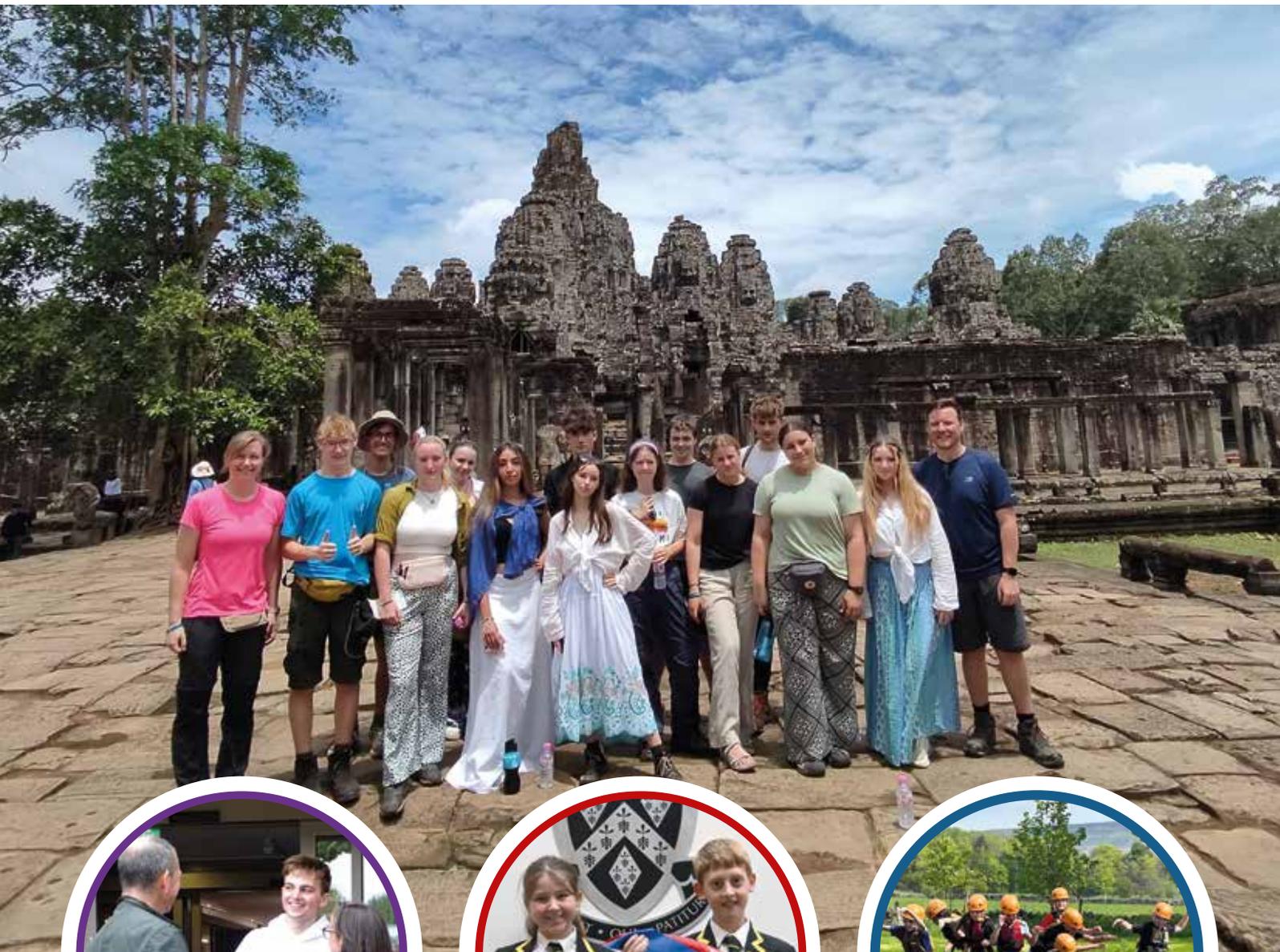


TAKING STOCK



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SCHOOL LIFE



Head's Column

Welcome to the autumn edition of Taking Stock, in which we look back on the Stockport Grammar highlights from the summer.

In August, we celebrated superb GCSE and A Level results. It is exciting to read the personal stories of our pupils and what they hope to do next. It can be tempting to see exam results as the end of the journey, but I think it's more important to think about what opportunities they can bring. Where can those results take you? What might they allow you to do next? What difference can you make?

