



February
2011

Stewards School

Newsletter



Name _____

Tutor Group: _____

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Pupils,

CDQS DIAMOND AWARD

In 2009 Stewards received the Cultural Diversity Quality Standard (CDQS) Gold Award. Since then we have improved still further and recently received the top award: The Diamond standard, for *"exceptional achievement – where students can achieve their very best in an environment that celebrates diversity and nurtures respect."* We are the only Essex school to receive this recognition – and one of only a handful in the country.



The assessor looked at evidence of our work in relation to ethos, achievement, curriculum, parent/carer and community involvement, staff and governors and specific projects/innovations. He made the following final comments:-

"A sense of trust and respect is clearly at the heart of the school's ethos and culture. The concept of the 'Stewards family' is recognised in other awards and in the most recent OFSTED Report – however, it is only by visiting the school and talking, in particular, to the pupils that one can fully appreciate the meaning of the phrase."

He noted the breadth and depth of pupils' understanding of, and pride in, their approach to cultural diversity. One of the students interviewed by the assessor said; *"By being a part of this school we are set up for life."*

Naturally we are delighted to have received this award in recognition of our innovative work to celebrate Cultural Diversity within our school and community. My thanks especially to Mrs Erwood and the EMPV group for their dedication to this cause.

HARLOW EDUCATION TRUST

As a member of the Harlow Education Trust (HET) Stewards has signed up to work with the Cooperative College, subscribing to the values and ethos associated with the cooperative movement. In the next phase of our development we are seeking to build a cooperative membership across the 10 schools in HET. Parents may be interested in two forthcoming activities:-

1. A Cooperative College workshop to raise awareness of cooperative values, enterprises and stakeholder membership. A town-wide event is being held on the morning of Saturday 12th March. If any Stewards parents would like to attend please let Jenny Wood (Headteacher's PA) know by Tuesday 1st March and we can forward you details. We have 20 places allocated for governors, staff and parents.
2. Cooperative College training sessions for "membership champions"- staff, parents and students. There will be a half day training workshop for each group and this is likely to be on a school day in June. Again we are looking for Stewards representatives. Please contact Jenny Wood if you might be interested. We are looking for 3 staff, 3 parents and 5 students.

At the same time as developing the Harlow Education Trust, we are mindful of the Government's intention that all schools will become Academies. At Stewards we are working in collaboration with other Harlow schools (primary and secondary) to explore a model which would best serve our needs and retain the best practice we have in Harlow in terms of partnership working between schools.



Rhonda Murthar
Headteacher

ENGLISH BACCALAUREATE

This year, the government said that it wanted to introduce a new qualification called the English Baccalaureate (EBacc.). For pupils to achieve this new qualification, they have to get a grade C or above in English, Mathematics, 2 Sciences, a Foreign Language and History or Geography. The aim of the government is to encourage schools to offer a broad set of academic subjects. Currently, schools are judged on how many of their pupils achieve 5 GCSE passes at C or above including English and Mathematics. This will remain the main measure for the time being, because it will take a couple of years to respond to the new qualification, and make the necessary changes when pupils choose courses at Key Stage 4.

The subjects that are recognised as counting towards the EBacc are still being reviewed. There might still be some changes to the requirement to study History or Geography, with other Humanity subjects being allowed to count towards the qualification. However, the requirement to study English, Mathematics and two Sciences is very unlikely to change.

At Stewards we are considering how to respond to the new qualification, which was only formally confirmed in mid December 2010. An additional consideration for us is the fact that we now have a Key Stage 4 that runs for three years rather than two. This means that any changes we introduce would not impact upon the government's league tables until 2014.

We believe that the current curriculum offer for Key Stage 4 offers a broad and balanced curriculum to all of our students. However, we also recognise that the entry requirements of post 16 providers is changing; for example, one sixth form in Chelmsford has changed its entry requirements to study any A level subjects from 2013, so that every student has to have a grade C or above in a foreign language. It is likely that other sixth form providers will also introduce this requirement. For pupils keen to study A levels post 16, we have recommended that they should study GCSE courses rather than BTEC at Key Stage 4. This advice remains, and students need to be aware of the latest advice from the Russell Group, representing 20 leading universities that they should study "academic" GCSEs and A levels to enhance their chances of admission.

Shortly, we will be in touch with parents of Year 8 students to confirm the Upper School Courses offer for this year. We will also be speaking to students and parents in Year 9 to advise about the implications of these changes, and how we can support them in their career progression. As a school, we remain committed to ensuring that every pupil achieves the highest possible qualifications at the end of their time at Stewards, and is able to move on successfully to the next stage of their career.

Mr G. Carrol
Deputy Headteacher

Important Information

PUNCTUALITY

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PUPILS ATTEND SCHOOL BY
8.45am AND 1.55pm IN TIME FOR REGISTRATION

IF FOR ANY REASON YOUR CHILD IS LATE TO SCHOOL IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THEY SIGN
IN AT THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

(situated next to the Pupil Entrance on the Ground Floor in Block 1)

FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN THEM BEING MARKED ABSENT AND THIS WILL HAVE A
DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THEIR ATTENDANCE

PARENTS WILL BE CONTACTED IF THE REGISTRATION MARK SHOWS AN ABSENCE TO
ASCERTAIN THE WHEREABOUTS OF A PUPIL

PUPILS SHOULD NOT JUST GO TO THEIR LESSON AND ASSUME THEY WILL BE MARKED
PRESENT – THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN

MAY I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND YOU THAT
HOLIDAYS ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN DURING TERM TIME

PUPIL ABSENCE LINE - (01279) 772511

Thank you for your co-operation

Mrs Barker
Attendance Office



CHANGES TO PUPILS PERSONAL DETAILS

Moved house?



