

We are the Champions!



Rugby Colts National Cup Win

The inaugural National School Sports Magazine U16s Cup Final took place on Wednesday 19 March at Lord Wandsworth's College in Hampshire, the former school of England legend Jonny Wilkinson. Stowe took on Northampton School for Boys, who had beaten Stowe in the Semi-Final the previous season.

The Stoics started brightly and were rewarded with a penalty kick from fly-half Eddie Hartigan (Grafton) to open the scoring. Further pressure from Stowe saw them drive over from a maul with No.8 Charlie King (Croft) the beneficiary. NSB responded as Stowe failed to capitalise on their territorial advantage to score two converted tries and to take the lead at the break.

The second half was incredibly tense with both teams looking threatening and NSB led 21-13 at one stage which meant the next score was crucial. It was once again the maul which proved to be the most effective weapon as King powered over for his third and fourth try of the afternoon to put Stowe 25-21 up in the closing stages.

NSB were camped on the Stowe line, but the team put in some dogged defending and when NSB were awarded a penalty kick on the half-line, the ball was kicked out and the celebrations began with Captain Seb Dare (Grafton) lifting the trophy.

What a wonderful end to the season for our Colts - winning all 16 matches to be crowned National Champions!

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby



Schools National Polo Champions

On Sunday 2 March Stowe took four teams to the Schools National Polo Championships held at Rugby Polo Club. Our teams were entered into the Novice, Lower Intermediate, Upper Intermediate and Open sections. All four teams made the Finals in each division for the first time which was a huge achievement.

Our Fourth Team was made up of Charlie Berry (Third Form, Cobham) and Stirling Woolner (Third Form, Grafton) with a third player from Bruern Abbey. They won their first two matches to get to the Final in the Novice Division and then came Second, narrowly losing by one goal.

Our Third Team, Captained by Poppy Wates (Lower Sixth, Queen's), Flora McDougall (Fifth Form, Nugent) and Jack Dawson (Lower Sixth, Grafton) won all their games and went on to win their Final for the Lower Intermediate section.

Our Second Team, Captained by Edward Berry (Fourth Form, Cobham), Jasper Hagger (Fourth Form, Walpole) and Fiamma Natella (Third Form, Queen's) took the opposition by storm with wins over Harrow 5-0, Bryanston 1-1 and in the Final they beat Eton 4-1.

Then came the much-anticipated Open Team, Captained by Luca Natella (Upper Sixth, Cobham) with Archie Hestletine (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Bea Leyland (Lower Sixth, Queen's) who played a fierce 2-chukka match against Radley to beat them 12-5, securing their place in the nail biting Final against Cheltenham. After an aggressive 2-chukka match, Stowe was victorious, winning 5-4.

Stowe is extremely proud to be National Champions for the second year running! We were also delighted to win three out of the four divisions.

What an exciting end to our Winter arena season, and we are looking forward to a full diary of Summer grass fixtures, including the Copenhagen Cup held at Guards Polo Club in May.

Fiona Corthine, Head of Polo





Romania Trip

I want you to imagine something for a moment. Imagine feeling completely helpless, like nothing can change the situation you are in, stuck, worried or unsure of what to do next.

This story is driven by a powerful story from the Bible, a story where Jesus brought a young girl back to life with just two simple words: "Talitha Koum". Those words, spoken in Aramaic, mean "Little girl, I say to you, get up". Why is this relevant to the work we were doing in Romania? The charity we worked with is initiated around this very story. The founder shared with us how one day he saw a small girl looking through his window - hungry, lost and desperate. At that moment, he remembered Jesus' words: "Little girl, I say to you, get up" and he knew he had to act. This charity lifts children off the streets, away from hunger and danger, and gives them a new chance at life. They provide food, clothing, education and, most importantly, hope. Many of the children they help come from Roma camps, where poverty and hardship make everyday survival a struggle.

The programme addresses both academic and emotional needs, providing stability and encouragement to help students. The programme provides essentials like clothing, showers, nourishing meals and help with homework. 12 Lower Sixth Stoics, Annabel Hussey (Nugent), Sofia Comino (Stanhope), Théa Gross (Cheshire), Flora Peppiatt (Queen's), Romulus Flanagan (Cobham), Woody Hamilton Hurst (Cobham), Tobi Jimoh (Chandos), Maria Shenton (West), Millie Colebrook (Queen's), Harris Chan (Temple), Oliver How (Grafton) and Joe Fallon (Chandos), accompanied by Mr Copley, Mrs Bryden and Mrs Roddy had the privilege of spending four days working with both the project, and the local schools.

Early on Tuesday 4 March, 12 of us travelled to Romania for a week of volunteering in Jimbolia. The Talitha Kum Project plays a vital role in supporting disadvantaged children. The programme addresses both academic and emotional needs, providing stability and encouragement to the children. The programme provides essentials like clothing, showers, nourishing meals and help with homework. We had the privilege of spending four days working with both the project, and the local schools.

It was an emotionally challenging yet profoundly enriching experience. Seeing the challenges these children faced was difficult at times, but their resilience, warmth, and enthusiasm were truly inspiring. Throughout the week, we ran sport and music workshops allowing the children to build their confidence with their English skills in fun and engaging ways. It was inspiring to see how their eager approach to education and willingness to share their culture created meaningful bonds and the trip left a lasting impact on both them and us.

Every morning, a group of us delivered sports workshops to the students at the local school, the focus being rugby. The children quickly picked up the correct techniques, their enthusiasm and confidence shining through with every successful pass. We progressed into tackling, demanding both precision and courage, followed by line-outs, a fun part of the game that required trust. This opportunity allowed the children to overcome challenging fears, proving their resilience and willingness to learn. We incorporated team-building activities to strengthen our bond and reinforce the core values of sport. Through fun challenges and group exercises, the children learned that rugby is more than just a game, it is about unity, respect and resilience. It was truly a rewarding experience to see these children trust, support and uplift one another. Watching our friendships form and their confidence grow

was a powerful reminder of how sport can bring people together, breaking language barriers and creating lasting connections.

Half our group led the music and English workshops. We did a range of activities with the children that improved their communication in English but at the same time, ours in Romanian.

One of the highlights was teaching the children 'Try Everything' by Shakira on the boom wackers. This allowed them to explore rhythm, chords and teamwork while making music as a group. By splitting into smaller groups, we felt we were able to build stronger connections with the children. This activity encouraged confidence-building, while also building their English-speaking skills in a relaxed, entertaining and non-judgemental environment.

We communicated through sign language, teaching the children how to spell their names and the alphabet. This universal language helped us to effectively interact with the children in a way that was new and exciting for everyone.

Through all these activities, both the children and Stoics were able to build upon our confidence, communication and teamwork. We were able to foster proper meaningful connections with the groups that we led, and it was a tough goodbye when it was time to leave. Overall, we learnt how powerful music and movement can be in education, communication, language-learning and connection-building.

TK 1&2

Talitha Kum is a funded after-school charity programme in Jimbolia which offers a six-hour daily program, five days a week. The program is split into TK1 and TK2, according to the ages of the children.

Working with TK1 was one of our favourite aspects of the trip. Interacting with children so young, who have already been through so much was challenging at times. Our time with them consisted of endless hugs, singing, playing rugby and running wild in the playground. We have all come back with fresh perspectives on what life can be like outside of Stowe. Each of us have benefited tremendously, whether it is through strengthening our self-confidence or teamwork skills; we have returned more enriched. The goodbyes were difficult but knowing that we were able to help the children in both practical and emotional ways made the whole experience entirely worth it.

At TK2, we spent our time helping the older children with their Maths and English homework, but we also had the chance to connect through fun activities. One of the highlights was learning traditional Romanian dances from the children, which was truly a fun, bonding experience, from which we all have wonderful memories. Another special moment was when the younger children performed a shadow play for Mother's Day. They stood behind a white curtain, using their shadows to tell stories that reflected their love for their mothers and pride in their culture. It was truly heartwarming to see how passionate they were about sharing their traditions.



CHANGE MAKER DAY

Our Third, Fourth and Lower Sixth Form Stoics participated in an inspiring Change Maker Day on Thursday 27 February, embodying our School's mantra to 'be a Change Maker'. This special day was all about stepping out of the classroom to develop new skills, from creativity and teamwork, to problem-solving and leadership.

The Third Form received guidance from the fantastic 'One Day Film School' to create their own short films; the Fourth Form took part in fundraising activities, including cake-baking for Age UK. They also experienced how those with dementia have their senses distorted, by participating in activities on the Virtual Dementia Tour Mobile, a bus specially adapted for educational settings. The Lower Sixth had a career and university fair, where they had the opportunity to learn more about life after Stowe, whether in further education or careers.

Cheshire House Community Project



The Cheshire Fourth Form took part in a community project and invited elderly guests for coffee and cake. This involved creating a menu, baking a variety of delicious cakes, organising and tidying the Common Room and serving our guests.

As a House, we wanted to create a warm and chatty atmosphere where our guests felt like they could talk to us about their lives. The day helped us develop our Change Maker skills in various ways, for example, developing our creativity and innovation skills when we made the menus, bunting and welcome posters.

We were also able to develop social literacy and communication skills by engaging in conversations with the elderly and designing icebreaker questions. The event went really well and we hope our guests had a great time.

Cheshire Fourth Form



Exploring Degree Apprenticeships with Dale Willis

On Thursday 27 February, we welcomed Dale Willis, Founder of 'My Great First Job', to the Roxburgh Theatre for an insightful keynote on degree apprenticeships; a game-changing alternative to traditional university routes. With 30 years of experience helping young people launch their careers, Dale shared powerful insights on why degree apprenticeships are more than just a way to save on tuition fees. From gaining real-world experience with top firms including JP Morgan, the BBC and Goldman Sachs, to earning a salary while studying at leading Russell Group universities; these opportunities provide a £125,000 head start to ambitious students.

Some key takeaways from Dale's talk:

Degree apprenticeships exist across many industries - from law to finance, engineering to cybersecurity. Employers cover tuition fees and pay apprentices a starting salary of £25,000+.

Different models exist - some apprentices study part-time while working, while others attend university full-time with paid summer placements. It's not just about saving money; apprentices start working on high-level projects within weeks, building invaluable professional networks.

LinkedIn and personal branding are key - students who showcase their passion through projects, social media and networking stand out in applications.

This session was essential viewing for Fifth Form and Lower Sixth pupils and their parents, equipping them with the knowledge to make informed choices about future pathways.

A huge thank you to Dale for his energy, expertise and dedication to empowering young people. Watch the full talk [here](#).

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures

CHANGE MAKER DAY



HAMILTON HOUSE

Grenville Fourth Form Tutor Group took part in an inspiring event that brought us together with the elderly residents of Hamilton House Care Home in Buckingham. The day was filled with meaningful experiences that not only challenged our perspectives, but also helped us develop essential life skills, such as empathy, compassion and analytical thinking.

The day kicked off with a cake-baking session in Cobham House, where we worked together to make a delicious Victoria sponge cake. While we did not get to try the cake ourselves (some of us were a bit too eager!), we were excited to deliver it to the residents of Hamilton House. The gesture of baking and sharing food created a warm atmosphere, and the elderly residents were delighted by the treat.

One of the day's highlights was playing bingo with the residents, which allowed us to bond with them through a fun and interactive activity. As we helped with the numbers and cheered on the players, we could see how much joy our visit brought to them. For some of us, it was also an opportunity to experience the struggles of those living with dementia, a condition that many of the residents face. Before heading to the care home, we took part in the 'Dementia Bus experience', which provided us with a firsthand look at the challenges people with dementia deal with on a daily basis. It was a humbling and eye-opening experience that made us reflect on how crucial it is to show empathy and respect for those affected by this illness.

The day was not just about giving, it was also about learning. By engaging with the residents

and seeing the world from their perspective, we developed a greater understanding of how important it is to build and nurture relationships across generations. It was a reminder that showing kindness, patience, and compassion can make a profound difference in the lives of others.

Throughout the day, we honed skills that are vital for future Change Makers. We learned to think analytically when we reflected on the effects of dementia and its impact on individuals and families. We also practiced being 'in the community,' as we connected with people of different ages and backgrounds, all of us working together to create a meaningful experience.

For many of us, the day was incredibly moving and left a lasting impression. We headed back to Stowe with a sense of accomplishment, knowing that we had made a positive impact on the lives of others. In addition, we were reminded of the importance of fostering connections across generations and embracing the values of empathy and kindness.

Change Maker Day was not just about giving to others - it was about learning, growing and becoming more aware of the world around us. We are grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of such an unforgettable day, and we look forward to continuing to build on the lessons we learned from this meaningful experience.

Jack Chen, Thomas Comino, Finley Cummins, Freddie Hill, Talal Kofarsauri, William Mclure, Henry Moffitt, Kirill Moskalev, James Stokes & Tom Wadsworth (all Fourth Form, Grenville)



Mastering the Personal Statement

On Change Maker Day, we were privileged to welcome Charlie Smith from the University of Bath to the Ugland Auditorium for an insightful keynote on crafting effective personal statements.

With over a decade of experience in higher education admissions and recruitment, including time at UCAS, Charlie offered invaluable advice to our Lower Sixth pupils on structuring and refining their applications for competitive university courses.

Key Takeaways from Charlie's Talk:

The Power of Research - understanding what universities are looking for in applicants is just as important as choosing where to study.

Structuring the Statement - with UCAS's new format, students must now answer three core questions:

1. Why do you want to study this subject?
2. How have your qualifications prepared you?
3. What have you done outside of education to support your application?

Evidence is Everything - the strongest personal statements avoid vague claims and instead use real-world examples to demonstrate passion, skills and suitability for the course.

Avoid Common Pitfalls - overly complex language, generic statements, or listing achievements without reflection will not impress universities. Clarity and authenticity are key.

It is Relevant for Everyone - whether applying for UCAS, international universities, or degree apprenticeships, the core questions remain the same:

Why this course? What have you done in class? What have you done beyond the classroom?

Charlie's session provided a clear roadmap for pupils to stand out in a competitive admissions landscape, ensuring their statements reflect their strengths, ambitions and unique experiences. To watch the session, [please click here](#).

A huge thank you to Charlie for his expertise and to all Lower Sixth pupils for their engagement.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures



CHANGE MAKER DAY



Buckingham Visit - Age UK

On what turned out to be an inspiring day of service in the community, our Fourth Form were lucky enough to collaborate with Age UK, where we spent the day with elderly residents in Buckingham. This experience was not only enjoyable but also taught us important life lessons in how communication can bring generations together.

