



Celebrating Netball Excellence

Stowe has recently been recognised as the fourth best netball school in the country!

This distinction reflects the School's unwavering commitment to fostering excellence in sports, particularly in netball, which has become an integral part of our pupils' educational experience.

Netball is more than just a game; it serves as a platform for personal development, teamwork and leadership. The School's comprehensive coaching programme, delivered by experienced professionals, not only hones the skills of budding athletes but also instils a spirit of sportsmanship and resilience.

Our pupils benefit from facilities that enhance

their training and competitive experience, alongside expert Performance Programme support, improving our athletes' physical performance. Participation in Regional and National tournaments offer pupils the chance to showcase their talents; bringing home a legacy of success that further promotes Stowe's reputation in the realm of school sports.

The recognition, by 'Which School Advisor', reaffirms Stowe's dedication to providing educational excellence both academically and in co-curricular pursuits. As we celebrate this achievement, we encourage all pupils to engage actively in netball, building skills that will serve them well beyond the court.

County Netball Championships 2024: A Day of Triumph and Gold Medals for All Teams

This year's County Netball Championships, held on home courts at Stowe in partnership with the North Bucks County Association, showcased exceptional talent and sportsmanship across the age categories. It was a delight to see the shop courts filled with players and supporters alike as the Stowe community came out in force to support our three teams at the event. The U14, U16 and U19 teams delivered outstanding performances, culminating in a remarkable achievement for all participants.

The U14 team clinched first place in a fiercely contested tournament, demonstrating both skill and resilience against their rivals. The U16 side continued the tradition of excellence, also securing the top position through a series of impressive displays and unbeaten all afternoon. Meanwhile, the U19 team showcased their depth of experience and teamwork, bringing home the championship title for their age group as well.

These fantastic results reflect the hard work and dedication of the players and coaching staff, particularly as these players have only been training together for a matter of weeks. The spirit of camaraderie and competition at this event marks a bright future for netball in our county and also at Stowe. Congratulations to all the teams for their commendable performances.

Charlotte Calland, Head of Netball

GCSE Results Win Award for Academic Progress

Stowe's 2024 GCSE exam results have placed us in the top 10% of schools and colleges nationwide for value-added progress, according to the widely-used Alps performance analysis and tracking system, and we have been recognised with an Alps Platinum Award for the GCSEs.

Alps uses the CAT4 data for GCSE and the average score from GCSEs for A Level and BTEC to generate Minimum Expected Grades (MEGs) for pupils that reflect progress made by students in the top 25% of schools and colleges. As well as helping us to closely monitor the academic progress of our pupils, this also provides us with value-added measures based on assessment results achieved. Alps currently work with over 1,200 schools and colleges and 95 Groups and MATs in the UK and internationally and are becoming increasingly popular in the UK independent sector.

We have also been able to celebrate the strong GCSE grades achieved by many of our pupils based on their GCSEs. Twenty Stoics were recognised in the first assembly as Senior Academic Scholars for having achieved eight or more grades at grade 8 or 9 in their GCSEs and a further thirty Stoics were awarded Academic Colours for either achieving six grades at grade 8 or 9, or eight grades at grades 7-9. In the CAT baseline testing conducted last month, 10% of all pupils in this year group had scores that put them in the top 5% of pupils nationwide.

All in all, it is clear that the current Lower Sixth cohort achieved very well across the board in their GCSEs, that pupils at all levels made excellent progress and that we have a very strong group at the top in terms of their academic performance!

Dr Julie Potter,
Deputy Head
(Academic)



CHANGE MAKER DAY

What if today could be the day that sparks the change our world needs?

Welcome to Change Maker Day - where we celebrate and empower Stoics to learn the core skills which will allow them to make a difference.

Change Maker Day, on Monday 7 October, focused on the skills of active learning, communication and technology, emotional intelligence, analytical thinking, creativity and innovation, and leadership and social literacy, encouraging pupils to think critically about global challenges and their role in addressing them. Through a series of workshops, talks, and activities, Stoics engage to develop their Change Maker skills ready to find solutions for real-world problems.

Knowing Beauty

Third Form Change Makers embarked on a course of visual education which took them all over the Mansion and into the grounds.

The Stoics began the day with an introduction to ideas such as 'What is art?' and 'Why do people like landscapes which look like the Serengeti?' from Dr Wallersteiner. They took the idea of decoding art and architecture out into the School and learned more about the Egyptian Room, Gothic Library and Temple of Ancient Virtue to name a few. In the afternoon they used their creativity to write a poem, design a Temple of Modern Worthies and create a video. It was the hope of JF Roxburgh that 'Every pupil shall leave Stowe knowing beauty for the rest of their lives' and we are sure that this Change Maker Day has given the Third Form the skills to achieve this.

Rhea Stafford-Smith,
Head of Lower School & Third Form



The Global Voice

During Change Maker Day, Stoics put together and published 'The Global Voice', an online magazine focusing on international affairs, created by Stoics for the Stowe community.

This, another bumper edition, was put together in one day and features a quiz section for the first time ever! Click [here](#) to read.

Pupils involved in the publication were: Amélie Chue Neverton (Upper Sixth, Cheshire), Isabella Fuller (Upper Sixth, Cheshire), Greg Taylor (Upper Sixth, Chandos), Daniil Nedoshovenko (Upper Sixth, Walpole), Gustav Franzén (Fifth Form, Cobham), Stepan Volkov (Upper Sixth, Temple), Milly Davis (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) and Robert Layter (Upper Sixth, Chatham).

Well done to all who worked on this fantastic publication.

Alice Tearle, Faculty Chair for Languages

The Global Voice



3rd edition, 2024



Actor Training

The day was presented to Stoics as 'a day in the life of a drama student'. 13 Fifth and Sixth Form pupils took part in this challenging day-long workshop. The programme mirrored a typical day at the prestigious London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), where more than 9,000 applicants compete annually for 16 places on the course.

Stoics were first introduced to T'ai Chi Qigong, an ancient martial art form used to train student actors for the rudiments of swordsmanship, along with training the body and mind to become strong, flexible and powerful. As practiced by the Shaolin Monks, this form of Qigong is deceptively challenging and the pupils showed immense fortitude in successfully completing this training session. Next came swordsmanship!

The famous 14th Century Fiore manual is the basis upon which LAMDAs fight tuition is structured. As with all martial arts it is extremely prescriptive and technical, and the Stoics did incredibly well; engaging with the techniques inculcated in learning of the 'art of the sword'. Given that many of the techniques are linked to Qigong, it was heartening to see the pupils make the connection between the two martial schools of training and understand why Qigong is taught prior to sword fighting skills.

Next was the voice class which introduced Stoics to the famous work of Cecily Berry (RSC, RADA, LAMDA): author of 'Voice and the Actor' and a myriad of breath-control, volume, articulation and accent exercises.

After lunch was the acting class in which the pupils were introduced to the notion of the development of character via abstract stimuli (in this instance 'status'). They then undertook preparation for the infamous LAMDA 'booth improvs'. It's the 1980s and instead of a photo booth, in front of your character is a recording booth where 'you' can record an important one-minute message for someone. Sounds simple? The booth is simply a chair on the stage. The actor enters and must make us see the surroundings, feel the weather, show the time of day, make us understand the given circumstances; the performer must visualise the surroundings so successfully that we believe the imagined handle really does turn in the invisible door, that the instructions are read, that the pound is put into the slot, and that the recording is made - very challenging!

Everyone produced some incredibly sophisticated work and should feel justifiably proud of successfully completing their first day at LAMDA!

Jason Riddington-Smith, Teacher of Drama



Chocolate Marketing

A large group of us signed up for the 'Chocolate Marketing' activity for Change Maker Day. In the morning, we discussed how to develop marketing campaigns and how the new Tony's Chocolonely brand has used techniques to build their brand. This was inspiring and allowed us to understand more about the reasonings behind Tony's chocolate products; like why the chocolates are manufactured in random segments - they were uneven to resemble the unequally divided profits in the chocolate industry. We then completed a taste test to judge different bars in terms of appearance, packaging, taste etc. as well as how they compare to Cadburys. This sparked ideas on how best to introduce our own design and strategy, alongside market research, focussing on where we fit into it and how we can promote our new product. Our group came up with a limited-edition Candy Cane flavour, and linked it to ethical sourcing; we said that 10% of our profits will go to the charity 'Crisis at Christmas'. We put a lot of effort into our design, flavour and advertisement, which was then presented at the end of the day. This was a very enjoyable activity and allowed us to understand marketing of a product and how to make it a success in the market.

Emelia Brett, (Upper Sixth, Queen's)



Historical Film Analysis

With many people gaining much of their historical understanding from film, it is critical that Stoics are aware that this medium is just as prone to distortion of the past as any other.

To hone their critical eye, 22 eager pupils were given a whistle-stop lecture on the American Revolution, followed by a showing of Mel Gibson's 'The Patriot'. The Stoics then engaged in group research, addressing the film as a source and investigating its nature, origin and purpose. Reviews of the film were mixed, but valuable lessons were learned.

Dominic Green, Head of History

Philosophy & Religion

For Change Maker Day the Philosophy and Religion Department ran a series of activities based on the theme of Mindfulness. Stoics in the group attempted meditations, mindful walking, reading and writing, and the day concluded with a yoga class. This was a challenging day that asked pupils to step out their comfort zones and try a range of new activities. We were very impressed by their efforts.

Francesca Holloway, Philosophy & Religion



Design, Create and Innovate Challenge

Change Maker Day proved to be an overwhelming success in the Design, Technology and Engineering Department.

