



Dear Parents and Carers,

1 Headteacher's Welcome

What a busy start to the new academic year it has been! It was wonderful to see all of our returning students in September and to say 'Welcome' to our brand-new Year 7s – all resplendent in their teal striped ties. Everyone looked so smart in their uniforms, carrying their bags and equipment. I'd like to thank you for your continued support in helping us to maintain our high standards and remind you again, that should you have any issues around uniform or anything else, please do contact us at school so we can see what we can do to help.

Even though we have only been back for 6 weeks, we are already firmly in the thick of it. Our Open Evening, Year 11 Information Evening and Year 7 Settling In Evening were all incredibly well attended. Parents and Carers expressed their thanks for how well their children are being prepared for their learning while visitors to our Open Evening were surprised and delighted by the range of activities on offer. Special praise was given to our fabulous students who helped out on the night – they were a great representation of everything we stand for as a school.

Our Year 11s have just completed their mock exams. It feels like only 5 minutes since they were in their tie-giving ceremony receiving their Year 11 ties. This year will fly for them and we will work hard to strike that balance between preparing them for their next steps while making sure they enjoy as much of their time with us as they can. Year 10s take note: it will be your turn all too soon!

I would like to thank all members of the SWS and local communities for your support in everything that we do to ensure that our students live out the SWS values of Opportunity, Community and Courage on a daily basis.

Wishing you a joyful and safe October half term break,

Nicki Gregg

Headteacher

Sir William Stanier Students Host Carwash Fundraiser for Dream Trip to Tanzania!



In an inspiring display of teamwork and determination, a group of passionate Year 10 and 11 students recently organised a successful carwash fundraiser to pave their way to a life-changing adventure in Tanzania in 2024. With boundless enthusiasm, these students armed themselves with sponges and soap to raise money for their dream trip; the promise of an unforgettable experience of cultural immersion and educational exploration.

Supported by the school community and local residents, the event not only raised significant funds, but also showcased the spirit of compassion and global awareness nurtured at Sir William Stanier School. Together, they are turning dreams into reality!

Our Year 11 Students Report Live from Westminster!

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Last week, Year 11 students journeyed to our famous capital with our fantastic computing department.

From Westminster to the 'Wizarding World' of Harry Potter, our students explored all of what London has to offer.



After a sightseeing revolution around the famous London Eye, they visited the childhood home of 'The Boy Who Lived': Number 4 Privet Drive.

Treading deeper into the darker chasms of JK Rowling's universe, students found themselves on familiar ground in Diagon Alley!



Our wonderful Year 11s then ventured to the EGX gaming convention as they saw how digital media is brought to life in the world of computer game design.

From digital sets, expositions and live demonstrations, our students left no stone unturned as they pressed on to discover where their futures may take them in the world of digital media, computer science and gaming.

Even Mr Mellor felt right at home with his long lost brothers, Mario and Luigi!



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Three Cheers for Matilda the Musical!

In the final weeks of summer, SWS showcased it's first school show in over 3 years! Matilda Jr was a roaring success. With sell out audiences over both nights, students performed the adaptation of the highly acclaimed production to a packed theatre - which some of them were more than a little nervous about.

Needless to say, they had nothing to worry about with raving reviews from all who came to support them.

Students shared their favourite moments from the process in the programme stating:



"Well, since I am in Year 10, there is little chance that I will be in the show next year... GCSEs and all. However, whether it's the last show I do or not, I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the cast and I can say I've done little Year 7 me proud" – Anamaria Apalaghie Year 10

"My favourite part of the show is when Matilda stands up to Miss Trunchbull before Quiet." Scarlett Robinson Year 7

"I most enjoyed learning the choreography and working with the cast and stage crew; we've had so much fun! My favourite scenes are the spelling test scene and where Bruce eats the cake." Kellie Broadhurst Year 9

As well as the star-studded cast, the production also featured a dedicated and hardworking crew behind the scenes. Huge thanks to Alfie Weller-Light, Magda Pelinska, Ashton Evans, Gracie Robinson, Connor Leyton, Darian Ofili, Lucas Coppenhall and Morgan Harling.



Mrs Bartlett, director, had this to say: "To anyone who painted a piece of set, brought a prop, sourced a costume or checked a ticket, we could not have done this without you. The production was a huge success and all the hard work that was put in was made worthwhile when we saw how the cast faces lit up in front of the audience.

Everyone kept saying it would, 'come together' and it really did. Team Performing Arts are hanging up our headsets for another year; we look forward to seeing you again in 2024 when we have not one, but two surprises in store"

From "Farm to Fork" at Reaseheath College.

An update from our food department.

Wow, what a very busy term in the Food department. We started the term with our Year 9 students visiting Reaseheath College. Students were able to see the whole milk process from 'Farm to Fork' as well as being able to participate in some exciting hands-on practical workshops. They made butter and delicious homemade ice cream from milk collected on the farm. They also made burgers which they enjoyed at dinnertime. It was really interesting to see the automated milking parlour in action and get very close to the cows on the farm!



We were excited to take our students to the Cheshire Show. It was a fun packed day where we were able to taste lots of culinary delights, see chefs in action and also experience some of the other activities such as 'free-fall' activities, show jumping and vintage and car shows also on offer. The students were exemplary in their behaviour and a great day was had by all of us.

