



February
2012

Stewards Academy

Newsletter



Name _____

Tutor Group: _____

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils

This half term has been a very successful one with staff and pupils working very hard. Year 11 have been particularly busy, focusing their efforts on coursework, controlled assessments, revision and exam practice. I have been particularly pleased to see high attendance levels this term. Special congratulations to Year 7 who had 98% attendance for the autumn and are maintaining their record this term.

In his visit to Stewards on 1st February, Jonathan Hewlett, Managing Director of Diesel (Fashion) UK, spoke to several groups of pupils about his background and career. Jonathan is a past student of Stewards. He enthralled pupils, not only with the achievements of his working life but also those of his personal life, including his successful 5 man team relay to swim the English Channel. Jonathan's clear message was – have breadth and balance in your life, set yourself challenges and be prepared to take risks and learn from setbacks..... they will build your character. The students came away very motivated.

Shannon Kelmsley-Jeffery 11JH *"Jonathan has inspired me to put 100% effort in everything I do and push myself to do lots with my life".*

Kyah Rimmer 11DJ *"I realised from listening to Jonathan that not everything goes your way, we have to be resilient and that will pay off in the long run".*



Jonathan Hewlett

Jonathan talked to some of the Year 8 boys (see p.14) and he encouraged them, when thinking about upper school courses, to choose with their heart (a subject they loved) and with their head (a subject they are good at). Wise advice! (In his case French and Physics respectively).

"Doing things you find tough tells you more about yourself and helps you grow as a person"

"Coming to Stewards as a pupil helped me to learn how to get on with a diverse range of people from different backgrounds and this has stood me in good stead throughout my career and throughout my life"

Opportunities to develop a talent or try a new skill are numerous at Stewards. Our current extra-curricular programme contains a fantastic range. Having "breadth and balance" means taking up a sport or learning to play guitar, taking part in a production or being part of a science team.... as well as working hard on school work and academic study. Why not try something new and follow Jonathan's lead.....

Here are a few of the clubs on offer:

- ◆ Rampaging Chariots (Science)
- ◆ Dance Club
- ◆ Trampoline
- ◆ Beginners Chinese
- ◆ Gravity Racer (Technology)
- ◆ Volleyball
- ◆ Music School – learn to play a musical instrument
- ◆ Photography and Art Club
- ◆ Chess

New clubs about to start are.....

- ♦ Vocal coaching workshop for girls
- ♦ Boys singing group
- ♦ 'Glee Club'

Each term we publish the full Extra-Curricular Activities Programme with clubs, trips and residentials. Every pupil has been given a copy but spares are always available from Resources.



Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE NEWS

AUTUMN TERM ATTENDANCE FIGURES:

Year 7 = 98%

Year 8 = 95%

Year 9 = 95%

Year 10 = 93%

Year 11 = 91%

CONGRATULATIONS to all pupils who contributed to these totals -
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

REGISTRATION

8.45am – REGISTRATION (AM) FOR ALL PUPILS

1.55pm – REGISTRATION (PM) FOR ALL PUPILS

**FAILURE TO ARRIVE IN TIME FOR REGISTRATION WILL RESULT IN A DETENTION
BEING ISSUED TO MAKE UP THE TIME**

ABSENCE

IN THE EVENT OF YOUR CHILD BEING ABSENT YOU **MUST** 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**

HOLIDAYS

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION IN THESE MATTERS

Mrs Barker
Attendance Officer

Science Department News

CHEMISTRY CURIOSITIES DEMONSTRATION LECTURE

Presented by Professor Chris Bishop, University of Cambridge
Professor Chris Bishop gave a brilliant demonstration talk on pyrotechnic chemistry to a group of Year 7 Able, Gifted and Talented students at the Chemistry Department of the University of Cambridge. They watched a chemical reaction go backwards, red liquids that appeared to turn green and lots of explosions. The students were asked to participate in some of the experiments which added to the whole experience.

Jamie Venables 7GH said *'the things I liked the most were the acids and alkaline experiments. It was all very interesting.'*

Izzie Dorkin 7CW *'loved the way Professor Bishop explained his answers and the chemical demonstrations were fantastic!'*



THE BNA BLAKE SHIELD COMPETITION

Presentation of Awards Day Clifton College, Clifton, Bristol November 2011

Over the past 4 years Stewards Conservation Group and Harlow Conservation Volunteers have been involved in the conservation of Stewards Ancient Meadow. This work was recorded by the students as a project and then submitted to the British Naturalists Trust (BNA) so that it could compete in the Blake Shield Competition. In the past the Presentation of Awards day has been staged at Leicester University but 2011 was their 25th Anniversary so they decided to go to Clifton College, a collection of beautiful old red brick buildings near Bristol instead.