In the task entitled 'Design, Create and Innovate - The Hovercraft Challenge', pupils from the Fifth Form, Upper and Lower Sixth Forms engaged in a series of active learning tasks, designing miniature hovercrafts then manufacturing them; developing their hand skills, laser cutting, 3D printing, and further CAD/CAM (Computer-Aided Design/Computer-Aided Manufacturing) processes.

Stoics worked in pairs or teams of three, developing their designs through collaboration, peer feedback and various iterations based on their initial ideas; all the

while documenting their findings with the assistance of social media and posts on Instagram that highlighted their findings through the hashtag #changemakers.

The day culminated in a competition to crown an overall winning team. The Lower Sixth team of Tristan Dickinson (Grenville), Henry Richardson (Walpole) and Connor Lawford (Walpole) took First place. Well done to all the Stoics who persevered through the design and make process, producing a variety of iterations that led them to successful outcomes.

A big thank you to the Staff in Design, Technology and Engineering who worked incredibly hard to make the day a reality.

Martin Quinn, Head of Design



Maths Escape Room

The Upper Sixth Form Further Mathematicians designed and led a 'Maths Escape Room' experience for Change Maker Day. The idea was to explore the Change Maker Skills of Analytical Thinking and Creativity & Innovation in mathematics by exploring problem solving challenges.

In the morning the pupils rotated around three activities:

- Using mechanics and projectiles to locate and apprehend a criminal who had stolen the Head's money for the new swimming pool. William Wu (Grafton) and Milo Xing (Chandos) had to consider how to introduce projectiles and pitch the questions at an appropriate level before the pupils headed off to the Drayson to find the criminal.
- Using a graph theory and calculus to find treasure around the School site. Eitan O'Grady (Temple) led the graph theory activity on the day, assisted by Sam Zhang (Walpole), and did a brilliant job of presenting the imaginative problem they and Calon Heaven (Grenville) had carefully prepared together.

The final activity required pupils to think outside the box to design some fun and engaging activities for prep school pupils inspired by code breaking and escape rooms.

In the afternoon three groups were simultaneously locked into scary escape rooms and had to solve logic problems and cryptic clues to find the antidote to poison in order to survive.

Ryan Zheng (Grenville), James Zheng (Chandos) and Ethel Zhu (West), crafted an excellent storyline, and with the help of Sunny He (Chatham), produced some creative and atmospheric videos that set the scene. The puzzles were challenging but well-pitched and it was great to see teams of pupils working together to 'escape'.

My colleagues, Amanda Ayres and Laura-Jane Millers, and I were blown away by the effort and imagination our Upper Sixth Further Mathematicians demonstrated. It was clear that a great deal of time and effort went in to making their activities a huge success.

Sophie Penrhyn-Lowe, Head of Upper School Mathematics

Languages

On Monday 7 October, 80 enthusiastic Year 7 pupils embarked on an exciting linguistic adventure, designed to spark creativity, teamwork and analytical thinking. While the prep school pupils took part in language challenges throughout the morning, our Senior linguists were hard at work organising the afternoon's Multilingual Treasure Hunt. They used their creativity and leadership skills to devise clues, draw maps, and prepare all the necessary resources for the event. In the afternoon, these Language Leaders guided teams around Stowe House and Grounds in a thrilling race to uncover the hidden treasure. The day's success was made possible thanks to the support of our Modern Foreign Language (MFL) teachers (Mrs Leluan, Mrs Podesta, Mrs Peña, Mrs Beldarrain and Mrs Schumacher) and prep school colleagues.

Dr Isabel Ferrero, Head of Additional Foreign Languages

CHANGE MAKER DAY



Create a TV Marketing Campaign

Members of the Fifth and Sixth Form spent the day analysing moving image artwork and advertising campaigns before creating, producing and pitching their own TV advertising campaigns.

Many Change Maker skills were developed as the pupils worked in groups on their projects. Their brief was to create a campaign to encourage grass roots sports using persuasive media techniques. The pupils planned campaigns, engaged with filming and editing technology, overcame technological and practical challenges and collaborated with other team members to meet a brief and deadline. They had to pitch their campaign ideas to the wider group. All groups worked well together, demonstrating some excellent teamwork, emotional intelligence, active learning and creativity. The outcomes were an impressive array of TV adverts, posters, interviews and social media adverts.

The winning pitches were given by Group A: Willa Bailey, Greta Brogden, Alice Fell and Lily Cawley (all Fifth Form, Queen's) and Group B: Maddie Baker (Upper Sixth, Queen's), Georgia Brophy (Upper Sixth, West), Tamsin Cusiter (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) and Tsherim Lhamo (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton).

Emma Ackroyd, Head of Film & Media Studies



Ashmolean Visit

The Fifth Form art pupils travelled to Oxford to see the Ashmolean Museum 'Change Makers Season' - a captivating wide-ranging exhibition of work celebrating key artists, objects and individuals that have created change, alongside shifting perceptions of money throughout history. Encompassing still life art through the ages, ranging from Egyptian embalming tools, to contemporary Asian ceramic works from Japanese heritage and perspectives, pupils travelled in small groups with their sketch pads to create a series of tonal observations.

Further into the trip pupils explored the Pitt Rivers Gallery, which hosts various still life installations such as the 'Hulu Nēnē' dress by fashion icon Manaola Yap, to 'His Dark Materials' display that traces the steps of Lyra Belacqua from items featured in the BBC HBO production. In reimagined journeys into Hawaiian Ecosystems in 'Mo'olelo of the Ahupua'a', exploring the epic myth of 'Hi'iakaikapoliopele', pupils were inspired by artist Solomon Enos' seven paintings across various landscapes and worlds of the islands.

Situated alongside the Pitt Rivers Gallery, pupils created drawings from direct observation in the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. These natural

form studies included textile installations from the microbial world of 'The Deadly Six', featuring willow-woven sculptures by artist Angela Palmer created to mark the 30th anniversary of the Oxford Vaccine Group. Investigating their own individual projects, the Fifth Form had a wealth of materials to inspire and draw from, to create six graphite personal investigations to kick start their sketchbooks exploring ratio, perspective and composition.

Domna Collier, Teacher of Art



Literary Leaders

Change Maker Day Literary Leaders activity was a brilliant opportunity for pupils and Staff from Swanbourne House and Winchester House Prep Schools to work together with Stoics on a range of supra-curricular English activities. The pupils participated in three carousel sessions throughout the day, also enjoying some social time outside on Chapel Court during the break.

I shadowed Mrs Newman, Head of English at Winchester House School, who ran a session on 'The Werewolf' by Angela Carter, a more graphic yet empowering retelling of the fairytale 'Little Red Riding Hood'. I am currently studying Angela Carter's 'The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories', the collection from which this story was taken, for my English NEA coursework, so I was particularly interested in how this story would be interpreted by younger readers.

After reading this short tale and discussing the themes and techniques of the writer, Mrs Newman asked the pupils to re-write a classic fairytale in a more modern and gruesome way. Pupils were challenged to write in Carter's gothic style to create a vivid and detailed description of the story's setting.

Sixth Formers Ernest Ma (Upper Sixth, Temple), Anton Poon (Lower Sixth, Croft), Chris Mountford (Upper Sixth, Temple) and Jack Dawson (Lower Sixth, Grafton) volunteered in the other sessions, supporting teachers in the classroom and gathering material for the Stoic's own *Concord and Victory* publication. Look out for the content they have produced in the forthcoming print and podcast editions!

Amelia Taylor (Upper Sixth, West)



Year 6 Science Event

On Change Maker Day we had a Year 6 Group Science Day. 70 pupils from Winchester House School (WHS) and Swanbourne House School (SHS) came for the day and were put into 12 mixed teams with a Stoic scientist mentoring each group for the day, as they rotated around sessions in biology, chemistry and physics.

The overall theme for the day was 'Space' and there was a competitive element with certificates and prizes for the highest scoring groups in each of the sciences, plus an award for the best overall score. The Stoic mentors scored the groups by evaluating their skills in teamwork, practical work, analytical skills (thinking like a scientist), innovation and their results.

The event enhanced different Change Maker Skills of those involved:

Stoics Science Leaders - Leadership & Social Literacy

Year 6 - Analytic Thinking, Creativity and Innovation, Social Literacy

In Biology the pupils looked at food in space which included making liquid nitrogen ice-cream, vacuum packing food and the nutritional value of food. During the Chemistry activities pupils conducted their own experiments to work out how to make the best battery. They also performed soil analysis to identify the elements present and so work out which samples could have come from which exo-planets. The Physics Department looked at gravity and the problem it causes when trying to land safely on planets. The pupils then tested parachutes and landing craft which they had devised.

The pupils from both schools integrated with ease and worked very well together - a great credit to SHS and WHS, and to the pupils themselves. The Stoic science leaders were amazing, showing great skills in leadership and mentoring.

Stowe's Worsley Science Building was the ideal venue and was buzzing all day with energy and enthusiasm. As always, our Science Technicians worked hard behind the scenes to facilitate the activities which enabled us to make full use of our wonderful science facilities.

A great day was had by all with Change Maker skills embedded throughout and the chance to spread the joy of science.

James Tearle, Head of Science



Thinking Hats

We had the privilege of coming together for Change Maker Day, where we were given the exciting opportunity to practice both original and analytical thinking. The activities for the day were thoughtfully planned by the three Scholars of The Berry Scholarship for Original Thinking, who developed the concept of 'Thinking Hats' for Change Maker Day.

The event emphasised original and analytical thinking, which is one of the core Change Maker skills at Stowe. We had the opportunity to engage in an enjoyable day that also fostered the development of analytical thinking skills. The day consisted of three activities, each designed as a challenging game that encouraged participants to think in diverse and innovative ways.

