



THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

I would like to begin by thanking all parents for their support over the last term. The school has been a very busy place with lots going on. I am writing this after enjoying a superb Christmas lunch celebration provided by our excellent catering team for our students, staff and Governors. I would like to summarise some of these many events for you.

The Year 11 Mock examinations went extremely well and have further confirmed the massive potential that the students in this Year Group have. I was impressed by the focused approach that students had during their preparation for these. We look forward to reviewing these results and working hard over the next few months to ensure that all students reach their potential.

The recent Christmas concert was a real success with lots of parents supporting this. The Dance Production further reinforced the real strengths that we have in the Performing Arts area of the school.

We also took part in the recent Amesbury Christmas Fair running a very successful stall that highlighted the entrepreneurial skills of our students. Further fund-raising has also taken place for other charities showing the caring nature of the students at this school.

I am pleased that preparation for the ski-trip in February has continued with the 'dry-slope' course well underway. Lots of positive comments have been received about the conduct of our students at the 'dry-slope' centre.

I would like to inform parents that Mr Allan Peach has retired from the Chair of Governors position after 40 years of outstanding service to the community. I wish him well in the future. Mr Michael Bayliss has currently taken the role of Acting Chair of Governors until the election of a new Chair in March 2009.

I am also pleased to inform you of some other changes in roles within the School. Mr Langley and Mr Monk have both been appointed as Acting Assistant Headteachers. Mr Cooper has been appointed as Acting Head of Geography and Miss Strode has been appointed as Acting Year 8 Progress Leader.

We have ended the term on extremely positive notes with our 'Rewards Assemblies' for each year group. This was an excellent opportunity to celebrate the many successes across the term that our students have had.

I would like to wish you all a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. I look forward to continuing our work in the New Year as we continue to be a school that is going places!

S A Riding
Acting Headteacher

I should like to thank everyone who has sent me their good wishes during my recent absence. I am pleased to say I have made a good recovery and have already returned to work on a phased basis. I should resume full duties by the end of January 2009. Dr Riding will continue until then as Acting Head, and I should particularly like to thank him and the rest of the Leadership Team for their hard work and commitment during the autumn term. I extend my best wishes to you all for a very happy and peaceful Christmas holiday and a prosperous new year.

Dr Riding Ph.D

Having successfully completed a number of years research into education, I am very pleased to congratulate Dr Riding on the award of his PhD. He adds this to his already impressive list of qualifications, which includes a Masters degree and the NPQH.

Mr Roper.
Headteacher

Attendance Hotline 01980 676650 (24 hours)

STUDENT CONDUCT

We have very high expectations of student conduct at the Stonehenge School and have a clear focus on ensuring that all students have the opportunity to learn. Occasionally some students interfere with this right of others to learn and in response to this we will be introducing a 'Leadership Team Detention' to be held on Friday's from 2.50 pm to 4.00 pm. This detention will be operated by the Leadership Team and parents will be informed if a child is placed in this detention. It is envisaged, due to the very good behaviour of the vast majority of our students, that only a small minority of students will ever need to be placed in this detention. I thank you for your support on this.

S A Riding
Acting Headteacher

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

Families that receive the following benefits are entitled to apply for FSM for their children:

- Income support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (providing the annual household income is less than (£15,575))
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you wish to know further details or to apply please contact Mrs Lester in the main office.

PAYMENT FOR TRIPS/MUSIC LESSONS



Please bring payments for trips/music lessons to Mrs Young on the school reception desk from 8.30 am. Where possible please make payment by cheque, (print name of student and trip on the back). All cheques must be made payable to The Stonehenge School. These can be posted into the cheque box in reception. Receipts will be issued on request.

The introduction of on-line payments for parents will be available from April 2009.

AIM HIGHER

Parents are aware that The Stonehenge School has high expectations for its pupils, and in order to support students in their ambitions the school is now linked to Aim Higher West a organisation dedicated to offer information and guidance to students concerning University / Higher Education opportunities.

Early in the New Year I will be in touch with parents in all year groups to let you know about a series of exciting opportunities for students here at Stonehenge.

Mr Monk

TEXTILES EXHIBITION

The Exhibition in November was a great success with students in Years 10 and 11 working really hard to pull it together. We are planning to repeat this again next year in the summer term.