In preparation for the day, we took on a range of tasks that helped produce a very successful afternoon, which included planning and teamwork. We began in the morning by meeting with Croft House and distributing roles such as organising refreshments and cake, ensuring we considered all dietary requirements and allergies by preparing allergen lists. Some of our peers prepared live music for the visit and we also practiced bingo calls, an activity that would later serve as a source of entertainment for everyone. Additionally, we wrote opening and closing speeches, ensuring that we could properly show our gratitude and make the elderly residents feel appreciated.

Upon arrival in Buckingham, we met the residents for a delightful afternoon filled with treats, conversation and laughter. We were proud to serve refreshments and engage in conversations over cakes and coffee. Talking with the residents was both interesting and engaging and we heard fascinating stories, which showed it was clear the residents had lots of memorable experiences to share. This reminded us of the value of listening and learning from different generations.

We learned that even small actions, like serving a cup of tea or calling out a bingo number, can have a bigger impact than we thought on someone's day. The experience taught us the worth of community and the power of making positive differences no matter how small.

Luca Sautter and Clover Longsdon (both Fourth Form, Queen's)



Higher Education Fair

This year's Higher Education Fair 2025 was an incredible success, offering our pupils a wealth of opportunities to explore their next steps beyond School.

From UK universities to international institutions, degree apprenticeships to gap year experiences, the day was packed with insights to help them make informed decisions about their futures. A huge thank you to all the representatives who joined us, providing invaluable advice and guidance. Special thanks to our two keynote speakers, Charlie Smith from the University of Bath, who delivered an expert session on writing personal statements, and Dale Willis from 'My Great First Job', who shared fantastic insights into the world of apprenticeships.

Our Lower Sixth pupils embraced the day with such enthusiasm and curiosity. The engagement and thoughtful questions made this event truly worthwhile. It was wonderful to welcome back some Old Stoics to the Higher Education fair who represented employers and gap year experiences.

Finally, a massive thank you to Ms Guntner for her outstanding organisation - her efforts ensured that everything ran seamlessly. Here's to empowering each other with the knowledge and confidence to take our next steps!

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures

Stowe Science Review - Chinese New Year edition

The Stowe Science Review Committee has worked really hard this term to produce a special second issue of the Stowe Science Review - the Chinese New Year edition. The idea was generated by the Committee, and it was great to see the positive response people had toward making it happen.

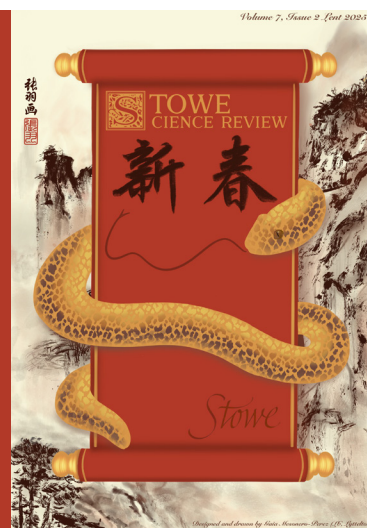
This issue aims to present to you the Science in China, whether it is ancient or recent. From the Four Great Inventions to the newly founded artificial intelligence, this magazine covers a wide range of topics including Mathematics, Geography, Computer Science and much more. There is bound to be one that you are interested in.

We hope that this will inspire like-minded scientists to learn about the history of China and develop their interests in Science.

We distribute hard and digital copies of our magazines to the Stowe community and other schools. A huge thank you to all the pupils who submitted an article and helped with the graphic design.

This issue can be downloaded [here](#).

Gilbert Xu (Upper Sixth, Chandos)
Senior Editor of Stowe Science Review



CHANGE MAKER DAY



Nugent's visit to Maids Morton Hall

Nugent Fourth Form visited Maids Morton Hall Care Home to support Age UK. We created a day filled with social activities and fun for the elderly. In the morning, we baked a selection of cakes and cookies in groups. We used Change Maker skills such as creativity, innovation and analytical thinking, as we had to measure out all the ingredients and secure timings.

During the afternoon, each of us in small groups went to experience the 'Dementia Bus'. It really helped us to understand what Dementia feels like, enabling us to empathise and communicate in the right way with the care home residents. The 'Dementia Bus' consisted of sensations in the feet, distorted vision, loud noises in our ears and a fixed hand position, which made it hard to pick up objects.

Later in the afternoon we visited the Home. We were able to talk about completely different topics to the normal conversations with our friends, and we played bingo, which was a nice activity for the residents. It really was an eye opener for our tutor group, showing what different people are going through. During the visit the main Change Maker skill we used was emotional intelligence, to empathise and have patience with whom we were speaking to.

Cassie Gollifer (Fourth Form, Nugent)

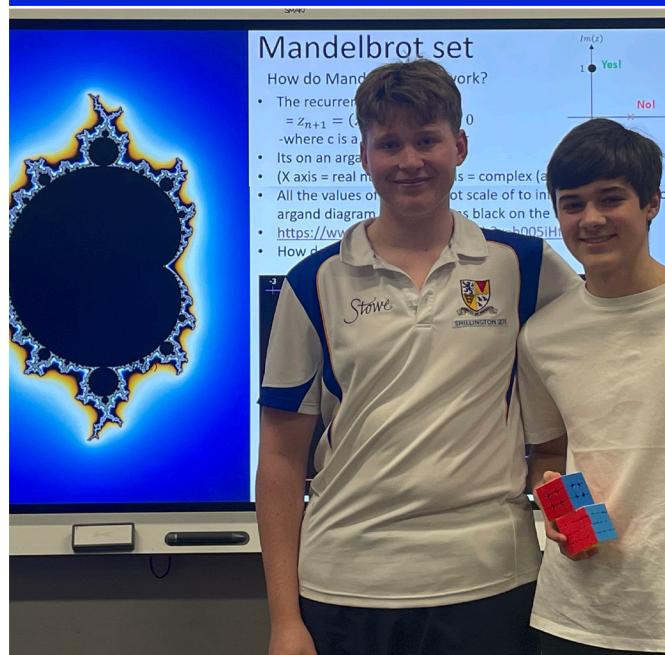
Mathematics Talks: Fractals and the Rubik's Cube

Gaussian Society met on Wednesday 19 March to hear mathematical talks from Rufus Shillington and James Delap (both Lower Sixth, Temple).

Rufus began with a fascinating overview of fractals which are shapes and objects produced by algorithmic processes. They feature infinite detail and self-similarity, repeating themselves as you zoom in. Fractals also have strange properties when you analyse their dimensions. Rufus went on to explain the algorithm behind the famous Mandelbrot Set and showed how the pattern can be generated on an Argand Diagram of complex numbers.

James gave his audience a Rubik's cube to scramble as a challenge for him to solve. Solving took just 30 seconds and James then went through the mathematics behind the number of possible arrangements of the cube. By considering the differences between edge pieces and corner pieces, James showed that the number of possible arrangements is 43,252,003,274,489,856,000. To put this number into perspective, reviewing four of these arrangements every second would take 6.25 times the age of the universe!

Dr Charles Adkins, Teacher of Maths



McElwee Lecture

Wednesday 12 March saw two of the key annual events in the Stowe calendar - the McElwee Award selection day and the McElwee Lecture.

The McElwee Award seeks to offer Stoics the opportunity to travel with a cultural or academic purpose and then report back on their findings. Pupils travel in pairs, usually during the Summer before their Upper Sixth year. The fund from which awards are made, was initially established by former pupils of the long-serving Bill McElwee, who taught at Stowe either side of the Second World War. He was well known for taking pupils on trips during the Summer, so it is fitting that pairs of Stoics undertake these exciting adventures in his memory.

The selection process saw nine outstanding applications fielded by the McElwee Committee, with journeys to Estonia and Dalmatia amongst an eclectic mix which highlighted the breadth of academic curiosity present in the Lower Sixth. Such was the calibre of the field, it was decided that five applications would be successful, with Stoics planning trips to Iceland and Italy amongst the winners. We look forward to hearing of their adventures in the Michaelmas Term.

Following the selection day, a large and enthusiastic audience of Stoics were lucky enough to hear a riveting lecture from Professor Suzannah Lipscomb on Witchcraft and Witch Trials in Early Modern Europe. A careful examination of the causes of varied witch-crazes culminated in a sobering comparison with contemporary examples, prompting consideration of the dangers of the 'othering' of those perceived to be outsiders.

A warm thank you is extended to everybody who assisted in making the whole day a roaring success.

Dominic Green, Head of History



Inter-House Netball

On Saturday 22 March, the eagerly anticipated Inter-House Netball Tournament took place amidst a vibrant festival atmosphere at the Shop Courts. The event was designed not only to showcase the sporting talents of the pupils but also to foster a sense of community and School spirit. The day was filled with music, while a variety of gourmet food trucks offered an enticing selection of culinary delights, ensuring that both players and spectators were well catered for throughout the event.

The netball matches provided a thrilling display of skill and teamwork across all age groups, illustrating the dedication and passion the players brought to the court. As the sun shone brightly overhead, the Senior teams kicked off the competition, generating palpable excitement amongst the gathered crowd. The opening round featured a highly anticipated clash between West House and Nugent House. After a tense and closely-fought battle,

West emerged victorious, a result that set a competitive tone for the afternoon's events and galvanised their supporters.

Following the Seniors, the Intermediate and Junior teams took their turn on the courts, with each House demonstrating remarkable talent and sportsmanship. The matches were not merely contests in netball; they were a celebration of camaraderie and community spirit, as Stoics cheered for their peers and shared in the thrill of each goal scored. By the end of the tournament, the accolades were well earned, with West claiming the title for the Seniors, Cheshire securing victory in the Intermediate category, and Queen's triumphing for the Juniors. The Inter-House Netball Tournament was a resounding success, fostering a lasting sense of pride and unity within the School, and leaving all participants eager for next year's competition.

Charlotte Calland, Head of Netball



Comic Relief Netball Tournament: A Fantastic Success

The Comic Relief fancy dress netball tournament took place on Sunday 23 March and it was an event eagerly anticipated by all. Following the resounding success of last year's tournament, this year's competition did not disappoint. Eight teams entered the fray, with each participant showcasing remarkable creativity and ingenuity in their outfits, which added to the atmosphere on the day.

The 'Allstars' from Nugent emerged victorious in the best-dressed category, cleverly donning costumes that represented the netball Staff, much to the delight of onlookers. The enthusiasm for both the sport and the creative flair was palpable, as each team displayed not only their sporting prowess but also a commitment to the spirit of the occasion. Throughout the afternoon, 'Flo and Co.' played a pivotal role in ensuring that participants and spectators were well-fed and refreshed, serving delicious burgers that were met with widespread appreciation. The tournament was not merely a sporting event; it served as an opportunity for pupils to raise funds for an incredibly important cause, highlighting the ethos of community and support that underpins Comic Relief.

A special thank you must be extended to Mr Verrinder for his hard work in organising such a memorable day. The tournament exemplified the spirit of camaraderie and charity.

Charlotte Calland, Head of Netball



Cross Country

Our Senior girls' team travelled to Leeds to take their place alongside some of the fastest girls in the country in the National Cross Country Cup Finals on Saturday 1 March. Katie and Lauren Webb (both Fifth Form, Cheshire), Isabel Gardiner (Lower Sixth, West) and Dominique Dunn (Lower Sixth, West) all ran very well, with the team placed 17th in the country this year. Katie was our highest finisher in 14th place.

Mollie Davis (Fourth Form, Cheshire), Katie Webb and Ben Cousins (Fifth Form, Cobham) competed at the National Cross Country Final on Saturday 15 March against the best individual runners in the country. The girls are to be congratulated for being selected to run for Bucks County in this prestigious event.

Andrew Arnold, Head of Cross Country



LANGUAGES



MFL Global Challenge Competition

The French and Spanish Departments each took two teams of six Fourth Form pupils to compete in the Global Challenge Event organised by the Business Language Champions (BLC). The event took place on Thursday 13 February at the Open University Campus in Milton Keynes.

Upon arrival, the teams participated in icebreaker activities and collaborated with pupils from other schools, totalling 160 participants. The day's agenda included a marketing and sales challenge, where our pupils presented their ideas to global business companies such as Walmart. They used the four Ps of marketing (Product, Place, Promotion, Price) to create an advertisement, design a product and pitch their ideas effectively to professionals in the field.

Throughout the day, there were keynote speakers who discussed international exports and commerce. It was a productive day during which our pupils learned about effective marketing techniques and the importance of languages. At the end of the day, the Stowe French team won the 'popular vote', which was an impressive achievement given that there were more than 25 teams competing.

Overall, it was a fantastic learning experience for our pupils, allowing them to put into practice the Change Maker skills that Stowe emphasises. We are looking forward to competing again next year and hopefully winning more prizes.

Julio Morales-Shearer, Head of Spanish



GCSE SPANISH PLAY

On Wednesday 12 February, the Lower School Spanish Stoics enjoyed a superb, humorous play about teenage identity (in the Roxburgh Theatre) from the theatrical company Onatti Productions.

This year's play was called 'La última cita' (The Last Date), performed by two native Spanish actors in the target language using specific GCSE vocabulary. This provided our Stoics with an authentic opportunity to develop their listening skills.

The performers interacted with the audience, to tell a story about two teenagers trying to organise and then get ready for a date. This extremely entertaining play gives the audience a hilarious insight into two teenagers, Carlos and Maria, preparing for their first date, then on the actual date!

The plot highlights many similarities of teenagers' identities, but in a humorous and exaggerated manner, making them relatable and increasing the audience's enjoyment by empathising with the characters and storylines. The Stoics were able to follow the story and interact with the actors which boosted their language confidence.

Julio Morales-Shearer, Head of Spanish

French Onatti

On Tuesday 11 February, 150 French linguists from Swanbourne House School, Winchester House School and Stowe were treated to the Onatti Play 'Prendre sa revanche'. The play was based on the story of a con artist who ends up being conned by a wronged customer.

Pupils enjoyed the lively set and the many audience interactions. Several pupils from the three schools went on stage to take part in the play, to the delight of their classmates and friends.

It was a great occasion to experience French and test one's understanding. We look forward to welcoming Onatti again next year!

