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Stowupland High School

# SCHOOL SPRING NEWSLETTER

4TH APRIL 2025





Dear Parents/Carers

This has been another very busy term at Stowupland High School. GCSE and A-Level students have continued their preparation for the Summer examinations. Both Year 11 and 13 have undertaken mock examinations and have been attending revision sessions alongside their timetabled lessons. Over the Easter holiday, Year 11 students have a Revision School with further sessions from a range of subjects. I trust that those preparing for exams have a good break over the next two weeks, and find plenty of time for focused study too.

Year 9 students have chosen their options for Years 10 and 11. A packed and very enjoyable evening took place in March for students to find out about the huge range of courses on offer and to think about how they might shape their future based on their choices.

The Student Council continues to grow and flourish, with members leading the debate on a range of issues affecting their peers - in lessons and beyond. The Council have also been meeting with parents at school events, guiding visitors around the school and interviewing prospective staff. I wish to thank the team for their tireless work in helping us develop and promote our culture - they are wonderful ambassadors for the school and a real credit to their families.

Thirty different trips and out-of-school activities have taken place this term. Students have participated in a wide range of sports including rugby, football, futsal, handball, indoor athletics and cross country. More information about these, and our students' successes, can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. There have also been trips to the first world war battlefields of Belgium, the Doctors Show (for GCSE Historians) and a visit from Dance East. Students have been to the theatre and braved the cold and rain on their Duke of Edinburgh expedition in North Norfolk. My thanks to all the staff who have worked hard to provide these opportunities.

Tom Cole, from the Halo software company based in Stowmarket, came to school in January to address Year 13 students about the company's scholarship programme and other apprenticeship and employment opportunities.



The school is lucky to have a Careers advisor on site one day per week, who meets with students individually to talk about career plans. We have also just purchased a careers platform called Unifrog which will benefit every student in the school. More about this next term.

In February, the students in each year group who scored the highest number of 'Attitude to Learning' points on their reports were invited to a special breakfast meeting with me so that I could share in their success. Each day, the top winners from one year group met with me in the Conference Room. This is a brand new facility in the A Block, purpose built for board meetings. Over a hot chocolate, they shared their tips for success and we reflected together on how their superb attitudes to learning can be built on in their time at the school. They are a superb group, without doubt destined for high things in the future.

We have commissioned a company called HD Wraps to design and install some wall art in various locations around the school. This is a way to add some colour and vitality in corridors and social spaces, as well as celebrate our culture and ethos. I have been working with a small group of students from Year 10 and the School Council on one of the panels which will be based entirely on their ideas and design. More on this in future issues.

In March we returned to face to face Parents Evenings. I have never been a fan of meeting on screen. For me, the opportunity to meet in person beats sitting behind a computer hands down. Year 10 parents and carers were also full of praise for this move, with comments such as 'Excellent - much better in person. Thank you', 'Very accommodating and very helpful staff - thank you everyone' and 'This has been one of the best organised Parents Evenings I have attended at SHS. It was easy to find the teachers and all kept to time'.

We are always striving for success at Stowupland, and I thank you for your ongoing support for the school.

Mr Walker



Where did the last two terms go?

As we reach the end of the Spring term and look forward to longer evenings and warmer weather here are some of the great results from the latest Celebration assembly where we praised those students who really have gone above and beyond.

Most Golden Tickets

Nieve F Jessica S Alenka G

No Demerits this year

Sophie B Heidi B Emmy B Jessica-Lilly B Lola C Lily C Sophia C Andrew E  
Harry F Harry F Freya G Alenka G Maisy-Rose H Lillie H Jessica H  
Lily L Jorgie L Herbie O Freddie P Isla R Harrison S Isaac S Freja S  
Logan T Jake W Daisy W

Most subject nominations

Poppy F 9 Jorgie L 9 Nieve F 10 Alenka G 10 Maddison H 10

As you can see lots of students are doing really well. We also praised those students with between 95-99.9% and 100% attendance, without this the long term impacts are of lower GCSE grades and therefore lifelong outcomes.

## **Reward Trip**

After the Easter break we will be launching the summer Reward trip for students who have managed to receive only a small number of Demerits over the two terms. The trip this year will be to Colchester zoo where students will be able to move around their site in groups. We hope those that are invited take up the opportunity to celebrate together in a more relaxed environment.

## **Heading to Year 8**

As we move towards the end of the year those who have shown lots of maturity and support will start to be able to gain more responsibility in school. As the new intake come into school for taster days and then ultimately start in September it will be our year group who become the role models for them, I cannot wait to see the students taking on the added responsibilities that this will involve.

