



Stafford Manor
High School

December 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you can see, we have had another busy term at Stafford Manor High School and I hope that your children have had a positive term here with us. Our students continue to impress me with how much they are moving forward with their learning and a big part of that is because we are focussing so hard on teaching and learning this year, along with other initiatives like attendance matters, reading and additional support systems for students, including interventions and access to external support.

Attendance is a whole percentage point up on this time last year, which is a huge achievement. I would like to thank you for all your support with ensuring we have significantly improved attendance and generally for your continued faith in the school.

This term has been packed with lots of additional opportunities to learn outside of the classroom, which can be seen throughout December's Newsletter. These are all part of our drive to make every day at school more unmissable and unforgettable.

I am extremely grateful and privileged to be the school's Headteacher and I am blown away on a daily basis by the hard work of both staff, students and external partners. They make the difference and are helping the school to go from strength to strength.

Christmas is always a time for reflection and for gratitude. My simple message to you is to look after yourselves over the Christmas period and to enjoy whatever time you have and are able to spend with your family and your friends. Your support this year is very much appreciated and I look forward to celebrating more successes when we return to school on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Mr Adams, Headteacher



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Community Support Hub

SMHS Community Support Hub

We were finally able to launch SMHS Community Hub on Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 December 2023. Thank you to all the parents who joined us for tea, coffee and biscuits.

We would like this to become a regular occurrence to give parents the opportunity to access our food hub run, thanks to MCKS Charitable Foundation.



The idea behind the SMHS Community Hub is to enable parents to come into school to chat together and to build links. There will also be a member of the senior leadership team available for parents to speak to.

We are looking at running a Uniform Swap Shop to help parents with the cost of uniform. Donations of any uniform in good condition would be gratefully received. Parents would be able to swap smaller size trousers, blazers, PE kit etc, for larger sizes.

The SMHS Community Support Hub will be open on **Wednesday 17 January between 11.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m.** and again on **Thursday 18 January** during Year 8 Parents Evening from **3.30–6.00 p.m.**





Ditch the Blade



We are really proud of Harvey H-B, Year 7 who has been working with the Corporate Communications team at Staffordshire Police, as part of the Ditch the Blade campaign, a local campaign to encourage young people to be knife free. Harvey has recorded some footage reciting a rap on the topic and you can view this by clicking on the [link](#). By following the link you will be able to find a lot of very useful information.

This campaign is to raise the profile of children carrying a knife. You may feel that there are a lot of children carrying knives but, in truth 99% of under 29s don't actually carry a knife, so it's not normal to take a blade with you when you leave the house.

Mind (Mental Health Charity)



Years 12 and 13 took part in a 10 mile walk for Mind (the mental health charity). Collectively, the students raised over £500 for this fantastic cause. The walk took the students all around the town, visiting the other four schools in the Stafford Sixth form partnership (Weston Road, Sir Graham Balfour, King Edward VI and Blessed William Howard). The students demonstrated excellent resilience and had a fantastic attitude throughout.

The Lost Star

On Tuesday 5th December, students from year 7 and year 8 attending Rising Brook Church to watch their festive performance, the Lost Star. As always it is wonderful to support our local community, the students really enjoyed the show and represented the school extremely well.



Year 11 Prom Committee

This year the Year 11 have started their fundraising earlier, determined to raise as much as possible.

A big thank you to all students who kindly supported and donated, brought and ate cake! The year 11 Prom Committee are delighted that so far they have raised over £187.



Remembrance Day



All Y7 have made a poppy in textiles this week and last week.

I am so impressed that every single child has been really independent with learning and developing these new skills including threading the needles, sewing and cutting technique. And they have really enjoyed it.

Student Council



As always the Student Council have worked tirelessly over the past 12 weeks. Students meet regularly each week. They have linked closely with the Soroptimists, who have supported our students with local community links, discussed improvements within school, created tutor and assembly ideas and organised events to support local and national charities. This year so far the students have raised £418 for Children in Need. We look forward to further developments over the next term.