We are all proud of our school and our place in the local community. Speech Day was a wonderful reminder of the heritage and traditions of SGS, which was further enhanced by its location in the Stockport Plaza. But I also want to encourage our pupils to look outwards and consider what opportunities or experiences they might have. Our Speech Day speaker, Nicholas McCarthy, spoke eloquently and humorously about his own experiences. He showed grit and determination to reach his goals: he didn't allow himself to be limited by the opinions and expectations of others. The performance he gave was astonishing. I felt very lucky to have a front row seat!

At SGS, we offer a wide variety of trips and activities so pupils can experience more, so that they see the opportunities open to them both within school and beyond. The trips featured in this edition are truly inspiring and encourage the pupils to think beyond their local community; to experience different cultures; to perform on different stages; or just to see more of the world! We hope this inspires them to consider what they might do after SGS.

Mrs Sarah Capewell
Senior School Head

Speech Day celebration of the school year

The school community gathered for the 2024 Senior School Speech Day at The Plaza, celebrating a year of success. Renowned classical pianist Nicholas McCarthy delivered an inspiring address and mesmerized the audience with a piano performance. Special guests included the High Sheriff of Greater Manchester and the Mayor of Stockport. Chair of Governors Mr. Jonathan Lee welcomed attendees, followed by Head Mrs. Sarah Capewell's reflection on her first year and student achievements. Prize presentations honoured pupils across all year groups, and the event concluded with thanks from Old Stopfordian President Mrs. Krishanthi Carfrae. A reception followed for award winners' families.



Azores adventure delights

Geography students

At the end of the summer term, Third Year, Fourth Year, and Lower Sixth Geographers visited the Azores, a sub-tropical, volcanically active archipelago, off the coast of Portugal. They explored volcanic features, swam in hot springs, iron-rich lakes, and relaxed on black sand beaches. A stopover in Lisbon allowed students to tour the Baixa district and waterfront. On São Miguel Island, they visited caldera volcanoes, fumaroles, and explored an underground lava tube. Coastal hikes showcased stunning basalt columns, arches, and caves. The group also explored cloud forests and volcanic lakes, before enjoying a Euro 2024 match and a nighttime walk in Ponta Delgada.

Mr Alex Cooke, Head of Geography and trip organiser, said:

"The pupils were able to visualise lots of the material taught in class, particularly from their coastal and tectonics units. I would definitely say that it was one of the most enjoyable foreign school tours I have ever organised: sunny, relaxed, interesting, fun and full of great conversation."

Eco Committee delighted to achieve Green Flag award distinction

Stockport Grammar School is committed to minimising our environmental impact and offering our pupils, their parents and everyone who visits the school a safe and healthy space.

We were absolutely thrilled that our Eco-Committee have been successful in maintaining their Eco Schools Green Flag Award with distinction!

On reviewing our application, the Eco Schools Team noted that we have **"such a representative Eco-Committee"** showing our **"school's excellent commitment to both the programme and the eco-cause"** and they praised our **"eager, enthusiastic volunteers."**

Mrs Hannah Larkin, one of the Senior School teachers in charge of the Eco Schools Committee said: **"It has been fantastic to have pupils represented from every year of the school working together to raise awareness of environmental issues and making positive steps to improving the school's eco credentials."**



History magazine impresses national competition judges

Issue 9 of the SGS Historian magazine was chosen as runner up in Young Historian Awards Best School History Magazine competition (sponsored by the Mid-Trent and Mercia Branch).

The theme for this year's publication was 'Forgotten History' and the writing team was Eddie Griffiths, Tom Farrelly, Frances Walmsley, Penny Horsford, Kiera Field and James Hood. Head of Sixth Form Mr David Stone and Classics Teacher Mr Alistair Thorley also penned contributions.



In reference to the SGS Historian, the judging panel specifically mentioned how much they **"really enjoyed it and the way the students wrote."** The judges were **"very impressed by the range and depths of the articles included and particularly the discursive and analytical nature of the various items."**

Open House celebrates community and heritage

In mid-September, we welcomed nearly 100 visitors for the Community and Heritage Open House, part of the national Heritage Open Days festival. Head of Senior School Mrs. Sarah Capewell welcomed guests, followed by Director of External Relations Mrs. Rachel Horsford, who spoke about the school's history and strong ties to the local community. Visitors enjoyed freshly baked cake before setting off on guided tours of the school, exploring both its historic and modern features.