Have a great Easter and enjoy the good weather

Best wishes

Mr Terry and Mrs Rolfe



This week Year 8 have joined together to celebrate their achievements this term. 589 of the year group were nominated by their subject teachers- an incredible amount. These nominations were for consistently demonstrating a warm, welcoming and friendly approach, an attitude of gratitude, showcasing the principle of SLANT, STEPS and SHAPE and making excellent progress. Well done to nominees and winners alike!

On Wednesday night I had the pleasure of watching several of our students perform in the Spring Showcase. It was fantastic to see the talent and courage each of you demonstrated. I look forward to welcoming all parents in for the Year 8 Parents' evening on the 7th May.

Have a lovely Easter!

Miss Bird



Inspired by Jasper Johns, Pop Art



Year 9 have worked extremely hard this term and have made significant improvement in behaviour and attitude to learning which was reflected in this week's celebration assembly where almost 700 certifications for both nominations and winners were issued.

Furthermore 70 students were taken to Belgium on a History trip. The staff involved have stated that the students were a credit and did the school proud with particular mention to Amelia, Fitzroy and Nathan who placed the wreath at Menin Gate; a memorial service that was attended by 1000 people.

This term Year 9 students have also been choosing their option subjects for GCSEs and I am hugely impressed that students handle the process with maturity and due consideration.

We now look forward to the summer term and preparing for GCSE's.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Easter Break.

Mrs Morley





As we come to the end of the spring term, it's hard to believe we are already two terms into the GCSE journey! Our Year 10 students have made excellent progress, and we are incredibly proud of the effort they've put in so far. Looking ahead, there's plenty to be excited about as we approach the summer term, including an exciting rewards trip and the upcoming mock exams.

## **Mock Exams Coming Up**

The summer term will bring the much-anticipated mock exams for our Year 10 students. These exams are an important milestone, offering a valuable opportunity for students to assess their progress, refine their exam techniques, and identify areas where they can improve. We encourage all students to stay focused, continue with their revision, and take full advantage of any support offered.

## **Rewards Trip to Thorpe Park**

We are delighted to announce that as a reward for their hard work, Year 10 students will be heading to Thorpe Park in the summer term! This trip will be a great chance to unwind, have fun, and bond with friends, all while celebrating the dedication and perseverance they've shown throughout the year. More details about the trip will be shared soon, but we can't wait to give our students this well-deserved treat!

## **Parents Evening – A Huge Success!**

A special thank you to all the parents and guardians who attended our first face-to-face parents' evening this academic year. It was wonderful to reconnect with families in person and discuss the progress and well-being of our Year 10 students. Your support and involvement are essential as we continue working together to ensure every student has the tools they need for success. We look forward to more opportunities to collaborate with you in the future.

## **Celebration Assembly**

As we brought spring term to a close, we gathered for a wonderful End of Term Celebration Assembly to reflect on the achievements and hard work of our students. It was a fantastic opportunity to come together as a school community and celebrate the many accomplishments of Year 10 students. Some of the awards that I would like to highlight are as follows:

Subject nominations:

7 subjects: Keira A, Levi B, Alex G, Isaac M,

8 subjects: Joshua W

9 subjects: Chloe F



## Most Merits:

Chloe F: 391 Vince W: 370 Claire H: 369

## Most Golden Tickets:

Connie B: 105 Chloe F: 93 George K: 84

## Zero Demerits:

Poppy Anne J, Olivia S, Isaac M, Macey G, Chloe S, Marcy B, Chloe F, Jessica F, Isobel E, Olivia M, Levi B, Joshua W, Evie C

## Tutor Awards:

- o 10CTH: Darcie S
- o 10EGR: Kieran T
- o 10GCO: Karol B
- o 10JGA: Levi B
- o 10RTR: Cai F
- o 10TAJ: Woody S

## Tutor Group Awards:

- o Best Attendance: 10CTH
- o Most Merits: 10JGA

## Progress Leader Award: Joshua W

100% attendance: Jessica F, Jacob E, Lauren F, George B, Chloe F, Jasmine W, Dougie W, Alex G, Amaan D

## Looking Ahead

The next term will be filled with exciting challenges and opportunities for our Year 10 students. Let's keep up the momentum and make the most of the time ahead as we prepare for exams and celebrate all of the hard work so far.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break! We look forward to seeing you in the summer term, where we will continue to support and guide our students on their journey toward GCSE success.

Miss Brownsell



Year 11 have had a really settled term and worked really hard to complete their second round of mock exams and assessments, as well as subjects completing their usual termly assessments. Thank you to all the parents and carers at home supporting the school in its efforts to get the best outcomes possible for Year 11.

