

# NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

## WINTER 2024

### WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Bridge  
The Gateway  
Year 9  
Year 10  
Year 11  
Post 16

- Winter Celebration Meal Information
- Basketball Success!
- Art Competition
- FFT National Attendance award!

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the much-anticipated Christmas break, it's a perfect time to reflect on the progress and achievements of this term. We've seen tremendous growth and success, both in and out of the classroom. From exciting basketball victories that have energised our school community to the launch of our new Instagram page, there's been so much to celebrate. We've also had the privilege of rewarding hard work and commitment with attendance competitions, where students can receive prizes for showing their commitment to education, creating a vibrant atmosphere of enthusiasm and dedication. The Year group competitions are running until December 20th. Let's finish the term strong, with plenty of PRIDE in everything we've achieved together this year!

We are especially proud to announce that our school has won two FFT National Attendance Awards, which are a testament to the dedication and commitment of both students and staff in fostering a culture of regular attendance.



**Natalie Rock**  
**Headteacher**

The Winter celebration meals begin next week, bringing the school together, allowing us to share festive moments and enjoy delicious food as we head into the holiday season.

Finally, I would like to wish all our students and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready to learn in the new year.





# YEAR 7 THE ORATOR

*"If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress"*

Barack Obama

## END OF TERM REFLECTIONS

As we reach the end of another busy term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress that our Year 7 students have made. It has been wonderful to see how well our students have settled into their new environment. They have shown remarkable PRIDE in everything they do, from their academic work to their extra-curricular activities. We've been particularly impressed by the amazing Oracy skills they have developed this year. We continually see them confidently expressing their ideas and opinions in lessons.

I'm also delighted to highlight the politeness and respect our students have shown towards staff. Their positive attitude and willingness to learn have created a fantastic learning environment for everyone.

Beyond the classroom, our students have embraced the rich extra-curricular life of Stoke Park and the Stoke Park Experience. They have excelled in various sports, including rugby, football, netball, and dodgeball. This is a testament to the pupils themselves and also to our outstanding PE department.

We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready to learn in the new year.



## ATTENDANCE IS KEY

As we approach the end of this term, I would like to remind parents of the importance of 100% attendance. Every day counts, and consistent attendance is crucial for academic success. Remember, our attendance competition is still ongoing, with weekly £25 raffles for 100% attendance and £100 raffles for students with four full weeks of attendance.

## SHOWCASING STOKE PARK

The recent Christmas concert was a resounding success, showcasing the incredible talents of our students. Their performances were a testament to the hard work and dedication the pupils have shown throughout rehearsals. I would like to thank the Music department for their time and efforts with our pupils throughout this term.

## KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Winter Celebration Meal -  
Tuesday 17th December

## TEACHING GADGET MUSIC QUIZ

Following the success of last year's competition, the Music department has launched this year's annual competition. Students are invited to try to get the highest score in the 'rhythm competition quiz', which could see students win a bundle of instruments for the school, along with a prize for themselves. Students should **log into Teaching Gadget to take part**, the online platform we use for weekly homework. We are proud to share that KS3 have completed over 5000 homework tasks on it this term! This is improving and consolidating our Powerful Knowledge in Music. This is a national competition for all schools using Teaching Gadget, we will also be giving away prizes to our highest scoring Stoke Park students. The deadline for the internal competition is Wednesday 18th December. More information can be found on Teams.



**YEAR 7 TEAM:**

**Director of KS2-3: C Hughes AHT | Director of The Bridge: L Meyrick | Pastoral Manager: A Hansford**



# YEAR 8 THE PHILOSOPHER



## OUR WEEK IN UPDATES

This week in year 8, students have been developing their critical eye and learning about the world around them as all true philosophers do. Students have been discussing the world of online gaming, a reality for most of our pre-teens, and discussing the dangers of gambling online. Students were really engaged in the conversation about what classifies as online gambling, sharing great oracy skills throughout their talking points.

Similarly, in assembly, the year group were given the talking point 'no outsiders in our school' to encourage discussion around no one feeling left out and draw attention to the protected characteristics under the Equality Act; a legislation in the UK that Stoke Park is proud to promote. Students, felt that this talking point was unfair, and should not be agreed with. They felt that if we shut people out, we are shutting down experiences of others which is a fantastic mentality to hold. Well done our young philosophers!

Finally, it was a pleasure to come along to this year's Winter Concert and support Stoke Park, in particular our Gateway Choir. It was a wonderful evening, and really got everyone feeling positive vibes! What an ambitious group of students our Year 8's are!