Our day started very early; we saw the sun rise while we were travelling along the M25. We arrived at the Redgrave Theatre at Clifton College a little before 10am and took part in an interactive talk about rainforests. We were treated to a lovely lunch at Clifton Colleges' main refectory, the inside of which was reminiscent of Hogwarts dining hall, with stained glass windows and a vaulted ceiling. In the afternoon we had a stroll around Bristol Zoo before heading back to see who had won the various prizes. The awards were presented by Professor David Bellamy, the Patron of the Blake Shield BNA Trust.

3 main awards were presented :

The Otter Award for an Infant School children's project,

The Ward Cup for a Junior School children's project

The Blake Shield for 11 to 16 year old students. We were very pleased when

they announced that we had won the Blake Shield for the second time. We won it in 2009 and in 2010 we received a Certificate of Merit. Professor David Bellamy presented us with our award and then we had our photo taken with him. The BNA also presented the students with special animal printed t-shirts, nature books and leaflets.

The Blake Shield is proudly displayed in the Science Departmental Trophy cabinet situated near Lab 2.

Vanya Arabadzhieva (9MR): *"We had loads of fun while visiting the zoo and listening to the presentation about rainforests. The best thing was that we won!"*







From left to right: Tyler Hampson 9HS, Jai Sharma 11DF, Louise 9HS and Charlotte Baker 9EO, Isaac Lucia 8NF, Adam Pope 11 MW, Rebecca Willbourn 8NF, Matthew Allen 11RA, Joseph Thomas 8MT holding the Blake Shield, Professor David Bellamy, Sarah Lund 8JJ, Sophie Turvill 8VM, Shiv Sharma 7GM, Vanya Arabadzhieva 9MR and Stephanie Pope 8MK.

Mrs Wright
Curriculum Development Technician for Science

Science Department News

BIG SCHOOL BIRD WATCH

Stewards Ancient Meadow Jan 2012

Bird Name	Picture	Number Seen in One Hour
Blackbird		2
Blue tit		3
Woodpigeon		7
Robin		2
Greenfinch		1
Black-headed Gull		37
Magpie		3
Carrion Crow		8
Pied Wagtail		1
Great tit		1
House Sparrow		1
Starling		9
Chaffinch		4
Collared Dove		2
Song Thrush		1
Jackdaw		1

Stewards Conservation group took part in the RSPB Big School Bird Watch at the weekend. We came armed with camouflage netting and binoculars and watched three different areas of the meadow: Group 1 watched by the pond area, Group 2 by the apple trees and Group 3 by the junior Oak tree and the Dogwood.

We saw several species of bird over the 60 minute watch time; the results are displayed in the table.

Black-headed Gulls were the most abundant species seen followed by Starlings and Carrion Crows. These birds are all scavengers, on the lookout for any dead creatures or fallen fruit. We could hear a lot of House Sparrows in the Blackthorn thicket but we had difficulty seeing them and therefore counting them.

Although it was very cold, about 3 °C, we all had a great bird watching experience and between us we saw a lot of different birds.

Stewards Bird Watchers:

Harry Butler 9PM, Isaac Lucia 8NF, Joseph Thomas 8MT, Lee Hoare 7GM, Rebecca Willbourn 8NF, Rebecca Lever 7GM, Valentina Vasileva 9MR, Vanya Arabadzhieva 9MR, Wayne Gould 7GM, Matthew Allen 11RA and Kaitland Buckle 7JS.

Isaac Lucia 8NF: *'It was quite a fulfilling day being able to contribute to the RSPB Big School Bid Watch. We came across a diverse range of birds whilst doing so. It was a pity it was so cold.'*



Photo 2: Rebecca Willbourn 8NF, Isaac Lucia 8NF and Joseph Thomas 8MT bird watching.

Mrs Wright
Curriculum Development Technician for Science

Science Department News



UNDER PRESSURE, OR JUST ANOTHER WAY TO CRUSH CANS FOR RECYCLING?

Mrs Tripp's Year 7 class have been investigating how air particles exert pressure. As a culmination of their work they demonstrated how to make a drink can implode. Firstly they reduced the particle pressure on the inside of their cans and then, letting out squeals of delight and amazement, watched as the everyday air pressure on the outside crushed their cans inwards! So next time you're feeling 'under pressure'....Year 7 will be able to tell you where it comes from.



