



Onehouse Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1QR

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## Headteachers' Newsletter

27 September 2024



Dear Families

First, I would like to congratulate all staff, students and stakeholders for a wonderful first eight weeks of the school year. Whilst the Autumn term is always the longest, this year's first half-term has been longer than usual. However, we have seen so many successes and improvements; both inside and outside of the classroom. Examples this range from our unvalidated GCSE results, confirmed by the DfE, are the best set of figures the school has seen; our open evening saw more prospective students and parents attend the event, than ever before; a plethora of clubs improving our participation rate, in all age groups, confirming our commitment to extra-curricular events and personal development. The list could go on and on, and we are proud that we have so many young individuals committed to not only fulfilling their potential, but more importantly, surpassing it.

As we move into the second half of the term our commitment to the personal development of students continues. Focus now turns to academic progression with Year 11 about to commence their pre-examinations in all subjects (mock exams in old money!); Year 9 start the process of considering their options for Year 10 GCSE qualifications; and all students receive their first school report of the year in December, continuing our commitment to regularly update you on your child's effort, attitude and progression.

Finally, I want to repeat the words shared by our Headteacher at the start of term: ***"Work hard – Be kind."*** *If your child embraces these two qualities this year, they will undoubtedly be happy, safe, and successful.* It is our duty as leaders, teachers, carers and mentors to ensure we continue to support and guide all the students, in the best we can, to fulfill these qualities. As always, should you need any support, guidance or advice regarding how we can make this better please do not hesitate to contact the school.

**Mr A Pickering**

**Deputy Headteacher**

### Headteacher

It is that time of the year again when we start to think about the ways in which the school can make a wider contribution to the local community. The school has done this in many ways over the years and last year alone supported several local charities such as Stowmarket food bank, Teenage Cancer trust, Save the children and Winstons Wishes, with us looking to continue this support this year. Therefore, we are asking our families for a £5 donation (via parent pay) to support the charities through several different school events: there will be three own clothes days on: 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025, and 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 alongside a Christmas Jumper day on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 as well as the annual Christmas hamper competition. In return our Stowmarket families will be able to continue to support a wide range of local and national charities in their time of need. Our biggest support continues to go to the Stowmarket food bank where the students get involved in the Christmas Hamper competition which is the highlight of my year. Last year we were visited by Santa and his elf, several local primary schools and the local MP. Please contact the school office or email [enquiries@stowhigh.com](mailto:enquiries@stowhigh.com) if you are unable to access ParentPay.



Edurio Survey - The deadline for the Edurio Survey on parental engagement has been extended to 08 November, therefore if you have not yet had a chance to complete the survey here is a reminder of the link.

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<https://edurio.com/poll/MrWn0y>

If you have any questions or encounter technical issues regarding the survey, please contact Edurio at [support@edurio.com](mailto:support@edurio.com).

Thank you for your time and effort.

### School Office



Poppies are now available from reception.

Polite reminder should your child have any appointments during the school day, please email [attendance@stowhigh.com](mailto:attendance@stowhigh.com) to let us know in advance. Thank you.

### Lost Property

We have unclaimed water bottles, pencil cases, coats and a pair of glasses in 'lost property'. If your child is missing any of these items, please ask them to visit student services.

### School Photograph mop-up session

The school photographer will be back in school during the afternoon of Monday 18 November to take photographs of any students who were absent on 12 September 2024.



### Modern Foreign Languages

Each month students are being nominated as 'Student of the month' in KS3 French, KS4 French and KS3 & KS4 German. These students have been nominated for being students who stand out in class for their effort and attitude.

#### September:

Y8 French - Sangeetha Gomes

Y9 German - Prosper Adegboye

Y11 French - Grace Gidden

#### October:

Y7 French - Gracie-Rose Rouse

Y9 German - Lacey Ling

Y11 French - Jess Staines

**Language club** - This half term saw the launch of our new Languages Club, inviting students together who have an interest in languages. This started with food tasting, we tried a range of different European food and a delicious curry from India.

Ayona and Anu from year 9 have been teaching us Malayalam, a language spoken in the south of India. The girls were fantastic teachers, so we look forward to learning some more next half term!

In our first session back after the holiday, Jack in year 10 will be teaching us some Spanish.

