



**September 2024**

Parents / Carers

### Headteacher's Update

Welcome to the first headteacher's update of the term. It has been a pleasure to see our students return to school and to be able to share some of the developments over the summer with them. The school is a hive of activity once more with clubs and activities launched this week and it has been wonderful to see how many students have taken up the offer available to them at lunchtime and after school. The positive attitudes of our students have been evident in the number of house points awarded which is an enormous 75,000 so far!

Related to the achievement of house points we have our first enrichment and activity day this Friday. Students in Years 8-11 who have met the rewards trip criteria have been able to choose from a range of activities on this day. Students in Year 7 and 12 are taking part in team building events on site to create strong bonds with their tutor groups and other peers in their year groups, and in the remaining year groups our enrichment activities will provide a range of life skills to students who are remaining onsite in other year groups. This enrichment and rewards day was part of the new positive conduct system introduced in September 2023 and we look forward to sharing some photos from our first day later this term.

Our students have also been introduced to the "Meal Machine" which you can read more about below. In previous years the students have had to wait in year group order for specific facilities and set menu choices at lunch. We felt strongly that it would be more equitable for students to be able to choose their lunchtime venue and menu and so this year students can attend either the cafeteria, the canteen or the meal machine.

This year also marks the start of our new pastoral structure. Pastoral care has long been a strength of the school, but our new system ensures that we have greater support for students and families throughout the school day. A list of contacts with their new email addresses are shown below.

#### Key Stage Three

<b>Director of Key Stage Three</b>	<b>Mr Hamer</b>	<a href="mailto:chamer@stokesley-alt.uk">chamer@stokesley-alt.uk</a>
Pastoral Head of Year 7	Mr Durham	<a href="mailto:sdurham@stokesley-alt.uk">sdurham@stokesley-alt.uk</a>
Pastoral Head of Year 8	Mrs Dumphy-Brook	<a href="mailto:adumphybrook@stokesley-alt.uk">adumphybrook@stokesley-alt.uk</a>
Pastoral Head of Year 9	Mrs Glickstein	<a href="mailto:cgllickstein@stokesley-alt.uk">cgllickstein@stokesley-alt.uk</a>





## Key Stage Four

Director of Key Stage Four	Mrs Bailey	<a href="mailto:ibailey@stokesley-alt.uk">ibailey@stokesley-alt.uk</a>
Pastoral Head of Year 10	Miss Mesley	<a href="mailto:hmesley@stokesley-alt.uk">hmesley@stokesley-alt.uk</a>
Pastoral Head of Year 11	Mr Rayner	<a href="mailto:rrayner@stokesley-alt.uk">rrayner@stokesley-alt.uk</a>

## Key Stage Five

Director of Key Stage Five	Mrs Jeal	<a href="mailto:ijeal@stokesley-alt.uk">ijeal@stokesley-alt.uk</a>
Pastoral Head of Year 6th Form	Mr Dinsdale	<a href="mailto:jdinsdale@stokesley-alt.uk">jdinsdale@stokesley-alt.uk</a>

## Y6 open evening and early finish for Y7-Y13

Our Y6 open evening takes place on Thursday, 26 September 2024 from 5.00pm until 7.00pm. There will be a talk at 5.15pm in the main hall, which will also be repeated at 6:00pm. In between talks and up to 7.00pm, parents, carers and prospective students can walk around our school learning more about the different subjects and joining in with interactive activities. Students in Y7-Y13 will finish at 2:15pm to allow the site team the opportunity to prepare for the evening event. The bus companies have been informed.

## Sixth Form Open Evening

Our Sixth Form Open Evening takes place on the evening of Thursday, 17 October, starting at 5pm with a talk from Dr. Reed and followed by the opportunity to learn more from subject teachers about our sixth form courses. Our updated prospectus will be available shortly, and will also be available as an interactive document on our website. We look forward to seeing our Year 11 students and their families at the event in a few weeks time. Furthermore, if you know a Year 11 in another school who is considering their post-16 options, we are very happy to welcome them too!

## Chromebook ordering

The Chromebook portal is currently open for any parents / carers that wish to order a device for their child. The warranty lasts three years so some parents / carers of current Year 9 students may wish to order a new one. The portal closes on the 10<sup>th</sup> October and students will receive their new devices around October half term. You will have received communication from us regarding this with more information, however for quick access to the portal please see the below image. If you are in need of financial support please email [finance@stokesley-alt.uk](mailto:finance@stokesley-alt.uk).





<a href="https://www.tech4learners.co.uk/users/login">https://www.tech4learners.co.uk/users/login</a>	
KS3 Portal Login	Stokesley24
KS4 and 5 Portal Login	Stokesley101224
Password	S3cure02!

