

Stewards Academy Newsletter February 2021

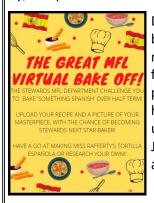


HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is lovely to be able to address you once again in the second-half of the Spring Term. During these unusual times, with less pupils in school, our newsletter is a little different. The usual activities and events are of course not possible, but we are beginning to find **new and exciting ways to engage pupils outside of academic learning**, such as the MFL half-term bake-off. I very much looking forward to seeing some of the wonderful creations; if last year was anything to go by, competition will be fierce!





Despite having less pupils in school, we continue to be very busy. You will have heard of course of the setting up of our new **Stewards Testing Centre.** This has been an important facility to ensure that we keep everyone in school safe. All pupils were tested on return to school and staff have been having twice—weekly tests too. This was a huge undertaking; we were up and running by Wednesday 6th January, in just two days! Many thanks to Mrs O'Sullivan and Mr Preece for all their hard work in setting this up.



One of our main priorities has been making sure that **remote learning** is working well and families and pupils have the support they need. Thanks to the response to our Parental Survey, we were able to quickly provide practical support with **IT issues** where possible. We are hoping to hear soon of some more Government laptops and some free SIM cards; these will be issued as soon as they are in school. Thank you to Mr Perrin, AHT, for making this a priority.





Curriculum Leads have also been busy creating **Blended Learning Booklets** for the new half-term. The task of printing, collating and posting these has been an immense but very important one to ensure pupils are not working from screens all day. A huge thank you to Mrs Sherwood, AHT, for leading on this and the team of staff that made it happen. I look forward to seeing these filled with pupil learning.

A particular pleasure this term has been speaking to the pupils in our **Virtual Assemblies**. It is lovely to start the day with sharing some positive messages, although I do miss seeing the sea of faces listening in the hall. Mrs Ramsey has been leading on all assemblies which have focused on Safeguarding throughout. In the last week of the half-term, the assembly included important information about staying safe online, which is particularly relevant at this time. Regular safeguarding updates are sent to pupils through ClassCharts too to make sure that pupils have all the information they need to keep safe.

You will see inside that we have **continued to update our site**, with new displays and decorating. We have also been able to make a start on our new fire-alarm system, following our successful bid for the Schools Condition Improvement Fund. I am also pleased to announce that we have recently been awarded the School Safety Mark. Thank you to our Site Manager, Mr B Ford for gathering all the evidence we needed.



Finally, we say **goodbye** this week to Mr T. Ford, PSM, and Ms Hardiman, Learning Mentor. We thank them for their commitment and hard work during their time at Stewards and wish them well as they move onto pastures new.

Before signing off, I would like to reiterate **how grateful** we are for your support and understanding during these unusual times. We have particularly appreciated all the emails of thanks and support we have received.

Kind regards, Helen Ginger (Headteacher)

















UNIFROG



unifrog

Some exciting news... Stewards Academy has introduced **Unifrog** to help with the delivery of our Careers Advice Information and Guidance (CAIG). Unifrog is a platform that is a one-stop-shop for whole-school careers guidance. Unifrog is the complete destinations platform providing our students with up-to-date information on further education courses, possible careers and even information on themselves (via an online personality test). **Unifrog** is designed to help students explore all their options using independent and impartial information, so they can make decisions about their futures that are right for them. It also supports students in making their applications and enables teachers to manage the progression process effectively. The platform makes it easy for students write their CVs and Personal Statements and record their key skills. Teachers can give their students feedback and write references.



Improving our School Site

Our 'Environment for Learning' School Development continues with a large corridor in Geography displaying a map of the world and a map of the United Kingdom. Students can identify the flags of the world and relevant geographical facts have been included which are relevant to the course offered at KS4.







We also have a new Stewards Academy display at the top of the stairs right outside the Green Room and the Headteacher's Corridor. This large display incorporates a TV to display current Academy information.

Mr Laing, Senior Lead Practitioner, Technology

We Are Stewards Corridor

In addition to all the Environment for Learning work that is taking place we are spending some time moving all the individual Year 11 Group photos which have historically been situated along the Headteacher's Corridor to a more prominent position in the Library Corridor. We hope that families can enjoy these snapshots of Stewards Academy history ranging from 1991 to date as they make the journey to the Main Assembly Hall for occasions such as Parents Evenings and Concerts. Who knows you could see your parents in them!