PE Clubs

A big thank you and well done to all students who have attended sports clubs this year! We look forward to offering you more in the new year! A special well done to the Netball teams in year 7/8/9/10 and 11 who have represented the school in the district festival.



Pantomime Time

Mrs Mandley, Mr Hughes and Mrs Doughty took 30 students from Year 9-11 to watch Beauty and The Beast at Stafford Gatehouse on Wednesday 13th December. The fabulous Leah Sharman in Year 7 and Katie Sharman in Year 10 were involved in the show and Stafford Manor are very proud of their achievements.



Christmas Tree Festival

Some of our students have been making Christmas Tree decorations for the Festival which has been held at St. Mary's Church in Stafford. We have had the pleasure of our students being supported by the local Soroptomists who have generously given their time to help.

Our students made decorations using the art of origami as well as creating and painting their own.

Lucas also played the piano.

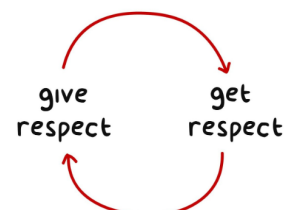


Assemblies

Over the past 12 weeks, through assemblies, we have delivered key themes to support our students personal development.



Our assemblies have focused on, Resilience, Respect, Road Safety, Mental Health Awareness, Equality, Hard Work v Talent, Black History Month Advent, Dangers of Vaping, Open Clinic (Year 11 only),



Top 10 Achievement Points

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Oliver Preece	Mackenzie Dickson	Owen Henry	Isobel Sargeant	Jessica Manning
Daniel Patrick Harvey-Lee Hammond-	Ryan Mpambe Louis Smith	William Weston Jack Keay	Tyler Colebatch Mark Regan	Michalina Labno Rubie Jones
Faith White- Stones	Maxley P enlington	Leo Conway	Stephanie Man- ning	Thomas Ward
Harry Kemsley	Leighton Knox	Zachary Wilson Stark	Lexi Lewis	Derricka Cobbson
Isaac Jones	Lacie-Louise Wood	Harrison Sheldon	Kyla-Mae Ste- phenson	Leah Thomas- Finlayson
Annamaria Szeke	Daria Irinciuc	Ruby McCann	Samim Mataachi	Riley Penlington
Freddie Evans	Leila Webb	Eloise Gates	Rhys Clarke	Jonathan Kisambu
Ella Smith	Amelia Parton	Oana Chirca	Morgan Armstrong	Leah Turner
Ava-Lynne Jones	Joseph Wilson	Miley-Ann Palmer	Vasil Kartalov	Jack Anthony

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to all the students who have achieved good to excellent attendance so far this year:

220 students at 95% attendance and above. And a further 100 students well on their way to 95%, and almost 80 students not far behind them.

Lots of positive reaction from students when we have run the Attendance Matters challenge at the start and end of each half term with most students stretching to improve their attendance during those weeks in order to be in the Amazon Voucher prize draw. And finally lots of enthusiasm from students finishing the Christmas term with the 12 days of Christmas attendance challenge.

Lets make the next term starting in the new year even better.

attendance
MATTERS

Attendance Matters

The Creative Arts Department ran an art competition for the Tennis Centre and the following students have won a selection box for their efforts.

Well done!

Harry Clements	Livie Williams
Meme Bayliss	Millie Ellis
Olivia Gee	Rayden Kochan
Jessica Fisher	Kaelan Ismail
Coral Sales	Alycia Blount

Year 11 Revision Plan

	Lunch 1.30 23.00	After School	3.15—4.15	
Monday		Maths	English	Health and Social Care
Tuesday				
Wednesday	English— Library	History	Geography	Health and Social Care
Thursday		French	PE— PEP Improvements	
Friday				

Key Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 9 January - Students return to school

Thursday 18 January—Year 8 Parents Evening (3.30—6.00 p.m.)

Thursday 1 February—Year 11 Parents Evening

SMHS