The event highlighted the school's pride in its heritage and connection to the community since its foundation in 1487.



Charities Assemblies

Senior School Charity Prefects have been attending assemblies to talk about the charities the school will support this academic year.

During the assemblies the audience heard about the amazing work four charities do to support their communities. At the end of the assembly, pupils voted for which one they would like SGS to support. The results of the voting will be announced soon.

This charity will be in addition to the long-standing fundraising we do for EducAid Sierra Leone. At the end of the last academic year, we held a non-uniform day for EducAid. We are pleased to announce that £1,057 was raised from the event.

Spotlight On...

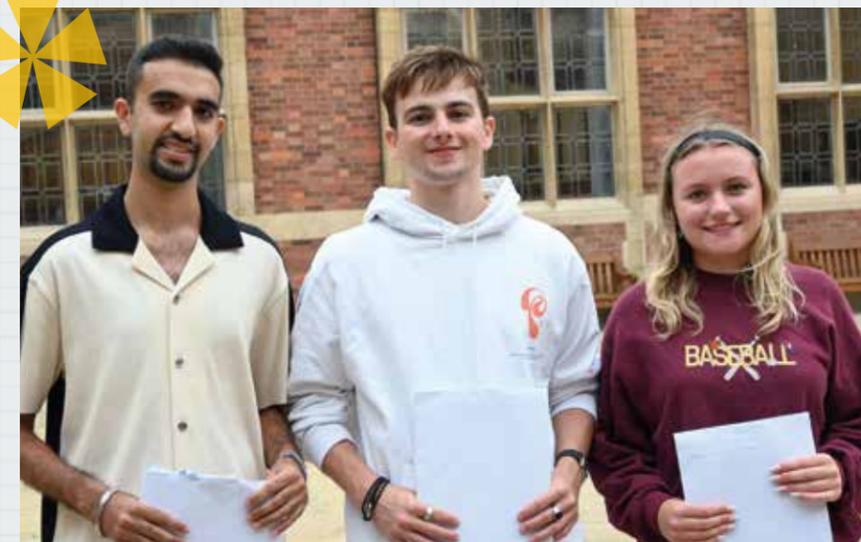
Sixth Formers Kiera Field and Eris Elsby launched this year's series of Library talks, shining a Spotlight On...The Effects of Colonialism on African Poetry.

They briefly outlined the extent of colonialism on the continent before setting out key aspects of poetry pre and post the colonial period. They then introduced the audience to four pieces of poetry, analysing the themes and techniques employed to portray meanings and emotions from a violent time. The audience responded with a range of questions which Kiera and Eris answered thoughtfully.

Their talk reminded listeners that poetry is a universal and powerful form of expression, and happened to echo the theme of this year's Black History Month 'Reclaiming Narratives'.



Results Days



With their amazing results, Stockport Grammar students are looking forward to exciting futures. At A Level, 48% of grades were at A* and A, and 90% at A* to C. At GCSE, over 23% of results were at the top mark of 9 and 63% were at 9, 8 and 7.

Tuguldur Zolzaya's four A*s secured his place to study chemistry at the University of Oxford. Tuguldur thanked his teachers saying: **"They really want you to get to your full potential, and you're supported and encouraged to apply to Oxbridge."**

Head of School Raayan Akbar is looking forward to starting his degree apprenticeship with PwC, one of the world's largest international accounting and professional services firms. Lower down the school, Cara Bell secured ten 9s and one 8 across her eleven GCSEs, a fantastic end to a year that also saw her delight audiences as Dandini in the school's production of Cinderella. While talented linguist, Annabel Huxley achieved 9s in French, German and Spanish amongst her total of nine 9s and an 8.

Head of Senior School Mrs Sarah Capewell said:

"It has been wonderful to celebrate the successes of our pupils this summer. Our A Level and GCSE results were superb and exceeded the results from 2023. I look forward to hearing from our newest Old Stops as they take their next steps beyond Stockport Grammar and to seeing our new Lower Sixth make the step up to A Level study."

