Spring Term  

Headteacher’s message

There is something really lovely about Spring; lighter evenings, the temperature getting warmer and blossom on the trees. For Year 11 Spring signals the final run up to their examinations. This is a really important time for them all as their future destinations depend on the results they achieve this summer. We are proud of them all and know that there is so much more to them than examination results, however they will be supported right up until the very last examination so that they can achieve their potential. We wish them all the best!

Our students have watched the outside space behind school develop on a daily basis from waste land in to what will be a fully functioning all weather pitch and outside space that they truly deserve. It’s not quite finished, but I am hoping that the area will be open after the holiday. This will give us some much-needed recreational space during social time as well as another facility for PE lessons. It’s a very exciting development and I know our students, and staff, are very eager to get on there and showing off their skills.

Before and After: Stockland Green’s all weather pitch

After many years of waiting, work began after the Christmas holidays. Students have become used to the sight of work men and diggers as what was once a bare patch of unloved land has begun to take shape and become a brilliant green vision! Joe, Year 11, commented, “We’ve been waiting for this since we were in Year 7. We are so glad to get chance to use it before we leave! This is the jewel in the crown of Stockland Green. It means we can improve our football skills.”

Stockland Green continues to promote healthy lifestyles and fitness and the all weather pitch promises an exciting new era for sports at Stockland Green School.

Red Hand Day – Jack Dromey Visits

As a Rights Respecting School, we are keen that students think about their rights as well as the rights of others. During our Wellbeing Weeks, which happen on a termly basis, we prioritise student wellbeing and plan a varied diet of events which include everything from making positive future career choices to how to plan for exams and manage exam anxieties, to finding out about topical issues such as county lines or being a young carer. This ensures that our students are well-rounded, globally and community minded young people who are well informed about the world around them.

The Wellbeing Weeks are also linked to national and international campaigns and our particular focus over the last two years has been the international Red Hand Day campaign. Last year saw students creating a montage of red hands with their own pledges about bringing an end to child soldiers around the world. This year however, students went one stage further! Galvanised by thinking about the lives of those forced to join armies and children forced to bear arms, who do not get access to all of the things that our students can take for granted, students wanted to make their voices heard.

Jack Dromey, MP for Erdington, visited our school and met with a group of six of our students, Mr Venencia and Headteacher Mrs M George. During the meeting Jack Dromey took receipt of our school petition demanding government support to change and improve the rights of young people around the world. Jack promised to take the petition to Downing Street and hand our it to Teresa May herself.

Students appreciated having their voices heard and were keen to talk about the violation of article 38 of the UNCRC: young people’s rights not to be forced into armed conflict.

Mrs R Goode, Deputy Headteacher
Spring Wellbeing Week – Positive choices

Wellbeing is about many things: mental health, physical health, awareness of the wider world and how to keep safe. Therefore, we believe it is essential that students are made aware of the exciting possibilities life offers, whether that be careers decision making or future planning or making well-reasoned and mature decisions about relationships or being a successful citizen. This Wellbeing Week ‘positive choices’ encompassed students discovering far more about their career choices and the world of work as well as supporting a series of international and national campaigns. Head student Reiss Munn commented, “Wellbeing Weeks have quickly become a well-loved part of life at Stockland Green. We know we are cared for and students appreciate the thought and time that goes into ensuring our wellbeing is always at the forefront.” This means that article 6 of the Conventions of Rights of the child, the right to life, survival and development, is embedded in all we do.

Wellbeing Carousels

Coming up to examinations can feel like a lot of pressure for our Year 11s and so their day of events was planned around positive mental health, yoga with Lis Sheridan from Sandstone Yoga and Insanity fitness workouts. Students not only thought about physical health but also mental health which included mindfulness sessions and art therapy. Year 11 also had the chance to hone their interview skills as they arrived in professional business-wear and were interviewed by professionals matched carefully with the fields they were most interested in.

Year 9 and 10 focuses on the careers element of making positive choices: this meant writing CVs, learning about work place behaviour and writing personal statements as well as beginning

Empathy and Compassion: skills for life

Year 7 and 8 both received workshops from the St. John’s Ambulance. These were hands on workshops in which students learned real life skills and practised putting each other into the recovery position. Students also enjoyed the sessions about being a Young Carer, from the YMCA. This really got students thinking about what it means to care for others and consider how this impacts on lives for the carer and what sort of support they may need.

