



weekly news

Stagslink



From the Head Teacher

Dear Parents/Carers

Last week we were delighted to celebrate Sports Relief, admirably led by Miss Rose. It was wonderful to see so many students and staff get involved with raising awareness of fitness, culminating in the Sports Relief mile which included the whole school on Friday. A fantastic £1,500 was raised for Sports Relief 2018.



Thank you to the PTA team for once again arranging a hugely enjoyable quiz last Friday. The school was presented with a cheque for £15,000 on behalf of the PTA and all parents who contribute to the school fund. I am delighted to confirm that the Dance Studio is now officially 'paid for'. It was wonderful to see so many students participate in the evening too, with our senior leaders keeping accurate scores throughout. Congratulations to Amelie Healey, Tamsin Curtis, Sophia Lynch and Isabella Hammond who won the student quiz and also were on hand to help their parents who won overall! My thanks go to the PTA

committee with Helen Buck at the helm and the superb quiz master Gary Buck who provided great fun and entertainment for all.

Congratulations on the success of 11 enthusiastic Year 9 students who have now successfully completed the Carbon Capture and Storage project and each gained a Bronze CREST Award. Thanks go to Mrs Harper, senior technician, for her technical support and Mr Markou who assessed the students' project reports.



Congratulations also to the Year 8 students who attended the RAF100 Workshop in conjunction with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on Tuesday 27 March. Two girls deserve special mention, Ryen Gorgulu-Canning who won the prize for the *Most Accurate Aircraft* in the RAF Glider Challenge and Georgia Pritchard who won the *Best Flying Display* certificate. Awards were presented by Squadron Leader Catherine Hall and Joanna Horton, Member Operations Director from the Institution.

Congratulations also to the huge number of musicians and singers, admirably led by Mrs Warren and Ms Glover and supported by the peripatetic music teachers who ensured a really enjoyable and high quality spring concert earlier this week. We were again delighted to welcome children from Heathlands School who performed so well.

Year 11 students received a final instalment of revision guidance this week from an external consultant, Tim Foot. This should ensure that all students have a targeted revision programme as they prepare for the final stages of studies.

This week is Autism awareness week and Ms Fletcher has been providing excellent guidance to all staff about raising awareness of autism, with activities undertaken in form tutor periods to further raise awareness for all.

Please note that following the Easter break, the school gates will be closed at 3.00pm, with the exception of access to buses. Although we have large car park facilities, we are unable to provide spaces to every parent and there has been a significant rise in dangerous driving, which students have raised as a concern at recent Student Voice meetings. The gates will re-open once the buses have left the site at approximately 3.35pm.

We wish all participating in the ski and French trips an enjoyable and safe holiday.

Thank you for your continued support – wishing you a very happy and restful Easter break

Margaret Chapman

29 March 2018

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

Thursday 29 March
School closes at 3.20

*****End of Term*****

Friday 30 March
to Saturday 7 April—Ski Trip
to Austria

Tuesday 3 April
Year 12 Engineering trip
All Day

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 10 April
to Saturday 14 April - Gold
DoE Practice Expedition

Thursday 12 April
to Sunday 15th April—Opale
Parle 2018 Trip

Monday 16 April
School begins 8.35am

GCSE French and Spanish
orals begin

Tuesday 17 April
Student Voice, 1.05pm

Thursday 19 April
GCSE Dance practical

Monday 23 April
Year 7 Parents Evening,
4.30pm, Main Hall

A Level MFL orals begin

Tuesday 24 April
Year 12—Engineering Ed
Scheme Celebration

**Please park in the tennis
courts through the blue
gates for all evening
events**

School Gateway — Enhancements coming shortly

School Gateway already provides a convenient way of paying for school dinners and trips. At the start of the summer term, new functionality will be available which will provide up to date information about:

- Rewards and consequences
- Attendance data
- Student timetables
- Student reports

There will also be a basic eligibility questionnaire to see if you qualify for free school meals which is completely confidential.

More information will follow in the next edition of STAGSlink.

The School Gateway app is available for download at the App Store or on Google Play.

Also via your browser at <https://login.schoolgateway.com/>



Year 12 Film Students/Year 13 Media Students Go to See 'Ready Player One'



On the evening of 29th March, Year 12 Film students and Year 13 media students went to see 'Ready Player One' at the IMAX. The postmodern epic includes a multitude of 80s and 90s popular culture references and the 3D visuals were extremely impressive and immersive.

Many thanks to Mr Kershaw for organising, in addition to Mrs Pipes and Miss Keogh for accompanying.

Word of the Week

Every week we promote the use of an unusual word across the school.



This week's word is:

Cajole

Definition



To persuade with flattery; coax

Try to use it as much as possible this week!