Mrs Tripp
Science Department

BBC STARGAZING LIVE: COMMUNITY VENUS WATCH

Stewards Academy January 2012

Hordes of people turned up for the Community Venus Watch in Lab7. They all came to listen to Mr A Gannon talk about Venus, its composition, its atmosphere and its orbit around the Sun. We found out that Venus is a rocky planet with a thick corrosive atmosphere the pressure of which is about 90 times that on Earth. The surface temperature of Venus is about 480°C , far too hot for life as we know it. Scientists think that Venus was like Earth with lots of surface water many millions of years ago but the surface temperature rose too much due to 1) its position closer to the Sun and 2) the runaway greenhouse effect of its atmosphere and the water evaporated away into space. At the moment Venus can be seen very early in the evening as the sun sets about 45° above the horizon in the south west. It is the brightest object in the sky except the Moon and by about 7.30pm it has sunk beneath the horizon. The other bright object higher up in the sky in the south is Jupiter.

Unfortunately the sky was cloudy so we couldn't get the telescopes out to view Venus but Mr Young provided a very good interactive creative activity: making blow rockets. Great fun was had by all.

Mr M Gladish and Charlie (William Martin Primary School) found the evening 'very interesting and we learnt a lot tonight. Charlie loved making the rocket.'



'THE MYSTERY OF COSMIC RAYS': AN EVENING INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS LECTURE

Presented by Professor Alan Michette, Kings College London University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield Cosmic rays, travelling at a speed comparable to the speed of light, come from the Sun, the Galaxy and the Universe. They consist mainly of protons, but can consist of alpha particles and other atomic nuclei. More than 100,000 cosmic ray particles can pass through you in a hour and each of them could damage your DNA. Professor Michette is hoping to obtain funding so that cosmic ray detectors can be installed in at least a thousand schools country wide. The data obtained will be collated and used to find out more about this strange radiation.

Jade Creamer 8JJ: "This was a fascinating topic. I enjoyed it and learnt lots of new facts about cosmic rays."

Becky Dodd 7CW: "I found this talk quite fascinating and interesting. It was good that he explained things especially to us. I then started to understand it a bit."

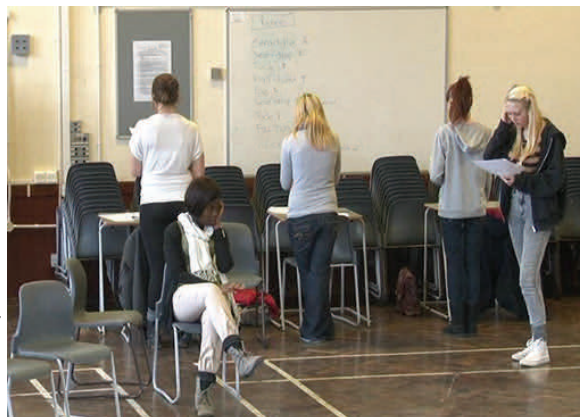
Performing Arts News

GCSE DRAMA EXAM - UNIT 2

Year 11 recently completed their Unit 2 exam based on the play 'Face' by Benjamin Zephaniah, which explores the theme of facial disfigurement and how people are judged on their appearance. The students took part in a series of exercises using masks, extracts from the play and real-life examples.



Miss Doughty
Performing Arts Technician



SCHOOL SPORTS GAMES AT HARLOW LEISURE CENTRE

Our 'Disco Inferno' dancers were invited to perform at the School Sports Games at Harlow Leisure Centre, as part 'Essex Carrying the Flame' run by Sport Essex.



The eleven students gave a fantastic performance of their 'Boogie Nights' routine in front of an audience of more than 300 people.



Miss Doughty
Performing Arts Technician

Performing Arts News

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Over 60 talented students took part in the 2011 Christmas Concert, providing a wealth of festive entertainment.

The audience were treated to some seasonal drama pieces from Year 9 students ('An Orphan's Christmas' and 'Dr. What's Christmas') and singers from Year 9 and Year 10 provided some well-known songs such as 'Merry Christmas Everyone' and 'Last Christmas' while the Stewards Choir performed a medley of traditional carols.

Lower School Dance Club, complete with Santa hats, danced to 'Perfect Christmas' and Year 9 GCSE Dance students performed 'All I Want for Christmas is You'. It was a lovely concert, and the families and fellow students in attendance all left feeling full of Christmas spirit!



CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT ST. CLARE HOSPICE

We took a group of singers to St. Clare Hospice in Hastingwood to sing carols for the patients and staff there.

Accompanied by Mr Barden, pupils performed a selection of songs including 'Away in a Manger', 'Silent Night' and 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'.

*Miss Doughty
Performing Arts Technician*



P.E. Department News

REECE COOK – YOUNG AMBASSADOR FOR LONDON 2012

In 2005, Lord Coe announced to the world that the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games would be used to inspire a generation of young people to choose sport.

The Young Ambassador movement was created by the Youth Sport Trust in 2006 with the support of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, the British Olympic Foundation, Home Countries Governments and in 2009 Adidas became the presenting partner for the programme.