Year 8 students also took part in an exciting session with the John Taylor Hospice entitled ‘The Compassion Workshop.’ Students learned more about how it would feel to be fed or to feed someone, how to guide someone who couldn’t see, and how it would feel to have a hearing impairment. Through a series of thoughtful activities, students really engaged in ‘putting themselves in the shoes of others.’

Mrs R Hill, Assistant Headteacher

Student Leadership across ATLP

Young leaders from the ATLP have been meeting to represent the student voice by organising a programme of events and opportunities that will benefit all students within the ATLP. They are working together to enhance pupils’ experience and provide a stronger collaboration across the partnership. The students all have a leadership role within their respective schools.

To enhance skills a group of the student leaders took part in a ‘Confidence and Public Speaking’ workshop held at Stockland Green School by Mr Crawford. They were encouraged to work collaboratively with peers from different schools within the partnership to promote confidence through a range of activities. It was an exciting and fun packed workshop with students able to express their feelings, gain confidence, and respect each other’s views and opinions.

Mrs S Haynes – Rea House Enrichment Leader
WELLBEING WEEK COMPETITIONS

During the Spring Wellbeing Week students had the opportunity to enter Enrichment competitions to celebrate Valentine’s Day and Book Giving Day. The competitions represented article 31 of the Rights Respecting schools award ‘Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities’. The Valentine’s Day competitions had the theme of love and relationships. Students could enter a poem, a piece of art or create a mood board. Book Giving Day was also on 14th February. A book swap was held where students received house points for swapping a book. The competitions for Book Giving Day were creating a book mark, writing a book review and creating a book cover.  

Ms S Haynes, Enrichment Leader, Rea

Winners

Mood board – 1st place - Dhaanish 8RA
Art - 1st place - Miranda 9TA
Poetry – 1st place - Mei 10TB
Book mark – Ellie 10TB

Debate Mate Victories!

Article 12 The Right to freedom of expression is promoted across the school. But members of Debate Mate put their powers of persuasion to the test each week in their debating sessions.

Prior to half term, a mix of 8 Year 7 and 8 students took part in the first round of the Debate Mate Urban League at Bishop Challoner School, Kings Heath. The students competed in two teams A and B and faced two different schools each, in a total of 4 debates. They debated about the impact of social media and positive role models and the use of mobile phones. Students won 2 out of 4 debates and so were very pleased.

At the moment they are preparing for the second round of debating.  

Ms C Vernon, Head of History, Cole
Stockland Green’s newly formed Eco-committee has been working hard to meet the requirements for the Bronze Eco Award. Having completed the environmental audit which looked at various areas across the whole school, three areas for improvement were identified: recycling, biodiversity and marine. In response to the audit, an action plan was developed to help spread awareness of each of the areas of improvement within the school curriculum. In addition a second action plan was established, to introduce and encourage recycling within the school grounds, as well as a way to increase the biodiversity within the school. With the erection of the Eco Schools display board only a few weeks away, it is only a matter of time before Stockland Green will officially become a bronze award Eco School.

Mr Venencia, Science teacher, Enrichment Leader - Rea

Send My Friend to School: Ambassador Training

Year 9s Trina and Miranda were lucky enough to be selected to take part in the national campaign: Send My Friend to School.

Having undergone a rigorous selection process they headed off to Leicester with Ms Johnson for the first part of their training. As we continue our journey towards achieving Silver Award Rights Respecting Schools we are entirely committed to article 28 and 29 of the UNCRC in which students right to education and the goals of education are enshrined. Stockland Green students are lucky enough to be able to take education for granted. But this is not the case across the globe. Trina writes:

“On Friday we arrived and started the evening with team building exercises whilst getting to know the students from other schools. Afterwards we watched an inspiring and heart-warming film called “He named me Malala” which showed Malala’s journey to help send people to school. The next day we started to learn about youth fire-starters around the world who campaign for equality and change. These include Greta Thunberg from Sweden who created the ‘Global Warming Friday’ protest. We also learned about Amika George from London who fought for #freeperiod for girls who missed school because they couldn’t afford sanitary products. We then learnt about how to campaign and practised our public speaking and effective ways we can use this to raise awareness. Then we did an inequality walk and were told how to put our newly learned information into action. On the final day we planned and finished our ‘photo stunts.’ We presented our speeches to the group and received constructive feedback.

