

NEWSLETTER

**JANUARY
2025**

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Ed Sheeran comes to Coventry!
- Mock Exams begin for our Students
- Year 11 prom date announced
- Sports Round-Up
- Art Competition

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year to you all! We hope you had a restful and fulfilling winter break and a bright start to the new year.

We have welcomed our students back and are looking forward to seeing them flourish. This year brings with it the expectation of dedication and perseverance as we see our students make key decisions for their future. Our Year 10 Inventors begin their mocks exams alongside the Post-16 Scholars who are also completing on their UCAS applications and getting their university and other Post 18 offers. Our Year 9 are considering their options for GCSE and further hone their students as they begin to invent their future selves.

We were ecstatic for our students who got to meet and work with Ed Sheeran through his foundation and SoundLab-Coventry.

It was such an enriching and unique experience, showing the value and importance of music and creative subjects. Our students will continue to work with SoundLab and we are excited to see the development of these future artists.

In the Sporting world we have had successful football and badminton bouts already in 2025, and are pleased to see the fighting spirit and sportsmanship through all year groups.

We look forward to see what else this Spring term has in store.
Have a wonderful weekend.



Natalie Rock
Headteacher



YEAR 7 THE ORATOR



MEETING MILESTONES

As we settle into the new term, I am delighted to share how truly impressed I have been with the return of our students from the Christmas holidays. The transition back into the rhythm of school life has been seamless and I am very happy to have welcomed our students back happy and safe from the holidays.

This term, we are focusing on enriching the Stoke Park Experience. We believe that a well-rounded education includes not only academic excellence but also active participation in extracurricular activities. These opportunities are not just fun; they foster skills like teamwork, leadership, and resilience. We encourage all our students to explore the various clubs, sports, and societies we offer. Whether it's debating, drama, or football, there's something for everyone. Engaging in these activities can significantly enhance your school experience and personal development. I was extremely pleased to hear that our Boy's football team won their first match of 2025 10-7, I look forward to hearing the results in the upcoming Coventry cup fixtures!

Thank you all for your continued effort and for making the return from the holidays so smooth.



TREADING THE BOARDS

The drama department recently held auditions for our summer musical, 'Oliver', and I was very proud at the number of Year 7 students who auditioned. This is not only a testament to the talent we have here at Stoke Park but also to the passion for performing arts that our Orators possess. Congratulations to all who auditioned, and we look forward to seeing you on stage in the Summer term. I would also like to take time to thank the Drama and Music departments for fostering a passion for the arts in our students.

***"TO LIVE IS THE RAREST
THING IN THE WORLD.
MOST PEOPLE EXIST,
THAT IS ALL."***

—
OSCAR WILDE

YEAR 7 TEAM:

Director of KS2-3: C Hughes AHT | Director of The Bridge: L Meyrick | Pastoral Manager: A Hansford



YEAR 8

THE PHILOSOPHER



A lovely welcome back to school has been had by all in the Gateway this week. Students have been a buzz with energy after their half term break and it has been lovely to see so many smiling faces ready to learn each and every morning.

ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

For many students this week, they have been receiving feedback on their most recent assessments having completed them prior to half term. At Stoke, we value three key questions when talking to students about their learning - Know, How, Show. For students this is an opportunity to be forensic in their understanding of their strengths and next steps. Students always impress with their ambition to improve. We look forward to seeing you all take these lessons forward into your next steps on your Y8 learning journey.

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

Anne Frank






UNIFORM REMINDER

Finally, a gentle reminder to all parents that Stoke Park has high expectations for uniform, including make-up and jewellery. Full details of our uniform policy are listed on our website. For any further questions please contact the year team who will be happy to assist.