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We have some year 9 students who are ready to teach German, if we have any y7 or y8 students interested in joining us next half term!

**European Day of Languages** - This year we celebrated European day of Languages during the week of 26th September. Firstly, we'd like to say a big thank you to Tamas Lejtenyi and Julija Cuprina in year 11 who spoke in our assemblies about being bilingual speakers and the importance of languages.

During the week, students were encouraged to use the European greetings that were displayed on the classroom doors around the school.

We also launched a competition for students to design a European themed T-shirt and we had some fantastic entries. Thank you to all who entered, but well done to the following winners, who have been creating their designs on t-shirts:

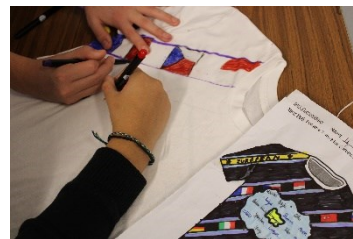
Y9 Emma Scadding



Y8 Eva Murton



Y7 Lily Pemberton



Our European Bake Sale will take place next half term and will be Christmas themed... more details coming soon!

**Miss Pawsey – MFL Teacher**



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### Explore Your Future with Careers at Stowmarket High School

Another busy month rolls to an end in the careers department this month.

The Young Professionals hosted over 7 different insight events from Law, STEM, Finance and Healthcare, always great events and they are totally free for our students, so please do keep an eye on the careers diary below to see what events you can join next month. These events are held online via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. On the 8<sup>th</sup> we hosted West Suffolk College and Abbeygate Sixth Form College in a drop in in the Atrium at lunchtime.

Great engagement from our students who got to talk to Jo and Sally about next steps and courses available next year. Open to all it was especially informative for Year 11's who are currently doing the round of open evenings at all the local providers ready for applications before Christmas.

It was great also to see the younger years getting involved and having those face-to-face encounters with further education providers, Don't forget that I am running college application support sessions every Thursday lunchtime in the careers centre, opposite room 2.03 just drop in no appointments needed.

Mrs Mylrea  
Futures Coordinator  
[m.mylrea@stowhigh.com](mailto:m.mylrea@stowhigh.com)





## Careers News, Opportunities and Useful Information Work Experience



Congratulations to Year 11 Student Ellis, who after a fantastic work experience week last term, has managed to secure himself a permanent part time job with Ipswich Employer Chassis Cab.

His strongest skill was listening, his employer said “Ellis was able to listen to the technicians and understand the work that was being completed showing good knowledge asking relevant and constructive questions while being able to identify various vehicle components”



Year 11 student Ella recently took part in a week’s work experience at Claydon Primary School last week.

Her employer was very impressed with her over the course of the week and she had some great positive feedback. Her strongest skill was identified as resilience and staying positive and her manager said “Ella had such a smile on her face throughout the work experience. Ella worked hard on making sure she listens carefully to ensure that she understood any instructions given to her.”

## Half Term Events – Not to be Missed!

### Year 10 & 11

Calling all budding games designers, sign up for this free workshop during half term to test your skills and see if this could be the course for you!



Are you...  
in year 10 or 11?  
interested in games design?

**GAME  
IN A  
DAY**

30th October 2024

Book your free place [www.suffolk.ac.uk/games](http://www.suffolk.ac.uk/games)

Suffolk New College

The poster features a yellow background with a computer monitor displaying a game scene, a game controller, and a screwdriver. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

### Year 11

#### Browne Jacobson October Law Work Experience

If you're an aspiring legal professional in school, there's one event that you absolutely cannot miss this year – the Browne Jacobson Law Virtual Insight Event on Tuesday, 29th October from 9:00am - 4:00pm.

#### Why is this the *must-attend* law careers event of the year?

It's simple. This event is packed with unrivalled legal insights, an incredible lineup of speakers, and hands-on career advice from the most prestigious legal figures. Whether you're planning to work in private practice, join an in-house legal team, or carve your path as a barrister, this event covers all bases.