Fanny Leluan, Head of French



Equestrian



Izzy Russell

Izzy Russell (Lower Sixth, Cheshire) and her horse Ormand's Sunny LB have qualified for three championships to be held later in the year, one of which is at Hickstead.

Congratulations Izzy!

Nancy Plant, Acting Head of Equestrian



Lola Price

Lola Price (Fourth Form, Cheshire) has been enjoying a busy Winter season with her two horses. She has qualified for the 'Foxhunter' Second Round in the Spring with Cashelbay Liam and qualified for two 'Blue Chip' classes at the Championship in April.

Covau, a young pony that Lola has been producing for the last couple of years since he was a four-year-old, qualified for the 1m 'Newcomers' Second Round and 90cm 'Discovery' Second Round in the Spring. He has also qualified for two 'Blue Chip' classes at the Championship in April.

Nancy Plant, Acting Head of Equestrian



StoweSPORT



CRICKET

PASS THE BAT ON

This Summer, Stowe Cricket will be linking with the charity 'Pass the Bat On' which is an innovative, environmentally friendly and sustainable cricket bat refurbishment scheme.

The aim for the charity is to collect 500 used cricket bats from across the cricketing community, to refurbish and rebrand, then sell at a low cost. The scheme is being undertaken by The Club Cricket Charity for the Gandon Prodger Legacy Fund, a new charitable fund set up to honour the work of two individuals in furthering the game of cricket – Simon Prodger and Nick Gandon.

'Pass the Bat On' is not only looking to raise funds for important cricket and sports-related good causes through income generated from sales of refurbished bats, but is also addressing key issues - Inclusivity & Participation, Cost & Affordability, Environment and Heritage.

All income will be donated to cricket and sports-related causes close to the hearts of Simon and Nick, including the East Africa Character Development Trust, the Alsama Project, The Club Cricket Charity and Saracens Foundation.

Former Northants and England Lions professional Cricketer Graeme White (Bruce 05) has already donated one of the bats from his playing career. It would be great if as a School and Group, that we could make a significant contribution to the 500 bats target. If you have any bats that your son or daughter has outgrown, or that are broken, please do send them to me and I will pass them onto the charity.

James Knott, Director of Cricket



CRICKET COACHING MASTERCLASS

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Stowe School

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CCF Army Section Conquers Dalton Barracks!

On Wednesday 5 March, our CCF Army section, led by Lower Sixth Cadets, embarked on an exciting field day to Dalton Barracks in Abingdon; a day packed with challenges, teamwork, and a taste of military life. The trip proved to be a resounding success, leaving our cadets with invaluable experiences and lasting memories.

The day kicked off with an adrenaline-pumping session on the Close Quarter Battle (CQB) lane, led by Sgt Rai from the Cadet Training Team in Bicester. Armed with laser rifles, Cadets navigated a simulated urban environment, honing their tactical skills and communication under pressure. The realistic scenarios provided a thrilling and engaging introduction to the complexities of modern military operations.

Following the CQB challenge, the Cadets moved indoors to tackle a demanding obstacle course in the gym. This was hosted by the resident PT Staff at Dalton Barracks and tested their physical fitness, agility, and problem-solving abilities. Cadets worked together to overcome each obstacle, demonstrating impressive

teamwork and resilience. From cargo nets to inflatables, the course pushed them to their limits, and fostered a strong sense of camaraderie.

A highlight of the day was the opportunity to explore and clamber over a drops wagon from 7 Royal Logistics Regiment. This hands-on experience provided a fascinating insight into the logistics and equipment used in military operations. Cadets were able to see first-hand the scale and complexity of these vehicles, gaining a deeper understanding of their role in supporting troops.

To round off the day, the section enjoyed a well-deserved lunch in the Sergeants' Mess. This provided a unique opportunity to experience the social aspect of military life and share stories from the day's activities. The atmosphere was relaxed and convivial, allowing Cadets to reflect on their experiences and bond as a team.

The field day at Dalton Barracks was a fantastic opportunity for our Cadets to develop their skills, build teamwork, and gain a valuable insight into the world of the military. We extend our sincere thanks to the staff at Dalton Barracks for their hospitality and for providing such an enriching experience. The Cadets returned to School with a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of the values and challenges of military service.

Major Andrew Arnold, CCF Contingent Commander



Hockey



1st XI Girls end Tier 1 campaign in style!

The Stowe 1st XI girls competed in the England Hockey Tier 1 competition for the third consecutive season this academic year. The competition comprises of the top 32 schools in the country playing in a league system comprising of eight matches across two terms. Stowe compete in the West division with Millfield, Dean Close, Clifton College, Solihull School, Taunton School, King's High Warwick, King's Taunton and Marlborough College which includes a lot of travelling, overnight stays and top-quality hockey.

Stowe played three cup games after Christmas, starting with a home match against Marlborough College. Stowe edged a tight game 1-0 with Hannah Campbell (Lower Sixth, Nugent) grabbing the winner. The last two matches of the campaign were away to King's Taunton (a replay as the original match had to be abandoned at half time before Christmas) and Taunton School.

The girls travelled down in minibuses on Sunday 9 March and headed straight to King's Taunton for the replay match. The game was replayed in full and started with the scoreline back at 0-0. Stowe dominated for large periods of the game with Ari Hay (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton) and Penny-Belle White (Fifth Form, Nugent) scoring either side of half time. Stowe ran out comfortable 2-0 winners but were not at their best.

After an evening meal together in Taunton, the team reported back to the hotel for an early night before the final match of the season the next day. Many of the girls used the morning to study before we headed to Taunton School for a 4pm push back. Stowe started the game well and went 1-0 up when Holly Bateman (Lower Sixth, West) pinched on a loose ball and finished well from the penalty spot. Ari Hay doubled the lead with a smart strike from a penalty corner before Taunton rallied and put Stowe under a lot of pressure. Taunton peppered the Stowe goal and only smart saves from Mae White (Fifth Form, Stanhope) kept Taunton at bay. Finally, the pressure told, and Taunton pulled a deserved goal back before the half time whistle.

With Stowe down to 11 fit players, the girls rallied and put in their best performance of the season. A quick-fire double from Flora McCullough (Upper Sixth, West) gave the girls a healthy lead before goals by White and Izzy Forster (Fifth Form, Stanhope) put the game to bed. The second half was probably the best performance we have seen by a girls 1st XI.

A great way to end an excellent campaign.

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey



Mr Jones appointed England and GB Hockey Men's Head Coach!

Huge congratulations go to Mr Zak Jones, Nugent Houseparent, on being announced as the new England and GB Men's Hockey Head Coach. Zak had been the Assistant Coach of England and GB since 2020, having previously led the Welsh men's team through their most successful period. Zak, who became Nugent Houseparent along with Tracy Jones in 2019, also coached the Buckingham Hockey Club Ladies 1st team who have been consistent in the top tier of English hockey, as well as progressing to five consecutive National Indoor Finals and competing in Europe, twice in the last four years.

With an incredible record both on and off pitch, Zak has also mentored many of our hockey girls in House during their time at Stowe and has played a big part in the ongoing relationship between Stowe and Buckingham Hockey Club. The Winchester House 1st VII girls were also lucky enough to have Zak as their coach this season!

England Hockey said, "We are delighted to announce that Zak will take on the role of Head Coach of the England and GB Hockey men's team after successfully leading the squad since September. The men's squad have a huge amount of potential and we have seen huge progress in the last five years. Zak has been an integral part of the coaching set-up since joining us, and he has proven he has the qualities needed to take the team to the next level. We are excited to see where Zak will lead us, and we wish him all the very best."

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey

The 1st team beat Kimbolton 2-0 on Friday 28 February, reversing a defeat in the first game of the season, which is evidence of the progress they are making. The U16s had the best result on Saturday 1 March with a 6-2 win over Uppingham, the 2nds, U14A & U14Bs had draws.

Well done to the Senior boys' hockey teams who have had an excellent week. The first team have scored an impressive 15 goals in three winning matches. The 2nd XI have won both their matches.

Ben Scott, Head of Hockey



DRAMA Spring Slam

There were no spare seats for the eagerly anticipated Spring Slam on Tuesday 18 March when drama pupils from across the School gathered in the Dobinson Studio to share their work. The evening was adjudicated by actor and director Mr Edward Derbyshire, whose authoritative reflections on each performance highlighted the talent on display, but also enabled the actors to consider further aspects for development. For some of the performers, this was a final chance to present their work to an audience before their LAMDA exams later in the week, while for others, it was simply an opportunity to explore the creative process of bringing a character to life.

There was an impressive range of work on display, ranging from Shakespeare, through extracts from modern classics such as Tennessee William's 'A Streetcar Named Desire' and JB Priestley's 'An Inspector Calls', to more contemporary plays by Martin McDonagh, Katherine Chandler and Dennis Kelly.

At the end of the evening Mr Derbyshire was given the unenviable task of selecting three winners. The Junior Winner

was Sofia Garvin (Fourth Form, Cheshire) for her sensitive portrayal of Hester in Rattigan's 'The Deep Blue Sea'. The Senior award went to Romayo Seaton (Upper Sixth, Cobham) for his moving interpretation of Pavel's Lament from 'Primo Levi', whilst the overall Winner was Harry Blackwood (Fourth Form, Grafton) for his electrifying performance of 'Macbeth'.

Congratulations to all the participants:

Alice Crack (Fourth Form, Cheshire), Jonathan Dickinson (Fourth Form, Temple), Lulu Goaman (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton), Tomisin Ibitoye (Lower Sixth, Chandos), Patrick Kingsman (Fourth Form, Winton), Archie MacGowan (Lower Sixth, Cobham), Shawn Okoronkwo (Lower Sixth, Grafton), Grace Reilly (Upper Sixth, West), Jack Riley (Upper Sixth, Walpole), Talya-Sara Akar (Fourth Form, Stanhope), Emilie Seward (Lower Sixth, West), Harry Smith (Fourth Form, Croft), Tia Sualp (Fifth Form, Lyttelton), Arturo Vander Auwera (Fifth Form, Winton), Arabella Williams (Lower Sixth, Stanhope).

Simon Miller, Head of Drama



Rowing



Stowe/Oundle Rowing Match

20 Stoics represented Stowe at Oundle on Saturday 1 March on the River Nene.

Wins came for Stowe in the boys' and girls' Quads: Hecco Harrison (Fifth Form, Temple), Oscar Beumer (Fifth Form, Chatham), Ned Curry (Fifth Form, Croft) and Ben Cousins (Fifth Form, Cobham) and India Gordon (Upper Sixth, Nugent), Izzy Hunponu-Wusu (Upper Sixth, Stanhope), Katelyn Walley (Lower Sixth, West) and Alice Watson (Upper Sixth, Nugent).

Wins also came for Stowe in the boys' and girls' Doubles: Ben & Hecco and Alice & India.

Libby Doughty (Fourth Form, Cheshire) finished Third in the girls' Singles, but was faster than any of the boys' Singles on the day.

Alice and India, and Ben and Hecco, thanked Mr Janes and his team of Oundle coaches for their kind hospitality - not least the copious quantities of burgers and hot dogs, dispensed by our own Ms Abbott. Several Stowe families supported the team at Oundle and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Andrew Rudkin, Head of Rowing



RUGBY

Midlands U18s

Congratulations to James Bristow (Upper Sixth, Grafton) and Giovanni Way (Upper Sixth, Chatham) who represented the Midlands U18s Division recently. Both James and Gio played a key role in the 1st XV backline this season and have continued to impress in the 7s tournaments this term.

We look forward to their final contribution in the Rosslyn Park National 7s during the last week of term.

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby



The Lambs Rugby

Stowe Rugby 1st XV Captain, George Turner (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Jamie Bryden (Upper Sixth, Winton) represented the Lambs Rugby on Friday 21 February.

Founded in 2006, The Lambs exists to create openings for boys to showcase their rugby skills at a representative level when they have been unable to do so due to other commitments or lack of selection opportunities.

The freedom to express talent, unfettered by league results and structured 'coaching', leads to a style of play which excites players, their parents and supporters of the game. The Lambs was set up to promote traditional rugby values and a 'Corinthian' spirit as our style: this is to play unreserved 'heads up' running rugby in a fast and expansive style, which is player rather than coach-led.

In wet conditions at Newbury RFC, the Lambs took on the Bath Development Squad in a thrilling contest, consisting of three 30-minute sections. During the fast-paced, high-energy encounter, both teams battled toe-to-toe but despite a valiant effort, the Lambs unfortunately lost 43-31.

The boys are very much looking forward to more such encounters in the future.

Grant Seely, Director of Rugby



Sketching The Laocoön

Sixth Form pupils have recently had some inspiring art sessions in Stowe's North Hall, sketching our copy of the famous *Laocoön* statue. The *Laocoön* depicts a Trojan priest in Greek and Roman mythology who was killed by snakes sent by the gods. The story of Laocoön became popular after the discovery of a marble sculpture of him and his sons in Rome in 1506.

The pupils were deeply engaged, capturing the intricate details and dramatic expressions of the sculpture. This hands-on experience not only honed their artistic skills but also enriched their understanding of classical art and its historical significance.

The sessions were a wonderful blend of creativity and education, leaving the pupils with a greater appreciation for the masterpieces of the past. Stoics are lucky to live and study in an environment with such fascinating art and culture, enabling them to be inspired on a daily basis.

Chris Grimble, Teacher of Art



BUSINESS



A New Chapter for the Law Society

The Law Society took an important step in shaping its future on Friday 7 March. Romayo Seaton (Upper Sixth, Cobham) and Daria Kulbayeva (Upper Sixth, West) officially announced the 2025/26 leadership team, ensuring the society continues to thrive in future years.

New Heads of Law Society: Shaynna Obaze (Lower Sixth, West) and George Emerson (Lower Sixth, Cobham)

Deputy Head of Law Society: Emilia Combastet (Fifth Form, Lyttelton)

In a strategic and forward-thinking move, Romayo and Daria introduced the role of Deputy Head of the Law Society, allowing for effective succession planning as we look ahead to 2026/27. This is a brilliant initiative that ensures continuity and long-term growth for the Society. This transition marks the end of an era - Romayo and Daria leave behind an incredible legacy, having re-established, grown, and shaped the Law Society into the thriving platform it is today. We cannot thank them enough for their dedication, leadership and commitment to inspiring the next generation of legal minds at Stowe. Now, the baton passes to Shaynna, George and Emilia and we cannot wait to see where they take the Law Society next!

