



Stewards Academy

May 2013

Newsletter



Name _____

Tutor Group: _____

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

Congratulations to the EMPV Group for organising the first Stewards "Cultural Fashion Show" which was a huge success. My thanks to Ms Mohamed for leading the team of staff and students and providing an excellent evening of entertainment for guests and members of the school community. Special thanks to Harlow College staff and students for help with make-up and hairdressing for our "models". We are already sharing ideas for a follow up event next year... not to be missed!



Plans are now well underway for the Stewards Foundation and Mo Farah Foundation Challenge. On Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June, 12 staff will run 300 Kilometres from CARDIFF TO HARLOW. They will run in pairs, in relay, over 50 hours, through 10 counties. Our target is to raise £10,000. On Friday 21st June students will participate in a 3 kilometre sponsored fun run at Stewards, raising money to provide a well in a village in Somalia to provide clean water and to save lives. This is a wonderful joint venture. Stewards Academy will provide the first well in Somalia under this scheme, set up by Mo Farah, to help millions of people suffering from drought. We intend to use some of the money to support Stewards students too. This exciting project fits in with the Olympic legacy of London 2012 "friendship, respect, excellence, inspiration, determination, courage and equality."

We have great admiration for the 12 staff who are undertaking such a huge challenge:-



We seek your support (through sponsoring your child in the Fun Run or through donations) so everyone can make some contribution and feel part of what will be a fantastic achievement. Parents should have received letters about the challenge, however, if you would like to know more contact Mr Preece or one of the Fundraising team. (see pages 10-11 for more information)

On Monday 24th June the school will be out in force to welcome back the 12 staff runners, who will be joined by 12 students, running for the last 3 kilometres. Colin Nell, football skills specialist and brother in law to Mo Farah has promised to join us to greet the team as they arrive back in Stewards... no doubt they will be exhausted but also exhilarated... it will be a momentous achievement and we wish them all good luck.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

Over the course of the year we ask parents to give us feedback about various aspects of the work of the school. A summary of all responses (460 in total) is given below.

	Respondents who strongly agreed or agreed with the statements					
	Year 7 13.12.12	Year 8 6.3.13	Year 9 7.2.13	Year 10 18.4.13	Year 11 22.11.12	Total / Average %
Number of responses	100	91	87	85	97	460
Attendance	89%	87%	84%	82%	65%	81%
My child is happy at this school.	100%	99%	100%	98%	97%	99%
My child feels safe at this school.	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
My child makes good progress at this school.	100%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%
My child is well looked after at this school.	100%	99%	99%	100%	99%	99%
My child is taught well at this school.	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%	99%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	98%	98%	98%	98%	93%	97%
This school ensures the pupils are well behaved.	100%	98%	99%	96%	94%	97%
This school deals effectively with bullying.	100%	98%	99%	98%	91%	97%
This school is well led and managed.	100%	98%	100%	99%	98%	99%
This school responds well to any concern I raise.	100%	96%	98%	98%	94%	97%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.	97%	92%	98%	95%	91%	95%
I would recommend this school to another parent.	99%	96%	99%	100%	94%	98%

My thanks to all parents who completed the questionnaire. We are delighted with the overwhelmingly positive response and appreciate your support of all the work we do.

Rhonda Murthar

Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher

Governors News

Just when I thought I knew all the major events of the school year, what should turn up, a new one, the Cultural Fashion event, and what a great occasion it was as well. All who were involved in this event deserve our hearty congratulations for what was a really wonderful event, enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to attend, and more importantly by all those who took part.

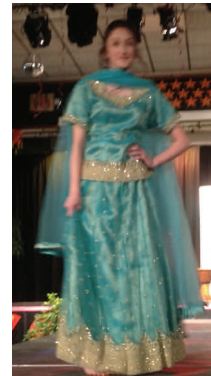
Now we are well into the exam season, may I wish all those involved well and hope that all their hard work is rewarded with success. We are also approaching the time when Year 11 leave us, may I on behalf of the governors thank them all for their contribution to the school and wish them well for the future.

Jeff Tarling Chair of Governors
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Cultural Fashion Event



Stewards showed off its first ever Cultural Fashion Event to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience which packed the school hall last week. 70 pupils paraded the runway with a glittering array of costumes from around the world. Organiser Ms Mohamed has spent a year planning the event and buying up costumes representing countries from all around the world. When the event, organised by the Ethnic Minority Pupil Voice Group was over, Ms Mohamed said *"This has been a huge undertaking and follows on from our firmly established and very popular annual Cultural Food Event. We are very grateful to the students from Harlow College who came along to prepare the model's hair and make-up. This will certainly be an annual fixture in our very busy calendar of culturally diverse events. Next stop – Arabic Days!"*



Science Department News

5-4-3-2-1– Year 9 AGT Go to Outer Space!

Space Academy Master Class - Presented by Robin Mobbs, Lead Educator for the National Space Academy.

