



Stanborough Secondary School Newsletter



16 December 2022

Stanborough School Motto: God is the Master of our School

Theme for the year: Jubilate Deo — Rejoice in God

Bible verse: "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice" *Philippians 4: 4*

Core Values of the School: Excellence — Respect — Courage — Resilience

Specific Values for each half-term: Autumn 2 — **Hard Work**

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to our 2nd edition of the school newsletter. It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of the first term. This newsletter is full of all the exciting activities that have taken place at Stanborough Secondary School since September.

Finding the best education for your child is one of the major concerns for any family. Stanborough School provides young people with a safe and nurturing environment, in which they learn to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime. An ISI inspection noted that our pastoral care is "exceptional". This coupled with small classes, enables us to challenge and support each individual in their learning and in building good interpersonal skills.

Our values of excellence, respect, courage, resilience, helpfulness and integrity help young people to grow in confidence and better appreciate each other. The school has a genuine family atmosphere and is a haven for our students and staff.

At Stanborough, we teach a broad and balanced curriculum, catered to meet the needs of students from all backgrounds, including disadvantaged students and those with Specific Educational Needs. We enjoy seeing young people understand their value, learn to honour and encourage others, while contributing to the wider community. This can be seen in work with charities across Watford, on our Community Service days.

Our mission is to assist all students in creating meaningful and balanced lives, developing as life-

long learners and stewards, and productively serving a world in need of their gifts. We provide education of quality and excellence in a loving and safe Christian environment where children are free to be children.

We enable pupils to understand their God given identity and prepare them for adulthood. While welcoming students from all backgrounds and faiths, our ethos, values, and principles have a firm foundation in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the 103 year tradition at Stanborough.

We encourage the pursuit of excellence and achievement of personal best in all endeavors. Our students are encouraged to achieve their full potential, to face new challenges and to be discerning and analytical.

I am so proud of our atmosphere of warmth, trust, care and a team of committed staff, who nurture, challenge, and equip students with what they need for them to genuinely flourish. I am confident that you will see why we value the school's location, heritage, facilities and staff but most of all, the students who define us and are the heart-beat of the school.

Jeanetta Liburd
Headteacher



An Evening to Remember!

It has been said that 'the best events aren't just memorable; they aren't just beautiful; they accomplish a goal'. Without a doubt, the Speech Night of 2022 was an amalgam of all the above, and more!

The initial hesitations about holding the event in the Stanborough Park Church for the first time quickly dissipated into the cool and tranquil autumn breeze. For many, the overwhelming success of the event presents a strong case for keeping this venue for future Speech Nights.

Buzzing with anticipation and expectation, the guests arrived on time, quintessentially dressed for the occasion. Not to be beaten, the students and staff were equally immaculate.

One of the high points of Speech Nights is welcoming back the 'ancient' and recent alumni, especially the immediate past students, now in sixth form schools and colleges. The Class of 2022 did not disappoint. While a few could not attend, it was a pleasure to see the majority of them splendidly attired and looking noticeably matured.

Everything was well timed. Mrs Jeanetta Liburd, our new Head Teacher, walked to the podium with poise to deliver her report. Lyrical in structure and strategic in substance, her speech had a resounding refrain: "It can be done here". Citing examples from her past schools, she cast an ambitious vision for Stanborough to join the 'Ivy League' of excellent schools in the country. Mrs Liburd further praised the ethos and virtues of Adventist education worldwide, eventually touching on the fantastic things already happening in the school. She was effusive in her admiration for our uniquely beautiful architectural edifice, set on spacious vivid greens.

As expected, the most inspiring speech was delivered by Mrs Angela Knight Jackson (MBE), our guest speaker. Tracing her parental background to the Windrush generation, she showed the original



photos of when her parents arrived in the UK in the 1950s having very little means. However, by dint of hard work and tenacity, they prevailed against the odds. In turn, they inculcated the value of perseverance and determination, enabling her to succeed in education. Continuing, Mrs Jackson described her amazing journey of working as a clinician, in academia, and as a senior leader in the NHS. Now a Deputy Director of Nursing Professional Development, she admonished the students to strive for excellence in all they do, with God as their master guide. The audience was enthralled.

The pinnacle of the event followed the award of prizes. To a delightful applause of the audience, the awardees, especially our ex-Year 11s, walked up to the stage with dignity and sense of achievement to collect their respective prizes and certificates, handed over by Mrs Jackson, ably assisted by Mrs Hussey and Mrs Anderson

There were certainly other high points. The speeches of both Kari (Head Girl) and Theodore (Head Boy) were punctuated with appropriate humour and delivered with oratory skills akin to the best in the trade. Assisted by excellent acoustics in the church, both the school choir and orchestra, dazzlingly conducted by Ms Ahn, raised the roof with outstanding items of music.