Young Ambassadors have three roles:

- To promote London 2012 in their schools and communities
- To use the inspiration of London 2012 to increase participation in PE and sport amongst their peers.
- To promote and live out the Olympic and Paralympic values.

Within this role Reece has already taken responsibility for leading other volunteers at a cross town Olympic event, where during the same event Reece gave an address as part of the opening ceremony.



NETBALL FIXTURES

Wednesday 22nd Feb vs St Marks (home)

Wednesday 29th Feb vs St Nicholas (away) (Year 9 and seniors only)

Wednesday 7th Mar vs Mark Hall (home)

Tuesday 13th March Year 7 and Year 8 Harlow Schools Netball Tournament at St Marks

Tuesday 20th March Year 9 and senior Harlow Schools Netball Tournament at St Marks

Year 7 Girls football

Congratulations to the Year 7 Girls football team who were placed 2nd in the Harlow Schools Girls Football League. They took part in three separate football tournaments at Passmores over the past two months. Each tournament they played 7 a side against St Marks, Passmores, Mark Hall and Burnt Mill. Well done girls! The team was Izzy Dorkin, Becky Dodd, Chloe Powell, Mollie Jarvis, Belkis Gorur, Casey Hendricks, Lauren Sykes, Lauren Russell, Molly Phipps, Megan Cunningham, Gemma Burton and Charlotte Houlihan.

Year 8 and 9 Girls Football

Congratulations to the Year 8 and 9 Girls football team who were placed 4th in the Harlow Schools Girls Football League. They took part in three separate football tournaments at Passmores over the past two months. Each tournament they played 7 a side against St Marks, Passmores, Mark Hall and Burnt Mill. Well done girls! The team were Shannon Andrews, Louise Devlin, Elise Stingemore, Kornelia Lyson, Hannah Burns, Som Pinukram, Jessica Noruwa, Paige Harris, Awaal Kazeem, Fatimah Oseni and Rebecca Willbourne.

*Miss McGarry and Miss Bromage
P.E. Department*

UPPER CLAPTON RUGBY TOURNAMENT

The Year 7's showed real promise as they battled hard in their league to finish the tournament joint 5th. Their end position in the standings didn't indicate the good play that they demonstrated throughout the day. The Year 8's played some very good rugby to finish in second place. They gave some splendid displays of free running rugby with some outstanding finishing, rounding off a very successful year. The Year 9's started strongly, winning all but one match which ended up as a draw. They finished top of their group by five points and have progressed into the Essex Regional Finals which will be held on the 7th March at Southend Rugby Club. Well done to all of the boys that participated in the tournament and good luck to the Year 9's in their regional finals.

*Mr Preece
Assistant Headteacher*

P.E. Department News

INTERFORM FOOTBALL

Below are all the results from the inter-form football competition. We had an excellent turn out with over 160 pupils participating throughout the year groups.

Well done to the victorious forms and don't forget all points accumulated during these inter-form competitions will contribute to your sports day totals.

POSITION	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
1	CW	MH	HS	SL	JH
2	GM	MK	VG	SE	EM
3	JS	JJ / VM	PM	SMB	COS
4	GH		EO	DEM	DF
5	LM	RMP/RP/NF/ NP	DJ	SP	MW
6	MPH		JG	NP	RA
7	JK		CPT	SB	DS
8	LSS		MR	PH	

ESSEX LEGACY DAY

The Essex legacy day was attended by twelve players and five young leaders helping to officiate and organise the event. The twelve participants that were involved in the Table Tennis competitions being played at both BACCS Table Tennis Club and Mark Hall Sports Centre had some really good competition and enjoyed a high level of play. Three



From left to right
Bradley Russell 7LSS, Alex
Dodd 8MT and Alex
Curaba 7JK

of the younger players made the semi-finals with Alex Curaba finishing the tournament as overall fourth place. Well done to all of the participants that took part in the day and became part of the Legacy for the London 2012 Olympics.

Mr Preece
Assistant
Headteacher

YEAR 7 PREMIERSHIP

With some fantastic football on show this year's Year 7 premiership league saw QPR have an unbeaten campaign and finish up clear by 6 points, followed by Manchester City and Aston Villa respectfully. QPR's team was made up of Tommy Wickenden 7CW, Bradley Russell 7LSS, Baylie Gasson 7JS and Michael Bow 7CW, well done boys and good luck in next year's competition.



TABLE TENNIS SINGLES COMP 1

The first of two singles Table Tennis tournaments for this year was very successful with Stewards participants winning seven of their eight matches with the only defeat coming from the Essex number two seeded player from St Marks. Well done to Jack Webber, John Withington, Rees Cook and Alex Dodd for the good start and good luck for the upcoming matches throughout the coming year.