**Portal Deadline 10th October**

## Charlie Tanfield's Visit

It was an honour to welcome Charlie Tanfield, a former student and Olympic silver medallist, back to Stokesley School recently.

Charlie spoke to our A level PE students, as well as students from our main school, about his cycling journey and the highs and lows of sport. Students had the opportunity to ask questions, hold the Olympic silver medal and see his top of the range bike. We are grateful to Charlie for giving up his time to visit us in school



## Meal Machine

We are delighted to share the first images of our new, additional, lunchtime food outlet "The Meal Machine". With a Scooby-Doo inspired design from Emma, Year 11, the facility will offer 'grab and go' food options to students, and complements our existing canteen, cafeteria and sixth form Bistro.



## Year 12

Our new Year 12 students have settled in well and have risen to the challenge of studying A Level and BTEC subjects. They are using their Directed Study Periods productively, and working hard in their additional qualifications of Core Mathematics and the Extended Project Qualification.

It is important students continue to use ClassCharts to check the work set by their teachers, and seek support from the Sixth Form Team if they require help with organisation and time management skills. If you have any questions about Sixth Form, please do not hesitate to contact us using [sixthform@stokesley-alt.uk](mailto:sixthform@stokesley-alt.uk).





## Linnet Project

Over the last two years a group of our students have been involved in a volunteering project to help restore a vintage aircraft. The group continues to go from strength to strength and has now received a total of 9 accolades to celebrate the work that has been done by the volunteers and the provision of this unique opportunity for young people.



This year alone, the project has been recognised by the following organisations:

- Bring it On - Project Award
- Cleveland Scientific Institution - Education and Learning Projects Grant
- Platten Family Fund Award - Community Foundation
- Institute of Mechanical Engineers - Schools and Clubs Engineering Challenge Fund Award
- Royal Aeronautical Society - Futures Award

Well done to the team for being recognised as providing one of the best projects in Britain!

## Personal Development

We're excited to be focusing on continuing to develop the work that we have started to do around our community, both inside and outside the school building. A sense of a school community – our school family – is incredibly important to us and we want everyone involved with the school, whether that be students, staff, parents / carers, local residents or local businesses, to feel important, recognised and heard.

In their LIFE lessons this term, our students have been thinking about the concept of community and the different communities that they are part of, and have been pledging to be active and positive members of these communities in different ways. This seems a good time to remind you – too – that all students have weekly discussion-based LIFE lessons which are facilitated by their tutors, and which help them to understand the world around them both now and in the future. Over the course of the year, students in the lower school and sixth form cover topics under the following broad headings:

- Living in our community and wider world
- Philosophy, Morals and ethics
- Physical and emotional health and wellbeing
- The world of work (careers)
- Relationships
- Staying safe



### PTFA

Connected to this idea of community is our PTFA, which we are re-launching this year. We held our first meeting this week and were buoyed by the fact that we had a 25-strong meeting of people bursting with ideas of ways in which parents, carers and friends of the school can support us in the things that we're doing for our students. Our next meeting – which will take the form of an AGM in which we elect committee members, agree on our constitution and decide on our projects for the year will be on Monday 14 October, in school between 6:30 and 7:30pm. If this is something that you'd be interested in being a part of, please feel free to turn up on the evening or – if you'd like more information – to contact Mrs Fox ([efox@stokesley-alt.uk](mailto:efox@stokesley-alt.uk)) beforehand!

### We need your books!

One of our first projects as a PTFA is to collect books for our local primary – Stokesley Primary Academy – who are looking to fill their library to the brim with books that their students can enjoy. They are particularly looking for books suitable for students in years 4, 5 and 6 so if you do happen to be having a clear out and have any books that you'd like to donate, students (or yourselves) can drop these off in school reception any time over the coming weeks. If you have more books than a student can carry, again, please contact Mrs Fox and we can sort something out.

### Second Hand Uniform sales

We know that money can be tight at this time of year and wanted to highlight to you the amazing work that one member of our PTFA already does to collect and distribute second hand uniform to families in our community. We have lots of school uniform available, and if this is something that you think you would benefit from, please email the address below to enquire as to whether what you need is available. Our PTFA member who does the uniform sales has run this as a solo operation for 5 years now and would massively appreciate some support with the work that she does to wash, organise and distribute donations. If this is something that you feel you can help with, again please contact us at the address below. [stokesleypta@gmail.com](mailto:stokesleypta@gmail.com)

### Clubs and activities

Next week sees the launch of our clubs and activities programme. Students don't need to book onto activities, but can simply turn up and get involved at the stated time and place. We're sure you don't need us to explain to you all of the benefits of attending a club regularly, so please support us in encouraging your son/daughter to grab every opportunity by the horns and to try everything out whilst these opportunities are offered to them. The clubs booklet and timetable can be found below:

[Clubs booklet](#)

[Clubs timetable](#)





## Restart a Heart

After some really positive feedback from last year's Year 8 students and their parent / carers, we're taking part in Restart a Heart again this year – through the British Heart Foundation - on Wednesday 16 October. Sessions will run in half an hour slots throughout the day in the SPAH. Students in Year 8 will learn how to do CPR from a group of volunteers including paramedics, police officers and nurses who all work in the local area.