Higher Education Conference and Information Evening 2024

The two-day Higher Education conference provided Lower Sixth students with valuable insights into post-school options, including university, apprenticeships, and careers. Speakers from Nottingham, Manchester, and Lancaster universities discussed student finance, personal statements, and employability. Educational consultant Tom Whittaker introduced studying abroad, while Old Stopfordians shared their career experiences. For the first time since the pandemic, parents joined evening sessions on finance and UCAS guidance.



7,8,9

ARTS

Dancers' delight at performing on the national stage

SGS dancers shone on stage at Sadler's Wells Theatre for the Making Moves National Platform. After impressing at the Regional Platform at The Lowry Theatre, their piece "The Place" was selected for the final. Created with Teacher Mrs Abi Downing and choreographer Dannielle 'Rhimes' Lecointe, the dance cleverly incorporated themes like the Suffragettes and the Industrial Revolution.

Maggie Foyer, writing for Seeing Dance, added: **"Stockport Grammar School presented 'The Place' which cleverly wove the Suffragettes, LS Lowry, the Industrial Revolution and Stockport Viaduct into a sophisticated dance work. They are one of England's more fortunate schools that has dance on the curriculum, and it showed in the dancers' confidence and ability."**



Outstanding work displayed at Art Exhibition

Visitors to the 2024 A Level and GCSE Art Exhibition were presented with an outstanding collection of work made by pupils in the Fifth Year and Upper Sixth that marked the culmination of two years of study.

The department encourages pupils to develop a broad understanding of the subject, and practical work is supported by a deeper contextual understanding, necessary to negotiate the broader relevance art has in society.

Pupils had responded to traditional subject matter such as the still life, portraiture, movement and architecture, as well as more unusual and sometimes challenging subject matter, and a range of media and techniques were employed successfully, including drypoint and lino prints, collagraphs, silk painting, ceramics, 3D and photography.

The positive feedback from the evening was richly deserved and the pupils can be proud of the effort that went into making such a fabulous show.



Musicians make magical memories in French capital

Stockport Grammar musicians had an unforgettable time on their Paris tour. They performed informal concerts at Parc Georges Brassens and Jardin d'Acclimatation, wowing the crowds with great music. Highlights included formal concerts at the stunning Église de la Madeleine and Église Saint-Sulpice. Beyond performing, they enjoyed a boat cruise on the River Seine, explored Sacré-Coeur, Montmartre, and Montparnasse Tower, and had a fun day at Disneyland Paris. The trip was filled with amazing experiences and lasting memories for everyone! Reflecting on the tour, Fourth Year James Caine said: **"I really enjoyed it as I feel it really showcased the hard work that is put in by all the pupils and staff over the year."**



Actors amaze in delightful drama production

Pupils from Third Year to Lower Sixth produced two incredible performances of this year's drama production, 'Teachers'.

The SGS version of the John Godber written play took place in the Sixth Form Common Room and the pupils worked for six months to ensure that the audience had a great time.

The original play has just three actors playing 19 roles, but the school's production featured an ensemble of 20 sharing the roles between the whole cast.



Hallé Ensembles

Well done to singers Reeyan Walie-Rahman and Will Lightening who have been selected for The Hallé ensembles.

Fifth Year Reeyan has gained a place in Halle Youth Choir whilst Fourth Year Will has been picked for the Halle Youth Training Choir.

We are looking forward to watching them display their vocal talent at various school concerts and recitals over the upcoming academic year.



Visit to the Lowry

40 GCSE and A Level Drama pupils visited The Lowry to watch National Theatre's award-winning production, 'War Horse'.

Originally directed by Old Stopfordian Marianne Elliott (OS 1985) OBE, this powerfully moving and imaginative World War One drama, filled with stirring music and songs, is a show of phenomenal inventiveness. At its heart are astonishing life-sized horses by South Africa's Handspring Puppet Company, who bring breathing, galloping, charging horses to thrilling life on stage.

Pupils were in awe of the outstanding staging and felt engaged and excited to be using this as the basis of their Live Theatre Evaluation work as part of their academic courses.

LAMDA

Congratulations to the 60 Senior School pupils who took Acting and Public Speaking exams in June. The results are back, and all the pupils excelled with merits and distinctions.

The LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) exams not only provide a platform for the pupils' creativity and love of drama to grow, but also helps to develop their confidence speaking in front of others.

Congratulations go to Blue Budd who achieved a distinction in the highest grade, GOLD Acting.



