**July 2022** 

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#### Sturminster Newton High School

#### From the Headteacher

Look at our website for weekly student bulletins www.mysnhs.net

As we reach the end of another disrupted but busy year it occurred to me that this summer term has been the first 'normal' term for two years now, largely unaffected by COVID absence or closures. Although the effects of COVID will be with us for a long time in terms of lost learning and disruption, it has been lovely to get back to activities and events that have been sorely missed. It has been a term packed full of different events, from sporting fixtures to work experience, enrichment and activities week, community link events such as Young Enterprise and a number of external competitions and conferences. Students have been settling back well into learning routines and, as ever, they are a pleasure and a credit when representing the school on trips or events.



Years 13 and 11 are now enjoying a well earned break after their revision

and hard work for the first exams in two years and their diligence and resilience have been commendable. This summer we will have the first exam results in two years and the resumption of national league tables. The Association of Dorset Secondary Headteachers have this year agreed that due to the impact of the pandemic, schools will not put out press releases with percentages and focus comparisons but will on achievements of students and their successes in the face of the disruption they have faced. Although exam results can be measured and compared, there is one aspect of a school that cannot be measured; that is the quality of the young people they produce.

This is what constantly impresses me about the students at SNHS: their concern for tolerance. equality and fairness. their willingness to help others, their resilience and good humour and that they try to do what they say they believe. Although I cannot measure this through statistics and data, I am convinced that they will strive to make the world a better place and make better citizens for the future. Well done to all of them for getting through the last two years of challenge and remaining so positive, industrious and decent.

This year we sadly say goodbye and thank you to Mr McManus, Mrs Woodbridge, Mrs Slocombe and Mr Baker who are going on to new opportunities and roles and we wish them the very best for the future. We also say goodbye to Mrs Duffy, Clerk to the Governors and thank her for all her work behind the scenes. In September we welcome Mr Ling as

Head of Sixth
Form and Mr
Der and Mr
Betteridge
who join us
in the Maths
Faculty. We
also
welcome Ms
Messenger
and Ms



Redman, who joined us this term in Learning Support.

Thank you to all students, staff and parents who have worked so hard in supporting the school this year and I hope everyone enjoys a relaxing, safe and restful summer holiday.

Thin.

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#### Sturminster Newton High School

#### SPORTS DAY

The weather was looking "iffy" earlier in the week, but Sports Day went ahead on Wednesday 29 June without any climatic hitches. A light shower early in the morning could not dampen the enthusiasm of the competitors and staff on the field.

Year 10 boys were first to compete on the track and although all events were fiercely contested no new records were set. The girls races were similar and the earlier rain must have put paid to any fast results. In the field events the head-on wind was not helping the throwers, although there was a keen contest in the discus. Using the 1.5kg



discus Isaac, representing Barnes, led after the first two rounds of throws with a distance of 22.00m. Unfortunately for him Dylan (Hardy) took the win in the final round by just 37cm. After the morning's events, with the relays to come later in the day, Thornhill led in the boys' and Barnes in the girls' competitions.

Year 8 were up next and the competition raised a level. The boys' shot putt had all competitors within a metre of each other, Luke (Thornhill) taking the win. Amelia defended her title in the girls' competition. The girls' long jump had a winning margin of just 5cm, Lavynia (Raleigh) just ahead. On the track, conditions had improved and a number of students set personal bests. One runner who set a personal best was Freddie (Hardy) in the 100m, in fact his time (12.61) also beat the previous school record of 12.76sec. Unluckily for Freddie, Liam (Raleigh) set a new school record of 12.03sec in the same race. After the individual athletics events Hardy led the boys and Raleigh





Whilst the track and field athletics took place, Mr Keegan was running the Tug-of-War competition for each year group in turn. The Tug-of-War is a separate competition to the athletics and trophies were awarded to the winning houses as follows:

