



Margaret Chapman, Executive Head Teacher

As we conclude the third full week of the term, it has been a great pleasure to see students fully engaged in their learning as we have visited classrooms and witnessed the great wealth of teaching styles across all subjects. Students in Year 7 have received their devices and following consultation last term, now all students across the whole school are benefiting from access to laptops, chromebooks or tablets, which are being used to great effect. It is perhaps one of the greatest and most rapid technological changes within education which was a direct result of COVID and it is wonderful to see not only how enthused students are but how easily teaching has adapted to the access to such a wealth of resources. It will be interesting to note how examination systems will need to adapt in the years to come.

As usual we have received a huge number of enthusiastic applications from students who want to be part of our annual Open Evening, whether as guides or as subject ambassadors - a reminder that school closes at 12.20pm on Thursday 5 October in order to prepare for Open Evening and reopens on Friday 6 October at 10am in time for Period 2. Full details have been shared separately to Stagslink but thank you in advance for your great support.

As we prepare for our annual Careers Fair, if there is anyone who would like to exhibit and share their careers with our students, please do contact Mrs Flint, who leads whole school careers. The event is open to all students across the school and for many years siblings who may not attend STAGS also visit, as we are very fortunate to provide such great career opportunities to extend the minds of our young people and ensure that they consider the great breadth of career options available to them. Please contact Mrs Flint on jft@stags.herts.sch.uk for further details.

SUPPORT TRUST AMBITION GENEROSITY SUCCESS

This weekend marks the culmination of Year 7 transition events. It has been really impressive to see how well our new students have settled into the life of the school, admirably supported by a great team of Year 8 mentors, who have done so well in their support and guidance of Year 7s. We look forward to the Big Sleepover tonight and families joining us all for our now annual picnic tomorrow.

Following extensive auditions, rehearsals are starting for our annual musical. This year 'Elf Jnr' comes to STAGS, which will be performed at the end of the autumn term, in time for the festive season. Mrs Wheatley has shared rehearsal schedules and I know that with such a large and enthused cast already in place, it will be a December spectacular to look forward to! Further information will be released shortly.

Congratulations to all who entered the Maltings Art Competition, for which we have 9 finalists, which is a tremendous achievement. The Awards Evening is next week, which I am sure will be enjoyed by all!

We have had another very positive and exciting week for the PE department. Yesterday, a group of Year 7-10 students ran in the second district cross-country race at Katherine Warington School. All did really well - special congratulations to Bella in Year 8 for placing 3rd overall in the junior race, Lily in Year 9 placing 2nd and Isabelle in Year 10 placing 5th in the intermediate. Congratulations also to Ella in Year 10, who achieved a place in the Hertfordshire Mavericks U17's performance pathway squad in netball.

From the start of the term we encourage students to be involved in a wide variety of activities and leadership roles across the school. From House Captains, and Senior Students in the Sixth Form to form-based Student Leaders including Eco Captains and Form Reps, amongst others, there is a wealth of opportunities in which students can participate and take an active role in the whole school community. I encourage you to talk at home about these opportunities, as well as lunch and after school clubs. [Click here](#) to see the full list of enrichment opportunities available at STAGS on our website page.

House Points are updated for the first time this week and so the House Challenge competition begins once again!

We look forward to receiving Moon rocks in school next week - all students will have a chance to see and marvel at these specimens from Space!

A reminder please, as the summer weather finally seems to have moved on and there is an autumnal feel in the air, all students should be wearing their full school uniform which includes the blazer.

Finally, it is always a great joy when families share the successes of our young people taking part in activities outside of the school. Please do keep this information coming so that we can all celebrate their achievements. As such, our regular Friday celebration lunches will commence next week. Our own joyful news is warmest congratulations to Mrs Watson, Miss Burton and Mrs Fitzgerald, who safely welcomed new babies into their families during the summer. All are doing well!

I look forward to seeing you at next Friday's MacMillan coffee morning, as well as at the Year 7 picnic tomorrow.

With all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Watson', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.



Diary Dates

Saturday 23 September

Year 7 Welcome Picnic, 12-2pm

Tuesday 26 September

Ski Trip Easter Information Evening,
Hall, 6.30pm

Wednesday 27 September

Year 9 information Evening,
Hall, 6pm

Thursday 28 September

Year 10 Work Experience Information
Evening, Online, 6pm

Thursday 5 October

School closes 12.20pm
Open Evening 4-7pm

Friday 6 October

School starts with Period 2 at
10am

Wednesday 11 October

Year 7 Information Evening, Hall, 6pm

Tuesday 17 October

Year 8 Parents' Evening, Online,
4-7.30pm

Wednesday 18 October

Year 13 Information Evening, Hall, 6pm

Thursday 19 October

Parent Voice, Library Resource Centre,
6-7pm

Monday 23 - Friday 27 October

Half Term

Monday 30 October

Online Safety Hub Parent/Carers
Workshop, Online, 6-7pm



Notices

GCSEs Can Be Taken in Own Language

At STAGS, we offer students that are fluent in certain 'home languages' the opportunity to sit a GCSE qualification in this language in summer 2024.

Students must be in Year 9 and above and be confident speaking, listening, reading and writing in their home language.

For further information, details of entry fees and an application form please contact the Exams Office by Friday 29 September 2023: exams@stags.herts.sch.uk

STAGS OPEN EVENING 2023 - Changes to School Opening Times / Bus Services

Please note that school will close at 12:20pm on Thursday 5 October 2023 to allow for preparations for Open Evening, and starts with Period 2 at 10am on Friday 6 October.

BUS SERVICE ON THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER, 2023

The school buses including the 84 bus will collect students at this time, all public buses will retain their usual timetable.

All other students will be expected to make their own way home.

On Friday 6 October 2023, school starts with period 2 at 10:00am.

BUS SERVICE ON FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER, 2023

The Greenwood buses and the E446 will collect students from their usual pick up points one hour later than usual

The 84 bus will collect all students one hour and ten minutes later than usual.

Other students will be expected to make their own arrangements to arrive at school in time for a 10:00am start.

Many thanks in advance for all of your support with our Open Evening event.

St Albans Girls' School



**WE'RE
HIRING!**

EXAM INVIGILATOR

Closing Date: Wednesday 27th September 2023

Required for OCTOBER 2023

For more information and to apply, visit:
stags.herts.sch.uk/workingatstags/currentvacancies

Click [here](#) to visit the STAGS Current Vacancies website page