



4 March 2022

Message from the Head of School

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. Over the last couple of days, it has certainly felt like summer is on the way, unlike how we finished last half term. Reverting to online learning on the final day was certainly not in our plans. However, it certainly demonstrated how adaptable students are, being able to revert back to online learning.

This week we have returned to running the school timetable without staggering social times. This has allowed the whole school to follow the same pattern, with all students being in lessons at the same time. Students and staff are getting used to the new timings and it is good to see different age groups mixing together for enrichment activities.

To celebrate *World Book Day* students took part in various competitions, including guessing the characters that staff had chosen from their favourite texts. There was also a Junior Mastermind, with the Library having its own famous black chair and spot light.

Parental Engagement Survey at Stowupland High School

Thank you to those parents and carers who have responded to the Parental Engagement Survey.

Please note that the deadline has now been extended until **Friday 11 March** .

The link to the survey is here: <https://edurio.com/poll/9VBJKo>

It only takes a few minutes to complete and is completely anonymous and confidential. Your opinion and honesty are much appreciated.

A message from the Trust

After nearly two years of restrictions, it is exciting to be able to move forward again. Trips and visits can resume, as well as returning to more onsite events for parents and carers. We can also begin cross-school visits again, including the moderation of work across all year groups.

Also, please look out for our Trust-wide “Little Hoot” project in aid of St Elizabeth Hospice. Owls have been safely delivered to each school and we look forward to seeing them all painted and varnished in April, ready to be exhibited at this year’s Suffolk Show.

Matilda

Tickets will go on sale on Wednesday 9 March. Please look out next week for a separate communication.

Students had to take part in 2 rounds, one with questions from their favourite book and a general knowledge round. Mrs Burns, School Librarian, created some very challenging questions! I was privileged to be able to watch the final round and hand out the winning prizes. It was wonderful to observe such a supportive and friendly competition. Well done to all those who took part. And thanks to Mrs Burns and Miss Leadon for organising the event.

It was also good to see our Year 11 students and families in school on Wednesday evening. Presentations by Mr Benson and the core subject teams explained the best way to revise and how to access all key resources. I have no doubt this will help to support them with their preparation for their next set of mock exams starting on 21 March and with their summer exams. Year 13 students have been sitting their mock exams this week as they prepare for their final exams.

This is only a snippet of everything that has been going on this week. I am sure students have already shared their activities with you, including netball club, Year 8 and 9 rugby success, *Matilda* rehearsals, coursework catch up over half term and newspaper club ... to name but a few!

We have received some wonderful feedback from parents this week, including the following:

"I just wanted to say what a pleasure it was to see the Year 8 boys today at the rugby tournament. They really represented the school well, showed great team spirit encouraging each other and respected the referees and coaches. They also complimented the other teams at the end of each game and showed good grace when they won They were a credit to the school and should all be proud of themselves".

Wishing you all the best for the weekend

David Brewster
Head of School

Head of School Coffee Mornings

A reminder that parents and carers are invited to join Mr Brewster to discuss school priorities and future plans during weekly coffee mornings held on Tuesdays, 10.00 - 11.00am.

If you would like to take part, bookings should be made in advance via [Eventbrite](#).

Y7 Parents' Evening

Parents and carers of Y7 students have been sent a separate communication regarding their Parents' Evening on Wednesday 9 March.

Please note: appointments can be made with Mrs Rolfe, Assistant Progress Leader, to discuss pastoral issues.

LFD Test Kits

Following the change in Government guidance, stocks will no longer be held in school. If you require LFD or PCR test kits they can be ordered [online](#).

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

Please follow the links below if you require any help in answering any questions your child(ren) may have regarding the Russian invasion:

Supporting your child if they see upsetting content online about what is happening in Ukraine (Childnet)
<https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/>

We should not hide from children what is happening in Ukraine (Schools Week/Children's Commissioner)
<https://schoolsweek.co.uk/we-should-not-hide-from-children-what-is-happening-in-ukraine/>

How to talk to children about what's happening in Ukraine and World War Three anxiety (Metro)
<https://metro.co.uk/2022/02/24/how-to-talk-to-children-about-whats-happening-in-ukraine-16163133/>

Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation (Department for Education)
<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/>

Attendance up to 4 March 2022

Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Overall
91.7%	90.3%	90.2%	87.6%	91.2%	90.2%

Diary dates

March:

Wednesday 9th:	Y7 Parents' Evening
Friday 18th:	Y12 Reports shared with parents and carers
Wednesday 30th:	Y8 Parents' Evening HPV vaccinations for Years 8, 9 and 10

April:

Friday 1st:	Y7, 8 and 10 Reports shared with parents and carers
Wednesday 6th - Friday 8th:	<i>Matilda</i>
Friday 8th:	Y11 Reports shared with parents and carers Last day of term

Contact Details:

Main School:	01449 674827 (08.30am - 4.00pm)
Pastoral emails:	year7@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year8@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year9@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year10@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	year11@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
	sixthform@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
General:	enquiries@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Cashless catering:	accounts@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Library:	library@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Attendance:	attendance@stowuplandhighschool.co.uk
Absence Line:	01449 742428
Website:	www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk

Term Dates 2021- 2022		Half Term	Non Student Days
Autumn Term 2021	2nd September - 16th December	25th - 29th Oct	2nd September 3rd September
Spring Term 2022	4th January - 8th April	21st - 25th Feb	26th November 4th January
Summer Term 2022	25th April - 22nd July	30th May - 3rd June	22nd July

Church Road Stowupland Stowmarket IP14 4BQ

Executive Headteacher: Mr Peter Whear; Head of School: Mr David Brewster

Chair of Local Board: Mrs Karen Hudson