The adage is right, 'all good things must come to an end'. Too soon, the programme had to finish, some barely realising it was after 9 pm. But there were no regrets. The goal of celebrating and show-



casing the best of Stanborough was achieved. It had been memorable and beautiful too. One Year 11 student commented, "This Speech Night was brilliant". Another from the Class of 2022 remarked, "The atmosphere was phenomenal, I'm glad I came". They were not alone. An evening to remember indeed!

Mr Emmanuel Amo-Adjei
Year 11 From tutor
Geography & History teacher

Angela Knight Jackson MBE: Speech Night Summary Speech

Mrs Knight Jackson's journey began when her parents came to England in 1955, they were acquaintances in JA and by chance were booked on the same ship for the journey to England. Pretty soon after their arrival they married and started a family. Mrs Knight Jackson used their journey to give a short history lesson on the Windrush generation and dispelled the myths of those who came were not legal immigrants. She was able to show evidence through her parent's passports that they were British Citizens.



Childhood

Mrs Knight Jackson was born in England and attended primary and secondary schools in Sheffield. She described her primary years as excelling in sport and music and it was whilst in secondary education that she became more studious and quickly moved to the top sets in her school. Mrs Knight Jackson described three fundamental pillars to her childhood – Faith, Education and self-belief.

Adulthood

She left school at 18 and was disappointed when she did not get her A levels, but she had excellent O levels (GCSE) and this paved the way for her to enter into nursing. She did a dual qualification and obtained qualifications as a Registered General Nurse and Registered Sick Children's Nurse, and she described this as a major milestone in her life – the world was literally her oyster. Mrs Knight Jackson has an impressive CV. She went on to obtain further nursing qualifications, a BA (Hons), and two masters MSc and MPhil. She has also achieved several leadership credentials and awards. Her most

recent award was as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Birthday Celebrations 2022 she was awarded an MBE.

Lessons from Life

As with any journey there are delays, roadblocks, obstacles, hazards and risks to name but a few. She spoke candidly and described an incident that in year 7 she was suspended from school for being out of school and witnessing a school against school fight. This was a steep learning curve for her as she quickly learned her destiny was in her hands and working against school rules was not a path she wished to take. Mrs Knight Jackson was also able to give examples of the impact of racism on her life and career; it was only through her early year's foundation of faith, education and self-belief that she was able to overcome.

When you journey you also have enablers such as signposts, attendants, maps, networks and so forth. Mrs Knight Jackson likened these to people who will watch out and guide you whether these are parents, teachers, mentors, coaches. Networks she deemed as so important, and networks from secondary school has sustained her even to this present day. She also stressed the importance of leaders having a social conscious; giving back to others and society.

Mrs Knight Jackson concluded her speech with a famous quote from Martin Luther King Jr stating, whatever you do you must keep moving on life's journey for the good of man and proclaiming God. She challenged the students to aim high, we need more students from Stanborough school reaching new heights, achieving awards and daring to go further by the grace of God.

Let's remember Mrs Knight Jackson's three pillars, faith, education & self-belief we will:

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice.

By Kari (Head girl)

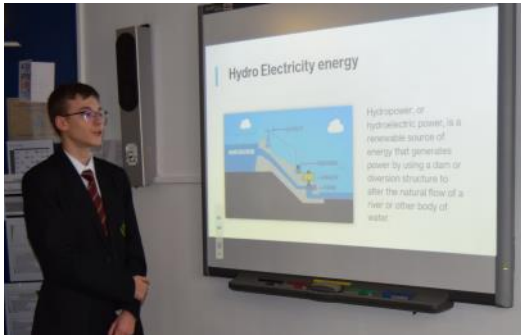
Geography and History

We begin by acknowledging and congratulating all our students who have worked assiduously to complete their classwork, homework and other assignments. A special appreciation is also extended to our parents and guardians, who continue to multi-task, supporting their children and wards.

The luxury of time and space fail us, else we would be commenting individually on both subjects in each year group. For now, this brief report will focus on some of the exciting and topical issues we have been studying in Years 8 and 9 Geography.