Our first activity was a Murder Mystery, where, as the name suggests, players must solve fictional murders by investigating clues and finding connections to piece the story together. This activity encourages original thinking, as you must think outside the box to solve the clues provided in the pack. All members of the Thinking Hats group found the experience highly enjoyable. I recommend this as an engaging activity to do with friends or family, as it offers a valuable opportunity to enhance Change Maker skills in a fun and subtle manner.

The second activity of the day, though seemingly simple, proved to be quite challenging. Participants were tasked with advertising a felt-tip pen, which we structured as a competition to make it more engaging. Despite being an everyday item, particularly in a school setting, marketing a pen is difficult due to the need to differentiate it from thousands of other similar products. The key question given to the participants was, "Why would people choose this pen?" The participants were divided into three groups, each developing unique strategies to market the pen. It was very fun to see the originality and diversity in their approaches. For example, one group created a poster, while another group incorporated digital marketing to make their campaign more interactive. At the same time, the third group added unique features to their pen, which differentiated it from the rest. The activity was both enjoyable and insightful, highlighting the way different brains think differently.

The final activity of the day was a challenging brain-teaser scavenger hunt, designed to test Stoics original thinking. The clues were intentionally complex, requiring deeper problem-solving rather than straightforward answers. Participants remained in the same groups from the previous activity, which, in addition to encouraging original and analytical thinking, also fostered teamwork skills. The scavenger hunt took place throughout the School grounds and consisted of ten clues, strategically hidden across various locations, adding a layer of difficulty as the clues could be in any building.

Emily Echezarreta Aurrecochea
(Upper Sixth, Cheshire)



Basketball

On Thursday 3 October the U16 team travelled to Abingdon. With two key players missing and limited preparation, the team found it difficult to get into any rhythm. Credit to Abingdon who moved the ball round well and thoroughly deserved their 47-17 win. The U16s made better use of their height as the game progressed. With a full team in the return fixture, we should expect a much closer contest.

On Thursday 10 October the 1st team travelled to Radley. In their first outing of the season, the 1st team held onto their lead in the final quarter to defeat a spirited Radley side 39-36.

Isaac Michael, Head of Basketball

RUGBY

The 1st XV put on a very impressive display of controlled power, precision and discipline against Bloxham in the home Cup match on Wednesday 2 October, with a final score of 55-7 to Stowe.

On Saturday 5 October we took on Rugby School, with an even spread of results. Congratulations to the four teams who remain unbeaten after five matches so far this season: the Colts A team, the Junior Colts B team and the Yearlings B and D teams. The 1st XV had a very tight match away at Rugby where we held the lead until they scored an agonising try in extra time to win the game.

The midweek Cup matches on Thursday 10 October went well for the U16, U15 and U14s they all progressed through to the next round beating Aylesbury Grammar, Sibford School and Aylesbury Grammar respectively.

In the block against Bromsgrove on Saturday 12 October, the standout results were the Fourth Form matches where all three teams, who were comfortably beaten last year, all managed to turn the results around and win their matches. The U16s continue to dominate their age group and the 2nd XV got a well-deserved win.

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby



COUNTY CRICKET AWARDS

The Northants Cricket Awards Dinner took place on Saturday 5 October during which six Stoics received awards:

Toby Sutliff (Fifth Form, Croft) - Batting. Toby achieved a Century for the Emerging Players' Programme (EPP). Toby was also Bucks U16 batter of the season. He is on the Bucks EPP but also plays for Northants EPP.

Connor Lawford (Lower Sixth, Walpole) - Century for Northants U16 & U16 Batter of the Year.

Archie Lazarus-Ingman (Lower Sixth, Croft) - U16 Bowler of the Year.

Fin Cloete (Fifth Form, Chatham) - Century for the U15s & U15 Batter of the Year.

Connor, Archie and Fin have all been awarded a place on the EPP.

Zorawar Sidhu (Fourth Form, Grafton) - Best Bowling & U14 Bowler of the Year. Zorawar won two awards, best bowler with his seven wicket haul against Worcestershire and U14 bowler of the year, taking 45 wickets.

Gurshaan Kullar (Third Form, Winton) won an award for his Century against London Schools.

In addition, at a separate awards ceremony, **Rushil Sharma (Third Form, Winton) won U13 Performance of the Year for Buckinghamshire.**

Congratulations to all those who received awards and played so well throughout the season last year.

James Knott, Director of Cricket

SKIING

Six girls competed in the British Schoolgirl Indoor Races at Milton Keynes on Sunday 6 October.

Congratulations to Martha Bond (Upper Sixth, West) who finished in the top 20 in a field of 140 skiers.

Our A Team of Martha Bond, Clover Longsdon (Fourth Form, Queen's) and Anastasia Sidorova (Fifth Form, Lyttelton) came Sixth overall, and our B team of Lucia Candal O'Flanagan (Lower Sixth, West), Tabby Noton (Lower Sixth, West), Diana Horton (Fourth Form, Lyttelton) came Third overall.

Our mixed team raced again on Sunday 13 October in Norfolk, coming Second, they have made it through to the British Open Championships in November.

Congratulations to all those who competed!

Max Vendrig, Stowe Skiing



ANTIGONE

A Level Antigone Performance

On Wednesday 2 October, an invited audience of parents, Houseparents and Drama pupils gathered in the Dobinson Studio to watch the Upper Sixth perform extracts from Sophocles' 'Antigone' as part of their A Level scripted practical examination.

Despite the challenges of speaking a text that was first written in 441BC, the Stoics handled Don Taylor's accurate but contemporary translation with skill and sensitivity. In the post-performance Q&A session, the audience were notably struck by the power and universality of the play's themes - the feminist feel, the debate between moral and state law and the powerlessness of the individual.

Sophie Ellenberger (West) and Tilly Kingsbury (Stanhope) gave a convincing and moving performance to open the evening, as Antigone tries to persuade her sister to assist her in giving their brother a proper burial. Their Uncle Creon, the new king, has forbidden this and Romayo Seaton (Cobham) gave a powerful performance alongside Lola Morgan (Cheshire) as Antigone, as they continued the story.

Jack Riley (Walpole) then gave a superb, lightly comic performance as the soldier reporting the arrest of Antigone, before the roles of Creon, Antigone and Ismene were taken

on by Daniel Goje (Chatham), Claudia Kilonback (Cheshire) and Skye Quie (Stanhope) respectively. Claudia and Skye captured with sensitivity, the warmth and frustration the sisters feel towards one another as Creon passes Antigone's death sentence. Daniel skilfully communicated the authority, pride and short-sightedness of the tyrant king. Stepan Volkov (Temple) and James Smith (Winton) then took to the stage, handling beautifully the fierce and brutal argument between Creon and his son, Haemon, who tries, unsuccessfully to help his father see the error of his ways.

It is only the wise words of the blind Teiresias, played hauntingly by Neve Ntumba (Stanhope), who can ultimately wake Creon from his stubbornness. Grace Reilly (West) delivered Antigone's final monologue movingly with great truthfulness as she resigns herself to an eternity spent in her 'living tomb'. Daniel Goje finished off the evening with Creon's final tragic realisation, after witnessing the deaths of his wife and son, that he has learnt too late the price paid by a foolish dictator.

**Lucy Miller,
Teacher of Drama**





Over the last fortnight the Stowe rowing team have attended enjoyable and successful events in Bath and Bedford. On Saturday 5 October, the team travelled to the River Avon, near Bath, for the Avon Bluefriars Small Boats Head. The stretch is home to Bath and Bristol universities, Monkton Coombe and Millfield schools, and the Avon County and Minerva Bath clubs. Our girls' quad of Alice Watson (Upper Sixth, Nugent), India Gordon (Upper Sixth, Nugent), Coco Bartoszewski (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Libby Doughty (Fourth Form, Cheshire) gave a good account of themselves, finishing close behind Westminster.

Our boys' crew of Hecco Harrison (Fifth Form, Temple), Oscar Beumer (Fifth Form, Chatham), Ned Curry (Fifth Form, Croft) and Ben Cousins (Fifth Form, Cobham) did well, winning the U16 event. It was such a lovely sunny day, that everyone went out and raced again in singles and doubles - 14,000m for the day - with Ari Lewis (Lower Sixth, Walpole), Cameron Gray (Lower Sixth, Temple) and Patrick Kingsman (Fourth Form, Winton) joining in doubles. Ben and Hecco finished First in U18 Band 2 doubles, and were much faster than the U16 doubles, who had raced in the morning before we arrived. Many thanks the Kingsman, Doughty and Bartoszewski families who travelled to Bath to support the team, and to Ms Kallan and Mr Chick for taking them.

On Sunday 13 October the team made the much shorter journey to the Bedford Small Boats Head. With 425 boats, this was a highly competitive event with big rowing schools including Putney High and Latymer (Hammersmith) coming out of London, and schools as far as Shrewsbury and Norwich joining the five big Bedford schools and clubs. This time our U16 girls' quad of Aggie Edwards, Bella Bawden, Lorraine Yan and

'birthday girl' Tallulah Havard (all Fifth Form, Stanhope) joined the U16 boys. The U18 boys' quad of Philippos Konstantopoulos (Lower Sixth, Walpole), Cameron Gray (Lower Sixth, Temple), Ari Lewis (Lower Sixth, Walpole) and Max Frohnsdorff (Fifth Form, Temple) made their first appearance, and Third Formers Caspar Westley Smith (Chatham) joined Patrick in doubles, whilst Tom Kent (Winton) raced for his Bedford club.

Alice and India raced well in doubles and singles, whilst Libby completed her first ever race in a single, beating several entrants from Latymer - a great start for her. The best result of the day came from Lorraine Yan and Aggie Edwards. They shared the podium places with their Team East friends from Bedford and Cambridge. These three crews showed the quality of Team East sculling, seeing off all the London crews. Max deserves special mention for racing down the Bedford track three times!