SMFTS is a worldwide organisation which strives to achieve equitable and fair education for all. The training helped us to realise how vital education is to our lives and how important it is that we use our good fortune to our advantage and help raise awareness of those who cannot take education for granted.

We created a roadmap of what we plan to do back at Stockland Green School and how we can promote the campaign. We wished goodbye to our new found friends until our next training in June at the Houses of Parliament! We look forward to reporting to you in the Summer newsletter about how SMFTS has developed at Stockland Green School!”

Article by Trina and Miranda– Year 9 Send my friend to School ambassadors

World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day on the 7th of March, students at Stockland Green took part in lessons across a range of subjects with the focus of books that have changed the world. In Science, students learned about Charles Darwin’s ‘On the Origin of the Species’ and the seismic effect that his ideas had on not just the scientific community but the world at large. History students were given the opportunity to study both ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin’ and ‘The Diary of Anne Frank’ in order to learn the evils of tyranny, the value of liberty and the indomitable spirit within ordinary people. Mathematics shared some of the pioneering and beautiful works of Leonardo Da Vinci and in English students were able to find out about the roots of the English language and Doctor Samuel Johnson’s revolutionary dictionary.

Mr P McCarthy – Head of English – Cole House

World Maths Day

The 14th March is one of the most important dates in the Mathematical calendar. Pi day (3.14) is celebrated by millions of students across the world and this year at Stockland Green our students competed against each other and students from other countries in the online Mathletics competition. Special mentions go to Malika Azim and Kirandeep for gaining the most participation points during the competition. Year 7 and 8 students also took part in a Pi treasure hunt on the day where they had to find various clues hidden around the school all linking to the number Pi. The winners of that competition were Moram and Muhammad Saad who showed great enthusiasm and mathematical ability to complete the hunt quickly and accurately. It was a great day and we look forward to making it even bigger and better next year.

Mr T Alley – Lead teacher – Maths – Rea House
Year 10 football star has trial at Everton Football Club

Two months ago Jehvarni was noticed by a scout from Everton FC at his Saturday district football games and also his Sunday league games for Phoenix United. Impressed by the four goals Jehvarni scored playing for Phoenix United, the scout asked the manager if he could have a trial for the Everton Academy.

On Saturday 6th April 2019 Jehvarni attended his trial in Liverpool. Everton FC was overwhelmingly professional: there were football managers and scouts, who could have made a lesser footballer nervous! After the presentation, potential young footballers had to wait for all the coaches and players to arrive. This included not just local players, but players from all over the world. Jehvarni even saw all the first teams’ cars, as they had a home game versus Arsenal the next day! During the trials players were given the Everton kit to put on, and were sent on their massive 4G astro turf! Coaches observed their passing and shooting skills, and two 30 minute games. Jehvarni plays centre forward, and manged to score a great goal, running onto a pass and rounding the keeper.

Stockland Green are tremendously proud of Jehvarni and wish him every success. He is clearly a talent with a huge amount to offer both the world of football and beyond.

Jehvarni is a Year 10 student from Rea House

Army Work Experience

Army work experience was a week at an army base during which time 12 Year 10s experienced basic army training. The week consisted of various activities, the first being physical training. On Monday we all received our standard issue birkens containing a sleeping bag, a tarp, a mess tin, a jug and a ration pack.

The week was eye opening, enjoyable and challenging. One of the best and most memorable activities was marching to an open field and practising a section attack and contact front when enemy were in sight. We learned how to hold and shoot a rifle as well as how to use a grenade! We also learnt military tactics such as clearing buildings, team tactics and basic first aid. Another highlight was play military laser tag which was incredibly realistic!

Overall the week gave us a flavour for the real life of the army and for many of us confirmed our interests in terms of our future careers. We would like to thank Mr Birch for arranging the residential and for making sure we had an array of snacks when he collected us as the week was exhausting! Hayqa and Sophia, Prefects, Rea House

Birmingham Dance Festival

L – R Georgina, Madison, Angela, Lily, Iskya, Petra, Reigan, Sophia, Gjhoanna.