We're beyond thrilled to announce **Baroness Hale of Richmond (Lady Hale)**, Former President of the UK Supreme Court and widely recognised as one of the most influential figures in law, as our headline speaker. You've read her judgments, now hear her wisdom live! She'll be joined by a host of other legal luminaries,

Reserve your spot today and make this the career-defining moment of your journey in law!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Browne-Jacobson-Law>

**Browne  
Jacobson**



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### Suffolk New College – Saturday Club

Applications are now open for the

[Art&Design](#)

and

[Film&Screen](#)

The clubs are free and open to 13–16-year-olds of all abilities. As well as weekly Saturday Classes you will have the chance to go on trips and visits, take part in Masterclasses with industry, and exhibit your work in the @natsatclub Summer Show!

Find out more and apply to join: [saturday-club.org/join](http://saturday-club.org/join)

#### Year 11

Are you interested in finding out about a career in the Army then this is the event for you!

The Army Foundation College (AFC) is no ordinary college, we train 16 and 17-year-olds ready for a career in the British Army. The course we offer is split into 4 sections, Military Training, Education, Resilience & Leadership Training and Physical Training.

We also appreciate that your downtime is important and you can enjoy our newly refurbished Wellbeing Centre including satellite TV, an Xbox zone, games area with table tennis and pool, a cinema and more. Sports is a huge part of your career within the Army, you'll have plenty of opportunities for athletics, basketball, hockey, swimming, football and more.

Join us on **Tuesday 19 November 18:30 – 19:30** for a special online event that could transform your future!

Sig up here: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/f4cc8b6d-97bf-4ce9-a45c-d601960523ca@182a8b31-3dab-4b92-8bb8-9526911aeba0>



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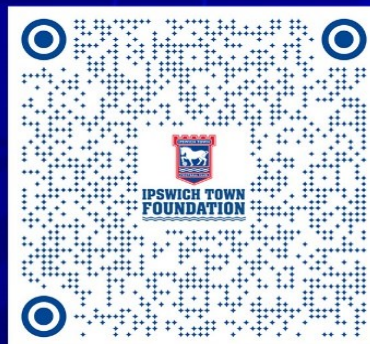




**IPSWICH TOWN  
FOUNDATION**

**POST-16 FOOTBALL & EDUCATION PROGRAMME**  
**OPEN EVENTS**

**SCAN QR TO BOOK**



Contact [robert.peace@itfc.co.uk](mailto:robert.peace@itfc.co.uk) for more information



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Coming up:



## Sessions

**All in the LRC at lunchtime.** Sign-up sheet on door of Careers Office (2nd Floor Opposite Science Workroom). Only those students who sign up can attend so that we can make sure we have enough Domino's Pizza. You can also email Mrs Mylrea on [m.mylrea@stowhigh.com](mailto:m.mylrea@stowhigh.com) to sign up.

Dates	Week	Period	Location	Speaker	Topic
Date	Week	Period	Location	Speaker	Topic
24th September 2024	B	Lunch	LRC	Ian Harvey	Careers in Health Care Sciences
8th October 2024	B	Lunch	Atrium	West Suffolk College / Abbeygate	Year 11 Drop In
22nd October 2024	B	Lunch	LRC	Jenny Reason	Life as a Vet
<b>October Half Term</b>					
12th November 2024	B	Lunch	LRC	Lt Jake Langford	Life In The Army
26th November 2024	B	Lunch	LRC	Stuart Lipscombe	Working in Criminology
10th December 2024	B	Lunch	LRC	Charlotte Reason	Life As A Lawyer
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>					
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>					
7th January 2025	B	Lunch	LRC	Mark Goulding	Careers in Cyber Security
21st January 2025	B	Lunch	LRC	PC Chloe Levitt and PC Dave Harvey	Life On The Beat
4th February 2025	B	Lunch	LRC	Sarah Norey	Careers in the Building Industry
<b>February Half Term</b>					
25th February 2025	B	Lunch	LRC	Helen Brown	NHS Careers
11th March 2025	B	Lunch	LRC	Karen Bradford	Ambulance Crew

Do not forget to encourage your children to sign up for Advice & Slice sessions which are held in the LRC at lunchtimes on Tuesdays Week B.