Miss Steed



ANOTHER PLEA FROM THE TEXTILES DEPARTMENT!

The textiles department is still looking for any spare materials, buttons, needles, pins, beads, threads, ribbons you may have. Please have a look, Miss Steed would be really grateful for any donations.

Miss Steed

FIXED TERM PENALTIES

IMPORTANT REMINDER

It is vital that if your Son/Daughter is absent from school that you provide a reason for absence. You should contact the Attendance Hotline on 01980 676650 (24 hours) to leave a message warning of your child's absence, then a note explaining the reason for absence should be provided and returned to the attendance officer at the school office upon the pupils return to school. If there are more than 10 sessions of **unauthorised** absences for any particular student within a 6 month period (this is the equivalent to 10 half days absence) then the Education Welfare service may be entitled to serve a fixed term penalty fine. In order to avoid this please ensure that all letters/requests for explanation of absence are completed and returned to school ASAP.

This is part of the DCSF attendance policy that all schools have to adhere to. If you have any concerns please feel free to contact the school and ask to speak to the schools EWO, Tracey Satchell who will be able to provide more details should it be required.

Mrs.Roberts. Acting Deputy Head.

YEAR 10 YOUNG ENTERPRISE GROUP
SNUGZZ (the ultimate mobile phone sock!)

Our Young Enterprise Group has been very busy of late attending both a trade fair at the headquarters of Nationwide in Swindon and the Amesbury Christmas Fair. They received a great deal of praise from the judges at the Nationwide event and were unlucky to be pitted against Year 12 & 13 students. However, it allowed them to eye up the competition and steal any good ideas! At the Christmas fair they sold a number of their superb phone socks and will be selling them in Salisbury on Monday 22nd December - don't miss out!!!!

Congratulations to all the girls - Romy Langley, Jane Brown, Lauren Bramwell, Victoria Marsh, Zoe Osgood and Emma Mellor - and good luck for the YES competition proper in the New Year.

Mr Cooper / Mr Langley

STOP PRESS!!!!

Mr Randall is very excited to be able to announce that he is organising a month long expedition to Kenya!

It will take place during the Summer of 2010 and is open to anyone who will be 16+ then (ie current Yr10 and Yr11, even if you have left school).

The trip is being run with Camps International. They are a specialist organisation who provide "a unique combination of community and wildlife led projects combined with an adventure challenge "



We will be away for a whole month in July/August.

We will participate in an ongoing community project (building classroom, housing etc), a safari and a SCUBA diving course.

This really is an opportunity of a lifetime. More details after Christmas - there will be a launch assembly in January and several Parent/Pupil evenings from January/February onwards.

Mr Randall

GEOGRAPHY NEWS

Last month all Year nine students took part in a fantastic field trip to Portsmouth. One group visited Portsmouth FC and Spinnaker Tower whilst a second group spend the whole day at Gunwharf Quays and Spinnaker Tower.



After conducting a full day's fieldwork activities students spent lessons producing projects on the current and future plans for Portsmouth.

Students enjoyed the trip despite some bad weather on the Monday. Again it shows the relevance of Geography and fieldwork.

Looking at some of the Geographical effects around the world students from 9K and 9D decided that they would like to raise money for Africa this Christmas. Over the last two days students from these groups have shown enterprise and compassion and raised more than £100 to be spent on products and services to help people in less economically developed countries eg Sudan. Students have sold sweets, cakes and organised an auction, washed cars and arranged sports competitions. It shows how Geography can encourage business skills and enterprise. Well done.

Finally this term, Mr Cooper was appointed as Acting Head of Geography for the remainder of the 2008/2009 term as I take on further managerial responsibilities within the school.

Mr Langley
Head of Humanities

"LAST ORDERS"

Tuesday afternoon saw a visit to Stonehenge School by the Solomon Theatre Company from Fordingbridge with their hard hitting play and workshop "Last Orders". The play delves into the influence of alcohol on behaviour and the unintended outcomes that may result from overuse of alcohol. The play addressed the issue of young girls falling "prey" to the unwanted sexual advances of older boys and the consequences for individuals involved.

The audience of Year 9 students quickly identified with the characters and were able to understand and learn from the issues raised.