Mr Laing, Senior Lead Practitioner, Technology



Another New Workshop





We have refurbished another of our Technology workshops as part of our Two-Year Technology Department development plan. Te2 has received a well needed lick of paint, a good tidy up and some new storage space. We have installed a new 75" screen to display and changed its location in the Workshop to allow for additional whiteboard space around the area. Just waiting for two new noticeboards for the far wall and we are done!







Mr Laing, Senior Lead Practitioner, Technology

Army Career Talk

On 16th December, we were delighted to welcome back a past student and former Deputy Head Boy, Mason Arnold, now in his career role as Pte Arnold, Combat Medic in the British Army.

Mason had very kindly agreed to return to Stewards to meet students from Years 9, 10 and 11, who have expressed an interest in a career in the military. Our students participating were Katie Swallow 11LCR, Fay Mills 11JK, Liam Holt 11TT, Dumitru Purici 11JK, and Cameron Bacon 9CV, and they all very much appreciated the opportunity to meet and listen to Mason and have their questions dealt with by someone who has experienced the process himself.

Mason gave a valuable insight in what it takes to succeed in the military in whichever role preferred, and this involves starting the process early, having a planned pathway, and advice to obtain good GCSEs at school, and Level 3 qualifications from college or 6th form.

We learned that there were demanding medical and fitness tests for all, a need to be a good team worker, and in the case of officer selection, applicants should have a firm grasp of current and foreign affairs, an ability to do mental maths, and have good debating skills. It is also an advantage if applicants gain life skills gained from part time employment or volunteering while at school or college.

These continue to be difficult times while having to deal with Covid

19 restrictions and we all ensured we complied with the social distancing and face covering requirements. Mr Gary Cooper, School Careers Adviser, and Miss Katie Lucas, Admin Support Assistant, teamed up to make the necessary arrangements to ensure the visit went ahead successfully, and we are very pleased to record that Mason has said he would be very pleased to do similar presentations for us in the future.

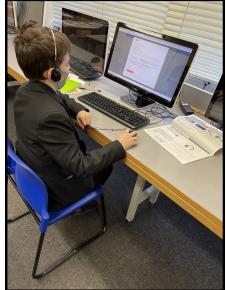
We would all like to pass on our grateful thanks to Mason who gave up his time to be with us to support our students in planning their futures beyond Stewards Academy.

Mr Cooper, Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Officer



Blended Learning

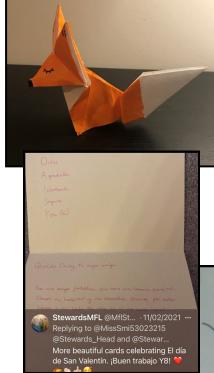






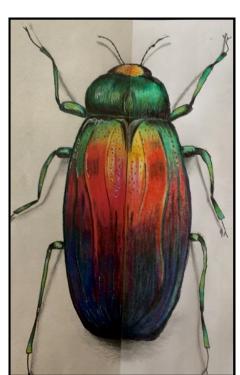


Our fantastic students have been busy across all subject areas and here are a few of the outstanding outcomes they have achieved. Remember to follow our numerous Twitter accounts and our @StewardsAcademy Instagram for daily updates on the progress of our students.





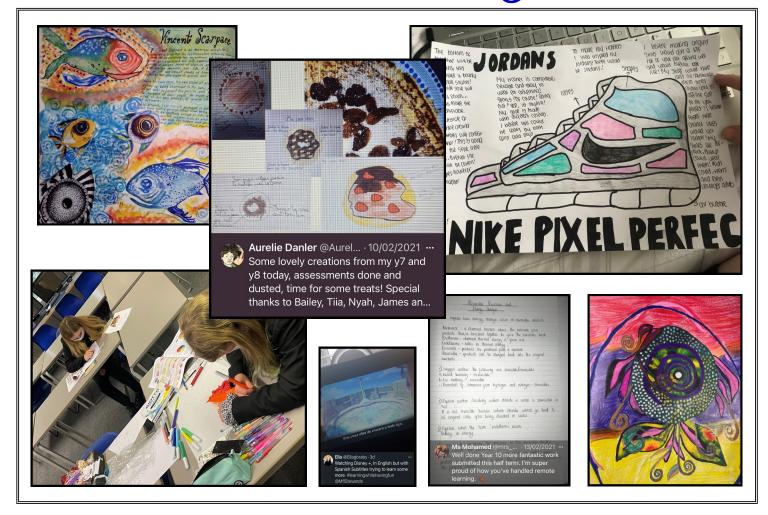






Blended Learning





Safeguarding





Celebrating Success



Valour House



In a very strange start to the new year and term, Valour House has still managed to pull in the points! At the moment Valour House is sitting on the grand total of **25,751** points, gaining **4,450** of them since we started remote learning.