New Home or Mobile
number?



Please let us know as
soon as possible.

Send the details to: -
studentsupport@
stewardsschool.co.uk

FIRST AID INFORMATION

PUPIL SICKNESS

If your child becomes unwell during lessons, the teacher will give him/her a note to go to the Medical Room. At other times they should go directly to the Medical Room where they will be seen by a qualified First Aider. This person will then decide if there is a need for your child to be sent home, often in consultation with the relevant Pastoral Support Manager or Head of Year. If your child does need to go home, the First Aider will call the person who is designated first contact on the school's computer records and arrange for them to be collected. Pupils must not call home and ask to be collected-they must be seen by a First Aider as outlined above.

PUPIL MEDICATION

For safety reasons, pupils should not carry medication with them in school. If your child needs to take medication whilst at school, it should be taken to the Medical Room, along with a note from parents/guardians explaining the type of medication plus the dosage instructions. If medication is ongoing, then a **REQUEST FOR SCHOOL TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION** form will need to be completed by a parent/guardian beforehand. The medication will then be kept in a secure area in the Medical Room for your child's use. Please send in fresh supplies so that your child does not run out of medication. Thank you for your co-operation.

Mrs Kitchener
Welfare & First Aid Technician

Science News

STEWARDS SKY WATCH GROUP GO TO THE INSTITUTE OF ASTRONOMY

Stewards Sky Watch Group went to the Institute of Astronomy at Cambridge to listen to a talk by Dr Andrew Fox called 'European Southern Observatory (ESO) – Europe's Big Eyes on the Sky'. The ESO is an intergovernmental research organisation for astronomy, composed and supported by fifteen countries including the UK. Established in 1962 with an objective to provide state-of-the-art facilities and access to the southern sky to European astronomers, it is famous for building and operating some of the largest and most technical telescopes in the world. All its observation facilities are located in Chile, whilst the headquarters are located in Germany.

Dr Fox talked about all the different ESO sites in Chile and the type of telescope located there; for example, the very impressive Very Large Telescope (VLT), consisting of four 8 metre telescopes (the diameter of the mirror inside the telescopes) and four 1.8 metre Auxiliary telescopes are located at the Paranal Observatory. The VLT has allowed astronomers to obtain the first picture of an extra solar planet orbiting a star 173 light-years away.

The ESO are planning to build an even bigger telescope – the European Extremely Large Telescope (E-ELT) in Chile very soon. It will be operational in 2018. The E-ELT will have a mirror inside which is 42 metres in diameter; this telescope will dwarf the VLT. The E-ELT will enable astronomers to view the night sky with even finer detail.

At the end of the evening our group was taken to see the historical Northumberland telescope which was given to the Institute in 1833 by the Duke of Northumberland. Unfortunately it was raining so we couldn't view the night sky through it. Despite the weather everyone said they had an enjoyable, informative evening.



Thomas Goodenough (8HS) looking through the historical Northumberland telescope at the Institute of Astronomy.

SCRUB BASHING AND BLACKTHORN HEDGE LAYING IN STEWARDS ANCIENT MEADOW



It was a very cold day but it didn't stop Stewards students helping the Harlow Conservation Volunteers (HCV) cutting back the scrub and mending the hole in the hedge at the back of the meadow. First we cleared an area inside the blackthorn thicket so that we could have access to the area we wanted to work on. We then started to lay down the blackthorn by cutting halfway through the trunk to keep the tree alive, then bending it over to fill the hole in the hedge. The remaining gaps were filled in with the branches we removed to gain access. At the end of the day the meadow was secure and we all went home for a well deserved rest.

Matthew Allen (10RA), Thomas Goodenough (8HS), Louise and Charlotte Baker (8THH and 8HS) with HCV Andrew Tomlins

Mrs Wright
Curriculum Development Technician

Science News

BBC2 STARGAZERS EVENT: BLACK HOLES AND GALAXIES

More than 70 people attended a star-studded astronomy event linked to the BBC2 Stargazing programmes at Stewards School Science Specialist on the evening of Tuesday 11th January 2011. Stewards School is one of 30 schools nationwide who are part of the Leading Space Education Programme funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council. The two-hour free event was organised to publicise space related activities as part of this programme.

Resident astronomers Allan Bell, from Loughton Astronomical Society and Andrew Gannon, an ex-head of Technology at Stewards, were on hand to teach gazers about Black Holes and Galaxies. Later on they all ventured outside to view objects in the night sky through telescopes.

Organiser Geraldine Wright, Science Curriculum Development Manager at Stewards, said: *"It was a fantastic event and the enthusiasm of everyone who attended said a great deal about the quality of the presentations."*



Two small girls from the community looking at Jupiter through a telescope.

