



"A POSSE AD ESSE" FROM POSSIBILITY TO ACTUALITY

Stanborough School Newsletter

12/12/2017

AUTUMN TERM

Term one at a glance

This term was packed with special lessons and events.

On the 22nd September, our GCSE students took part in a **Study Skills Training Session** delivered by Mr Gordon Sparke from Study Skills Zone. The session was entitled 'Drive for Results' and focused on revision strategies, essential to prepare them for their examinations.

On the 5th October, our boarders went to **Wembley Stadium** to watch the England vs Slovenia match. Harry Kane scored the goal that secured England's place in the 2018 World Cup!

On the 02nd November, our students attended a special **Hate Crime Awareness Session** delivered by Hertfordshire Constabulary. Students were reminded that being different is not a crime, and nobody should be victimised because of it. Don't ignore it – report it!

On the 17th November, our international students surprised us with a **wonderful assembly!** It included musical items and a short play too. Thank you all who took part!

On the 27th November, a group of FIE students visited the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world. Yes, you guessed it, **Windsor Castle!** The students had a fantastic time admiring its architecture in spite of the cold weather.

On Saturday 02 December, a group of eleven FIE students **visited St Albans SDA church** to deliver a very special programme. The students missed breakfast at the boarding school to be on time for practice at 08:40. Their programme included teaching the congregation how to say, "Jesus loves you" in twelve languages. Alumnus Ian Redfern, wearing a school tie, added the best language of all: English. The students also presented a musical item, a literally explosive children story – which included several balloons - and a "wet" sketch with a Stanborough School umbrella. After a lovely lunch, they enjoyed walking in St Albans Verulamium Park and sampling what the Waffle House had to offer.

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Boarders visit Wembley Stadium

To watch England qualify for the 2018 World Cup.



Understanding Umbrellas

A beautiful play by our international students. Thank you for the lovely assembly!

Superb GCSE Results!

By Mrs Lorraine Dixon

As you are undoubtedly aware, students sat new GCSEs in English Language, English Literature and Maths for the very first time this year. Not only is the content of the new GCSEs more challenging, the grading format has been amended from letters to numbers - from 9 to 1, with 9 being the top grade. Despite the changes made, 100% of students who took GCSE exams at Stanborough Secondary school achieved five or more A* - C grades, with 93% including Maths and English. The students have worked hard and we are extremely proud of their accomplishments! In all subjects, with the exception of Physics, our students outperformed the national average. These outstanding results reflect the commitment of each student and the dedication of every teacher. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students and thank our staff for successfully managing the challenges of the past two years to produce these superb results!

Students "excelled at Stanborough School, in Stanborough Park, Watford, as 100 per cent of students achieved A* to C", reported the Watford Observer. "Head girl and president of her class Zahra Bharwani smiled from ear to ear as she discovered she got all A*s in everything apart from Business. She said, 'I'm very happy, as I got the results I wanted.'

Assistant head teacher Eileen Hussey could barely contain her delight at her students' results. She said: 'I'm absolutely delighted, as both the students and staff have worked really hard to get such fantastic results.'"

Subject	National average	Stanborough School
Art	75.60%	100.00%
Business Communication Systems	61.90%	100.00%
Biology	90.40%	100.00%
Business Studies	63.20%	100.00%
Chemistry	89.90%	100.00%
English Language	64.90%	93.00%
French	69.60%	90.00%
Portuguese	89.00%	100.00%
Geography	64.80%	92.00%
History	65.20%	100.00%
Literature	72.00%	100.00%
Maths	68.90%	100.00%
Physics	90.80%	86.00%
Religious Education	71.30%	100.00%
Spanish	70.80%	86.00%

To read their full article, please follow this link:

<http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/15495781.Round-up-of-GCSE-results-across-Watford/>

SAFEGUARDING ALERT

Rise in sex-offenders contacting children through live streaming apps

Read more at:

<https://inews.co.uk/essentials/news/technology/rise-in-paedophiles-contacting-children-through-live-streaming-apps/>

The ADRA Gift Box Appeal



Thank you all for supporting the ADRA gift Box Appeal 2017! Together, we packed 106 boxes which will bring joy to children at the Ksizbia Refugee Camp, in Rwanda.

During the last half-term break, we loaded the school minivan with all the boxes, and even strapped the seat belts on to make sure they made it to ADRA's storage house in pristine condition! After quality control, they will start their long ship journey to Rwanda.

Our non-uniform day in aid of ADRA raised £205.55 for shipping cots. Additionally, staff members donated £619.76 to top up all the boxes, making sure they were packed to the rim with toys and

school supplies. A big thank you to all for your generosity and commitment! Special thanks also go to Ms Sinclair, our Art teacher, who did a great job co-ordinating

the decoration of the boxes. They all looked super creative!

The Kiziba refugee camp, located on the hillsides of a remote region of the Western Province of Rwanda, is home to 17,000 people. The camp was established in 1996 when a Kinyarwanda speaking ethnic group was forced from their homes in the Congo because of violence. The conflict has still not been resolved and the people have now been living in the camp for over 20 years. Most of the children in the camp have been born here. They know of nothing else except life in the camp.

To find out more visit:

<http://www.adra.org.uk>

TERM ONE AT A GLANCE...



Ice Cream & Learning

On Monday September 25, six FIE students went to Kaspas, a dessert house in Watford. It was a trip organised by two of our teachers, Mrs Milis-Hopa and Mrs Pavlovic. You might be asking, "Why take young minds to a cafe instead of, say, a museum?" Well, who says you can't learn in a dessert house? We went to have ice-cream, pancakes and talk about ancient Britain...



