



December 2024



Parents / Carers

## Headteacher's Update

Welcome to our end of term round up from Stokesley School and Sixth Form College. I have been incredibly proud of our school community this term. At 15 weeks the Autumn term is the longest of the school year, and despite the fatigue that builds up over a long term our students and staff have continued to strive for excellence and to be the best they can be, not just in school but for our community. It was a pleasure to attend our first Stokesley School Christmas Carol Service at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church with our Year 7 and Sixth Form students. Thank you to Reverend Gunter for leading our service and bringing our community together in song at the start of the festive period.

To maintain the festive atmosphere, we also printed our first batch of school Christmas cards following a hotly contested competition for Year 7. The winning entries are shown below.



The Christmas holiday is an important time of year for our community. As you will see from our update there has been a huge amount of community action from our students and staff to support families and individuals who find themselves in challenging times this Christmas.



Regardless of your faith, Christmas time provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the year that has gone before, consider changes we could make to be happier and healthier in a New Year full of hope and potential; provides rare opportunities for common time together with families or friends, and allows us to give back to our communities through shared experiences or acts of kindness. However you choose to spend this festive period I hope that it provides you with an opportunity to rest, recharge and enjoy time with friends and family.

## Response times for email enquiries

A quick reminder that when contacting staff via email you should allow up to 48 hours for a response. Our staff strive to respond as quickly as possible, but please bear in mind that they may need time to address your query thoroughly.

For general, academic, or pastoral enquiries, please email [stokesley@arete.uk](mailto:stokesley@arete.uk).

For safeguarding concerns, we ask that you either call **01642 710050**, email the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs J M Myers, [jmyers@stokesley-alt.uk](mailto:jmyers@stokesley-alt.uk) or if urgent visit reception in person.

## Personal Development

### Christmas Hamper Appeal



We have been absolutely overwhelmed by the incredible donations that the school community have made to the Cause Foundation's Christmas Hamper Campaign. In addition to hampers for 45 families, we were able to send around 30 additional bags of goods to the Charity which they can use to make up extra hampers. None of this could have been possible without the incredible support of you, our families, so thank you so much for all that you have done to ease the burden on families in need this Christmas time.



### Children in Need

This year's Children in Need campaign was also a great success, with our school community raising over £1200 for the charity. Our Sixth Form student leaders delivered an assembly to the Year 7 students, we sold merchandise, played games and held what we think is the biggest cake sale the school has ever seen, with over 50 families baking! Thank you so much to those of you who baked, who gave your children money to buy cakes, or who contributed in any other way.

### Carol Service

This year we helped our sixth formers and Year 7 students get into the Christmas mood by taking them to a Carol Service at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church in Stokesley. Led by Reverend Gunter, with readings from our students and a performance from the Year 7 choir, the service told the Christmas story in a way that was accessible both to those familiar with a church service and those who weren't. We were incredibly proud of all of the students, and hope that this is something that – like us – they will remember.



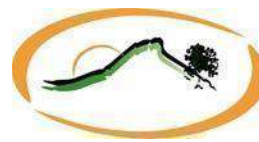
### Stokesley Performing Arts Update

What a busy November we have had!

We have now cast our production of Sister Act Jnr. With 113 people in the cast and about 20 backstage this is sure to be a FABULOUS show. Further updates to follow.

In November students were taken on a trip to see Warhorse at Sunderland Empire. The show was spellbinding from start to finish and left many a tear on our faces. It was a pleasure to take such wonderful young people to see such a brilliant show.





The following week, it was the student's turn to perform at the annual monologue evening with Year 9s performing scenes from 'Find Me' by Olwen Wymark and Year 10 performing 'Blackout' by Davey Anderson and 'Lovesong' by Abi Morgan. The audience were left captivated by the emotions and energy on display.

On 29<sup>th</sup> November Stokesley students were invited to sing at the Stokesley Christmas Lights Switch On - Stokesley Sparkles. Over 20 of our students sang and played to a passing audience and spread the Christmas Spirit. It was lovely to see the impact on the audience's faces.