Year 8 Geography

Under the unit 'Global Issues', our energetic Year 8s have been exploring issues such as 'Climate Change & Impacts', 'The Water Problem', 'Food Security' and 'Energy



Sources'. In pursuance of our strategic objective of developing independent learners, students were given the opportunity to research and present on non-renewable and renewable energy sources. This is where even the usually shy ones came alive. The depth and breadth of the final products, coupled with the graphics and confidence displayed by each presenter, revealed a great potential. In the end, the sense of achievement was palpable. Below are photos showing some of the students flying high with their presentations.

Year 9 Geography

Equally worth reporting is a similar endeavour by the Year 9s. Our unit on Development has investigated the meaning of development, ways of measuring development, the causes of uneven development and strategies for reducing the development gap. Focusing on the latter topic, the students worked collaboratively to research and present on how aid and intermediate technology, debt relief and tourism, can be used to reduce the development gap between richer and poorer countries. Like the Year 8s above, the quality of content, use of technology and confidence exuded were very impressive. "Well done!" Years 9s.

Trips in the pipeline next half-term

Geography		
Year group	Where	Tentative date (2023)
7&8	Royal Observatory, Greenwich	January
10 & 11	Field Study Centre, Epping Forest	January

Food Technology

Food Technology is a subject in which students learn the skills required to cook meals from all over the world. In doing so they are taught how to use the equipment correctly, to reach the desired outcome.

The skill begins in Year 7 where they are taught how to use a knife correctly, washing up, use of the

oven and some of the varying equipment in the kitchen. They learn and demonstrate these skills while making smoothies, traffic light sandwiches, flapjacks, sandwich pizza and their own breakfast.



Year 8 continue to build on their learning from Year 7. In this year some of the food they were able to cook were soups, pasta, using their pasta sauce made from tomato and herbs, bread and cake. They learn how to read labels and why they are important along with food safety.

Year 9 is the mastery stage. In this year they will demonstrate the skill they have learnt over the last two years. For the first half term their focus is on pastry. They were able to make puff pastry, short-crust pastry and filo pastry all from ingredients they brought in. For the second half term their focus was cakes using the four different methods for cake making.

Library

"Miss, is the library open today?"

It is Monday morning, and this is the first question I hear from a student who has shown up at the library door.

Yes, the library is open from Monday to Thursday, at break and lunch time and also after school until 4.45pm. Sign in our Library Register, be quiet and you are free to stay!

Can I borrow this book or this DVD, miss?

Yes of course, as long as your Acceptance and Permission form has been filled and signed by one of your parents or guardians and returned to the library, you can.

Where can I find books about religion, history or football?

Come with me and let's consult the decimal classification and we will find out in our Library system.

Miss, how long can I keep the book? Can I renew it if I haven't finished it? Oh, miss I don't really know how to choose.... What do you like the most?.....

Do I like all these questions?

Yes, I do! It's refreshing to see the library full of students who come, not just to spend their breaks reading a book, but also for a quiet place to study,

to surf the Internet to find material for their homework or to sit a test. It is easy to get distracted by all the noise of the outside world, so I want to ensure that the library is always available for students who need to find comfort in a quieter place or want to embark on a journey of literary masterpieces.

The library is not just books and reading, it is also a place to quench your curiosities:

Want to learn a new word?

Look at the board outside the door and you will find the "Word of the Week".

Want to know more about different awareness weeks and days?

The board inside the library is for you.

Want to know what Uni or College is for you and plan your future?

In the Library you can find everything you need from Open Days to Catalogues

There are always various activities going on in the library, for instance, Remembrance Day cards for the Veterans Support group in Abbots Langley, Bible verse of the day, Christmas Activities and many more!

Would you like to volunteer in the library?

It can be fantastic to do on your Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Is your bookshelf too full?

We always welcome any pre-loved book donations.

Want to know more?

You can always ask the librarian!

Annalisa Buraglio
Librarian



A Focus on Learning Maths

This term we have had the privilege of having Mrs Anderson and Mr Nalli join our team in teaching the Year 8s, whilst Mrs Brambilla and Mrs Venter teach the remaining groups. Thank you for sharing

your expertise! Each year group has done various topics, expanding their minds in the 5 areas of maths which include Numbers, Algebra, Data Handling, Shape Space and Measure. The Year 9s had an animated discussion on 'Pi' and its relationship with a circle. Why does the number not terminate? And terms like 'diameter', 'circumference' and 'spaghetti' were referenced. We will hear more about this when we celebrate 'Pi' day in March 2023.