History Department News

STEWARDS HISTORY PROJECTS: THE ROMANS

The History Department would like to express thanks to all of the Year 7 pupils who worked so hard on their History projects over the summer. The work produced by pupils has been excellent and we have enjoyed reading the accounts and looking at the pictures and artefacts included. So many pupils have taken the opportunity to research about their local area at the museum and seem to have had lots of fun in doing so. All of the projects have been marked and pupils have received awards for their efforts. We have awarded two distinction prizes for outstanding effort to Bradley Leathers and Callum Smith.

Claire Hooper, Museum Education Officer at Harlow Museum was very impressed with the number of students who visited in the summer to carry out their projects. Some pupils had been before, for others it was their first visit.

The students who researched their project at the museum had to use a variety of different skills to obtain information. Close and detailed observation of Iron Age coins gave information about the things (horses and crops) that were important to the people who lived in the area before the Romans. They also had to look closely at both the objects on display and their labels to discover items found at the

Roman temple, items used for building, objects used for writing and artefacts used for farming.

The students also got the chance to dress up in the sort of clothes a person who lived in Harlow in Roman times would have worn.

'The Roman homework project from the summer holidays was great fun, I enjoyed learning about the Romans and doing lots of different activities at home and at the museum.'

Anthony Davison 7CW

Mrs Sherwood
History Department



Health and Social Care News

Year 9 Health and Social Care have been involved in a project to wrap and fill boxes to be sent abroad to children who would otherwise receive no presents at Christmas. The boxes are sent abroad by the charity 'Operation Christmas Child'.

Each box has to be accompanied by a donation and the pupils iced biscuits which they served at the Cultural Food Event in October in order to raise the money for this.



The students would like to extend a very big thank you to the staff and pupils who donated items for the boxes.

Mrs Morrison
Science



Chloe Russell and Mrs Greenhill from Operation Christmas Child inspect a box

Work Related Learning News

Year 9 Enterprise Team (with some help from students in Year 7 and 8) held a 'bits and bobs' sale at the end of last term – to make way for their new 2012 project. They sold biscuits (made by Year 9 Food Technology students and Mrs Ellis), Christmas decorations, items from the Fair Trade Pampers Pack, models, soft toys and special items of jewellery too; many items, kindly donated by members of staff. Thank you everyone for your help and generosity - £80.49 was raised and will be sent to the Help for Heroes Fund.

Mrs Hampstead
Vocational Learning Mentor



PAIGE TENNISON ADVANCED ENGINEERING APPRENTICE

Paige took Product Design as one of her GCSE's and as part of her course in woodwork she designed and built an activity chair. Paige achieved a grade A for her chair and this made her think about a possible career in engineering. To help her make up her mind she did her work experience at a local engineering company, Smith's (Harlow) which she really enjoyed.

Paige started an apprenticeship one week after leaving school. She knew she would probably be the only girl but that didn't stop her *'if you want to do it that much – then you will'*.

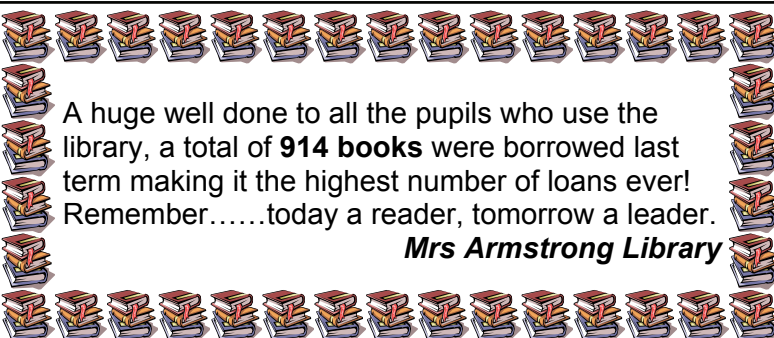
Through Harlow College, Paige heard about the Essex Apprenticeship Scheme and they had vacancies available at the time, so she applied. Paige was offered a place on an intermediate apprenticeship programme (level 2) and had the opportunity to attend various work placements in Glaxo SmithKline and HUCO Engineering Limited while getting her technical certificate through day release.

'Trying all different routes in engineering has been one of the most enjoyable experiences for me.

My apprenticeship has given me so many opportunities. I am determined to get more girls into engineering and I tell them about the different jobs you can do, its not just working with lathes and milling machines you can consider other areas as well, such as CAD (Computer Aided Design)'. Eventually Paige would like a career with the Navy.

Learn more about apprenticeships at

www.apprenticeships.org



A huge well done to all the pupils who use the library, a total of **914 books** were borrowed last term making it the highest number of loans ever! Remember.....today a reader, tomorrow a leader.

