



## ***Paul Kershaw, Headteacher***

This week marked the culmination of our National Careers Week celebrations and programme with the highly anticipated *Inspirational Women Networking Event*. Thirty remarkable women, each bringing a wealth of professional and life experiences, provided Year 8 and Year 12 students from STAGS and The Adeyfield Academy with invaluable insights into their career journeys. This opportunity allowed students to appreciate the diverse and often non-linear paths that careers can take, reinforcing the importance of seizing every opportunity. (Photos on page 5) Additionally, students explored the connections between classroom learning and workplace skills through career quizzes and discussions during form time. More information on career resources and provision can be found [here](#).

It has also been an amazing week of World Book Day events across the school with some photographs included showing some of the exciting activities that brought the joy of reading to life. Thank you so much to our library team, Ms Darbyshire and Mrs Armstrong for leading on these. Highlights included a visit from author Adam Connors, a series of engaging quizzes with prizes, a 'Who's Reading?' photograph competition, book swapping, and the distribution of World Book Day tokens and raffle prizes. World Book Day is a charity event held annually in the UK and Ireland on the first Thursday in March, providing every child in full time education with a book voucher to encourage a love of reading. First celebrated in the UK in 1998, the event continues to inspire young readers and promote the importance of literacy. (Photos can be found on pages 3 and 4)



This week, *STAGS Dance 2025*, our first ever STAGS Dance show, has been a breathtaking showcase of talent, creativity, and passion. The artistry on display captivated both night's audiences, with each piece offering something unique - from energetic hip-hop routines to emotive contemporary performances. We were really taken on a rollercoaster of eras, genres and emotions.

The dedication poured into each routine was evident, with impeccable precision and synchronisation in group performances, as well as captivating solo showcases that highlighted individual flair and technical excellence. The enthusiasm of the performers was infectious, creating an electric atmosphere in the main hall. A huge thank you to the dedicated teachers and backstage crew who made this unforgettable event possible. Both performance nights were an inspiring success that will leave a lasting impression on students and spectators alike. Thank you especially to Ms Newland for putting the whole production together. Jonathan Bailey's rendition of *Dancing Through Life* has been stuck in my head all week, and it suddenly made perfect sense as to why seeing as rehearsals were happening just ten metres from my office! This tune, along with others from *Stranger Things*, *Aladdin*, *City of Angels*, and more, supported all performers in bringing the production to life. Thank you so much to all audience members who came out to support the Performing Arts at STAGS.

Last month's Lunar New Year Event was a fantastic success as mentioned in STAGSLINK at the time and we now know that it raised £67.59 for Rennie Grove House. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this meaningful cause. Also in February, twelve dedicated Year 12 Biology students participated in the British Biology Olympiad, a prestigious competition open to students aged 16-18 worldwide. This year, an impressive 18,533 students from 1,053 schools took part, tackling two challenging 45-minute papers designed to assess problem-solving skills and core biological principles. STAGS students demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and resilience, with special congratulations to Ashna and Naomi, who achieved bronze awards.

In recognition of International Women's Month, Key Stage 3 students have been set an ambitious goal: to raise £8,000 in support of Help Change Lives, a charity providing reusable pad kits to girls in Kenya. Meeting this target will enable the donation of 1,454 pad kits, each lasting 3-5 years and preventing 1.7 million disposable pads from ending up in landfill. Families are encouraged to support this initiative by helping students connect with friends, relatives, and the wider community for donations. Contributions can be made via School Gateway or in a named envelope to the Director of Learning. More details can be found [here](#).

Students participating in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project attended a pre-seminar in London alongside Mr James in preparation for their upcoming visit to Auschwitz on Monday, 11 March. This deeply significant experience will allow them to reflect on the historical importance of the Holocaust, and they will have the opportunity to share their learnings with peers during Yom HaShoah in April. The History Department is committed to running this project annually, offering Year 12 Humanities students the opportunity to apply next year.

On Tuesday, 4 March, a group of Year 12 A Level Geography students participated in a River Chess restoration project, working alongside Chiltern Rangers to protect and restore internationally significant Chalk Streams in the Chiltern Hills. The students engaged in practical conservation techniques, including constructing Hazel bundles to prevent erosion, building wooden revetments to create trout breeding areas, and planting vegetation to stabilize soil. In line with Careers Week, a representative from the Environment Agency also delivered an insightful talk on career opportunities in environmental management. With excellent weather and hands-on learning, the day was a resounding success, reinforcing classroom studies in a real-world setting. Thank you to Mr James and Mrs Keat for supporting. (Photo on front cover)

An incredible thank you to our STAGS PTA for their unwavering commitment to supporting the school community. March has already seen two fantastic PTA events: the Pre-Loved Uniform Sale, which raised nearly £700, and tonight's highly anticipated, sold-out Queen Bingo event. The funds raised have allowed the school to support several wonderful initiatives, including: New Djembe drums for the Music Department; Additional fieldwork equipment for Geography; Football shirts for Year 9 and 10 teams; a new food mixer for ADT; Herb and lavender beds to enhance the school environment; a digital signal generator for Physics and a sustainable book covering machine for the Library!