MOON ROCKS AND METEORITES

Stewards pupils were given the exciting and rare opportunity of handling samples of Moon rock and meteorites recently. The school borrowed samples from the Science and Technology Facilities Council who obtained them from NASA. The Moon rocks came from the Apollo 15, 16 and 17 missions and the meteorites - which could be five billion years old, as old as our solar system - were found in Egypt, India and Chile.

Mrs Tripp, a Leading Science Teacher at Stewards, said: *"How many people can say that they have handled rock from the Moon? Our students had a rare opportunity to do just that and to handle meteorites that came from Mars or were billions of years old."*



Mrs Tripp's Year 7 Science class with the moon rocks and meteorites.

BIG SCHOOL BIRD WATCH

This year was the 10th birthday of the RSPB's Big School's Bird Watch and the second year that Stewards students have come out for an hour on their Saturday morning to count the number of species of birds living in Stewards ancient meadow. Several weeks previously students made bird feeders in an after school Technology club; we filled these with peanuts and hung them from branches around the meadow to attract the birds to the area. Last Saturday, armed with identification books, cameras and binoculars the students spotted a variety of common garden birds including Chaffinches and Greenfinches but the most exciting find was the presence of two Fieldfares who were overwintering here from Scandinavia. The results obtained were posted on the RSPB's website to be included in their annual audit.



Thomas Goodenough (8HS) and Joseph Thomas (7MT) with their binoculars beside the meadow.



Shannon Webb (9EN) and Tyler Hampson (8HS) making bird feeders in Technology.

Work Related Learning and Enterprise

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE, CAMDEN.

Following on from our visit to Writtle College, this term our budding Vets and Veterinary nurses visited the Royal Veterinary College in Camden to find out exactly what qualifications and qualities would be needed to follow their dream of working in this specialist field.

Stopping off for lunch in Covent Garden, where we heard singers and musicians from the Royal Opera House practicing their music and singing, we made our way to Camden via London Underground (which was very crowded and even more so, on our return journey). On arrival we met the team of lecturers headed up by Andrew Crook (he is an **Anatomical Diagnostic tutor**) and a pony, a cow and a dog on whom Stewards students practised their diagnostic skills. Under Andrew's skilful tutelage, students listened to heartbeats, respiratory tracts, and watched the progress of regurgitated grass as it passed through the cow's digestive system - it was truly astonishing to see the physical effect this has on the cow's abdomen!

The students came away motivated and determined to do well in their studies.

"I loved going to Writtle because of the activities we did. I also hope to go there one day because of the opportunities there." Poppy Rogers 8DJ

"I loved it when I went to Writtle Collage. It left me utterly speechless as I listened intently to the brilliant talks and held the animals. I realised that I want to go there!" Megan Baldwin 8DJ

"I really enjoyed going to the veterinary college because it was hands on and seeing what the animals do." Poppy Rogers 8DJ

"when I visited the veterinary college in London I had the time of my life. I found that studying anatomy is

amazing, and to actually get up close and personal with these animals was fantastic." Megan Baldwin 8DJ



Work Related Learning and Enterprise

WRITTLE COLLEGE

Although the temperature was below freezing and the ground frozen solid – the students who visited Writtle College at the end of last term had an amazing insight into the world of animal and equine study. Our hosts began the day with a visit to the equine stud where we were introduced to 'Bertie' the race horse (who was enormous) and the much smaller 'Jamie' a very shaggy looking pony (much admired none the less). We observed the training facilities and the stables and had a much needed warm under the arc lights (used to keep the horses warm when being brushed and cleaned). Students learned the formulae used for ensuring horses and ponies stabled at the Writtle stud are kept in tip top condition and fed nutritionally. Along the way our students heard first hand from undergraduates who were studying at the College about the qualifications they would need to achieve if they wished to enrol at Writtle and also employment opportunities available post study.

Our next stop was the small animal house (where it was much warmer). The small animals (including a blue tongued skink, corn snakes, tortoises, tarantulas and a very friendly Chinese dragon lizard) were as interested in us as we were in them. Our hosts were extremely knowledgeable about the animals and also told us about their route into employment.

The day has certainly helped to focus students' minds on what qualifications they need to achieve to be successful in their wish to work in this field.

Rebecca Rumsey 9SP, Nick Rogan 9TA, Jamie Cullinan 9SE, Katie Sullivan 9SB, Louise Downey 10COS, Amy Schilder 10JH, Luvena Porter 10DS, Stephanie Sinclair 10JH, Emma Hart 10DS, Megan Baldwin 8DJ, Poppy Rogers 8DJ, Zoe Pickering 10 MM, and Kelcey Donoghue 8PM were a credit to our school.

Their interest and motivation eliciting the comment 'Sterling students from Stewards School, we'd love to have them visit us again' from Writtle teaching staff and undergraduate students.

Mrs Hampstead
Vocational Learning Mentor

ZINC THEATRE WORKSHOP

Students from Yr 10 and Yr 11 took part in a work related learning and employability skills workshop at the end of last term. Through discussion, group drama, thinking, listening, presenting and observation of positive role models, the students practised the skills they will need when venturing into further education and employment. By the end of the session, students taking part felt more confident and positive about the next stage of their journey into the workplace and further education.

Mrs Hampstead
Vocational Learning Mentor

WORK EXPERIENCE FOR YR 10.