*Begin to be now,  
what you will be  
hereafter*

—  
*William James*



## MANCHESTER CITY CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GAME

On Tuesday 26th November 2024 the year 8 boys football team visited the Etihad stadium to watch the Champions League game of Manchester City vs Feyenoord. Students were in awe of the 60,000 capacity stadium which hosts some of the best players in the world!

The game itself was a thrilling encounter, Manchester City went into a commanding 3-0 lead mid-

way through the second half. But, to everyone's amazement, Feyenoord sparked a comeback scoring their first goal on the 75th minute and their last on the 89th minute meaning the final result was 3-3. Stoke Park students left the stadium with a buzz of excitement at what they had witnessed with all students feeling extremely motivated to continue to achieve success for their year group team.

Mr. Glover, Mr. Hall and Miss Bailey



### **YEAR 8 TEAM:**

**Director of Year: H Owen AHT | Curriculum Progress Leader: H Smith | Pastoral Manager: M Parmar**



# YEAR 9

# THE REVOLUTIONARY

**KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Late Jan/Early February-  
Options Evening



## DRIVING FOWARD

Year 9 are driving their revolutionary campaign right up until the end of the year. They are now revolutionising their drama curriculum by creating profiles of who they consider to be key revolutionaries in order to use them as stimuli in their drama lessons next year. This is the first time year 9 have taken ownership and control of the their own curriculum in order to create drama pieces that are thought provoking and promote social change, which will also support in getting them GCSE ready in this subject.

Year 9 students are also driving sustainability at Stoke Park as the student's leaders promote the Stoke Park uniform bank. Students have been promoting this across all year groups, so if there are students who have uniform with the new school logo that no longer fits and is in good condition, please can it be bought to the Geography office for year 9 to organise into the uniform bank.

*"Every man dies,  
but not every  
man really lives"*

—  
*William Wallace*

## COMPETITIVE CAMPAIGNS

There has been no let-up in the competitive nature of the year group as they compete for the tutor cup, students achieve points through their various revolutionary campaigns and at the moment students are in competition to see which tutor group can collect the most items for the homeless Christmas hamper appeal. It is lovely to see the students being revolutionary not only inside the classroom but for the local community as well. They really are a credit to the school and we cannot wait to see ow their campaigns develop into the New Year.

## BABLAKE 8-41 STOKE PARK

On Tuesday 3rd December the KS3 boys basketball team produced an outstanding display to beat Bablake 41-8. The result was achieved through defensive discipline and excellent ball movement in attack. The selected year 8 and 9 students have been training relentlessly over the last couple of weeks with this result being a representation of the hard work they have all put in.

This result also ensures that Stoke Park remain unbeaten in the Coventry Schools League after their 18-16 win over Cardinal Wiseman on Thursday 28th November.

Match MVP= Omar.M- scored 20 points and was dominant on the defensive and offensive rebounds



**YEAR 9 TEAM:**

Director of Year: L Hall AHT | Head of Year 9: T Hall | Pastoral Manager: S Clayton

# Winter Celebration Meals

We are so thrilled to share these meals as a school and wanted to remind you of the days each Year Group will be celebrated. We can't wait to come together, before we break up for the festive period!

We wish all our students and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

YEAR  
7

TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER

YEAR  
8

WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER

YEAR  
9

THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER

YEAR  
10

MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER

YEAR 11  
& P16

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **Return from Christmas Break** - Monday 6th January 2025
- **Teacher Training Day** - Friday 31st January

For other important dates you can check our website:  
[CLICK HERE](#)