This is some of the feedback I have had from staff –

"Theatre production was great fun and really thought provoking."

"I watched my tutor group and it really did hit the right spot. I was asked at the end if it was a real story. I replied that this type of thing happened frequently in our area and as a tutor I had heard of a case last time round that was very similar (and worse) and had scared me to death of what young people their age experienced."

"I thought that theatre production was brilliant!"

Mr Monk

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Kieran Bramwell and Fraser Wright have been doing an excellent job selling Candy canes. Also Miss Steed and the school council have been making Christmas cards and selling them. This is all to make money for our school charity ...the Stroke Club. So far we have raised 126 pounds!

We also strive to improve our environment and we have nominated "eco monitors" to take charge of ensuring our school is litter free!

Miss Steed

WELL DONE!

Congratulations to the following students for successfully completing their Horse Power course at Greatwood:

Sam Flower
Tom Beaumont
Tomas Griffiths
Daniel Downham
Luke Potter
Jack Swindlehurst.



Sam's folder received a special commendation from the moderator.

A special thanks to Mrs Blyth and the members of staff who accompanied the students on some very cold and wet mornings.

Mrs Perryman

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A **BIG** thank you to all the staff and students who helped to make the Annual Christmas concert such a fantastic success. As always there was a wide range of performances. The school seems to have more and more talented pupils every year. Particular highlights of the concert were the opening number 'Mercy' complete with dance routine, Nathan Clifft's composition which was written when he was a Year 7 pupil and the Stonehenge version of 'Valerie'. Well done to everyone who took part and made the evening such a success. Thanks must also go to the office staff, Mr Busby and his lighting team and of course Mrs Rosindell, Mrs Taylor, Mr Riding and Mrs Kerr who provided the refreshments to keep us all going.



Mrs Roberts.

Director of Music/ Acting Deputy Head



BATH UNIVERSITY NETBALL TRIP

On 8th December 10 pupils went to watch a Netball match between Team Bath and Brunel Hurricanes. The match was due to start at 7pm but was delayed due to a school competition before the main fixture. All the pupils were very excited and were jumping up waving their 'goal' cards when Bath scored. They played for an hour and throughout the game it was very close, but eventually in the 3rd quarter Bath began to stretch their lead and ended up the winners.



The entire group had a great night, although we were back a lot later than expected due to the late start. Throughout the game they could not believe the speed that the players and ball moved around the court and were convinced that there was a lot of footwork faults because the players moved so fast!! However, this was not the case it was just the ability of the players was so good and they were so fast that they released the ball before travelling with the ball!!



RUGBY NEWS

The year 9 rugby team enjoyed one of their biggest successes last week with an impressive performance against Pewsey School. The Pewsey pack looked a big side and they had 1 or 2 strong runners, but the overall commitment shown by the home side overwhelmed the opposition to such a degree that despite making adjustments to the team to introduce new players to the side, Stonehenge ran out winners by 54 points to 5 in what turned out to be a rather one sided affair.

It was not however the size of victory that was so significant but the quality of the play, with good tackling and running rugby with the ball in hand. A great team performance.

Year 9 have now played 4 won 4 this term!

Mr Monk





Services for Young People

Hello, my name is Jon Kingsbury and I am the **Connexions Universal Personal Adviser** (PA) at Stonehenge School. I am in School on **Mondays**, and there is a **drop-in** at lunchtime between **12.30 pm-1.00pm**. If you would like an interview then please contact Miss Bowie, your Form Tutor or your school PA.

Connexions Personal Advisers provide young people with information, advice and guidance on the various career, learning and training options available to them (such as College courses and Apprenticeships). Connexions Personal Advisers also provide information, advice and guidance on a range of topics including Money and Housing and Volunteering and Leisure.

Connexions also has a Connexions centre in Salisbury and a Wednesday afternoon outreach at Amesbury Sports centre. You can also contact the Connexions Direct service either online, via text or phone for 18 hours a day, seven days a week.

