

Head's Up!

Issue#15

20 December 2024



Stafford Manor
High School

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Dear Parents and Friends of Stafford Manor,

Thank you for your ongoing support for Stafford Manor High School

We have had a very positive Autumn term with a huge range of activities developed for our students to support them with their academic learning, to improve their knowledge and understanding of the world, to support them with their aspirations and plans for the future, to keep students safe in school and to encourage positive attendance.

Attendance matters!

I am pleased to share that the school is currently +1.1% above attendance rates for this time last year and +2.1% up on cumulative attendance rates also. This is an outstanding achievement and one which will enable more of our children to do better at school. I would like to thank you all for supporting this key whole school initiative and would request that you continue to support the school by sending your children into school every day.

Rewards and Celebrations in the last week of term.

We have had a really positive end to the Autumn term, which has seen a wide range of students rewarded through our gold, silver and bronze reward system. Well done to all of our students this term and please remember that it is a fresh start for all students from 7 January.

Return to school

A reminder please that school will begin again for all students from Tuesday 7 January 2025.

Gates will open as normal from 8.30am that day. We are looking forward to welcoming all students back to school that day and the usual attendance rewards will be in place from the start of term.

Merry Christmas!

I would like to wish all of our students, their families and our wonderful staff and partners a very merry Christmas. Please enjoy the time with each other over Christmas. Stay safe and we will see you all again in 2025.

Best wishes, as always

Rhys Adams
Headteacher

Annual Christmas Raffle

Mrs Mandley has run her annual Christmas raffle again this year. We had 28 prizes this year. Students received a raffle ticket in all lessons over the last 2 weeks for using the 4Rs. Here are some of our winners. Well done!



OUR Values and Behaviour Expectations

Ready	Respectful	Responsible	Resilient
Attending every day	Using good manners	Being accountable	Staying on task
Being on time	Listening to my teacher	Knowing my role	Not giving up
Wearing full uniform	Respecting myself	Meeting deadlines	Avoiding distractions
Bringing my equipment	Showing others respect	Not blaming others	Coping with setbacks
Completing homework	Allowing others to learn	Managing my behaviour	Being comfortable to FAIL
Lining up quietly	Being calm	Doing my best work	Overcoming difficulties

School Vision and Values



'Every child reaching their full potential'



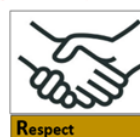
Community

- Safe and welcoming
- Proud of our school
- Inclusive and Equitable
- Focussed on People
- Celebrate Success



Aspiration

- High Expectations
- Ambitious for all
- Take the initiative
- Pursue Excellence
- Positive Destinations



Respect

- Excellent Behaviour
- Manners and honesty
- Listen and appreciate
- Show up every day on time
- Be kind, be learning



Endeavour

- Be determined
- Be resilient and bounce back
- Challenge yourself and others
- Work hard and don't give up
- The Struggle helps us develop



Achievement – OVER 83,000 achievement points have been issued this term so far!!!

Overview on Achievement Points 2024-25

01/08/2024 - 19/12/2024

Name ↓	Positive
Year 7	21725
Year 8	19221
Year 9	16760
Year 10	13240
Year 11	12206



THURSDAY 19th DECEMBER

Well done to all students who were part of the rewards on Thursday, the winning film was the GRINCH!!! It was lovely have all students enjoying some festivities together!

Also thank you to all students who contributed towards the cake sale we raised over £245 which is fabulous!



Uniform reminder:

A reminder for January, please ensure all students come back to school with the correct equipment and uniform to ensure January is a positive start to a new term. **Please also note nose piercings will need to be clear or covered. Any students in incorrect uniform or do not meet the piercing expectations will be in isolation until resolved.**

Essential Equipment- 'Super 7'



Essential Equipment

- Pen - Black/ Blue/ Red and Purple
- Pencil
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Reading book
- School Bag
- Homework



Desirable Equipment

- Calculator
- Sharpener



Uniform



A SMHS blazer and tie can be purchased from Crested School Wear

- SMHS Blazer and clip on tie
- Black trousers/knee length skirt
- White shirt
- Black shoes/suitable footwear

Crested School Wear

www.crestedschoolwear.co.uk

35-36 Gaolgate Street, Stafford, ST16 2NT



PE kit



The PE tops can be purchased from Crested School Wear

Black jogging bottoms, Sports leggings or shorts (No logos)

Black PE top- SMHS logo

Suitable trainers



Reading at Home

At Stafford Manor High School, developing our students' reading skills to their maximum potential is an absolute priority for us, our approach to reading is to meet our pupils where they are and to help them to reach for two goals:

- Functional literacy and,
- A love of reading.

Parents can play a vital role in promoting reading for pleasure at home. Here are some suggestions:

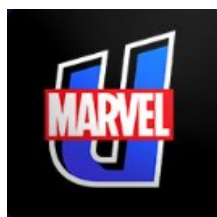
- Create a dedicated reading space at home. This should ideally be somewhere quiet and comfortable, with no visible distractions (i.e.: games consoles).
- Establish a set routine for reading time (i.e.: 20 minutes before bed).
- Read with your child, taking it in turns to each take a page. Try to discuss what has been read and what your child thinks might happen next.
- Give a book as a birthday or Christmas present (ideally tailored towards your child's interests).
- Reading doesn't always have to be about books. If your child has a particular hobby, why not see if there are relevant magazines available?

Mobile phones are often seen as the enemy of books. But not necessarily! Here are some great apps for supporting and encouraging reading:

Home Reading Support

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Marvel Unlimited: Read the comic books that inspired your favourite super heroes and villains on the big screen! Available online and App

Kindle: Never be without a book – Kindle books you have purchased on Amazon will automatically appear in your app.

