



28th April 2023

Dear parent/carer,

I am delighted to be introducing myself as the new Deputy Headteacher in charge of all things academic. I joined the school at the start of the summer term, having previously spent five years as Assistant Principal at Ormiston Endeavour Academy in Ipswich. In this role I oversaw stakeholder engagement, staff development and teaching and learning, as well as heading up the maths and computer science faculty.

At Stowupland, I will be overseeing curriculum, assessment, reporting, timetabling, our options processes, and the quality of teaching and learning. My immediate priorities will be:

- Supporting the implementation of a more rigorous approach to assessing literacy levels and intervening where we identify gaps in students' reading skills
- Reviewing the systems we use to quality-assure teaching and learning
- Evaluating our Pupil Premium spending to ensure it offers the best possible support for our disadvantaged students
- Streamlining our internal processes for managing staff absence.

## Sports News

One of our Year 11 students—India—along with her Ice-Hockey girls team, has qualified for the National Play-off Finals weekend at the national stadium in Sheffield. They will now play the best team from



the North of England in the semi final with a chance of being National champions. This takes place over the bank holiday weekend at the start of the half term holidays. India has played for the Chelmsford u16 girls team (Rattlesnakes) for 3 years, as well as joining the adult women's team (Pythons) this season. We are keeping our fingers crossed for India and the Rattlesnakes.



## Announcements

### **Rewards Trips**

Friday 26 May is the deadline for paying the remainder towards the costs of the Rewards Trips. Please pay via the parentmail shop.

### **Arbor Application and personal details update**

Are you aware that you can use Arbor to update your personal contact details? There is no need to contact the school with a new information, you can access your Arbor *Dashboard*, visit *Profile* and update your details. **Please check all your details are correct.**

I'm greatly looking forward to helping drive the school forward. I'm particularly interested in school systems and processes (seriously) and thinking through how we can do things better. I've much enjoyed meeting the students already, from Toby in Year 7 telling me about his and Oscar's climbing, to Isaac in Year 8 cracking the hardest question on expanding binomials I could think up, to various students approaching me with thoughts prompted by my assembly on studying Philosophy at Oxford.

So far the main question the students have been asking me when I introduce myself is, "What's happened to Mr Sim?!" The answer to this is that he remains Deputy Headteacher overseeing our pastoral care and attendance. The second question I have been asked is, "are you and Mr Sim related?" to which the answer is no, although the rumour I started with a couple of Year 10s that we are cousins seems to be taking hold.

As always, for any general queries please contact your child's tutor and for any subject-specific questions or concerns please email the relevant teacher for that subject, or the head of department. However, if you have any questions, requests or concerns about our curriculum more broadly, including homework, please do not hesitate to drop me a line on [enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk) FAO Mr Le Fanu.

Best wishes,

Mr Le Fanu

## Library News

### **AudiobookSYNC**

AudiobookSYNC is a summer program of FREE audiobook for teens 13+. Two audiobooks are available each week through the Sora reading app. April 27 - August 2, 2023. Please follow this [link](#) to sign up:

### **Year 5 visit**

The week started off very differently with a last minute visit from year 5 students from Crawford Primary in Haugley. They had a tour of the library and then worked together in small groups to complete a quiz. The students were a credit to Crawford Primary School and a pleasure to have in the library.

Some of their comments about the visit:

*Thank you for letting us in your amazing library and I have learnt so much there.* Faith

*I learnt that Manga books come from Japan and you read from right to left.* Lily

*I remember that Melville Dewey created the stickers on books.* Dylan



## Parents' Forum

We would like to invite anyone who is interested to join our next Parents' Forum scheduled for Thursday, 11th May. For more information or to express an interest, please email [enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk) with a note *Parents' Forum*.

## WELLBEING

### **Exam Stress**



Exams can come with a lot of pressure and make us feel really stressed. You are not alone, many students struggle with stress and anxiety around taking exams.

There are various organisations that offer advice and techniques to help you manage your feelings around exams and find ways to cope.

Please visit <https://www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/feelings-and-experiences/exam-stress/> to understand how you feel and get some support and help.

## Attendance up to 28th April 2023

Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Overall
91.7%	91.1%	89.5%	88%	86%	89.2%

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

#### May

1st —Bank Holiday

2nd —Strike Day

8th— BH (Coronation)

11th—Year 7 Fun Run

29th May—2nd June—Half term

### Contact Details:

<b>Main School:</b>	01449 674827 (08.30am - 4.00pm)
<b>Pastoral emails:</b>	<a href="mailto:year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year8@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year8@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>General:</b>	<a href="mailto:sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
	<a href="mailto:enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Cashless catering:</b>	<a href="mailto:accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Library:</b>	<a href="mailto:library@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">library@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Attendance:</b>	<a href="mailto:attendance@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">attendance@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>
<b>Absence Line:</b>	01449 742428
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk">www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk</a>

Term Dates 2022-2023		Half Term	Non Student Days
<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>	1st September - 16th December	24th - 28th Oct	1st September
<b>Spring Term 2023</b>	3rd January - 31st March	13th—17th Feb	2nd September
<b>Summer Term 2023</b>	17th April - 21st July	29th May - 2nd June	25th November
			3rd January
			21st July

Church Road Stowupland Stowmarket IP14 4BQ

Headteacher: Mr David Brewster

Chair of Local Board: Mrs Karen Hudson