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We're Back!

Our students enjoyed a successful return to school in March after spending the majority of the Spring Term in lockdown.

Teachers greeted students in person for the first time since December as they came back to the classroom, with lessons in the previous few weeks taking place virtually via our extensive remote learning programme.

After they were invited into school to take part in rapid Covid-19 testing to maintain our high standards of safety, the school day resumed as it had done before Christmas, much to everyone's delight.

Principal Mrs McCann said: "It has been absolutely wonderful to have our students back where they belong – in our school.



"Despite the challenges of lockdown, this has been another successful term and there have been plenty of highlights, from our Heroes@Home competition (page 6) to the many prizes we have been able to give out to students in recognition of their hard work.

"Our students have achieved amazing things both in and out of the classroom and I have never been prouder of our

community in supporting them to achieve their very best throughout this time."

Co-curricular clubs will be restarting after the Easter Break, with each year group being assigned one day of the week where they can attend our popular after-school activities. More details can be found in the student section of our website.

Principal's Message



Mrs Janine McCann,
Principal

This term has seen us, yet again, welcome our newest and largest year group in Year 7 for September 2021; we can't wait for you to join us. We have also enjoyed success in being shortlisted for the Most Inspirational Secondary School at the Educate Awards and we have celebrated some of our talented mathematicians in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge - there are far too many successes to list in this short article, so please keep reading to see more.

I would like to take this opportunity to express how proud I am again of all of our students in the way that they have responded to yet another chapter in this extraordinary year in a full return to school

during the past few weeks. This term has presented us again with many changes; I have been overwhelmed by the agility of our young people and feel privileged to be leading our school at this time. Over the last term, our students have been determined to achieve and not let a national lockdown hold them back; I expect nothing less of them. Our students have continued to develop Future Me skills virtually in co-curricular – we are so excited to be able to do this in the return of face to face clubs soon. Although this has been a challenging time, I am so impressed and excited about the skills that our students have developed during lockdown that will enable them to move forward at

exceptional pace; we have been aware of the wonderful things that our students did during lockdown for each other, for their families and communities, demonstrating maturity beyond their years. They have attended lessons remotely and developed a mastery of online learning platforms and independence in their academic studies; these will be practised amongst many that we build on. We look forward to continue growing from strength to strength in the Summer term, but for now I would like to wish all of our students, staff, families and governors a very Happy Easter.



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World Book Day

Students and Staff celebrated World Book Day as enthusiastically as ever, even though it looked a little different this year.

The day was packed with activities to get stuck into: Key Stage 3 classes explored short stories, such as Roald Dahl's gripping 'Lamb to the Slaughter', and then showed off their knowledge in a book quiz.

The whole school was invited to take part in Mr Clarke's 'Recreate a Book Cover' competition, where students redesigned the cover of their favourite book using

different materials. We received so many fantastic entries which showed creativity, intelligence and



humour. Entries included covers of The Secret Garden, James and the Giant Peach and the Harry Potter series, and used everything from household items to family photos!

Literacy Co-ordinator Mrs Cawsey said: "World Book Day is always a huge date in our school calendar and we love any excuse to celebrate a passion for reading at Stockport Academy.

"Reading is a great form of escapism and it's been lovely to hear how our students have been exploring literature to make the most of their time during lockdown."

In true World Book Day fashion, all students received a book voucher to pick up a £1 World Book Day book for free, or to get £1 off any other book. £1 titles include The River Whale by Sita Brahmachari and Kill Joy by Holly Jackson.

Showing The Love

A group of our students took part in a special virtual event to raise awareness of the impact of Covid-19 on the environment.

The Year 7s and 8s spent several hours participating in the online 'Show The Love' workshop, which was hosted by Manchester United Foundation in collaboration with the Climate Coalition.

They were joined by over 100 other delegates and spent their time focusing on how the pandemic has affected the eco-system, particularly in other countries.

During the event, students even received a special message from Manchester United legend Denis Irwin, who recorded a video calling on everyone to

work together to tackle the climate crisis.

