



Stafford Manor
High School

February 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We have had another busy term at Stafford Manor High School and we are so grateful for your continued support for the school. Students and staff have been very busy this term leading and delivering on ensuring our students have all of the support they need to reach and achieve their full potential. This term, we have been focusing on rethinking and resequencing the planned curriculum. Teachers and subject leaders are working daily on establishing how they can improve what and how they are teaching our children, so that it sticks in their long term memory, so that they know and can do more over time.

We have also improved the delivery of reading across the school. All students are now reading books in tutor time and have opportunities to have subject specific vocabulary delivered in their lessons. We also have had feedback that some of our parents would like support with access to reading materials. There is a link on the last page of this newsletter for any parents who wish to download vouchers for free books or money off books as part of world book day which is during the first week back after half term. We are also focussed very much on improvements to our school library. If you know of anyone who might wish to sponsor our library or donate funds for this, I would be very grateful and please do email me about this.

I am pleased to see more trips and visits beginning to take place, like the recent Year 11 Theatre visit to see Macbeth. We are making a conscious effort to do more of this, and is part of providing opportunities for students to engage in learning outside of the classroom. Improved access to mental health support is also a key feature of our approach moving forward, along with rewarding great work, good attendance, and improving provision for careers.

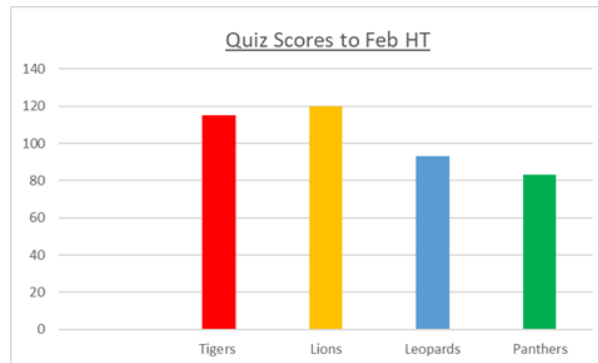
Rhys Adams
Headteacher

House System



House Competition— Quiz Results

Leading this half term is the **Terrific Tigers** adding a huge 45 points to their tall, but the total results over the whole year show that the **Lions** still have it Just!



Key Dates for your Diary

Monday 20 to Friday 24 February—Half Term
Monday 27 February 2023—Students return to school
Tuesday 7 March 2023—Year 7 Parents Evening (In school)
Monday 3 to Friday 14 April—Easter Holiday
Monday 17 April—Students return to school
Monday 1 May—Bank Holiday

Monday 8 May—Additional Bank Holiday (Coronation of King Charles III)
Monday 29 May—Friday 2 June—Half Term
Tuesday 13 June—Y9 Parents Evening
Wednesday 12 July—Y11 Prom
Monday 24 July—Sunday 3 September—Summer Holiday

Macbeth Visit

On the evening of Monday 6th February a group of Y11's went to the Gatehouse Theatre evening to watch a performance of Shakespeare's play 'Macbeth' with the English Department.

In our opinion, we found it well-acted and well-produced and we found it good for revision of the play, which is one of the texts on our GCSE English Literature exam in the summer. The fact that it was in person helps us to remember the plot and quotations since we are engaged with what is going on and what is being said.

We did not agree with the way that some of the play was acted. The actors tried to add funny parts into the play that, in our opinion, did not suit the tone of the play. The costume design for the witches was confusing since the costumes did not suit the time that the play was set in.

Over all, the play was enjoyable and good for remembering the quotations. The actor's decisions, that we did not think suited the play well, certainly did not ruin the enjoyment of it.

Freddie and Michael (Y11)



Mental Health Support Team



Risk Management Services



UrgeSurfing



Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



Stafford Manor High School recognise the importance of providing support for pupils' emotional wellbeing and mental health.

We have experiences and skilled staff who provide timely support to pupils and who can refer on to appropriate external agencies when necessary.

Stafford Manor High School is very fortunate to have access to the Mental Health Support Team (MHST). School can refer into the service for pupils. MHST offer 1:1, face to face sessions as well as small group sessions and cover worry management, low mood, exam stress, difficulty with emotions, anxiety, coping strategies, sleep hygiene as well as support with problem solving.

To further support pupils, parents and carers, we have now launched a **Mental Health tab** on our website. Inside of the tab are details of external support agencies and websites that can offer guidance on a range of Mental Health topics, as well as further information on the Mental Health Support Team, as parents and carers can self refer to the service during the school holidays.

If you require further support, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bradbury in the first instance.



Student of the Week

attendance
MATTERS



Every faculty has nominated one student to be awarded Student of the Week. Certificates have been handed out to students during Tutor Time.



Attendance Matters

attendance
MATTERS

Our single biggest focus in January was Attendance and improving this for all students. During our first week back, any student who attended school was entered into a prize draw to win a £10 voucher each day. We also offered 100% attenders each day either free lunch, front of the queue pass, entrance into the VIP lounge for hot chocolate and biscuits.

We will be doing this again after February half term.



Sports News



Year 7 boys have represented SMHS Football team in a friendly against Blessed William Howard. The Year 7s were outstanding and represented the school in a fantastic manner and come out worthy winners 3-2.



Careers Programme

To help with the development of our careers programme we would like to ask parents/ carers to take part in a county wide survey. The aim of this survey is give an insight into the level of knowledge, understanding and confidence of parents to support students with technical and vocational routes, pathways and decision making.

[Parental Survey](#) or

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stafford-manor-high-school-parents>

You have until the 24th April to complete this survey.



Yarn Club

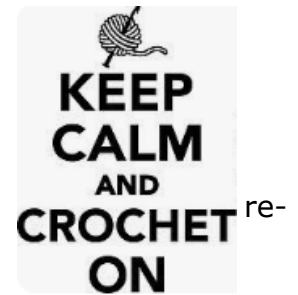
Can you help us?



We have recently started a knitting and crochet club which meets every Wednesday and Friday lunchtime. We have some complete beginners and others with a little experience.

We are making squares in a range of designs to sew together to make some blankets that we can then donate to charity.

Do you have any spare yarn that you could donate? Or perhaps you would you like to help us make some squares – 10cm or 15cm squares any pattern, knit or crochet in any yarn. Drop the yarn or squares into ception or give them to a student to bring in and give to Miss Burns.



World Book Day



On March 2nd 2023 we will be celebrating World Book Day in a number of exciting ways. We will be enjoying a range of stories throughout the day with your teachers, Book cover design competition, library open days and we may even have an episode of 'The Masked ~~Singer~~ Reader' to enjoy. We also have a book token for every student at Stafford Manor High School. You can download your voucher [here](#). You can exchange your token for a FREE £1 World Book Day book or for £1 off a book of your choice priced at £2.99 or more. Below are a selection of the FREE £1 books you could choose from. You can redeem your book token at participating stores from the 16th Feb – 26th March 2023.



Dave Pigeon: Bookshop Mayhem
Swapna Haddow
Sheena Dempsey
Faber



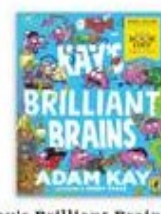
Marvel Spider-Man the Amazing Pocket Guide
Catherine Saunders
DK



The Boy with Wings: Attack of the Rampaging Robot
Lenny Henry
Keenon Ferrell
Macmillan Children's Books



A Dragon Realm Adventure
Katie & Kevin Tsang
Simon & Schuster
Children's Books



Kay's Brilliant Brains
Adam Kay
Henry Parker
Puffin (Penguin Random House Children's)



Boot It!
A. M. Dassu
Zatnab 'Daby' Faidht
Old Barn Books