Space, the final frontier was visited by Year 9 Able Gifted and Talented students when Robin Mobbs from the National Space Academy presented a Space Master class at the Science Alive Gallery. Robin Mobbs took them up to the International Space Station, where Chloe Eves (9RMP) tried on a space suit and they looked at what a vacuum would do to the human body. The students went inside a planetarium



Air Pressure Rockets

and learnt about the history behind the naming of the constellations. Mr Mobbs made a comet from water, soil, soy sauce and solid carbon dioxide (Dry Ice), and talked about their orbits around the Sun. At the end of the afternoon the students made pressurised air rockets and tested them outside. The mathematicians in the group decided to calculate the height and the speed of trajectory of the rockets.

Isaac Lucia (9NF): *'The day provided a varied and extended insight into the world of astronomy, astrophysics and astronauts. Such topics as the lives of men and women in space, the Curiosity Rover, rocket launching, in which we even made our own, and dry ice comets were covered, all of which was expertly communicated by Robin Mobbs. Also featuring was an aside in the planetarium and this proved equally enjoyable.'*

Olivia Warnes (9RA): *'This day was great fun. I have learnt a lot about life as an astronaut and how space shuttles work. The best bit was being inside the planetarium and learning about the stars. This was both an entertaining and educational trip.'*



Chloe Eves 9RMP in a space suit



Space Academy Master Class with Mr Robin Mobbs NSP.

Magic of Computer Science Show

Launch of the Raspberry Pi Computer Science Club

Behind great magic there often lies some interesting maths or computer science, buried in the secret of how the trick works. To be a good magician you need to know more than just the secret though. Great magicians also have a flair for cognitive psychology: they have a natural understanding of people. It turns out that computer scientists use the same psychology as the magicians in designing usable computer systems.



The Magic of Computer Science
www.cs4fn.org/magic/

Dr Soren Riis from Computer Science For Fun, Queen Mary University, brought the Magic of Computer Science Show to the launch of our Raspberry Pi Computer Science Club evening. The students learnt how to do a collection of card tricks. But it wasn't just magic; all the tricks had links to computer science. Yesterday's magic often becomes today's technology. It is then taken for granted as the magic seeps away.



Mrs Wright
Science Curriculum Development Manager

Science Department News

Cosmology, String Theory and the Multiverse

Dr Steven Gratton, a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute of Astronomy Cambridge, talked about the latest ideas concerning the very early Universe—Big Bang Theory, Inflation and String theory. He also floated the idea about multi-universes or Multiverses.

Ewan Isted 9RMP: *'I enjoyed this evenings talk and it was a very detailed and enjoyable insight into the different possibilities of how the Universe works.'*

Brandy Sawadogo 7EM: *'Our Universe is expanding and cooling. Earlier on the Universe was hotter and denser. It was also smooth. Our planet is in a region where 'inflation' of the Universe has ended. I also learnt that matter tells Space-time how to curve and Space-time tells matter how to move.'*

Jamie Allen 7OK: *'I thought that the talk was very interesting. I learnt a lot about matter, cosmology, string theory and the multiverse.'*



Jamie Allen 7OK, Ashley Barnard 10MR, Eleanor Fleming 7DS, Nadine Franks-Whelan 8TMA, Tyler Hampson 10HS, David Haslen 7TS, Ewan Isted 9RMP, Filip Kusnir 8CH, Tazmin Overton 8LM, Jay Moore 9MT, Eniola Nduka 7AS, Brandy Sawadogo 7EM, Callum Smith 8JS and Robyn Webb 9NF.

21st Harlow Cubs Scouts go into Space

Stars, planets and rockets were on the agenda when 21st Harlow Cubs Scouts came to Stewards Academy to study for their Astronomy badge. Stewards Academy was one of twelve schools nationwide to be awarded the Gold Standard Quality Mark earlier in the year for their work as a Leading Space Education Academy. Part of this work involved working with the community so 21st Harlow Cubs came for two weeks to listen to Andy Gannon, Stewards resident astronomer, talk about the Sun, the Earth, phases of the Moon and the seasons. Stewards Chief Technician Andrew Young, made a comet from water, soil, Worcestershire sauce and Dry Ice and the cubs were encouraged to touch it. The second week the cubs learnt



Rocket Competition Winners



Cub Scout Roshan Patel watching his rocket fly

about the planets, they landed on Mars and viewed the landscape with 3D glasses then they made paper rockets and had a pressurised air rocket competition. The rocket that flew the furthest was made by Matthew Brough and his prize was a genuine NASA cap and t-shirt.

Cub Scout Thomas

Cubitt: *'Thank you Mr Gannon for teaching us about Space.*

You have encouraged me to continue my interest in astronomy.'

Cub Scout Benjamin Holmes: *'Can we come back next week!'*

Cub Scout Leader, Ann-Marie Cann: *'The science team at Stewards gave us an excellent two weeks with lots of wows and oohs from the cubs. They got crafty making moon phases flipping books, planispheres and the zooming rockets. Lots of information passed to them and hopefully an insight of the world beyond ours. Great fun was had by all.'*



Cubs on Mars

Mrs Wright
Science Curriculum Development Manager

Able, Gifted & Talented News

STEM PROJECT YEAR9 Girls (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

Following the introduction of the Project to the girls in February, we hosted a follow up event to include parents on the 16th April. This was a great success with all 19 of the applicants from the introductory event attending as well as 26 parents, a terrific response.

