

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

WELCOME BACK!

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Special Shout-outs
- Extra Curricular Success
- Focusing on Attendance
- A Musical Spin
- Warm Welcomes
- Art Competition

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**Ann-Marie
Smith**
Headteacher



YEAR 7 THE ORATOR

SPECIAL SHOUTOUT

It has been a brilliant start of the year by our new set of Orators. Students have been building discussion skills in their lessons and learning the building blocks of high level oracy in tutor time. From learning about energy in science, to the Neolithic era in History, to starting to learn the languages of Latin and French, our new Year 7 Orators have been outstanding in their lessons, with multiple students already having received over 200 achievement points. In particular special commendation to **George in 7MPE** who has already reached 300 achievement points!

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

Multiple students have also been exploring the different Extra-Curricular activities we have as well. Year 7's have been learning Mandarin, signing up to Cello lessons, acting in our drama club, and representing the school for our sports teams. We are exceptionally proud of our rugby team who took part in a tournament last Monday, and our football team for their first game of the year on Friday. We are looking forward to seeing what other exciting parts of our school culture and competitions our Year 7 Orators will take part in over the coming weeks, and who will be looking to join the student council as a leader of the year group.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

The coming weeks will be a chance for our students to expand their knowledge even further and start to show off their skills across their subjects. Finally, we will be issuing our first attendance award of the year next Friday; **two students will receive £20 vouchers** if they have been in for all 10 days from 29th September to 10th October. Our attendance has been excellent so far, and many students deserve to be acknowledged for their effort and focus so far this year.

We would just like to remind all parents that students should be receiving and completing homework each day, which will be recorded in their planners.



**"SPEECH
WITHOUT
HEART IS
NOTHING BUT
NOISE."**

ABHIJIT NASKAR



YEAR 8 THE PHILOSOPHER



A WARM WELCOME TO OUR YEAR 8 FAMILIES

We are delighted to welcome all parents and carers to a new academic year that sees your child enter the year 8 area of the Gateway.

We encourage you to reach out with any questions or concerns — we are here to support both you and your child throughout the year. Over the coming days, tutors, will also be making introductory phone calls to connect with you directly if they have not already.

After successfully completing the Orator stage of the Stoke Park Seven Year Journey in Year 7, our students are now embarking on their next exciting chapter: the Philosopher. This phase is designed to develop deeper thinking, independence, and curiosity — essential skills for both academic success and personal growth.

THE GATEWAY PHILOSOPHERS

As part of The Gateway, we have tasked the tutor groups with selecting a philosopher that they feel best suits their tutor group identity and we cannot wait to introduce these to you over the coming weeks. Our first half term has focussed on Mrs Banks chosen Philosophers as she has shared their stories with the students through our weekly assemblies. Students have currently learnt about Harriet Tubman, Mahatma Gandhi and Albert Einstein.

As part of our Gateway culture and ethos we select one student each week, who have demonstrated the qualities of a philosopher in our year 8 community, these students embody our definition of a philosopher who seeks wisdom, ask thoughtful questions, thinks deeply about ideas and shows curiosity about the wider world.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: -

Week 1: Wisdom
Week 2: Sorayah
Week 3: Mayo

***"We are what we
repeatedly do.
Excellence, then,
is not an act, but
a habit"***

Aristotle

who have been awarded their Philosopher of the week pen, they have had a positive impact on the team and we are proud of everything they have achieved so far. While the students demonstrate excellence in order to be crowned Philosopher of the week our tutor team also vie for the prestigious title of Mrs Banks Favourite. Which highlights the tutor who has gone above and beyond for their tutor group that week.

We have had so much to celebrate in such a short space of time and we look forward to sharing all our student successes with you throughout the year.

YEAR 8 TEAM:

Director of Gateway - L Hall | Curriculum Progress Leader: L Bailey | Pastoral Manager: S Kinsella



YEAR 9

THE REVOLUTIONARY

STARTING STRONG!