Dr Gordon West, Teacher of Business & Head of Futures

Hallam Smith from Universal Music Inspires Stowe Business Pupils

Business Stoics had the privilege of hearing from Hallam Smith, a key figure in the Brand Partnerships Department at Universal Music, on Tuesday 25 February. Smith shared valuable insights into his experiences working in the music industry and the growing opportunities for artists to collaborate with global brands.

In his role at Universal, Smith works with major corporations such as Coca-Cola, aligning artists with brands that complement their image and appeal. He explained how these partnerships provide artists with additional revenue streams while allowing companies to tap into the influence and reach of popular musicians. From product endorsements to exclusive collaborations, Smith highlighted how strategic partnerships can be mutually beneficial for both artists and brands.

During his talk, he provided real-world examples of successful collaborations, demonstrating how music and marketing intersect in today's industry. His insights gave pupils a behind-the-scenes look at how artists build their brand beyond music, leveraging their public image to create lucrative commercial opportunities.

The talk was an eye-opening experience for Stoics interested in both business and the creative industries. Smith's visit underscored the importance of innovation and adaptability in the evolving music landscape, leaving pupils inspired by career possibilities within the industry.

William Freeman, Head of Business

GEOGRAPHY

Kyoto

On Thursday 13 February a group of Upper Sixth geographers visited the Soho Place Theatre in London to see the Royal Shakespeare Company production of 'Kyoto'. This immersive play took viewers back in time to the 1990s when countries first started to gather and debate the climate crisis. The main focus of the play was centred around the Kyoto Climate Conference in December 1997. The nations of the world were in deadlock and 11 hours had passed since the UN's landmark climate conference should have ended. Time was running out and agreement felt a world away. The greatest obstacle: American oil lobbyist and master strategist, Don Pearlman...

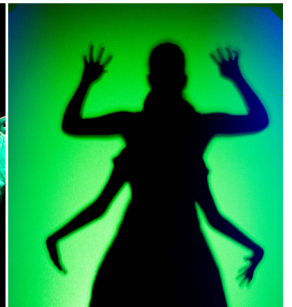
Both gripping and extraordinarily funny, 'Kyoto' seats viewers at the heart of the action, and shows that even in a climate of rapidly rising temperatures, the impossible really can become possible.

Henry Roberts (Chatham) and Lulu Goaman (Lyttelton), summarised the trip, "The performance was outstanding! We gained a much deeper understanding of the dynamics between delegate countries in the climate change negotiations, as well as the underlying geopolitical tensions. It was an engaging and thought-provoking experience that brought the complexities of international climate negotiations to life. We are excited to apply what we have learned in the Summer exams".

Shelley Rowley, Teacher of Geography



DRAMA



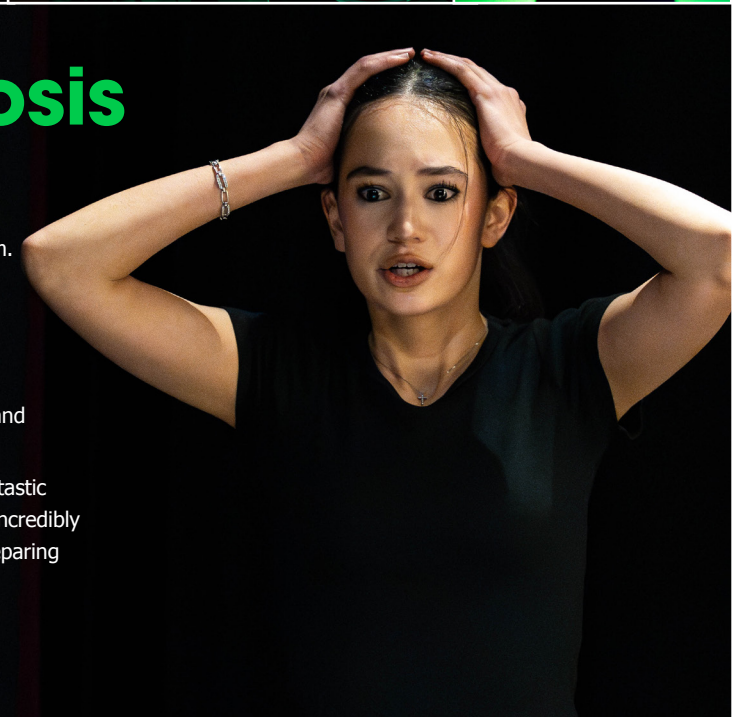
GCSE Metamorphosis Performances

Fifth Form drama pupils produced excellent work for their GCSE practical exam. Following on from an inspiring practical workshop from Kat Mary Productions on the methodologies of Steven Berkoff, Stoics produced two extracts from Berkoff's adaptation of Kafka's 'Metamorphosis' which were performed to an external examiner.

Berkoff's expressionistic style inculcates extreme physicality, vocal versatility, and multi-roling. Performances ranged from monologues to group ensembles.

Everyone excelled, presenting compelling, visceral pieces demonstrating a fantastic collaborative working ethos and highly developed performance skills. We are incredibly proud of all the GCSE Fifth Form sets for the hard work they have put into preparing their performances.

Jason Riddington-Smith, Teacher of Drama





GOLF - Micklem Trophy

Stowe's golf team of Miki Khursheed (Captain) (Upper Sixth, Grafton), Aroa Herran Berraondo (Fourth Form, Lyttelton), Tristan Dickinson (Lower Sixth, Grenville), Poon Prachakrit (Upper Sixth, Grenville) and Hayden Sarfo-Agyare (Fourth Form, Cobham) competed in the prestigious Micklem Trophy at Woking Golf Club in Surrey, on Wednesday 19 March, where they showcased exceptional skill and sportsmanship throughout the competition.

In the opening round, Stowe faced off against Harrow, emerging victorious with a commanding 4-1 win. The team demonstrated great cohesion and skill, with each player contributing to the solid performance.

In the Semi-Final, Stowe encountered Wellington College, and the match proved to be a thrilling display of high-level golf. The intensity of the competition was palpable, as both teams played exceptional rounds. The match went into sudden death after a dramatic final hole, where Aroa, one down going into the 18th hole, pulled off a remarkable wedge shot under immense pressure. Aroa holed her approach shot, stunning both teams and tying the match.

Unfortunately, despite this brilliant performance, Wellington College triumphed by birdieing the first playoff hole to advance to the Final.

Aroa was a standout throughout the match, finishing an impressive 7 under par, further highlighting her skill and composure under pressure.

Throughout the entire event, the Stowe team displayed exceptional conduct, supporting each other and competing at a level of golf that made the School proud. Their performance was a true testament to their hard work, dedication and sportsmanship.

While the team did not reach the Final, their journey in the Micklem Trophy was an unforgettable experience, and they can be incredibly proud of their achievements.

Dusan Gavrilovic, Head of Golf



Rugby 7s

The Senior team were victorious in their group at the Haberdashers' tournament on Wednesday 26 February, but the waterlogged pitches prevented them playing the knockout rounds. They then travelled to Oakham on Sunday 2 March, where they came Third in the group behind Sedbergh and eventual champions Bromsgrove. They then went on to win four matches in a row to reach the Final of the Bowl Competition, where they beat St Joseph's College Ipswich 33-12 to become the Bowl Champions - congratulations to the squad.

Football

The 1st team drew 1-1 with Uppingham on Saturday 1 March and the 2nd team continued their unbeaten run in the Mercian League with a 2-0 win. The 2nd and 3rd XI both played positive attacking football to beat Bedford on Thursday 13 March, the 3rds gained a draw against Oakham on Saturday 15 March.



Badminton & Squash

Both the badminton and squash teams had comfortable afternoons in the ascendancy at Uppingham on Saturday 1 March.

The squash team racked up their 16th win of the season against Bedford on Thursday 13 March. Well done to Captain Eitan O'Grady (Upper Sixth, Temple) and his very keen group of players.

Tom Bicknell (Upper Sixth, Croft) and Oliver Dickmann-Peña (Lower Sixth, Winton) have Co-Captained the very successful badminton team this season and they had another win against Rugby on Thursday 13 March.

The boys' 1st team ended the season in fine style with impressive wins. On Saturday 1 March they beat Uppingham 6-3 and on Thursday 13 March they beat Rugby 7-2. Our hard-working and ever improving girls' 1st team lost their matches against Uppingham and Rugby.

Netball

Well done to the 1st team who beat Uppingham 38-30 on Saturday 1 March, also to the 3rd team, U14B & U14C teams who performed very well away at Uppingham.

The 1st team had their final match of an excellent season together and finished on a deserved high note against Stamford. The 3rd and U16s also got the better of Stamford on Saturday 15 March.



RAF Section gets Airborne!

On Wednesday 5 March, Lower Sixth Form Cadets LCpl Charlie Ighani (Winton), LCpl Henry Williams (Grafton), Cadet Isaac Butler (Winton) and Cadet Staffan Martinez-Singh (Chandos) took to the skies, courtesy of the 6AEF flight team operating out of RAF Benson.

After the safety training, they climbed into their flight suits and then had a substantial introduction to the standard military experience of 'hurry up and wait'. When their turns came, their spirits were still high and the weather was still glorious, and so without exception they requested aerobatic sorties.

They represented Stowe CCF marvellously in every respect throughout the day, and, having now completed all the requirements for the Aviation Training Package, we are proud to be able to award them all their 'Blue Wings'.

Pilot Officer Imogen Adkins, Stowe CCF



Riot Training



Lower Sixth CCF Cadets had a glimpse into the challenging world of crowd control on Wednesday 26 February with Detective Chief Superintendent Richard Tompkins, Head of Crime and Justice for Northamptonshire Police. The training session was an intense and invaluable experience as the Stoics delved into the complexities of maintaining order in high-pressure situations. The Cadets were introduced to shield and baton drills, simulating real-world scenarios that tested their coordination, discipline and resilience.

The drills included formations, defensive tactics and strategic movements, all designed to prepare them for potential real-life situations.

The session was a significant step in the Stoics' development as future leaders, providing them with practical skills and a deeper understanding of the responsibilities that come with crowd control. The Cadets left the training with a sense of accomplishment and a greater appreciation for the challenges faced by those in law enforcement and security roles.

Major Andrew Arnold, CCF Contingent Commander



SAILING

RYA Powerboat Level 2 Course

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA) PB2 course covers the safe use of powerboats and low speed manoeuvres (such as mooring and docking). Several Stoics have successfully completed the course over the last few years, and we hope to follow this trend once again.

The course will run on Sunday 11 and Sunday 18 May at Great Moor Sailing Club.

Places are limited to a maximum of six pupils for each course. Pupils must attend both days of the course plus a classroom session on the Saturday before the course starts.

The cost of the course will be £250.

Please express interest for the course by **emailing me** with the name of the Stoic, Year Group and any preference on course dates.

Duncan Syme, Head of Sailing

RYA SRC Radio licence Course

This is a one-day, practical course, ending in an exam to obtain a licence to operate VHF radios. VHF radios are portable communication devices, generally used on boats. The certificate is essential for those who go out on the open water.

We are looking to host a course at Stowe on Sunday 8 June or Sunday 15 June, with the cost of the course in the region of £180 per person, including the exam fee.

We need to reach a minimum threshold of candidates for the course to run, so at the moment I am looking to see what interest there might be in this. If you, or your child would be interested in gaining this qualification, please **email me** to register your interest.

Please note: Preference will be given to pupils if demand is high, and parents will only be accepted if their child is also on the course.

Duncan Syme, Head of Sailing



Stowe**SPORT**



Lacrosse

Lacrosse National Schools 2025

Stowe Lacrosse took five teams to Aldershot Garrison from Friday 7 to Tuesday 11 March to compete at the Lacrosse National Schools competition. The 1st team were placed in a competitive group on the Saturday which found themselves competing in Division 2 on Sunday. Sunday started with two tough games against Haberdashers' Aske's (4-1 loss) and Cheltenham Ladies College (2-2 draw). After this the girls produced convincing wins against Tudor Hall (7-1) and Harrogate Ladies (4-1.) This gave the team a Division 2 Quarter Final against Rendcomb College (4-2 win.) Up next was North London Collegiate who started fast and got the luck of the bounce with 2 goals ricocheting off pipes and players to take the lead from then Stowe was left chasing the game and could not get back the deficit. The 1st team competed incredibly well throughout and can be proud of their efforts. The 2nds also landed themselves in Division 2 and played well, reaching a Quarter Final but losing to a strong Benenden side. The 3rd team played well and enjoyed the day, reaching the Division 1 Quarter Finals.

The 15As had a great win against Sherborne Girls School and lost to Haberdashers' Aske's girls school. The 14As had a well-earned 2-2 draw against Queen Margaret's School which earned them a spot in Division 1 beating St James Senior Girls' School and then losing to eventual winners Godolphin in the Semi-Final.

Peter Shepherd, Head of Lacrosse



Basketball

The 1st basketball team rounded off an excellent season beating Bradfield 71-17 on Saturday 15 March, Radley 104-32 on Thursday 20 March and Winchester College 53-22 on Saturday 22 March. Player of the season, Harry Langford (Upper Sixth, Chandos) scored 32 points against Radley. On Thursday 13 February, the U17 team beat Abingdon 40-36. Our ever-improving U16 team finished their season with three competitive matches. On Thursday 6 March, they lost 64-52 to Abingdon and followed that with a fine 38-32 win against Bradfield on Saturday 15 March. They just fell short in their final match of the season, losing 38-34 to Winchester College.

Isaac Michael, Head of Badminton and Basketball

LUU BIG BAND

Concert



25.04.25

TICKET PRICE

GENERAL : £10

CONCESSIONS & STAFF : £5

PUPILS : FREE

STOWE SCHOOL

MUSIC FROM: 7:30 PM

STOWE, BUCKINGHAM MK18 5EH

Leeds University Union Big Band in Concert

The Leeds University Union (LUU) Big Band is a 21-piece jazz band which plays a wide variety of dance band/big band repertoire including swing, funk, pop and jazz. We are delighted that the band is currently under the Musical Directorship of OS Seb Foxwell (Walpole 2022), who will also be leading an afternoon workshop with our current Stowe Big Band musicians. This is a fantastic opportunity to hear a collaborative programme including pieces performed jointly, as well as to experience the full LUU Big Band sound in the wonderful acoustic of the Uglad Auditorium.

Ahead of the event, we recently had an interview with Seb:

You were a Music Scholar at Stowe. What have you gone on to do since then?

