

21 October 2016



SHS Life

**The Stourport High School &
VIth Form College**

An Academy and National Teaching & Support School

Mr C King MSC PGCE NPQH - Executive Principal



Year 7 students explore a coral reef without leaving school using Google Expeditions

Forthcoming Events:

24 - 28 October 2016

Half Term Break
Whole School Closed

31 October - 4 November 2016

Year 11 Mock Examinations

31 October - 4 November 2016

GCSE Resit Examinations for
English & Mathematics

11 November 2016

Deadline for Shoebox Appeal
gift boxes to Room 91

GCSE Revision Resources

Useful subject information
and coursework specifications
can be found here:

[www.shs.worcs.sch.uk/
parents/exams/support-
guidance-during-exams](http://www.shs.worcs.sch.uk/parents/exams/support-guidance-during-exams)

Events Calendar

For more details of all school
events, please visit

[www.shs.worcs.sch.uk/
events](http://www.shs.worcs.sch.uk/events)

Quote of the Week

**"The strength of the team
is each individual member.
The strength of each
member is the team "**

Phil Jackson

It has been another incredibly busy week here at SHS for students and staff. The Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group camped overnight on Friday 14 October on the Long Mynd in Shropshire as part of their training. Fortunately the weather was kind to them and they all returned safe and sound to school this week.

Years 7 and 12 visited a coral reef and a rainforest on Monday 17 October, courtesy of Google Expeditions who came into school on our Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Day to provide these amazing virtual trips using their Virtual Reality viewers and smartphones. As a pioneer school we are looking to develop this programme and engage more students across the curriculum to enhance their studies.

Also on Monday, two of our VIth Form students went to the Signal 107 radio station in Wolverhampton to record an advert for our VIth Form Open Evening. Their efforts were obviously successful as we had a well attended Open Evening where we proudly showcased the plans for our new £3.5million VIth Form building and met prospective Year 11 students with their parents/carers looking at their study options beyond GCSE.

On Tuesday 18 October 2016, Ben Paszkowec, a former SHS student and professional footballer with West Bromwich Albion, returned to the school to speak to the Year 11 boys to share his experiences and encourage them to consider the importance of GCSE results in planning their futures. Ben's own career has taken some unexpected turns and he emphasised how a good education can be the students' best back up plan for whatever direction their futures take.

Finally, well done to all SHS students this half term for maintaining excellent levels of attendance and working hard to make great progress. We wish you all a great half-term break and look forward to seeing all of our students back on Monday 31 October 2016.

Mr C King - Executive Principal

Pyramid Schools Festival of Performing Art

The Performing Arts Faculty staged a festival last Friday to the parents/carers of our Stourport Pyramid primary school partners from Burlish Park, Hartlebury Lickhill and Sytchampton.

The primary school pupils practised in their school groups during the day and then performed alongside SHS students a showcase of number of well-known songs to parents/carers at 4pm.



We would like to thank everyone who took part in organising the festival and all the performances, especially the SHS students who came into school on their day off.

Dream Chasing for Year 11

Ex-SHS student Ben Paszkowec was invited back to the school on Tuesday 18 October 2016 to talk with Year 11 boys about 'Dream Chasing'.



During his presentation, Ben talked about how football had consumed his life from an early age and how he had little enthusiasm for school work as all he wanted was to become a footballer. As a result of his dedication to football, his GCSE grades were very poor. Ben was not

concerned as he had secured a contract with the youth team at West Bromwich Albion Football Club and was well on the way to living his dream. Despite all his best efforts and enthusiasm Ben was unable to achieve a place in the first team and returned home. At the age of 19 he found himself back in Stourport without a 'Plan B' and with no clue as to what to do next. After some serious soul searching, and with very few qualifications, he started a foundation degree in Engineering so that he could apply for a degree in Sports Science and Football which he finished in 2011. Ben continued his education to gain a Masters in Sport Psychology last year.

Ben may not have achieved his dream of becoming a professional footballer however he is putting his experiences to good use in helping retiring sports people to plan and manage their time once their sporting career has come to an end.

Looking back, Ben appreciates the importance of a solid education with GCSEs as the foundation for the future. Students were encouraged to think about their 'Life Pie and Identity' and what they would like to achieve in life. Doing this will ensure students have as many options as possible should the future not pan out the way they hope and not sit and think that 'hindsight is a beautiful thing'.



Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural Day

On Monday 17 October 2016 the whole school took part in our first Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Day with activities including environmental issues across the planet, Harm Awareness (drugs, hate crime, sexting and arson), post-16 planning and mobile phone day.

Congratulations to everyone involved and to all of our guest speakers for taking the time out to talk to students about these important issues.

Fairtrade Town Celebrations



Stourport Ukes were invited to perform for the 10th anniversary of Stourport becoming a Fairtrade town. Year 11 Director of Learning Mrs Owens, has supported the group by hosting an event at the school every year. The group's banner was designed and painted by students from SHS.

Black Belt Success

Abigail Davis 9KT took up karate about 4 years ago when she wanted something interesting to do in her spare time. She now trains twice a week at the new Wyre Forest Leisure Centre and has worked her way through achieving belts to black belt. Well done Abigail!



Aspiring Radio Presenters

VIth Form students were invited to record a series of mini commercials for Signal 107 radio station this week. The commercials were aired throughout the day yesterday to promote last night's VIth Form Open Evening.

Jakub Kusmirek 13KP and Emily Adams 13NB, gained valuable practical experience towards their drama studies and enjoyed a guided tour of the radio station which is now based in Wolverhampton.



The Stourport High School & Vith Form College
Performing Arts
Presents...

A Christmas Showcase

Adults £5:00
Concessions £3:50
Price includes festive nibbles

Thursday 1st
December 2016
Large Hall 6pm
(doors open at 5:45)