On Monday 25th March, Year 10 girls competed in the Birmingham Dance Festival Finals at The Hippodrome. Selected from 20 schools across Birmingham, the girls brought a fusion of street dance and hip-hop to the stage with a performance inspired by female empowerment and International Women’s Day.

Judges from Zoo Nation UK, In Unity and The Hippodrome congratulated the girls on their tight performance that “started strong and ended stronger”.

Ms Hall, Enrichment Leader, Cole
Duke of Edinburgh

It has been a record breaking year for the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award at Stockland Green School with over 50 students enrolling across Year 9 and 10. Following recent changes in regulation, Year 9 students are now able to enrol meaning that for the first time ever, we are able to offer both the Bronze and Silver awards.

After being awarded funding through the DofE’s Diamond Bid, we have been able to buy new equipment to ensure that students have the best experience possible.

Training is well underway for students; learning a range of new skills such as compass work, map reading and how to set up camp. For those of you in Year 8 wishing to take part next year, Miss Hall will be at Options Evening on 2nd May to discuss this further with yourselves, parents and carers.

New head students for a new year!

As Year 11 get ready for their exams, so Year 10 are getting ready to follow in their footsteps. During December, Year 10 were given the chance to apply for the role of head student. Over the following months a number of nervous students handed in their application letters.

The first part of the process was the leadership task in which candidates worked together, in the style of ‘The Apprentice’, to create Rights Respecting Schools house charters for their house. A debate arose as each house selected the global goals that they wished to work towards. Candidates then had to design and create the charter for their house board which would represent their entire house’s commitment to Rights Respecting Schools. Leading a small team of Year 9, candidates had to show their ability to create a vision and to translate this into reality. This was a great way to open up discussion about Rights Respecting Schools and to learn about how to work with other students towards a common goal.

The second stage in the process was the interviews – each candidate had to present themselves professionally. The competition was so strong that it was decided that all candidates would go through to the presentation round: a speech to the entire house group about Rights Respecting Schools. Some speeches were comical, some were inspiring and all pushed the candidates beyond their comfort zones but gave them a fantastic opportunity to grow in confidence!

After a gruelling and thorough process, we are very proud to say that our team of Head students have been selected. However, the quality of the candidates meant that there was too much talent to be wasted and so, in 2019-20, we introduce our first ever prefect team. A representative will be linked to all of the student leadership groups across the school. We are excited about the many possibilities in 2019!

Shabba – Year 10 - Cole House – Prefect

Knowledge Organisers go from strength to strength

Following our student voice feedback and many exciting discussions with staff, our knowledge organisers this term have undergone some refinement! Broken down into literacy, numeracy and curriculum knowledge organisers, they continue to be a vital tool in developing students’ skills in organisation, independence and time management. Students are taking great pride in their folders, personalising them, colour coding them, categorising them and creating revision materials that could easily stand as pieces of art in themselves! River, Year 11, commented that, “They truly are an aid to our learning! They are easy to navigate and have helped me see real improvements in my grades.” Prefect and Teaching and Learning Leader, Aliya commented, “Our School is committed to ensure article 28 (Right to Education) is met for all students. Knowledge organisers mean that everyone has access to all the learning they can possibly need!”

Up and down the country schools are responding to new exam specifications and the new OFSTED framework out for consultation which cites the commitment of knowledge to long term memory as learning which empowers all, no matter who you are or where you come from. We are very excited for our students who have the opportunity to maximise this opportunity to widen their horizons and provide them with the success they all deserve for their futures.

Mrs Lee, Head of CAPA Faculty, Tame House
Stockland Green PE sporting successes!

Throughout the Spring term there have been a number of sporting successes and two of our teams have reached the county finals! The Year 9 girls Basketball team beat North Birmingham Academy (NBA) to qualify for the county finals. This is an excellent achievement which demonstrates the dedication of a number of the team attending Basketball training after school.

The Year 9 boys Table Tennis team are due to compete in the county final in May after an excellent team performance in the district competition seeing them finish top of the round robin tournament.

Furthermore, the Year 7 boys Football team are currently second in the table in their first year of playing together which shows their hard work by attending training every week after school.