CO-CURRICULAR

Students enjoy excellent expedition to Vietnam and Cambodia

At the end of the summer term, 13 Sixth Form students, along with Mr. Allen and Miss Hockaday, embarked on a three-week expedition to Vietnam and Cambodia, blending cultural experiences and personal growth.

The adventure began in Hanoi, where the students explored sights like Train Street and Ngoc Son Temple, and enjoyed a Water Puppet Theatre performance. They cruised Halong Bay, kayaking through stunning scenery and exploring the Cave of Surprises.

After a short flight to Phnom Penh, they took a nine-hour bus ride to Banlung for a four-day trek in Ratanakiri Province, sleeping in jungle hammocks. During the trek, they cooled off in waterfalls and played football with local children.

Back in Phnom Penh, the team volunteered with Free The Bears, caring for rescued wildlife, and visited historical sites like the S21 Genocide Museum and the Choeung Ek Killing Fields. The trip concluded in Siem Reap with a visit to Angkor Wat, fostering essential life skills and unforgettable memories.



Activities fair

Early in the Autumn Term, the Lower School Activities Fair took place in the Main Hall.

There was a buzz of excitement as pupils from First to Third Year signed up for clubs they were interested in or had a curiosity about.

Life-changing experience for Alex thanks to travel award



Sixth Form student Alex Hartemink embarked on a life-changing solo trip to Australia after receiving the Albert Johnston Travel Award. Inspired by her interest in marine flora and fauna, Alex aimed to broaden her biology knowledge beyond the A Level curriculum.

In Australia, she visited the Sydney Sports Medicine Centre to explore a different healthcare model before heading to Heron Island via Gladstone. At the University of Queensland's Marine Research Station, she volunteered with researchers studying epaulette sharks, assisting with tasks like capturing, tagging, and feeding the sharks. Alex also completed her PADI advanced open water scuba diving qualification, enhancing her underwater skills.

Her visit to Taronga Zoo and Sydney Aquarium deepened her understanding of Australia's unique wildlife. Alex's experience inspired her to pursue Marine Biology at university.

Berlin trip offers insight into Nazi and Cold War history

44 Fourth Year historians spent time exploring Berlin, with a focus on the IGCSE course; Weimar, Nazi and Cold War history.

After arriving, the group immediately took the U-Bahn to the city centre and enjoyed a guided tour of many famous landmarks, including the Brandenburg Gate, Holocaust Memorial and the site where Hitler's Bunker once existed.

The following day the group spent a very busy day visiting the Topography of Terror Museum, Checkpoint Charlie, the university square where the Nazis burnt books in 1933, the DDR Museum and the Berlin Wall Memorial.

Then, the travellers took a coach to the Wannsee Conference House where, in January 1942, high ranking SS Officers made the decision to implement what became the Final Solution.

The historians also visited Platform 17 – the site where Berlin's Jews were deported from as they were sent in huge numbers to the East.

Blossoms

Music rang through the halls of SGS as the school provided the backdrop to a local band's new music video.

Hitmakers, Blossoms, chose to film parts of their new music video, 'Perfect Me', across our school campus.

Eagle-eyed viewers may be able to spot our Hallam Hall, Dining Hall, Library, Art Rooms and tennis courts in the video.



The Fourth Years visited Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp where the guides spoke about how minorities were transported and the conditions they had to endure, as well as showing the group a gas chamber and crematorium.

The pupils were superbly behaved; respectful, interested and humbled by what they were hearing and experienced.

To mark the last evening of the trip, they headed to the busy hub of Alexanderplatz before having some dinner at their accommodation.



Providing a helping hand on the day of the shoot was Lower Sixth pupil Will Harvey, who spent the day on work experience and helped set up the props used by the band. A performer himself, Will provides drums and backing singing for an up-and-coming local singer. With inspirations to break into the music industry, Will said the day was invaluable.

Having started as a band while they were at school, the members offered the following advice to anyone hoping to follow in their footsteps:

"Stay true to yourself is a big one," they said. **"Trust your gut and make sure to forge your own identity. Live life and have fun and don't forget to keep writing."**

Theatre trip to capital delights Drama pupils

Fifty pupils from Third Year to Sixth Form took part in an exciting London theatre trip organized by Drama teacher Miss Lucy Mitchell. The adventure began with a tour of the Warner Brothers Studio in Watford, immersing them in the magical world of 'Harry Potter.'