English Department

7C raise £88 for Hertfordshire Air Ambulance Charity



Keira Flavin, 7C

During the week beginning the 5th March, 7C sold Mother's Day cards and handmade gifts including bath bombs, made by Isabel Mason; beautiful smelly petal bags, by Louisa Radelat; pom poms, by Celestine Law; as well as many other generous contributions from the class. The entire form took part in making and selling these cards and gifts, meaning it resulted in 7C flying up in house points.

Overall, we raised just over £88.00, for the Herts Air Ambulance Charity. This was a really good cause as this organisation, unfortunately is not funded by the NHS, so runs on charity supporters alone! Without charity funds like ours, many lives would have been lost; so, thank you to all the people who supported our stall, we hope all the mothers at the receiving end enjoyed the gifts!

STAGS Rotary Interact Club Admire Deep Sea of Purple Crocus for 'Purple for Polio Campaign'



STAGS Rotary club are delighted to see the results of all their hard work have reaped rich rewards in the form of a sea of purple crocus appearing on the front lawn. In November last year they planted hundreds of purple crocus bulbs to raise awareness of the 'Purple for Polio Campaign'. For over thirty years the Rotary organisation has been committed to fighting to eradicate polio across the world. The PurpleForPolio Campaign was designed to engage students with local communities to raise awareness of the vital funding needed to wipe polio off the face of the earth. Last year STAGS raised an amazing amount of £705 for vaccines to help the cause. This was a magnificent contribution to this worldwide campaign! Many thanks to the Rotary Club for providing the bulbs and gardening tools. We also would like to thank Youth Mentors Lavinia Hale, Ken Scot and Maths Teacher, Mrs Rock who continues to inspire and motivate STAGS Rotary club members.

<https://www.rotarygbi.org/>

<https://www.rotarygbi.org/what-we-do/purple4polio>



SPORT RELIEF 2018

The week beginning 19th March, saw STAGS take on Sport Relief week. Students and staff took on numerous physical activities during break, lunch times and after school. Monday was full of numerous activities: 'DOLs in Goals'; guess how many table tennis balls in a bag; merchandise on sale; Wheatley's Workout; Year 8 benchball tournament; Staff Volleyball. These activities kick-started our week and led to Mrs Chapman stepping up for students to take penalty kicks against her.



With momentum building, our Sixth Form Sports Leaders led an activity fair, staff participated in badminton, basketball and rounders matches and students tested their accuracy with the netball shooting and crazy catch competitions. The Year 7 benchball tournament was a hit and had over 50 students playing during their lunch time. Come Thursday, many of the student body had joined in to at least one activity, if not more and merchandise was everywhere!

Friday was the big day, the finale, the pinnacle of the week. With the balloons up and cakes rolling in from Year 8 bakers, all that was left to do was set up the course for the mile later in the afternoon. At break time, the fabulous Year 8 Charity Captains sold over one thousand cupcakes, cookies and the all time favourite - chocolate cornflake cakes!



The enthusiasm and spirit from all was tremendous and set us up perfectly for a terrific afternoon.



After lunchtime, students went to their forms, donated their £1 for wearing their PE Kit all day and then set off for the start line to complete the mile in year groups. The excitement at the start line provided a lovely environment and Miss Rose took the opportunity to thank all students for their support and participation throughout the week. Students and staff alike completed the mile and thoroughly enjoyed the energetic run across the finish line in the quad area. The PowerPoint presentation delivered by each form's Sports Captains gave students an insight into what their efforts over the week will mean for young and old people around the world.

Overall, it was a fantastic week where students and staff worked together to plan, deliver and participate in numerous activities to raise money for Sport Relief 2018. It is a pleasure to announce that we raised a total of £1500! I would like to pass my huge thanks to the planning team and everyone who got involved. Congratulations to Jasmine Marsh in 8J who was awarded 'Star Baker' and to the following girls who won 'Star Baker in their forms: Olivia Watson, Eva Lau-Johnston and Sara Laitner (8A); Varisha Haque (8B); Cynthia Bottomley (8C); Jess Davies (8F); Olivia Ingham (8H); Humeria Alam (8J); Shayna Mistry (8S).



Miss Rose
Teacher of Physical Education
Director of Learning for Year 8

Year 12 and 13 Students Inspired By Eminent Psychologist, Professor Zimbardo



On Wednesday 21st March, 36 Year 12 and 13 students took to the train from St Albans City Station to the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster to see one of the most eminent Psychologists of our time, Professor Philip Zimbardo. This psychology conference had been long awaited by the students and teachers alike and the day did not disappoint.