Work Experience for Year 10 will take place during 6th – 10th June. A Parents briefing will be held at School on Monday 7th March. An invitation to attend will follow. If you are able to offer a placement to any of our students, please contact Mrs Hampstead 01279 421951

Maths Department News π



'Going Green'

Congratulations to the Year 9 pupils who have already achieved their End of Year target in Maths. This is the result of commitment to hard work in lessons as well as homework. They have all been presented with a certificate and 3 merits. Of course they are now working towards a more challenging target to give them the best chance when they start their GCSE course next term.

The names of all the pupils that have 'gone green' is displayed in the Maths corridor for all to see. Will your name be next?

Hassan Saidy, Elisha Smyth
and Rebecca Wrenne

Mrs Ginger
Head of Maths Department

P.E. Department News

STEWARDS SCHOOL SWIM WEEK

Monday 17th January – Friday 21st January

The PE department would just like to say Thank you and Well done to all those pupils who represented their form class during the week. The event was split up into one year group per day, with a maximum of 4 representatives from each tutor group. Each form class had 15 minutes to swim as many lengths as possible, but only 1 person could be swimming at any one time from each tutor group. The results were collated for each year, then added together to give the overall house colour scores. As you can see from the table Red team recorded the greatest number of lengths over the week.

Red	193
Green	191.5
Dark Blue	132
Light Blue	125
Yellow	97
White	91
Orange	67

EMERGING SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

Upper Clapton RFC Wednesday 20/01/11

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
Nosa Ediae	Josh Wix	Connor Fry
Kenan Krkic	Jason Presland	Daniel DeFranca
Aaron Harris	Nathan Rudgley	Shakur Dixon
Matt Oliver	Rhys Parker	Tom Dowers
Josh Eke	Danny Baker	Dan Stevenson
Alex Johnson	Owen Warwick	Jake Penhallow
Alex Dodd	Faruq Balogun	Lewis Fry
Tyler Bull	Louis Giddings	Connor Bull
Tommy O'Donnell	Danny Palmer	Aaron Murphy
Will Fordham	Daniel Whellams	Jordan Spowart
Dylan Dezilva	Mason Joscelyne	Rhys Whitby
Kittiphon Sutthikhan	Zack Pace	Nqoba Mvitshe
Jordon Byford	Billy Wickenden	Billy Taylor
	Jordan Ogoazi	
	Brandon Salisbury	
	Taylor Walsh	
	Matt Furmanek	

Year 7 Results

Game 1 v Roding Valley – Lost 0-5.
Game 2 v Davenant – Lost 0-5.
Finished 3rd in Group
Game 3 (5/6th play off) – Won 15-0.
Finished 5th Overall.



Year 8 Results

Game 1 v West Hatch – Lost
Game 2 v St Nicks – Won
Game 3 v Davenant – Lost
Game 4 v Mark Hall - Won

Year 9 Results

Game 1 v St Nicks Draw - 10 – 10
Game 2 v Roding Valley - Draw 5 – 5
Game 3 v Davenant (Semi-final) - Lost 0 – 15
Game 4 v St Nicks (3/4th play off) - Lost 0 -5



Year 9 Netball Team

The Year 9 netball team's run in the Essex cup has finally come to an end. They recently lost to Westcliffe School from Southend. However they did extremely well to get through to the final 16 in the competition. In fact, it is the farthest the school has got in this competition. Congratulations to: Ellie Montague, Alex Kilcare, Ellie Thompson, Sarah Warby, Louise Martin, Taylor Fletcher-Rox, Charlie Cook and India Brabbs.

International Dimension

YELLOW EARTH THEATRE VISITS STEWARDS SCHOOL

On Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th January, the Yellow Earth Theatre group visited Stewards School to work with all our Year 8 pupils. The Yellow Earth Theatre is a London based company that specialise in promoting Chinese culture in schools and community based projects. Over two days, the Yellow Earth Theatre introduced our Year 8 pupils to traditional shadow puppet theatre which is a popular form of traditional theatre originating in China.

Working in tutor groups, our pupils enjoyed a one hour workshop working with specialist Chinese artist and workshop leader Dr. Tsai-Wei Chen. She introduced the workshops by giving a demonstration of the story of the "Two suns" using puppets to introduce the story of ancient people who were tormented by two suns. The ancient people sought the help of three wise men and three warriors to end their torment by destroying one of the suns.

Pupil volunteers then took the roles of using puppets to tell the story of how wise men and warriors defeated one of the suns in a dramatic battle. The exploded and defeated sun created the moon and stars. After the story, our pupils received a brief demonstration on how to make shadow puppets and then had 30 minutes working in pairs to use their imaginative and creative skills to make shadow puppets based upon animals in the Chinese zodiac.

Once complete, pupils gave demonstrations of their puppets to the rest of the class. Pupils greatly enjoyed the workshops and showed impressive enthusiasm and commitment to making the workshops memorable days for all involved. Pupil comment included "I really enjoyed making something that I had never heard of" and another pupil commented "I liked drawing and making our own puppets, the puppet show was really good!"

The visit to Stewards School forms part of our commitment to promoting Chinese culture and language as one of the four schools involved in the West Essex Confucius Classroom.