First News: The app version of the award-winning, weekly British newspaper written for children and young people (aged 7-14).

The Week Junior: The app version of Britain's fastest growing children's magazine, written for 8-14 year olds. It's filled with fascinating stories and information, written to engage young minds and encourage them to explore.

There are also some fantastic websites that offer reading support and advice:



www.literacytrust.org.uk: Provides a fantastic range of reading resources and advice



www.booktrust.org.uk: An excellent website for identifying books that may interest your child



www.schoolreadinglist.co.uk: Provides some great reading list suggestions, including the sorts of magazines your child may enjoy



www.bdadyslexia.org.uk: Provides some excellent advice and resources for supporting young people with dyslexia

'Schools have no more fundamental responsibility than teaching children to read... Nothing is more important in education than ensuring that every child can read well.'

Reading: The Next Steps, DfE 2015

Mrs Gurmin—Literacy and Reading Lead

Accelerated Reader and MyOn

Don't forget to logon to your Accelerated Reader account over the Christmas break. You can complete quizzes for any books you have read, you can read online using MyOn and then complete a quiz and you can check your progress. How many words you have read so far this year – will you become a word millionaire in 2025?



National Reading Champions Quiz 2025.

Following the success of our Book Club, we would like to enter the **National Reading Champions Quiz 2025**. This is a National competition that quizzes students on the most popular modern books, YA fiction and many classics. If you love reading, you love quizzing and you know your Harry Potters from your Harry Wormwoods then sign up! Come and see Mrs Gurmin in the New Year to sign up to the team. We will meet weekly to read, answer quiz questions and create our own quizzes!

The poster features a blue background with a large yellow trophy icon at the top right. The National Literacy Trust logo is in the top left. The main title "National Reading Champions Quiz 2025" is in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below the title, there is a paragraph of text about the quiz. To the right of the text, there are three yellow boxes containing quiz questions. At the bottom left, there is a QR code and a URL. At the bottom right, there is a logo for ALCS.

National Literacy Trust
Change your story

National Reading Champions Quiz 2025

Open to students aged 10-14, this quiz is for keen readers across the UK to join their school's reading champions team and share their book knowledge. Sign up to have fun, find new friends, and maybe even earn a spot at the incredible grand final in London! With plenty of prizes up for grabs, ask your librarian, literacy lead, or teacher about joining today. Good luck!

Who might need Holly Jackson's *Guide to Murder*?

What is the title of the prequel to *The Hunger Games*?

Can you fill in the gaps to discover this boy hero's identity:
P_r_y _a_k_o_?

For more details, scan the QR code or visit:
literacytrust.org.uk/reading-champions

Open to: Years 6, 7, 8 and 9 (England and Wales), P6, P7, S1 and S2 (Scotland) and Primary 7, Year 8, 9 and 10 (Northern Ireland).

Funded by
ALCS

FREE DRUG AWARENESS TRAINING

For any additional support please contact - Re-solv on 01785 817885

- Face to Face Session
Friday January 17th
9.30am - 12.00pm
Stafford Family Hub ,
Faraday Road, Stafford,
ST16 3NQ
- Online session via
Teams
Thursday 13th
February
6.30pm - 9.00pm



Talking about drugs, solvents and substances with your children can help protect them from harm. Often parents underestimate their influence but evidence shows that 11-15 year-olds in particular look to their parents for information.

**Would you like to know more?
Book your free place by calling
01785 854700**



**Drugs, Substances, Gases, aerosols, petrol,
glues, solvents, poppers,
laughing gas...**



We're here to help.



Staffordshire
County Council

Re-Solv

Art and Textiles Coursework

All GCSE Art and Textiles coursework needs to be handed in on **Friday 10th January**. This includes all marine life coursework, animals coursework and any other work that students have completed in Year 10 and Year 11.

This will be securely locked away as students will receive their exam paper week commencing 13 January 2025.

Students 10 hour exam will be on Friday 2 May and Tuesday 6 May due to the bank holiday being on the Monday.



**GIVE TENNIS
A GO**

Book your free place



Open Days

Saturday 18th January 2025 from 10AM
Monday 20th January 2025 from 6:30PM

On **Saturday 18th January 2025** we will be offering **FREE Taster Sessions** at Stafford Manor Tennis Centre which are a fantastic way for children aged 4-15 and Adults (16 plus) to try tennis in a fun and supportive environment.

From the Blue/Red group for the youngest enthusiasts (4-7 years) at 10:00 AM to Adults (16 plus years), at 12:00 PM, we offer a range of sessions tailored to every age.

On **Monday 20th January 2025** we will be offering **FREE Adult Taster Sessions** at Stafford Manor Tennis Centre which are a fantastic way for Adults (16 plus) to try tennis in a fun and supportive environment.
Adults (16 plus years) sessions, at 6:30 PM & 7:30PM.

Book in advance to secure a spot and discover the joy of tennis!

BOOK YOUR FREE SESSION
on Saturday 18th January

BOOK YOUR FREE SESSION
on Monday 20th January

History Question and Answer

As part of developing a passion for a career in history, a selection of Year 7 to 11 students took part in a history livestream hosted by the British Library. The talk was from prominent historian Professor Janina Ramirez. The students invited were those who'd entered a competition set by Mr. Mainwaring and who have shown an interest in the study of history.

The students were amazing and showed a good interest in the talk. We also had our question, 'What is the best thing about being a historian?', selected by the organisers of the talk, which Professor Ramirez gave a passionate response to.



SMHS Community Support Hub And SMHS Food Hub

Open to all

Wednesday : 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Friday : 11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Re-opening on Wednesday 8 January 2025

Open to all parents. Join us for a cup of tea, coffee and a biscuit, or even to collect some food from our Food Hub.