Head of Year 8 Mrs McNulty, who also runs the school's Eco Club, said: "We've had a brilliant time today learning all about the changes we can make to protect our planet for future generations. I would like to thank everyone at MUF and the Climate Coalition for inviting us and giving our students the opportunity to find out more about this issue, which has never been more important."



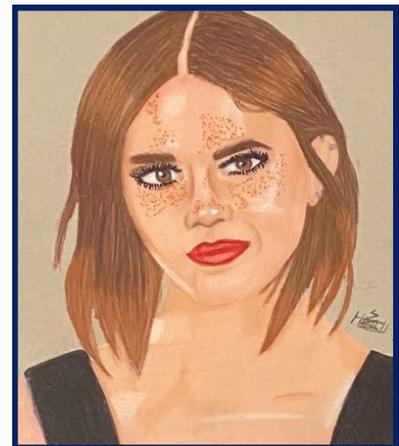
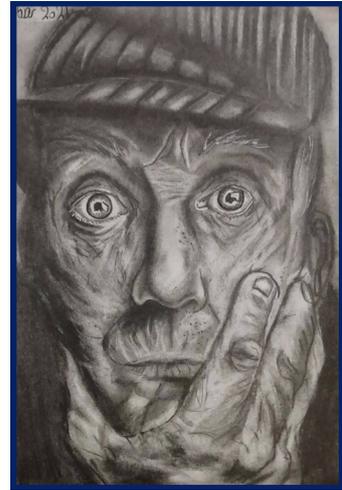
Art Comp Draws In The Votes

Some of our GCSE Art students put their talents to the test as they entered the United Learning International Art Competition.

Their pieces, entitled 'Contemplation', 'Melancholy', 'Difference is Beauty', 'Segments of Loss', 'Faded' and 'Feminism' were showcased on Facebook and Instagram, and likes were counted as public votes, which made up a percentage of the overall score. Our students' work gained thousands of likes across both platforms and received beautiful comments and praise.

'Faded' did exceptionally well, earning 2,800 votes and 397 shares on Facebook, where members of the public described it as a "very evocative drawing" and praised the artist's "fantastic talent"!

Head of Art Ms Stirling said: "We are so proud of the amazing talent that our students have shown and are pleased that they have had this opportunity to showcase their work to the public".



British Science Week

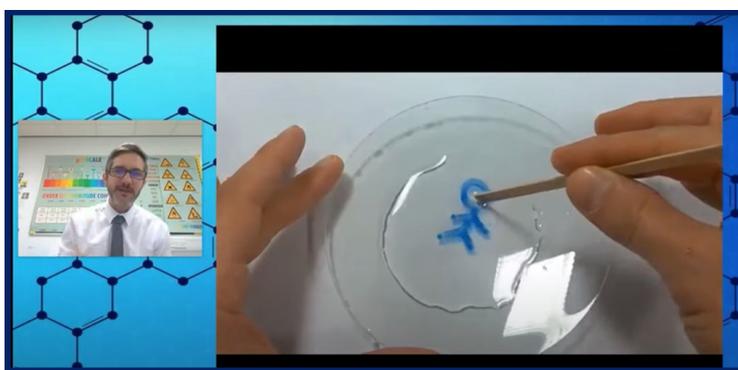
British Science Week gave us a glimpse of what the future could look like as we celebrated it across school at the start of March.

This year's theme was "innovating for the future" and students had the opportunity to take part in tasks and competitions to practise their own creative skills!

Students got involved in the BSW poster competition, creating fantastic designs that showed what innovation means. Our Science Department also organised two additional competitions at the Academy. The first, inspired by Back to the Future 2, was to make predictions about what the world will be like in 2040. Student prophecies included the discovery of alien races, time machines, engineless cars and even living on different planets! They were also encouraged to create their own Rube Goldberg machine, with a prize for the most successful one.

At the end of the week, Head of Science Mr Campbell hosted a special assembly that included an exciting experiment for students to watch.

Mr Campbell said: "The past twelve months have highlighted the impact of Science on our lives like never before. As ever, our students have been really engaged with British Science Week and it's been great to hear their enthusiasm and ideas to help create a better future."



Action For Young Carers

Our Young Carers were honoured in school as part of National Young Carers Action Day.