If you haven't signed up already, there are some subjects running Easter school sessions and some may still have space, so get on Arbor to see what still has space.

We are at the point where hopefully all students are working through a weekly revision timetable that covers all their subjects. Over Easter, students should be finalising any revision materials they want to create, as when we come back, we want students to be in a position where they can then use those materials to revise and have finished the creation phase for notes, flash cards, mind maps etc.

Over the coming weeks your child may mention they have been reminded or made aware of a service called Kooth. It provides early intervention mental health support to children and young people. Kooth works with schools and professionals across over 90% of the UK.



Kooth is free to access via any internet-connected tablet, computer or smartphone. There are no waiting lists or thresholds to meet and a referral from a medical professional is not needed. Your child can join Kooth anonymously simply by visiting [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com).

There is not long left after Easter before the exam period starts, but its never too late to get our students revising even if they have left it late. Please also look out for some recent information shared by the school for Kooth support sessions being run online that is aimed at supporting parents and young people with exam stress.

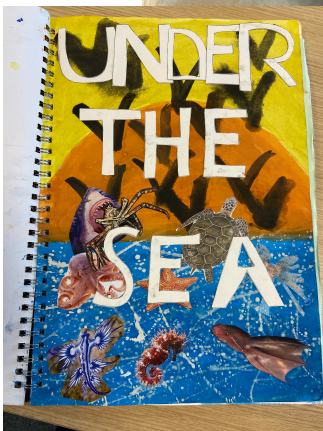
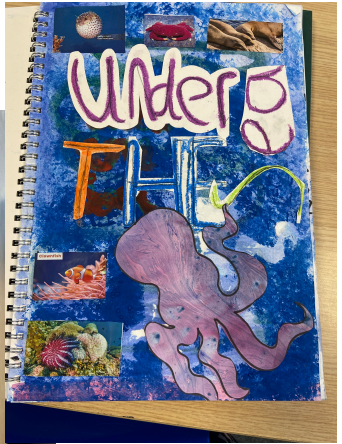
Wishing you all an Easter of balance, between getting some much needed revision done and what hopefully is some well deserved fun and relaxation time.

Mr Holden



## 'Under The Sea'

Work completed by Mulberry Students in Y10 for their 'Under The Sea' project. Thanks to Mrs Blake for the inspiration!





It has been another extremely busy term with lots of fixtures and events going on for our students to participate and compete in. Please see below a summary of our students' successes this term:

### **Cross Country**

Round 2 of the Suffolk Schools Cross Country at Woodbridge School (16th January 2025)

10 competitors from Stowupland successfully qualified for round 2 of the Suffolk Schools Cross Country championships hosted at Woodbridge School. The course was extremely tough going and competitors were also faced with some very cold conditions. However, despite this our students applied themselves brilliantly and gained valuable experience.

### **Multi skills festival**

Some of our Year 7 students had the opportunity to take part in some Boccia and indoor Kurling. This was a competition organised and hosted by our School Games Organiser.

### **Rugby**

This term we have had a number of rugby teams that have had the opportunity to compete in both the West Suffolk and Suffolk Schools competitions. All of our teams have made an excellent account of themselves. Well done to all of those students that have been involved in representing our rugby teams this term.

### **Football**

All of our football teams have been a real pleasure to work with this year and we have had some very impressive results in all of the cup competitions namely; the West Suffolk Cup, County Cup and National Cup.

The U13 and U14 girls football teams are also through to the West Suffolk Cup finals. We are currently waiting to hear who we will play.....!!!!

### **Sports hall athletics**

We have also had students represent the school at the local indoor athletic competitions. All of our teams have competed well at these events and gained valuable experience.

### **Futsal**

The Year 7 girls Futsal team this year reached the County Finals. The final took place at Suffolk New College. Stowupland had to compete against Bungay, Sybil Andrew and Copleston. It was a really close and tough tournament with everything coming down to the final match. Stowupland pulled together as a team and walked away with silver medals and 2nd position in Suffolk. Congratulations!

Around 25 schools began this tournament so the girls should be really proud of this achievement.