Our top scorers for points in this term are as follows:

Chloe Steele	MG	79
Mariia Novikova	TL	64
Myah Weekes	TL	64
Charlotte Briant	SPL	61
Daisy Dove	JK	60
Mati Czarnecki	MG	56
Ella Braby	UM	55
Lena Cichonczyk	JY	55
Danny McCarthy	UM	54
Rachel Carpenter	RT	50
Tiana Hyder	MG	50
Ahmet Kaya	MG	50
Lukrecija Kundrotaile	TL	50

A big well done to our top scorers but there are still a vast majority of students in the House with excellent point scores – a huge well done to you also!

Both myself and Mr Young look forward to seeing you all soon!



Mr Hawk & Mr Young

Bravery House



Our heads of house message in the Christmas newsletter hoped the beginning of 2021 would herald a new start for us all, allowing us to move on and learn from the difficulties we faced in 2020. While this hasn't quite happened just yet, Mr Dougherty and I have been really enthused by the commitment and dedication shown by Bravery House throughout remote learning this half-term and we are proud of the work that is being done

by all pupils across Stewards every single day. We know life isn't easy right now but maintaining our routines, engaging with as much of our learning as possible, and keeping in touch with and looking out for each other will help make things easier; better times are on their way and this pandemic will not last forever. Make sure you take time for yourself during half-term and try to stay away from screens as much as you can. Exercise and finding ways to keep your brain active are really important; we're certainly looking forward to using the time off work to get out in the fresh air as much as is allowed!

Pupils in Bravery have been receiving lots of positive points recently on ClassCharts and the top scoring pupil in each year group since Christmas is as follows:

Maddison Parish (11TT), Ben Noruwa (11EM), Holly Battelley (9SMR), Alisha Cuthbert (8PS), Daisie Hudgell (7GES)

Well done to these specific pupils and to everyone else who has been rewarded for engaging with online lessons or work they have submitted. At time of writing 32 pupils in Bravery had received 50+ positive points this half-term alone! 7GES are the top scoring Bravery tutor group with a remarkable 762 points!

Keep up the good work and have a relaxing half-term. We look forward to seeing you all as soon as it is safe to do so.



Mr Dougherty & Mr Sadler



Celebrating Success



Fortitude House

It is hard to believe that we are now half way through the academic year. I would like to thank you for your ongoing and unrelenting support, sensitivity, and understanding this half

I could not be prouder or have more admiration for our pupils in Fortitude and how they have approached the last six weeks. They have been mature, respectful, and responsive. They settled so swiftly into their new way of learning.

Talking to pupils and colleagues this week, although everyone is ready for half term, conversations have been animated and overwhelmingly positive. They have articulated to me that they have realised just how important school is in their lives, not only in terms of their education but just as importantly in terms of their well-being, personal and social development and happiness.

If pupils do need any help or support remember we are all here to help you, all you have to do is ask.

Stay safe and enjoy your half term!



Miss Venables

Prowess House



It has been inspiring to see the resilience and good humour that our pupils have shown in this time and we are extremely proud of our Prowess Pupils for their hard work and dedication to their learning. Not only have they excelled in their studies, but their positive outlook has made a real difference to the mental health of their teachers and classmates and helped create a sense of togetherness and community during our lessons.

They have demonstrated our COURAGE values and really embraced online learning, which can be seen through the huge amount of Prowess positive points and amazing teacher feedback. Some of the pupils who have really impressed through their attendance and contributions to lesson this half term are:

Shannon Bartlett 11KT

Paris North-Stone 11JS

Amarnie Morrison-Finlay 11KT

Emmanuel A-S 10ALC

Stavros A 10ALC

Nikita U 9EW

Madison L-B 9EW

Teon Edwards 8ELH

Ruby Ball 8JCBobby Sims-Sleeth 7GGS

... and many more!

Keep up the great work Prowess and we look forward to seeing you when we return to school!



Mr Compton

Key Dates

March 2021

Thursday 4th World Book Day

Thursday 4th Year 11 Parents' Evening (tutors)

Monday 8th - Friday 12th British Science Week—Pupil testing and phased return

Monday 8th International Women's Day

Tuesday 9th Year 11 Parents' Evening (tutors)
Friday 19th March Comic Relief Day - non uniform

Friday 26th Term finishes (end of P2)