Skills shortages and an ageing workforce are preventing productivity, growth and innovation in Essex. Against a backdrop of increasing levels of youth unemployment in Harlow, we have been asked to join a project being run in conjunction with Essex County Council and Harlow College, and funded by local company Applied Scintillation Technologies Ltd, (AST).

As part of their funding plans, AST have offered to purchase a 3D printer for Stewards, which is a fantastic gesture and will greatly enhance students' experiences in the future.

The aim is to increase the pool of STEM based work experience placements available to Young People (YP), and to inspire them to embark on an apprenticeship, or continue in full time education, studying STEM subjects. Work experience will also provide the YP with the opportunity to build on the employability skills they will have developed through working with a mentor.

Activities planned over the coming months include 'taster' days at Harlow College, mentor sessions with a variety of STEM related local companies, and a visit to a university.

The first activity took place on Saturday 11th May at Harlow College, when 12 of the group attended, accompanied and assisted with 11 parents, a fantastic show of support from parents. This was an introductory session and involved some problem solving sessions with students and parents all entering into the spirit of things before a pizza lunch. A further 'taster' is scheduled for next Saturday 18th May when we aim to build on the success of the first and will be summarised in future Newsletters.



SUMMER SCHOOLS 2013

Once again, we made application for places this year at the Summer School of the University of Sussex. Places are in high demand, but we were successful in placing two of our Year 10 Gifted and Talented students for the 4 day residential event in July. Congratulations to the successful students, Thomas Goodenough 10HS and Holly Fegan 10VG.

Summer Schools are aimed at Year 10 students who have the academic potential to benefit from progressing to university but may have no immediate family with experience of higher education. Results will be increased confidence, more understanding of themselves and the relevance of higher education, and the ability to make informed decisions about higher education as a future route for their own lives. Past experiences have shown that everyone has an enjoyable time too, with many social events planned for the evenings.

We are pleased to have received the opportunity to apply for Summer School places offered by Anglia Ruskin University on a non-resident basis, for two Year 10 student events. The first is to take place on 24th/25th June at the Harlow University Centre, and will involve 2 days in the Journalism Centre to include filming a TV interview, recording a radio bulletin and designing newspaper and magazine pages.

The second will be delivered at the University in Chelmsford on the 3rd/4th July and will involve unlocking the secrets of mobile phone programming and app inventing!

Four of our current Year 10 group have been invited to apply and we will be reporting on outcomes in future Newsletter editions.

Mr Cooper Able, Gifted and Talented Mentor/Guidance Officer

Able, Gifted & Talented News

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY DUX
SCHEME 2013

On the 15th May, Matthew Fleming 9VM and Isaac Lucia 9NF visited Nottingham University to participate in the DUX scheme which included working with student ambassadors, higher education quizzes and a tour of the award winning University Park Campus. They were accompanied by Mrs Batterham, Year 9 Head of Year, and Mr Cooper, Able Gifted and Talented Mentor.

The day visits to the University are part of a larger initiative involving Russell Group universities, to encourage students taking part to strive for a place at a top institution. Dux means 'leader' in latin.

HIGHER EDUCATION FIELD ACADEMY (HEFA) 2013

This scheme also aims to raise participant's educational aspirations and develop a range of transferable skills through a series of activities including digging an archaeological test pit and using the results to piece together the history of the medieval settlement. The activities take place over three days, 10th, 11th and 12th July with the 'dig' being arranged at Manuden near Saffron Walden for the first two days, and concluding with a visit to the University of Cambridge on the final day when the students will have a taste of, and information about, attending university, as well as guidance on writing up of the excavation reports.

Students participating are Ellie Alger 10HS, Matthew Golds 10MR, Amy Cannell 10CPT, Hannah Kizilkan 10DJ, George Strachan 10PM, Molly Snow 10CPT, Howard Mash 10CPT, Elise Stingemore 10CPT and Zoe McBeath 10DJ.

Presentation Evening

Stewards held its annual celebration of pupil success to a packed hall, when 137 pupils came along with their proud parents to collect their awards. The speaker for the evening was ex-pupil Sonia Gill who left Stewards in 1994 and went on to train as a teacher before pursuing a career in retail with John Lewis. She currently is a founder and director of 'Heads Up', a company which specialises in providing leadership conferences and development. Sonia spoke of the importance of an excellent education and fondly recalled her own school days at Stewards and the teachers who inspired her. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the stars of the recent school production of Grease and the Upper School Singers. Examination success was recognised when 6 former pupils received recognition for their exam results last summer, having between them achieved a total of 40 A* grades and 54 A grades! Certainly giving the current Year 11 something to aim for! At the end of the evening the prestigious Governors Awards went to Jasmine Hind for her academic achievement, to Aphra Boittier for Citizenship and Thomas Dowers for his Contribution to the Life of the School for 5 years. Parents and teachers were very moved by the speeches which Assistant Headteacher Marie Erwood had written and read to them. Headteacher Rhonda Murthar spoke of her enormous pride in Stewards Academy providing an enriching educational experience for pupils which will give them a grounding for life and shape them into the valuable young citizens of tomorrow.