Physics

This term Year 7 were learning about Forces and gravity. They were intrigued by gravity and how people and stuff won't fall off from the ground even though people stand upside down on the opposite side of the earth. Year 9 were learning about conservation of energy and how energy can be transferred from one form to another. They have given numerous examples on conservation of energy. Year 10 just completed chapter 6 which is molecules and matter. They enjoyed doing a practical on density. They know how to find densities of a regular and irregular object in a laboratory.

Lara Venter
Bursar and Maths Teacher

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Sunday commemorates the agreement to end fighting during the First World War in 1918. This year, Stanborough Secondary School celebrated Remembrance Day with creativity and art-work!

Our pupils had the opportunity to create a card or a prayer leaf and send it to the Veterans Support Group in Abbots Langley. They created them in their Art and English lessons.

The cards and prayer leaves were handed over to the Chairman of the Veterans Support Group, Liz Burns, who gladly accepted them. She expressed appreciation for the thoughtfulness of the Stanborough School pupils.

Remembrance Day assembly was taken by the Faculty Leader of Humanities and Language Arts, Mr Amo, with the participation of several pupils.

All the pupils must be commended for their hard work and participation!

Eileen Hussey
Assistant
Headteacher



Project £21

I have always dreamed big in my life and working at Stanborough school is no different. I have a vision for our school and its boarding facilities! After many months of marketing our international programmes abroad I am now able to say that we will soon have short as well as long-term programmes hosted on our school campus. My aim is to see our school and boarding school buzzing with international students on a regular basis.

I am very excited as this will give our school a unique opportunity to connect with our sister schools around the world as well as enrich our school life. There is so much we can all learn from our associations with other cultures! I am doing all I can to ensure that all areas of our programmes are to a very good standard. These include the teaching and learning aspect of the programmes as well as our trips and activities area, boarding facilities and the overall educational experience. I would, however, like your help. This is where all of you come in and can make a difference. I would like to encourage everyone to pray about **Project £21** and be inspired to donate wholeheartedly. I have now sponsored one room with two beds and purchased few bedding items for just £21. These items include, 2 pillows, 2 pillow protectors, 2 mattress protectors and 2 storage bags. I plan to sponsor one more room.

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to offer a special thank you to the BUC staff and governors, Stanborough church members and our school staff and parents who have welcomed Project £21 and have now sponsored some of the boarding school rooms. It makes me glad to have the opportunity to be part of such a worthwhile and important project! I can honestly tell you that I have already received the blessings from giving towards this project and you will too as it is in giving, we receive!

If you would like to join us in raising money for this all-important project, please bring your donations either to Mrs Davis our receptionist or feel free to make a bank transfer to our school account with the reference Project £21. Details can be found below:

HSBC Bank
Name: Stanborough school
Account number: 91041274
Sort code: 40-45-28



God bless you all as you support **Project £21!**

Anna Papaioannou
 International Programme Coordinator

Speech Night for Year 7

This year's speech night was slightly different to the norm in that it took place in Stanborough Park Church. Usually, we have it in the school's gymnasium. The air was cool outside and as we waited in the Cedar-Sycamore room in our register classes we were warmed by the anticipation of the evening ahead. This was all very new to our Year 7 and as they marched silently down the middle aisle of the church with our head boy, Theodore leading them; I could only feel pride in their awe of the evening.

About half of the Year 7 took part of the orchestra, which in itself was something to feel proud of. From my seat near the front of the church I could see them working on their various instruments and looking so professional. At some point during the evening, it dawned on me that surely, they must have felt nervous. I certainly have when I have been up on the stage of Stanborough Park Church. And yet as I scanned their faces looking for traces of anxiety, they seemed calm and relaxed as they waited for their turn to present the musical items they had prepared for.

As we sat watching the events of the evening unfold, I turned to a few of them and asked them what they enjoyed the most: some said the head teacher's speech, another enjoyed seeing the students receive their awards and their faces as they took their certificates and trophies. Others said they enjoyed the orchestral piece, 'Finlandia'.

It was lovely to see the Year 7 faces as they sang 'Miracles', some of them looked so passion-filled as they sang, and it brought goose bumps to those who listened. Two of our Year 7 presented the guest speaker with her gift. They were very nervous leading up to this, and anxiously kept asking when it would take place and worried, they might miss it. They both did a fine job thanking her and presenting her with the tower of a gift.

Overall, it was a wonderful way to end of the first 7 weeks of their journey through secondary school at Stanborough School and I look forward to seeing



them at 'Speech Night' in October 2023, where they will receive their awards for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Lara Venter
Bursar and Maths Teacher

School Trip to the House of Commons.

