

# Stowupland High School

*"Outstanding Progress for All"*

*Rights Responsibilities Respect*



Year 9

Portraits of famous painters

21st December 2023

# Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

Reflecting back on the term, it is quite amazing how much has happened. The school site is almost unrecognisable, with over half of one of our fields being given over to house our temporary buildings. We have dealt with the extreme flooding both within the surrounding community but also on the school site. We have said goodbye to our long standing CEO, Karen Grimes and welcomed our new interim CEO Shaun Common to our Trust.

I am currently writing this in a very quiet and cold school. Tuesday's decision was not an easy one to make. However, after the water supply issues on Monday and then the temporary fix not being able to deliver the capacity we needed to operate normally, including the heating, the only decision was to close early for Christmas. This is not how we wanted to finish the term and we will reschedule the celebration assemblies for January.

As our 6th Form block was unaffected by the issues, we were still able to run our 6th Form Christmas Carol Concert in aid of Stowmarket's Salvation Army. There was a good turn out and we raised close to £300. The 6th Form committee provided refreshments, whilst the school choir supported the audience's singing. It was a lovely evening and certainly got us all into the Christmas spirit. Well done to Elliot for organising and running the event.

Despite the challenges of that our building has given us we have run the school as close to normal as we can. Students have been able to follow their regular timetables and have participated in all the enrichment activities that we offer. Some of these lessons haven't been in specialist rooms but over the course of the spring term our temporary classrooms will be completed and handed over to us in different phases. This will allow far more space in the main school but will also give students access to a library and fully equipped science labs.

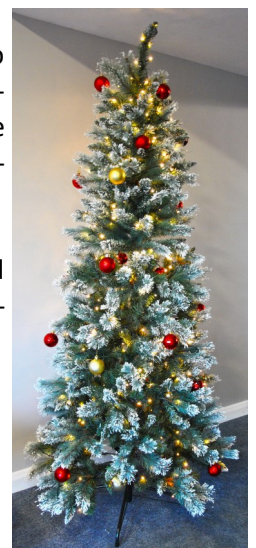
We have had 567 students attend a school trip this term, a lot of these have been mentioned during the term. I am pleased that so many students have been involved and that we have offered such a range of opportunities for our students. Our Mulberry students have had 14 different trips, including visits to some of the local post-16 providers to help them make informed choices about their next steps. We have also participated in 43 sports' fixtures with 470 students representing the school in a wide range of sports. Next term we already have 2 international residential trips booked to Austria and Belgium, along with 4 more local day trips. I would like to thank all the staff involved in organising and running these exciting opportunities for our students.

Mr Sim will be writing to you in the new year but I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in ensuring your child is in school regularly, in the correct uniform and equipped ready to learn. Our uniform hasn't changed and the details can be found on our website. We will continue to work with our students to support them in making the correct decisions with their uniform.

I am feeling very positive already about the new term, with additional staff joining us and new buildings being handed over. I'm sure the students' experience will continue to improve.

I wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and a relaxing break.

Kind regards



Mr David Brewster

## Contact Details:

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<b>Pastoral Emails:</b>	year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk	Mrs Rolfe
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	year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk	Mrs Woollins
	year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk	Mrs Fullman
	year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk	
	sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk	Mrs Southgate
<b>General :</b>	enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk	
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Term Dates 2023-2024		Half Term	Non Student Days
<b>Autumn Term 2023</b>	4th September - 20th December	23th - 27th Oct	4th September
<b>Spring Term 2024</b>	3rd January - 28th March	19th - 23rd Feb	5th September
			24th November
<b>Summer Term 2024</b>	12th April - 19th July	27th May - 31st May	3rd January
			19th July

Church Road Stowupland Stowmarket IP14 4BQ

Headteacher: Mr David Brewster

Chair of Local Board: Mr Andrew Fell

# Performing Arts: Winter Showcase

On the 13th December our school community had a chance to enjoy the Winter Showcase—a programme full of music, dance, acting and singing performed by our own students.