In London, they strolled along the South Bank of the Thames and enjoyed the immersive theatre experience of 'Guys and Dolls,' where they moved around the action. After the show, they danced with the cast, and one student exclaimed, **"Best night of my life!"**

The group then walked back to their hotel along the Thames, capturing stunning photos from Tower Bridge. Day two featured time in Covent Garden, a river cruise, a ride on the London Eye, and a viewing of the award-winning musical 'Standing at the Sky's Edge.'

Students described the trip as unforgettable, with one saying, **"It's the best thing I've ever done!"**

SPORTS



Fallows Shield
The house points at the end of the past school year were as follows:

- 1st Warren 252
- 2nd Arden 221
- 3rd Nicholson 218
- 4th Vernon 176

Tag Rugby Festival
Third- and Fourth-Year girls represented the school in a Tag Rugby Festival at the start of term. The sun was shining as the players took to the pitch to test themselves against a number of other schools.



Well done to Molly Mills
on winning the 80m hurdles at the England Athletic National Championships! After a heat and final, Molly finished in top spot as a first year in the U17 age group with a personal best of 11.37. Her time places her as the fastest English athlete in the UK!



Play Your Way to Wimbledon

Following his success in the Play Your Way to Wimbledon competition, pupil Matthew Owens was invited to the famous grass courts for a coaching clinic. The clinic was hosted by Wimbledon's Head Coach and he was assisted by a number of players including Junior Grand Slam Wimbledon winner and Olympian Laura Robson and Stockport's own Naomi Broady who has won nine singles titles, amongst others.



Football
1st XI footballers beat Ellesmere College 6-1 in the first round of the National ISFA Cup. They will play Rossall School in the next round on Wednesday 9th October.



Rugby
39 First Year pupils represented the school for the first time in a rugby fixture against Wilmslow High School. We hope it is the first of many appearances for them.

Athletes shine during Sports Day 2024

Pupils from First to Fourth Year wore their House colours with pride as they competed in Sports Day 2024.

Cheered on in the sunshine by a vocal crowd, athletes from Arden, Nicholson, Vernon and Warren put in some outstanding performances and broke a number of school records in the process.

In each year group, the Victor Ludorum and Victrix Ludorum were awarded to the boy and girl respectively who competed in at least three events and contributed the most points to their house by means of podium finishes.

In First Year, Elliot Ingham (Warren) picked up the Victor Ludorum and Amelia Bvuma (Nicholson) was awarded the Victrix Ludorum.

Oliver Dutton (Warren) and Anika Sijuwade (Vernon) were presented with the awards in Second Year, Ted Deans (Warren) and Holly Stead (Vernon) were the Third Years that picked up the awards and Will Jones (Vernon) and Molly Mills (Vernon) were the outstanding Fourth Year athletes.

The Athletics Challenge Bowl, which is given to the winning House once the points from all four year groups are counted, was won by Nicholson.

Director of Sport Mr Andy Marsh said: **"From First to Fourth Year, it was great to have the whole school out supporting and cheering on the competitors who certainly rose to the occasion. It confirmed what a special day Sports Day is in the school calendar."**



JUNIOR SCHOOL



Head's Column

This edition of Taking Stock looks back at the end of the last academic year and the start of this one. Whilst it is natural to focus on the new year, it is equally important to reflect on the fantastic opportunities the Junior School children had last year. Firstly, our Year 5&6 Choir had a jam-packed tour to Oxford, singing in Merton College and also performing their own concert in Blenheim Palace chapel. The children absolutely loved the weekend and the feedback from parents, family and friends who attended the concerts was extremely positive.

In this edition we also look at the residential visits from the last academic year – Year 3 at Tattenhall, Year 5 at Hollowford and Year 6 enjoying Castleton. This coming year we look forward to our next round of residential visits plus our Year 5&6 ski trip to Italy and the choir tour visiting Cambridge. These residential visits create fantastic opportunities for developing teamwork, resilience and wonderful memories!

With the help of our Year 6 charity reps, last academic year we were able to support a range of charities and raised in excess of £7,500. A truly fantastic amount. This year we have already supported two local charities, Wellspring and The Christie and we have a variety of events planned over the coming months.