Westminster is a beautiful place to visit because of its rich history and commanding presence! Decisions are made there, that affect every citizen. So when Stanborough Secondary School was invited to participate in a debating competition, Mrs Hussey, (English Teacher) knew that it was an opportunity that she and her pupils could not miss.

On Friday 21st October, a group of ten pupils (Year 10 and 11), accompanied by two teachers, Mr Amo and Mrs Hussey, went to the House of Commons, to participate in a parliamentary debate. The topics (the first one on climate change), were sent to the school in advance and a team of four pupils was created.



This was an educational experience for most of our pupils as they learned what happens during parliamentary debates and it sharpened their ability to think critically and debate a topic. The pupils who were part of the debating team were commended by one of the judges, for their creativity, and presenting their ideas confidently. Our pupils were the youngest, as all the other teams were comprised of Sixth formers.

It generated much excitement, especially with the Year 10 class, who then staged a parliamentary debate in their English Language lesson!

The pupils were confident, and their behaviour was exemplary.

Eileen Hussey
English teacher

Stanborough Schools join hands with the University of the Third Age (u3a) 5th December 2022

Stanborough Secondary and primary schools were invited by the University of the Third Age (u3a) to perform at Stanborough park church on 5th December. U3a meets regularly at Stanborough centre and when they found out that we have two church schools they were excited to get a taste of the musical talent that exists in our schools.

The u3a's motto is learn, laugh, live. Their ethos is self-help and anyone who is not in full-time employment is welcome to join them. There are about 55 groups which span many areas of interest including; Humanities & Social studies, Music & Theatre, Arts & Crafts, Languages, Sports & Physical, Recreation and Social.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our school to connect with such a thriving group of individuals who were oozing with life! We could tell they are living life to the fullest! They loved our performance and one of their members expressed great interest in our Chime ensemble. She had never seen a chime before, and she loved the Christmas piece our students performed.



All in all, an amazing and eye-opening experience! We thoroughly enjoyed our students' performances as we were reminded that there is no end to learning and fun and a fuller life continues into retirement. Thank you u3a and thank you Miss Ahn for your passion and for your faith in our students' musical talents. What a wonderful way to be enveloped into the Christmas holiday spirit with such a melodious mini Carol service. Looking forward to our main Carol service on 13th December! May we all be filled with His love and light this Christmas and always!

Anna Papaioannou
International Programme Coordinator



Christmas
at Stanborough
Park Church

<i>Toy Service</i> Saturday 10th December at 11am	<i>Carol Service</i> Stanborough Secondary School 13th December at 6pm
<i>Christmas Service</i> Christmas Service, 24th December at 11am	<i>Christmas Eve</i> Carols and candlelight 24th December at 7pm

**Free admission -
All welcome!**



Stanborough Park Church
609 St. Albans Road, Watford

Merry Christmas!

Events and key dates

17 December— 2 January	Christmas Holiday
3 January	INSET Day (Staff only)
4 January	Sprint Term starts
5-13 January	Health Week

Registrar

"We have successfully started the flexi schooling for home-schooled students at Stanborough School. This initiative by Hertfordshire County Council offers the children the flexibility to choose the subjects they would like to take at school. On another note, we are happy to continue the tradition as an international school. Our current students speak in excess of 20 languages."

Thanks

We thank all our teachers, support staff and volunteers for their sacrifice and commitment to Stanborough Secondary School. Your service is invaluable, and we pray for God's blessings upon you and your family.

Enrolment is open!

Please note that we are accepting pupils this year. Prospective parents who would like to discuss our admissions procedure further, please contact the school at info@spsch.org.

Contacts

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Pr Eglan Brooks

ebrooks@adventist.uk

SAFEGUARDING GOVERNOR

Mrs Sandra Rose-Campbell

07930145158

rosepetals32@hotmail.com

CHILDREN'S SERVICES /0300 123 4043

Anyone can make a referral

NPSCC / 0800 136 663 help@nspcc.org.uk
It's free and you don't have to say who you are

DSL

Mrs J. Liburd

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07442623643



DEPUTY DSL

Mr W. Nalli

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DEPUTY DSL

Mrs A. Anderson

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Contacting a member of staff

We are always looking at ways to increase parental engagement and have introduced a new way for parents to contact members of staff. If you need to contact a member of staff, please feel free to use the **Contact** page on our website. Members of staff will get back to you within 48 hours.

<http://www.spsch.org/contact/>