Thank you to Mr Tanswell, Subject Leader for Music, Mrs Brand, Mrs Pollard and Mrs Knights for organising and a very successful evening and of course all the talented students who made the whole evening very special!



It's hard to believe that we have reached the end of our first term of Year 7 already. The Year 7s continue to present themselves as confident, polite and settled members of our school community and it has been a pleasure to get to see them grow in confidence this term as their Progress Leader .

Many students have represented the school in sporting events, the winter showcase, open evening and school council. They have been a credit to the school.

## **Stowupland Way points**

Students have been working hard every week to earn as many reward points as possible. Students earn points for good work, behaviour, organisation, kindness and helpfulness. The totals for each form so far this year are:

7DJO – 6313

7GER – 5613

7KST – 5551

7LSA – 5308

7YEL - 4765

Congratulations to the 3 highest scoring students. They have all been a huge credit to the school.

Hannah C – 274 points

Blake B – 262 points

Teegan D – 261 points

## **Attendance**

Attendance in Year 7 has been consistently good with many students receiving awards for 96% or above with 44 students in the year group having a perfect attendance of 100%.

Attendance is always crucial to success at school and achieving well in all lessons, so I am really pleased with our year groups achievement.

Congratulations go to 7MPE on having the best attendance this term.

7MPE – 96.1%

7YEL – 95.1%

7KST – 94.7%

7LSA – 94.3%

7GER – 93.5%

7DJO – 92.5%

Mrs Rolfe and I both look forward to seeing you all thrive in the spring term after a much earned rest.

Merry Christmas to all our wonderful Year 7s.

Mrs Brand

Saying farewell to 2023 gives us a chance to reflect on what has been a busy term and look forward to the new year ahead which will give students the opportunity to take part in a range of extra-curricular activities including the ski trip to Austria over the February half term.

Over the Autumn term Year 8 embraced the year with enthusiasm and dedication to their studies. They have worked hard across academic subjects whilst also showing their creativity through Art, Design and Music leading many to taking part in the Christmas Showcase while others have shown success in a range of sporting competitions. Year 8 have worked hard showing determination and commitment in order to achieve their best which was reflected in the Autumn Term Rewards assembly.

### **Autumn Term Celebration Assembly**

As part of the end of term celebration assembly students are awarded certificates of commendation in subjects where they have consistently shown hard work and dedication to their learning. A number of students have received awards in more than 1 subject which include:

Students who were nominated for 4 awards: Lotti H, Poppy K, Amy N, Leila P, Finn T, Evie A, Paighton L, Sisi L, Emma F, Dylan F, Evan B,

Students who were nominated for 5 awards: Harry R, Lottie W, Amelia J, Georgiana P,

Students who were nominated for 6 awards: Samuel E, Amiee B,

Finally, Conor B was nominated for 7 awards! This is fantastic, well done all.

### **Behaviour Points**

We have changed our rewards system this year and students get the opportunity to be awarded up to 6 positive points per lesson. At the time of completing the awards, the students who were in the top 3 positions in Year 9 were:

1st – Amy N - 454 points, 2nd – Leila P - 453 points, 3rd – Poppy K - 447 points

Well done to all, you should be very proud of yourselves, you have clearly shown a consistent approach to lessons.

### **Tutor Award**

Each term, tutors nominate a tutee who they feel represents the form well and deserve recognition for their effort and the value they add to their form class. The students who received the tutor nomination this term were:

8JCO – Aimee C, 8KBL – Carolina H, 8KKN – Samuel E, 8LBL – Emma F, 8ROL – Conor B, 8TPA – Ellie R, 8KTO – Lucy C.

### **Progress Leader Award**

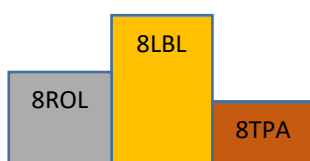
As well as the above each term myself and Mrs Cranfield, Assistant Progress Leader, choose 1 student to give the Progress Leader Award to and for the Autumn Term we chose to give it to Reuben P. We chose Reuben because he always has a positive attitude and will do anything to help and support others both in lessons and in

social times. He is a positive role model both in and out of lessons and we are proud of the way in which he conducts himself and the example he sets to others.

