



Team Of The Year



In this issue...

- Principal's Message
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Frozen Production
- Careers Day
- Open Evening

... and much more!

Our Pastoral Team has been named as the National Pastoral Team of the Year award at the National Association of Pastoral Care in Education (NAPCE) Awards. This means our staff, which covers not just Pastoral Managers and Heads of Year but also our attendance team, positive behaviour team and wellbeing team, are officially the best in the country for pastoral care - something we are incredibly proud about. The award is described by NAPCE as recognising "A team that works in pastoral care and can demonstrate a determination to support young people to achieve their full potential and a positive impact on the young people they work with."



Principal's Message

What an incredible first term of 2023/24 we have experienced - from national award wins and the successful launch of our new house system to an Ofsted inspection, our school production of Frozen and another record-breaking Open Evening (and application numbers for September 2024!) - it has certainly been a term we will not be forgetting for some time!

In the last few weeks of term I had the privilege of watching the closing night of our school production, which is a perfect summary of our school values - we **ASPIRED** to put on the best-possible performance and students worked tirelessly to achieve this through endless rehearsals and commitments after school. The **RESPECT** shown across the cast and crew was clear for all to see - how they supported each other and celebrated small wins for their peers as well as the big

ones. Finally **COMMUNITY** - well, the way in which staff, families and other students rallied around the cast to give them a proper send-off after their sixth show was just another level and I couldn't have been more proud. Thank you to everyone who turned out to make this annual event - a highlight on the Stockport Academy calendar - the success it was.

Our House System has taken this sense of community to another level in recent months, and I would like to thank our House Captains and particularly our Master of Ceremonies Mr Allan for their unique contribution to our school's culture.

Students have taken this in their stride, with superb attendances at all of our house events (Fun-Time Friday being a personal favourite) and countless entries to our competitions. We have even more exciting additions to the House



Calendar for 2024, so watch this space!

In the meantime, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a thoroughly enjoyable festive break and thank you for your continued support.



Award Finalists - Wellbeing



Our approach to student and staff wellbeing was praised, after being shortlisted for a prestigious award. The Educate Awards celebrated the achievements of all schools in north-west England, and we were delighted to find out we were one of five school to be in the running for the Mental Health &

Wellbeing Award.

On announcing the shortlist, judges said: "There is a strong focus on the wellbeing of staff through practical adjustments like reduced number of meetings each half term, reduced written reports and more family time opportunities."

The ceremony took place in Liverpool in November, and - while we unfortunately didn't win - we were still incredibly proud to be recognised as one to the top schools in the region to take huge positive steps in

this area.

Principal, Mrs McCann, said: "Mental Health is such an important issue, not just in the education sector but society as a whole. We are delighted that our approach to taking care of the people that make our school the wonderful community that it is has been recognised."



Poppy Drop

Our annual Poppy Drop provided students and staff with the opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices made by our armed forces ahead of Remembrance Day. The whole school observed the ceremony in our atrium, with our chair and vice chair of the prefectural board opening proceedings before Music Teacher Mr Bockock played The Last Post on his flute. A 2-minute silence was

impeccably followed, before students in Years 10 and 11 dropped paper poppies onto the atrium floor, a long-held tradition at Stockport Academy. Every poppy contained a message of thanks to those who have sacrificed to keep us safe in times of conflict. Our Principal, Mrs McCann, said: "It is always an honour to take part in our Poppy Drop, which is so important to our school community and plays a key role

in our school value of Respect." A full video of the Poppy Drop can be viewed on our YouTube channel, website and social media channels.



On-Stage Success!

Our Main Hall was turned into a winter wonderland as our annual school production of 'Frozen Jr' came to town.

Students and staff put on a run of six shows over the course of four days, entertaining over 1,000 members of the audience with the theatre adaptation of the classic Disney movie.

Featuring hits such as 'Let It Go' and 'Do You Want To Build A Snowman', Frozen tells the story of two young princesses who go on an emotional journey to rediscover their sisterly bond and thaw the realm of Arendelle from an eternal winter.

Three matinee shows were performed exclusively for Year 3,4 and 5 students from local primary schools, while members of the Socially Yours community group were also invited to attend. Families and members of the community also had the opportunity to purchase tickets for evening performances, which ended with a surprise flurry of snow over the audience – much to their delight!

Ms Lakin, Head of Performing Arts, said: "We are so proud of everyone who was involved in the school production.

Preparation on this started before the Summer, and everyone from cast to crew and those who helped with running the event on the night have all worked so hard to ensure it was a success.