Year 8 pupils working on their own shadow puppets



Dr. Tsai-Wei Chen demonstrating shadow puppets

Mr Hickman
Geography Department

Extended Schools

Art Exhibition at the Gibberd Gallery.

Stewards Art Students will be exhibiting at the Gibberd Gallery next month as part of the annual schools exhibition. The exhibition will be on for a month and is aimed at demonstrating the quality and creative skills of the students around Harlow and giving them the opportunity to present their work in a public gallery. Work will be selected from yrs 7-11 and will include sculpture, painting, drawing and photography. It promises to be a great exhibition and is well worth a visit.

Mr Scholtes
Assistant Headteacher

Free School Meals

If you are currently entitled to Free School Meals please remember that, if your circumstances change and you are no longer eligible, it is vital that you inform Mrs Eubel, Student Support Assistant, immediately. You can email via studentsupport@stewardsschool.co.uk

If your child continues to have FSM when no longer eligible, you will be charged accordingly.

Thank you,

Mrs P Jenkins
Business Manager

History News

Year 9 GCSE History students went along to the Harlow Playhouse recently to commemorate National Holocaust Memorial Day, with a special screening of a film which told the story of the Kinder Transport Movement. This saved the lives of thousands of Jewish children by bringing them out of Nazi Germany by train, via several European countries, and ultimately to England, before the start of the Second World War. England was the only country to pass special legislation to allow this to happen.

There was a very special guest present at the Playhouse on the day of the film, Lily Brierley, now 87 years of age, who was one of the children who had to leave her original homeland of Austria, via Prague, to come to England as a child. Lily answered questions from the children who were very moved by her experience and deeply touched by her bravery. The Playhouse was full of children from primary and secondary schools across Harlow who were all visibly affected by the stories they heard. Afterwards the pupils met Lily and her son Neil who were full of praise for the empathy and understanding of the pupils, and future meetings between them are now being planned.

Mrs Erwood MBE said *"As an historian it is vital that we encourage young people to understand what lessons the past teaches us, in order to ensure that events such as the Holocaust never happen again."*

Mrs Erwood MBE
Assistant Headteacher



LIBRARY NEWS

Well, last term was a great success, more pupils than ever borrowed books from the library. Keep on reading!

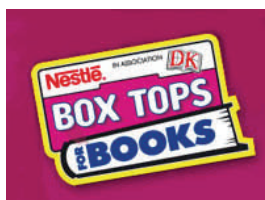
We are now running a monthly quiz, the latest was for the Chinese New Year. It was hotly contested with the winners as follows :-

- 1st Alex Johnson 7JJ
- 2nd Nick Richards 8PM
- 3rd Dmitriy Shtyrov 7MK
- 4th Jake Smith & Dylan DeZilva 7MK

7 other pupils got bookmarks and pencils. Look out for the next quiz in March.

Finally, just a reminder that we are collecting Nestle box tops from cereal boxes to get free books so if you have any please bring them to me in the library. Tesco and Sainsburys will soon be starting their yearly voucher scheme, we will be collecting both.

Thank you for your help.



Mrs M. Armstrong
Librarian.



My name is Daniel Tinsley and I am in year 7 at Stewards School. Thanks to the 'make a wish foundation' I was given the opportunity to go to the Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor in Wales. In the photo I am holding my Christmas present from the number 1 golfer in the world, Lee Westwood. I was sent a signed photo and the shirt that he played in when he won the Open at Pebble Beach in 2009.

Chinese New Year

Year 7 have been studying Mythical Creatures in their Art lessons. We decided to introduce textiles to their work to add different textures and give them experience with a variety of materials. The pupils produced a Chinese dragon and worked well in a team. Every decision was made by a class majority, which helped decide the shape, colour and design of the dragon. Chicken wire and papier-mâché were used to produce the head and each member of 7RP painted a section of the head.

We took part in the Chinese New Year Assembly where pupils had the opportunity to show off their creation.

"I really enjoyed making the dragon, I wish you could all make one!" Jon Lester-Hill.



"It took a lot of hard work, but it paid off in the end." Daisy Livett.

"We all took part in producing this dragon and learnt how to co-operate with each other." Jack Rust.

"I really enjoyed making the dragon and I hope you use it in the future." Jay Breeze.



Mrs Martin
Technology Department



Frankenstein
a new play by Nick Dear
based on the novel by Mary Shelley



'FRANKENSTEIN' at the National Theatre, 8th February

As part of their GCSE Drama course, Year 10 and Year 11 students went on a trip to the National Theatre to attend a special preview of the 'hottest theatre ticket in London', a new production of Frankenstein based on the classic Mary Shelley novel. Starring Jonny Lee Miller (*Trainspotting*, *Hackers*) and Benedict Cumberbatch (*Sherlock*, *Silent Witness*), Frankenstein featured stunning performances and amazing set design and lighting.

"Frankenstein was thrilling. It was very interesting and gave me a lot to think about." Jed Smith, Deputy Head Boy

A Stewards School
Production of



Opening night special

Wed 9th March

Adults £4.00

Concessions £2.00

Thurs 10th March and

Fri 11th March 2011

Adults £6.00

Concessions £4.00

Tickets on sale in Resources from Mon 28th February

Doors Open - 6.30pm Performance - 7.00pm

OUR HOUSE by Tim Firth Music and lyrics by Madness

OUR HOUSE was first produced at the Cambridge Theatre, London on 28th October 2002.