Well done Reuben, keep up the good work.

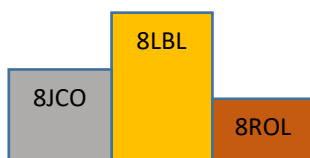
### **Tutor Group Attendance Award**

Well done to 8LBL for winning the best tutor group attendance in Year 9 so far.



### **Tutor Group Positive Points Award**

Congratulations to 8LBL for winning the most positive points award in Autumn term!



We are all looking forward to seeing what the new year will bring for year 8 and we wish you all a restful holiday season.

Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year from the Year 8 Progress Team!

Mrs Morley

As we bid farewell to 2023, we look forward to more exciting moments ahead for Year 9 in 2024. We will see the students choose their GCSE options and have the opportunity to take part in lots of extra-curricular activities and trips like the ski trip to Austria over the February half term, which a number of Year 9 students are attending, and the Battlefields trip to Belgium.

Our Year 9 students have shown dedication to their studies, navigating through various subjects with curiosity and resilience. From engaging classroom discussions to collaborative projects, students have had opportunities to develop critical thinking skills and creativity. They have excelled in a myriad of activities. Whether it's showcasing artistic talents, participating in the annual school Christmas Showcase, or achieving success in sports competitions, our students have demonstrated passion and commitment to their diverse interests.

### **Autumn Term Celebration Assembly**

At the end of each term, students are celebrated for their achievements in the termly celebration assembly. Students are nominated by their classroom teacher for their dedication to the subject and demonstrating the school values in their lessons. There were a number of students who received awards from multiple subjects and I wanted to highlight them for their exceptional focus and dedication to their studies:

Students who were nominated for an award in 4 subjects: Marcy B, Isobel E, Ruby S, Jess K, Freya R, Olivia S, Emily W, Chrissie Q, Mark W.

Students who were nominated for an award in 5 subjects: Jack L, Josh W.

Finally, Jasmine L was nominated for an award in 6 subjects and Chloe F received 8 nominations! This is fantastic, well done all.

### **Behaviour Points**

We have changed our rewards system this year and students get the opportunity to be awarded up to 6 positive points per lesson. At the time of completing the awards, the students who were in the top 3 positions in Year 9 were:

1st - Connor F: 466 points, 2nd - Jasmine W: 465 points, 3rd – Chloe F: 461 points

Well done, this is brilliant and you should be very proud of yourselves for all of your hard work.

### **Tutor Award**

Each term, tutors nominate a tutee who they feel represent the form well and deserve recognition for their effort and the value they add to their form class. The students who received the tutor nomination this term were:

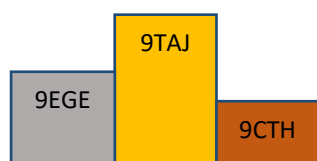
9CTH: Ruby S, 9EGE: Matthew L-H, 9GCO: Lottie C, 9JGA: Jasmine L, 9RTR: Olivia M, 9TAJ: Mark W

**Progress Leader Award**

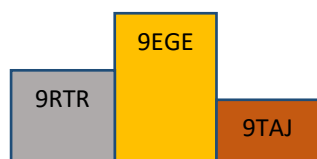
Each term, I nominate a student to receive a Progress Leader Award and this term I chose to give this to Sienna W. I chose Sienna because she is a talented young lady who has a great attitude to learning and is progressing well in all of her subjects. She not only is a great role model in lessons, but also has a very caring and considerate personality, showing great care and support for students around her. Sienna is talented outside of school too and competes in banger racing and has a clear passion for this. I am really proud of you and the fabulous young lady that you are. Well done, keep up the excellent work.

**Tutor Group Attendance Award**

Well done to 9TAJ for winning the best tutor group attendance in Year 9 so far.