Mrs Erwood Assistant Headteacher



Performing Arts Department News

COMING SOON - LOWER SCHOOL PRODUCTION

This year's Lower School Production promises to be bigger and better than ever with not one, not two, but three short plays: 'Aladdin', 'Sherlock Holmes' and 'The Black Hearted Villain'. Following the auditions, 26 students from Year 7 and 8 were selected to perform the pieces which are being directed by Megan Baldwin, Chris Richards and Jack Rowley from Year 10, and Joe Mulligan from Year 11.

The Lower School Production will take place on Thursday 4th July; Year 6 students will have a chance to see the production as part of their Taster Day at Stewards, and there will also be an evening performance at 6.00pm.

THEATRE TRIPS

We took the cast members of 'Grease' to see a performance of 'A Chorus Line' at the London Palladium.

Auditions are underway for a new Broadway musical. For everyone present, it's the chance of a lifetime. It's the one opportunity to do what they've always dreamed of – to have the chance to dance.

Told through captivating song, riveting drama and stunning choreography, the auditionees describe the events that have shaped their lives and their decisions to become dancers.

As part of their coursework, we took all GCSE Drama students to see 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time'.

Adapted from Mark Haddon's 2003 best-selling book, playwright Simon Stephens transfers all the mystery of the novel to the stage. The play follows a 15 year-old maths genius who tries to unravel the mystery of his neighbour's murdered dog, that was found speared by a garden fork. Against his father's orders, and in spite of his own personal limitations, Christopher sets out on a quest to discover the real truth behind the murder. Unfortunately the teen unearths more than he bargained for and eventually the secrets of his own life unravel before his very eyes. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is both a murder mystery and a tale of personal discovery for somebody on the edges of society.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Year 9 Performing Arts Event – Thursday 27th June

Lower School Production Thursday 4th July

Summer Concert Tuesday 16th July

STEWARDS MUSIC SCHOOL

Music School offers students the chance to learn an instrument of their choice. We currently offer Voice, Guitar (Acoustic, Electric, Bass), Drums, Piano, Keyboard and all woodwind/brass instruments.

The next enrolment session will be in September 2013. We strongly recommend that your child takes lessons if they are studying, or considering studying Music as an option for GCSE.

If your child is already enrolled for lessons these will continue after half term.

Please contact Miss Wang at the school if you require any further information about Music School.

GOODBYE YEAR 11...

Within the last few weeks, Year 11 students have completed their practical assessments in Music, Dance and Drama. They spent a lot of time rehearsing their performances, compositions and choreography and this was truly evident on the final exam days. We are very proud of all of our Performing Arts students and wish them the best of luck for results day, and for the future!

THE PERFORMING ARTS TEAM

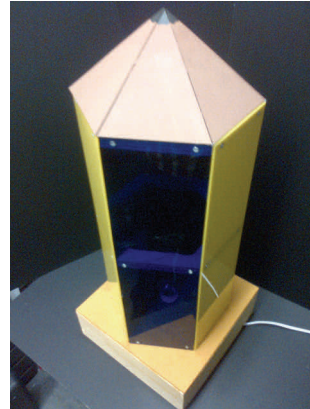
Technology Department News

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 complimenting bag for their clock.



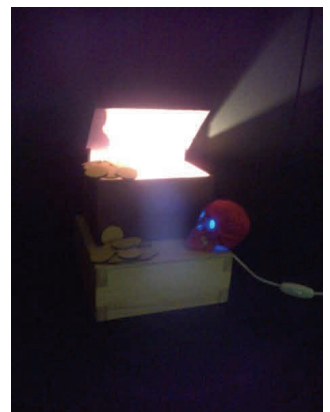
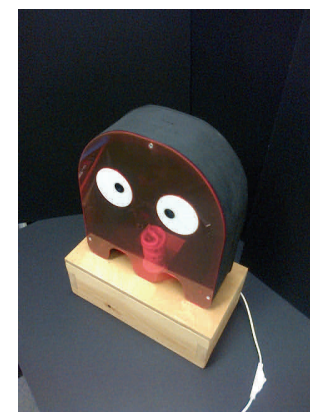
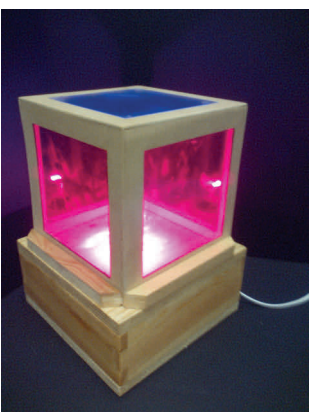
"I had an enjoyable time and created a high quality clock that I am proud of and now use at home". Zac Rogers 8MW.



Year 11 Low Voltage Lamps

Our Year 11 students have designed low voltage lamps inspired by an art movement from the past 100 years, for their GCSE course work. All their hard work has paid off as I'm sure you will agree they look fantastic. Well done!

Mrs Martin
Subject Leader for Technology



P.E. Department News

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Stewards Academy In Conjunction With “Appetito” And The Mo Farah Foundation Presents A Day Of Inspiration And Aspiration

Stewards Academy in conjunction with “Appetito” and The Mo Farah Foundation is on a mission to save lives in Africa. The Mo Farah Foundation provides life-saving aid to some of the millions of people facing starvation and disease in East Africa. Set up by legendary double Olympic champion, Mo Farah, and his wife, Tania, The Mo Farah Foundation exists to save lives and support people affected by the horrendous drought conditions in the Horn of Africa.