Year 9 have had a fantastic start as they embark on their next stage of the 7 year journey as the revolutionaries. This year marks a crucial stage in their journey as they prepare to transition into the demands of GCSE study, and we are delighted with the way they have embraced the challenge. The focus for Year 9 is very clear: building strong habits now so that every student is GCSE ready. Across all subjects, teachers are supporting students with GCSE specific powerful knowledge alongside strengthening their independent learning skills that will give them the confidence to succeed at the next level.

REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT

What has been particularly impressive is the revolutionary spirit Year 9 have shown—motivated, curious, and ready to step up. To celebrate and encourage this, we have introduced the tutor group cup competition within the year group, rewarding effort, resilience, attendance, punctuality and progress. This will give students extra motivation to push themselves and recognise those who are going above and beyond. Alongside this we have also had some extremely worthy winners for our stars of the week in which weekly subject teachers nominate students who have been particularly impressive that week. In addition, each week our tutors nominate one student each for our thankful Thursday award—this award can go to students who have displayed the Stoke Park values including being respectful, safe and ready to learn. The winners of these come to Mrs Tunilla's office each Thursday morning to receive their postcard and a prize!

"The true revolutionary is guided by a great feeling of love. It is impossible to think of a genuine revolutionary lacking this quality"

—
Che Guevara

ATTENDANCE FOCUSED

Attendance continues to be a key focus and we would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in ensuring that students are attending school each day and are **arriving promptly for their 8:40 start**



YEAR 9 TEAM:

Director of Year: C Hughes | Head of Year 9: T Tunilla | Pastoral Manager: S Clayton

Stoke Park Performing Arts is proud to present “A Musical Spin!”, an evening of spectacular performances that will take you on a journey through some of the most iconic musicals ever written. This exciting showcase will feature our talented students performing show-stopping numbers from Rent, Little Shop of Horrors, and Matilda, along with other surprises that will leave you wanting more!

When:

 Tuesday 25th November  7:00 PM

Where: Stoke Park School – Main Hall

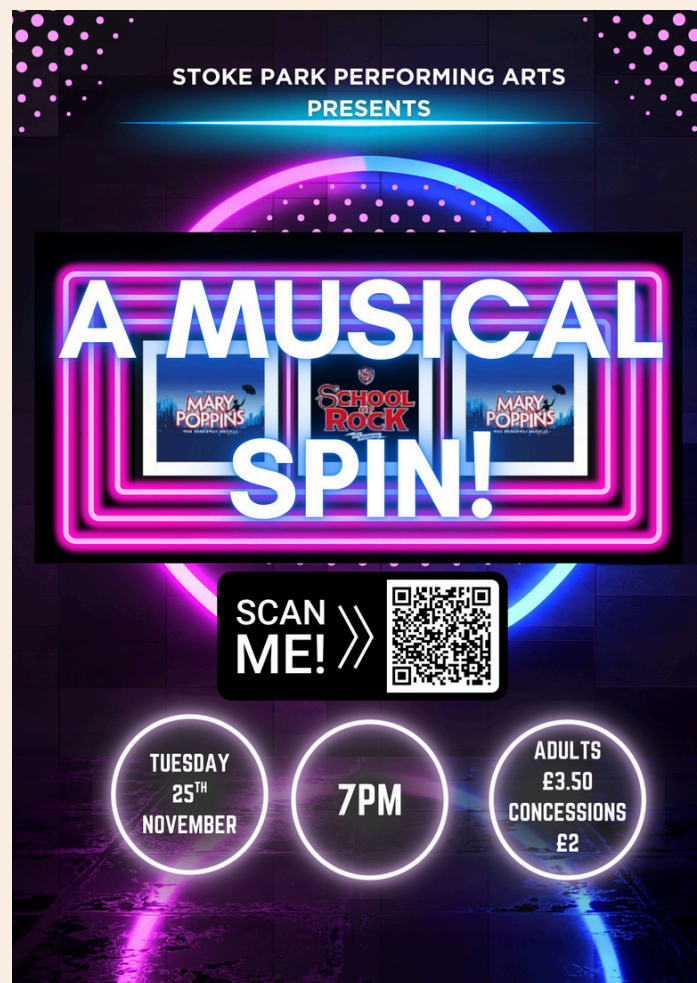
Tickets:

 Adults: £3.50

 Concessions: £2

Book your tickets now [CLICK HERE](#)

This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the creativity and hard work of our students and enjoy an evening of live entertainment with family and friends. Seats are limited, so don't miss out – book today and join us for a night of unforgettable performances!