We continued our community support with students baking again for our local charity Chance Changing Lives, where we prepared for their Saturday evening meal. This is a local charity that relies on the support from local people to keep it running and makes such a difference to people's lives when they are facing challenging times. We are proud to continue our support for this great charity.



Finally, we were amused to watch our Head of Department star as the cook in the fantastic Performing Arts production 'Matilda'. It was a great show and we hope that you enjoyed watching it as much as we did.

Wishing you all a lovely summer break from Team Food – Mrs Randle, Miss Dzomba, Mrs Coombs and Mr Smissen.

Sir William Stanier Students Visit Shrewsbury Prison

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Before the summer break, Year 10 Psychology students visited Shrewsbury Prison for an educational visit to consolidate learning from the Criminal Psychology unit studied in Term 3.

Students were given a guided tour of the prison, completed an independent discovery challenge and then a workshop exploring punishment and how this has changed over the years.

After lunch the class completed a very tricky escape room called 'The Hole' where the students had to work together in teams to break out of the cell.

The winning team are to the right!

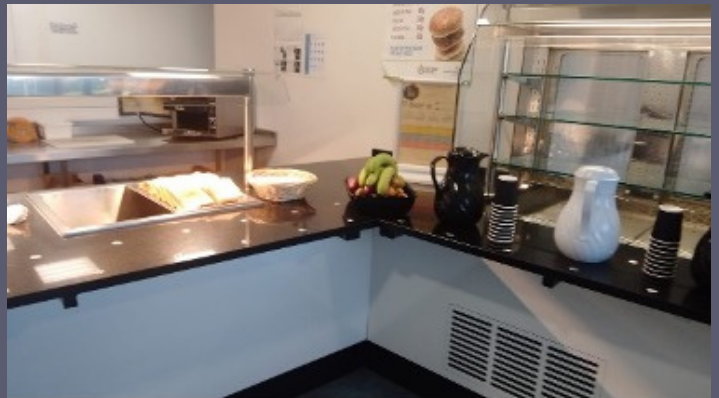


The Most Important Meal of the Day!

Breakfast Club:

More students are attending breakfast club than ever before! This is also improving students' punctuality to school. There is a selection of toast, fruit, hot chocolate and juice available - all free of charge.

Students also have the chance to air any worries they may have, not just with the teachers who drop in for a chat, but also with the other breakfast club students who will always have a solution. Games are set up for them to play including: Chess, Lego, Uno. Breakfast club is a great start to the day!



A Message from our Safeguarding Team

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On behalf of the Safeguarding Team, we wish all our families a safe and restful half term break. We would like to thank you for your collaboration and support. If you have any concerns during school closure, please refer to the links we have provided here to support you.

- Social Care daytime number (up until 5pm) : 0300 123 5012
- Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) : 0300 123 5022
- Child Line : 0800 1111
- NSPCC : 800 800 5000
- On-line counselling service : Kooth.com (24hrs and 365 days per year)
- Youngminds.org.uk
- Mymind.org.uk
- CAMHs 24hr Crisis Line: 0800 145 64 85
- Police : 101 (non-emergency) / 999 (emergency only)

Online Safety

You can now access the Online Safety Hub FOR FREE.

Head to the Online Safety Hub for lots of expert advice and guidance to help you manage your child's safety online. It includes information on the latest hot topics when it comes to keeping your child safe, such as how to manage your child's screen time, understand the latest gaming platforms, what they mean for your child's safety and lots more.

Simply follow the link to access The Online Safety Hub:
<https://sirwilliamstanier.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

Don't forget to sign up for your free Qustodio account.

Gain more visibility on what's going on in your child's online world and make sure they are kept safe. Block dangerous content, introduce screen free schedules, receive alerts for inappropriate content and more.

Follow the link to create your free account and to download the app:
https://www.qustodio.com/en/30-days-school-special/?utm_source=internal&utm_medium=parentsessionsuk

School Uniform Reminder: 2023 - 2024

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Plain white collared shirt/blouse tucked into trousers or skirt.

Plain charcoal grey, or black tailored trousers or tailored shorts or a skirt. Skirts must be at a respectful and appropriate length, they must be a standard school skirt and not lycra.

No tight fitting ("slim/ skinny fit") trousers are permitted (even though they can be found in some uniform sections of some stores). Jeans, tracksuit bottoms, leggings or jeggings are not permitted.

A black SWS V-necked school jumper. No hoodies! No other alternative, non-school jumpers.

SWS school tie which has a different colour for each year group.

Sensible plain black shoes or plain black trainers. No colours at all on the black trainers. No different coloured soles or different coloured brand logos. No dark grey trainers.

Pierced ears should have stud earrings only, no hooped or dangly earrings. One small nose stud (not two) is permitted. No nose rings at all. No other piercings or jewellery are permitted; this includes rings, necklaces and bracelets.

Nail polish, acrylic or false nails are only permitted if they are natural in colour (no colours including white) and of an appropriate length, no more than half a centimetre of length beyond the finger tip.

- Extreme hair colours or styles are not permitted.
- Subtle, natural looking make-up is permitted. No false eyelashes.