Dec 2022

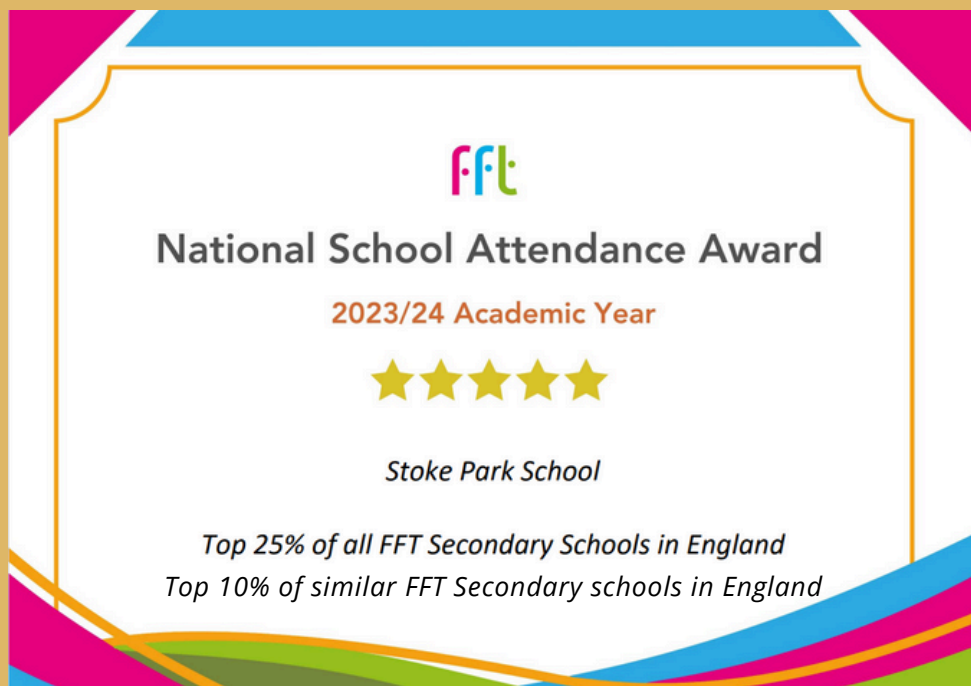
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2	3
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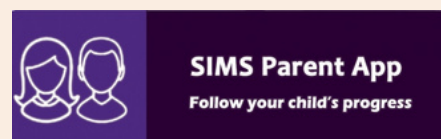
## WE WON!!

We are thrilled to have won, not only an award but 2 awards in national school attendance. The FFT National Attendance awards are an acknowledgement of the hard work and dedication of staff, pupils, parents and carers in achieving excellent attendance.

We'd like to say a special 'thank-you' to you all by presenting you with an FFT National School Attendance Award for the 2023/24 academic year.



## NEW SIMS PARENT APP



We now have a convenient new way to share information with you about your child's school life. The information that you receive through the app will help you to stay up-to-date with your child's school life as well as support your child's development and progress. You can access the system from a smartphone, tablet or PC - anytime, anywhere.

**If you haven't received an email to set up an account please email [Simsparentapp@stokepark.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:Simsparentapp@stokepark.coventry.sch.uk)**



## *Enrichment Offers*

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
REGISTRATION	Brass Ensemble			Brass Ensemble	Gateway Choir
BREAK	Y11 Computer Science		Music Tech Sessions	Keyboard Club	Interform Comps SPARX Support
LUNCH	Y11 Option 2	SPARX Support Y11 Option 1	Keyboard Club	Senior Choir Y11 Option 2	Interform Comps Music Tech Sessions Y11 Option 1
AFTER SCHOOL	Football (Girls) Basketball Cricket (Girls) Multigym Orchestra Drama Club Y11 Maths Int Y13 English	BSL Club Meeting Nights Film Club Y11 Geography Y11 Sociology	P16 Debate Club Football (Boys/Girls) Cricket (Girls) Netball Y11 English Y13 Biology Y13 Chemistry	Badminton Rugby (Boys/Girls) Trampolining Games Club Mandarin Club Guitar & Ukulele Y11 Science Y13 Sociology Y13 History	Y11 History All Years Tennis
<b>HOMework CLUB</b>	Every Day Lunchtime Room 14	<b>BREAKFAST CLUB</b>	Every Morning 8am Canteen		



# YEAR 10 THE INVENTOR

## CONTINUING TO IMPRESS!

Our year group continue to impress furthering their efforts in Year 10. The students are working hard until Christmas and we look forward to celebrating them next week. Our biggest learning target for the year group currently is their completion of their learning prep. Students are having their planners checked every week and are being encouraged to check their teams consistently to ensure they are up to date with their work. This is vital for the students to succeed and excel in their studies this year and until the end of year 10. We need to ensure students are working to their full potential even our Christmas break. Students will get learning prep for over the break to ensure they are ready for the upcoming mocks.

*"If you want to  
change the future,  
Start living as if  
you are already  
there"*

—  
Lyn Conway



## MOCKS BEGIN!

Mock week starts the week commencing 20th January. Students have worked for months for these to show off how well they have done since they have come back and started their GCSE's. Their learning prep is to support this.



### KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 20th January - Year 10 mocks start

## POST 16 PATHWAYS

This week in Assembly the year 10s have started to think about post-16 pathways. They received information regarding A-levels, T-levels, college courses, and apprenticeships. This is to ensure students all have a goal in mind when studying for their GCSE's so they find their work purposeful. This again will support with learning prep as they should have a goal in mind for the completing it, as it is supporting their future.

YEAR 10 TEAM:

Director of Year: J Grimwood AHT | Head of Year 10: E Muldoon | Pastoral Manager: S Harris



# YEAR 11 THE ARCHITECT

December has seen our Architects sit their second set of mock exams this academic year and over the last couple of weeks have been receiving the vital feedback that will ensure their path to success in the summer exams. Students have been focusing on 'marginal gains' in each subject and looking how they can be 1% better every day. We are really proud of the grit and resilience that our Architects have shown and looking forward to seeing the progress that they have made since their last set of mock exams in September.

A big focus this term for Year 11 has been showing 'grit' which research shows is the most common characteristic of highly successful people. We want students to show the resilience and determination to overcome any barriers in their way and avoid excuses that represent the grit they need to show for the remaining five months of school that they have left before their exams begin. This means being in school on time, every day, ensuring that they are working hard and revising after school and at weekends. We ask for your support in encouraging and developing our students to show grit in every aspect of their lives in order to achieve success.

*"To Create, One must first question everything"*  
-Eileen Gray-

## MUSIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Over the last half term our Year 11 students have worked incredibly hard to complete component two of their BTEC course. Developing technical, practical, personal and professional skills students have been preparing performances, music production and composing original music, based on a theme of 'journey'. We have thoroughly enjoyed watching and listening to their final pieces. Hard work definitely pays off!



### KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Week commencing 24th February 2025  
- Mock exams round 3
- Week commencing 24th March 2025 -  
Parents evening

## ATTENDANCE WINNERS!!

Attendance continues to be a key focus and we would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in ensuring that students are attending school each day and are arriving promptly. We have launched our 4 week attendance challenge, whereby students who have 100% that week will be placed into a prize draw and one person per week will win a £25 voucher and chocolate. On the 20th December **all** students who have 100% across the 4 weeks will be placed into a prize draw for a £100 voucher!

**Our winners so far are: Aaliyah K and Sangam S.** A big congratulations goes to all students who have 100% attendance and we look forward to giving out the remainder of our prizes in our celebration assembly on the final day of term!

## BASKETBALL LEAGUE VICTORY!

On Friday 5th December the KS4 boys basketball team produced a statement victory over Barrs Hill 50-23. From the first minute of the game, Elijah put the team ahead from the free-throw line they asserted their control in all areas. The first quarter finished in thrilling fashion with a long range buzzer-beater 3 pointer from Ethan. J leaving us 18-8 in front. Perhaps most pleasing was the defensive work-rate throughout the game including limiting Barrs Hill to only 2 points in the second quarter. A very strong second half, allowed Stoke Park to extend their lead and all players contributed to the scoreboard. A great victory to build on for future league matches!



### YEAR 11 TEAM:

Director of Year: | Jamal AHT | Head of Year 11: T Steane | Pastoral Manager: S Kinsella





# POST 16 THE SCHOLAR



## KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Week Commencing 13th January - Year 12 Mocks Begin
- 14th January- Online Parents Evening via SchoolCloud

## YEAR 12 UPDATE

Our year 12 group are completing their first term of Post 16. They have wholeheartedly made themselves part of the Scholarly Post 16 ethos; working hard daily in their A level subjects, delving deeper into the super curricular opportunities made available to them and supporting the wider school through efforts such as their charity work through volunteering with the school council, reading with KS3 groups and tutoring GCSE year groups. They have enjoyed the visiting assemblies by Universities we work closely with; Clare college Cambridge, Warwick and Leicester. They have also benefitted from assemblies from career and industry providers such as Uptree and Springpod. These super curricular experiences will help form their individualised pathways through Post 16 and into the Post 18 World.

The Spring term will see our year 12 acting on all these opportunities to shape their understandings of career choices and their next academic steps. In this competitive world, these opportunities are crucial to the success of the Stoke Park Scholar. **A reminder that our first round of mock exams will begin in January week commencing 13th January 2025**, usually these exams take place during the lesson time but a timetable will be given to year 12 prior to this week. It is essential before the students leave to have spoken to subject teachers so they leave with an understanding of what to revise for when. Using the Teams subject page is always a good first step to finding all resources and links. The mock exams and subsequent report generated will be an important landmark moment along our Post 16 journey.



