deserved break. Happy Easter everyone!

Mr G Hughes Head of Year 8

Year Group Information

Year 9 As the second full term comes to an end and Year 9 prepare to enter their final school chapter this year, I would like to recognise some of the key events and excellent achievements that have taken place across the year group. Assemblies have explored issues including the 'Hillsborough Disaster' and have played host to some very special War Veterans who kindly shared their poignant memories and experiences of life through War time. Two tutor groups led assemblies this term and covered topics such as 'Charity work in Pakistan' (CH) and 'Past, present and future aspirations' (GM). The assemblies were interesting, thought-provoking and well organised and I would like to thank Mr Hawk and Miss Tovey, Miss Waters & Mr King, Miss McGarry & Miss Connaughton and all of the pupils involved for your excellent contributions.

'We Will Rock You' has been a major event for the Academy this term and over a 1000 people graced the school gates to support this event. A large percentage of pupils involved in this production were Year 9 students and hours of time and effort were dedicated by these pupils to make the show the success it was. There were lots of pupils that took part in this, too many to mention in this article, but on behalf of the year group, I would just like to say a very BIG thank you to all pupils involved. Your performances were truly outstanding and you are a credit to our year group!

The next major achievement that I would like to recognise and congratulate is the success of the Year 9 Netball team in making it through to the final of the Essex Plate. Over 60 schools across Harlow and Essex fought to be in this nail biting final and the standard of competition was extremely high. Unfortunately the Year 9 team missed out on winning the title by one goal, but the girls showed grit, determination, resilience and teamwork throughout their battle and their hard work was truly commendable! This is a significant achievement for Stewards Academy and an outstanding accolade for the year group, so I would like to personally congratulate Izzy Dorkin, Lauren Sykes, Darcy Giddings, Megan Cunningham, Sara King, Mollie Jarvis, Alice Neville and Becky Dodd for their exceptional efforts. I would also like to thank their coach, Mrs Sykes and Mrs Goddard for their relentless hard work with the team!

In addition to the above, recognition should also be awarded to all pupils who participated in the recent Inter-sport Cross Country Event. All tutor groups were fully represented and the after school event was extremely successful. The following pupils achieved points for their house colours for coming first, second and third in the year group: - **BOYS:** Tommy Wickenden - CH (1st) Alex Curaba - JK (2nd) Luke Luckin - JS (3rd). **GIRLS:** Phoebe Jewell - JK (1st), Rebecca Osborne - TMA (Joint 2nd), Rebecca Lever - GM (Joint 2nd). Well done! Finally I would like to compliment Year 9 on your excellent conduct in the recent Year 9 exams. The majority of pupils demonstrated a professional attitude leading up to and throughout the exam period. Hopefully, this will be reflected in your pending results!

Miss Holden Head of Year 9

REQUEST TO PARENTS

Next term symbolises the final leg in the first year of your child's GCSE's and is a very important period for the year group. It has been brought to my attention that some pupils do not have basic equipment for their lessons and this is impacting on their learning. Could I please ask that parents use this time over the holidays to check that their child is properly equipped for the start of the new term. **(A comprehensive equipment list can be found in the student planner)**. Thank you for your support and cooperation with this. Have a great Easter!

Year 10 You may be aware that the Stewards Challenge has changed and that for Year 10 the reward for good behaviour, attendance and punctuality, is a financial contribution each term towards Leavers Day and Prom. Those of you with older children are aware that leaving can be an expensive time so I am sure that you will encourage your child to be aware of the criteria and to endeavour to achieve the maximum award.

Year 10 has been busy preparing for Work Experience and the majority of them are now sorted for the week. If your child has not finalised their placement, they must speak to me or Mrs Hampstead as soon as possible.

There is only one term left until your child is in their final year at Stewards Academy. Next term gives all students the opportunity to apply to be a prefect and to stand for Head Boy or Head Girl. The time for preparation is now, and I know that several students are already preparing their speeches! Dreams of their names appearing on the Head Boy and Girl board are driving them on to challenge themselves and to face their natural nervousness about attempting such a huge test of character.

Finally I would like to say a huge thanks to Mrs Archer who has been a tutor for 10 RA for 2 years. She is retiring at Easter and on behalf of the Year group I wish her a long and happy retirement.

Once again, thank you all for your continued support and I wish you all a happy Easter.

Ms Batterham Head of Year 10

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

4th
22nd

TERM ENDS - 1.00pm
TERM STARTS

MAY

1st
5th
11th-16th
26th-30th

Year 10 Parents Evening 4.00pm
Bank Holiday
Bude Trip
HALF-TERM

JUNE

20th

Leavers Day



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



Mrs Barker
Attendance Officer

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers, please send them into school there is a collection box in the Library



Year Group Information

Year 11 First of all, I would like to congratulate all of the students who appeared in, or helped behind the scenes in the recent school production of "We Will Rock You" I was both moved and thrilled by the totally professional performances of all involved, and I hope that all parents of children taking part were able to watch and swell with pride to see their children perform so eloquently. Preparations are well on their way for Leavers Day on the 20th June details of which are all contained in a letter that you should all now have received. Any queries, please contact me. This will be the last newsletter you will receive before the GCSE examinations start. I would highly recommend that students attend any relevant revision and study sessions organised for the Easter holidays and continue to attend twilight sessions. I wish all of year 11 every success in their forthcoming exams. Take every opportunity to revise thoroughly, so that you are confident that you can *"Do the best that you can do"*

Mrs Ellis Head of Year 11