



THE STOPSLEY NEWS AND MEDIA TEAM PRESENTS...

THE STOPSLEY SOURCE

Friday 29th November 2024

Bulletin

Greetings everyone, and welcome to the Stopsley News and Media Team's second issue of The Stopsley Source. This week, I would like to introduce our newest journalist Gideon from Year 7, who we hope to see do exceptionally well as a journalist during the academic year.

This week's newsletter begins with an article from Louis, who will be writing about the snowstorm which took place on Tuesday 19th November 2024.

We then have Tanmi in Year 10 to tell us all about the ambitious Wadham Project, which kicked off last week. Tanmi is one of seven lucky students from Stopsley High School who are taking part.

Then, I write about the Year 7 Welcome Workshop which was a chance for our Year 7 parents to hear from their children's form tutors and some other members of staff about their child's progress, and ways they can help support their learning.

We hope you have a good weekend, see you back on Monday for some more enjoyable learning on a Week B Schedule!

Esa K., Year 7

Year 7 Welcome Workshop

The Stopsley High School Year 7 Welcome Workshop took place on Thursday 14th November 2024. The event was similar to a Parents' Evening, where Year 7 parents could sign up and go to various different workshops, such as the Top Class workshop led by Mr Davies and the Literacy and Reading workshop delivered by Mrs Duncan.

It was the school's hope that parents could find out how to help their children thrive and succeed in their learning across the academic year and meet their child's Form Tutor to discuss how their child is doing in each lesson and how they have settled in at Stopsley High School so far. Parents had the chance to hear what we have been getting up to in Form, and receive reports on our progress in each lesson.

The list of Year 7 Form Tutors is as follows:

- 7A – Ms Naz
- 7B – Miss Adjei
- 7C – Ms Jokiel/Ms Maryna
- 7D – Ms Montague
- 7E – Mrs Bokisa
- 7F – Mrs White/ Mr Shah
- 7G – Ms Beckford
- 7H – Miss Jackson-Smith

Some Form Tutors even teach their own Form for lessons such as Art, Maths, and Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), so they would be able to go into special depth for each lesson or subject.

– Esa K., Year 7

The participants will attend three dedicated sessions held at Challney Boys High School throughout the academic year. These sessions will cover various topics, including an introduction to university life, potential fields of study, and the pathways available to achieve educational and career ambitions.

Congratulations to the seven selected students participating in this aspiration-raising project from Stopsley High School! I am proud to say I am one of those lucky ones. I am grateful for this opportunity and the experiences I have so far received from the first session, which I am very pleased to share.

The first session took place on the 20th of November. The two different courses that we explored were Politics and Finance. During the session, participants from all schools were divided into two groups and attended two different subject explorations at the same time in a different location within the school. Each subject's session lasted for about 40 minutes. The sessions involved various interactive activities and discussions between pairs and groups. We participated in a very intriguing game theory thought experiment known as the Prisoners' Dilemma. This game involves two suspects, each of whom can either cooperate for mutual benefit or betray their partner for individual gain; however, they are separated and are unable to communicate. The theories covered were fascinating and engaging. In Finance, we saw how human psychology influences our financial decisions and the discussions surrounding them were very captivating.

That was a brief summary of the first session, which went exceptionally well. The next session is scheduled for January 29, 2025. I, along with hopefully the other participants, am looking forward to the second session.

Tanmi T., Year 10



@StopsleyHighsch



Congratulations to Maja, Year 8, on receiving her Headteacher's Award.



Sonic X Shadow Generations: A Review

Before you decide to buy the newest Sonic the Hedgehog game, Sonic X Shadow Generations, you should hear what I've got to say about it.

Here are some of the things I liked best about the game. Firstly, in this game, unlike other Sonic games, SEGA have made it so that you can now have infinite lives. This means that even if you are bad at the game, you can come back from where you left off, rather than starting the level from the beginning. Also, SEGA have added little collectibles to the Sonic Generations level—Chaos (pronounced like chows), which are a popular feature of Sonic the Hedgehog's universe.

However, despite the addition of the Chao collectibles, the game still doesn't have the Chao Garden—an interactive zone where players could raise their own Chaos—even though fans last saw the last Chao Garden 23 years ago.

Another con is that the little shop they have added still has an extra life feature even though you have infinite lives.

In the game, my favourite voice actor was Kirk Thornton who voiced Shadow. In the Shadow Generations part I think they proved just how cool Shadow can be and I like how they did an excellent job of telling Shadow's story, even including a pre-order bonus book from the perspective of Gerald Robotnik, the creator of Shadow.

The reason why I said the Shadow Generations PART was because in the game, the Sonic Generations part was a remaster of the old Sonic Generations game, whereas the Shadow part was an all-new really immersive and cool piece of gameplay.

My personal favourite level in Sonic X Shadow Generations was Space Colony Ark. Although it was the first level, it really brought out joy in me every time I played it. The main boss fight in Sonic X Shadow Generations was Black Doom, but the one I liked the most was Mephilis because he's my favourite Sonic villain

-Louis T., Year 7

Wadham Project

The Wadham Project is an initiative launched by Wadham College, one of the 38 colleges at the University of Oxford. Its goal is to inspire young people to explore the opportunities available in higher education and to increase access to this education, particularly at more competitive universities. This project is designed to give selected Year 10 and 11 students the opportunity to increase their awareness of the range of courses offered by universities across the UK, with the hope that students on this scheme will learn how to make competitive applications to universities in the future, should they wish to go.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week ahead here at Stopsley High School. All staff travelled to The Compton School in Barnet, for our Trust Wide Staff Conference. The keynote speakers focused on the School and Trust Improvement Priorities for the year ahead including:

Gary Aubin – an expert in inclusion for students with SEND and is the Education Endowment Foundation's (EEF) content specialist for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. He has written a book entitled The Lone SENDCo and is currently part of the curriculum and assessment advisory review led by EEF's CEO Professor Becky Francis.

Rachel Higginson – her aim as an educator is to support young people to develop the knowledge, skills and character to make a difference in the modern world. The focus of her keynote for staff was on developing oracy and disciplinary literacy within our curricula.

Vic Goddard – the CEO of Passmores Co-Operative Learning Community featured in the BAFTA-nominated Channel 4 documentary Educating Essex. Vic shared his belief that every child matters and that the impact education has on that child can be life changing. His keynote, to support staff teams, focused on the importance of support staff in the running and success of a school.

We have the Class of 2024 Awards evening taking place on Monday 2nd December which I will share highlights of with you next week in the newsletter. The evening will begin at 5:30pm and speaking on behalf of all we are very excited to see them all.

The last day of the Autumn term is Friday 20th December. We will be having a staggered dismissal on that day. 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

Have a safe and warm weekend all,

Ms Hand

