

Stoke College
Stoke by Clare
Suffolk
CO10 8JE

Contents

- A note from the Head
- GCSE Success
- Science Success
- Rugby team
- Charitable Efforts
- African Expedition
- National Youth orchestra
- D of E

Tel: 01787278141

e-mail: office@stokecollege.co.uk

www.stokecollege.co.uk

A NOTE FROM THE HEAD

I thought a December Newsletter would be a tremendous way of keeping friends of the school up to date with the excellent things going on here at the moment.

In recent terms we have tended to use our web site to highlight the wealth of achievements cultivated by our pupils. We have used our home page as a regular news spot and then archived it when new news arrives. Please do visit the archive page of our web site in order to see just what has been going on!

COLLEGE BUILDS ON GCSE SUCCESS

Congratulations to Pupils from Year 11, who were successful in last summer's GCSE examinations.

- 29% of exam results were graded A* or A, compared to 20% nationally.
- 79% of our grades were C or above, compared to 65% nationally.

This good result builds on the increasing pass rate that we have achieved over the last eight years.

STOKE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT IN NATIONAL TOP FIVE

Stoke College science department is one of the five most successful in the country. "We are up there with the very highest performing selective independent schools," said Deputy Head Matthew Parker, commenting on the report from the University of Durham. "This is an outstanding result for a small rural school."

The Durham report measures the value which a school creates. It works by comparing the achievement of each student with the national average for students of the same ability.

Stoke College beat 795 other schools, state and independent, to achieve this spectacular result.

UNDER-16 RUGBY XV UNBEATEN FOR OVER TWO YEARS

Our under-16 XV cruised to a 33-5 win over New Eccles Hall in November to maintain their two-year winning record. The side has not lost a game since October 2006.

The team was among 20 of our students who spent the morning of Saturday, 6 December training with Northampton Saints.

This was followed by lunch and a ticket to see Saints' 66-3 ten-try demolition of Bristol.

CHARITABLE EFFORTS

Nurse Hana with the device!



Great Ormond Street

A device designed at the College and made by a Stoke parent is helping support sick children at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

It started when nurse Hana, sister of two Stoke students, took a problem to Colin Graves, who runs our design technology department. The hospital needed a better device to hold apart the tangle of tubes on which very ill youngsters depend. Colin designed one, and parent Richard Hobbs offered to make it in stainless steel at his company, Cambridge Precision Instruments. A group from Stoke recently visited Great Ormond Street to donate a consignment of the new devices.

The Big Sing

Stoke students sang their hearts out in the recent "Big Sing" for four charities - hear them on You Tube by following this link:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/StokeCollegeMedia>

Amnesty International

Pupils and staff recently signed cards to be sent to people around the world who are suffering imprisonment and persecution. Thanks to Pippa for superb organization.

Cape of Good Hope



AFRICAN EXPEDITION

Quad-biking, riding, surfing, safari, shopping and a sweep of Cape Town's cultural and scenic wonders filled the nine-day College expedition to South Africa led by intrepid Head John Gibson, Assistant Head Adrian King with teacher Adie Hale. About 20 students enjoyed the trip.

"The best way to do it is to provide students with incessant activities which totally tire them out," said Adrian.

Next comes the annual ski trip to La Plagne, France in January and we look forward to hearing about that on their return.

Matthew



YEAR 10 STUDENT JOINS NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA

A virtuoso performance from Matthew in Year 10, who has been awarded a place in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain following two rounds of highly competitive auditions.

The orchestra holds three intensive courses a year, performing in major concert halls, Prom concerts and TV broadcasts.

Matthew is currently a member of the Essex Youth Orchestra and played with them in Berlin in the summer and in China at half-term. He takes up his place with the National Orchestra at Christmas.

If your child would like to begin learning an instrument in school, send an [email](mailto:music.stokecollege@hotmail.co.uk) to Mr. Marple at the College. music.stokecollege@hotmail.co.uk

MARCH ON THROUGH THE RAIN ...



Stoke students braved two days of heavy showers this summer to complete a 34 kilometre (21 mile) hill walk through Derbyshire's Peak District towards their Duke of Edinburgh silver awards.