December has also been another busy month. Beginning on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December Year 12 Drama put on a scripted performance of their set text 'Colder Than Here' by Laura Wade, which took place in the SPAH. It is a black comedy about a family coming to terms with the impending death of Myra - the Mum of the household.

Finally, 9BMusic hosted a Christmas Party on 11<sup>th</sup> December. They have been busy organising quizzes, raffles, food and decorations for the event and it was another lovely festive occasion.

As always, thank you for all your support of the Drama Department.  
Mrs Kent

### PTFA raffle

Our newly re-instated PTFA have organised a pretty awesome Christmas raffle with some amazing prizes, all of which have been kindly donated by local businesses. Some highlights include:

- 3 x vouchers for a free night's stay at Mill Farm B&B worth £98
- Sunday lunch for 4 at the Wainstones Hotel
- £30 voucher - Olga's LK Salon, Stokesley
- £30 voucher - Morgan Hair, Stokesley
- 2 x tickets to Redcar Speedway Meet
- £30 voucher - The Yorkshire Store
- £25 voucher- Stafford & Wilson, Stokesley
- Sunday lunch main for 2 - The Jet Miner's Inn, Gt Broughton
- Wines - Sharman Wines
- £20 voucher - San-cia Clothing & Shoes
- Fitpod - 12 week online course (Liz McGurk)
- £20 voucher - Chapter's Deli, Stokesley
- Bottle of Taylor's Port – Co-op Springfield
- £20 voucher - Ramsden's Coulby Newham
- Voucher - Jo's Hair & Beauty (mobile)



- £20 Voucher - The Truffled Hog, Stokesley
- 2 x tea & cake - The Velveteen Rabbit Luncheon Club, Gt Ayton
- Fish 'n' Chips for 2 - The Devonport, Middleton One Row
- £10 voucher - Floralcraft, Stokesley
- 2 x 1 month free - Lucky's Playbarn

It's very easy to enter - simply visit the website below. All proceeds will go to the school and are ring fenced for improving the experience for young people, so not only might you win a full Sunday dinner or fantastic voucher, but you're also doing your bit for the school!  
<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/stokesleyschoolptaxmasprizedraw>

## Christmas Jumper Day

A huge thank you to all of the families who sent contributions for this year's Christmas Jumper Day. We raised well over £400 for Save the Children and thoroughly enjoyed the range of Christmas Jumpers on show!

**Are you a leftover legend?**

Stokesley School & Sixth Form College  
Being the best we can be

**Leftover Recipe competition**

Help us reduce food waste by submitting your favourite recipes that use common leftover food to go into **Stokesley School's leftovers cook book!**

Email your recipe ideas to [vivwright@stokesley-att.uk](mailto:vivwright@stokesley-att.uk) or hand in at the geography office.

Present your recipe as you would like it to look in the recipe book. It can be hand written and illustrated or done digitally with photographs

**Prizes:**

- £20 Amazon voucher and chef hat for the winner
- £10 Amazon voucher for the runner up
- House Points for all entries!

**Deadline: Monday 13th January at 4pm**

## Leftover Food Recipe Competition

In partnership with Climate Action Stokesley and Villages Stokesley School Green Group are creating a recipe book aimed at reducing food waste. This book will contain recipes from our staff and students using commonly leftover ingredients.

We are asking students to submit their own creative recipes by 13<sup>th</sup> January. There will be prizes for the best student entries as well as the recipes being included in the book.



## End of Term

Students will be involved in end of term rewards assemblies and celebrations all week with **the term ending on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 3:15pm and students returning on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

## Dates for your diary

Friday 20th December	School finishes for Christmas: 3.15pm
Monday 6th January 2025	School re-opens
Thursday 9th January	Y9 Parents' Evening
Thurs 16th – Sat 18th January	Y9 trip to Edinburgh
Thursday 23rd January	Y8 Parents' Evening

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**Mr M Fenwick**  
Headteacher