



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another successful term for all at Stafford Manor High School and the whole school community is looking forward to a well-earned rest over the Christmas holiday, so they can be fully refreshed for 2023.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support for the school and extend my very best wishes to you and your family at this time.

The last day of term is Friday 16 December and students will finish at 12.30pm. Please can I ask you to ensure that appropriate plans are put in place for your child to get home from 12.30pm on Friday 16 December.

We have done lots of excellent work this term, which has focussed on celebrating success and putting things in place to further improve the school.

One of the big pieces of work we have done recently is consulting with staff and school governors to establish a clear and ambitious school vision and school values that we feel best meet the needs of our school community. You can see these shown below.

School Mission: 'Every child reaching their full potential'

Values	Community	Aspiration	Respect	Endeavour
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safe and welcoming• Proud of our school• Inclusive and equitable• Focussed on people• Celebrate success	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High expectations• Ambitious for all• Take the initiative• Pursue excellence• Positive destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent behaviour (4Rs)• Good Manners• Listen and Appreciate• Show up every day on time• Be Kind, be honest, be learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be determined• Be resilient and bounce back• Challenge yourself and others• Work hard and don't give up• The struggle helps us develop

Parent Voice - Have Your Say

I would really welcome feedback from you as parents on the school. You can access a parent voice survey below, which focusses on gaining as much information as possible to help us to understand your needs as parents and how you feel we are performing. Please could you click the link below and complete the parent voice survey as soon as possible. I look forward to sharing the feedback from student and parent voice with you in January.

Parent Voice Link: [SMHS Parent Voice December 2022](#)

It is a huge pleasure and privilege to be leading Stafford Manor High School and we have improved lots of things as a school this term.

Headteacher:
Mr R Adams

Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, ST17 9DJ

Tel: (01785) 258383

Email: office@smhs.staffs.sch.uk

Attendance Matters – please help us to help your child to improve

Attendance and persistent absence have been a real focus for us this term. I am pleased to share that both have improved significantly so far this year. Please continue to support the school by sending your child into school every day. There is overwhelming evidence that good attendance leads to a good education and better learning for all students.

Reading

We are currently trying to get financial support to develop our school library. If you have any links or ideas about how we can fund and purchase books to develop the library, then please get in touch and add your thoughts to the parent voice questionnaire.

We are so proud of our students

Our students continue to be a source of inspiration to us all and many have achieved amazing things of which they should be extremely proud. We are impressed by our student's ambition and determination to be the best they can be whether that be in lessons or in activities beyond school.

We are always keen to hear from past students of Stafford Manor High School who have gone on and achieved success in their lives. Should you have family or friends who would be willing to share with us their successes after leaving school, then please do encourage them to get in touch. It is hugely motivational for current students to hear what past students have achieved and it is great for us to see familiar faces from years gone by!

Your contact details

In order for us to communicate as effectively as possible with you, please make sure you update us at school should your phone number or email address change. This can be easily done by contacting the main school office, or by using the SIMS Parent App. Our school website remains a valuable source of information, and should you have a concern or wish to speak to someone at school, then please contact the main school office as normal.

As the winter season continues into the New Year, in the event of a school closure, messages will be posted on the school and Local Authority School Closures website, and a message will be sent directly to you via text.

Ready to learn

Please can I also take this opportunity to remind you that all students must be equipped with their 'Super 7' when coming to school. These items will be checked in the New Year so an extra gift or two over the holidays might be useful! We also expect all students to return to school in full school uniform.

School Uniform

Can I please remind all parents that all students are required to wear full school uniform as outlined below. Leggings, hoodies and other footwear are not permitted. A fuller description of the uniform expectations can be found on the website <https://www.staffordmanorhighschool.com/uniform> During the winter months your child would benefit from wearing a warm coat and vest/T-shirt under their shirt.

- **Blazer** – black with SMHS logo
- **Trousers** – black matt material, front fastening with zip, side seams and full length leg under no circumstances will leggings or jeans be allowed
- **Skirt** – black must be knee length
- **Shirt** – white with collar must be fastened to neck and tucked in
- **Footwear** – sensible all black footwear with no coloured logos, markings or laces
- **Socks/tights**
- **Tie** – SMHS tie
- **Jumper** - A plain black V-neck jumper may be worn under the blazer but must not come below the length of the blazer and cannot be worn as an alternative to the blazer.
- **Hoodies cannot be worn as an alternative to a V-neck jumper.**

Support for Families

The parent survey attached to this letter allows you to let us know about any additional support we can provide you with as families. **If you qualify for Free School Meals**, you should be receiving a £20 voucher for the Christmas period from Staffordshire County Council.

Tech 4 Families

This is a programme run by the Digital Poverty Alliance (DPA) in conjunction with Curry's Ltd. It works like this:-

- When customers spend money with Curry's they are asked if they would like to "round up* the amount, with the extra going to this charity.
- The Charity pays for laptops for young people (up to 16yrs.) whose families can't afford to buy a computer of any sort.
- The laptop comes with programmes etc. ready to use and tech back up form Curry's.

There is a very simple application form which would only take a few minutes to complete. It needs to be "verified" by a responsible person who must know the child in a professional capacity such as teacher, librarian, social worker, or accredited money adviser. The paper form is then posted to DPA who make the decision. There is no requirement to "make the case".

There is no further involvement or input to the process and there is NO guarantee that an application will be successful and NO appeal.

Curry's were surprised at how many people were contributing and could already be giving away about 100 per week. Staffordshire is one of only a handful of areas benefiting from this programme at the moment".

<https://digitalpovertyalliance.org/tech4families/>

Challenge Cup Day Wednesday 14 December

Students will be learning through a range of subjects and challenges and focus on developing teamwork and resilience as part of the House based Challenge Cup day this term.

Festive Film and Feast – Thursday 15 December

Next Thursday will be non-uniform Day. Students will be taking part in a Festive Film and Feast in the main hall. We would ask that students bring in a £1 donation for this and this will be used to support improvements in the library, as voted for by our student council.

Achievement Assemblies

We have achievement assemblies to reward our students for their hard work and dedication to learning and developing themselves this term on the final day. There will be awards and vouchers for those students that have gone above and beyond, which involves the overwhelming majority of our students.

On behalf of the staff and governors of the school, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing students, feeling well rested, at 8.45am on **Tuesday January 3 2023**.

Kind Regards



Mr R Adams
Headteacher

Key Dates and Events for 2023:

- Tuesday 3 January: Start of Spring Term
- Tuesday 10 January: Year 8 Parents Evening (Virtual)
- Friday 13 January: Staff Training Day (School closed to students)
- Tuesday 24 January: Year 11 Parents Evening (Virtual)
- Monday 20 – Friday 24 February: Half Term
- Tuesday 7 March: Year 7 Parents Evening (Virtual)
- Tuesday 21 March: Year 9 Choices Evening
- Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April: Easter Holiday
- Monday 17 April: Start of Summer Term
- Monday 1 May: Bank Holiday
- Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June: Half Term
- Tuesday 4 July: Y6 Induction Day and Evening
- Wednesday 5 July: Year 6 Induction Day
- Friday 21 July: Last day of term
- Thursday 17 August: A Level Results
- Thursday 24 August: GCSE Results