Mrs Armstrong Library

Important Information

TRAVEL ABROAD

Whilst at Stewards your child has various opportunities to travel abroad - from residential trips within the European Union, North America and Asia - to day trips. Opportunities may be open in future academic years to go even further afield! So as you and your child are well prepared for these exciting trips the school advises parents to obtain for their child their own passport and if travelling to an EU country, a European Health Insurance Card [EHIC]; this ensures that should your child require medical attention abroad, your child should not incur medical fees.

Passport

The school would advise parents/carers to obtain for their child, a 5-year laminated UK passport. Passport forms can be obtained from your local Post Office. For further information about child passports visit www.passport.gov.uk or telephone the Passport Advice Line on 0870 521 0410. Be aware that some countries ask for passports to have at least 6 months validity from date of departure or visa application. Passports can be renewed no more than 9 months prior to expiry date.

European Health Insurance Card [EHIC]

From 1st January 2006, a valid EHIC card should be obtained and carried by each pupil whilst travelling in the European Union (EU). If you are a UK resident, you are entitled to medical treatment that becomes necessary, at reduced cost or sometimes free, when temporarily visiting an EU country, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland. Only treatment provided under the state scheme is covered. However, to obtain treatment you will need to take a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) with you. To apply for your child you will need their NHS number plus full name, address and date of birth. The card is free and is now a plastic 'credit card' type. This card is easily obtainable by phone (EHIC Applications Line 0845 606 2030), via the web site www.ehic.org.uk or by post (pick up an EHIC application pack from your local Post Office branch).

School travel companies require passport numbers, dates of issue and expiry, etc, well before departure. Delays in obtaining the above documents may mean your child will miss out on exciting and interesting trips. So don't delay – make sure your child has their own passport or renew their passport well before expiry.

**Mrs Willson
Administration**

PUPIL LUNCH OVERDRAFTS

A reminder to all parents/guardians - please ensure that your child has a packed lunch or has enough money in their cashless catering account to buy lunch. Pupils who have genuinely lost or forgotten their lunch money can come to the Finance Office to ask for a £1.00 overdraft on their cashless catering account. For this amount your child can purchase either a sandwich, baguette, jacket potato, pasta pot or salad pot - **it is not given for pupils to only purchase cakes and/or drinks.** Pupils must ensure they repay the £1.00 into their catering account **on the next working day.** Persistent non-payers will not be allowed further overdrafts if money is still owed.

Please would parents/guardians be aware that lunch overdrafts are for EMERGENCIES ONLY, and are not to be used as a means for your child to buy 'extras' at lunch time or break time.

**Mrs Willson
Finance Office**

STEWARDS CHALLENGE – NEWS

448 PUPILS QUALIFIED FOR THIS

PRESTIGIOUS REWARD TRIP DURING THE AUTUMN TERM 2011 – THEY WILL BE ENJOYING A FREE TRIP TO A PLACE OF INTEREST AT THE END OF MARCH

∞

TO QUALIFY FOR THE STEWARDS CHALLENGE YOU NEED (EACH TERM):

96% ATTENDANCE OR MORE
NO MORE THAN 3 LATE MARKS
NO VISITS TO THE SECLUSION ROOM
NO FIXED TERM EXCLUSIONS

STEWARDS MUSIC SCHOOL

At Stewards we offer specialist tuition on the following instruments: Voice, Drums, Guitar, Bass, Clarinet, Trumpet, Piano, Keyboard, Flute and Cello. Lessons are provided by Essex Music Services tutors on a one-to-one basis.

Families who are eligible for Free School Meals can also apply for a tuition voucher which gives a discount on fees.

If you would like your child to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Miss Wang at the school for the latest information on fees and availability. Enrolment for next term will take place on **Wednesday 18th April 2012.**

Other News

'ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS'

Fired from his skiffle band, Francis Henshall becomes minder to Roscoe Crabbe, a small time East End hood, now in Brighton to collect £6,000 from his fiancée's dad.

But Roscoe is really his sister Rachel posing as her own dead brother, who has been killed by her boyfriend Stanley Stubbers.

Holed up at The Cricketers' Arms, the permanently ravenous Francis spots the chance of an extra meal ticket and takes a second job with one Stanley Stubbers, who is hiding from the police and waiting to be re-united with Rachel. To prevent discovery, Francis must keep his two guvnors apart. Simple.

As part of their GCSE Drama coursework Year 10 and Year 11 students attended a performance of 'One Man, Two Guvnors', starring James Corden, at the Adelphi Theatre in London's West End.

Some comments from students:

"Brilliant! I loved it."

"One Man, Two Guvnors' was really funny. It made my night!"

"James Corden was OUTSTANDING!"