“Appetito” is an organisation set up by Ralph Henderson, M.B.E. and Colin Nell, Mo Farah’s brother-in-law, based on the maxim “appetito sequitur inspiration” (aspiration is the sequel to inspiration) which specialises in using world famous sports personalities to challenge people to adopt healthy life-styles and aspire to the highest levels of achievement.

Working in collaboration with schools and The Mo Farah Foundation, “Appetito” releases the cathartic energy which emanates from philanthropic deeds and instils in young people those key Olympic values that Sebastian Coe always intended to be the legacy of London 2012: Friendship, Respect, Excellence, Inspiration, Determination, Courage and Equality.

With the frightening predictions that by 2050, 55% of boys and 65% of girls will be obese, we want to ensure that all of our students embark upon a healthy life-style by undertaking the 3km Sponsored Fun Run. The students will proudly raise money to provide a well in a village which would save countless lives. 12 members of staff from Stewards Academy are also setting themselves a challenge. They are running from Cardiff to School. That is a phenomenal 300km in ONLY 2 days.

We hope you will all join us in this wonderful venture which promises to be one of the most exciting that the school has ever been involved in. Thank you for your support.

Kind regards

The Fundraising Team



“We are working to make a difference to the lives of millions of people “ – Mo Farah



Summer Term Cricket and Rounders Fixtures

- * Tuesday 21st May - Year 8 vs Passmores
- * Wednesday 22nd May - Year 10 vs Passmores
- * Thursday 23rd May - Year 8 vs Burnt Mill
- * Tuesday 4th June - Year 10 vs St Marks
- * Thursday 6th June - Year 8 vs St Marks
- * Tuesday 18th June - Year 8 vs Mark Hall

P.E. Department News

Stewards Academy Staff

Mr T Ford-

Joined Stewards - January 2007

Job Role - Pastoral Support Manager

Preferred Method of Training - Cycling & Swimming

Quote - 'Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another.'

Mr D Hassan-

Joined Stewards - May 2010

Job Role - ICT Technician

Preferred Method of Training - Cycling, Running

Quote - 'Sports do not build character. They reveal it.'

Mr S Li-

Joined Stewards - June 2009

Job Role - Teacher of Art and Photography

Preferred Method of Training - Cross fit

Quote - 'The only way of finding the limits of the possible is by going beyond them into the impossible.'

Mr J Sanders-

Joined Stewards -

September 2008

Job Role - PE Teacher

Preferred Method of Training - Running, Swimming, Gym and Playing Sport

Quote - 'Audere est Facere.'

Mr D Treame-

Joined Stewards - June 2009

Job Role - Teacher of ICT and Media Studies

Preferred Method of Training - weights, rowing, rugby and judo

Quote - 'He who is not courageous to take risks will accomplish nothing in life.'

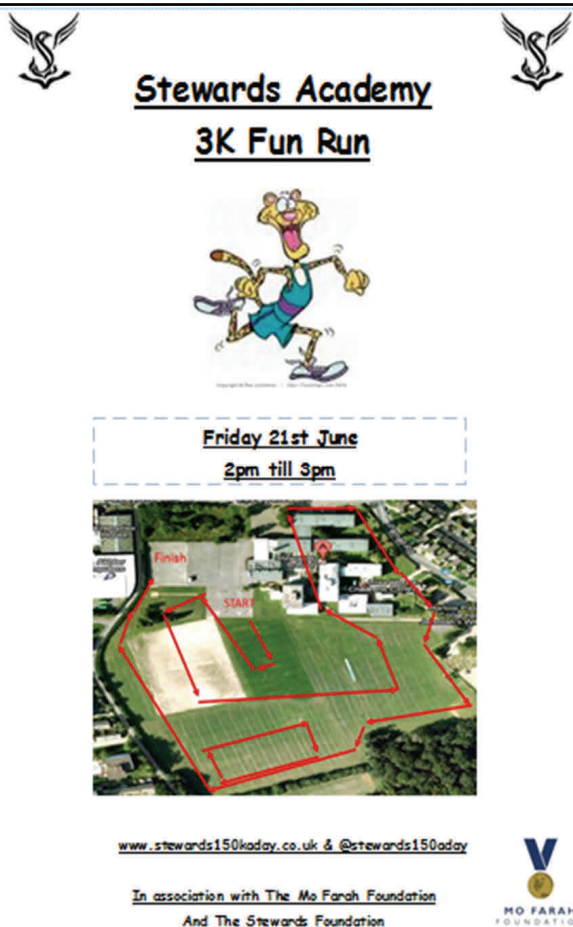
Mr K Naunton-

Taught at Stewards from September 1976 – 1988, then since June 2003

Job Role - Inclusion Manager

Preferred Method of Training - Aerobic - running, bike, cross trainer, rower and weights.

Quote - 'Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.'



Mr G Hughes-

Joined Stewards - September 2008

Job Role - Head of Year 7

Preferred method of training - Running

Quote - 'I can accept failure, everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying.'