Producers were Tiger Aspect Productions, Rupert Lord, Andre Ptaszynski and Phil McIntyre in association with Madness

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

Performing Arts News

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT ST. CLARE HOSPICE

In what has now become a tradition for Stewards, over 60 students visited St. Clare Hospice in Hastingwood to sing carols for some of the patients. Accompanied by Jordan Spowart and Nqoba Mvitsho from Year 9, and supported by Mr Barden and Miss Doughty, the students performed festive songs such as 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing', 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town' and 'Away in a Manger'.



MUSIC SCHOOL

Just a reminder that the next enrolment date for Music School will be **Wednesday 27th April**, with lessons starting the following week. We currently offer specialist tuition on drums, guitar, piano, keyboard, clarinet, trombone, saxophone, trumpet and flute. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, you can apply for a voucher which entitles you to a discount on the cost of lessons. Please contact Miss Doughty for further information.

THE PERFORMING ARTS TEAM

HALF TERM WORKSHOPS

We will once again be running music workshops during February half term week for selected students, in association with Creative Music Ltd. These workshops will give students an introduction to music and offer them a taste of what it is like to play in a band. A full report and photographs will appear in the next newsletter.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

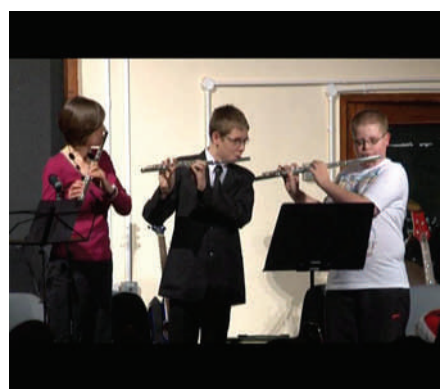
During the last week of the Autumn term we held our Christmas Concert, featuring a wealth of festive entertainment from all year groups. The concert opened with the School

Ensemble performing beautiful

arrangements by Mrs Morrison of 'Canon' and 'You Raise Me Up', accompanied by Dance Fusion.

Further music was provided by the Flute Ensemble, school singers, GCSE Music students and our Staff Choir with the Lower School Choir, led by Miss Wang, who sang 'Jingle Bell Rock' and 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree'. Year 9 Drama students performed their own Christmas related pieces, such as 'Harry's Christmas Adventure' and 'The Grinch Rearranged'.

Dance pieces were 'Rockin' Robin' by Miss McGarry's Year 9 Dance class, and 'All I Want for Christmas' by the Lower School Dance Club, led by Miss Trowsdale.



MFL News



Year 8 pupils learning French and Spanish are busy preparing for their trip to Arsenal's Emirates Stadium later this term when they will have a chance to practise what they have been learning in class. The Arsenal Project recognises the importance of speaking other languages. Amongst lots of other activities, pupils have



been watching video interviews with some of Arsenal's French and Spanish players and they are continuing to learn each new topic in the context of football; for example, fitness and health. When on the trip they will play a series of football matches with all instructions in French or Spanish, as well as visit the stadium itself. Some pupils have excelled with their

chanting skills and all pupils will be learning how to understand and deliver a football match commentary in French or Spanish! Even the Spurs fans (me included!) have been joining in!!

Year 8 pupils studying Mandarin put this to good use on Monday 31st January, when they visited the Chinese Galleries in the British Museum. A short lecture and tour of the galleries was followed by a delicious Chinese meal at the New World Chinese Restaurant in Chinatown. Gong Xi Fa Choi! Happy New Year of the Rabbit!



Mrs Smith
Head of Languages

SPANISH NEWS

A very exciting residential trip to Costa Brava is being organised for next academic year (October 2011), involving current Years 8,9,10. Costa Brava is a marvellous Spanish coast and a very popular holiday destination, particularly famous for its sunny sandy beaches. Students will have the chance to gain very valuable insights into Spanish life style and develop greater cultural awareness, as well as using their language skills. The trip is indeed open to all students, although those students studying Spanish will certainly find it easier to communicate (how useful to know a foreign language!). If this exceptional experience is of interest to you, see Miss Gagliano in room 35 for an application letter and get ready for four full days of Spanish fun!



On a similar note, another chance to enjoy a real Spanish atmosphere will be offered to current Year 9, 10 and 11 Spanish students this year, on 4th May 2011. We will spend a day at the Europa Centre in Hornchurch, where students will be able to engage in a variety of interactive role-plays and activities in simulated Spanish scenarios, such as passport checks and puppet shows. Moreover, you will have the chance to taste typical Spanish dishes and purchase Spanish souvenirs, exactly as you would do in a real Spanish town!



Mrs Gagliano
MFL Department

What's On At science alive.

This half term...

Interactive EXHIBITIONS IN OUR LEARNING GALLERY....

The Playground 3D puzzles for ambitious astronauts... & our Bubble Planetarium Show

The People Pod All the parts you need to know how you work!

The Workshop A history of bizarre bicycles, re-using waste materials & engineering

The Mask A unique installation mixing art and technology....

HALF TERM EVENTS: please book in advance...