EXTRA CURRICULUM AND CLUBS

Club / Ensemble	Day	Time	Room	Target Group / Staff
Drama Club	Monday	3:00 - 4:00 pm	OLC	Miss Poxon
Keyboard Club	Monday	Break Time	33	Independent Practice
Senior Choir	Tuesday	Tutor Time	32	Y9 Choir
Brass Ensemble	Tuesday	Tutor Time	32	Music Staff
Keyboard Club	Tuesday	Lunch Time	33	Independent Practice
Musical Spin Rehearsal	Wednesday	3:00 - 4:15 pm	Main Hall	Y8-Y13
Gateway Choir	Wednesday	Tutor Time	32	Y8 Choir
String Ensemble	Wednesday	Tutor Time	30	Mrs Scott-Burt
Music Technology	Wednesday	Break Time	33	All Year Groups
Bridge Choir	Thursday	Tutor Time	32	Y7 Choir
Guitar Ensemble	Thursday	Break Time	30	All Guitarists / Mr Prior
Musical Spin Rehearsal	Thursday	3:00 - 4:15 pm	Main Hall	Y8-Y13
Stoke Park Orchestra	Friday	3:00 - 4:00 pm	32	Instrumentalists
Music Technology	Friday	Lunch Time	33	All Year Groups



IMPORTANT DATES

27th October - 31st October - Half Term



CELEBRATING OUR PERFORMING ARTS STARS OF THE WEEK!

This half term, we have been shining a spotlight on the incredible talent, creativity, and dedication of our students through our **Performing Arts Stars of the Week awards**. These students have gone above and beyond in music, drama, and dance, showing outstanding commitment and enthusiasm in every lesson and rehearsal.

Each week, teachers have selected students who have demonstrated:

- ★ Exceptional effort and progress in their performing arts lessons.
- ★ Creativity and confidence in performance.
- ★ Teamwork and leadership in group activities and productions.

So far this half term, our Stars of the Week have impressed us with their passion for the arts and their willingness to take on new challenges. Whether mastering a tricky piece of music, delivering a powerful monologue, or choreographing an original dance routine, these students are true ambassadors for the performing arts at Stoke Park.



HOMEWORK CLUB

EVERY THURSDAY UNTIL 4PM

YEAR 7, 8 & 9





YEAR 10 THE INVENTOR

STARTING STRONG

It has been a very promising start for our students returning to commence their GCSE studies this year. Our personal development sessions during the morning have focused on wellbeing, building positive relationships and setting targets. All of these are aimed at giving students a solid foundation to fulfil the role of the Inventor in year 10. Careers sessions have also looked at local market information to support students in making informed decisions regarding the job market that they will enter in the coming years. Students have started subjects which they selected as options during year 9. Some of these subjects are completely new to them, and it has been a great experience for them to challenge themselves in exciting options choices

INVENTORS IN THE COMPETITION

The role of the Inventor in year 10 is to create a vision for their future, and many of our students have pursued extra-curricular activities to boost their experience at Stoke Park School. Students have engaged in singing lessons, a variety of instrument lessons and sports including Basketball, Football and Rugby. All of these will develop our student's character and we look forward to seeing the competitions which they will organise over this year.

READY & PREPARED

As we look to drive students' readiness for their GCSEs we expect them to be completing lesson preparation across all subjects every week. This could take a variety of forms such as pre-reading, revision or exam question practice. Please check in with your children to ask them questions about their learning and their lesson preparation, your support is greatly valued. As we come towards the end of the first half term, we are always looking to expand our students' attendance. There are a number of students with exceptional attendance, such as Bryan who has a 100% attendance record since arriving at Stoke Park in September 2022! We will be running attendance where **two students will receive £20 vouchers** if they have been in for all 10 days from 29th September to 10th October.