The Year 8 boys Football team are currently first in the table after going unbeaten throughout this year’s fixtures seeing four wins and a draw. A particular highlight was a stunning goal from Bradley direct from a corner against Washwood Heath and Jack scoring a hat-trick in a 5-2 victory against Heartlands. The success of the Year 8 Football side is also due to a number of Year 7s who have stepped up and performed exceptionally well in particular Reece scoring a number of goals to propel the side to top of the league.

Keep a look out for the new Summer term extra-curricular timetable; anyone can attend whichever club they would like to, with the launch of cricket training to prepare for the upcoming cricket matches and in preparation for Sports Day which will be taking place on Tuesday 9th July.

Mr P. Bromley, Head of PE, Cole House

Enrichment Cycle - Spring

This half term Year 7 and 8 have been given the opportunity to learn and get involved with different enrichment activities during tutor time. Some of these activities included Marvel Club, Blue Planet, art, meditation and mindfulness and drama and improvisation. These activities were a great opportunity for students to experience and achieve articles 6 (life, survival and development) and 31 (leisure, play and culture). It has been great to see so many students engaged and enthusiastic about learning something outside of their ordinary school day. Here’s what some of our students felt about their experiences within these different enrichment activities...

Bethany (Year 8) – “I thought the enrichment cycle was really good, I really enjoyed the oil pastel transfer that we did in Art.”

Louise (Year 7) – “I felt it was really good to meet the other year 7 tutors that I have not met before, my favourite session was with Miss Cooper because you got to colour and listen to music which was relaxing at the end of the day.”

Kiran (Year 7) – “I enjoyed the colouring with Miss Cooper because we got a choice of the images we could print from the computer.”

Aqeel (Year 7) - “I thought it was useful and fun because we got to learn new things and we got to play games, I loved Mr Rimmer’s because we got to play illusion games”

Glen (Year 8) – “Unique because we learnt stuff we didn’t know, so it was different to what we do every day. I think I liked Blue Planet the best because it was interesting to see what happens in the sea.”

Ms C Quinn, Enrichment Leader Cole

Stockland Green School Silver Award

Rights Respecting Schools

As we move towards achieving our silver award for rights respecting schools, we are keen to involve the parents of our students in the next stage of our journey.

We hope to begin working towards our gold award in the summer term 2019 and are looking for parents who are interested in being involved in the parent steering committee for Rights Respecting Schools at Stockland Green. If you are interested please contact;

Mrs R Hill—Assistant Headteacher
r.hill@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk or

Mrs C Harding—House Leader
c.harding@stockgrn.bham.sch.uk
Stockland Green School
Spring Newsletter 2019

School Governors

For your information please see our team of school governors with their roles and responsibilities.

Mrs Christine Hathaway
- Vice Chair
- Finance and Budgeting
- Assessment and Curriculum
- Safeguarding Team of Office January 2015 – 2019
- Pupil Premium

Mr Stewart Davis
- 18W Governor and Pupil Premium
- Term of office
- Safeguarding

Mr Paul Smith
- Premises and Development
- Apprenticeships and Dyslexia
- Term of Office: September 2017 – 2021
- Safeguarding Lead

Chair of Governors
Mrs L Parry
Contact: l.parry@stockgrn.bham.sch.

Mrs R Hill – Staff governor, Mrs Estelle Fisher – Clerk to the governors

Rewards: New for 2019

Well done to our Silver and Gold Award winners! Students who have committed themselves to meeting the Stockland Green Standard and then going above and beyond in terms of commitment to school life had a lovely trip: bowling and dinner as a special treat!

Mrs C Harding, House Leader, Tame House

Dates for your diary - Summer term

2nd May – Year 8 Options Evening
3rd May – LM Joint Venture Trip – Year 9
6th May – Bank holiday
8th May – Aston University Trip – Broadening Horizons – Year 9
9th May – Year 9 Parent’s Evening

Year 11 GCSEs 13th May – 19th June
20th May – Silver rights Respecting Schools Assessment Date
Half term holiday – 27th May – 31st May

12th June – Year 9 University Day
13th June – Year 7 Parent’s evening
19th June – Jaguar Land Rover Trip – Year 10
24th – 28th June – Summer Wellbeing Week
26th June – BMET Taster Day - Year 10
3rd July – Year 6 Induction Day and Induction Evening
8th July – School Sports Day
8th – 12th July Year 10 Work experience
15th – 18th July Whole School Careers week

Last day of school – 19th July