At the end of September, Lucy Burgess, a local artist spent a week in school and helped to produce a wonderful mural in our Year 5&6 reading area – we hope that the newly enhanced area will encourage even more reading from our children! Continuing the theme of visiting artists, we were delighted to welcome Faith Bebbington to our school in October for a week to support our work around Black History Month.

I hope that you enjoy catching up on Junior School life and learning.

Mr Matthew Copping
Junior School Head



STOCKPORT GRAMMAR
JUNIOR SCHOOL

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the opening of our Junior School.

To help mark the occasion we invited former pupils from that first cohort back to school to share their recollections.

The video also features memories by some of our current pupils from their time in the Junior School.



Harvest

Wellspring

Thank you to everyone in the Junior School community who left off Harvest food donations for The Wellspring Stockport. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity and know the people in need in Stockport will benefit from this.

In assembly the Charity Reps Benjamin C and Lola W spoke about how The Wellspring have been supporting people for almost 30 years and a member of the local charity was delighted to pick up the donations.

During the assembly, Reverend Lever reflected on the times when we stop and give thanks.



For the Harvest Festival, Billy K was very excited to bring in some of his homegrown vegetables. The Year 3 pupil has grown these from seed at his family's allotment and he is very proud. He has also grown onions, garlic, green beans, carrots, potatoes, sweetcorn and tomatoes.

Last year, we supported a number of charities through fundraising in school. We are happy to report that we raised

£7,621

which went towards the following charities:



NSPCC

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU**

**COMIC
RELIEF**

Heads on the run

To raise money for The Wellspring Charity, the Head of the Junior School, Mr Copping, and the Head of the Senior School, Mrs Capewell, took part in the Great Manchester Run. For their efforts, they raised

£1,434

for the charity.



Cuppa for The Christie

The Junior School's Cuppa for The Christie Charity went down a treat and raised a fantastic **£1,189!** Parents and staff enjoyed a delicious selection of cakes and biscuits alongside their tea or coffee. Pupils supported the cause by wearing all manners of blue and red attire from headbands, socks, t-shirts, cardigans and much more! Thank you to everyone who baked, donated and supported this cause. Your kindness will make a difference in the lives of those battling cancer.



Rugbytots

Junior School clubs commenced after the summer break and the new term brought a new addition to the co-curricular calendar – Rugbytots.

The fun, structured play sessions take children on a journey of sporting imagination with engaging and energetic coaches supporting them every step of the way whilst teaching how to catch, pass, kick, run with the ball and play as part of a team.

Settling in

The youngest members of our school community have enjoyed the start of their school journey at SGS.

With the sun shining, our Nursery children have had lots of fun together exploring the classroom, garden and all the play areas. Pirate boats have been built, sandcastles made, and the beginnings of friendships formed.

The girls and boys have had their first PE, French and Music lessons and were excited to be in the pool for their first swim lesson.

Reception children have enjoyed exploring their classrooms, meeting their teachers and they even had their first forest learning session!

What a great start!

Visit from an author

Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 enjoyed a fantastic author visit from Mark Powers, who spoke about his new book, 'Hero Wanted'.

Mark is a children's author from North Wales, now living in Manchester, and has previously published the popular series 'Spy Toys' and 'Space Detectives'. It was a thoroughly engaging presentation, and the children asked some fabulous questions.

Everyone who attended learnt all about high and low fantasy and science fantasy genres!



Juniors relish their time on residential

Residential trips provide a wonderful opportunity for pupils to bond and develop new skills. This summer, Years 3, 5, and 6 enjoyed exciting, activity-filled adventures.

Year 3 had a fantastic time at Tattenhall, participating in orienteering, pond dipping, and campfire challenges that strengthened their teamwork. They also toasted marshmallows, baked bread, climbed walls, and sang songs around the fire.

Year 5 headed to The Hollowford Centre in Castleton, where they enjoyed rock climbing, caving, and zip-lining. The children embraced the outdoors and returned with lasting memories, full of fun, excitement, and new experiences.

Castleton again was the location as Year 6 children spent three fabulous nights enjoying themselves.



Kindness Crew

Year 6 pupils Skyler L, Lara S, Hoomi M, Ammara I, Olachi E, Georgia D and Mila Y are proud to have been named as members of the Junior School's Kindness Crew – formerly the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

The 're-brand' came about as last year's Ambassadors decided that they wanted a name with a more positive slant, and we are sure the girls will excel in their role.