The PTA is now focusing on raising funds for covered walkways between key school buildings. Please check the PTA section of the website to see how you can contribute to this fantastic initiative.

As the month of Ramadan continues for many of our students, thank you so much to Saleeha and Zainab in Year 12 who delivered a brilliant and informative session for all teaching staff this morning including key information, including 'a day in a life fasting', as well as how it might affect students and top tips for teachers on how to support students during this time. Thank you also to Zoha in Year 7 who gave an engaging presentation about what Ramadan means for Muslims to the whole of Year 7 during assembly. It was inspiring to see a student helping peers to learn more about Ramadan and Islam.

[Click here](#) to sign into the National Online Safety site to view 'Top Tips for Using Technology to Boost Reading Skills' or [here to view the PDF.](#)

Wishing everyone a wonderful and sunny weekend!



For an overview of our PSHE curriculum, please click [here](#)

**SUPPORT TRUST AMBITION GENEROSITY SUCCESS**





# World Book Day Day 2025







**MARCH 7**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**  
**NETWORKING EVENT**  
#ACCELERATEACTION



# Diary Dates

## **Thursday 13 March**

County Dance Festival, Alban Arena

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## **Monday 17 - Friday 21 March**

Year 12/13 Subject Reviews

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## **Monday 17 - Friday 28 March**

Year 10 Progression Meetings

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## **Wednesday 19 March**

Cheerleading Competition, Essex

Year 12 Parents' Evening, Online, 4-7.30pm

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## **Friday 21 March**

Red Nose Day

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## **Saturday 22 - Sunday 23 March**

DofE Expedition

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## **Sunday 23 March**

Herts Schools Gala, Royal Albert Hall

## **Monday 24 March**

Year 8 Inter-house Sport

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## **Tuesday 25 March**

Year 9 Inter-house Sport

Year 12 ALPS Conference Trip, Vineyard Church,  
9:30am - 3pm

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## **Wednesday 26 March**

Year 10 Inter-house Sport

Year 8 Parents' Evening, Online, 4 - 7:30pm

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## **Thursday 27 March**

Year 7 Inter-house Sport

SEND Support Group, School Library, 6:30 - 8pm

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## **Friday 28 March**

Language Leaders Trip, Maple Primary, 9 - 11am





# PTA NEWS

**Welcome to the PTA News section, where you'll get weekly PTA news and updates.**

## **Diary Dates**

**Friday 7 March** – PTA Queen Bingo 7.30 for 8pm until 11pm in the Hall. We look forward to seeing ticket holders tonight! Please note there are NO tickets available on the door.

**Thursday 24 April** - PTA Meeting in the Library, 6.30pm

## **News**

The Pre-loved Uniform sale on Saturday 1 March raised just under £700. Thanks to everyone who volunteered at the sale and donated uniform. The next sale will be around the time of the Year 6 Transition Evening in late June. Please donate any uniform that is in good condition by bringing it to school Reception between 10am-2pm Monday - Friday. For help with donating uniform, please contact [stagspta@gmail.com](mailto:stagspta@gmail.com).

## **How You Can Help**

Why not support STAGS PTA via Our School Lottery and be in with a chance of winning a weekly prize plus a nationwide Jackpot! Around 40p of each £1 you play on Our School Lottery reaches the PTA. The remainder goes towards the prize funds and the administration of the lottery. To sign up, please [click here](#).

On the other hand, If you'd like STAGS PTA to receive £1.25 for every £1 you donate, please join the School Fund, make a gift aid declaration and set up a monthly bank transfer to the PTA account. Full details and Gift Aid registration can be found by [clicking here](#).



# Notices



SUPPORT OUR YEAR 8 YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS AS THEY TURN BIG IDEAS INTO BOOMING BUSINESSES! STUDENTS WILL BE SELLING A VARIETY OF EXCITING PRODUCTS

**THE YEAR 8  
10X  
CHALLENGE  
IS HERE!**

SUPPORT  
YOUR  
CLASSMATES!

In the school hall at lunchtimes on  
March 18, 20, 27, and 28

GRAB  
SOME  
AMAZING  
DEALS!

**Come shop,  
support and be  
inspired!**

**CASH ONLY!**





# Notices

THURSDAY 3 APRIL 7PM

**SPRING  
CONCERT**

TICKETS ON SALE VIA SCHOOL  
GATEWAY FROM MONDAY 10 MARCH.  
ADULTS £6/CONCESSIONS £4