

# Head's Up!

## Issue#6

Stafford Manor  
High School

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Dear Parents and Friends of Stafford Manor,

Well done to those students who have been rewarded with a Headteacher's Award for being in the top 5 achievers in each year group for last week. It is really important that we keep on rewarding students for meeting our high expectations and we are working on rewards in the summer term to enable more students to have unmissable and unforgettable experiences at Stafford Manor High School. I outlined in last week's 'Head's Up' that we have been asking students and staff to feedback on how they feel we can improve the school. Student and staff responses to this have been excellent and will provide the basis of improving student leadership, ideas for improving school facilities and also to improve student leadership opportunities have been excellent and include, outdoor shelter areas, more colourful areas in the school and wall art, new carpets, different days for themed learning, more access to the tennis centre, more residential and other trips, more indoor seating at social times, prefects/older year groups to support the younger ones, set spaces for year groups during social times, fun raising for a range of causes, improved toilet facilities, brightening up the library, more mental health support, school productions, more drinks fountains, vending machines, A group to look at lunch time activities plus many more great ideas.

I am blown away by the amount of excellent feedback we have had from students and will be working with school leaders on achieving as many of these improvements as we can during the summer and autumn term.

We have got a new operating company now running our tennis centre who are called the National Tennis Association. You can find a [link here to their website](#) and please do watch this space and think about visiting the tennis centre from Monday 6 May, when they will be commencing their operations of our great facility. We are looking at hosting a Summer Holiday Camp too which will be free for families which is really exciting.

It's that time of the year again when we will be looking at Transition from Year 6 into Year 7. If you have a child coming up to us in September, Mr Chadwick and I will be visiting primary schools soon to share information about the process. A key date for your diary here will be Wednesday 3 July for our 'moving up to Year 7' Evening and all Year 6 parents will be invited to attend school from 5pm–6pm

Finally, thanks to all those colleagues who have added information to this week's Head's Up, check out our top achievers, the learning that has taken place about LGBTQ+ and the information about the French trip, the Year 11 Exam support information and the job vacancies too.

### Headteacher's Award for this week

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Daniel Patrick	Nathaniel Krawczyk	Aaric Sambahangphe	Camara Deeming-Thomas	Jessica Manning
Harvey-Lee Hammond-Browne	Alexander Anthony	Brook Williamson	Lexi Lewis	Leah Turner
Arly Penlington Stopka	Mackenzie Dickson	Hadyn Anthony	Joshua Mulrooney	Derricka Naa Adoley Cobbson
Bobby Sales	Maxley Penlington	Cole Reeves	Morgan Armstrong	Lauren Booth
Meher Ali	Joshua White-Stones	Jenson Bruce	Katie-Mai Darby	Rosie Johnson

## Top 5 Achievement Points this half term

### Year 7

Stanley Rutty  
Daniel Patrick  
Arly Penlington-Stopka  
Harvey-Lee Hammond –  
Browne  
Bobby Sales

### Year 8

Alexander Anthony  
MacKenzie Dickson  
Joshua White-Stones  
River Brown  
Nathanial Krawczyk

### Year 9

Hadyn Anthony  
Aarick Sambahangphe  
Cole Reeves  
Brooke Williamson  
Lillie Dewsbery

### Year 10

Camara Deeming-Thomas  
Morgan Armstrong  
Lexi Lewis  
Joshua Mulrooney  
Lena Spiers

### Year 11

Jessica Manning  
Leah Turner  
Derricka Naa Adoley  
Cobbson  
Lauren Booth  
Jonathan Kisambu



This week's assembly has been focused on the value of resilience and persistence! A key skill we will be continuing to work on.

Remember should you need help we have plenty of members of staff to help and support!