**ESSEX
BOOK
FESTIVAL**

Tuesday 13 March 3.30pm
Stewards Academy, Parnall Road, Harlow, CM18 7NQ

Tickets: Free event

Box Office 01279 421951, e-mail

admin@stewardsacademy.org

Abstract

'Honour,' I repeated, wondering how such a small word could have caused so much trouble. When Sat's sister, Jas, is married off into the Atwal family she changes, she's quiet and distant. But Sat's too busy with his own life; his girlfriend, his friends, football ... Then Jas disappears.

According to her new husband, she's run off with another man. Her family disown her; don't seem to care if she's ever found. But Sat doesn't believe it. Something has happened to his sister and he's determined to figure out what. But his investigations take him into dark and dangerous territory ... This is a powerful, hard-hitting teen thriller on the controversial topic of honour killing, by multi-award-winning author Bali Rai.

Biography

Bali Rai has a degree in Politics and initially held many different jobs from working for a large supermarket to eventually settling as the manager of a bar and then assistant manager of a nightclub. It was during this latter period that he began to write his first novel, (un)arranged marriage. He showed parts of this novel to Jennifer Luithlen, an agent based in Leicester, and she agreed to take him on. The publisher loved the story and offered Bali a contract. The Crew and then Rani & Sukh followed the first novel which were both well received and widely read. Bali is now an established voice in the young adult/teenage market. He also spends a large part of his year doing events, promotions and creative writing classes.

Press contact

For more information please contact: penny@luithlenagency.co.uk. For information on the Essex Book Festival, contact Sue Long, e-mail slong@essex.ac.uk, telephone 01206 874471 (University of Essex Communications Office).



Bali Rai
Killing Honour

Year Group Information

Year 7

Year 8

Year 7 have now almost reached the half-way point in their first year at Stewards and I would like to say how proud I am of the way they have settled into life at secondary school, taking everything in their stride. Many parents were able to tell me how pleased you were with your children at the recent parents evening. It was very rewarding to see what an excellent turnout we had on such a cold evening. I would also like to thank parents for filling in the questionnaire before leaving and if you have left a comment you wish us to follow up this will always happen provided you have also left your name. Generally speaking Year 7 have responded very well to the new rules regarding phones in school but could I take this opportunity to reiterate that should the phone policy be breached the phone will not be returned until the end of the week. Thank you once again for your cooperation and should you need to get in touch with me please don't hesitate to contact school to make an appointment.

Mrs Bird
Head of Year 7

It has been a busy half term for Year 8 pupils. As they approach the half way mark of Year 8 the challenge of choosing their options is very close and I will take this opportunity to remind you of two very important meetings that are coming up. On March 15th there is the Year 8 Parents' Evening, then, on March 22nd, there is an evening for parents and children to find out information about options: what subjects are on offer and how many can be chosen. Both these evenings are extremely important. As you know, education is changing rapidly, and in order for your child to make the best choices, it is helpful for you to have the most up to date information.

On February 1st a group of Year 8 boys had the opportunity to meet and talk to Jonathan Hewlett who is a governor and an ex pupil of Stewards.

They asked a wide range of searching questions and I am sure they are now inspired to follow their dream.

We have started an informal discussion group in Year 8. It meets after school on Thursday evenings and we discuss a wide range of topics from specific school based issues to current affairs, literature and dreams for the future. Recently the pupils read a section from a book that they had read which they wanted to share and encourage others to read. There was a fantastic selection of stories, some old such as Sherlock Holmes and work by George Orwell and some more recent such as 'Diary of a Wimpy Vampire'

Nigel, our mascot, has also had a busy time. In the October half term he went to Egypt with Jade Creamer and at Christmas he visited Russia with Dimitry. He is looking forward to a more relaxing half term, but he has been offered a seat at the Olympics to watch one of the athletic finals! Rather a lucky Hippo I think you will agree.

Ms Batterham Head of Year 8



Year 9

I recently visited a meeting of the Normandy War veterans as a guest speaker to talk about the whole school commemoration ceremony held at Stewards Academy on the 11.11.11. I spoke about the ceremony, and how proud we were as a school to be able to do it. Members present at the meeting, who were at Stewards for the occasion remarked on how well behaved the children were, that they were treated with great courtesy and respect, and they thoroughly enjoyed the refreshments made available in the Conference Room. I was able to hand out copies of the newsletter, which had details of the event to all present, which they read with great interest. Buzz and Bill are very willing to come in to school again to talk about their experiences in the Second World War, and the whole association are very keen for Stewards to accompany them when they visit the Cenotaph later in the year.

I appreciate that this time of year can be a bit depressing, with Christmas out of the way, and cold wintry weather to contend with, but this does not give pupils the right to attempt to flout the rules. Coats, hoodies and cardigans are not allowed to be worn in lessons, and phones should be turned off and out of sight. In addition to this make-up, jewellery and nail varnish are also against the rules and students seen with any will be asked to remove it.