I am currently in my third and final year of a music degree at the University of Leeds. My time as a student has been rife with opportunity and I couldn't begin to sum up what a fantastic city it is. A few special mentions include performing nationally and internationally with the Leeds University Union Big Band, working on shows with various theatre groups as an instrumentalist, assistant and Musical Director, and releasing my first EP 'Another Side to the Smile'.

Tell us a bit about your musical background and how that has led to you fronting the LUUBB?

Throughout my childhood, I was lucky enough to study trumpet, piano and cello under an array of incredible teachers and mentors, at the Birmingham Conservatoire, Royal Academy of Music and Stowe, in addition to performing with various ensembles, including the National Children's Orchestra, English Schools' Orchestra and National Youth Music Theatre. I joined the LUUBB in my first year at university, as a trumpeter, finding an instant connection with a community of talented academics, most of whom study STEM subjects! As a collective of twenty-plus musicians, we

perform jazz / pop / funk and soul music everywhere from jazz clubs to festival stages, and tour annually to the South of France! I was voted in as Musical Director this academic year. It has been an incredible experience, and I have learnt A LOT along the way. I am fortunate enough to work with a dedicated committee and band, who are incredibly receptive and an absolute pleasure to work with. This year we also set up a 'Little Band' as a smaller, jazz-focused collective that occupies alternate venue dynamics, led by Bertie Spencer – our second trumpeter in the Big Band. It really is one big family and I am buzzing to see how the society develops over the next few years!

Have you got plans for a musical future and, if so, we'd love to hear what they are?!

I am trying to keep my options open, I have thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with new avenues of musicianship recently and there's a lot yet to explore. Music is everything to me, if it involves collaborating with talented creatives in the hope of producing something magical, I'm there! Primarily, I am interested in composition for media and excited to get back in the studio following graduation, likewise, I never want to stop performing. So, whether it is working as an instrumentalist, composer or musical director, I am excited to see what path my journey takes and will always look back on my time at Stowe as a pivotal basis in my career.

To book tickets for this fantastic event, please [click here](#).

Annual Confirmation Service

Stowe's annual Confirmation Service took place on Sunday 23 March, with twenty-four Stoics being confirmed. Over 270 parents, Godparents and friends attended the service in the Chapel, which was conducted by the Rt Revd Humphrey Southern, an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Oxford.

Confirmation candidates attended classes each Wednesday of the Lent Term where they explored the Christian faith through a course called Youth Alpha. I am grateful to Rupert King (Upper Sixth, Chandos) and Isabelle Hunponu-Wusu (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) for volunteering to assist with the confirmation course. These Senior pupils each led a group of confirmation candidates and facilitated discussion time during our classes. Having older Christian pupils answering their questions allowed the candidates to think more deeply about what it means to be a Christian and how to live out their faith.

The service began with myself reminding parents and Godparents of the prayers they prayed at their children's baptism all those years ago. The Confirmation Service is a celebration of how God answered those prayers, as the candidates now affirmed the promises made on their behalf as their own. During the sermon, the Bishop spoke of the necessity of new life in the Spirit, which comes to anyone who puts their trust in Jesus Christ. The candidates were then asked to publicly confirm their faith, before the Bishop welcomed them into the Anglican

Church through a ceremony called 'the laying on of hands'. Communion was celebrated before a final rousing hymn.

On behalf of those who were confirmed, thank you to Mr Kingston and the Chapel Choir for the wonderful music and anthems during the service, and to all who contributed to this special occasion.

Rev James Righetti, Chaplain



Temple House Fundraiser



IN AID OF
**GREAT ORMOND STREET
HOSPITAL CHARITY**

Great Ormond Street Hospital goes above and beyond for seriously ill children. They provide kindness and world-class treatment, bringing hope for children with the rarest and most complex illnesses, making hospital a little bit easier and a lot more fun for the thousands of children who are treated every year. Great Ormond Street Hospital first opened its doors on Valentine's Day in 1852 with just ten beds. Now, it is one of the world's leading children's hospitals and home to vital advancements in paediatric medicine and care.

On Sunday 23 March, the whole of Temple House took part in a marathon 5-a-side football match event on the South Front to raise money for this amazing charity. They played football for 12 hours with all the boys playing for 2-3 hours in different hour shifts. Satndout contributors were Max Frohnsdorff and Henry Schilder (both Fifth Form) and Jack Buckingham (Lower Sixth).

The House has chosen this charity because it is very relevant to my family, who will be running the Bath Ultimate Challenge10k at the end of March to raise awareness.

The fundraising target of £4,000 was set, and to date the amazing amount of almost £6,000 has been raised. If you would like to donate to this amazing cause, and send the link to friends and family, please [click here](#), thank you.

Brian Hart, Temple Houseparent



*Stowe*mail



Geographical Association Worldwide Quiz

On Tuesday 4 March, two teams of Third and Fourth Form pupils travelled to Magdalen College School, Oxford, to represent Stowe at the Regional round of the Geographical Association Worldwide Quiz.

In a highly competitive Senior division comprised of 30 teams from 13 schools, the Stoics battled their way through seven rounds testing geographical skills and knowledge. Topics included deciding whether a new runway should be built at Gatwick, identifying different landforms and a fiendishly difficult 'more or less' section.

The Stoics were excellent representatives of the School, and we are very proud that our 'Sao Paulo' team of Maxim Hanson (Third Form, Chandos) and Jeevan Sehmi (Third Form, Grenville) finished in the top half of the category (12th place), despite one team member being absent. The 'Dhaka' team of Alice Blythe, Cassie Gollifer and Maddy Harris (all Fourth Form, Nugent) came in a very respectable 16th place.

A very enjoyable evening was had by all, and we look forward to returning to the competition next year.

Becky Stanworth, Head of Geography





Mock Trial at Stowe Law Society: The United States v Richard Nixon

On Thursday 6 March, the Blue Room was transformed into a courtroom as the Law Society hosted a gripping Mock Trial: The United States v. Richard Nixon.

With an exceptionally well prepared legal team and a jury deliberating on historic charges, the trial saw Richard Nixon, played by Tomisin Ibitoye (Lower Sixth, Chandos) found guilty, sentenced to five years and a hefty fine, after an hour of compelling arguments and testimony.

Court Proceedings

Judge: Romayo Seaton
(Upper Sixth, Cobham)
Court Usher: Jasmine Lu
(Lower Sixth, West)

Prosecution Team

Lead Prosecutor:
Stephy Ho (Lower Sixth, West)
Assistant Prosecutor:
George Emerson (Lower Sixth, Cobham)
Special Prosecutor:
Santina Snaddon (Lower Sixth, West)

Defence Team

Defendant (Nixon):
Tomisin Ibitoye
Lead Defence Counsel:
Shaynna-Allyn Obaze (Lower Sixth, West)

Co-Defence Counsel:
Mark Lapidus (Lower Sixth, Winton)
Legal Advisor:
Olivia Hillier (Lower Sixth, Lyttelton)

Witnesses

For the Prosecution:
John Dean - Felicity Lousada
(Lower Sixth, West)
Alexander Butterfield - Tia Sualp
(Fifth Form, Lyttelton)
Bob Woodward - Emilia Combastet
(Fifth Form, Lyttelton)
For the Defence:
John Ehrlichman - Emilie Seward
(Lower Sixth, West)
Henry Kissinger - Dominique Dunn
(Lower Sixth, West)

We were also joined by Teacher of Politics, Angus Sharp and Dr James Slater (Law Professor, University of Buckingham), who brought insights to the proceedings.

A huge thank you to everyone involved, particularly Shaynna Obaze (Lower Sixth, West Lower) for organising this unforgettable evening, and of course, Romayo Seaton, who truly brought the 'courtroom' to life.

What an incredible display of legal acumen, public speaking and critical thinking from all involved - future barristers and solicitors in the making!

Dr Gordon West, Teacher of Business & Head of Futures



FUTURES



Exploring Legal Careers: Stoics Connect with Experts at Inner Temple

Six Stoics attended an Old Stoic Law Networking Event at the Inner Temple in London, hosted by Lord Murray of Blidworth (Grenville 93). The evening provided invaluable insights into legal careers, with engaging discussions that deepened our understanding of the profession.

The keynote speaker, Dr Susie Alegre (Nugent 89), an International Human Rights Lawyer and Author, shared her expertise on the intersection of law, technology and human rights. She also discussed her book, 'Human Rights, Robot Wrongs', exploring AI's impact on human rights. Her first book, 'Freedom to Think', was a Financial Times Technology Book of the Year and was shortlisted for the Royal Society of Literature Christopher Bland Prize.

With over 20 years' experience, Dr Alegre has worked on critical global issues, from human rights at borders to climate change's legal implications. She has collaborated with the UN, EU, Amnesty International and other major organisations, bringing real-world insights into international law. Originally from the Isle of Man, she founded the Island Rights Initiative and is fluent in French and Spanish.

The evening provided guidance for aspiring law students. We were especially grateful to Dr Alegre, James Mahon (Grafton 95) and Mark Bowman (Cobham 98) for offering Concord and Victory interviews to support Stoics in preparing strong university applications.

A huge thank you to Charlie Evans (OSS Events Manager), Anna Semler (OSS Director) and Dr Gordon West for organising and supporting this inspiring event. We look forward to building on the knowledge and connections gained.

Emilia Combastet
(Fifth Form, Lyttelton)



Stowaways at Sea - Fifth Form RN Section Embarks on HMS Portsmouth Adventure

The crisp March air carried the scent of salt and steel as our Fifth Form Royal Navy section of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) set sail, metaphorically speaking, for a thrilling visit to HMS Portsmouth on Wednesday 5 March. This highly anticipated trip provided our Cadets with invaluable insights into the workings of a modern Royal Navy establishment, bringing their classroom learning to life.

The day began with an early start, ensuring we maximised our time at the base. Upon arrival, the Cadets were greeted by serving personnel and we learnt about the role of HMS Portsmouth within the Royal Navy's network, including about the various ships, museums and tours that they offered. The first challenge was prioritising what we wanted to see as we could not do it all!

A particular highlight of the visit was the opportunity to tour the HMS Warrior, and the HMS Victory. Cadets were able to witness first-hand the sophisticated technology and equipment used by the Royal Navy and were given detailed explanations of its function by knowledgeable personnel. A particular highlight was the 4D cinema experience where we learnt about the Mary Rose, a ship built for Henry VIII which sank

and was finally discovered and recovered in 1982 and is now on display at HMS Portsmouth.

Lt Brown commented on how valuable the trip was for the Cadets and that one day was not enough to see everything HMS Portsmouth has to offer. Seeing what life was like on board a serving warship showed us the true value and importance of teamwork.

The visit to HMS Portsmouth was an undeniable success, leaving our Cadets with a deeper understanding of the Royal Navy and a renewed sense of enthusiasm for their CCF training. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the personnel at HMS Portsmouth for their warm welcome and for providing such a memorable and educational experience. The insights gained will undoubtedly be invaluable to our Cadets as they continue their journey within the CCF and beyond.

We look forward to future opportunities to engage with the Royal Navy and further develop our Cadets' understanding of maritime operations and the vital role the Navy plays in protecting our nation.

Major Andrew Arnold, CCF Contingent Commander

Lent Addresses 2025

From Monday 3 - Wednesday 5 March we welcomed Nate Morgan Locke to Stowe to deliver the annual Lent Addresses. Nate is a renowned speaker and podcaster from the Christian charity Speak Life. Known as the Reformed Mythologist, Nate is an expert in stories and myths, and their power to communicate truth.

The Lent Addresses are a chance for the Stoics to think deeply on a topic related to the Christian faith. This year, Nate's topic was 'If Life is a Game, How do you Win?' based on Nate's poem of the same title.

The topic was explored from the perspective of five playing cards. In our whole School Chapel services, Nate spoke about money (the King of Diamonds) and fun/experience (the Jack of Clubs) as possible answers to the question. At our three evening Lent Addresses in the Blue Room, we considered how relationships (the Queen of Hearts), academic success (the 10 of Spades) or a life of frivolity (the Joker) might be the answer. Nate argued compellingly that the best way to win at life is through our relationship with the King of the Cross - Jesus - and that this liberates us to enjoy all the other cards with the right proportion and perspective.

Nate's recital of his five-minute poem from memory each night captivated the pupils, and by the final night the Stoics were able to recite large parts of it from memory! In total over 160 pupils attended across the three nights, with many staying around afterwards to ask questions. It was encouraging to see so many pupils keen to think deeply about this important topic. We are grateful to Nate for the English lessons he attended, and for the time he gave to prepare and deliver the Lent Addresses this year.

Rev Righetti, Chaplain

LENT ADDRESSES 2025
Christian talks open to all Stoics

**If Life is a Game,
How do You Win?**

**Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th
& Wednesday 5th March**
8.45pm - 9.20pm
Blue Room



Speaker:
Nate Morgan Locke
The Reformed Mythologist

ALL WELCOME

Media Trip to the Tim Burton and Barbie Exhibitions

Following hot on the heels of the DT&E Department, Media and Film pupils also visited the Design Museum in London to see the Tim Burton and Barbie exhibitions.

Both were beautifully mounted and lovingly curated displays; the Barbie exhibition clearly showing the historical development of the doll and how her body shape and representation has altered over time to reflect and influence contemporary attitudes towards gender.

For many it was a trip down memory lane, and I especially enjoyed the 60s and 70s TV adverts encouraging young girls to purchase the latest Barbie model which took me back to my childhood.

The Tim Burton exhibition was spectacular from the get-go. The rooms were divided into eerie gothic chambers and spooky sounds were to be heard everywhere. As well as innumerable sketches, storyboards and comic book drawings, we were treated to props and models from Burton's many, many films.

I have always thought his debut short 'Vincent' was amongst his best work and 'The Nightmare Before Christmas' (directed by Henry Selick) is a Bonafide masterpiece, so seeing his planning and designs for these two films was a personal highlight.

For fans of Burton's other films including 'Beetlejuice', 'Edward Scissorhands', 'Alice in Wonderland' and 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', there was much to enjoy, including costumes, posters and crucially, materials that had influenced Burton as an artist including 50s horror movies and science fiction comics.

This is the third time we have visited the Design Museum (we also saw the brilliant 'Kubrick' and 'Amy Winehouse' exhibitions) and this was no exception.

A fantastically well-presented exhibition, in one of London's top museums, it was enjoyed by all.