**Tutor Group Positive Points Award**

Congratulations to 9EGE for winning the most positive points award in Autumn term!



We look forward to the adventures that the next year will bring and the continued growth and success of our Year 9 students.

Wishing you all a restful holiday season, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year from the Year 9 Progress Team!

Miss Brownsell

I am pleased to report that year 10 have approached the start of their GCSE studies with a positive attitude. The feedback I have received from the staff is that the students are focused and working hard, acquiring the knowledge they will need to be successful in their course qualifications.

This is an exciting time for them in their education. They are now spending nearly half their time in lessons studying subjects they have chosen. We are starting to formally prepare them for life after school. Supporting them in making further decisions as they explore different career opportunities. One aspect of this is our work experience week in the summer, I know some students are already making plans to secure their chosen placements. The Christmas break will give them all the time to think about what areas they want to explore further.

## Year 10 Graphics

Year 10 Graphics are studying typography and logos, whilst creating an accurate CAD drawing of an existing logo and manufacturing it in Acrylic on the laser-cutter.



## Behaviour Points Awards

1. Ella M
2. Hannah J
3. Evie C

## Progress Leader Award

Mason B

Congratulations to all of the students who were nominated and received awards this term.

Have a Merry Christmas and see you all in 2024.

The first term of Year 11 has been an interesting one, full of new opportunities for our young people.

## **Information Evening**

We started the year with the Year 11 Information Evening on 13th September, it was fantastic to see so many students and parents at the event. With over 200 attendance the 6th Form hall was at capacity and I hope the key messages shared were of use over the last term.

## **Steps to Success meetings**

Over the last term I have been meeting with a number of families to support and give guidance to students in order to maximise the successes during the year. These have been targeted based on need but if you would like to arrange a meeting in the New Year to help review and move forward after the December Exams please let me know.

## **Mock Exams**

The summer exams showed that students needed guidance in preparation for these exams and we have worked hard to ensure our latest exams show progress. I was in the sportshall for the maths exams and it was brilliant to see so many students arriving with all the equipment they needed, only 3 students asked to borrow a calculator which is a considerable improvement on the summer.

Feedback from the invigilators has been very positive and this is being matched by teachers as they start to mark the papers.

The results of these exams will be released to the students on 16th January when they will experience the same process as will happen in August.

## **6th Form Meet and Greet afternoon**

On 6th November 60 students were invited to meet current Year 12 students so they could ask questions around how 6th Form works and how they feel about studying at Stowupland 6th Form.

This was the first time this had been run, it was good to see some students staying after the session to have one to one conversations with the Year 12s.

It has been a very positive term and students are in a good position to make sure 2024 is very successful. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Terry

**Progress Leader: Mr Terry**



The John Milton  
Sixth Form

AT STOWUPLAND HIGH SCHOOL

It has been a very busy and successful Autumn Term for the Sixth Form. Firstly, in September we welcomed all our new Year 12 students. With help from the Year 12 tutor team, they very quickly assimilated into the Sixth Form community and began studying their new subjects with great interest and enthusiasm.

At the beginning of October, we held a full day's training for Year 12 students to prepare them for the role of becoming a mentor to a lower school student. All Year 12s took part and found the day interactive, informative and very challenging. Through a variety of activities and discussions, students developed their communication skills and considered how to become an effective mentor. Our mentoring scheme is something hugely valued at Stowupland; it is an integral part of our school community and one that helps to establish our friendly and supportive atmosphere. Managed by Mrs Canfer, we currently have 46 mentors across Years 12 and 13 who are mentoring 40 students in Years 7 and 8. Mrs Canfer hopes to place some of our mentors with students at the Mulberry centre in the New Year to strengthen this cohesive partnership.

This term is also vital for Year 11s making choices and applications for next academic year. To promote the wide range of courses available at our Sixth Form and to allow Year 11 students an engaging and realistic experience of what lessons are truly like at this level, we ran a Year 11 Masterclass week at the end of October. Over five days, there were a grand total of 23 Masterclasses, attended by over 90 Year 11 students. At the end of November, we also held our Sixth Form Information Evening for prospective students, parents and carers. This was well attended and allowed students to speak to subject staff and current Sixth Form students to find out more about the different subject pathways available to them.

