



When we launched our Newsletter last half term, we could never have imagined what would happen in the next few weeks with the global spread of COVID 19. School has been closed to most students for two weeks now and we await guidance from the Government as to when we can reopen.

However, we would still like to share with you some of the achievements of our students prior to the 23rd March. Plenty of amazing opportunities took place, and we were all disappointed that other events such as the Christianity Roadshow, Council Chambers Debating Competition, Primary School Visits, and Reward Trips had to be postponed as a result of the closure.

Our next Newsletter might be a little difficult if school remains closed. This is where you can help! Should students wish to write a short report of no more than 100 words to be published in the next Newsletter, then please email it to school. This could be about how you have taken part in activities whilst at home, an achievement that you are proud of, or a news report on a particular local or national event. Photographs would also be welcome!

Finally, we will not set school work for completion over the Easter Holiday. Should schools remain closed into next term, we will be sending out information on how learning activities will be structured moving forward, along with some extra competitions and challenges.

As ever, look after yourselves and each other during the Easter period. With the very best wishes to you and your families. Stay safe, stay calm and thank you.

Mr Lycett

Easter Holiday

School will be open over the Easter Holidays but only on certain days that have been requested by our key worker families. We are proud to support NHS workers and emergency frontline services, as well as all other key workers.

Please remember that during the Easter Holidays our school phone will not be monitored. You can contact us for general enquiries by using the following email address:

office@smhs.staffs.sch.uk

This email address will be checked at intervals during the working week, and we appreciate your understanding if we do not reply immediately.

For any safeguarding concerns during the Easter Holiday contact: p.manfredi@smhs.staffs.sch.uk, a.bradbury@smhs.staffs.sch.uk or r.lycett@smhs.staffs.sch.uk

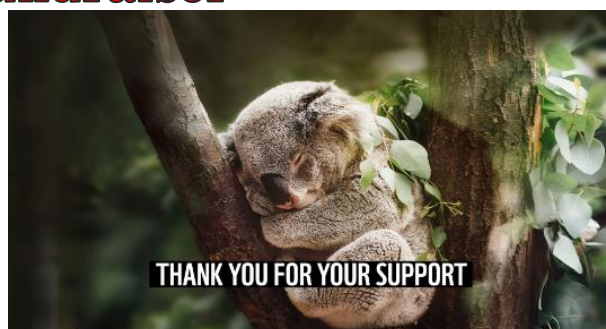
Sixth Form Fundraiser

The Sixth Form students recently held a fund raiser for the emergency Australian Fire Appeal to help save the precious wildlife and support the long-term work to tackle the climate crises.

The students held a cake sale at break and lunchtime and raised £87.64 in total.

Thank you for your support!

Mrs Booth



World Book Day: 5th March 2020



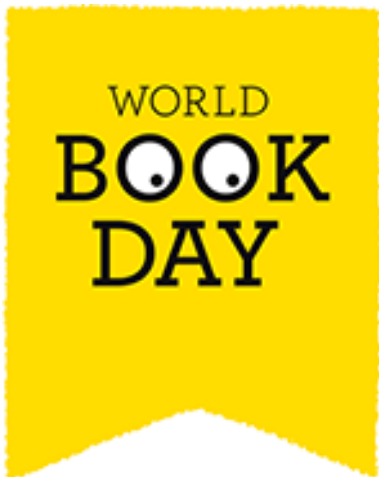
Students and staff took part in World Book Day on 5 March 2020. The fantastic event was organised by Mrs Thorley, Mrs Gurmin and the Student Council. The outfits were truly amazing and so much effort and thought were put into the event.

Various activities took place at break and lunchtime and £349 was raised for the library.

Prizes were also awarded for best costume! In first place was Mr Tomblin; second place was Mrs Jones and third place was Mr Mainwaring.

“Well done everyone and keep reading!”

Mrs Thorley and Mrs Gurmin



Can you spot your teacher?!