People who help us

As part of their topic on 'People Who Help Us', Reception children visited the kitchen to see where their food is made and to meet our amazing Catering Manager Mrs Gosling.

The pupils saw a huge oven, a walk-in fridge, and a giant mixer, and witnessed their lunch being prepared and the fruit being cut up. They also enjoyed seeing where all plates are washed and dried. The boys and girls had a great morning and it made them very hungry!

Pretty Muddy race

Our Junior School pupils regularly impress us with their charitable nature. Earlier in the year, two teams took part in the Pretty Muddy 5K Race for Life as they raised funds for Cancer Research UK.

Team 'Mud Surfers' Piper O, Rory H, Raven D, Talullah Mc and Lottie Mc raised a brilliant £700 whilst Alice W, Emily G, Alba C, Isobel M and Harriet A amassed an amazing £650. The pupils supported and encouraged each other as they ran around the course and through the various obstacles in Tatton Park.

We are excited to see what our pupils get up to this academic year to fundraise for charity!



Junior School Sports Day 2024

Sports Day marked a fantastic end to a year of outstanding sports achievements. On a warm, dry day, older pupils impressed with their running, throwing, and jumping skills, all while earning points for their Houses. There were many standout individual performances, with pupils showing grit and determination, especially in the challenging 400m and 600m races.

Despite a rainy morning, the Infant children managed to hold their outdoor events. It was great to see all the children enjoying the competition and giving their best in the races they had been practicing for all week.



Sports Festival

We were delighted to host 30 teams for a festival of netball and rugby for Year 6 pupils.

The festivals are designed as a 'pre-season type' event to get pupils as much playing time as possible before their fixtures and tournaments really kick in.

Our Junior School teams performed well throughout the afternoon, winning a number of matches whilst getting used to playing as a team again.

Juniors celebrate National Poetry Day

Junior School pupils celebrated National Poetry Day, by looking at several poems and stories and getting creative.

Children in Reception and Nursery read 'How Many Legs?' by Kes Gray and Jim Field.

Years 1 and 2 read 'Party Parade' by Leanne Miller and Year 3 and 4 pupils enjoyed creating and sharing their poems together after looking at John Agard's 'On The Run From Colours'.

The theme for this year's National Poetry Day, which celebrates its 30th anniversary, is 'counting' and Year 5 and 6 pupils explored the fascinating world of poetry through the lens of numbers and calculations.



**Prize Giving
celebrates hard
work of Juniors**



Parents, pupils, and staff gathered in the Dining Hall for the final event of the Junior School academic year – Prize Giving. The evening celebrated the pupils’ hard work and offered a fond farewell to the Year 6 group as they move on to Senior School.

Chair of Governors Mr. Jonathan Lee welcomed everyone before the Year 5 and 6 Choir performed “Child of Tomorrow” by Lin Marsh, under the guidance of Miss Micklethwaite. Head of Junior School Mr. Matthew Copping reflected on the year’s successes and introduced guest speaker Stacey Copeland, a Commonwealth boxing champion. Stacey spoke about overcoming adversity and encouraged pupils to pursue their dreams and rely on family and friends for support.

The event continued with the presentation of prizes, including year group awards, and the Head Boys and Girls shared amusing memories from their time in the Junior School. After prayers by Rev. Liz Leaver, the Year 3-6 Orchestra concluded the evening, followed by a reception for parents.

**Junior School choir wow
Blenheim and Oxford**

The Year 5 and 6 Choir had a successful music tour to Blenheim and Oxford, performing in the chapels at Blenheim Palace and Merton College to appreciative audiences.

The pupils were praised for their beautiful singing, smart appearance, and excellent behaviour.

At Blenheim, they enjoyed a tour of the palace and free time exploring the grounds.

Singing in such acoustically stunning venues was a privilege. The trip also included sightseeing, shopping, museum visits, a tour of Oxford, and ten-pin bowling.

On Sunday, the pupils attended a service at Magdalen College Chapel, hearing one of the UK’s top choirs.



Mural

Year 5 and 6 pupils are delighted with their newly designed reading area, painted by local artist Lucy Burgess Art with the help of the children.

The idea for the area was to create a calming space, drawing on nature, which would encourage children to spend quality time choosing their next read, to grow their love of reading or branch out with new genres.

Thank you to the SPA Parents’ Association for funding this wonderful project!