Mr R Treame-

Attended Stewards - 1999-2004

Joined Stewards - November 2010

Job Role - PE Technician

Preferred Method of Training - Weights and Rugby

Quote - 'Take ownership of the things you do.'

Mr S Locke-

Joined Stewards -

September 2011

Job Role - Teacher of ICT

Preferred Method of Training - Running

Quote - 'Train hard, run easy!'

Mr S Preece-

Joined Stewards -

September 2003

Job Role - Assistant Headteacher

Preferred Method of Training - Running

Quote - 'If you say you will do something, make sure you follow it through to completion.'

Mr T Hughes-

Joined Stewards - September 2008

Job Role - Head of Physical Education

Preferred Method of Training - Weights and cycling

Quote - 'It's easier to come up with an excuse rather than a solution, stop being lazy and choosing the easy way out!'

Mr M Harman-

Joined Stewards - June 2006

Job Role - ICT Teacher

Preferred Method of Training - Boot Camp, Cross Fit, Football, Running

Quote - 'Pain is temporary. Quitting lasts forever.'



'Look what's happening in PE this week...'

Extra Curricular Activities

Summer Term 2013

Days	Lunch Time 1.20 – 1.50	After School 3.15 – 4.15
Mon		Staff Meeting Dance Club Girls KT Intermediate ability 3 – 4pm Advanced ability 4 – 5pm
Tues		Cricket Training All Years THH / JS / GH / SP Mixed Rounders Training All Years GM / JH
Wed		Mixed Athletics Training All Years THH / JS / GH / SP Girls Fitness JH / GM
Thurs	Thursday Challenge – In the Quad (PE Staff)	Cricket Training All Years THH / JS / GH / SP Mixed Rounders Training All Years GM / JH

Poverty Awareness Week

Here at Stewards we managed to collect over 500 items of food in Poverty Awareness Week. Charity Co-ordinators Izzie Dorkin, Lauren Sykes, Alice Neville, Darcy Giddings, Casey Hendricks, Amelia Mitchell-Harris, Bradley Leathers and Jamie Venables worked hard to collect the items. Harlow Food Bank representatives Katherine Akyeampong-Aye and Peter Doherty came along to a special assembly to collect the items of food which would be donated to help families in the Harlow area. Ms Mohamed, the organiser of the in-school collection, gave a very moving assembly to Year 8 to raise awareness of the issue of child poverty in the UK and across the globe.



Where Are They Now

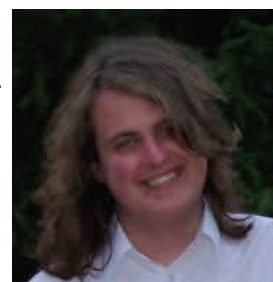
Jamie Sams

Jamie was a student at Stewards up until 2009. His interests at that time were varied. This is how his past few years have been spent.....

'I have been to Hertford Regional College and attained a BTEC in Software Development, getting Pass, Pass Merit, and retaken my English GCSE to a C. Currently I'm in my second year of a 3 year BA Hons in Computer Game Design at University Campus Suffolk in Ipswich, and have already made a few games.

After I'm done at uni, I hope to start creating games for the internet and mobile devices as an independent developer, and will hopefully be successful in this endeavour.'

Jamie Sams Game Designer and Programmer



Important Information

News from the Learning Support Unit

The Learning Support Unit is very pleased to announce that Anne Kelso, our counsellor from the Young Concern Trust, will be working 2 days per week (Thursday and Friday) for the foreseeable future. Anne is a highly experienced adolescent counsellor supporting years 10 - 11 and has been a valuable asset to the school for the past eight years. The Young Concern Trust has been established in the town for twenty five years, in fact they are celebrating this milestone this month.

www.youngconcern.com

The Young Concern Trust service complements the therapeutic support provided by Place2Be, which focuses on years 7/8 and 9. Sara Loveday has been our clinical counsellor for the past four years and along with her team of four volunteer counsellors, they are able to support many of our pupils. Place2be provide therapeutic and emotional support in school to enhance the wellbeing of our pupils.

www.place2be.org.uk

The LSU continues to support many pupils, through their transition to the adult world in a variety of ways. Alongside Learning Mentor support we also liaise with the School Nurse and other local health services including Essex Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service and can sign-post to other supporting agencies in the town. www.eypdas.org.uk

We are also in the planning stage for a Canal trip along the River Stort for our Young Carers; this is an annual event that we hope will be as successful as our past days out. The other event on the horizon is the SCUBA diving club which will take place over the summer break with invited pupils. We look forward to reporting their feedback.