Mrs Thorley, Mrs Sims, Mr Chadwick,  
Mrs Bradbury, Tutors

## School Vision and Values



'Every child reaching their full potential'



### Community

- Safe and welcoming
- Proud of our school
- Inclusive and Equitable
- Focussed on People
- Celebrate Success



### Aspiration

- High Expectations
- Ambitious for all
- Take the initiative
- Pursue Excellence
- Positive Destinations



### Respect

- Excellent Behaviour
- Manners and honesty
- Listen and appreciate
- Show up every day on time
- Be kind, be learning



### Endeavour

- Be determined
- Be resilient and bounce back
- Challenge yourself and others
- Work hard and don't give up
- The Struggle helps us develop

## Positive message of the week:

Believe in you abilities, stay focused on your goals and remember that each challenge you overcome is a step closer to success. Keep shining bright!

Ready	Respectful	Responsible	Resilient
Attending every day	Using good manners	Being accountable	Staying on task
Being on time	Listening to my teacher	Knowing my role	Not giving up
Wearing full uniform	Respecting myself	Meeting deadlines	Avoiding distractions
Bringing my equipment	Showing others respect	Not blaming others	Coping with setbacks
Completing homework	Allowing others to learn	Managing my behaviour	Being comfortable to FAIL
Lining up quietly	Being calm	Doing my best work	Overcoming difficulties

## Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

During SEL this half term, the Year 8 students are learning about the LGBTQ+ community. This has included learning key terms, exploring homophobic language, behaviour and how to challenge it.

Students have shown their support for the community by creating "Ally" bunting. The bunting will be displayed in the classroom.



## Mic Check France 2024!

We set off in the dark, at 4.30am on Friday, and arrived in Dover by 10am, where the sun was shining on the white cliffs, and the English Channel sparkling. After a smooth crossing, with many students buying pizzas and chips on the ferry, we arrived on the Opal Coast, at our accommodation, by 4pm. The French food was a little different, but after dinner and settling in, we played football, and ran up and down sand dunes until it was dark.



On Saturday morning, after a breakfast of chocolate milk, and croissants warm from the bakers, we headed to Amiens. It poured down as we got off the coach, but we soon dried out, and wandered through a typical French market, trying to buy the funniest thing for 2.5 euros, and then on to the 1000 year old cathedral, and on to the shops. Trainers, and chips, as well as asparagus, were purchased!

After a picnic lunch at the Newfoundland Memorial in the Somme, and it raining as we got off the coach, we had a tour of first world war trenches, and listened to a Canadian guide, tell us about the nearly 1,300 men who died so far away from home.

Afterwards, we visited the Lochnagar crater, which blew up german trenches, so fiercely, the debris was sent nearly a mile into the air. Lots of militaria souvenirs were purchased. Finally, we went to the Thiepval monument, for the missing soldiers of the Somme. This was a very moving experience, as Mr. Mainwaring is an excellent guide. We even found the name of a student's great, great, great grandfather.

Dinner was a little mushy for some, but didn't stop us being fun guys (!! ) afterwards, with more fun and games in the evening, this time with a musical procession!

Sunday took us to Bagatelle theme park, just up the road, where it rained really heavily as we stepped off the coach! But again, we dried out, and had the park almost to ourselves, so no queuing at all. Please ignore the rumour that Ms Sawyer screamed a lot on a medium ride!! We finished the day with burger and chips, and time on the beach at Stella Plage. Some paddled, some dug, some played cricket, and some football, in the evening sunshine.

Monday was a quiet morning, we were tired, and sad about having to return home. But after 3 hours of border control, we finally got our ferry, and cheered ourselves up buying chocolate! We stopped for fast food on the way home, and finished our time together with an awards ceremony on the coach, recognising fun and contributions throughout the trip!! Mic Check France 2024! What a team! We even learned our trip motto came from the time our coach driver, Chris, spent on tour with Jayzee and Beyonce!

### **Mic Check out!! Who's coming in 2025?**



## Year 11 Exams

Year 11 exams are nearly upon us and for some of our students they have already started their first GCSE exam.

There is a lot of useful information on the page below to help support.

Please also keep an eye out for more information which will be shared on our Facebook page.

**1 PRACTISE WORKLOAD WISDOM**

The build up to exam season is such a busy and pressurised time in a child's education that it can be difficult for youngsters to avoid feeling overwhelmed. Encourage them to consider whether their current workload is realistic and allows them sufficient time to relax and recharge. Work with them in crafting a revision timetable that's manageable and includes breaks and occasional days off.