As part of UK Parliament week 2023, Year 13 Politics students held a referendum on the issue of whether footballers are paid fairly. They delivered an assembly to all year groups outlining both sides of the argument and explained how the process of referenda work. On Friday 10th November, the polling station opened, and, as a school, we voted by a narrow margin, that footballers are paid too highly.

Opportunities for Sixth Form leadership have expanded this term with a restructuring of our Sixth Form Committee. This has been rebranded as the Sixth Form Council and a set of new sub-Committees for Charity and social events; Year 13 Prom and Environment have been established. We have had a really busy term in terms of charity events including a MacMillan Coffee morning, a Christmas Bake Sale, a Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children and a Hallowe'en Fancy dress day. These have been great fun and, as well as raising funds for worthwhile causes, have provided students with invaluable event management experience.

**Mrs Macey**

# GCSE celebration Evening

Welcome to Our Celebration  
Evening



On Wednesday 6th December we had the honour of welcoming back our Year 11 students to award them their GCSE certificates and subject awards. Parents and teachers came together to celebrate the achievements of our young people and to wish them well in their future careers. It was lovely to catch up with those students who have gone on to other post 16 providers and apprenticeships and to hear how much they are enjoying their new endeavours. We wish them all the best in the future and look forward to hearing what they go on to achieve.

## Subject Prize Winners

English Language	Paige P
English Literature	Lexi B
Maths	Tom G
Physics	Jan S
Chemistry	Laura A-H
Biology	Chloe S
Combined Science	Kasey O
Art	Holly L
Design - Resistant Materials	Kacper S
Design - Graphics	Emma S
Engineering	Ethan B
Food Technology	Amber A
Health and Social Care	Kerys C
Music	Keeley B
Music Technology	Kacper S
BTEC Sport	Thomas A
French	Maisie P
German	Laura A-H
Geography	Harley B
History	Thomas A
Philosophy	Savannah F
Drama	Leah C
Computing	Kacper S
Progress Plus English	Alice H
Headteacher's Award	Laura A-H
Progress Leader's Award	Jess D
The Will Harris SEND award	Harley B

Mrs Walden

Last week, Mulberry students enjoyed an informative visit to Duxford Imperial War Museum as their end of term reward trip. The students showed great interest in planes from the war, as well as the more recent exhibits in the American Air Museum.



KS4 participated in an exciting Yule log 'bake-off' with Helton Do Ceu Rita and Toby Grave achieving first place with their impressively decorated and beautifully tasting creation. KS4 have also been hard at work completing college applications in readiness for their next steps after Mulberry.

KS3 have been practising their latest pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk. They took their production to perform for Mulberry Mendlesham peers, who thoroughly enjoyed the show and they look forward to performing for parents on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.



‘An autumn term of success and celebration’

It has been an extremely busy term with lots of fixtures and events going on for our students to participate and compete in. We have entered competitions in football, netball, cross country, badminton, rugby, swimming, horse riding and futsal. There have been a total of 60 fixtures over the last 13 weeks which approximately works out as four fixtures a week across all the age groups. Our students have been outstanding in representing our school and it has been an absolute pleasure for the PE department to be able to offer so many opportunities for our students. Please see below a summary of our students' successes this term:

### **Boys Football**

We have had some excellent results this term in all of the cup competitions, including the West Suffolk Cup, County Cup and National Schools Cup.

Our Year 10 and 11 boys football teams got through to fourth round of the National Schools Cup with some impressive wins against the likes of Kesgrave and Farlingaye. We still have teams in both the County Cup and West Suffolk Cup competitions and we will be looking to schedule these fixtures in after the Christmas break.

### **Girls Football**

The girls football teams have had some very impressive results this term. The standout result coming from our Year 8 team who won 21-0 win away at Castle Manor.