## YEAR 13 UPDATE

Year 13 have met the challenges of their final year of A levels. They have been involved in mock exams to fully prepare themselves for the summer, we have begun intervention, and personal statements have been completed to complement their applications to Post 18 providers; whether that be University, Apprenticeships or anything in between and onwards.

The next term is crucial to building on these developments, through interviews, understanding finance implications and making those crucial choices. This will all be supported by the Post 16 staff and our external University partners. Reports have been generated for the year group, following our recent mock exams and a **Year 13 Parents Evening will be taking place online via SchoolCloud on Tuesday 14th January**. This is crucial for all students and parents to understand how to work towards those all important summer external exams. We wish you all a relaxing Christmas holiday, with our mind also fixed firmly on our studies. If there are any questions, details or information families wish to go through, please contact us here in the Post 16 building.

*“Originality is the essence of true scholarship. Creativity is the soul of the true scholar.”*

—  
*Nnamdi Azikiwe*

### POST 16 TEAM:

Director of Post 16: L Jakubecz | Head of Year 12 & 13: S Gaiser | Pastoral Manager: E Dye

# STOKE PARK SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT: A MAGICAL EVENING OF TALENT & FESTIVITY

On Wednesday, Stoke Park School hosted its annual Winter Concert, and what an unforgettable evening it was! Held in the school hall and performed to a sold-out audience of friends and family, the concert showcased the incredible talents of our students from all year groups. The festive atmosphere was palpable as the audience was treated to a programme brimming with music, creativity, and holiday cheer.

The evening began with a heartwarming rendition of Winter Carol by the Gateway Choir, setting the tone for what would be a night of truly extraordinary performances. Highlights included the Brass ensemble, who delighted the audience with Jingle Bells, an especially impressive feat considering four of the students only began playing their instruments in September!



The String Group's rendition of Winter Wonderland was another highlight, showcasing the school's superb ensemble that includes two cellists and a double bassist. The talents of Year 12 violinist Drew, who performed Somebody Told Me, were equally commendable as she prepares for her Grade 6 exam. Other stand-out moments included the orchestra's performance of God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman. The Bridge Choir captivated the audience with their renditions of Gaudete and Three Native American Chants, while the Woodwind Trio mesmerized with Carol of the Bells.

The evening also celebrated original talent with Calin performing his own track Me V Them—a testament to the creative spirit of our students. Y11's rock-infused performance of Enter Sandman by Metallica, Imogen's dramatic delivery of Only the Good Die Young, and Aria's unique bass solo all added diversity and excitement to the programme.

To close the night, the combined choirs brought a festive twist to Drunken Sailor, before the evening ended with the entire audience joining in for a rousing performance of We Wish You a Merry Christmas, led by Jenson and the students.



The Winter Concert was a testament to the hard work, dedication, and sheer talent of our students, as well as the incredible support from our staff. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making the evening such a resounding success. Here's to many more events that celebrate the vibrant musical life at Stoke Park School. We're already looking forward to next year's concert!

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Our family support centre is open!  
You can find more information and  
useful resources on our school website

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

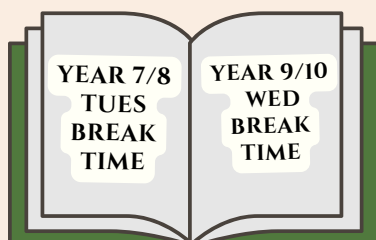


## Library Clubs

FILM CLUB



BOOK CLUB



GAMES CLUB



### Art Competition

Create a piece of art based on the theme of:

# Winter

All ages can enter // Prizes to be won // Entries to Miss Branagh in Room 56 // any media can be used  
Closing date: 18th December

## CONSULTATION FOR THE STOKE PARK 2026 ADMISSION POLICY

The Governing Body of Stoke Park School is consulting on its Admissions Policy for September 2026. The consultation runs from *Monday 25th November* until *Monday 20th January 2025*

***The documents for the consultation are on our website here***

If you wish to comment on the proposed admissions arrangements, please send your response in writing for the attention of Ms S Allen-Moore, either by post or email to:

Consultation on Admissions 2026  
Stoke Park School  
Dane Road  
Coventry  
CV2 4JW

Sallen-moore@stokepark.coventry.sch.uk

**Comments should be received by no later than Monday 20th January 2025.**

## LETS BE SOCIAL!

Get all the latest updates on our  
social media pages



@stoke\_parkschool