On a positive note, assemblies continue to follow the motto of our year group, which is "Do the best you can do, and be the best that you can be". To this end Mrs Sherwood recently presented an assembly about the trials, tribulations and injuries she had to overcome in order to complete her schedule and compete in a 10k run in aid of St Clare's Hospice. She enjoyed it so much, she has now entered several other runs.

I also gave an assembly about a gymnast called Kieran Behan who has recently qualified for the Olympics. In order to do this he has had to overcome unbelievable odds; catastrophic nerve damage, severe damage to the brain, a broken arm, a fractured wrist, and 2 torn cruciate ligaments in his knees. All this, and he is only 22 years old. The students could really identify with this, particularly because of his young age. The message from this was "Never give up."

Mrs Ellis Head of Year 9

Year Group Information

Year 10

The preparations for Work Experience are well underway and I am pleased to report that pupils have put much thought and effort into making their selections. Over half of the year group have organised their own placements (the deadline for which has now passed) with the remainder of the group investigating and applying for their placements this half term.

Over the coming weeks pupils will have their placements confirmed and will be expected to contact employers to arrange an interview prior to embarking on their work experience. This will be an opportunity for pupils to introduce themselves and to ask any questions they may have about their placement. Being well organised is vital to a successful experience and pupils should start to prepare for the call to employers and the interview process in good time.

Organisation is also key to academic success and we ask for your continued support in making sure that coursework and homework is completed and submitted in good time. When signing your child's Learning Log please discuss the tasks set and deadlines for submission. This will allow you to build a clear picture of the work your child has been set and will be an opportunity for your child to discuss any issues with you. Should you have any questions regarding coursework or homework please contact the relevant subject teacher, rather than your child's tutor, as they are the experts in that field.

Mrs Ramsey
Head of Year 10

Year 11

Well done to Year 11 who have had a very busy half term! Things have certainly been tough for the year group as they have had to juggle a vast number of challenges in the last six weeks.

Pupils have tackled GCSE examinations in English Language, Literature, Maths and Science. PE practical examinations have also taken place and the controlled assessments in English have now begun in force. There has certainly been a lot to prepare for and of course those who have been the most successful are those who have given of their own time to revise thoroughly and to attend extra study sessions after school.

Luckily, Year 11 can soon enjoy a well deserved break during half term either in New York or the comfort of their own homes! This should allow them to return in February suitably refreshed and ready to embark upon a long term revision plan in preparation for the final examination period in May and June of this year.

Completion of coursework and controlled assessments will be the focus in class time after half term so 100% attendance to lessons and adhering to all deadlines set will be vital for pupil success during this time.

The Sixth Form and College application / interview process is now well underway. Pupils have applied to a wide range of local schools and colleges and most are now awaiting interviews. Pupils should expect to receive a number of conditional offers from different sixth forms once the interviews have taken place which they can then consider following results day in August. Students need to be very well prepared for interviews and should consider taking along the following to support the process:- a personal statement, a portfolio of achievements and a copy of your predicted grades.

Make sure that you plan for the questions that the interviewer may ask such as: Why do you want to come to this sixth form/ college? Why do you want to do this course? What skills and qualifications can you bring to this course? Good Luck with the interview process and remember to inform us of the conditional offers you receive.

Enjoy your half term break

Miss Francis
Head of Year 11



War veterans reading our Newsletter

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

13th-17th	HALF TERM
21st	School Council Meeting
29th	Year 10 Parents Evening 4.00pm

MARCH

6th	Curriculum Day
7th-9th	Production 7.00pm
15th	Year 8 Parents Evening 4.00pm
22nd	Upper School Courses Evening 6.00pm
27th	Presentation Evening 7.00pm
28th	Target Setting Day
29th	Stewards Challenge
30th	Term Ends 1.00pm



ABSENCE LINE



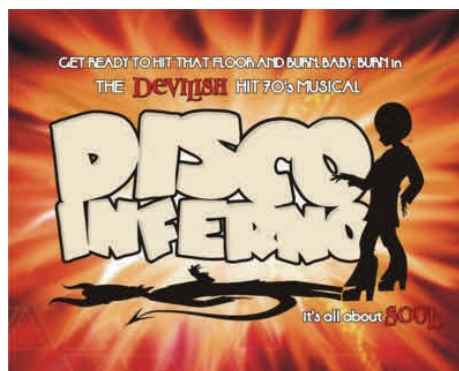
The absence line to report pupil absence is

01279-772511

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

Mrs Barker
Attendance Officer

Coming Soon...
A STEWARDS SCHOOL PRODUCTION OF



Wednesday 7th March 2012
Thursday 8th March 2012
Friday 9th March 2012