## The House System and student leadership

We have recently put out application forms for the role of student leader and are excited to have over 50 new applicants to join our student leadership team. We will also soon be interviewing for the role of House Captain in Year 12, and have had some fantastic applications from our new sixth form students. On Friday afternoon, all of the student leaders will work together with Mrs Fox and the Senior Student leaders to come up with their development plan for the year and to look at how they are going to actively and positively contribute to our school community.

## Stokesley Performing Arts Update

A new year is upon us and, as usual, we have lots of exciting things coming our way. It is a pleasure to introduce the Year 7s to drama this year and myself, Miss Pottinger and Ms Wales have been so impressed with the energy and enthusiasm they have been bringing to their lessons. It has been even more wonderful to also be offering A Level Drama this year and we have been enjoying exploring the play 'Colder Than Here' in our first couple of lessons.

On the back of last year's sell out production of Matilda Jnr the launch of the school production 2025 will take place 3:30-4:30 in the SPAH. On this evening, we will be telling the students what show we will be doing and give them information about auditions which will take place after October half term. Students should keep their eyes peeled for clues which will appear on the SPA Production 2025 google classroom shortly.

Rehearsals for the annual monologue evening are underway. This year it will take place on November 12<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm in the SPAH and it will involve all of Year 9 and Year 10 Drama students. We will be performing scenes from *Find Me* by Olwen Wymark, *Blackout* by Davey Anderson and *LoveSong* by Abi Morgan. Tickets will be available on the door.

We are excited to be getting students out to the theatre this year. Alongside the English trip to see *An Inspector Calls* we are also running trips to *Warhorse* and *Hamilton*. Additionally we will be showing plays in house on some 'Stokesley Showcase' evenings across the year - the first of which will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> October. Students should see Mrs Kent for more details.

Finally, we are keen to build up the dance department this year and we are excited to be building up the dance club again with Mrs Horsfield and Miss Pottinger at the helm. We are





pleased to announce we will also be hosting dance workshops led by Louise Walker - a professional trained at Addict Dance Academy. This will be a brilliant opportunity for all our dancers to hone in their dance skills and find out what life is like at dance school.

Here's to another fantastic year ahead!

Mrs Kent

## Operation Encompass/School and Police Liaison

Trust between the local police and the public is essential within any community and we feel it is important that we do our part to support this process and to help make our students feel safe. We continue to work and liaise with the local police, PCSOs and School Community Police Officers on various projects within school to build relationships and raise awareness around different subjects. The police will often keep us up to date with issues in the community including any anti-social behaviour and where we feel further advice or education is required the police staff may visit school to do group or individual work with students.

Another part of our work with police is Operation Encompass. This is an initiative that enhances communication between the police and schools where a child is at risk from - or has experienced - domestic abuse. The purpose of the information sharing is to ensure schools can enhance their safeguarding of children: by knowing that the child has had this experience, the school is in a better position to understand and be supportive of the child's needs and possible behaviours. Operation Encompass will **complement existing** safeguarding procedures. Schools are normally informed via email the following day after an incident has happened to allow them to support the child and families.

## CEOP/The Dark Web Explained

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) works with safeguarding and child protection partners across the UK and overseas. It protects children from harm online and offline with a focus on child sexual exploitation and online protection issues. The Dark Web Explained is a new resource made available for professionals and parents and carers in response to research, which found that many professionals and parents and carers do not understand the Dark Web and feel unequipped to talk to a young person about it, should the need arise. Please follow [this link](#) for further information.

## Dates for your diary

Thursday 26 September

Friday 27 September

Tuesday 1 October

Y6 Open Evening: 5.00 - 7.00pm

Enrichment Day and Rewards Trips

Y11 Parental Support Evening





Monday 7 October  
Monday 14 October  
Wednesday 16 October  
Thursday 17 October  
Friday 18 October  
Thurs 24 - Sun 27 Oct  
Mon 28 Oct - Fri 1 Nov  
Monday 4 November

Sponsored Walk/ Colour Run.  
PFTA meeting: 6.30 - 7.30pm  
Y8 Restart a Heart Day  
Sixth Form Open Evening: 5 – 7.00pm  
Sixth Form Taster Day  
Paris Trip - Y9/10/11  
Half Term - finish 3.15pm  
School re-opens

Yours faithfully

**Mr M Fenwick**  
Headteacher