"I would also like to thank our families and the wider school community who came out in their droves to support our performances. It really makes such a difference and now we can't wait to do it all again!"



"Creating Opportunity To Succeed"



Team of The Year (cont)

News of the win was widely celebrated on social media, with one parent saying:

"Simply the best. These guys are amazing, so glad my daughter is at the best school in Stockport."

Our Principal, Mrs McCann, said: "This is a tremendous achievement for the whole team – to be recognised as the best in their field across the whole country is no mean feat, but also totally

deserved for a group that goes above and beyond for our children.

"We pride ourselves in our ethos to support the 'whole child' - both academically but also their personal development. Our mission statement to create 'opportunity to succeed' is hugely important to us and the pastoral team play a key role in helping us achieve this."



National Awards

FOR PASTORAL CARE
IN EDUCATION 2023

Pastoral Team of the Year

**Pastoral Team
Stockport Academy**

Sponsored by Connect to Purpose
Organised by NAPCE

www.stockport-academy.org | Twitter : @sptacademy | Instagram/Facebook: @StockportAcademy



Climbing The Careers Ladder

Our Year 11s spent the day finding out about life after secondary school as part of our annual Careers Day.

They had the opportunity to learn more about techniques such as CV writing and interviewing, with local businesses coming into school to support us by offering every student a series of mock job interviews.

Students also found out more about day-to-day matters, such as what life is like as a student at university and how to budget.

At the end of the day, Years 11 and 10 were able to spend time at our own Careers Fair in the sports hall, with representatives from local further education providers, apprenticeship providers and other career options such as the Army and our own teaching training programme, United Teaching.

Assistant Principal Mrs Milnes, who organised the day, said: "This was a brilliant opportunity for all students involved to put our Future Me framework into practice and

have a taste of what it's like to really sell yourself to a potential employer. "Throughout the day, students really enjoyed engaging in the workshops and finding more about what lies ahead for them as young adults, and I am sure everyone came away with lots to think about!"



Happy Campers

The Duke of Edinburgh Year 10 Bronze award was a resounding success in September in Bakewell, located in the picturesque Peak District.

It was an event filled with adventure, team building activities, and personal growth for everyone involved.

One of the highlights of the expedition was the support they gave one another, even clapping when the final group

crossed the finish line as they had a student who at one point didn't look like finishing - which was an incredibly touching moment.

Throughout the weekend, everyone displayed remarkable perseverance and resilience. Their sense of achievement and personal growth were palpable as they crossed the finish line, proud of their accomplishments and newfound confidence.



A Record-Breaking Open Evening

Over 1,000 people attended our Open Evening, as Year 6 families spent time with us before applying for a place to start in September 2024.

The deadline to apply is 31st October and can be made through [Stockport Council's website](#).

The evening, which took place between 5-7pm was our busiest ever, with plenty of activities going on around school to give visitors a taste of what life is like as a Stockport Academy student. Among the highlights were live chemistry demonstrations with Mrs Staniforth in Science, a 'mountain hunt' with Mr Allan to introduce families to our new school house system, a murder mystery to solve in Drama and blind food taste tests in Business Studies.

Mrs McCann also delivered her Principal's Presentation to a packed hall twice throughout the night, with the cast of our upcoming production of Frozen opening for her with a stunning performance of 'Let The Sun Shine On'.

For those who were unable to attend on the night, we are now offering a limited number of personal tours, [which can be booked via this link](#).

Mrs McCann said: "It was brilliant to see so many families turn up to our Open Evening to find out how we create opportunity to succeed for all of our students.

"It is an honour to be considered the school of choice for families in the area – we can't wait to meet many of them again following National Offer Day early next year as they begin to prepare for their transition to secondary school."



Term Dates and Contact Details

Spring 2023

8th Jan - 9th Feb

All students in

12th Feb - 16th Feb

Half Term

19th Feb - 28th Mar

All students in

22nd March

INSET - School Closed

29th March

Good Friday - School

Closed

2nd Apr - 12th Apr

Easter Break

Contact Us

By Phone

0161 286 0330

By Email

enquiries@stockport-academy.org

By Post

Stockport Academy
Heathbank Road
Cheadle Heath
Stockport
SK3 0UP



Pastoral Emails

Year 7 - Mrs Shaw - sarah.shaw@stockport-academy.org

Year 8 - Ms James - danielle.james@stockport-academy.org

Year 9 - Mrs McCann - linda.mccann@stockport-academy.org

Year 10 - Ms Porter - sarah.porter@stockport-academy.org

Year 11 - Ms Bickerton - lynn.bickerton@stockport-academy.org