Dr Andrew Webber, Acting Head of Film and Media



MUSIC Piano Concerta

On Wednesday 5 March, the Stowe community, gathered in the Ugland Auditorium for a captivating piano recital, demonstrating the talents of pupils under the guidance of their brilliant teacher, Mrs Maia Griffin.

One by one, the pupils took to the stage, each performing pieces ranging from romantic masterpieces by Chopin and Rachmaninov, to eloquent impressionist pieces by Debussy, as well as a couple of A Level Programmes, and a resounding quintet to finish the night. The diversity of the program highlighted the versatility of the young performers, as they skilfully navigated through different styles and techniques, some demonstrating the poise of seasoned professionals, while others performed with incredible heart and determination.

Throughout the evening, it became clear that this recital was more than just a display of musical talent; it was a celebration of the bond between teacher and pupils. Mrs Griffin's unwavering support and encouragement has fostered not only technical proficiency but also a deep love for music.

This recital beautifully showcased our musical talent, but more importantly, it was a reminder of the power of mentorship and the joy of sharing music with others. For these Stoics, the experience was undoubtedly a memory they will cherish for years to come.

Chloé Hulewicz, Head of Keyboard

Library

Poetry in Stowe

As ever, Stoics did not disappoint with their entries to the Poetry in Stowe competition. Pupils wrote a poem about a day in the life of being a Stoic. To quote Edgar Allan Poe 'Poetry is the rhythmical creation of beauty in words'.

The entries certainly lived up to Poe's description, with the Stoics all capturing Stowe life in very different ways. It was difficult to decide a winner, but after much deliberation we are delighted to announce First place went to Arabella Williams (Lower Sixth, Stanhope), whose poem included the School motto of 'Persto et Praesto'. Second place was awarded to Monique McDonald (Fourth Form, Lyttelton), with Third place going to Alice Coleman Reaston Brown (Third Form, Lyttelton).

Congratulations to you all.

Lucinda Stockley-Battams, Librarian
& Samantha Keiller, Assistant Librarian



Lower School Inter-House Literary Challenge

The Lower School Inter-House Literary Finals took place on Thursday 6 March, fittingly on World Book Day. Each House was represented by one Stoic from both the Third and Fourth Form. The results were then combined with the Fifth Form scores from the Michaelmas Term to determine the overall winners. Each team had the opportunity to use a 'Joker', allowing them to double their points from a selection of titles at the start of the competition. The scores remained incredibly close throughout, with Nugent ultimately taking the win.

After combining the scores from both heats, the overall Winners were Chatham, followed by Winton in Second place and Chandos in Third.

Congratulations to all the Houses - we are already looking forward to next year's Inter-House competition!

Lucinda Stockley-Battams, Librarian

Winning Poem

*In the halls of Stowe, where dreams take flight,
They soar on wings of purpose, guided by light.
Where teachers, with passion, ignite every spark,
Lighting the way, echoing the futures we wish to embark.*

*Here, we're taught not by the ink of an essay,
But by the heartbeats of talent that never decay.
No measure of a grade can define who we are,
For we're distinctive in our own right, each one of us
dreams to shine bright.*

*The laughter, the friendships, they blossom and grow,
In an atmosphere where ideas freely flow.
Where creativity, hard work, and joy entwine,
And every moment feels like a step toward the divine.*

*In a world that asks us to blend in and conform,
We learn at Stowe, to stand proud and transform.
Our uniqueness is the spark that sets us apart,
A mosaic of brilliance, a canvas of heart.*

*The beauty of this place is in every tree,
In the whispers of the wind, in the lakes decree.
We are rooted in the earth, yet destined to rise,
Each of us unique, with our own boundless skies.*

*We stand firm, we stand first,
Our motto etched deep, a lifelong thirst.
"Persto et Praesto" - we stand with pride,
In unity, we flourish, side by side.*

*The world is ours to shape and redefine,
Not by fear, but by courage, we'll all shine.
Failure is a lesson, not a thing to dread,
For only those who try can break through the thread.*

*We never lose, we either win or learn,
In every mistake, there's a chance to return.
We're driven by passion, by the fear of the gray,
For we're born to be bold, not to fade away.*

*So, here at Stowe, we are free to fly,
To chase our dreams and reach for the sky.
We stand tall, unafraid to be true,
With passion and power, we'll see our dreams through.*

*For this is what it means to be a Stoic,
To rise, to lead, and to never be stoic.
To chase what we want, with full dedication,
To be the change, to spark every nation*

*And when we stand, we stand as a forest untamed,
A world of our own, no two trees the same.
For in the garden of Stowe, we are the change,
Our roots spread wide, our reach knows no range.*

Arabella Williams



Nature Conservation Projects

During this Half Term, our group has actively engaged in a variety of outdoor activities and tasks in the parkland and nearby National Trust areas. Each activity was designed to preserve and enhance the natural environment around Stowe, and to also educate us on the importance of biodiversity and habitat conservation.

We engaged in the 'nut hunt' in the hazel coppice woodland near the National Trust offices. Our main objective here was to identify which small mammals had chewed on hazelnuts, particularly to determine the presence of dormice, a rare and protected species. The search was insightful, giving us a deeper understanding of the animals within the ecosystem. Following the hunt, and in the following week, we engaged in weeding and dead hedging, which are beneficial for maintaining the health of the woodland areas. This hands-on experience taught us about the critical role of managing woodlands sustainably to support biodiversity and I particularly enjoyed using the loppers to remove invasive plants.

Birdwatching by the quarry and around the grounds was another highlight from our activities. During this session, we discussed the decline in UK bird populations and practiced identifying some of the common birds found in our region. This activity not only improved our identification skills but also raised our awareness of the challenges facing these species and the importance of conservation efforts.

Most recently we have spent time removing overgrowth around the Equestrian Centre. This gave us the opportunity to observe the direct impact of our work on improving the aesthetics of the environment around the buildings.

Overall, this Half Term has been eventful and educational. We have not only contributed to the preservation of the local environment but have also gained valuable knowledge and skills. The varied tasks in different parts of the parkland and National Trust have deepened our appreciation for nature and have highlighted the importance of preserving the world around us.

Ari Lewis (Lower Sixth, Walpole)



Allotment Project

The School Allotment team have had a bustling Winter, constructing raised beds, laying bark paths and preparing for the installation of a new sustainable fence. These efforts are part of our commitment to creating a thriving and environmentally friendly space for pupils and Staff alike.

Preparations are now well underway for the eagerly anticipated Spring planting. The greenhouse is overflowing with a myriad of seedlings, patiently awaiting the moment they can be planted out after the last frost. This promises to enhance our educational offerings and foster an appreciation for horticulture among our pupils.

Moreover, our feathered companions have been pampered with new perches added to their run, complemented by a dust bath fashioned from a recycled tyre. The chickens are now beginning to increase their egg production; we look forward to having a plentiful supply of fresh eggs to sell in the Staff Common Room. These delightful contributions will also enhance our cake baking for our weekly activities, further uniting our allotment community.

As the days lengthen and the weather warms, we are filled with optimism and enthusiasm, eagerly anticipating the fruits of our labour and the opportunities for learning that lie ahead in the growing season.

Charlotte Calland, Allotment Project



Ubuntu

At the start of term, we embarked on our Ubuntu journey with a degree of scepticism, unsure of our objectives or how we could translate the philosophy into tangible action. Fortunately, Mrs Barbeli, Teacher of Psychology, provided us with a foundation in the concept of Ubuntu, a Southern African philosophy emphasising communal values, interconnectedness, and the belief that 'I am because we are.' It teaches us that our humanity is defined by our relationships with others and the support we provide to those in need.

With this principle in mind, we springboarded into a series of initiatives aimed at embodying the values of Ubuntu. Our first step was collaborating with the Stowe CCF to repurpose sleeping bags into shelter suits. These innovative suits, provided in partnership with Shelter Suit, serve as both sleeping bags and protective outerwear, offering warmth and security to those experiencing homelessness. The charity's mission is to provide practical, life-changing solutions to support those living on the streets, offering not only protection but also dignity and hope.

This term we were inspired by Article 25 of the Declaration of Human Rights, to launch our Winter clothing drive for MK Storehouse. MK Storehouse is a charity based in Milton Keynes working to support low-income families by providing them with free, good quality clothing for both children and adults. We received an overwhelming number of donations of warm clothes from Stoics - ten large boxes in total! Stowe Ubuntu would like to thank everyone for getting involved. A special shout out to Nugent, Stanhope, Queen's, West and Grafton for their excellent contributions!

These initiatives are just the beginning. With Ubuntu as our guiding principle, we aim to foster more collaborations and deepen our commitment to social responsibility. By recognising our shared humanity, we hope to create a lasting impact on our local community, making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need.

Romayo Seaton (Upper Sixth, Cobham)



OS Henry Pollock (Grafton 23) Shines in England's Six Nations Victory

OS Henry Pollock made headlines with his remarkable performance for England in the Six Nations match against Wales. On Saturday 15 March the 20-year-old rising star, who has been touted as one of England rugby's most promising talents, lived up to expectations by scoring two late tries in an emphatic 68-14 victory in Cardiff.

Pollock's debut was nothing short of spectacular. His first try, following a great pass from veteran fly-half George Ford, made him the youngest men's Six Nations try-scorer, surpassing the previous record held by Henry Arundell. Pollock's second try further cemented his status as a player to watch.

Henry Pollock's achievements serve as an inspiration to current Stoics, demonstrating that with passion and perseverance great things can be achieved.

The Stowe community are immensely proud of Henry's accomplishments and look forward to cheering him on in future matches. Congratulations Henry, on your outstanding England Rugby debut and for making history in the Six Nations!

Charlie Evans, Old Stoic Society

OLD STOICS

OS Calendar of Events

We are thrilled to announce a busy and vibrant calendar of Old Stoic events planned for the first half of 2025. From engaging networking events to fun-filled social gatherings, there's something for everyone. These events are just one of the many benefits of being part of the Old Stoic Society. Whether you are looking to expand your knowledge, network with like-minded individuals or simply catch up with fellow OS, our events offer something for everyone of all ages.

For further information, please visit our [website](#) or [email us](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#).

OLD STOIC EVENTS

3 April	Live Bands Night, Half Moon Putney - London
30 April	SOS Lunch, Oriental Club - London
14 May	Property Networking Drinks, Baker Street - London
23 May	Eve of Speech Day Concert - Stowe
24 May	Speech Day & Classic Car Display - Stowe
13 June	Clay Shooting, Holland & Holland - London

From Stowe's Concord and Victory to Exeter's Movember Success

Leia West (West 23) is no stranger to hard work. As a Stoic, she founded and led the Concord and Victory newspaper, shaping it into a platform for student journalism that continues to thrive today. Now in her second year at the University of Exeter, studying Business Analytics, Leia has carried that same passion and drive into her university life - this time, making an impact on men's health through Movember.



As a Movember Student Ambassador for Exeter, Leia has played a key role in leading the university's fundraising efforts. This year, she and her fellow ambassadors have helped Exeter achieve an extraordinary milestone, winning Movember's prestigious Double Platinum Award after raising an astounding £118,743. This achievement takes Exeter's lifetime total past £800,000, a testament to the generosity, dedication and commitment of its student community. Movember is about much more than just growing a moustache. It funds life-saving research, improves mental health support and drives initiatives such as the UK's first-ever Men's Health Strategy.

Leia is currently applying for her year in industry industrial placement and is actively seeking opportunities in marketing with multinationals. If there is anyone in the Stowe network who can offer guidance, insights or potential opportunities, she would love to connect on [LinkedIn](#).

Anna Semler (Nugent 05), Old Stoic Society Director



History of Art trip to Venice

On Thursday 13 February, our journey to Venice began - an eager group of art historians travelled alongside Mr Christie, Mrs Stockley-Battams and Dr Wallersteiner, with hopes of immersing ourselves in beautiful Venetian architecture, painting and sculpture. After a tedious day of travel, we were welcomed at the Do Torri, a charming little trattoria nestled in the piazza which quickly became our home for dinner. We retired to Ca' Nobile Corner, the kind of hotel that appears slightly forbidding at midnight but on entering was quite the opposite with a lovely courtyard, terrace and delicious breakfast.

Despite being convinced that Venice is at its most enchanting in the rain, we spent Valentine's Day shivering and soaked - not quite the picturesque scenes we had imagined. Rest assured the interesting lecture given by Charles Hope (a privilege we, as young art historians could not have fathomed) and guided tours around San Zaccaria and Palazzo Grimani were more than enough to make up for the weather.

What served as revision for Upper Sixth, and an introduction for Lower Sixth, was incredibly fascinating. We studied the polyptych and triptych gold altarpieces which developed into the sacra conversazione by Bellini: a genre of painting depicting the Virgin and Child amongst saints appearing to be in conversation with one other. I was amazed how the rich colours glowed after being illuminated. We also saw the original foundations of the church, which are no longer in danger of flooding, and the prior marble sector flooring laid in such a way to allow for undulating wave rhythm.

At the Palazzo Grimani, we admired the botanical fresco ceilings and intricate stucco vaults. Excitement grew as we walked to La Fenice in black tie to experience Rigoletto, a modern adaptation of the classic opera, which stunned us in a way we never expected. The day could not have ended better, dining around a table at Vino Vino, enjoying tasty Italian food.

We awoke to glorious sunshine on the second day and set off early to the Accademia Gallery, observing paintings by Tintoretto, Giorgione, Bellini, Lotto, Titian and Veronese and their characteristic styles. A particular painting of interest was 'The Miracle of the Slave' by Tintoretto, which depicts Saint Mark miraculously intervening to save a slave from torture after he attempted to pay homage to him. We studied Tintoretto's flair for foreshortening, distinctive expressive sketchiness in modelling drapery, and the passages of muscularity which show how he studied Classical statuary.

After lunch we walked around the monumental

San Marco, listening to our guide talk about the mosaics on the façade, describing the story of Saint Mark, and the Byzantine influences on the architecture. The grandeur of the cathedral was spectacular, as well as the sumptuous altarpiece with gold-framed panels of saints embellished with precious stones.

