



STOPSLEY WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2024

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



THIS WEEK'S ISSUE:

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE
QUOTE OF THE WEEK
DRAMA GCSE TRIP
LUTON FOODBANK

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

TERM ENDS -20TH DECEMBER
SPRING TERM 2025
TERM STARTS - TUESDAY 7TH
JANUARY - WHOLE SCHOOL
RETURNS
6TH JANUARY - INSET DAY

ATTENDANCE NOTICE:

CAN PARENTS/CARERS PLEASE INFORM THE SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD IS UNWELL AS WE ARE MONITORING ATTENDANCE. REPORT THIS THE NORMAL WAY BY CONTACTING THE ATTENDANCE NUMBER: 01582 870912 OR THE EMAIL ADDRESS:

ATTENDANCE@STOPSLEYHIGHSCHOOL.CO.UK

WORK WITH US:



CLICK HERE OR VISIT MY NEW TERM TO FIND CURRENT VACANCIES AVAILABLE AT STOPSLEY HIGH SCHOOL.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I HATED EVERY MINUTE OF TRAINING, BUT I SAID, "DON'T QUIT. SUFFER NOW AND LIVE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE AS A CHAMPION."
- MUHAMMAD ALI

Dear all,

I can confirm the festive spirit was alive and present at Stopsley High School today with the wonderful array of Christmas jumpers worn by students and staff alike. We are very grateful to Harrisons, our school catering team, who provided a fantastic festive lunch to students on Wednesday 18th December.

Special mention goes to Ronnie in 7F who has had his illustrations published in his friends book, *Animal Boy The Origins*.

Other reasons to celebrate the term include:

Our Year 11 students completed their first round of mock examinations and have good reason to be proud of themselves

Our Class of 2024 Graduation evening which provided the opportunity to recognise the achievements of the cohort both in attainment but also progress. There was also a write up in *Luton Today* see here to access the article.

Year 7 successfully transitioned into our community - thoroughly impressing us with their top class attitude to learning!

A significant percentage of our students earned their Bronze Top Class award, which recognises their exceptional conduct, attendance and attitude to learning so had the chance to engage with the rewards trip

Our students continue to impress us with their commitment to helping others, just this term they have participated in fundraising activities for Children in Need and donating items for the foodbank.

The triumph of the term was the incredible whole school musical performance of *Elf the musical*. I can't stop talking about it and know that is true for many of you who also came to watch the show. Our students are amazing, multi-talented individuals who sometimes require us to have the belief in them that they are capable of so much more than they realise which was demonstrated beautifully in *Elf* including the backstage and technical support.

To this end, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support, your positivity and welcomed feedback.

We will be welcoming students back on Tuesday 7th January on a Week A timetable.

Monday 6th January will be an INSET day so students will be at home.

I would like to wish you all a restful, peaceful and enjoyable holiday,

Ms Hand

DRAMA GCSE TRIP

Drama GCSE students enjoyed a wonderful afternoon watching past students in their performance of FAME!



LUTON FOODBANK

Well Done to our winners of the Foodbank Donation Box Competition and Thank you to all students who donated! The drivers who collected the food were surprised at the amount and ran out of crates to put it in.



Ask the Experts

Luton Parent and Carer SEND Information Event

We are excited to share that Luton Children, Families and Education Services, EPIC Luton Parent Carer Forum, SENDIAS, and our Local NHS Services are coming together under one roof to support families with children who have or may have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Come and join us to meet with teams working alongside children and young people with SEND in Luton. Find out about available support from your local services, seek guidance, connect with others and share your feedback with us, as our valued experts by experience.

Tuesday 21st January 2025
from 10am until 2pm
at St Mary's Church Hall, Luton, LU1 3JF

No need to book, just drop in! (please ring the doorbell when you arrive)

The teams due to attend and keen to meet you includes:

- EPIC Luton Parent Carer Forum
- Cambridge Community Services
- Family Hubs
- Family First Luton
- Luton Transitions Team
- Luton SEND Team
- Luton CH&E and Educational Psychology Service
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Assessment Team (SENDAT)
- Luton Sexual Health
- SENDIAS (SEND Information and Advice Service)
- Bedfordshire Hospitals
- Luton Virtual School
- Luton Youth Partnership Service
- Community Paediatric Physiotherapy
- Luton Local Offer SEND Information Hub
- Cambridgeshire Community Services Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service
- SLT: Specialist Learning Disability Services
- Supported Internships Team

For further information please contact SENDLuton@luton.gov.uk

Ask the Experts Luton Parent and Carer SEND Information Event Accessibility Guide

The venue address is St Mary's Church Hall, Luton, LU1 3JF

Main Entrance
The main entrance to the hall is facing the main road, the door is usually kept closed so you will need to ring the doorbell. There will be a sign on the door saying LUTON SEND Ask the Experts Event Main Entrance, please ring the doorbell for entry and assistance.