The sign up sheet is on the door of Mrs Mylrea's office in the Careers Centre (Opposite Science Work Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), or email [m.mylrea@stowhigh.com](mailto:m.mylrea@stowhigh.com) to secure your place

## Careers at Stowmarket High School – What’s Coming Up?

### October 2024

29<sup>th</sup> **Year 11 - Half Term Break All Day Event**  
**Young Professionals - Law Work Experience with Browne Jacobson**  
 9.00am – 5.00pm  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Browne-Jacobson-Law>

### November 2024

12<sup>th</sup> Advice & Slice – Open to All Years  
 Lunch Time: 1.15pm – 1.55pm – LRC  
 Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Careers Office (Opposite 2.03)  
 Lt Jake Langford – Life in the Army

19<sup>th</sup> **Year 11**  
 Army Foundation College Harrogate – Webinar  
 6.30pm – 7.30pm  
 Sign Up: Army Webinar Signup

20<sup>th</sup> **Year 7**  
 BAE Systems Careers Roadshow  
 Period 4 – Main Hall

28<sup>th</sup> **Years 9 and 11**  
 Careers Drop Down Day

26<sup>th</sup> Advice & Slice – Open to All Years  
 Lunch Time: 1.15pm – 1.55pm – LRC  
 Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Careers Office (Opposite 2.03)  
 Stuart Lipscombe, UOS – Working in Criminology

### December 2024

10<sup>th</sup> Advice & Slice – Open to All Years  
 Lunch Time: 1.15pm – 1.55pm – LRC  
 Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Careers Office (Opposite 2.03)  
 Charlotte Reason, Atwells – Life as a Lawyer

21<sup>st</sup> Mark Goulding, Urban Networks – Careers in Cyber Security  
 Advice & Slice – Open to All Years  
 Lunch Time: 1.15pm – 1.55pm – LRC  
 Sign up with Mrs Mylrea in the Careers Office (Opposite 2.03)



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## The Mindful Life Group

### Mindfulness for Parents who Care

Our free six week course starts **Wednesday  
6th November 2024, 1-pm** online

Some feedback from one of our previous  
parents:

*'It appealed because it was something that I  
could do at home, something for me, you know, I  
realised there was help out there'*



Find out more at  
[https://the-mindful-  
life.com/mindfulness-  
for-peoplewhocare](https://the-mindful-life.com/mindfulness-for-peoplewhocare)



**SUFFOLK**  
Community  
Foundation

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The pictures speak for themselves! The year 7 UV disco was a great night with everyone enjoying themselves, and the DJ praising the behaviour of our students. Thank you to all the helpers of the FOSH team that made it happen as well as the staff who came to help, getting involved and joining in. The DJ also commented how nice it was to see staff smiling and encouraging the students to have fun.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**SECRET POSTCARD SALE** being launched soon and will run until the end of term. Keep an eye out for the big launch and how to buy your art. They will make great Christmas presents.

**CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER.** To book a space please contact us by email to [FOSH@stowhigh.com](mailto:FOSH@stowhigh.com) or via our social media page and direct message.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** St Peters & St Marys Church Stowmarket Our FOSH student group have made decorations for a tree.



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### Upcoming Events:

Monday 28 October 2024	HALF TERM
Thursday 14 November 2024	Year 10 Tripod Evening
Tuesday 19 November 2024	HPV Catchup Immunisations
Monday 18 November 2024	School Photographer Mop up Session
Tuesday 26 November 2024	FOSH Wreath Making Workshop

### Useful Contact Information:

Head of Year 7	Miss S Durrant	<a href="mailto:s.durrant@stowhigh.com">s.durrant@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 8	Miss R Harrigan	<a href="mailto:r.harrigan@stowhigh.com">r.harrigan@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 9	Miss O Hart	<a href="mailto:o.hart@stowhigh.com">o.hart@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 10	Mrs N Goss	<a href="mailto:n.goss@stowhigh.com">n.goss@stowhigh.com</a>
Head of Year 11	Ms L Baker	<a href="mailto:l.baker@stowhigh.com">l.baker@stowhigh.com</a>
Finance		<a href="mailto:finance@stowhigh.com">finance@stowhigh.com</a>
General Enquiries		<a href="mailto:enquiries@stowhigh.com">enquiries@stowhigh.com</a>
Attendance/Student Absence		<a href="mailto:attendance@stowhigh.com">attendance@stowhigh.com</a>