The rowers were supported by many of their families and it was lovely to meet them all again. The team were brought by Ms Abbott, who made a heroic effort, despite recovering from a recent foot operation!

A rowing training trip to Sabaudia, Italy, with Olympian Gillian Lindsay is planned for Easter 2025. We hope that some of the Stowe rowers will be able to take this opportunity. Stoics have also signed up for training days during Half Term at Dorney Lake with Gillian, which should be very helpful. It's exciting to have a world-class coach making this contribution to rowing at Stowe.

Our next event is Cambridge Eights Head on Saturday 9 November, where we are expecting to see Stowe represented by boys' and girls' eights.

Andrew Rudkin, Head of Rowing

Padel Inaugural Victory

Stowe Padel team were winners of the inaugural Padel Festival held at Smash Padel Oxford on Wednesday 2 October.

There were great performances from all the team who represented each Year Group from Third Form, Fourth Form and Fifth Form, Captained by Freddie Youngman Sullivan (Fifth Form, Grafton). Stowe managed to win by two points in a close and hard-fought victory.

Special mention goes to 'Player of the Tournament', William Wates (Fourth Form, Cobham) who was selected by the padel professional who umpired matches on the day.

Daniel Voyce, Head of Rackets





Geography Field Trip

On Tuesday 1 October over 70 GCSE geography pupils visited the Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire to carry out fieldwork as part of their course.

On arrival we were greeted by volunteers from the National Trust and were able to learn more about the organisation's work to manage the natural landscape.

In the stunning surroundings of this beautiful Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI) Stoics then conducted a day's fieldwork, investigating how the characteristics of the Ashbrook River change as it flows downstream. This included measuring the river's width, depth and velocity, as well as sampling the bedload to measure its size and shape.

After many wet days, the river was flowing strongly but luckily, the rain held off, and Stoics were able to see their classroom learning come to life! The pupils had a great time putting their theoretical understanding into practice and perfecting their fieldwork techniques, all of which will be examined as part of their qualification.

A fantastic time was had by all.

Becky Stanworth, Head of Geography

Lunchtime Concert

The inaugural Lunchtime Concert of the Term took place on Thursday 19 September in the Ugland Auditorium. Each of the Stoic performers did tremendously well, giving highly communicative and accomplished performances.

To open the concert, Alice Fell and Emily Gauvain (both Fifth Form, Queen's) performed 'I See Fire', by Ed Sheeran. This was a performance of energy and dynamism and both girls clearly enjoyed performing this modern classic. This was followed by another vocal duet from Lucie Whiteoak and Maria Shenton (both Lower Sixth, West), who gave a poignant and moving performance of Adele's 'Someone Like You'.

Mimi Pilcher (Fourth Form, Nugent) gave an exciting performance of the solo piano work 'Fireflies', composed by yours truly. As the composer of this piece, I felt that Mimi conveyed a strong sense of energy with her playing.

Staying with solo piano, Sophie Rojas (Fifth Form, Cheshire) then performed an arrangement of Radiohead's 'No Surprises'. Sophie played with gravitas and confidence, and it was a pleasure to listen to her play this transcription.

Gifford Barker (Third Form, Temple) then took to the stage to give a fiery and suitably tempestuous performance of the 3rd movement of Beethoven's op.17 sonata 'Tempest', which was both technically and musically assured.

The concert was concluded by a performance of Papillons op.2 composed by Schumann, capably performed by Annie Chen (Third Form, Stanhope). Annie did a fantastic job of capturing the sense of lightness and spark this work demands of the performer. Congratulations to all those who took part.

After coordinating the Lunchtime Concert series since their inception, this concert will be my last. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with the Stoics over the years, and I have no doubt that they will continue to flourish under new stewardship.

Ben Andrew, Head of Keyboard & Accompanist in Residence



Theatre Trip

On Wednesday 18 September our Sixth Form Theatre Studies pupils visited the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith to watch a performance of 'Our Country's Good'.

Set in 1789 in the fledgling Australian colony, Timberlake Wertenbaker's play, charting the attempts of Lt Ralph Clark to stage a play with a cast of convicts, is a set text at A Level. This was a valuable opportunity for the group to see a professional interpretation.

Simon Miller, Head of Drama



New President for Languages Society

The Languages Society met for the first time this academic year on Thursday 3 October. The Society has recently appointed a new President Isabella Fuller (Upper Sixth, Cheshire) and Vice President Paula Sanchez Podesta (Lower Sixth, Cheshire), who both gave a short presentation introducing themselves and their interest in languages, as well as giving members information about events planned for the Society during the Michaelmas Term.

In this first meeting members also listened to snippets of various languages and had to guess the language; a game which created some friendly competition between the teams!

The Languages Society meets every three weeks on a Thursday evening. Any Sixth Formers with an interest in languages are welcome to attend - you do not need to be studying a language at A Level.

Events planned for this Autumn include an International Food & Drink evening and a lecture on Franz Kafka by visiting Oxford Professor, Ian Ellison.

Rachel Holland, Teacher of German & French



Badminton

On Thursday 19 September the boys' and girls' 1st teams hosted St Edward's, Oxford. The 1st team bounced back from their defeat to Cheltenham with an emphatic 9-0 win against St Edward's. Stowe won all matches without dropping a game. Having lost to St Edward's 8-1 last season, the girls' 1st team recorded an outstanding 6-3 win, which was their first competitive win in two years.

On Saturday 21 September the boys' 1st and 2nd teams hosted Bedford School and the boys' 3rd and 4th teams travelled to Wellingborough to play their 1st and 2nd teams. The boys' 1st team had an epic match against Bedford. The scores were tied 3-3 going into the last round of matches with the pairs playing their counterparts. Bedford took the 1st pair match 15-7; 15-8. Stowe took the 2nd pair match 15-13; 5-15; 19-9 and Bedford took the 3rd pair match 15-10; 14-15; 15-12 to clinch the overall match 5-4. It was a thrilling and exciting afternoon of badminton. Just like the 1st team match, the 2nd team match proved equally exciting. On this occasion, with both sides going into the Final round of matches level 3-3, it was Stowe who prevailed, winning two of the last three matches to clinch a fantastic 5-4 win. The boys' 3rd team took on Wellingborough's 1st team and although Wellingborough won 11-2, the overall score did not reflect how closely contested the matches were. The boys' 4th team recorded a fantastic 11-3 victory over Wellingborough's 2nd team.

On Saturday 5 October the boys' and girls' 1st teams hosted Rugby and the girls' 2nd, and boys' 2nd and 3rd teams travelled to Rugby. The boys' 1st team produced an outstanding performance to defeat Rugby 8-1. The boys' 2nd team were totally dominant in their match, winning 9-0. The 3rd team had an impressive 7-2 win. The girls' 1st and 2nd teams lost 7-2 against strong opposition.

On Saturday 12 October the boys' 1st and 2nd teams hosted Bromsgrove and the girls' 2nd and boys 2nd and 3rd teams travelled to Bromsgrove. With the scores tied 3-3 going into the last round of matches, Bromsgrove came out on top winning two out of three to secure a 5-4 win. The boys' 2nd team recorded back-to-back 9-0 wins with their victory against Bromsgrove. The team remains unbeaten after four games this season. The boys' 3rd team made an amazing comeback against Bromsgrove as they trailed 4-2 going into the last round of matches. Each pair beat their counterparts to clinch a fantastic 5-4 win. The girls' 1st team and 2nd teams lost their matches 7-2.

Isaac Michael (Head of Badminton)



HOCKEY

The Friday Night Lights match against Rugby School's 1st team is one of the highlights of the busy season. It was lovely to see so many Stoics supporting the girls on the evening of 4 October and enjoying seeing Stowe win the match 1-0 with Hannah Campbell (Lower Sixth, Nugent) scoring. The rest of the Block against Rugby was played on Saturday 5 October where eight out of twelve matches were either drawn or decided by just one goal or less.

The overall results of four wins, four draws, and just one loss gave Stowe the upper hand against Bromsgrove on Saturday 12 October. Well done to the 1st XI for a 1-1 draw in the Friday Night Lights match (against Bromsgrove on 11 October)..

U16 Bucks County Champions

Stowe hosted the U16s' Bucks tournament on Tuesday 8 October.

Stowe's Fifth Form team started on a solid base against High Wycombe, playing well and getting a goal through a strong push, from Minnie Hutton (Nugent).

For their second game of the tournament the girls faced Beaconsfield High School who looked to be a stronger side. There were some saves from Mae White (Stanhope) in goal, to keep the scores level, before Emilia Rivett (Queen's) slapped a ball home from a penalty corner. She was awarded Most Valuable Player (MVP) for her terrific ability to jump in front of her marker.

The final game saw Stowe play Dr Challoner's Grammar School, where we were convincing winners with a 5-0 scoreline. Goals came from Elsie Jacobs x2 (Cheshire), Minnie Hutton, Izzy Forster (Stanhope) and Stella Meredith (Cheshire). MVP was awarded to Willa Bailey (Queen's).

Congratulations to the girls for not conceding any goals, scoring crucial goals and becoming County Champions!

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey



CCF



RAF Field Day

Stowe CCF Army & Fourth Form RAF Field Day: An Antidote to the Anxious Generation

In a world increasingly dominated by screens and anxieties, Stowe CCF Cadets recently embraced a refreshing dose of reality - a two-day field exercise designed to push boundaries and build resilience. This immersive experience proved to be the perfect antidote to the pressures faced by 'The Anxious Generation', offering a unique blend of challenge, adventure and camaraderie.

Confronting Challenges, Building Confidence:

The field day plunged Cadets into the heart of fieldcraft, demanding adaptability and resourcefulness. From constructing their own shelters (bashers) to navigating unfamiliar terrain, they confronted challenges head-on, fostering a sense of self-reliance and accomplishment.

