



weekly news

Stagslink

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Provider

From the Head Teacher

Dear Parents/Carers

JSol visited us in school on Wednesday sharing his music and delivering a clear message about all aspects of anti-bullying. Students in Years 7 and 8 were able to ask questions about JSol's singing and dancing career and what inspired him as well as listening to his very clear messages of respect for all and that 'dreams can come true'. JSol tweeted 'how lovely the staff and pupils are at your school' and they have been completely inundated with positive feedback from your pupils (and even parents) on social media which is lovely to read. My thanks to Mrs Wheatley who organised the event and to all who supported the lunch time activity.

In November, 20 of our A level mathematicians took part in the UK senior maths challenge, with 80% were awarded a certificate. This is significantly higher than the national figure of 60%. A special mention must be given to Nikita Kamath in Year 13 who qualified for the Senior Kangaroo competition as well participating in the British Mathematical Olympiad competition last Friday. The Olympiad consists of 6 very challenging problems to be solved in 3½ hours. Nikita very much enjoys these enrichment activities and we await the results.



Congratulations to Edie Kenningham Smith, Lara Hall and Miss McHugh, whom attended the awards celebration evening yesterday at Churchill College Cambridge. Lara and Miss McHugh are now official World Class School Quality Mark assessors and Edie gained special recognition as a World Class School Essayist.

Thank you to you all for the superb array of donations for the annual winter fair. The House captains have worked tirelessly, between examinations, to ensure that the Once Upon a Time theme of the PTA Winter Fair, on **Sunday 10th December 12 – 3pm** is as sparkling as ever. This is a great opportunity for students to all participate in their Houses and is a great event, enjoyed by all.

You will have received the Fair brochure and raffle tickets for this event and there are as usual, wonderful prizes again this year thanks to the great work of the PTA who bring this wonderful event together and, with your support and that of our students, ensure that it is a roaring success. The stalls and activities are designed by each of the Houses with themes that inspire and challenge their creativity.

Mr Kershaw and I have the unenviable task of choosing the best, so why not come and join us to assist with this task! There are fabulous prizes and stalls, all organised by the PTA. All money raised by the students goes to the House charities that the students have chosen and the PTA fund-raising towards the next school project, which is to refurbish the school Food rooms to bring up to 21st Century catering standards.

We have our wonderful Christmas lunch festivities on Wednesday 13th December with over 250 tickets already sold and Christmas jumper/accessory day too — no contribution requested due to the superb fundraising already this term.

A reminder that next Friday, 15th December is the Carol Service – please note the arrangements for the day.

I look forward to glorious weather as we walk to the Abbey and I am grateful to Mr Zarrouq and the colleagues who remain in school with the focus of Diversity.

I look forward to seeing you at the Christmas fair on Sunday 10 December.

Margaret Chapman

8 December

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

Wednesday 13 December Christmas Lunch

Christmas
Jumper /
Accessory Day



GCSE Certificate Evening -
7.00pm, Main Hall

Thursday 14 December
Senior Citizens' Xmas Party
- 2.30pm, Main Hall

Friday 15 December
Carol Service at the Abbey -
2.15pm

Diversity Event - 2.15pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 18 December
Engineering Education
Scheme Workshop, Brunel
University to Tuesday 19
December

Tuesday 19 December
A Level Presentation
Evening - 7.00pm, Main
Hall

Wednesday 20 December
Non Uniform Day

Term Ends at 1.05pm

**Wednesday 3 January
2018**

Term Begins at 8.35am

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

CAROL SERVICE 2017

Friday 15 December is the date of our annual Carol Service in the Abbey. The Carol Service will take place in the afternoon and it is expected to finish at about 3.20pm. All students will be dismissed from the Abbey after the service.

Many girls come to school on school buses and arrangements have been made for these buses as follows:

All girls are reminded that they should make their way **quickly** to the various pick-up points and should aim to arrive by 3.30pm to enable coaches to leave by 3.40pm. The coaches have timetables to adhere to and cannot wait for latecomers.

- **Greenwood/Borehamwood Parents' Association**
- coach will leave from Westminster Lodge
- **Welham Travel coaches to Wheathampstead**
- coach will leave from Westminster Lodge
- Girls who use the **84** or **84A** bus will need to pick this up in the town centre

The Carol Service is an important school occasion and all girls are expected to attend. However, I do appreciate that there are a few families who would prefer their daughters/sons not to attend for religious reasons.

Year 7 form teachers have asked their students to obtain a letter from their parents/carers if the family wish their daughter to be excused.

In any other year group, if parents/carers have previously written to the school asking for their daughter/son to be excused there is no need to write in again.