At the Ducal Palace we wandered through stately rooms full of huge paintings, focusing on works by Tintoretto, Jacopo Palma il Giovane and Veronese, who we recognised for his rich colours, fictive architecture and textiles. In Il Paradiso, Tintoretto managed to create a sense of infinite expanse by removing all measurable objects describing only figures. A change of pace from the Renaissance led us to the Peggy Guggenheim collection - a vast assortment of art that lends itself to the theme of Modernism, art which rejects the realistic depiction of subject, experiments with form and has a tendency towards abstraction. Yes, contemporary work is controversial, and yes, I was surprised to have liked it at all; yet after discussing the intentions of modernist artists such as Mondrian, Kandinsky, Léger, Miró, Pollock, Twombly and Calder, I have a newfound appreciation of it.

I was persuaded by Basaldella's 'Yellow Country', depicting a landscape pushed across the surface, bathed in a warm, radiant colour. The overlapping forms in translucent layers act as a foil for the dark contours which border between figuration and abstraction. After lunch, we arrived at the Friari Church, notable for the number of tombs inside, The Assumption of the Virgin and the Pesaro Madonna by Titian. An interesting fact about this Madonna, is that she is only central when you observe the painting from the same perspective with which you entered the building.

Our last destination of the day was Scuola di San Rocco, a confraternity building decorated with paintings by Tintoretto. Our guide, Charlie Hall, took us around and mentioned a curious detail about the only contemporary figure in the building found within The Baptism of Christ.

Our time in Venice was slipping away. We spent our final day just as any other, taking in the last of the architecture and painting. Then, freed at last for an afternoon of shopping, the art historians strode confidently through Venice, convinced they had mastered its winding streets. They had not! Thankfully Google Maps reunited us in time for a boat ride to Acqualina at sunset, where we enjoyed a pasta, gnocchi and tiramisu class. It truly was a fantastic trip that I, on behalf of everyone, thank Mr Christie for organising.

We'll always have Venice.

Imogen Embley (Lower Sixth, Queen's)



FUTURES



Stowe Pupils Tackle Political Party Funding in Latest Podcast Episode

Three Stowe pupils have taken their academic interests beyond the classroom in the latest episode of 'Raising the Bar', the podcast led by the Concord and Victory Law Team. Shaynna-Allyn Obaze (Lower Sixth, West), Tia Sualp (Fifth Form, Lyttelton), and Emilia Combastet (Fifth Form, Lyttelton) have explored one of the most debated issues in UK politics - how political parties are funded and whether big money holds too much power in our democracy.

Shaynna, who is currently studying A Level Politics, brings her knowledge to the discussion, while Tia and Emilia, both GCSE pupils, demonstrate an impressive grasp of the topic as they investigate the laws, scandals and ethical dilemmas surrounding political donations. This is a great example of pupils actively engaging with their studies and applying their learning to real-world issues; a skill that is invaluable for both academic success and future university applications.

In this episode, they examine the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, the cash-for-honours scandal, and the case of Peter Cruddas, a businessman who donated over £500,000 to the Conservatives before being appointed to the House of Lords - despite official objections. They also tackle the rise of dark money, discussing concerns over foreign funding influencing UK elections and debating whether tighter regulations, donation caps, or state-funded political parties could be a solution.

This kind of independent research and analysis not only deepens their understanding of the subject but also builds key skills in debate, critical thinking and media literacy, all of which strengthen university applications. Their discussion highlights the importance of young people engaging with the legal and political challenges shaping the world today.

Listen here as Shaynna, Tia and Emilia take on the complexities of political funding, question the status quo and, as always, raise the bar.

Dr Gordon West, Head of Futures

CONCORD AND VICTORY



Marc Hope: A Masterclass in Sports Sponsorship

Marc Hope's (Cobham 79) journey from Stowe to securing multi-million-pound sponsorship deals is a testament to the power of networking, adaptability, and a passion for sport. In a compelling interview with Concord and Victory, hosted by Imogen Reeves and Claudia Bushby (both Lower Sixth, West) - both excellent athletes in their respective sports - Marc shares insights into the sports sponsorship industry, his role in landmark deals like Muller's partnership with British Athletics, and advice for aspiring professionals and athletes looking for sponsorship.

Key Takeaways from the Interview:

- **Relationships Matter** - Success in sponsorship is built on strong, lasting relationships.
- **Networking is Key** - Many deals start from a simple conversation at industry events.
- **Adaptability is Crucial** - Navigating setbacks and finding creative solutions is essential.
- **Aligning Values Secures Sponsorships** - Successful deals match a brand's goals with a sport's ethos.
- **Supporting Athletes** - His work has helped fund grassroots and elite sports, shaping future champions.

Marc also shared his current work with Team Scotland and grassroots initiatives, highlighting the impact of sponsorship beyond elite sport.

Watch the full interview [here](#) for exclusive insights into sports sponsorship, athlete funding, and how to secure long-term partnerships.

Gordon West, Head of Futures



Join Stowe Golf Club

We are delighted to announce the new golf season will run from Tuesday 1 April 2025 until Tuesday 31 March 2026. The Stowe Group generously offers a subsidised rate for all Stowe Parents at £210 per membership.

There is an optional one-off golf payment to the Club of £200 if you would like to participate in competitions, have a handicap or use the clubhouse.

If you would like to join the Stowe Golf Club and play on the course throughout the year, please contact events@stowe.co.uk



The Origins of the Electoral College & Contemporary US Politics

At the start of February, our Politics pupils enjoyed a talk by Mr Michael Maibach, a transatlantic friend of Stowe who gave a talk on the origins of the Electoral College and contemporary US politics. In the world of politics and business, Michael has not just seen it all but has also done it all!

Having spent time in the Illinois State Senate, Michael was the first American ever to be elected to public office under the age of 21, has been the Vice President of Global Government Affairs at Intel and the list goes on. Michael was as knowledgeable as he was erudite, and the Stoics thoroughly enjoyed his talk.

My favourite moment came when Michael was told that we now pay taxes on school fees, "You pay tax on education?" Michael exclaimed in his rich midwestern accent, "you've got to boot that government out, no taxation on education!" Of course, as the law states that teachers must not promote partisan political views, I remained silent.

Thanks so much to Michael, it really was a fantastic event.

Simon Cole, Head of Politics



MATHS

A Win for Stowe at the Year 10 District Maths Feast!

On Monday 17 March, four of our top Fourth Form mathematicians, Angus Cockerill (Grafton), Jan Li (Chandos), Kelvin Liao (Cobham) and Ronnie Wilson (Chandos) - travelled to Shenley Brook End School in Milton Keynes to take part in a district Maths competition (Maths Feast) run by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme.

Our team competed against 19 other teams from across the region, tackling complex mathematical problems which tested skills in computation, logical thinking, 3D spacial awareness, communication and teamwork.

The Stowe team won the first round and took Fifth Place overall. With an impressive overall score of 66 out of 84, the team can certainly be proud of their achievements.

Amanda Ayres, Teacher of Maths



Mathematics Talk - Logic, Lissajous Figures and Wordle

Gaussian Society met on Wednesday 12 February to hear talks from Lower Sixth pupils Katherine Liu (Queen's), Gaia Mesonero-Perez (Lyttelton) and Arabella Fraser (Queen's).

Katherine introduced and solved a puzzle that has a reputation for being the hardest logic puzzle ever. Having crashed your spaceship on a distant planet, your only way home is to seek help from three alien gods; one who always speaks the truth, one who always lies and one who is sometimes truthful and sometimes deceitful. They will only answer your questions with yes or no, which in their language are 'ozo' and 'ulu', but you do not know which word is which.

Gaia presented a set of swirling patterns known as 'Lissajous Figures', as they were first observed by Jule Antoine Lissajous in 1857. The shapes can be accounted for by the use of parametric equations and so Gaia introduced how these work before setting up a mathematical model for the figures. She then generated the figures using intersecting perpendicular complex harmonic motions, both in theory via a graphical calculator, and in practice using an oscilloscope.

Arabella shared her track record on 'Wordle' puzzles and explained how this game can be analysed quantitatively through the use of information theory. Each time a word is entered, the possible solutions are reduced. Hence, there is a corresponding probability distribution for the possible outcomes for each word that can be analysed if you are looking for optimal strategy. There are different ways of strategizing, but looking solely at the first word, the best option turns out to be SOARE.

Dr Charles Adkins, Teacher of Mathematics

Senior LSAS Stretch and Challenge Conference

The topics of quantum physics, unconscious bias, the meaning of a light bulb, vegetarianism and Shakespeare were all topics covered at this year's Senior Stretch and Challenge Conference, which was held in Oxford on Wednesday 5 March.

During the day, gifted and talented pupils from approximately 20 secondary schools listened enraptured to superb talks delivered in a university style in the very beautiful surroundings of the Oxford Town Hall.

This is an annual event organised by 'Thriving Minds', who are bringing their Intermediate Conference here to Stowe at the end of March, and the energy and passion the team bring to their presentations and lectures is impressive.

We took nearly 40 Fourth Form and Lower Sixth Stoics to the event and all of us emerged at the end of the day exhausted, buzzing and fully stretched.

As a non-scientist, I was particularly taken with Julie Arliss' non-explanation of quantum physics - something which, if you understand it, you really do not. Her explanation of how protons when observed react differently to when they are not being watched and how this might somehow explain phenomena like the 'sixth sense' etc. was fascinating. The notion that if you took all the 'nothing' that exists in our bodies out of it, somehow, what's left would be the whole of mankind reduced to the size of a sugar cube, is mind-boggling.

The conference has become an annual event in our academic calendar for our gifted learners and one which we always look forward to.

Dr Andrew Webber, LSAS Coordinator

Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 29 January, 165 Stoics sat the Intermediate Maths Challenge paper. This annual competition is aimed at those in Third, Fourth and Fifth Form, and is sat by pupils across the country. This is the largest number of Stoics we have ever entered for this competition, and of course the Stoics achieved a record number of certificates!

The Stoics who participated went on to achieve 42 Bronze Awards and 19 Silver Awards-certificates for these excellent results and certificates of participation have been handed out in Houses. Nine Stoics achieved Gold Awards and some of them have qualified for an additional competition, which will take place on Thursday 20 March.

Congratulations to Olivia Ng (Fifth Form, Lyttelton), Lorraine Yan (Fifth Form, Stanhope), Tallulah Havard (Fifth Form, Stanhope) and Yunshan Zhou (Fourth Form, Chandos) who all improved their scores from the previous year and gained Gold Awards.

Special mentions must go to:

Sean Zheng and Alex Fan (both Fifth Form, Chandos) who have achieved Gold Awards for two consecutive years.

Tom Kent (Third Form, Winton) who achieved a Gold Award and was 'Best in Third Form', which is a remarkable result.

Jan Li (Fourth Form, Chandos) whose Gold Award placed him as 'Best in Fourth Form'.

And finally, **Niamh Byrne (Fifth Form, Cheshire)** who scored an amazing 120 points out of the 135 available and achieved the coveted title of 'Best in School'.

Well done to all the Stoics who took part.

Sophie Penrhyn-Lowe, Head of Upper School Maths



Why Should You Apply to Be a Prefect?

With all the Lower Sixth votes now in for this year's prefect nominations, Jessica Chu (Lower Sixth, Stanhope) from Concord and Victory sat down with Stowe School's Head Girl, Alessia Capella (Upper Sixth, Stanhope), and Deputy Head Girl, Lulu Goaman (Upper Sixth, Lyttelton), to discuss why being a prefect is such a rewarding experience. From representing Stoics' voices to balancing responsibilities, Alessia and Lulu highlighted how being a prefect is about more than just a title - it is about making a real impact on the School community.

- **Helping Others & Giving Back** - Prefect meetings allow Stoics to raise issues and suggest changes, ensuring transparency between pupils and teachers. Prefects serve as a bridge, helping to shape a better school environment for everyone.
- **Developing Leadership & Public Speaking Skills** - Weekly speeches in Chapel, working within a team, and interacting with a wide range of pupils and Staff all help build confidence, leadership, and communication skills that are invaluable for the future.
- **Time Management & Organisation** - Balancing academics, extracurriculars, and prefect duties can be a challenge, but learning how to plan effectively and stay on top of commitments is a skill that will serve Stoics well beyond School.
- **Creating Lasting Memories** - Prefects not only gain leadership experience but also enjoy traditions like Prefect Chapel, team events, and even the legendary Prefect lunch queue privilege!

So, should you apply next year?

According to Alessia and Lulu, 100% yes! Even if you are unsure, applying for a leadership role like this can help you grow, challenge yourself, and contribute to the School in meaningful ways.

For those applying, their advice is simple:

- **Be yourself** - Everyone brings something different to the prefect team.
- **Get involved** - Engage in activities you enjoy rather than ticking boxes.
- **Go for it** - You never know what might happen!

Thank you, Alessia and Lulu, for sharing your experiences and inspiring the next generation of Stowe leaders!

To watch the interview in full click [here](#).

Gordon West, Head of Futures

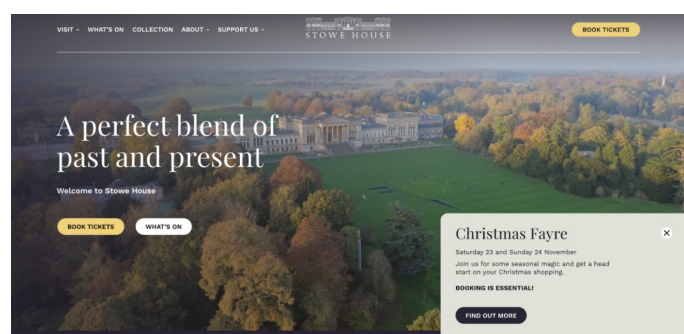
Stowe Musicians Perform at St Mary's Church, Leckhampstead

On the evening of Friday 14 March, the picturesque St. Mary's Church in Leckhampstead became the stunning backdrop for a remarkable musical performance by the talented musicians from Stowe. The concert offered a beautiful blend of classical and contemporary pieces, showcasing the exceptional skills and musical diversity of the performers. Pre-concert organ music was provided by Annie Chen (Third Form, Stanhope), Eva-Grace Ng (Upper Sixth, Stanhope) and Patrick Kingsman (Fourth Form, Winton), whilst Ben Bailey (Upper Sixth, Chandos) delivered a flawless rendition of 'Silent Noon' by Vaughan Williams. Other pieces were beautifully played by the Flute Ensemble and String Orchestra, and these were interwoven with captivating songs from the Chamber Choir.