**2 ADVISE CLEARING THE CLUTTER**

A disorganised work environment is proven to negatively affect our ability to focus, as well as our emotional state. Encourage children to keep their desk, notes and revision materials tidy – creating a dedicated, well-kept study space to promote maximum focus. Foster their creativity by suggesting they incorporate vibrant colours, mind maps and even quirky drawings into their revision notes.

**3 MASTER THE MATERIALS TOGETHER**

Revision seems far harder when a child is uncertain where to begin or what sources to consult. Support them in confirming revision materials with their various teachers – emphasising the importance of gathering a range of resources to get a more comprehensive understanding of the subject. Feeling more prepared should nurture the child's confidence and help to dispel some of their anxiety.

**4 RECOMMEND CREATIVE NOTE-TAKING**

Writing out notes in full – rather than simply bullet pointing – can be a strong start to a child's revision. Reinforce this idea, encouraging the use of flashcards (featuring shorter versions of previously taken notes) for effective repetition and memorisation. Discuss the power of regularly reviewing notes to help them stay in the child's memory.

**5 USE VISUAL AIDS AND MNEMONICS**

Encourage the use of visual aids like videos and sticky notes to enhance learning. Some children find these resources far more useful than simply reading their notes as written. Explore creating mnemonics for a fun and effective study approach – and it's also worth noting that the strategic use of colours is a proven means of triggering recall during exams.

**6 GATHER A 'TECH TOOLKIT'**

Technology can be a huge advantage in exam prep. Educational YouTube channels and revision websites like BBC Bitesize can be immensely powerful resources for helping children to expand and retain their knowledge. You could also recommend the use of flashcard apps and educational podcasts for revision and reminders when young people are on the go.

**7 KEEP IT FUN**

Revision tends to go far more smoothly if children are having fun in the process. Injecting some humour into their notes, for instance, can make details more memorable – as can relating information to their real-life experiences. Try to encourage a variety of study methods, such as incorporating physical activity (even simply taking a walk) into their revision routine.

**8 SUGGEST ACTIVE REVISION STRATEGIES**

Make sure children are aware of different study techniques. You could emphasise the effectiveness of spaced repetition by reviewing material regularly over time to reinforce learning and improve retention. Discuss the benefits of active recall methods – such as self-testing or explaining a concept aloud – in identifying where their strengths and weaknesses lie.

**9 ENCOURAGE A POSITIVE MINDSET**

It can be easy for children's thoughts to fall into a downward spiral when they're stressed about exams. Try to foster a growth mindset by emphasising the importance of giving it their all rather than aiming for complete perfection. Positive self-talk and the use of affirmations can build confidence and reduce anxiety, while visualising success and setting realistic goals can help them stay motivated and focused.

**10 HELP THEM TO SEIZE THE DAY**

There are lots of things children can do on the day of their exam to reduce stress and increase their focus. Talk them through some helpful exam-day strategies – such as arriving early, reading the instructions and the questions carefully, and pacing themselves during the test. Suggest some relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing or visualisation, to help them manage any nerves before and during the exam.



# Job Opportunity!

Cleaning vacancy: **Stafford Manor High School, Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, ST17 9DJ.**

Duties include cleaning of classrooms, toilets, Staff areas and various other parts of the School as per a Cleaning Schedule.

£11.44 per hour.

Shifts available: 3pm - 6pm, 15 hours per week, Monday to

Friday.

No experience necessary as full training provided.

An Enhanced DBS check required.



Benefits of working for CleanTEC:

- Employee owned business.
- Quarterly newsletters sent out with business updates
- Continuous support from Management.
- In house Payroll and Admin.

For more information, please contact Cari - Ann - 07908743706

# cleanTEC

We care about cleaning and those who work with us.

## **SMHS Community Support Hub**

### **Open to all**

### **Thursday 3.30—6.00 p.m.**

### **Friday 11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.**