Careers Fair: 12th February 2020

We hosted our 2nd Annual Careers fair on Wednesday 12th February. It was a great opportunity for our older students to talk to a range of organisations and employers to learn more about the different pathways they could take when they leave school. For the younger pupils it was their first chance to consider ideas for their future. At the end of the fair a number of parents joined their sons and daughters to talk to our exhibitors.

Date for your Diary : Our next Careers fair will be Wednesday 10th February 2021.

If you know of any organisation who would like to take part in this event please contact us with their details.

We would also like to develop an Alumni network for our students. This is a chance to share the career experiences of our former students and the different career pathways they have followed both locally and further afield. If you would like to be involved please contact us.

Mrs Burns

First World War Battlefields Visit



Four students had the opportunity to take part in a visit to the battlefields of the First World War. Beckie, Maya, Jack and Oliver were truly outstanding ambassadors for the school and threw themselves into the whirlwind ride of activities. They even powered through icy winds and sideways rain.

They visited many battlefield sites, museums and cemeteries, and they engaged fully with the tour guides and other students from other parts of the country.

The students really did do Stafford Manor proud and showed the type of students we have at this great school.

Over the next few months they will be taking part in a legacy project to keep alive the memories of the fallen from the First World War, so watch this space.

Mr Mainwaring

Debate Competition: 10th March 2020



On Tuesday 10 March, the first event of the Youth Net Debate League took place at Stafford Manor High School. The students went up against a team from King Edward VI High School. Jack, Isabel and Dante debated the motion "The Internet is Bad".

The team did brilliantly, coming up with some really creative arguments in a very short amount of time. The judges were particularly impressed with the vocabulary of Jack and Izzy and the rebuttal that Dante included in her speech. Sadly the team did not win this round but there are two more rounds to go until the winners of the league are announced.

Mrs Thorley

Sport Relief

During their PE lessons students were faced with a challenge to complete a Crazy Circuit Challenge, to raise awareness of Sport Relief! Sport Relief is a charitable organisation that raises money to help people who need it the most both in the UK and abroad.

The intensity of the circuit was designed to encourage all students to find their inner strength both physically and mentally and to hone in on their resilience skills.

Students showed real determination to complete the tasks which included burpees, press ups, tricep dips, sit ups, squats, lunges, bench jumps, leg raises and shuttles.

Well done to everyone who took part—a great team effort!

In addition we also ran a staff/student badminton lunchtime club which was a huge success with over 50 students taking part! Thank you to Mr Mainwaring, Mr Cantrill and Mr Chadwick for their impressive badminton skills!



COVID 19: Keeping Your Child Safe Online

During these weeks where your child might be spending a lot of time online, there is support through the following links for parents and carers:

Thinkyouknow (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)

Internet matters (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)

Parent info (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)

LGfL (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)

Net-aware (support for parents and carers from the NSPCC)

The NSPCC website (<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>) provides lots of information and advice about keeping children safe. The NSPCC helpline number is 0808 800 5000 & Childline is 0800 1111

Careers Information and Guidance for Year 11 and 13

Our careers advisor from Entrust, Yvonne Knight, is available to offer careers support to any young person in Y10, Y11 or 6th Form who would like to talk to her via telephone or text on 07921 277401 or by e-mail on yvonne.knight@entrust-ed.co.uk She can provide information, advice and guidance across a range of career areas such as education and training options, careers advice and job searching.

Can you please ensure that you maintain contact with your future education providers. All Colleges and Universities will have regular updates on their websites, for those of you who have applied for 6th form, you will be contacted by school after the Easter Holiday.

During these challenging times it is important that you stay focused on your future by continuing to focus on your curriculum areas. There are a vast number of career based videos on YouTube that may be useful, they include: C.V application, interview techniques, developing key skills etc.

Some of you may be contacted by our careers advisor, Yvonne Knight who is our careers support worker from Staffordshire County Councils careers team. She is there to help you!