The audience, which included local residents and families of the performers, was treated to a delightful evening of music making, and an impressive total of almost £2,000 was raised for the St. Mary's Church restoration project. The concert was a resounding success with the Stowe musicians delivering a programme of outstanding performances. Thanks go to the Music Department Staff, Dr Leena Rana, Dr Chloé Hulewicz, Jonathan Kingston, Beth Hodgson and Chris Windass who work tirelessly to ensure high standards are achieved and delivered by Stowe's many gifted musicians.

Jane Horwood, Music Administrator

STOWE HOUSE PRESERVATION TRUST



Exciting News: Stowe House's New Website Launching in April

We are delighted to announce that the new Stowe House website will go live in April after a year of development. This project represents a major step forward in how we share our heritage, engage with visitors and support our mission.

Key Improvements & Features

- Enhanced Visitor Experience - A smoother, more intuitive website that makes it easier to plan a visit.
- Seamless Bookings - Visitors can now book admission and event tickets in one step.
- New Digital Collections - For the first time, our collection and archives will be available online, increasing accessibility and engagement.
- Improved Support & Applications - Donations, applications, and enquiry forms are now all in one place, making it easier for supporters to contribute to our work.
- A Stronger Digital Presence - The website has been designed to showcase Stowe House's significance as an independent heritage site of national and international importance.

This project has been made possible thanks to the generous support of a donor, and we are grateful for their commitment to helping Stowe House evolve and grow.

You will find us at www.stowehouse.org whilst we will also continue to refine and improve the experience for our visitors over the year. Links from The Stowe Group website will remain to divert and navigate traffic after the transition.

Thank you for your support as we take this exciting step forward for Stowe House.

Melanie Whitrow, SHPT Marketing Officer



Discovering the History of Stowe House

As part of the Stowe Parents' calendar of events this year, I was asked to conduct a tour of The State Rooms, looking at the history of Stowe before it became a school in 1923, and the restoration carried out by Stowe House Preservation Trust (SHPT) over the past 25 years.

There is so much to tell about Stowe - the various owners' personalities reflected in the ever-evolving building and estate, the three large sales in 1848, 1921 and 1922, what was lost and what has been rediscovered, and the ambitious design by 1920s educators to turn a 400-room palace into a boarding school. Then there are the stories about how we restored the exterior and interiors based on academic research.

Our historic collection of original artefacts and archives is now our focus as we go for Museum Accreditation status, so look out for another event for a chance to look at some rarely seen archival material. We finished in the Stowe House Museum, based in the old wine cellars beneath the Marble Saloon, which also showcases some of our collection.

A reminder to all Stowe Group parents that you, and up to four guests, are able to come round Stowe on an historic State Room tour or explore at your own pace (holiday-time only). All children under 16 are free. Please see our website for opening times - 10.30am to 4.30pm, daily. No need to book in advance.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Stowe Parents/SHPT event.

Anna McEvoy, Co-Director and House Custodian

Events at Stowe House

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



Mother's Day Mystery Book – A Gift with a Difference

For those who love a surprise, our Mother's Day mystery books make a perfect present. Each pre-wrapped book holds a literary adventure waiting to be discovered, with small clues to guide your choice. Drop into our Visitor Centre between 10.30am-4.30pm (accessible via the courtyard next to the South Front Steps or from the glass door on Plug Street) and purchase in advance of the big day. All proceeds from second-hand book donations go towards the ongoing care of Stowe House.



BATH BOMB WORKSHOP

Join us for a fun and creative workshop where you and your little ones can make beautiful, handmade bath bombs – perfect for a mothers Day Gift



Mother's Day Bath Bomb Workshop

Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 March 10.30-11.30am and 2-3pm

This Mother's Day, why not treat the special lady in your life with a truly personal gift? Join us for a fun and creative workshop where you and your little ones can make beautiful, handmade bath bombs - perfect for gifting.

Each child will create up to two bath bombs, write a secret message to hide inside, and package them in a charming hessian bag with a ribbon and tag.

They will also have the chance to craft a lovely handmade card to complete the gift. It is a wonderful way for parents, guardians, and loved ones to help their children create a thoughtful, unique present for someone special.

Booking is essential.

Free activity, normal admission applies.

STOWE HOUSE

Easter FREE FUN

5-21 April 10.30AM-4.30PM
Kids go FREE with a paying adult

Lost Treasures of Stowe Trail 12+
Animals Adventure Trail 4+
Special Easter weekend crafts

Animal Adventures Easter Trail

Saturday 5 to Monday 21 April, 10.30am-4.30pm

Join us for an Animal Adventure this Easter at Stowe House. Explore the grand halls, uncover hidden animal guardians, and crack the code as you follow our trail. From sneaky snakes in the Egyptian Hall to racing legends like Shergar, discover the animals that have been part of Stowe's fascinating history. Complete the trail, unjumble the letters, and claim your prize at the finish line!

The trail and child admission (Under 16s) are free with a paying adult.

Lost Treasures of Stowe Easter trail

Saturday 5 to Monday 21 April, 10.30am-4.30pm

Step into the past and embark on an exciting quest through history with our newly updated Lost Treasures of Stowe House Trail! Level up on this 12+ activity where you can work as a team to follow hidden clues, crack secret codes, and uncover forgotten stories as you explore the rooms of this magnificent house. Piece together the puzzle, solve the mystery, and track down Stowe's long-lost treasures - a prize awaits those who complete the adventure!

The trail and child admission (Under 16s) are free with a paying adult.

Easter Weekend Crafts

Friday 18 to Monday 21 April, 10.30am-4.30pm

Celebrate the hullabaloo of Easter weekend with family fun at Stowe House! As you arrive, stop by our craft gazebo in the courtyard, where our friendly team will be running a variety of free, hands-on activities for children. From crown-making and playful masks to creative Easter-themed crafts, there is something fun for everyone to enjoy.

Events at Stowe House

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



SECRETS OF STOWE TOURS

Secrets of Stowe Tour

Sunday 6 April 6pm, Monday 14 April 11am.

With only a limited number of tickets remaining, be quick to book a space on our behind-the-scenes tour. A highlight for visitors will include seeing the latest addition to the Gothic Library - the Soane table - an original piece of Stowe furniture that has now returned thanks to a generous donation by the George Clarke Foundation.

Book your **tickets here**. Adult £12, Under 16s £6.



Stowe Tots

Mondays: 31 March, 28 April, 19 May, 30 June. 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 & one Adult, £5.



Rooftop tours Spring

1, 5, 18 April. 6pm

Rooftop Tour

Tuesday 1, Saturday 5, Friday 18 April, 6pm

Enjoy the chance to climb the noble cantilevered stone staircase to admire the magnificent view from the roof and look over the world-famous Gardens; this truly is 'the finest view in England'.

Booking is essential. £15



Lino Print Workshop

Saturday 2 August, 10am-4pm.

Make the most of the Summer views and create your own multi-layered Summer-inspired lino print in a one-day artist-led workshop with expert printmaker Alexandra Buckle.

In this artist-led workshop, you will create a multi-layered lino print based on images or photographs that inspire you.

Secure your space on the workshop. £80



OPEN AIR CINEMA AT STOWE HOUSE

EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF CINEMA UNDER THE STARS THIS SUMMER

**BRIDGET JONES DIARY • THE GOONIES
DIRTY DANCING**

TUESDAY 22 - THURSDAY 24 JULY



**LIMITED AVAILABILITY • BOOK NOW FROM
WWW.ADVENTURECINEMA.CO.UK**

We are excited to share that the UK's number 1 outdoor cinema, Adventure Cinema, will be returning to Stowe House this Summer! They will be screening three classic films over a three-day period during the Summer holidays:

Tuesday, 22nd July 2025 - Bridget Jones Diary

Wednesday, 23rd July 2025 - The Goonies

Thursday, 24th July 2025 - Dirty Dancing

There will be food vans available on the night, however you are more than welcome to bring a picnic with you. Please note, there is no glass permitted, only plastic.



Stars at Stowe

Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th October
6.00-8.00pm

Join us and UK Astronomy for a unique opportunity to learn all about our solar system, its constellations and experience the sky above Stowe, like never before!

For tickets and further information:
www.stowehouse.org

Stars at Stowe Stargazing

Tuesday 28 & Wednesday 29 October, 6pm

The early bird catches the worm - tickets have gone on sale for our popular sell-out stargazing evenings in October Half Term.

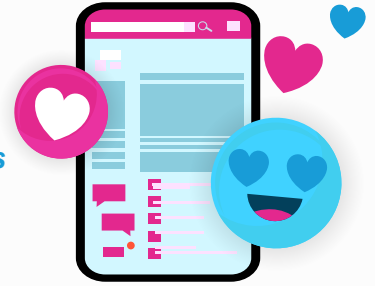
Booking essential. £18 Adult, £12 Child

SAFEGUARDING

24 APPS PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

This list is not exhaustive, and will be updated each year to reflect new risks and dangers

THESE APPS CAN EASILY BE USED AS GROOMING TOOLS BY ONLINE PREDATORS LOOKING TO MEET UP & SEXUALLY ABUSE CHILDREN. (UPDATED 2021)



FACEBOOK



FACEBOOK allows you to connect with others and share comments, photos and videos. You can add friends, write on people's pages and posts, join groups and play games.

SNAPCHAT



SNAPCHAT Is one of the most popular apps in recent years. Whilst the app promises that photo's, videos and stories disappear, others can take screenshots of private photo's.

INSTAGRAM



INSTAGRAM Kids are creating fake accounts to hide content from their parents, according to police. Messages are also deleted once a user leaves a conversation.

WHATSAPP



WHATSAPP allows you to send messages, images and videos in 121 and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.

KIDSCHAT



KIDSCHAT.NET is a free online messaging app for children. You can talk to people you don't know on public forums and via private message. You can access the site as a guest.

SKYPE



SKYPE is a platform and app that lets you make audio and video calls to other people around the world. You can also send instant messages.

WHISPER



WHISPER is an anonymous social media app that promotes sharing personal secrets with strangers, (new people). It reveals a users location so people can meet up

CALCULATOR %



CALCULATOR % is only one of SEVERAL social media apps disguised as a calculator, the app is actually a secret photo vault to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.

HOT ON NOT



HOT ON NOT Strangers rate a user's 'attractiveness' with the aim of real-world meet ups in your local area.

ASK.FM



ASK.FM An app where users can anonymously ask questions and receive answers. The app has been featured in a number of cyber bullying cases.

YUBO



YUBO Similar to Tinder, the app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other.

KIK MESSAGING Kik



KIK MESSAGING Kik is a messaging app that allows content normally filtered on a home computer.

BURN BOOK



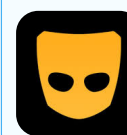
BURN BOOK Anonymous rumours can be posted about people through audio messages, texts and photos.

WISHBONE



WISHBONE This app allows users to compare kids and rate them on a scale.

GRINDR



GRINDR Is a dating app geared towards gay, bisexual and transgender people. The app allows people to chat, share and meet up in person based on a GPSS location.

SKOUT



SKOUT is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

MEET ME



MEET ME Is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. The app encourages people to meet in person.

TIK TOK



TIK TOK Is one of the most popular apps in recent years used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls users are vulnerable to explicit material.

TELLOYMN



TELLOYMN anonymous messenger app. It calls itself "the most honest place on the internet." Age controls are inconsistent and sexual explicit material can be found.

Zoomerang



Zoomerang Is a popular app that looks like a harmless messaging app however it allows private anonymous messaging and is location enabled.

BUMBLE



BUMBLE is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts

FACEBOOK MESSENGER



FACEBOOK MESSENGER Is one of the most popular message apps in the world. It has already heavily been used by predators and the end-to end encryption will make it even more unsafe.

BADOO



BADOO is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

OMEGLE



OMEGLE is a video chat website where users are matched randomly with strangers.



February Change Maker of the Month (CMOM)

We are delighted to announce our February Change Makers of the Month.

Stowe Teaching - Lorraine Campbell, Teacher of Geography received the award for her dedication to Stowe and for always putting the pupils first.

Stowe Support Services - Millie Smith, Maintenance Technician received an incredible five nominations for her help during the cross-country competition.

Swanbourne House - Eleanor Collins, School Administrator was awarded Change Maker of the Month, for all her hard work and flexibility especially for adapting resources for pupils.

Winchester House - Natalie Wilson, Assistant Head of Learning and Development was awarded for her phenomenal work preparing pupils for scholarship assessments, overseeing arrangements for various trips, helping wherever needed and covering for absent colleagues.



Old Swanbournians

On Wednesday 19 March, Swanbourne House were thrilled to welcome back some of our Old Swanbournians, now at Stowe, to share their experiences of Senior School boarding life with our Year 8 Boarders.

Our Swanbournians had some fantastic questions - from prep routines to Boarding House life, food, activities and sport. A huge thank you to the Stoics for their visit and invaluable insights!



Ben Duckett Scores a Record!

Old Stoic Ben Duckett (Grafton 13) made history in February with a brilliant innings in the ICC Champions Trophy, scoring 165 runs off 143 balls against Australia. This was the highest individual score ever in the tournament's history!

STOWE RACING



Cheltenham Preview Evening

Stowe Racing, the Old Stoic Society and Stowe Parents' Association combined to hold the ever-popular annual Cheltenham Festival preview on Thursday 6 March.

50 Old Stoics, current and former parents, and friends of Stowe enjoyed catching up over drinks and canapés, followed by an in-depth discussion of the main races at Cheltenham. As manager of the Stowe Racing syndicates, I welcomed everyone; I am hoping that there could be a Stowe runner for the panel to discuss at future Festival previews!

Given the drama and unpredictability of some of the results from the Festival, it was safe to say Golden Ace, the 25/1 winner of the Champion Hurdle, was not on the lips of any of the panellists. However, our panel did ensure that our audience left with a winner in Jango Baie (Arkle Chase at 7/1) and Happygolucky (Fourth in the Ultima Chase at 28/1) and Music Drive (Fourth in the Hunter Chase at 33/1) for the each-way punters.

Our sincere thanks to our Chair, former Sky Sports Racing Presenter Robert Cooper (Cobham 68), plus renowned Broadcaster Rupert Bell (Cobham 77), trainers Alex Hales (Chandos 92) and Nigel Hawke (current parent) and jockey, Tabitha Worsley. A big thank you to the Old Stoic Society for their help putting this evening together.

Keep an eye out on the Old Stoic Society website and the Stowe Racing's social media pages for upcoming events, as we will be organising more later this year, and all are welcome!

Henry Kimbell (Chandos 04)



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