Mon 21st Feb Art Workshop (12 Yrs +) 10.30 – 17.00**

Tues 22nd Feb Magical Magician (All Ages) 10:30 – 11:30

Tues 22nd Feb Legomania (5 yrs +) 14:00 – 15:30*

Thurs 24th Feb Robot Wars (6-14 Yrs) 10:30 – 12:30 *

Thurs 24th Feb Robot Wars (11-14 Yrs) 14:00 – 16:00*

Science Alive SPECIAL £4 (* £5 ** £10) - book in advance...

Regular **ACTIVITIES**

SACK – SCIENCE ALIVE CLUB FOR KIDS - SATURDAYS 11.00 - 12.30 & 14.00 – 15.30 £2

Parent & Toddler - SUNDAY 10.00 - 12 NOON

Admission Prices – NEW LOW PRICES

Adults £4.00 Children £3.00 Family ticket £10 Concessions £1.00 off

- SPECIAL HOLIDAY PRICES! ADMISSION INCLUDES WORKSHOPS IF AVAILABLE

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 10am – 17.30pm

Weekends & bank holidays 10am – 17.00pm

SCIENCE ALIVE, Harlow Leisurezone, Second Avenue, Harlow CM20 3DT T: 01279 413412

E: info@science-alive.co.uk W: www.science-alive.co.uk FB: facebook.com/sciencealiveuk

[Twitter.com/sciencealiveuk](https://twitter.com/sciencealiveuk)



Where Are They Now



Former Stewards pupil Paige Tennison is currently an engineering apprentice with Essex County Council. We wish her every success for the future.



Former Stewards student Sam Stallan came to visit us recently. He is currently at Bedford University studying BA(QTS) – Physical Education. His aim is to become a PE Teacher. We wish him all the best for the future.



Past student Georgia Daniels is currently studying her National Diploma in Performing Arts at Hertford Regional College. The course has opened many doors for her and she has some auditions for major dance and drama schools coming up. After just finishing 'Mary Poppins' she thought she would come and visit us all. Fingers crossed all goes well for her in the future!

Charity News



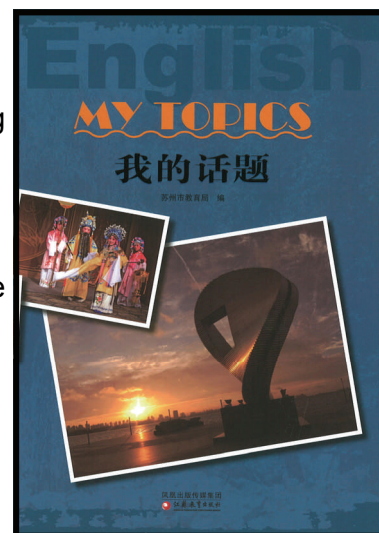
Well done to Mason Arnold 8CPT for organising a raffle at Stewards swimming gala. He raised an impressive £100 for St Clare Hospice.

I have just received a parcel from Xu Ling containing 4 copies of a new Chinese textbook for learning English. Three Stewards pupils have written texts in English which are published in the book.

They are Sarah Warby 9SL, Georgia King 9DEM and Megan Hood 9PH.

There is a copy of the book on proud display in the Library. The pupils wrote their contributions during a language lesson last year when Miss Xu was our Chinese Language Assistant. Congratulations to Sarah, Georgia and Megan on now being published authors!

Mrs Smith
Head of Languages



Congratulations



Congratulations to Laura Richardson 11CW who was a finalist in a poetry competition entitled 'Conflict and Remembrance'. Here is a copy of her poem 'Proud of them'.

Proud of them

by Laura Richardson

They fight for you, they fight for me,
They're fighting for our country.
The men and women – air, land and sea,
These are our 'armed forces' and we should be...

PROUD OF THEM

They're the real heroes,
We salute them all,
Some will live,

And some will fall, and we should be...

PROUD OF THEM

We should pay tribute,
To those present and past,
And to the huge contribution,
Or should I say, vast? And we should be...

PROUD OF THEM

To all the 'armed forces'
Who put their lives on the line,
We will always remember,
What you define. And we should be...

PROUD OF THEM

To all of the families,
And the loved as well,
For how they get parted,
And must go through hell, and we should be...

PROUD OF THEM.

They fight for you, they fight for me,
They're fighting for our country.
The men and women – air, land and sea,
These are our 'armed forces' and we should be...

PROUD OF THEM

Congratulations to Adam Pope in 10MW on being selected for the British Judo Junior Special Needs team.

Adam was selected after an impressive performance at the British

Championships in Sunderland which saw him crowned as the British SN closed Champion 2010!

Adam will now go on to compete as part of the Junior British Judo Squad in Beverwijk, Holland on the 9th of April 2011. Although he will represent Britain in his individual competition he is part of a Great Britain team consisting of 10 junior players and 12 senior players.

Congratulations Adam and good luck in Holland!



"I got a Blue Peter badge because I sent in a picture of the presenters and their animals. I have sent in some more things to get my silver badge."

Becky Warwick 7RP



Congratulations to Louise Devlin 8DJ for her Archery success.