For those girls who are excused, there will be a diversity event in school for the afternoon with alternative activities. These girls will be dismissed from school at 3.20pm.

It is not possible for us to make additional transport arrangements at that time for this small group of students and parents are asked to take responsibility for their daughters from 3.20pm.

Unfortunately, owing to space we cannot invite **ALL** parents to the service. The only parents invited will be those whose daughters are in the choir or who are reading at the service.

PLEASE ENSURE CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM IS WORN AND STUDENTS HAVE AN OUTDOOR COAT WITH THEM.

Mr Phil O'Neill
Business Manager

STAGS Year 10 Netball Team Play Against St George's & Win!



On 30th November, we played St George's netball team successfully winning 17-5. Grace Moule and Jess Simpson were accurate and composed in their shooting while Maddy Stanley, Lottie Peterkin and Anna Lofts worked together to progress the ball up the court and good interceptions preventing the ball from entering St George's shooting circle were made by myself and Pia Ortone.

In the first quarter, STAGS got off to a great start leading 5-2. We kept up our lead in the second quarter scoring three more goals and only conceding two. By the end of the first half, the score was 8-4 to us.

Once again, STAGS' skilful shooting and impressive movement around the court meant that we were still ahead of St George's with a score of 11-5. After realising that in order to further our lead ahead of St George's ball placement needed to be even more accurate, the team improved even more so than before. Solid defensive displays were shown by the whole team and we showed good composure in possession of the ball resulting in an impressive win of 17-5.

Player of the match went to Maddy Stanley for her excellent movement around the court and many good interceptions.

Many thanks to our coach Miss Rose, who drove us there and umpired the match, whilst also coaching us.

Rosanna Milner, 10B

STAGS Year 8 Netball B Team Play Against St George's

On the 30th of November, the Year 8 'B' Team travelled to Harpenden to play against St George's. In the first quarter, we were all playing our most familiar positions and therefore we started winning with a score of 3-1. We were playing outside on a very dark and cold day but we persevered and did not let anything stop us from playing our best!

By half time, St George's had upped their game which resulted in the score being 3-3. We then moved indoors for the second half while swapping on-and-off with the Year 10s. Miss Savage gave us a tactics talk which really boosted our confidence, we all thoroughly enjoyed the third quarter while coming out with a score of 6-3. Ebony Spinks and Tara Doran were the shooters who really worked together to get the ball through the hoop! Well done girls.

The end quarter flew in a flash. However, we stayed determined and we were crowned the winners with a score of 7-3! Miss Savage and Miss Rose were very proud. Player of the match was awarded to Sara Laitner (voted by St George's players). Congratulations to Year 8!

Sara Laitner, 8A

Word of the Week

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

This week's word is:

Rapprochement

Definition:

an establishment or reestablishment of harmonious relations

Try to use it as much as possible this week!

English Department



Year 10 STAGS Dancers Inspired by Remarkable to Visit Sadler's Wells



On Tuesday 21st November, 22 privileged dance students visited Sadler's Wells to see the Rambert's production of A-Linha-Curva and other dance works. Year 10 student Annalia Sparks gives us her account of a fabulous evening of inspirational dance.

The evening opened with an A-Linha-Curva dance, a high energy samba fuelled dance inspired by the Brazilian culture of carnivals. All GCSE students have studied A-Linha-Curva' in class, and I, for one, was mesmerised to watch the performance live. It was so different compared to the video (which does not do it justice.)

We also watched a performance of a 'Symbiosis' dance plus a new theatre creation of a 'Goat' dance. In 'Symbiosis' the professional dancers translated their theme using very intense and powerful dance movements. Whereas 'Goat' was darkly funny and deeply moving. The 'Goat' dance expresses both the pleasure and pain of performing really well.

I thoroughly enjoyed all the dance pieces but I think if I had to choose my favourite it would be A-Linha-Curva. It was the best piece for me because it was so energetic and looked just like a fiesta. It just must be so remarkable to learn and perform this dance as it looks so much fun.

Thank you to Mrs Wheatley for organising the trip. Everyone really enjoyed it and we even made it onto the Rambert's Instagram Account! In fact, we could not believe it when half way through an interval we saw a picture of us pop up in the lobby. To sum up it was a fantastic trip!

Annalia Sparks 10C

To watch these dances on u- tube please visit the following links:

<http://www.rambert.org.uk/performances/a-linha-curva/>

https://www.ted.com/talks/pilobolus_perform_symbiosis

For the Goat performance see : <http://www.rambert.org.uk/performances/new-ben-duke/>

Year 7 Pupils Zumba for Lepra



Year 7 students have been fundraising throughout November to raise money for Lepra, an international charity that is working to beat leprosy. So far, four Year 7 forms have had a Zumba session delivered on behalf of Lepra, with the remaining forms having their Zumba session on Monday 11th December.