Enrichment Offers

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
REGISTRATION	Brass Ensemble			Brass Ensemble	Gateway Choir
BREAK	Y11 Computer Science		Music Tech Sessions	Keyboard Club	Interform Comps SPARX Support
LUNCH	Y11 Option 2	SPARX Support Y11 Option 1	Keyboard Club	Senior Choir Y11 Option 2	Interform Comps Music Tech Sessions Y11 Option 1
AFTER SCHOOL	Football (Girls) Basketball Cricket (Girls) Multigym Orchestra Drama Club Y11 Maths Int Y13 English	BSL Club Meeting Nights Film Club Y11 Geography Y11 Sociology	P16 Debate Club Football (Boys/Girls) Cricket (Girls) Netball Y11 English Y13 Biology Y13 Chemistry	Badminton Rugby (Boys/Girls) Trampolining Games Club Mandarin Club Guitar & Ukulele Y11 Science Y13 Sociology Y13 History	Y11 History All Years Tennis
	 HOMEWORK CLUB Every Day Lunchtime Room 14	Every Morning 8am Canteen	BREAKFAST CLUB 		

YEAR 8 TEAM:

Director of Year: H Owen AHT | Curriculum Progress Leader: H Smith | Pastoral Manager: M Parmar



YEAR 9

THE REVOLUTIONARY

A STRONG START BACK

Year 9 have made a strong start back in this second week and have been making great contributions in their Personal Development sessions as they look at some extremely important and relevant topics. It is great to see so many students engaging with these topics and learning about the signs, risks, impact, and support on offer for these topics in such a crucial age as Year 9. It is imperative that all students are in every morning registration for Personal Development so that they are not missing out on these important sessions and discussions.

***"To tell the truth
is Revolutionary"***

Antonio Gramsci

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Late Jan/Early February-

Options Evening



LIVE LESSONS

Year 9 look forward to their WW1 live lesson which will be taking place next week. This is where guest speakers come in and show students all about WW1 and give them a hands on experience with some of the uniforms and equipment as well as learning about the war and the impact it had on so many people.

OPTIONS CHOICES

Students are continuing to get themselves GCSE Ready in lessons in preparation for their options choices which will be later this term. More information will be coming out to parents regarding this as well as assemblies and an information evening.



YEAR 9 TEAM:

Director of Year: L Hall AHT | Head of Year 9: T Hall | Pastoral Manager: S Clayton



SHINING FOR SHEERAN

Last week, ten of our talented musicians had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend a special event at Barr's Hill, where we were thrilled to discover that the surprise guest from the music industry was none other than Ed Sheeran!

Ed performed for our students and then took part in an engaging Q&A session. Three of our students—Lola Shaw, Aria Hamaali, and Karamveer Bains—asked him insightful questions about his experiences in the music industry.

Following the Q&A, our students showcased their own musical talents, performing for Ed. They had been collaborating with musicians from other Coventry secondary schools through the Arts organisation Soundlab. This event served as an introduction to their weekly sessions with Soundlab. For more information, please scan the QR code on the poster.

This event also marked the launch of the Ed Sheeran Foundation, which is dedicated to supporting music education. Mrs. Vincent and Miss Kennedy had the privilege of a 15-minute meeting with Ed to discuss how his foundation might support school music departments across the country.



Our students were completely captivated by Ed's performance and his inspiring discussion about his journey in the music industry. Irina was overjoyed when Ed complimented her purple violin, and Karamveer was thrilled to see himself featured on BBC Midlands Today!



IMPORTANT DATES

- **Teacher Training Day - Friday 31st January**

For other important dates you can check our website:
[CLICK HERE](#)





YEAR 10 THE INVENTOR

Year 10 have made a really positive start back since Christmas. They have come back extremely settled and focused in lessons ready to give their best efforts to their mocks. As Inventors, they will now start to shape their future by working hard towards their goals.

MOCKS & REVISION

Students have now been aware since before Christmas of their mock timetable and their class teachers have been guiding them on how best to revise for their chosen subjects. As a year team we are dedicating two mornings a week to help students do some quality revision and understand the revision process. However, in order for students to excel this needs to be supplemented with revision at home, however this may be done. There is still a significant amount of students getting no learning prep points, which could have a massive impact on their performance in these mocks. We thank you for your continued support in ensuring students are always completing learning prep.