Year Group Information

Year 7

As you know, Year 7 has a wonderful mascot in the shape of a hippo called Nigel. Nigel is available to accompany any Year 7 on any interesting trip or holiday that they take as long as we have photographic evidence for his scrapbook. So far Nigel has spent a very happy Christmas and New Year with Josh Eke, he has been on the London Eye and held actual moon rocks! I hope that over the course of your child's time at Stewards, Nigel's scrap book will be a record of the children's many activities.



Rosie Poole 7MT

Someone else in the year group who is being very successful is Rosie Poole. Rosie is a talented runner who has recently participated in the Essex Schools Cross Country. She came 7th and has been selected for the Essex team.

Finally, I was very encouraged by the turn out at Year 7 Parents' Evening. I hope that you found it a rewarding evening. We value the partnership that we have with parents very highly.

***Ms Batterham
Head of Year 7***

Year 8

Recently Year 8 were fortunate enough to see a play called Arson About. This was sponsored by the fire service in Essex, and performed by the Stopwatch Theatre Company. It was a story about a group of youngsters who wanted to get their own back on a member of staff they blamed for getting one of them excluded. They broke into school, and set fire to it. Unfortunately one of the group, a young girl, dies in the fire. This was followed by a workshop where pupils discussed issues surrounding arson, including talking about what to do in case of fire, and what dangers to look out for. Students also considered the various groups in the community that would be affected by a school fire: pupils, community evening activities, parents and the emergency services. Feedback from the students was that it was very informative and thought provoking.

I know that students and parents are beginning to ask questions about the option process. This might have to change slightly because of new government recommendations, but you will be informed in the very near future. An important date you need to keep free in your calendar is Thursday 31st March. On this evening all option subject teachers put up displays which show you exactly what is required for their courses. Staff are also available to answer any questions you might have. It is after this evening that students will have to make their upper school course choices.

***Mrs Ellis
Head of Year 8***

Year Group Information

Year 9

This half term seems to have flown by! It has been a very busy one for all of our students and it has been good to see them continue to enjoy the challenges of new subjects. Only recently I was shown some wonderful work completed by our Art and Photography students displaying both newly learnt and developing skills.

Over the next half term our focus will be turning to the future and what it holds after school. There will be a trip to Harlow College to see what our local Further Education provider has to offer our students. It is a great opportunity for our year group to have a taste of what College life is like and the courses that are on offer there.

It has been wonderful to see our Works Skills groups focusing on small business as part of their studies. The student teams have worked very well together and developed some great ideas. Our jewellery making team have been particularly popular. Their handmade items are being proudly worn by students and staff alike!

Katie Pollard and Rebecca Grace have recently joined a prestigious Essex Youth Council. The girls used their own initiative to find out all about the Council after a visit from a speaker to school had inspired them. We are all very proud of the girls' achievement and wish them every success on the Council.

May I take this opportunity to remind you that your school uniform needs to be within school guidelines at all times and to ask you to refer to the school website for the policy regarding mobile phones.

May Mrs Ramsey and I take this opportunity to wish you a restful and happy half term holiday and look forward to seeing you ready for the new challenges that the next half term will bring.

Mrs Ewington
Pastoral Support Manager for Year 9

Year 10

It is hard to believe that we are now half way through this academic year. I am sure that the pupils in Year 10 will agree that the time appears to have gone very quickly indeed. The remaining half of the year contains some very important events including the Year 10 examinations. These examinations are an important element of the preparation for the GCSEs which pupils will sit next year. They begin on March 14th. Half term and the two weeks following which lead up to the exams, should be used to ensure that all revision materials are organised and that any areas of misunderstanding are cleared up.

Year 10 Parents Evening is on Thursday March 3rd and you should have received a letter asking you to confirm that you will be attending. I would encourage you to make every effort to attend as this is a particularly crucial stage in your child's schooling.

Ms Frances is still unwell and whilst we await her return to school Mr Ford will continue to deal with any issues you may wish to raise.

Mrs Orwin
Assistant Headteacher

Year 11

As we approach the end of your child's time at Stewards I would like to thank you for all the support you have shown over the years. I would also like to ask for this to go into overdrive for the remaining few weeks so we can continue working together to get the very best possible outcomes for the class of 2011. It is quite likely that there will be a number of tantrums and bad moods over the next few weeks, not all of them from the staff or the parents, but some actually from the young people facing life changing challenges which can be quite stressful.

Please don't let them convince you that they don't have to come to a certain lesson or that they have finished all the work for that subject, believe me we teachers can always find a new challenge. They should still be in uniform, they should be arriving on time and they most certainly should not have their phone out as it will be confiscated without exception.

This year group have been outstanding, let's get through the next few weeks smoothing their troubled brow and calming any worries so they go into their exams as well prepared as they possibly can. August seems a long way off but opening the exam results letter is just around the corner.

Mrs Bird
Head of Year 11

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

16th-20th
21st-25th

New York Trip
HALF TERM

MARCH

3rd
8th
9th-11th

Year 10 Parents Evening 3.30pm
Curriculum Day
School Production 'OUR HOUSE'
7.00pm

10th
24th

School Council Meeting
EMPV Meeting

29th
31st

Year 8 Parents Evening 3.30pm
Presentation Evening 7.00pm
School Council Meeting
Upper School Courses Evening 6.00pm

APRIL

4th
7th
8th

Target Setting Day
Stewards Challenge—Trip to the British Museum
TERM ENDS—Finish 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