We still have teams in both the County Cup and West Suffolk Cup competitions and we will be looking to schedule these fixtures in after the Christmas break.

### **Netball**

The netball teams have all competed in the developments tournaments this term. Ms Walton has taken our teams over to Thomas Gainsborough, Thurston and Sybil Andrews. All of our teams have competed extremely well and there have been some impressive performances across all of the age groups.

Congratulations to all those students involved this term.

### **Rugby**

Our Year 10 rugby team participated in the first round of the West Suffolk Rugby tournament in November. They had impressive wins against Stowmarket and Castle Manor. They had narrow defeats against Thurston and Sybil Andrews. The team finished 3rd out of 9 schools. The second round will be a Suffolk Schools Rugby tournament at Ipswich High School in February 2024.

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 rugby teams will compete in the first and second rounds when we return in the spring term.

## Swimming

The swimming this term has been a great success. We entered both the U14 and O14 competitions.

Our O14 team qualified for the finals and are now ranked as the 2<sup>nd</sup> best school in Suffolk. Miss Wardley commented: It has been an absolute pleasure accompanying our students to these events and I am hopeful we will be able to enter again next year. Thanks again to parents/carers for their continued support.

## Cross Country

We took approximately 40 students to the Cross Country back in October. We had students compete across all of the age groups and there were some outstanding performances. We had 12 students that have successfully made it through to the second round. The second round will be hosted by Woodbridge High School on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Parents/carers will need to take their son/daughter to this event. Wishing you all the very best of luck.

## Badminton

We competed in the U14 and U16 tournaments this term over at Thurston. All of the teams competed well in both the singles and doubles play. Unfortunately, on this occasion we didn't qualify for the County finals.

The U12's, U13's and U15's tournaments will be scheduled during the spring term.

## Horse Riding

On Sunday 26th November, Brooke Sturgeon and her pony Portmore Fiddler (Woody) travelled to Forest Edge EC Nr Swaffham to compete in the NSEA Tri-County SJ Qualifiers. They competed in both 70cm and 80cm classes completing with 2 fast clear rounds resulting in 2 x 2nd placings and highest placed Suffolk Rider making them the **NSEA Suffolk County Schools Champions at 70cm and 80cm, qualifying them for the County Finals Championships at Hickstead in May 2024.**

If there are any riders interested in competing in NSEA competitions, please contact Miss Wardley.

Fixtures/events scheduled for the spring term include: sportshall athletics, handball, basketball, rugby and football.

Finally, congratulations to all of the following students for being awarded a sports direct voucher for their outstanding contribution towards PE and School Sport this term:

Year 7 - Aleshia N-J and Sam T

Year 8 – Evie A and Alfie C

Year 9 – Sienna D and Ollie M

Year 10 – Payton P and Charlie J

Year 11 – Ivy R and Lewis H

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mr.Broom and the PE Department

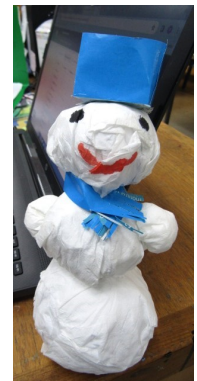
## Exploring the Design, Year 11

Couple of our students have just finished their first Design product. It is a note/message holder based on an animal theme. They have cut pieces from plywood, glued them up and used a wooden clothes peg to grip the note.

Overall, the group has worked very well. Even received a comment on how positive the working atmosphere is when they are in the workshop.



## Year 8—3D creations.



## Future Chef Competition

Congratulations to the following pupils have won a place on the catering course at West Suffolk.

Year 11:

Eleanor M, Jakob W and Oscar B

Year 10:

Katie M and Charlie J

In order to take part in The Choose Hospitality—Future Chef Competition organised by West Suffolk Council, students had to write 250 words or less about their culinary passion and aspirations.

As lucky winners, our students will work in a professional commercial kitchen, refine their culinary skills, and get a glimpse of the hospitality world.

## Year 7—Colour Wheel