*"An inventor fails
999 times, and if he
succeeds once, he's
in. He treats his
failures simply as
practice"*

Charles Kettering



YEAR 10 TEAM:

Director of Year: T Hall | Head of Year 10: L Glover | Pastoral Manager: M Parmar



YEAR 11 THE ARCHITECT

FINDING OUR PRIDE

We are extremely proud of our Year 11 students, The Architects, and the way they conducted themselves during Mock Week. Their focus, maturity, and resilience were excellent, and they set a fantastic example to younger students across the school. These assessments were an important step in preparing for their final examinations, and the attitude displayed by Year 11 gives us real confidence as we look ahead to the summer.

This week, students are receiving their mock feedback from subject teachers. This feedback highlights their areas of strength and, importantly, pinpoints the gaps that need to be closed. Parents can support by encouraging their child to act on this advice, revisit weaker topics, and continue good habits in preparation for the next round of assessments.

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of attendance and punctuality at this stage of the year. Every single day counts — arriving on time, attending all lessons, and staying engaged ensures that no learning opportunities are missed.

ASSEMBLY FOCUS – MARGINAL GAINS

In assemblies this half-term, we have been focusing on the idea of marginal gains. This is the principle that small, consistent improvements — as little as 1% — can add up to a massive overall impact. We are encouraging students to think carefully about the little changes that will make a big difference:

-  Arriving on time to every lesson
-  Staying organised with equipment and resources
-  Completing all learning preparation and homework on time
-  Actively engaging in lessons and asking questions



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 14th October - Parents Evening

These small but powerful habits will not only improve performance but also build confidence and independence.

POST-16 PATHWAYS

The Year 11 journey is about preparing for exams but also about planning for the future. Our Post-16 team is working closely with students this term to ensure they are fully supported as they begin to make decisions about next year. Careers meetings are taking place, giving every student the chance to explore their options and receive expert advice. We want all Year 11s to feel confident about the choices they are making and the exciting opportunities available to them.

PARENTS' EVENING

Year 11 Parents' Evening will be held on **Tuesday 14th October**. This will take place online, and appointments should be booked through School Cloud. This is an excellent opportunity to meet subject teachers, review how your child is progressing, and discuss strategies for continued success in the months ahead.

*"There are 360
degrees, so
why stick to
one?"*

Zaha Hadid



POST 16 - THE SCHOLAR

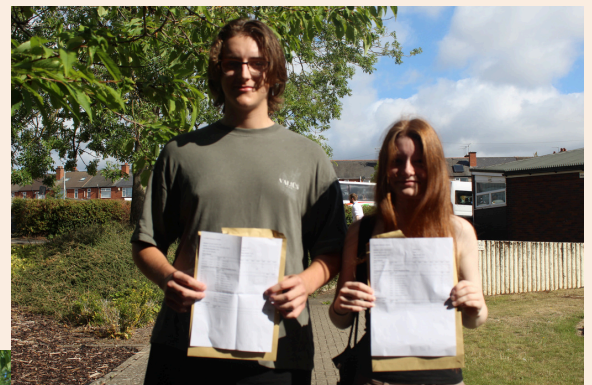
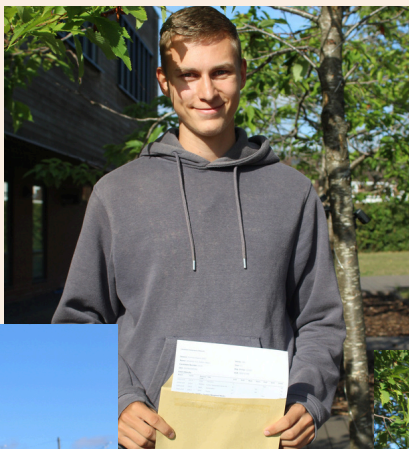
A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW YEAR 12 AND RETURNING YEAR 13.

A new intake of year 12 is always an exciting and promising time here in Post 16, you have all been extremely successful in your GCSE results and now we look forward to transitioning this into your first A level year. These opening weeks have been a huge indication of just how successful year 12 are going to be: we have already welcomed Warwick University, who have delivered their Pathway initiatives. An excellent opportunity to engage with a top-rated University over the next two years and receive incentives to join them over a further three. We look forward to meeting Springpod and Uptree who will provide year 12 with a plethora of Career and Work-related opportunities. Attendance, punctuality, lesson involvement and private learning prep study has been strong over these initial weeks, and we look forward to celebrating both year groups for demonstrating our ethos and our Scholar values.