The annual campaign is organised by the Carers Trust, recognising the efforts of young people who help to look after someone in their family or a friend who might be ill, frail, disabled, or have a mental health condition or addiction.



A skill activity worksheet was sent out to all known young carers to complete and submit, noting the skills they are most proud to have developed during lockdown, which included qualities such as empathy and becoming a positive role model.

Meanwhile, students throughout school have

been invited to enter a Young Carer they know into a prize draw to win shopping vouchers by nominating them via student services and explaining how and why they think they're doing an amazing job.

Young Carers Lead Ms Shonick said: "We are so proud of all our Young Carers here at Stockport Academy, especially through recent times. They are amazing individuals and this is a brilliant opportunity to celebrate them.

"We have good links with Signpost Young Carers Service in Stockport which is a really fun and friendly service that all Young Carers can use for help or advice or as a place to meet others, albeit virtually at the minute. All you have to do is ask or be referred."

Heroes @ Home

One of the highlights of the lockdown for us at Stockport Academy, was our Heroes@Home competition



series. This gave us a chance to find out about the amazing ways that students, parents and carers are helping each other at home, and to recognise and celebrate people who have been going the extra mile.

Our first competition asked students to nominate parents, carers or loved ones who had been a big help with their home learning.

Our second competition asked parents and carers to nominate students who had been Heroes@Home. Our student heroes were recognised for a huge range of fantastic skills and

efforts, such as helping to unpack shopping, getting stuck into DIY projects, cheering up family members, displaying amazing resilience and work ethic, helping siblings with home learning and caring for family members.

Here is the nomination for one of our five winners:

"My little girl, who I'm fully aware is not so little anymore, displays a level of resilience and a work ethic that amazes me... every night she sets her alarm to be up and ready at her workspace in order to get on with her education. She takes breaks only at the allotted times and does extra work even after the official school day is over. All of this is done without prompting from whichever parent she is staying with as she truly loves to learn."

We couldn't be prouder!

Welcome To The Family!

In March we were delighted to offer places to over 200 Year 6 students who will be starting secondary school with us in September.

We received a record number of applications for Year 7 places once again and it is hoped that students will be able to attend a Transition Day later in the school year, while we hosted our first ever Virtual Welcome Meeting for new parents and carers.

The evening was hosted by Mrs McCann, who delivered a presentation on what to expect when students start in September and what transition is likely to look like with the current government restrictions in place. She also shared news of an opportunity for students to take part in Summer School with us to get to know their new tutor groups before they start and took part in a live

Q&A session with the audience.



She said: "It was brilliant to see so many of our new families attending the Welcome Meeting and we can't wait to meet them in person, hopefully later in the year. We are honoured that so many people within our local community have made Stockport Academy their number one choice for their children's education and we are really looking forward to welcoming them properly in the coming months."

Term Dates And Contact Details

Term dates for Summer 2021

Monday 12th April to Friday 28th May

All Students In

(Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May)

Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Half Term

Monday 7th June to Tuesday 20th July

All Students In

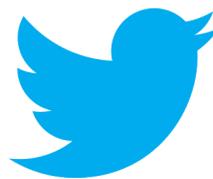
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Website: www.stockport-academy.org



Group emails

Group emails allow you to get in touch with staff quickly. Simply use the relevant email address and include the staff member you wish to contact in the message. You will get a response within 48 hours during term time.

Pastoral Managers email and direct dial telephone numbers:

Transition, Years 7 and 8

linda.mccann@stockport-academy.org 0161 362 4226

Year 9 and 10

sarah.shaw@stockport-academy.org 0161 362 4252

Year 11

danielle.james@stockport-academy.org 0161 362 4293

Group emails—faculty addresses

english@stockport-academy.org

maths@stockport-academy.org

science@stockport-academy.org

humanities@stockport-academy.org

(includes Geography, History, RE)

technology@stockport-academy.org

(includes Art)

ict@stockport-academy.org

(includes Business Studies, Computing and ICT)

expressivearts@stockport-academy.org

(includes Drama, Dance, Music)

mfl@stockport-academy.org

(French and Spanish)

pe@stockport-academy.org

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