Disabled Access
Disabled access is to the side of the building. If you are at the main hall entrance move around the building to your right. The door is usually kept closed so you will need to ring the doorbell. There will be a sign on the door saying LUTON SEND Ask the Experts Event Wheelchair Friendly Entrance, please ring the doorbell for entry and assistance.

Nearest Car Parks, Bus and Train Stations
Power Court Car Park 26 Power Ct, Luton LU1 3LJ (charges apply)
The Point Luton Car Parks - Please use postcodes LU1 2JX for Market Car Park, LU1 2HN for Central Car Park (charges apply)
You will be able to access this venue by using buses and trains that bring you to Luton Town Centre. This venue is approximately a 10 to 15 minute walk from Luton Train and Bus Station.

Facilities
This venue has male, female toilets and a disabled toilet that also has a baby change table. There is a quiet space within this venue, please ask a member of staff to assist you with this.

Do you have a child or young person with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) in your family?

Visit: luton.gov.uk/localoffer
Or use the Scan me code

The Luton SEND Local Offer Information Hub provides information on services available in Luton to help children and young people aged 0 to 25 years with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities).

Visit: luton.gov.uk/localoffer
To give feedback on our website, complete our survey

Check out our SEND newsletter with lots of SEND support, tips and advice on the SEND Local Offer page!

Please Like and Follow our Facebook page so that you can stay up to date, connect and comment!

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

- REDUCE DOOMSCHOOLING**
It's a perniciously common for young people to spend hours 'doomschooling' - browsing through social media and obsessively comparing their lives to those of others. This can lead to low self-esteem and mental health issues. It's important to use a filter to control what you see and to encourage your child to take a break from social media.
- TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT**
It's important to have ongoing conversations about the content that your child is seeing. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and to question what they see. Encourage them to talk to you about what they see and to question what they see.
- FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS**
Encourage your child to find positive aspects of social media. Encourage them to follow accounts that inspire and motivate them. Encourage them to use social media to connect with friends and family.
- REDUCE SCREEN TIME**
Young people can be particularly vulnerable to the effects of screen time. Encourage your child to take regular breaks from social media. Encourage them to use social media for specific purposes, rather than for general browsing.
- FILL THE VOID**
Social media can be a source of distraction and can lead to a lack of engagement with the real world. Encourage your child to engage in other activities, such as sports, hobbies, and spending time with friends and family.
- REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS**
One way to reduce social media notifications is to turn them off. Encourage your child to turn off notifications for social media apps. Encourage them to check their phones less frequently.
- LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD**
Encourage your child to spend time outdoors and to engage in activities that are not on their phone. Encourage them to spend time with friends and family in person.
- DIGITAL DETOX**
Encourage your child to take a digital detox. Encourage them to turn off their phones for a period of time. Encourage them to use their phones for specific purposes, rather than for general browsing.
- MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR**
Encourage your child to model good behaviour on social media. Encourage them to be respectful and to engage in positive conversations. Encourage them to report any inappropriate content.
- BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"**
Encourage your child to be clear on the 'why' of their social media use. Encourage them to think about why they are using social media and to be clear on their intentions.

Meet Our Expert
Julie Taylor is a senior teacher in a Birmingham secondary school and has used experience in leading schools over the past 10 years - including the development of a comprehensive online primary and secondary network, setting up safety policies and supporting schools with safeguarding and welfare advice.

Wake Up Wednesday
The National College

Follow us on social media: @wake_up_weds, www.thenationalcollege, @wake.up.wednesday, @wake.up.weds

Version of this guide also on their own discussion, the facility is not shared. Current as of the date of review: 16.12.2024