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time"

Thomas Edison



ATTENDANCE IS ESSENTIAL

Attendance during mock week is also a massive focus. Students should be in on time every day to be registered and start their exams as promptly as possible. This ensures everyone has the correct amount of time during their mocks and so they feel calm and prepared when going into them. We massively appreciate support in ensuring students are well rested and in on time.



YEAR 10 TEAM:

Director of Year: J Grimwood AHT | Head of Year 10: E Muldoon | Pastoral Manager: S Harris



YEAR 11 THE ARCHITECT

It has been excellent welcoming back our Architects after their Christmas break and it has been pleasing to see them come back with such a positive attitude to their learning and upcoming GCSEs. There are now only 65 school days until their first GCSE exam and every day counts. We would like to thank parents and carers for their support in ensuring that your son/daughter arrives on time everyday to maximise life chances.

In assemblies a big focus for this term for Year 11

is showing 'grit' which research shows is the most common characteristic of highly successful people. We want students to show the resilience and determination to overcome any barriers in their way and avoid excuses that represent the grit they need to show for the remaining five months of school that they have left before their exams begin.



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Week commencing 24th February - Mock exams round 3
- Week commencing 24th March - Parents evening
- 5th May - GCSE Exam Start
- 25th June - Contingency Day
- 4th July - Prom

PROM ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that the Prom will take place Friday 4th of July 2025. Further details regarding the event and food options will follow. Tickets are expected to cost around **£35-40**.

As a reward for their hard work and an added incentive, **students have an opportunity to earn a discount on their prom ticket**, which will be subsidised by the school. To be eligible for a discount students who meet one of the following criteria will be eligible for this discount.

- Any students who have 100 % attendance from 13 of January 2025 until 16th of June 2025, attended all interventions (where applicable) and are on time will get £10 off.
- Any students who have 100 % attendance from September 2024 to the end of the year (16th of June 2025) attended all interventions (where applicable) and are on time will get £15 off.
- Any students that will have 96 % attendance from September 2024 to the end of the year (16th of June 2025) attended all interventions (where applicable) and are on time will get £5 off.

YEAR 11 TEAM:

Director of Year: I Jamal AHT | Head of Year 11: T Steane | Pastoral Manager: S Kinsella



POST 16 THE SCHOLAR

We have enjoyed a busy start to our Spring term in Post 16. Both year groups have been involved in their own academic progress and wider community inclusion, both supporting the building of the 'Scholar.' We wish you all a strong start to the New Year.

MOCKS COMMENCE

Year 12 have returned to their first landmark mock exams this week. The importance of these mocks is not only to give us all a robust understanding of knowledge, understanding and progress within subjects but to support the students' confidence in the logistics of the exams; the solid writing for up to 2 hours, the equipment, the etiquette and basic rules of each exam. These are as important as the skills within the exam questions. So well done to our year 12 who have been exemplary with punctuality and attendance during this busy and demanding week. We look now to the results, feedback and journey forwards through reports and conversations with students and parents, to support all our year 12 going forward. We also have an aspirational trip to our partner Oxford University college, Keble, on the 28th January. This trip will support our most aspirational of learners to de mystify the Oxbridge application and interview process, to make these aspirational Oxbridge Universities relevant to our students. There will be more trips planned to Cambridge and Warwick University within this term.



UCAS APPLICATIONS

Our year 13 have been working towards their UCAS applications to meet the deadline at the end of this month. They have, as a whole, made strong aspirational choices. They all should be receiving offers almost immediately, and we look forward to the conversations around their offers and the translation into subject focus that will be ahead over this crucial term for them. We found the Parents' evening this week hugely beneficial and we thank all parents for attending and supporting the year 13 students during this time. Any parents unable to attend will be receiving a phone call from subject teachers and we ask any parent who requires information regarding the progress and requirements of Stoke Park Post 16, to contact subject teachers, or us here in the Post 16 building.

***"The learner
always begins with
finding fault, the
Scholar sees merit
in everything"***

Georg Wilhelm Freidrich Hegel

POST 16 TEAM:

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



SPORTS ROUNDUP



BADMINTON OFF WITH A BANG!