Risk-Taking in a Controlled Environment:

The exercise embraced calculated risk-taking in a safe and controlled environment. Cadets learned to assess and manage risks, building confidence in their decision-making abilities. This experience provided a valuable counterpoint to the risk-averse tendencies often associated with today's youth.

Escaping the Comfort Zone:

Stepping outside their comfort zones, Cadets embraced the unfamiliar. Cooking and consuming Army ration packs, mastering camouflage techniques, and sleeping under the stars - these experiences fostered a sense of adventure and resilience, proving that they are capable of far more than they might have imagined.

Teamwork and Camaraderie:

Collaboration was key to success in the field. Cadets worked together to build shelters, navigate, and complete tasks, fostering a strong sense of teamwork and camaraderie. These shared experiences created lasting bonds and a supportive network, vital for navigating the challenges of adolescence.

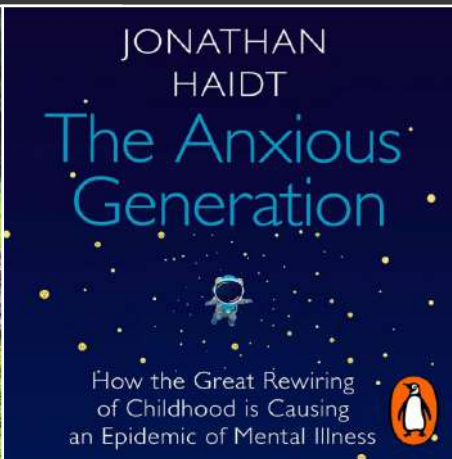
A Digital Detox with Real-World Rewards:

The field day provided a welcome break from the digital world, allowing Cadets to connect with nature and each other. This "digital detox" fostered mindfulness and appreciation for the simple things, offering a refreshing alternative to the constant stimulation of modern life.

Lessons for Life:

The Stowe CCF field day was more than just an adventure; it was a powerful lesson in resilience, resourcefulness, and teamwork. By embracing carefully controlled risks and stepping outside their comfort zones, these Cadets gained valuable skills and a renewed sense of confidence, proving that they are well-equipped to face the challenges of tomorrow.

Andrew Arnold, CCF Contingent Commander





CCF

Stowe CCF Drill Competition: A Resounding Success!

"Platoon, Attention!"

The recent drill competition at Stowe CCF saw our Cadets put their skills to the test in a challenging but rewarding event. The competition, designed to assess both individual and team proficiency, followed a strict format with two distinct phases.

Phase 1: Foot Drill at a Halt

With military precision, the platoons/sections formed up in three ranks outside the Sixth Form Centre.

"Good afternoon, Sir! Army Platoon 1 present and ready for inspection, SIR!"

After a thorough inspection, the Cadets executed a series of commands, demonstrating their mastery of stationary drill movements. From crisp turns to a flawless "stand at ease" and a resounding "shun," the sections impressed with their sharpness and discipline.

Phase 2: Foot Drill on the March

The second phase tested the platoon's ability to maintain formation and composure while on the move. With a **"Right turn!"** and a **"By the left, quick march!"**, the platoon embarked on a march that took them from the Sixth Form Centre, between Queen's House and Chapel, to the Chapel Forecourt. Maintaining perfect file and step, the Cadets showcased their ability to work as a cohesive unit. Upon reaching the Chapel Forecourt, the platoon executed further commands, including halting, turning, and opening order, before coming to attention for their final assessment, the uniform inspection.

"Squadron, to your duties, fall out!"

The competition was a resounding success, with all participants demonstrating a high level of skill and dedication. The Cadets' commitment to excellence was evident in their sharp movements, precise timing, and unwavering discipline. This event not only showcased the individual talents of our Cadets but also highlighted their ability to work together as a team, embodying the core values of the CCF.

Congratulations to all who took part and especially to the Royal Airforce Squadron who swept aside all the other sections with a resounding display of drill and standard of uniform to win the competition and sit top of the table in the Inter-Section Competition. Particularly well done to Cadet Flight Sergeant Sunny He (RAF Air Cadets) (Upper Sixth, Chatham) who led the Squadron with guile and style to victory!

Andrew Arnold, CCF Contingent Commander



Standing with Giants

Stowe Gardens host D-Day Artwork

The Standing with Giants memorial installation to soldiers killed in the D-Day landings on 6 June 1944, has come to Stowe, where it can be seen in full for the first time in the UK. The figures are installed in the Grecian Valley over several areas of the 245-acres of the gardens.

The artwork, 'For Your Tomorrow - the People's Tribute', was on display at the British Normandy Memorial in Ver-sur-Mer, France, but is now in Stowe Gardens. Stowe is the UK's official host of the commemoration.

The display, open to the public until mid-November 2024, is a large-scale art installation consisting of 1,475 silhouettes of WW2 military personnel. 'For Your Tomorrow - the People's Tribute' was created by community artist, Dan Barton with the number of figures in the display representing the number of fatalities under British command on 6 June 1944.

Artist Dan Barton has delivered several impactful military-based displays since founding the Oxfordshire-based charity Standing with Giants. The life-size figures are constructed entirely by volunteers, using recycled building materials, and they create meaningful spaces for people to visit and reflect.

"Our ethos at Standing with Giants is to value life, to understand and appreciate why we have our freedom, and to remember and pay tribute to those who have fallen so we can live the lives we have today. Using outdoor art is a great way to do this", said Dan Barton.

The silhouettes are designed to represent the military personnel from all the major services, but in addition, two bespoke figures of nurses have been included. They are of Sister Mollie Evershed and Sister Dorothy Field who died while helping to save 75 men from the hospital ship SS Amsterdam which sank, off the Normandy beaches, on 7 August 1944. Both were given posthumous commendation for their actions and are the only two women commemorated on the British Normandy Memorial.

The full installation weighs in excess of 30 tonnes and took around 15 days to set-up with the help of 30 volunteers each day, and is an incredible sight to experience.

At Stowe there will be no additional charge to see the installation during normal opening hours, which is free to National Trust members and Stowe Parents. In addition to normal opening hours, there will be sunrise (6am to 8am) and twilight (5.30pm to 7.30pm) visits available on select dates, for which there will be an additional charge.





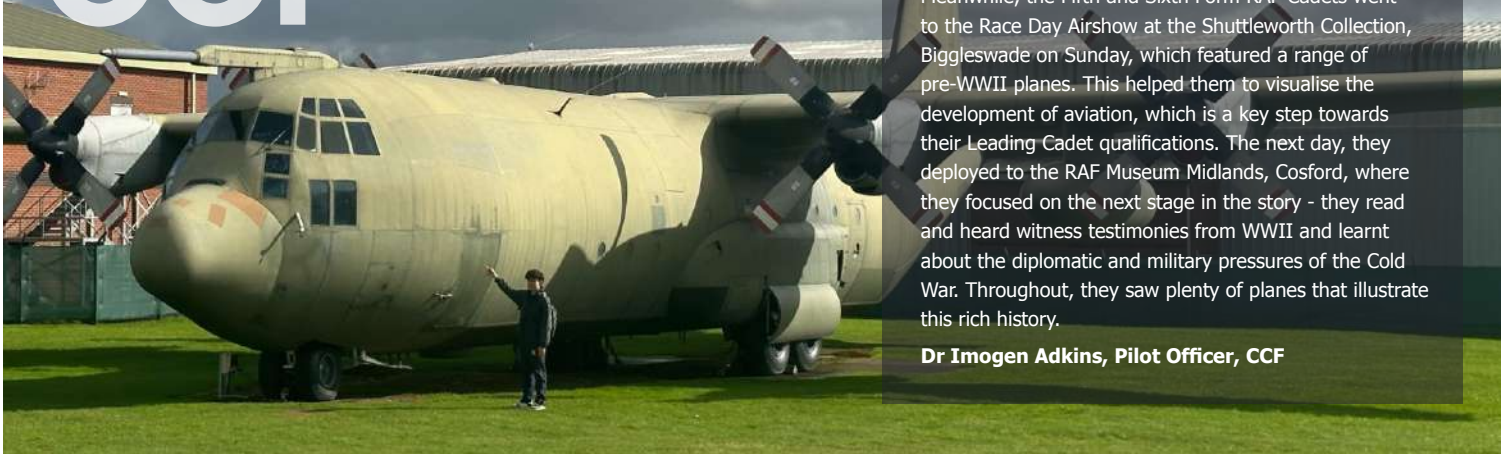
CCF Field Weekend: RAF Section

As a key step towards their First Class Cadet qualifications, our Fourth Form joined with the Army rotation of activities to learn field craft including sleeping outdoors overnight. Having made their bashers earlier in the day, they used standard issue MOD ration packs to cook their own supper in the pouring rain (no mean feat), before a cosy night in bivy bags. Using laser rifles, they also learnt how to conduct search and rescue operations in the pavilion (the hostages mostly survived the experience) and had a fun game of 'capture the flag' in the dark.