Please do encourage your daughter to bring in her sponsorship envelope on Monday 11th December if she has not done so already. Last year, the current Year 8s raised over £3,000 for Lepra and we would love to beat this figure this year! Thank you for all your kind support.

Miss Whybrow, Director of Learning Year 7

For more information, please visit <https://www.lepra.org.uk/>

STAGS SEN Village 2017 Hailed a Great Success



On Wednesday 15th November, St Albans Girls' School was delighted to host the 4th DSPL7 Special Educational Needs (SEN) Information Village held in the main hall. An impressive total of over 43 exhibitors gave up their own time to meet with parents, carers, and connect with each other. Throughout the morning a positive buzz began to develop around the room as enthusiastic visitors met up with a wide variety of exhibitors and engaged in valuable discussions. These keen representatives from organisations included, Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database (HAND), Herts Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI), Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS), The Early Years Action Group (EYAG), Oaklands College, The Speech language and communication team, Add-vance Training, Families in Focus, SPACE support group, PHAB St Albans, Special Olympics St Albans, Phoenix and also Playskills.

Main organiser at STAGS, Mrs Nichols, said "It was lovely to see so many representatives helping and supporting our young people in one place. Bringing everyone together made the event very special indeed. She went on to say, we hope this collaborative event will continue in the future allowing us to achieve the very best possible outcomes for the SEN students in our area".

100% of the visitors rated the event excellent / good.

Here are some examples of the positive feedback received:

- * "Thank you, I found out so much information"
- * "All fab, friendly, approachable and knowledgeable",
- * "Very useful, exceeded expectations, thank you"

STAGS Students Star in Glittering Performance of Aladdin at Local Alban Arena



Congratulations to talented students Year 8, Lilly Golding, Year 9 student, Anna McKee and Year 10, Daisy Herron who flew through their auditions in a bid to appear in the local performance of Aladdin. All three are thrilled to have been selected to sing and dance in the pantomime. They will be performing alongside famous EastEnders actor Karl Howman, Phil Gallagher - CBeebies Minster Maker and of course Bob Golding (Local Legend). The glittering show runs from 7th December until 7th January 2018. STAGS community wishes the girls every success in their festive performances.

To purchase tickets contact the box office at: alban-arena.co.uk / Call 01727 844488

STAGS Rotary Interact Club Receives Highest Award for Commitment.



STAGS are proud to announce our Rotary Interact Club has received the highest Award within Rotary International, the Presidential Citation Award. The award was presented to Year 11 student Aaliyah Jalil STAGS club President, by Roger Phillips the Youth Chair of the local Rotary District for Beds, Bucks and Herts. This award was given for the club's commitment to making a difference to the lives of those in both their community and also around the world. Youth mentor Lavinia Hale looks back over the last 12 months and explains how STAGS achieved this prestigious award:

In order to be eligible for a Presidential Citation five categories had to be successfully completed within the year, 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. STAGS exceeded those requirements by carrying out key activities to promote international understanding of fighting disease and supporting education both at home and abroad. Here are some of the main highlights of the year:

Supporting Education Internationally

Firstly they successfully organised and promoted a Disco for Year 7 students to raise funds for the Red Rubber Ball charity. They raised an amazing £800 which supports a young boy in a Kenyan School. STAGS are proud to be financially supporting Phelix who is now in his second year. STAGS Rotary Club also collected funds to enable them to send school boxes to UNICEF for distribution in Africa.

Raising Awareness of the Fight to Beat Global Disease

One of the club's biggest Rotary projects in the last 12 months was to encourage the whole school to engage with the 'End Polio Now' campaign. Purple crocuses were planted on the front lawn at the school and when they flowered in March, this was celebrated by a full week of activities. This included, displaying an actual child's iron lung in the school foyer, assemblies for all year groups, sales of crocus badges, a name the bear competition, a 'wear something purple day' and setting up a stall that served delicious cream teas. All in all these activities raised money to purchase vaccines to help eradicate the world from polio.

Supporting education in the local community

STAGS arranged a talk to inform its Rotary members of the amazing opportunities on offer in the Rotary Exchange Programme which is open to young leaders. Youth mentor Ken Scott was invited to Club to make a lunchtime presentation. In addition, STAGS Rotarians participated in a career day with Year 11 students. Local Rotarians from all three St Albans clubs played the role of employers, by holding formal job interviews and giving valuable feedback to the students to help them develop key employment skills.