Connexions centre in Salisbury:

Milford House, 43-55 Milford Street, Salisbury. Tel: 01722 424400

Opening times:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9.30am - 5.00pm

Wed, 10.00am - 5.00pm

Fri, 9.30am - 4.00pm

Connexions Direct

You can contact a Connexions Direct Adviser by phone on 080 800 13 2 19, by text on 07766 4 13 2 19, or by email or web at www.connexions-direct.com

Other useful Websites

Online Prospectus

www.futures4me.co.uk/wiltshireswindon

Wiltshire Young People's Website

www.sparksite.co.uk

WILTSHIRE COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2008

For the first time in over 20 years the school entered a competitor in the event and congratulations go to Gio Downie finishing in 4th place overall in the Boys race, an excellent performance.

Mr Monk

YEAR 7 REWARDS ASSEMBLY

The first rewards assembly for Year 7 took place on Monday 15th December and was a huge success! There were seven awards for each tutor group:

Best attendance
 Neatest uniform
 Best effort
 Excellent timekeeping
 Citizenship
 Neatest planner
 Most improved

Certificates were awarded to the following:

7SMH	7NJF	7JCJ
Luke Ash	Ryan Wall	Ian Baker
Megan Doole	Jessica Traynor	Matthew Hawkings
Jorge Carter	Connor Quinn	Kieron Fuller
Courtney Sim	Jessica Sinnott	Bethany Webb
Tom Bugden	Katie Newham	Charlotte Rowe
Miles Moody	Aaron Hammond	Lauren Airey
Lucy Brewer	Jodi Mundy	Dylan Keenan
7ELB	7DWW	7JWI
Edwin Chung	Chloe Eberhard	Charles Jackson
Kelsey South	Callum Dunford	Joanna Keating
Callum Richardson	Abigail Standidge	Mawgan Bardwell
Edward Piggott	Amelia Capp	Jack Prince
Dana Jackson	Abbie Legge	Alaistair Miller
Matthew Anderson-Emm	Sophie Pearey	Rebekah Lodge
James Chapman	Gregory Hopkins	Joshua Price

There were also 4 winners of the Christmas Prize Draw, they were:

Abbie Legge
 Luke Millard
 Douglas Bloom
 Megan Doole

The three runners up of the long awaited praise card draw, each winning £5 vouchers were:

Jake Croughton

Keelin Manning

William Andrews

With the main prize of a £20 voucher going to:

Mikina Webster

This is the first of three rewards assemblies with the next one taking place before the Easter holidays and the final one of the year before the summer break. I would like to say a big WELL DONE to all award winners and to the rest of Year 7 for starting their first year at Stonehenge so well. The standard of work, effort and behaviour has been consistently high all term and I am looking forward to hearing about lots more excellent achievements in 2009!

Have a lovely Christmas and New Year!



Miss Barclay

SCHOOL DIARY DATES

JANUARY

Mon 5th	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Mon 12th	Years 10/11 GCSE Biology - am
Wed 14th	Year 11 Blue Maths GCSE re-sit
Thurs 15th	Years 10/11 GCSE Chemistry — pm
Mon 19th—23rd	Year 9 Pencelli
Tues 20th	Year 10 GCSE Maths Module Exam
Fri 23rd	TD DAY
Tues 27th	Work Experience Parents' Evening 6.30 pm
Thurs 29th	Work Experience Extended Assembly
Thurs 29th	Year 10 Parents' Subject Evening 4.30—7.30 pm
Fri 30th	GCSE Textiles Trip to London
FEBRUARY	
Wed 4th	Year 10 Science Practical morning
Thurs 5th	Intermediate Maths Challenge— Top Set Yrs 9/10
Thurs 12th	Year 11 History students to Science Museum
Thurs 12th	Year 9 Parents' Subject Evening 4.30—7.30 pm
Fri 13th	Valentines Lunchtime Concert
Fri 13th- 21st	Ski Trip
Fri 13th	END OF TERM

Mon 16th—20TH END OF TERM 3 HOLIDAY

Mon 23rd	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Thurs 26	Year 8 Parents' Subject Evening 4.30—7.30 pm

OLIVER THEATRE TRIP

Calling all Year 8 pupils! The English Department are organising a trip to see the West End Production of Oliver Twist. We only have 19 places left.

The trip is on Wednesday 18 March 2008 and the cost is £42.

If you are interested, please see Mrs Wilkinson in Room 44 or Mrs Gane in the library for a letter. Payment will be due by Friday 9 January 2009.



Mrs Wilkinson

**Wishing you a very
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year**



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