YEAR 13

Continuing a very successful year 12 and hitting the required challenges in these early days is essential to be successful over the course of the year. Year 13 have certainly begun well. Those involved in Early entry requirements have made plenty of ground. The Medicine applications began last year with an online support package provided by Medify, this received glowing feedback from the year 13 and now these students are involved in final requirements to their applications. All Year 13 are involved in completing their personal statements and a strong presence in all A level subjects are important in these coming months.

Below are a number of photographs celebrating our outgoing Year 13 who achieved some excellent results to take them to some excellent Universities; Alex has begun his career with Oxford to study maths, Sain has joined Warwick to study law, Florin and Milly have also joined Warwick for maths and theatre studies. Well done and good luck to all Stoke Park Year 13 Leavers as they embark on those next steps.



POST 16 TEAM:

Director of Post 16: L Jakubecz | Head of Year 12 & 13: S Gaiser | Pastoral Manager: E Dye



SPORTS ROUNDUP

YEAR 7 RUGBY TOURNAMENT

On Monday 29th September Finham Park School hosted their annual multi-school rugby tournament involving schools from Coventry and Warwickshire. Stoke Park were drawn to play Cardinal Newman and Southam College in the group stage. Both opponents proved too strong for Stoke Park but students displayed excellent resilience and determination particularly in their bravery when making last-ditch tackles. The final game was a close defeat to Coundon Court which involved captain Jude. L scoring an outstanding solo try. Mr Glover and Mr Beasley were very proud of the team as there was a lot of positives to build on for future games!



YEAR 8 RUGBY TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday 30th September the year 8 rugby team took part in the annual Finham Park rugby tournament. The year 8 team enjoyed plenty of success last year, so expectations were high. However, the team encountered a tough start and suffered back-to-back defeats to Meadow Park and Kenilworth. With their backs against the wall the students responded in remarkable fashion and drew to a very strong Coundon Court side 10-10 and then comfortably beat Finham Park 15-5 with some outstanding tries being scored. The students really embodied rugby values of unity, teamwork and respect, well done to all!



ART COMPETITION

Draw, make, paint, sculpt, carve or bake a MONSTER to have a chance of winning a prize

Use your imagination to dream up a monster; scary, funny, or totally unexpected!

You can use any materials or medium you like.

Sculpt, paint or draw your design, or even build a model.

The only limit is your imagination!

What weird or wonderful idea will you come up with?

Prizes are awarded to stand-out entries - not just the most artistic - as ootibOO! is an inclusive project for any ability. The main thing is to have fun!

The judge for this year's competition is the author of Colin's Grandma, Holly Swain.

The Prizes;

We offer a fantastic selection of prizes suitable for all ages for our competition winners!

All entries included in the gallery are automatically entered for judging and a chance to win!

Deadline:
5th November 2025
Entries to be handed
into
Miss Branagh
in room 56

ootiboo



LEAVERS' HOODIES



As we begin looking ahead to the end of the year, we are pleased to confirm that Leavers' Hoodies are now available to order for **Year 11 Only**. These are a fantastic way for students to preserve memories, celebrate friendships, and mark the completion of their journey as The Architects.

Orders can be placed through our private online shop:

➡ [CLICK HERE](#) ⬅

Login details:

Username: 9378

Password: 7vZTZd83

 Shop closing date: **9th April 2026**

Once the shop closes, all orders will be processed together, and hoodies will typically be delivered within 2-4 weeks. We strongly recommend checking the size guide on the website before placing an order to ensure the perfect fit.

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

If you have any concerns regarding a child, please find below a list of helpful agencies.

- Coventry's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub: 024 76788555. Out of hours Social Care: 024 76832222
- If there is a risk of harm or immediate danger Police: 101 or 999.
- **Safe To Talk:** 0800 111 4998
- **Childline:** 0800 1111 NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- NSPCC FGM Helpline: 0800 028 3550
- **Kooth**
- Stoke Park Support - [CLICK HERE](#)



FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Our family support centre is open!

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

