



On Top Of The World



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Our students and staff helped to raise over £5,200 for charity by climbing up Mount Snowdon.

Read more on Page Three!

Principal's Message

As we bid farewell to another year and prepare for an incredibly exciting 2023, I am delighted to present to you our latest newsletter, which showcases some of the highlights we have been privileged to experience over the past term. Looking back over the calendar year, I am immensely proud of our many achievements as a community that culminated in our Secondary School of the Year win at the MEN Schools Awards in the Summer. More recently, the way our staff and students came together to support local

mental health charities and raise a phenomenal amount of money - in addition to critical awareness of some important issues - is something I was both humbled and inspired by. It is acts of selflessness such as this that define the core characteristics and values of our school community. Over the past term we have been delighted to fully reopen our school to the local public at events such as our Open Evening and our Christmas Market (both p6). We are honoured to be the school of choice for the area and I am delighted to say that we have received more first-choice applications for



a Year 7 place to start in September 2023 than ever before. This is down to the tireless dedication of our talented staff and the efforts of our students, their families and our governors to make Stockport Academy the outstanding education provider that we know and love.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our readers for your consistent support, and would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and all the best for the New Year.

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On Top Of The World

(Continued from front page)

A group of 140 travelled to the Welsh peak on Saturday 17th September with the aim of reaching the summit – all the while raising funds for the Stockport Branch of Beautiful Minds, an organisation that looks to support those affected by mental health issues.

The trip was arranged in memory of former student David Marsden, who tragically passed away in 2019, aged just 22 years old. His sister Charlene contacted the school to see if we would be interested in getting involved in a project to raise awareness and much-needed funds for local charities who help

those struggling with their own mental health.

Assistant Principal Mrs Milnes, who organised the trip, said: “This has been an unforgettable experience

and I am proud of everyone for raising a phenomenal amount of money for a brilliant cause and showing resilience and strength to complete a demanding physical challenge.”

Cheques were presented at our Christmas Market (page 6)



SA Receives Silver Unicef Award

We are delighted to have been awarded the ‘Silver: Rights Aware’ accreditation as part of UNICEF’s Rights Respecting Schools Award. Our Rights Respecting Schools Panel is made up of Year 10 Activism Club, dedicated students from Year 8 and Year 9, and staff. During a virtual visit with UNICEF, students showed excellent knowledge of their rights and of

the difficulties that people experience in our community and the wider world. We celebrated the achievement with a Silver Party in December, alongside Cale Green Primary School. Our two schools have been supporting each other throughout the process of accreditation - we will now be striving for the Gold Award!



'Elf' Brings Festive Fun To The Stage

Our Performing Arts department put on a festive show to remember, after delivering another brilliant school production to finish the term.

Following on from their excellent rendition of 'Matilda', this time they performed 'Elf – The Musical'.

The classic Christmas tale focuses on Buddy the Elf, who finds out he is actually a human and then sets off on a mission to New York to meet his Dad, who is officially on the naughty list!

Over 1,000 people flocked to watch our six performances, with three matinee shows for primary schools taking place in addition to a further three evening shows for a paying audience.

Naturally, it was an amazing success, with fantastic songs, dance routines and hilarious performances all deservedly getting a standing ovation every time the curtain closed.

Dance Teacher Ms Lakin, who directed the production, said: "It's been an unforgettable week and I am so proud of everyone who has been involved in bringing Elf to the stage – our student cast and crew were so dedicated and passionate about making this our best show yet!" "The reception from every audience has been brilliant – we are so grateful for their support and it was wonderful to see so many people turn out to watch us and hopefully get in the festive spirit along the way!"



Greatest School Day Ever



Some of our Year 9s spent the day learning about alternative careers within the football industry as part of a special day organised by Manchester United Foundation. Dubbed the ‘Greatest School Day Ever’, students focused on

pathways into employment that you might not immediately associate with the sport, including catering, IT, journalism and media.

They took part in a number of engaging activities, from using scratch to develop a new app, coming up with fresh angles for player interviews to engage fans on TikTok and learning how to cook up a nutritious meal.

Our Manchester United Project Delivery Officer, Mr Bramley, said:

“Today has been a real eye-opener for many of our students in terms of the career possibilities available to them, and it has been great to see them showing such enthusiasm throughout the workshops we have participated in. “Thank you very much to the staff at Manchester United who hosted us – days like this are so important to help influence the future prospects of our students.”