Ultra Academy Business Club

There was a buzz of excitement as the students made their pitches. One pitch was for a cupcake business, while another was for slime – yes, slime! At the Ultra Academy Business Club, students learnt about business and entrepreneurship, how to create a product, how to make a pitch and how to price a product. The facilitator, Sam Appiah, is happy with the progress that the students have made so far. The students are very happy and excited, too.



Black History Month: Food Fest

As part of the celebration of Black History Month, on 31st October the School's Cafeteria hosted an African and Caribbean Food Fest. They served a delicious variety of traditional dishes. Yum!

Think Popcorn? Think Again!

By Mrs Pavlovic

Who doesn't like snacking on popcorn while watching a favourite TV show? It is even better, though, if you can reuse the wrapping bag to make a unique pencil case!

In September 2017, International Stanborough School students had a crafts class where creativity and upcycling worked hand in hand to create a useful school accessory – a pencil case.

Teachers, be aware, this pencil case looks just like any crisps bag would. What a great way to start the new school year!

Students' comments:

"I've made a pencil bag from bag of snacks. It was exciting! This bag is very useful and popcorn was good." (Hibiki, 9Y)

"I like this project because it is very useful and it looks amazing too. I like it because I did it all by myself and the process was fun." (Jennifer, 9Y)

"Yummy bag! I had a lovely time making this!" (Hanna, 10X)

"The best part was when we had to empty our bags and watch the DIY video while we were eating pretzels or popcorn." (Maria, 10X)



-Do you want some crisps?

-Of course! Wait...!"

-Hahahaha.... You fell for it! It is actually a pencil case!

-Wait, what?!

-Yes! Gotcha!

"Really fun and easy DIY, also good for the environment." (Susana, 10X)

A friend: "Rafa, let's go watch a movie, you have popcorn!!!"

Rafa: "No, I don't, that's my amazing POP pencil case!!" (Rafaela, 10X)



A Day in Cambridge: A Student Perspective

It was a sunny and bright Sunday with endless, clear, blue skies. At ten in the morning, on the 24th of September, the boarders and staff got on a coach to spend the day in Cambridge. The journey lasted an hour and a half but it felt shorter because my friends and I were chatting, listening to music, singing, and some of us were even sleeping. When we got there, we walked a short while and then sat down to have a little snack. There was a small shop selling souvenirs next to where we were. The owner of the shop listened to us speaking Spanish and he started talking in Spanish with us too!

The friendly shopkeeper said that he visited Barcelona a couple of years ago and there he learnt many Spanish words. He did not speak fluently, but we could understand him without making much effort. He told us that he remembered a very famous restaurant in Barcelona, but he could not remember its name. We thought he had a luxury and unique restaurant on his mind, but suddenly he recalled the name, and it was a restaurant called Cien Montaditos. This restaurant is known for being very speedy and cheap and there is a network of almost 400 of these restaurants around Spain. We were amused because the man liked the restaurant for having cheap beer.

Soon afterwards, we got on the famous punts on the River Cam, which flows through town. We divided into three groups, about ten people per punt, and each group had a tour guide explaining things about Cambridge, the different universities and places that were along the riverbank. I really liked this part of the day, the experience of seeing universities in a very original way.

After punting for about an hour some of us were starving, so we started on the sandwiches that the school provided for us. Then we met two tourist guides, who divided us into two groups for a walking street tour. The guide for my group was a man in his fifties, who was carrying a hiking rucksack and he seemed very professional and very prepared to walk for a long time.

He started talking about Cambridge's students and how one can apply and get accepted to such a prestigious university. He showed us some pictures of students who had graduated with excellent marks. He also explained to us how challenging the work is at



Cambridge. Terms are shorter and there are a lot of exams, so basically, students spend three hard and stressful years studying every single day. But, all hard work pays off in the end, right?

The guide spoke about the town's history, and that Cambridge University is second most ancient university in the world after Oxford. Its colleges have been working since 1209. He also told us that many of their documents were lost because monks were the ones in charge of writing and copying things, but during the Black Death, a lot of them died, and not all the rest of people knew how to write or barely even read.

After the walking tour, we had some free time, so I went with my friends, María and Daurio, all around town. Although they were a little expensive, we bought some jumpers at the university's gift shop because we wanted to have a memory of the trip. Then, we walked around streets that were very cute, small, and uncrowded. We also checked out a street market in the square that had many different stores with souvenirs, clothes and food for sale. There was even a Spanish food stand, and we talked to the man who was running it. He was selling *croquetas*, *tortillas*, *cocido*, *churros*, and many typical Spanish dishes that looked delicious.

In the last few hours of free time, we went to the shopping centre, bought random things and just walked around. Before we had to

head back, we decided to grab a couple of coffees at Starbucks, and surprisingly, the girl who was attending to us, was Spanish too! The girl had been studying in England for a year, and on weekends, she worked at Starbucks to earn some money.

As our trip was ending, we went back to the bus. I was upset that the trip was over because I wanted to have more free time to relax with my friends and explore the beautiful city. However, I did have a lot of fun doing all the exciting things on the trip. It turned out that we met many Spanish people in Cambridge. On the ride back home, almost all of us slept because we were tired from all the walking. Overall, we had a great time and a memorable trip.

Text: Susana, year 10x

Important Dates:

Thursday 04 January,
school recommences

Saturday 03 March,
Croydon Fellowship Service

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