Upon our arrival, we were ushered into the majestic venue joining 1000s of other psychology students from across the country. The programme started with a rather humorous consideration of “Who am I?” and “the phantom limb” by Dr Phil Banyard and was followed by Cara Flanagan the author of many of our textbooks with a consideration of the “Nature Nurture Debate” an intrinsic part of the psychology A’ Level course. After a small break, we were treated to some very up to date and fascinating knowledge on Neuroscience from Professor Sergio della Sala from Edinburgh University who relayed facts such as how the brain is very plastic and can readily adapt as well as trick us very convincingly.



Following lunch at one of the nearby coffee shops, which were a little bit more expensive than the Sixth Form Common Room, we returned to see Professor Zimbardo poised to speak. He took us on an enthralling journey from his early work namely the Stanford Prison experiment - one of our key studies which examines what encourages people to be evil - to understanding how people can combat shyness to his recent venture the Heroic Imagination Project which is focussed on eliminating the Bystander Effect and finding the hero in all of us!

Professor Zimbardo was accompanied by his wife Christina Maslach who lectured on understanding “BurnOut” within the context of employment. The couple had travelled to the UK from California and whilst here celebrated 45 years of marriage and in the case of the Professor his 85th birthday. It was great privilege to hear him speak on so many life changing topics and it is an experience none of us will forget.

Karan Birkett,
Curriculum Leader of Psychology

Stags Team 'Unity' are Crowned 'Overall Winners' at the Dragon's Apprentice Final.



Congratulations to Dragon's Apprentice Team 'Accord', who have done incredibly well to win the 'Most Profit Made' having raised over £4,400 at the final which was held at the University of Hertfordshire on 19 March. The annual Dragon's Apprentice Challenge is made up of teams from local schools, linked to a business mentor. Each team employs an initial £100 seed capital and aims to turn this into £1000 in four months for a local charity. Team Accord's funds will go to support the Citizen Advice St Albans District. Our thanks goes to the business mentor Johnny Shepherd from The Pudding Stop for all his support.

Our second group Team 'Unity' who also reached the final five teams and had to present to a large audience including the Super Dragon's did exceptionally well not only taking the prize for 'Best use of Social Media' and despite tough competition took the trophy for overall challenge winners. Team Unity raised a total of £2,658.96 for the amazing charity 'Small Acts of Kindness' and a big thank you to their mentor Peter Hubble from Digital Marketing Company 'FL1 Digital' for all his support and guidance.

Mrs Glanvill, Curriculum Leader of Business & Economic

Year 8 Netball



Last week saw the Netball season draw to a close at the District tournament. We entered two teams and despite it being incredibly cold, all girls played brilliantly.

The B Team won two games and lost one and narrowly missed out on progressing to the semi-final due to goal difference. The A team won three games and lost one, progressing to the semi-final where they faced Beaumont. Both teams were strong in attack and defence but unfortunately Beaumont's score crept away from us.

Congratulations to: Evie Moule, Sofia Gallen, Orla Foley, Millie Drury, Isabella Matthews, Hannah Simpson, Cora Hudson, Orla Carrington, Antonia Jubb, Sara Laitner, Frankie Paganuzzi, Eve Gamsby, Tara Doran, Ebony Spinks and Amber Lacon.

Heather Savage, PE Teacher



St Albans Girls' School Specialist Business and Enterprise Academy

INCLUSION TEACHING ASSISTANT

Full time, permanent post

36.2 hours per week (term time + one week)

Actual salary: £14,808-£16,189 dependent upon experience

(8.20am – 4.00pm 4 days p/w; 8:20am-4:30pm 1 day)

This engaging role involves supporting teachers in removing the barriers to learning for students with additional needs. The successful candidate will work with individuals and small groups of students in order to develop an understanding of their specific needs and enable progress in their learning.

Applicants require a good level of competence in basic skills (Maths and English GCSE, Grade C and above or equivalent).

St Albans Girls' School, age range 11 – 18 is an Outstanding school (Ofsted February 2013) with over 1200 students. We are a highly regarded, oversubscribed and friendly all-ability school. GCSE results place us in the top 100 secondary schools in the country and the top 2% nationally for student progress.

The school has an excellent reputation within the local community with strong support from Governors, Parents, Students and a dedicated and highly motivated team of staff.

There is a Health Care cash plan available to all staff.

For further details and an application form please visit www.stags.herts.sch.uk or www.teachinherts.com

Completed application forms and a covering letter should be sent to:
personnel@stags.herts.sch.uk

Closing date for receipt of applications: Monday 16th April 2018 at 9.00am
Interviews to take place: Wednesday 18th April 2018

We welcome visits from potential applicants.
Mrs Liz Kilborn – HR & Personnel Manager on 01727 853134.

St Albans Girls' School is an Academy Trust. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.