The KS3 & KS4 Badminton teams started their first game of the season with resounding wins against President Kennedy and Westwood Academy to put them top of the Coventry Schools' Badminton League last night. There were some outstanding performances against some top class opponents with other teachers commenting on how strong Stoke Park were. Well done to all involved and we look forward to our next game of the season.

KS3

Hasif H
Matyias H
Blake K
Esa M

KS4

Matt L
Jude W
Loris K
Samuel O

YEAR 8 TEAM DRAW AT CALUDON CASTLE TO STAY TOP OF THE LEAGUE!

The Year 8 team started the match superbly well, considering there were a few minute absences and changes to the starting line up due to illness. Stoke Park were bright and energetic and made the first half very difficult for Caludon Castle with Jenson going through on goal twice and scoring both times. Stoke defended resolutely against quality attacking opposition with Blake and his commanding performance. In the second half, Caludon came out fighting and changed their game plan getting back into the game with 2 goals late one. Stoke didn't let their heads drop and won a free kick 15yards outside the box which Raman stuck under the crossbar beating their keeper. Caludon piled the pressure on and got a very fortunate goal late on to grab an equaliser. The lads were tremendous in so sort and work rate and we look forward to the next game on Monday in the Coventry Schools Cup.

COVENTRY SCHOOLS CUP ROUND 1: STOKE PARK 3-0 MEADOW PARK

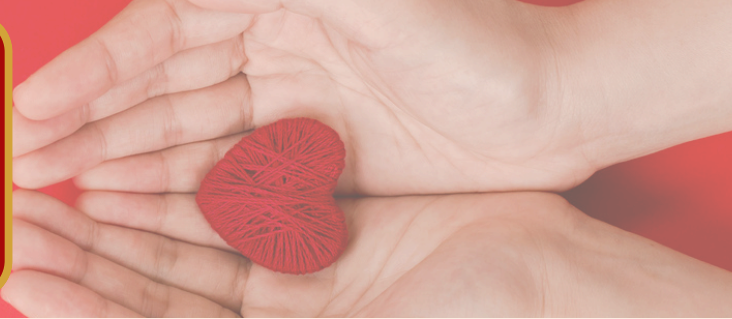
On Thursday 16th January the year 9 boys football team produced a fantastic performance to defeat Meadow Park 3-0 in the Coventry Schools Cup. A first half goal from Yannick and two superb individual goals from Omar in the second half were enough to give Stoke Park a well-deserved win.

MOTM: Samuel- led the team vocally from defence and produced a solid performance to ensure the team kept a clean sheet, limiting the opposition to few opportunities.



FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Our family support centre is open!
You can find more information and useful
resources on our school website
CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE



HOLIDAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

A series of day camps are available for children and young people who are aged 9-13 years old at Coventry Outdoors Activity Camp.

Being outdoors fully-immersed in the natural environment helps children and young people explore different ways to boost self-awareness and confidence, cultivate greater happiness and find greater wellbeing.

Dates: 17th, 18th & 19th February

Time: 10am – 3pm

Limited spaces available, to book on to Half Term Activities

CLICK HERE

COVENTRY OUTDOORS
EDUCATION & ADVENTURE SERVICE

February half term Activity Camp '25

17 - 19 February
Coombe Abbey Park, Coventry CV3 7

10% off with
go CV

Have a go at:
✓ **Combat Archery** ✓ **Laser Tag**
✓ **Bushcraft** ✓ **Survival Skills**

9-13 years > **10am - 3pm** > **£25pp per day**

Book your place online:
www.coventry.gov.uk/coventryoutdoors

Coventry City Council

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION



If you 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**

LET'S BE SOCIAL!

Get all the latest updates on our social media pages, click the images to find our page



@stoke_parkschool

Art Competition

Create a piece of art
based on the theme of:

Animals

All ages can enter // Prizes to be won
Entries to Miss Branagh in Room 56
Any media can be used
Closing date: Wednesday 12th February