Kathy Larkin LSU Manager

ATTENDANCE NEWS

Congratulations to the following Tutor Groups who have the best attendance in their Year Groups so far this academic year:

7TS - 97%

8GM - 97%

9NF - 96%

10MR - 97%

11NJK - 96%

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

PUPILS MUST ARRIVE AT SCHOOL FOR THE START OF REGISTRATION – FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A DETENTION BEING ISSUED

IN THE EVENT OF YOUR CHILD BEING ABSENT PLEASE INFORM THE SCHOOL **BY 10.00AM** (FOR **EVERY** DAY OF ABSENCE)

THE NUMBER FOR REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE IS: **(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

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY HOLIDAYS TAKEN **WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED** AND COULD INVOLVE A PENALTY NOTICE BEING ISSUED BY THE EDUCATION WELFARE SERVICE

REGISTRATION

8.45am – REGISTRATION (AM) FOR ALL PUPILS

1.55pm – REGISTRATION (PM) FOR ALL PUPILS

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

Year Group Information

Year 7

Welcome to the final term of the school year. Time is certainly flying and the Year 7 students are still working very hard. I hear something great about someone different every week, which is why I enjoy this job so much. This year has given the students so much to think about and do, and we have still got so many events to look forward to such as Thorpe Park, Sports Day, Sports Presentation Evening, our annual Motivation Day, and not forgetting our 12 man running challenge from Cardiff to School.

Recently, 50 students departed for their first secondary school trip. The students went to Bude, Cornwall to experience a vast range of outdoor adventurous activities. All the students had a fantastic time, many of them overcame fears of heights and water! Congratulations, and well done to everyone for representing the school so well. The fancy dress outfits were second to none!

At the end of the Spring term, all Year 7 students were given their first pack of information about their Individual Progress Reports (IPR's). This system shows their working progress over time, and they will get updated IPR's at the end of the Summer term. If you are unsure of your child's progress, then please feel free to contact me. It is very important that you know how your child is responding to his/her individual targets.

All students have been introduced to our new scheme which focuses on E-Safety. Due to so many students being exposed to social networks (Facebook, Twitter etc) on their phones and laptops, it is imperative that they know how to manage their personal settings. Please make sure that your child has the correct setting on their devices to ensure they are safe at all times.

As part of their PSHCE lessons, students will also have had, or will be getting a lesson on Fire Safety and Hoax Calling. Again, all this is in aid of the safety of students at our school. This programme is very informative and is delivered by the Essex Fire Service.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say that the work that the Year 7 students are producing and their contribution to school life really is fantastic.

Well done, and keep up the excellent work.

Mr G Hughes Head of Year 7

'Don't be anything less than everything you can be'

Year 8

Year 8 have now completed the first half of the final term in their second year at Stewards Academy and are heading towards the final stretch of KS3. This half term has been an important period for the year group, with pupils having to make some difficult decisions about the options they would like to study at GCSE. All pupils have now made informed decisions about the pathways that they would like to follow next year and I am pleased to say that we have been able to accommodate the majority of choices made by students.

Following the growing trend of social networking in our modern society, this half term has seen the introduction of e-safety awareness. An hour long assembly, led by Mr Marriott was dedicated to teaching pupils how to use modern technology safely and appropriately. Pupils learnt about how to interact effectively with others online, the importance of privacy settings and the support systems in place to report abuse. They were also taught about the dangers online and the potential risks of inappropriate use.

Leading on from this, we were privileged to host a visit from our local PCSO, who in turn led a follow-up assembly focusing on the laws associated with cyber-bullying and the procedures and consequences in place to protect people from this. Both of these assemblies were very insightful and stimulating and many pupils have since commented that the content has not only helped to raise their awareness of e-safety, but it has also provoked positive changes in their use of technology.

In addition to the above, Year 8 have also been the driving force to our 'Poverty Awareness' campaign, which saw the collection and donation of over 500 items to the Harlow Food Bank. Several of our charity coordinators were involved in this thoughtful and considerate act of kindness, giving up many of their break and lunchtimes to collect food items for those less fortunate than others and I would like to recognise Miss Mohammed and the following pupils for their self-less contributions to this campaign: - Bradley Leathers, Amelia Mitchell Harris, Jamie Venables, Izzie Dorkin, Lauren Sykes, Alice Neville, Darcy Giddings and Casey Hendricks. I would also like to extend my thanks to the whole of Year 8 for their heartfelt donations to this very worthy cause!

Finally, I would like to conclude by congratulating Year 8 on another positive and productive half term. The recent IPR data indicates another significant rise in the progress towards end of year targets by a number of pupils in the year group. This is a real reflection of the hard work and dedication that your children have shown, so well done Year 8 for your commitment towards your studies!

Next half term I will be doing a focused review of homework and looking at the amount and quality of homework being recorded and completed by pupils. I addressed the issue of homework in a recent assembly and discussed expectations regarding the range, style and quality of homework required, including the importance of meeting deadlines, so could I please ask for parents to support us over half term in making sure that pupils are completing their homework and spending sufficient time producing work of a high quality standard.

Miss Holden Head of Year 8

Year Group Information

Year 9

I recently asked a range of pupils what they felt was memorable about Year 9 and what advice they would give to the current Year 8 in readiness for next year. Overwhelmingly, the main suggestion was to take advantage of every opportunity that is on offer, closely followed by the suggestion to improve time-management ..

It may seem early to be considering university, but it is never too soon to be asking questions and doing research. Mr Plested arranged a very interesting assembly recently where Martin Wood spoke to the year group about his journey from a local comprehensive to Canterbury University. He is now looking forward to starting a PhD in Biological Anthropology in September. His advice to the pupils was to keep exploring the many possibilities that are out there and to ensure that they work hard enough to be able to take whatever route they choose. Interestingly Martin spoke about the many extra curricular interests he pursued whilst at University and school. This is clearly something that Year 9 think is important too, as, on speaking to pupils about their year so far, Jacob Juniper said he was proud of being asked to play for the Harlow Hawks National League basket ball team.