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

Year 7 – Alfie A and Maddi C

Year 8 – Jayden T and Lois B

Year 9 – Conor B and Emily C

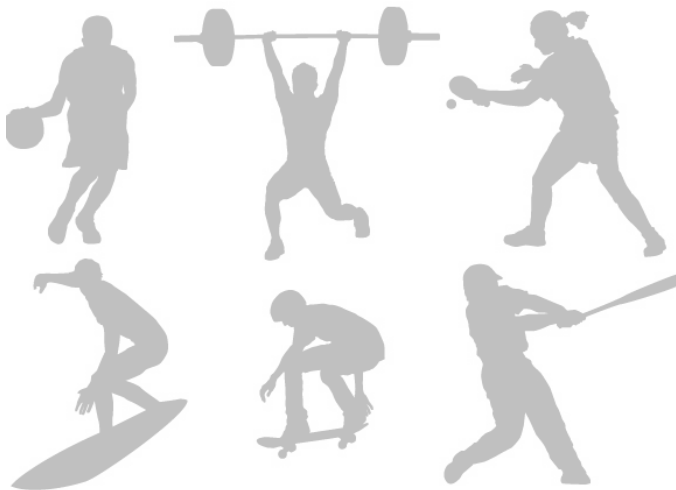
Year 10 – Charles G and Chloe F

Year 11 – Zachary M and Poppy R

Mulberry – Felix T and Aleshia N

Wishing you all a lovely Easter holiday.

Mr.Broom and the PE Department





Wow. What a time we have had in the library this term. The year 7 and 8 students have been looking at how the library works and how they can find books that they want to read. Reading for pleasure has been shown to be the single biggest factor in improving one's life chances. So, to that end I am trying to show the students that they can read anything. Any reading is good reading.

In January I ran interviews for a new group of student librarians. We have now got a team of 12 student librarians who each attend one day a week to help organise the library and learn new skills which will help them in future opportunities in life.

Clubs have been running at lunchtime and we have a dedicated cohort of students who attend most lunchtimes. I would dearly like to increase the number of students who access the library at lunchtimes. We are a friendly bunch and operate a relaxed atmosphere of purposeful library activities. In discussion with my new student librarians I have changed the focus of the lunchtime clubs. Parents/Carers need to sign up their child on Arbor for the club that they want to attend. So please see if you can attend and enjoy the wonders within the library. Signing up does not obligate you to attend every lunchtime but does show a small commitment.

Monday – The Art of the Word – we will run a programme of activities looking at how we can use words. This will include drawing, looking at the lyrics in songs, debating – how can words convey a meaning, word puzzles and persuading people to read the books we have enjoyed.

Tuesday – Games Club - a good old favourite of board and card games. If anyone has a complete board game they no longer require we would love to have it in the library as our stock of games is looking a little tired. Thank you.

Wednesday – Puzzles and Reading Aloud. I will read books aloud to the students to tempt them into trying something new. They can be completing a puzzle while they listen.

Thursday – Quiet reading – an opportunity to sit in a calm environment to get lost in your current book.

The Student Librarians and I look forward to welcoming you into the library to see the wonders of words."

Thank you,  
Mrs Shaw



## Summer Clubs Timetables

Please visit Arbor and Activities / Clubs to sign students to clubs they wish to attend in Summer term.



### Summer 2025 Clubs & Activities

Lunchtime 12:45 – 13:30

MONDAY LUNCHTIME		
Fusion Dance	Year 7&8	Dance Studio Mrs Brand
Cricket	Year 7-11	Sports Hall Mr Broom
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03 Mr Garrett
The Art of the World	Year 7-11	Library Mrs Shaw
Fitness Suite	Year 7-13	Fitness Suite Mr Passey
Health & Social Care (Week A)	Year 11	G03 Mrs Walton
Art catch up	Year 11	B08 Mrs Blake
TUESDAY LUNCHTIME		
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03 Mr Garrett
Spansh Club	Year 7-9	D01 Mr Goodchild
Advance Fusion	Year 9-11	Dance Studio Mrs Brand
Games Club	Year 7-11	Library Mrs Shaw
KS3 Basketball	Year 7-9	Sports Hall Mr Passey
Year 11 French Grammar	Year 11	D02 Mrs D'Acry-Hulali
Fitness Suite	Year 7-13	Fitness Suite Mr Broom
Year 10 Art Coursework	Year 10	B08 Mrs Blake
WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME		
Drama Club	Year 7-11	Drama Studio Miss Pollard
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03 Mr Garrett
Puzzles and Oral Books	Year 7-11	Library Mrs Shaw
Fitness Suite	Year 7-13	Fitness Suite Mr Holden
German Revision	Year 11	D01 Mr Goodchild
Show Practice	Year 7-11	Dance Studio Mrs Brand
Cricket	Year 7-11	Sports Hall Mr Passey
Tennis	Year 7-11	Gym Mr Broom
THURSDAY LUNCHTIME		
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03 Mr Garrett
French Cinema	Year 7-9	D02 Miss D'Acry-Hulali
German Club	Year 7-9	D01 Mr Goodchild
GCSE Dance Ambassadors	GCSE	Dance Studio Mrs Brand
Quiet Reading	Year 7-11	Library Mrs Shaw
Fitness Suite	Year 7-13	Fitness Suite Miss Brownell
Rounders	Year 7-11	Gym Mr Broom
Tennis	Year 7-11	Gym Mr Passey
Health & Social Care (Week B)	Year 11	G03 Mrs Walton
GCSE Geography	Year 11	T3 Miss Blunston
FRIDAY LUNCHTIME		
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03 Mr Garrett
Newspaper Club	Year 7-13	A03 Miss Curtis
KS4 Basketball	Year 10-11	Sports Hall Mr Passey
Fitness Suite	Year 7-13	Fitness Suite Mr Broom
Homework Club	Year 7-11	C01 Mrs D'Acry-Hulali
GCSE Art catch up	Year 11	B08 Mrs Blake

