



THE STOPSLEY NEWS AND MEDIA TEAM PRESENTS...

# THE STOPSLEY SOURCE

Friday 22nd March 2024

## Science Week

Last week was British Science Week, a ten-day event about celebrating scientific discoveries. Some of the focus points for this year were 'Time', which encouraged us to think about the impact of passing time on scientific fields of study, and 'Smashing Stereotypes', which highlighted the diversity of people and careers in science, technology, engineering, and maths.

In honour of British Science Week, Ms Lissaman and Year 8 group 8E designed and put posters up around the school to encourage students to recycle their plastic bottles. Ms Lissaman came up with the idea after seeing how people neglected the three recycling bins downstairs in the canteen. She recruited 8E to help her to raise the profile of recycling and sustainability in Stopsley High School.

At the end of the school day, 8E students would use form time to meet Ms Lissaman and collect plastic bottles from the bins to put in waste bags. At the end of the week, 8E took the bags and the posters and put them into Ms Lissaman's car so she could take them to be recycled.

Young people and adults can contact the NSPCC helpline, Report Abuse in Education on: 0800 136 663 or Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

Another part of Science Week was a school-wide competition to complete the Educake-designed crossword with the theme of Women in Science. In the crossword, there were 16 questions about famous women in history that contributed to science. Students were encouraged to research their answers and complete the crossword, learning more about women's contributions to different scientific fields in the hopes of winning one of the three available prizes. The prizes for it were an Amazon voucher, a hamper full of stationery, and a hamper full of chocolates. Ms Lissaman selected the winners from the selection of solved crosswords—congratulations to Victoria O., Daud A., and Daima S. for their victory!

–Zuzanna H, Year 8

## St Patrick's Day

On the 17th of March every year, St Patrick's Day is by far the biggest holiday in Ireland and very popular in the rest of the British Isles, and in the USA, too. But who was St. Patrick, anyway? And why did this day become so popular in the first place? This article aims to answer that for you.

St Patrick was born around 386 AD in Britain. Considering Northern Ireland was not part of Britain back then, that meant he wasn't even Irish! At sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish pirates and enslaved for the next six years. During this time all alone, he turned to God. One night, he dreamt of a ship setting sail at the coast. When he woke up, he ran as fast as he could to the coast, where a ship was about to leave.

His faith had grown when he was captured, so he eventually became a bishop. One day he had another dream, with many voices telling him to return to Ireland. He took this as a sign from God and went there to convert people to Christianity. This wasn't an easy job, as Ireland was largely pagan, and so he was unsafe wherever he went. Nonetheless, he converted many people over his lifetime and gained popularity.

St Patrick would also go on to have many legends about him, some more believable than others. One of these was that he drove all the snakes away from Ireland, representing him cleansing the country of Paganism. The problem is that Ireland couldn't have had any in the first place, nor could any have migrated there due to the coldness of the waters surrounding it!

Another was that he taught people about the Holy Trinity—that is, The Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit—by using the three leaves on shamrocks. A shamrock isn't a real plant but a broad description of three-leaved plants, often referring to the clover. This birthed the tradition of wearing them on St Patrick's Day, which evolved into people wearing full green attire.

Something unusual you might not expect is that St Patrick's Day parades started in the USA. This was because of the great Potato Famine, which caused a massive influx of Irish people to flood into New York, Boston, and other major US cities. These parades have become the biggest St Patrick's Day parades in the world.

In conclusion, St Patrick's Day isn't just a celebration of the patron saint himself, although it is celebrated on the traditionally accepted date of his death. It has evolved into a celebration of Irish culture overall, with many festivities and ways of celebrating that were born long after the day's formation.

– Katey O, Year 9



@StopsleyHighsch

## RECOMMENDED READS

This week's recommended read comes from Ms Adjei

The book I recommend is Coraline, by Neil Gaiman

This novel tells the story of Coraline, who finds a doorway to a parallel and sinister world inside her new home.



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MLT  
TECHNOLOGY  
LEARNING TRUST



## MONDAY 25TH MARCH

## MAKING CHOICES MEETINGS

FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS

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## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"FAILURE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BEGIN AGAIN  
MORE INTELLIGENTLY." – HENRY FORD

**Dear Parents and carers,**

**I hope that our Silver Top Class students are having a wonderful time on their rewards trip to Chessington World of Adventures and look forward to hearing more about it from them next week. Further rewards are taking place next week for all of our Top Class superstars.**

**This week there has also been great excitement from students in their endeavour to secure a Golden Ticket. Staff were provided with Golden Tickets to issue to a lucky student at the end of each lesson to recognise where a student has been exceptional. It has been wonderful to see the students proudly carrying their golden ticket and delightful to hear how they achieved it. The live Golden ticket prize draw will take place on Thursday morning being beamed into all the tutor rooms. Students are excitedly posting the golden tickets they receive into the draw for the opportunity to win an Amazon, All for One or Greggs voucher. I wish all the Golden Ticket winners good luck in the upcoming prize draw.**

**As we approach the final week of the Spring Term I wanted to remind you all that the last day of the term is Thursday 28th March. We will be having a staggered dismissal on that day. Students entitled to a Free School Meal will be able to collect a lunch bag to take home with them. Please complete this form if this applies to your child.**

**The timings are as follows:**

**Year 7 – from 11:30am**

**Year 8 – from 11:40am**

**Year 9 – from 11:50am**

**Year 10 – from 12:00pm**

**Year 11 – from 12:10pm**

**Students will return to school on  
Tuesday 16th April on a Week A (Week 1).**

**Have a wonderful weekend everyone,**

**Ms Hand**