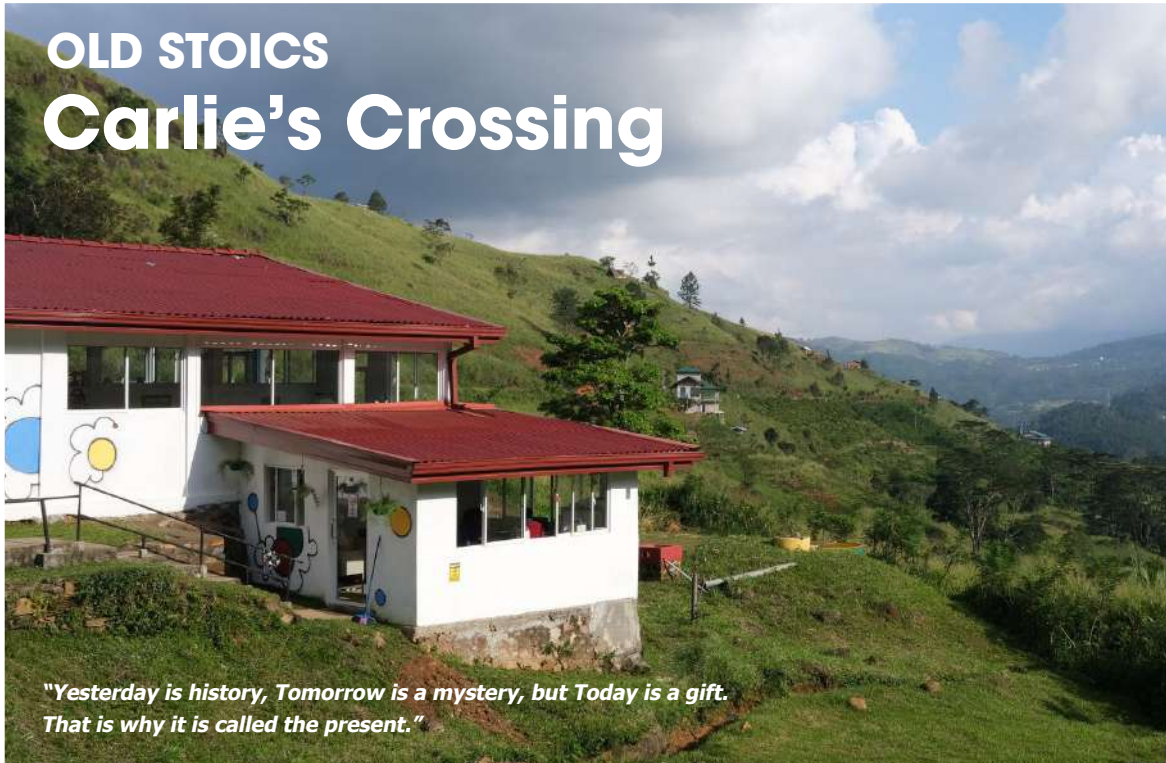
Meanwhile, the Fifth and Sixth Form RAF Cadets went to the Race Day Airshow at the Shuttleworth Collection, Biggleswade on Sunday, which featured a range of pre-WWII planes. This helped them to visualise the development of aviation, which is a key step towards their Leading Cadet qualifications. The next day, they deployed to the RAF Museum Midlands, Cosford, where they focused on the next stage in the story - they read and heard witness testimonies from WWII and learnt about the diplomatic and military pressures of the Cold War. Throughout, they saw plenty of planes that illustrate this rich history.

Dr Imogen Adkins, Pilot Officer, CCF

CCF



OLD STOICS Carlie's Crossing



Carlie Tufnell (Temple 17) was incredibly warm, charismatic and outwardly carefree. He had endless kindness for those around him but tragically struggled to extend that same kindness to himself. In 2021, Carlie lost his battle with depression.

To honour his life and memory, over 60 of Carlie's family and friends are racing across the length of Sri Lanka in tuk-tuks - a place Carlie called home in 2018, and where he found peace and joy. They aim to raise £35,000 to support mental health initiatives, provide education for impoverished communities in Sri Lanka's tea plantations, and support other causes close to Carlie's heart.

While the race bears Carlie's name, it stands as a tribute to everyone lost to depression.

Full details can be found at www.carliescrossing.com

To read more about Carlie click [here](#).

If you would like to make a donation, please visit the [justgiving page](#).



Duke of Edinburgh's Award Field Weekend



On Sunday 6 and Monday 7 October, over 90 Fourth Form pupils took part in the much-anticipated Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Field Weekend, a key milestone in beginning their journey toward achieving the prestigious award. The weekend offered an intense and rewarding mix of hiking and canoeing, designed to give a taste of the two expedition options we offer prior to choosing their preferred 'mode of transport' for the Summer expeditions.

The hiking taster day consisted of a scenic 16km walk through the picturesque Buckinghamshire countryside. Armed with maps and compasses, Stoics navigated their way along the beautiful but muddy terrain. This was no easy task - it required the groups to rely on the navigational skills they had been honing during their Monday afternoon training sessions. These hikes, though physically challenging, were a great test of the Stoics' ability to work as a cohesive unit, motivating each other to stay on track and complete the day on a high.

The canoeing taster saw Stoics switch gears

for a day on the River Ouse in Bedford. The morning began with skill-building exercises, as participants learned to paddle efficiently and manage their canoes while navigating upstream currents ensuring they knew the correct strokes to get them out of trouble. The afternoon then put these new skills to test, when Stoics headed downstream through the Bedfordshire countryside along a section regularly used for expeditions. Effective teamwork and clear communication were essential to ensure no one got caught in the shrubbery or veered off course.

This weekend was not just about physical endurance but also about building crucial life skills such as perseverance, leadership and teamwork - qualities that will be tested during their final expeditions next Summer. The Bronze DofE Field Weekend has undoubtedly left the participants more prepared, confident and eager to take on their next challenge.

Well done to all the Fourth Form pupils for their hard work and determination!

Jessica Nichols, Head of Fourth Form



Stowe: An Earthly Paradise

The idea of engaging the renowned painter Anthony Eyton RA to produce a volume of work based on his impressions of Stowe came from Mark Flawn-Thomas (Grenville 72), Old Stoic and parent of two recent Old Stoics in the Spring of 2014. It was forty years ago when Stowe inspired the important neo-Romantic artist, John Piper, to produce the last significant group of paintings, etchings and prints. Since then, Stowe has undergone a magnificent transformation and Tony Eyton and Mark Flawn-Thomas have collaborated to produce a book which celebrates the restoration and conservation of the landscape gardens and the Ducal palace. Working together, they have produced pictorial representations of some of the most iconic scenes, infusing them with light, colour, fresh perspectives and a dazzling array of virtuoso artistic techniques. The Piper volume is now a highly sought after collectors' item and I predict that this volume will be equally in demand when it is released in the New Year.

The total print run is 100 copies. 50 of which will include two signed prints by the artists and will cost £650. There are now only 24 of these copies still available. If you wish to purchase the book without the signed prints the cost is £300 and there are now only 40 of these copies still available.

Please email Mark Flawn-Thomas to reserve a copy.

Dr Anthony Wallersteiner, Head



Music Events

Recital with Alis Huws, former Royal Harpist - Wednesday 13 November, 7:45pm in the Marble Hall

Tickets are chargeable for this unique event, which can be booked here and include a glass of fizz on arrival. [Book here.](#)

The Stowe Group Choral Society & Stowe Chapel Choir perform the Armed Man - Sunday 17 November, 3:00pm at St John's Smith Square in London

Please book your tickets here to experience our wonderful choir in the prestigious surroundings of this leading classical music venue: [Book here.](#)

Winter Ensembles Concert

Saturday 30 November, 7:45pm in the Ugland Auditorium

This event is free of charge, but please reserve seats using this link: [Book here.](#)

Lunchtime Concerts

Thursday 17 October, 1pm in the State Music Room

Thursday 7 November, Staff Recital, 12pm in the Ugland (Music School)

Thursday 21 November, 1pm in the State Music Room

No booking necessary.

Old Stoics Michaelmas Events Programme

We welcome all Old Stoics to take part in our 2024 Michaelmas Events Programme:

26 October - OS Horse Racing Stable Tour

20 November - Newcastle and Durham Recent Leavers Drinks, 97 & Social, Newcastle

21 November - Edinburgh Pub Night, The Wally Dug, Edinburgh

30 November - Stowe 10 Years Out, Stowe School

5 December - Christmas by Candlelight, St Martin-in-the-Fields (including the OSS AGM)

Please [book here.](#)

Charlie Evans, Event Organiser OS Society

CCF



ROYAL NAVY SECTION

On Sunday 6 October, the Royal Navy CCF section took part in teamwork activities to build on their collaboration and active learning skills.

Firstly the section carried out the swim test, which was passed by all! We had to complete two lengths of the pool in any stroke, as well as treading water for three minutes.

Following this, the section ventured into the woods where we came to meet exercises planned by Mr Syme (Head of Sailing) to deepen our knowledge on knots in preparation for our upcoming activity. This helped us to work as a team and use our initiative to enable us to make a rigid raft later. The section was then divided into teams, allocating a leader and a flag designer. The flag designer used their creativity to produce a flag - using spray paint - to represent the team's name through design. The leader was assigned with the task of presenting the instructions to the group in which they had to communicate their understanding of the task ahead and begin tactical preparation. This task consisted of using three barrels, several ropes and five wooden poles to create a sturdy raft, to hold the team afloat on the water, along with the flag attached to one of the poles. Competitively the teams had to get their flag poles as high as possible to win. After the teams constructed their rafts using a range of knots taught to us earlier on, the rafts were put on the water for our first attempt. All was well until a team's flag pole began to tilt which destabilised the raft causing it to capsize, leading to soggy clothes, quickly cured by the hot chocolate and squash which awaited us.

Change Maker Day on Monday was a good opportunity for the RN section to enhance their knowledge on the history of the Navy at the Maritime Museum in Greenwich. This included many exhibitions highlighting hidden aspects such as women in the RNLI, Antarctic polar conditions and an astronomy photography exhibition. There were many interactive activities such as digital maps, stories and films. As we made our way through the museum, we noticed the historical pictures surrounding us which indicated the facilities the Royal Navy were exposed to in



the past and how they have developed to this day. The part we found most interesting, was a painting by William Hodges (1777) which portrayed the war boats of Tahiti. This was because it told us about the canoe battles which were part of life in the Pacific, as island groups fought for power and territory. The painting clearly laid out how Tahitian chiefs prepared for battles against neighbouring Mo'orea. We came to understand how these canoes were an intimidating sight similar to the European ships.