After School 15:40-16:40

TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL			
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03	Mr Garrett
GCSE Drama Rehearsals	Year 11	Drama Studio	Miss Pollard
Tennis	Year 7-11	Sports Hall	Mr Passey
Year 11 Maths	Year 11	B14 & B15	Miss Holder & Mrs Flurry
Cricket/Rounders	Year 7-11	Gym	Mr Broom
WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL			
Duke of Edinburgh Training	DoE students	B16	Miss Holder
Fitness Suite	Year 7-13	Fitness Suite	Mr Garrett
GCSE English Revision	Year 11	A05	JMO/JMA/KCU
THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL			
Year 11 Design	Year 11	B03	Mr Garrett
Latin Club	Year 7-13	T2	Mr Walker
Year 11 Science Intervention	Year 11	T13	Mr Douglas
Computing	Year 11	C01	Mr Walters
Homework Club	Year 7-11	Library	Mr Nash
Drama Club	Year 8-11	Drama Studio	Miss Pollard



## TESCO STRONGER STARTS GRANT FUNDING WE NEED YOUR BLUE TOKENS!

We are currently a "good cause" nomination in Tesco, Stowmarket

We are hoping to be able to provide healthy and filling snacks for students who are hungry during their school day - a full stomach helps students to be able to focus, learn and feel settled in school

If you are offered a blue token - we would appreciate your support to help us obtain the maximum funding available

If you feel that you are able to help us with this initiative in any other way, we would love to hear from you; enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk

*Thank you!*

## Vaccination Clinics during the Easter break

Please click [HERE](#) for the clinics open during the Easter period.

## Uniform Sale

Inces of Stowmarket are offering 10% off on schoolwear during April.



## The Mix

### Easter Drop Ins At The Mix

Open to anyone of high school age  
(Even if you don't attend a high school!)

**STOWMARKET**  
WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL  
11AM TO 3PM

WEDNESDAY 16TH APRIL  
11AM TO 3PM

**NEEDHAM MARKET**  
FRIDAY 11TH APRIL  
11AM TO 3PM

### LASER TAG

Come along to the Easter Drop Ins below  
to get involved in our Laser Tag games!

Open to anyone of high school age  
(Even if you don't attend a high school!)

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL  
11AM TO 3PM (THE MIX  
STOWMARKET)

FRIDAY 11TH APRIL  
11AM TO 3PM (NEEDHAM  
MARKET)

## Free activities in local area





Present

### Jumpers For Goalposts Project

Easter Holidays  
Ipswich

Date	Venue	Time
Tue 8th April	Murray Rd Park	12.30pm-2pm
Tue 8th April	Gippeswyk Park	2.30pm-4pm
Thurs 10th April	Alexandra Park	2.30pm-4pm
Tue 15th April	Castle Hill Park	12.30pm-2pm
Tue 15th April	Dumbarton Rd Park	2.30pm-4pm

**Ages: 10-16**  
Activities: Mainly football and cricket  
Booking: Just turn up and join in  
Cost: FREE!!

Contact: [positivefutures.suffolk@catch-22.org.uk](mailto:positivefutures.suffolk@catch-22.org.uk)  
Follow us on twitter - @suffolk4cp and facebook 'suffolk positive futures'

Project funded by Ipswich Borough Council and supported by Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner

### STOW LIBRARY JAM NIGHT

FOR SINGERS AND MUSICIANS  
AGED 13 TO 18

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, 7.30 TO 9.30  
FREE ENTRY.

Suitable for young singers and musicians who want to experience playing music with others in a relaxed environment, with support from a music pro.

PA, drums, bass amp, guitar amp, electric piano and mics all provided. Just bring anything else you need.

For information and to book, please email [daniel.harvey@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:daniel.harvey@suffolklibraries.co.uk)



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