To sum up, the last 12 months have provided enjoyment and fun for the Rotary Interactors as well as a fundraising pot of £3,000 + to benefit local charities – Keech Hospice, PHAB, Open Door and the aforementioned International Charities. To receive a Presidential Citation from Rotary International is an accolade and I can confirm it is well deserved by all the members of the STAGS Rotary Interact Club.

STAGS WINTER FAIR RAFFLE

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN SOME AMAZING PRIZES

**2X ED SHEERAN TICKETS
FOR SUMMER 2018**

DONATED BY ANON PARENT



**2 EUROSTAR RETURN TICKETS
TO LILLE, PARIS OR BRUSSELS
AT A DATE OF YOUR CHOICE**

DONATED BY RICHARD DUNNE



40" WIDE SCREEN TV

DONATED BY CHRIS DONNELL



£100 JOHN LEWIS VOUCHER

DONATED BY COLLECT+

OTHER AMAZING PRIZES

CERIMONIA - £130 EQUIV BESPOKE TAILORED TSHIRT

£25 NEW LOOK GIFT VOUCHER

KIDDIES TRYKE BIKE

RIVERFORD ORGANICS VEG BOX!

AND MANY MORE

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS AND APOLOGISE IF WE DID NOT MENTION YOU ALL.

TEAM ACCORD PRESENTS

QUIZ

NIGHT

FRIDAY 15TH DEC 7PM- 10PM

FLEETVILLE

COMMUNITY HALL

(AL14QL)

SNACKS &
DRINKS
AVAILABLE TO
PURCHASE

£8- PIZZA & SNACKS
WILL BE INCLUDED/ £6
WITHOUT PIZZA

There will
be a raffle
and prizes
to win!

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO CASTAD

GCSE English Revision workshops for your child

Our GCSE English workshops are designed to cater for your child's individual needs in an engaging, focused and active learning environment. Experts in English provide additional tuition, supporting with one goal – to help your child get the best possible grade in each of the two exam papers.



These revision workshops will:

- enable your child to feel 'exam ready'
- be delivered by subject experts, following the very latest guidance and advice from AQA
 - provide each participant with exam strategies and guidance on how to succeed in each exam paper
- give your child the opportunity to complete a range of revision activities, addressing the skills needed with immediate feedback

In addition your child will be given:

- targeted revision resources to take away to support their independent study

* Price includes high quality, take away revision resources

To book please email: Training@hertsforlearning.co.uk



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GCSE English Revision workshops for your child

Subject	Date	Timings	Venue	Cost
AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 1: Macbeth	Saturday 17 th February, 2018	9:00am – 12:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 1: Romeo and Juliet	Saturday 17 th February, 2018	1:00pm – 4:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 1: Jekyll and Hyde	Saturday 24 th February, 2018	9:00am – 12:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 1: A Christmas Carol	Saturday 24 th February, 2018	1:00pm – 4:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 2: Cluster 1 – Love & Relationships	Saturday 3 rd March, 2018	9:00am – 12:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Literature Paper 2: Cluster 2 – Conflict	Saturday 3 rd March, 2018	1:00pm – 4:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Language Paper 1	Saturday 10 th March, 2018	9:00am – 12:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Language Paper 2	Saturday 17 th March, 2018	9:00am – 12:00pm	Samuel Ryder	£45
AQA GCSE English Language Papers 1 & 2	Wednesday 4 th April 2018	9:30am – 2:30pm	Stevenage HDC	£85
AQA GCSE English Literature Papers 1 & 2	Thursday 5 th April, 2018	9:30am – 2:30pm	Stevenage HDC	£85
AQA GCSE English Language Papers 1 & 2	Monday 9 th April, 2018	9:30am – 2:30pm	Townsend School, St Albans	£85
AQA GCSE English Literature Papers 1 & 2	Tuesday 10 th April, 2018	9:30am – 2:30pm	Townsend School, St Albans	£85

If you require additional information regarding these workshops, please contact:

Training@hertsforlearning.co.uk or telephone: **01438 845 111**



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St Albans Girls' School

Specialist Business and Enterprise Academy

LEARNING SUPERVISOR

37 hours per week (term time only)

Actual Salary: £14,758 per annum

(8.00am – 4.00pm 4 days p/w; 8:00am-3:30pm 1 day)

We require an individual to provide learner support and supervision to whole classes and groups during short-term absence of the class teacher. This role requires a confident individual with good communication skills along with the ability to manage and maintain discipline with a positive approach. You may also be asked to provide in-class support, assist with administration and exam invigilation.

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: Thursday 14 December 2017, 9:00am

Interviews to take place: Monday 18 December 2017

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.