

February 2017

Challenge Partners' Visit

Stanchester Academy were delighted to welcome an external Review Team through our doors this month and were thrilled with the positive report they gave about Stanchester Academy and its students. Four Senior Leaders from all around the Country and an "off duty" Ofsted Inspector conducted the review and were impressed by what they saw, stating that "*Leaders are steering the Academy confidently and strategically towards outstanding.*"

Whilst visiting lessons, the Review Team remarked that there is '*a buzz about learning*' saying student engagement was evident across the school.

In meeting with students they found that they '*feel respected and supported in a Community where everyone gets on with each other*' and students told them '*we are pushed and encouraged and staff believe in us*'.

Well done staff and students of Stanchester Academy, your hard work and passion for learning was well recognised!

Drama Workshop

Year 11 drama students attended a workshop at Yeovil College this month, developing their musical theatre skills. Our Year 11's teamed up with the Year 12 students to rehearse a song from West End hit 'Spamalot', combining singing and dancing skills, with humour!



The workshop was run by ex-Stanchester student, Jonny Purchase, who is now performing in 'Les Miserables' in the West End. Having started his stage career here at Stanchester Academy performing in 'Dracula' he is now inspiring the next generation of budding stars and has even been involved in setting up and running the Yeovil School of Musical Theatre, taking time out from his busy schedule to come and work with Somerset drama enthusiasts.

During the workshop, Jonny was also happy to offer his sage advice on how to turn Drama from a passion into a career.

Ski Trip

Students took to the slopes this Half Term in Zell am See in Austria, and watched an ice hockey match as part of their trip.



Believe

Budding Literary figures?

Our Creative Writing Café has been well attended this term with some very pleasing results.

Grace Foy, in Year 9, won the Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival Poetry for her age group, with her exquisite poem 'Winter Flower'. Not only did she win a £30.00 prize but was also invited to read her poem at the prize giving Ceremony.

Grace is also about to be published in a poetry anthology being produced as a result of the 'Young Writers' Busta Rhyme' competition along with fellow Year 9 students, Emily Spencer and Sophie Levy. But the Literary talent doesn't just belong in Year 9.

Four Year 7 groups are due to have their videos on poetry published online at The Betjeman Poetry Prize Website.



Putting the “extra” in Extra Curricular...

In addition to our normal lunchtime and after school clubs, hiking on Dartmoor, visiting Salisbury Cathedral, and coaching with a pro football team are just some of the things our students have been up to this month.



Female students from Years 7-11 enjoyed a coaching session with the Yeovil Ladies Football Club this month, where the big message was to always 'Dream Big' – a philosophy always close to Stanchester's heart.

A group of Year 7-9 Edge Academy students visited Salisbury Cathedral just this week, to study genuine medieval manuscripts.

As the launch event for The Edge History Project, 'Investigating the Past' this trip provided the first insight and inspiration for students to start conducting their own historical enquiries.



Upcoming dates for the Calendar...

World Book Day - Thursday 2 March 2017

Year 9 Workwise - Wednesday 15 March 2017

Year 8 Parents' Evening - Thursday 9 March 2017

PR2 Issued - Wednesday 29 March 2017

Year 10 Work Experience - Monday 13 - 17 March 2017

Easter Holidays - 3-17 April 2017

Year 11 Mocks - Monday 13 - 17 March 2017

INSET Day - Tuesday 18 April 2017

WOW Day for Year 5's - Tuesday 14 March 2017

Students return to school on Wednesday 19 April 2017

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