Both Jacob and Ewan Isted commented on starting GCSEs early and said *'It is enjoyable to be able to focus on the lessons we enjoy most'*.

Kerris Garbutt is proud of achieving an A* for a piece of art work and Charlie Jennings for an A* in PE.

Other successes include Maddison Davies and Demi Taylor who have both been awarded the Jack Petchey prize.

Demi for her excellent progress in the dance club she attends out of school and Maddison for her contribution to 'Livewire'.

'I am proud to be Form Captain' Saffron Leys

'I am proud because I joined the school's football team' Emmanuel Sawadogo

'I worked hard to receive my orange belt on my second grading in Kickboxing' Alice Brown

'I am proud to say I took part in the British National Ten Pin Bowling Competition' Riley Halson

'I am proud to receive an Arts award' Beth Mead

'I'm proud I got on the School Council' Taonga Chabva-Shoperai

On Wednesday 15th May I took two boys for a visit to Nottingham University. This was part of the Dux project and was to enable gifted and talented pupils to visit a Russell Group university. The day was extremely successful, particularly the 30 minute session entitled 'Figure Out The Meaning of Life!' Other sessions included Chemistry and a tour of the campus.

So my message to all of Year 9 is to set themselves goals and work hard to achieve them.

Ms Batterham Head of Year 9

Year 10

On Wednesday 8th March all the pupils involved in the Army Outreach programme went along to The TA centre in Chelmsford for an award ceremony. They were accompanied by Mrs Ellis, Ms Morley, Mr Waters and Mrs Deveta.

The Lord Lieutenant of Essex was there to present the certificates, and Steven Hinkley was good enough to volunteer, on the spot, to say a few words. He thanked all the army personnel for their input and support throughout the week, and said that he had greatly benefitted from the experience, despite the very cold weather.

At the end of the event I was approached by one of the army staff present who congratulated the school because of the 100% turn out of the students and the support of members of staff. Hopefully the school will be able to take part in future Army Outreach programmes.

The students involved in this project were: Aiden Kimber, Kiera Mager, Vanya Arabadzhieva, Chelsea Townsend, Aiden Drew, Luke Sams, Steven Hinkley, Tom Kitchen, Charlotte Geddis and Nicola Cox.

I am pleased to say that virtually all of the year group have now sorted out their work experience placements. Some have managed to secure placements in very interesting and unusual places, and a few put together some very impressive letters of application. I would like to express thanks to all the parents who have been proactive in this process. The final step now is for students to arrange and attend an interview, and hopefully parents can encourage their children to do this. An assembly will have taken place before you receive this Newsletter so students should be aware of exactly what they need to do. If they are finding the prospect of making the call a bit daunting, they must come to see a member of staff who can help them: Mrs Hampstead, Mr Harman, Mrs Ellis, Ms Morley or their tutor.

Mrs Ellis Head of Year 10



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

27th-31st HALF TERM

JUNE

8th-16th Ardèche Trip
25th Year 5 Taster Day/Thorp Park Trip

JULY

1st Leavers Day
3rd New Parents Evening 6.00pm
4th Lower School Production 6.00pm
9th Sports Presentation Evening 6.00pm
10th Curriculum Day/Prefect Training
12th Sports Day
16th Summer Concert 6.00pm
19th TERM ENDS - 1.00pm



Year Group Information

Year 11

Year 11 have made a pleasing start to their GCSE examinations and these will continue over the coming weeks.

The timetable will run as normal for all pupils and they must attend until the day of their final exam. Where the examination for a subject has been completed, pupils are expected to attend the lesson bringing revision materials for other subjects with them.

Revision is the key to exam success and, in addition to after school sessions, revision classes will also run during the school day. Details of this can be found on the examination timetable.

It is essential that your child arrives for their examinations on time. Please note that **if a pupil arrives over 30 minutes late they will not be permitted** to sit the examination. Morning examinations begin at 9.00am and pupils must be in school by 8.30. Afternoon examinations begin at 1.30pm and pupils sitting an afternoon examination will be released from lessons at 12.45 in order to take a break and eat their lunch. Once all examinations have been completed, pupils must return all books and materials to the relevant department and obtain a signature from a member of staff to confirm this. When all materials have been returned, pupils need to have their sheet signed off by their tutor, Pastoral Support Manager or Head of Year. Arrangements for our Leavers event, on Monday July 1st, are now well underway. Proceedings will commence at 10am when pupils and staff celebrate the arrival of Year 11. You are most welcome to attend and there will be opportunities to take photographs. Many students like to hire cars to arrive in, but this is entirely up to the individual. Those who do arrive by car will be given a number and time slot prior to the day. Following their arrival, they will go to the hall to enjoy their final assembly as pupils of Stewards Academy. The evening event, in line with Stewards tradition, is to be held at a secret destination. Coaches will leave school at approximately 6.30pm and will return around midnight.

We wish Year 11 every success in their exams!

Mrs Ramsey
Head of Year 11