Poppy Drop

Our whole school came together to pay our respects to those who have served the country during conflict as part of our annual Poppy Drop.

The ceremony is a Stockport Academy tradition that has taken place for many years, and it remains a poignant yet inspiring date in the school calendar.

Once every year group had lined up in the atrium, Mrs McCann

introduced the ceremony by reading a short passage of text before Music Teacher Ms Wright played 'The Last Post' on her bugle. After a one-minute silence, students released paper poppies down from the top two floors of the atrium, ensuring the ceremony continued for another year.



Open Evening Record Breaker



We hosted our busiest ever Open Evening earlier this month, as staff and students welcomed Year 6 families into school ahead of the deadline for applying for a secondary school place.

It is the first time we have

reverted to the traditional format of our ever-popular event in three years, following a virtual Open Evening in 2020 and guided tours in 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions at the time.

The whole school was a hive of activity, as hundreds of families visited us over the course of two hours to find out exactly why we were named Greater Manchester's Secondary School of the Year back in July, and to discover how to apply for a Year 7 place to start in September 2023.

Principal Mrs McCann said: "It was an amazing feeling to have families visit our school for a full Open Evening once again, and we were blown away by all the positive comments that our visitors shared with our staff and their student tour guides.

"We can't wait to welcome another successful cohort of students to our community when National Offer Day comes around on 1st March 2023."

Christmas Market Is A Cracker

Our Indoor Christmas Market made a triumphant return to Stockport Academy, officially kick-starting the festive season.

Hundreds of people turned out to visit us on the day, with over 40 arts and craft stalls, a bouncy castle, Santa's grotto and our very own Bockwurst and baking ensuring a great time was had by all.

Our Steel Band also turned out to perform a few festive

numbers – the first time the group had ever performed in front of an audience before – much to the joy of visitors and volunteers alike.

Mr Prince, who organised the Market, said: "It has been a long three years without our Christmas Market, and I would like to thank all of our stallholders for their patience. "I would also like to give a huge thank you to the many volunteers – staff and students -

who gave up their time setting up and running the event. It is amazing to see so many people turn out to support our school community."



A Term In Tweets



Catherine @cath_cox · Dec 7

Replying to [@sptacademy](#)

Absolutely fantastic. Another fabulous production and a great way to start Christmas. Cannot wait for the next school production. [#TalentedStudents](#)



Dr Liz Chilvers @ErChilvers · Dec 8

Replying to [@sptacademy](#)

It was so good. Don't think I stopped smiling all evening. Very well done to everyone involved and a huge thank you again to all of the staff for their hard work and for the opportunities that they give our children.



geochelseapanda @geochelseapanda · Oct 20

Inspiring and thought-provoking day [@ClimateAssembly](#) in my old stomping ground, Sheffield. Took a lovely bunch of pupils from [@sptacademy](#) and listened to an epic speech from [@ChrisGPackham](#).



Sian Louise @siannybuck · Sep 17

[@CaleGreenPS](#) [@sptacademy](#) Super proud of these two ex-Cale Greeners. Climbed Mount Snowdon today for Beautiful Minds Charity!



Alexandra Park Primary School Stockport @AlexPark1912 · Oct 21

Well done girls! A fantastic morning of football, thank you to everyone involved. 😊

Stockport Academy @sptacademy · Oct 21

We've had an amazing morning hosting our [@MU_Foundation](#) Primary School Girls' Football tournament!

Well done to all eight schools who took part - a mix of MUF partner schools and some of our local Edgeley and Cheadle Heath Primaries.

[#EducationWithCharacter](#)



Autumn/Winter 2022

Term Dates and Contact Details

Spring 2023

9th Jan - 17th Feb
All students in

20th Feb - 24th Feb
Half Term

27th Feb - 31st Mar
All students in

24th Mar
Inset Day

3rd Apr - 14th Apr
School Holidays

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Year 8 - Mrs McCann - linda.mccann@stockport-academy.org

Year 9 - Ms Porter - sarah.porter@stockport-academy.org

Year 10 - Ms Howarth - lisa.howarth@stockport-academy.org

Year 11 - Mrs Shaw - sarah.shaw@stockport-academy.org