To finish off our informative and thrilling day we walked around Greenwich Park and walked up the hill enabling us to have an incredible view of the Queen's house and Nelson's ship in a bottle. We were positioned next to Flamsteed House where we had to opportunity to capture a photo of us positioned on the Meridian line in Greenwich. These opportunities helped the Navy to get to know one another, through collaboration, leadership and teamwork skills, leaving us with a developed understanding of its history.

**Annabel Hodgetts & Paula Sanchez-Podesta
(both Lower Sixth, Cheshire)**

SWIMMING

Stowe hosted the annual Tri Cup on Thursday 3 October; a hotly contested competition between Bradfield and Marlborough. Stowe has won for the last three years, so the pressure was on to retain the cup.

The girls fought hard against tough competition, with standout swims from Issy Cox (Upper Sixth, Cheshire), Hannah Campbell (Lower Sixth, Nugent) and Mollie Davis (Fourth Form, Cheshire). The boys dominated in the pool, with the Senior boys winning their category. Sam Gray (Upper Sixth, Winton), Julian Smith (Upper Sixth, Grenville), Finley Newman (Fourth Form, Croft), Freddie Youngman Sullivan (Fifth Form, Grafton) and Sultan Saigol (Fifth Form, Grafton) showing their pace was too much for the other competitors. The whole team raced hard racking up the points, Stowe topped the leaderboard and lifted the trophy for another year.

Cheryl Davis, Head of Swimming



NETBALL

Stowe Netball Partners with Birmingham Panthers Super League Team

In an exciting development for young athletes in North Buckinghamshire, Stowe netball has formally partnered with the Birmingham Panthers Super League Team. This collaboration marks a significant step in delivering an elite pathway for netball players aged 14 to 19.

The partnership aims to provide aspiring players with unparalleled access to high-quality coaching, competitive match experience and crucial development opportunities that are essential for their sporting progression. Athletes within this age group will benefit from tailored training programmes designed to enhance their skills and tactical understanding of the game, preparing them for potential advancement into elite-level netball.

Stowe netball's commitment to fostering talent in the region has solidified its reputation as a key player in nurturing the next generation of netball stars. With the expertise of the Birmingham Panthers team, participants can anticipate an enriched environment focused on both personal and athletic growth.

The initiative not only aims to raise the standard of netball within North Buckinghamshire, but also aims to instil a sense of community and support among young athletes. As Stowe netball embarks on this partnership, it looks forward to witnessing the development of its players and their potential to shine on larger platforms.

Charlotte Calland, Head of Netball

Netball Selection



Well done to N'dea Lambert (Upper Sixth, West) who has been selected for the U19 Birmingham Panthers NPL team!



POLO

GB U16 Polo Tour to India

Edward Berry (Fourth Form, Cobham) was selected to travel to India to play for the Great Britain Under 16s' polo team. The following is his account of the trip at the end of September.

"On our first day in India we spent the morning resting after our journey, before later visiting some incredible monuments in the City of Jaipur, which taught us a lot about its founders and history, for example the previous Maharajas (leaders) and their accomplishments.

The next day we stick and balled (practiced) and chose the horses we would ride for the match, as well as meeting the current Maharaja who we would be playing against.

We visited more monuments including the home of the past Maharaja's. The next day we played chukkas (a practice match) against the U16 India team, it was quite close but we didn't keep score.

On our last day we were ready for the match. We acclimatised to the heat but it was a scorching hot day. The National anthems were played, and the match began.

Both teams were neck and neck throughout, however a last-minute goal from the opposition sent us out. Both teams had played well and put on a good show for the 300 or so spectators in the stands. A bonus was that I was awarded the accolade of Most Valued Player (MVP) and my team and I had a great time.

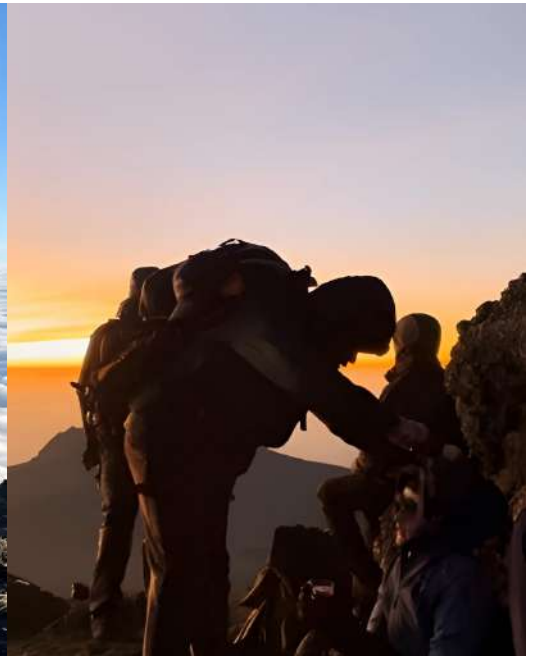
Overall, this was a great trip discovering lots about Indian culture and getting to represent Great Britain U16s for polo."

Huge congratulations go to Edward for this fantastic achievement.

Fiona Corthine, Head of Polo



Mount Kilimanjaro



Dr Wallersteiner chatted to Tilly Kingsbury (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) who in the Summer climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, to raise money for the Street Child Charity.

Why did you choose to climb Kilimanjaro?

It was a family decision to do something meaningful as our trip to Kenya and Tanzania was possibly one of our last big family holidays (I am leaving School at the end of this year and my brother is 15). A family friend suggested we might use the challenge of climbing Kilimanjaro to raise funds for an orphanage called Neema Village in Tanzania, close to Kilimanjaro. We decided that it would be a brilliant opportunity for us to do something meaningful.

What training did you do?

The best training was my Gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition in the Cairngorms which I had done only a week earlier. Although the weather then had been miserable, cold and wet - the opposite to Tanzania! On the Duke of Edinburgh expedition we were away for five days and had to carry everything we needed in our own back pack. One week later, I was climbing Kilimanjaro, and my experience in the Scottish Highlands definitely gave me extra stamina and survival skills. The big difference was that on Kilimanjaro we did not have to carry an enormous pack as there were amazing guides and porters who transported everything up and down the mountain and helped us to set up camp. They were

fantastic and taught us a huge amount about the mountain and shared their experience and knowledge. There is even one porter called the 'King of the Throne' who is responsible for carrying a toilet both up and down the mountain! The rules are very strict on leaving no litter on the mountain and to take everything one needs to survive but then to take everything home, to leave no environmental damage or trace.

The climb

It took five days to get to the top and I'm pleased to say that we all made it! Some members of the group suffered slightly from altitude sickness and the guides carried oxygen tanks with them. We camped on the mountain as we ascended and the guides prepared delicious meals of local dishes such as soup and chicken, but we also had fries! The temperature was hot during the day, but freezing cold at night. On the final night, we stayed at the Uhuru camp. We woke at 11pm (it was pitch black) to complete the eight hour walk to the summit. We only spent 20 minutes at the top because of the temperature and then took only two days to make the descent.

We had been told that our proudest moment would come when we had reached the foot of the mountain and looked back up to see what we had achieved. It was absolutely true! We had climbed to an altitude of 5,895m and reached the summit of Africa's highest mountain, but it was only when we were back at ground level did it sink in what we had done.

Did you draw on any any Change Maker skills?

Definitely! Determination and teamwork. Without my family and the brilliant guides and porters, it wouldn't have been such an unforgettable experience and we all urged each other on.

We also used music to motivate us! The Smiths was a surprise favourite and the guides were amazing singers and taught us local songs which certainly kept us going.

Any advice for others and have you developed a taste for adventure?

Follow your dreams. If you have a passion, go and do it and look back and be proud of yourself. My brother and I raised £5,000 which we split between **Street Child** and **Neema Village**. I was so excited to hear that through the Big Give initiative, Street Child was able to double my donation and the money will go to their work strengthening education for girls in North Nigeria. This is definitely my proudest achievement, but I am already looking forward to the next big adventure after A Levels.



COCO MELLORS



BOOK CLUB

This term, the Stowe Staff Book Club gathered to discuss their Summer read, 'Blue Sisters' by Coco Mellors. The novel explores the lives of three sisters - Avery, Bonnie and Lucy - one year after the death of their sister Nicky. It addresses themes of grief, family dynamics, addiction and everyday challenges, all while incorporating humour.

Staff members who read the book shared their thoughts, with one noting, "Blue Sisters tells the story of three sisters grappling with the loss of their youngest sibling, the one who connected them all. The narrative reveals how each sister copes with life's challenges - painting a vivid picture of sisterhood in all its messy, beautiful complexity. The heartache adds depth to the concept of 'blue,' making it relatable to many." Another member remarked, "I enjoyed it, but it wasn't a feel-good book, despite the ending. It tackled difficult subjects like drug and alcohol addiction and grief. The dynamics between the sisters were intriguing and sometimes humorous."

The next set of book options has been emailed to all our Staff, allowing them to choose the next read for the Stowe Fiction Book Club.

Lucinda Stockley-Battams, Librarian



Stowe mail



Blue Stockings Auditions

Rehearsals are now well underway for this year's Senior Congreve production, 'Blue Stockings', following a highly competitive round of auditions at the start of term.

Written by Jessica Swale, 'Blue Stockings' is a vibrant and inspiring play set in 1896, that follows four young women at Girton College, Cambridge, as they fight for their right to graduate in a male-dominated academic world. With humour and heart, the play explores themes of gender equality, education and social change, highlighting the personal struggles and societal pressures these women face in their quest for intellectual freedom.

'Blue Stockings' opens in The Roxburgh on Wednesday 4 December and runs until Saturday 7 December.

Simon Miller, Head of Drama



September Change Makers of the Month

Stowe Teaching - Stephen Whitby was awarded Change Maker of the Month for his flexibility of approach and outstanding work in leading Grenville.

Stowe Support Services Stowe - Judy Gracie received the highest number of nominations we have received to date for CMOM with a staggering ten nominations. The key sentiment from all who nominated her was Judy embodies all elements of being a Change Maker in all she does day in, day out.

Swanbourne House - Nicky Strange for supporting the smooth transition for children into Year 1 when the class teacher was absent for the start of term.

Winchester House - Amy Shaw for her friendly care of the children coupled with her diligence in updating policies and ensuring all medical matters are up to date, and her voluntary work coming in over the Summer to re-paint the surgery.

Jaimie Chahal, Director of People



2Lt Georgia Laurie

2Lt Georgia Laurie joined the Lower Sixth Form at Stowe in September 2019.

She excelled as a Lower Sixth Form NCO in Stowe CCF's Army Section, demonstrating strong leadership skills, and I was delighted to appoint her as the first female Cadet Sgt Major in Stowe CCF's history, an honour to which she rose and excelled. She carried out the role proactively, with diligence and pride, serving as an excellent leader and role model to our male and female Cadets.

Georgia went on to study at Stirling University before commencing Officer Cadet training at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in September 2023.

It was poignant watching Georgia and the Senior Division proudly march up Old College steps, in the footsteps of generations of British Army Officers, passing out of RMA Sandhurst, on 10 August 2024. She has joined the Royal Artillery as a 2Lt. She is particularly interested in working with drones and also hopes to spend some time with the Royal Horse Artillery.

Georgia joins a steady flow of Old Stoics joining the British Army and we wish her and all our Stoics joining the Armed Services, every success as they join, or whilst serving in their Regiments and units, in these fast paced and uncertain times.

Jan de Gale, (ex Contingent Commander Stowe CCF)



Service@Stowe

Allotment Group Update, Michaelmas Term

It has been another busy start to the Term on the allotments. Harvesting has been in full swing, with a bountiful gathering of raspberries, strawberries, courgettes (the more we cut the more they gave!), peas, tomatoes and potatoes, proving delicious and so fresh.

The Summer saw improvements to the facilities with a fresh coat of paint for the hen house, new raised beds, the delivery of a useful new water tank and fresh strimming and weeding taking place. The greenhouse is also now fully repaired and functional and will be invaluable as we move into the Winter.

Before the end of the Summer Term, we planted pumpkins - these are starting to ripen as we move closer to Halloween. Our club is also growing with an extra activity day having been added as there is always so much to do on the allotment! We now have 18 Stoics regularly attending on Mondays and ten on Wednesdays.

There are still lots of jobs left to do before the end of this season, including the continuation of the harvest, particularly the chard and beets (which will then be pickled for extra storage over Winter), the turning of the compost heap, the sowing and planting of our 'grow your Christmas dinner' initiative, the covering of the beds (ready for re-planting in the Spring), the lifting of carrots and parsnips, dividing the rhubarb plant and the usual pruning and weeding.

We are now selling a range of fresh produce in the Staff Common Room, with all proceeds going back into growing fresh produce.

With grateful thanks to Charlotte Calland and family, Sophie Penrhyn-Lowe, Francesca Holloway, Paul Simpkins, and Stuart, George, Becky and Oscar Coote for all their help over the Summer break.

Kate Wicks, Service@Stowe



Earl Temple on Display

In the May issue of Stowemail, we wrote about the new, bigger copy of Earl Temple in his Garter robes we had received to replace the 25-year-old photographic copy we had in the Blue Room. In September, we were thrilled by the delivery of the new, hand-made, wooden and gilded frame to surround the portrait. We were able to successfully (with a little help from the House Staff) hang it in place for all to admire. Thank you again to the Hall Bequest Trust for advising and providing the funds for this new copy, and to the New Victoria Gallery in Melbourne, Australia, for allowing us to use the image (as the original painting is in their collection).

Please take a moment to visit the new and improved collection item and read all about its meaning in the earlier Stowemail edition [here](#).

Anna McEvoy, Stowe House Preservation Trust, Co-Director



STOWE HOUSE

Twilight Tours

See Stowe House in a new light on this exclusive evening tour. Explore its grand rooms, uncover its rich history, and admire the stunning architecture at twilight.



Friday 25 October 5pm & 6pm,
Sunday 27 October 4pm & 5pm
Tickets. £12 Adult, £5 Child (Under 16)

Events at Stowe House

Stowe-Tots

Come and play!



Stowe Tots

Tue 22 Oct, Mon 18 Nov, Mon 16 Dec.
10-10.45am

A fun-filled sensory play session for families with young babies and preschool toddlers. Once a month, session themes will vary. Held in our visitor centre, activities will be led by our friendly learning and community team.

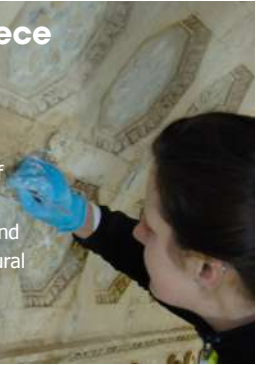
Booking is essential. One child and one Adult £5

Restoring an 18th Century Masterpiece

Thursday 24 October, 6pm

Join us for our final event in the series celebrating 25 years of restoring Stowe House! Anna McEvoy, Co-Director of the Stowe House Preservation Trust, will take you on a Restoration Tour of the House, where you will get the chance to see the beautifully restored State Rooms and learn about the research, planning and meticulous craftsmanship that went into bringing this architectural masterpiece back to its 18th Century glory.

Take the tour £10



Happy Halloween! Half-term Activities

GHOULISH BINGO TRAIL



Saturday 26 October Sunday 3 November,
10.30am-3.30pm

Enjoy Autumn views, a cosy atmosphere and spooky activities for your little ghouls to enjoy this half-term at Stowe House. Our free activities include a bingo trail through the State Rooms, fang-tastic origami, spider and bat bookmark crafts, colouring, and more. Perfect for your mini-vampires and vampettes aged 3-10, these activities will keep them entertained throughout their visit. Best of all, children go free at Stowe House, with one paying adult admission.

Spooktacular Stories

Wednesday 30 October, 6pm

Get ready for a Spooktacular Night of Stories and Games! Join us for a thrilling Halloween event filled with eerie tales and fang-tastic games designed for kids aged 8-12. Come in costume, bring your friends, and prepare for an evening of spooky fun, treats, and ghostly giggles.

Get your **ghoulish tickets**. £10 for 1 Adult & 1 Child, £6 Additional Child, £4 Additional Adult.

Stars at Stowe

Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd November
6.00-8.00pm

Prepare to embark on a mesmerising journey through the cosmos beneath a breathtaking starlit canopy! Our evening commences with an enthralling talk that unravels the enigmatic tales of our solar system. Discover the captivating stories behind the planets that have fascinated humanity for centuries, setting the stage for a night of unparalleled stargazing.

As twilight descends upon us, we'll venture outdoors to the South Front, where telescopes to be shared amongst the group, await your eager gaze. Amidst a group of fellow stargazers, you'll navigate the vastness of the night sky, guided by seasoned experts from UK Astronomy. They will help you track distant planets and constellations, bringing you closer to space than ever before. This family-friendly event is the perfect opportunity to learn and bond together.

Booking essential. Adult £18, Child (Under 16) £12



Lino Print Workshop

Saturday 23 November, 10am-4pm

In the run-up to the festive season, create your own multi-layered winter lino print in a one-day artist-led workshop with expert printmaker Alexandra Buckle.

Secure your space in the workshop. £80

Proceeds from the events hosted by Stowe House Preservation Trust go back into restoring and maintaining this Grade I Listed 18th Century masterpiece.

Safeguarding at Stowe



On Thursday 26 September the Head Dr Wallersteiner, Stowe's Chief Medical Officer Dr Evans and myself presented to parents in a packed State Music Room about the 'Teenage Brain'.

The topics covered were:

- The Teenage Brain and Puberty
- The Pressures of Adolescence: peer pressure, parental pressure, societal pressure
- Risky Behaviour - vaping, drugs, sex
- Social Media and phones
- The differences between boys and girls; positive masculinity and female empowerment
- School interventions - ethos, structures, pastoral support, rewards and punishments, healthy competition
- Parent support - vitamin N - No; reward good behaviour incrementally; maintain routines of sleep, exercise, good diet during the holidays; present a united front.

Please click [here](#) to watch the full talk.

Mike Rickner, Deputy Head (Pastoral) & Designated Safeguarding Lead

STOWE HOUSE

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY 23 & SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER
10AM - 5PM

**STOWE SCHOOL,
BUCKINGHAM, MK18 5EH**

PLEASE NOTE: THIS EVENT IS ONLINE BOOKING ONLY, TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR

@stowevenuehire

Take a walk through our elegant State Rooms with over 60 stall holders. Make a start on your Christmas shopping or treat yourself to some delicious treats, homeware or handmade crafts, or start that letter to Santa with fun children's activities; there is something for everyone!

Grab a festive bite from our food vans and indulge with a mulled wine or hot chocolate.

Please note: This event is **online booking only**, tickets will not be available on the door.

HALLOWEEN FLASH FICTION COMPETITION

Calling All Stoic Budding Horror Story Writers!

Can you channel your inner Mary Shelley or Bram Stoker?

In less than 500 words we challenge you to write the scariest story you can.

Rules:
Maximum of 500 words
Illustrations welcome

Entries to be received by Monday 4 November

Prizes will be awarded for the most spine tingling tales!

Stoics should either **email** their scary story entries or hand them in at the Library.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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