Year 7: Raleigh Year 8: Barnes Year 9: Thornhill Year 10: Thornhill

After a well-deserved lunch for the officials Year 9 took centre stage. The track events followed a similar pattern to the morning with all students running hard and competing with their opposition, close finishes in the sprints and a great effort

shown in the longer distances. Despite the best efforts of the students no records were broken in the field events and the 1970 discus record of 31.50m still stands. After the morning Barnes led the boys' competition and Thornhill held a commanding advantage for the girls. Finally, Year 7 got to experience their first Sports Day at SNHS. The boys took to the track first and although no records were set there was plenty of effort shown. All spectators encouraged the runners and sporting behaviour was on display with runners congratulating each other. In their field events the boys competed hard and the competition was close. The girls' field events were also keenly contested and Gracie (Hardy) missed breaking the discus record by 23cm. On the track the girls' events were dominated by Hardy winning 4 out of 5 individual races. Included in these victories was a recordbreaking performance by Imali in the 800m (2m55s). Not to be out done her twin sister, Mya, then broke the 1500m record (which had





#### **Sports Day Cont.**

been held by their older sister) with a time of 6m03s. A brilliant family effort.

After the morning's efforts 7 Hardy led both the boys' and girls' competitions.

The afternoon of Sports Day is given over to the relays and with double points on offer they can be important in deciding the overall winners. Year 7 ran first with Hardy winning both the boys' and girls' races comfortably. In Year 8 Raleigh won both keenly contested races. In the girls' race 2 seconds separated 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, whilst in the boys' race Raleigh were trailing Hardy at the final change over before storming to victory. 9 Thornhill won the boys' race by less than half a second from Hardy, but Hardy won the girls' race. In their final Day appearance Year Sports 10 finished proceedings with 2 excellent races. Having won the 100m in the morning Grace led Barnes to victory in the girls' race. Thornhill boys won the last race of the day by a good distance.

After a long day of competition the results were collated and the students gathered expectantly for the final results. We were pleased to welcome Rob Watt (Chair of Governors) to present the trophies to the winning tug-of- war teams and the sports captains of the winning houses in the athletics.







## **Sports Day Cont.**

## Results

| 7 Boys       |    | 7 Girls   |    |  |
|--------------|----|-----------|----|--|
| Hardy        | 42 | Hardy     | 47 |  |
| Barnes       | 33 | Thornhill | 29 |  |
| Raleigh      | 21 | Raleigh   | 26 |  |
| Thornhill 21 |    | Barnes    | 19 |  |

| 8 Boys    |    | 8 Girls   |    |  |
|-----------|----|-----------|----|--|
| Raleigh   | 37 | Raleigh   | 32 |  |
| Hardy     | 34 | Thornhill | 29 |  |
| Thornhill | 25 | Barnes    | 28 |  |
| Barnes    | 25 | Hardy     | 27 |  |

| 9 Boys       |    | 9 Girls      |    |  |
|--------------|----|--------------|----|--|
| Thornhill 32 |    | Thornhill 40 |    |  |
| Barnes       | 32 | Hardy        |    |  |
| Hardy        | 31 | Raleigh      | 29 |  |
| Raleigh      | 23 | Barnes       | 19 |  |

| 10<br>Boys<br>Thornhill 41 |    | 10 Girls  |    |  |
|----------------------------|----|-----------|----|--|
|                            |    | Barnes    | 39 |  |
| Barnes                     | 30 | Thornhill | 27 |  |
| Raleigh                    | 28 | Hardy     | 26 |  |
| Hardy                      | 24 | Raleigh   | 25 |  |

Overall results: Sports Day Champions 2022

| Barnes    | 225 | 3rd |
|-----------|-----|-----|
| Hardy     | 264 | 1st |
| Raleigh   | 221 | 4th |
| Thornhill | 244 | 2nd |









#### **OPEN DOOR EVENT**

Sixth Form students recently attended an Open Door Event hosted by the Emerging Talent Team at JP Morgan. The event gives students from schools across Dorset an opportunity to meet the staff at JP Morgan, network, have some helpful career guidance and introduce them to their Bournemouth Apprenticeship and work experience programmes.



GCE Results (A Levels)
9am - 10am
Thursday 18th August

GCSE/Level 2 Results (Years 11 & 12 only) 9.00am - 10.00am Thursday 25th August

6th Form Registration Day - 25th August The Sixth Form Team will be available to discuss your future plans



#### THE BRYANSTON GREEN CONFERENCE

Students from Years 12, 11, 9 & 8 were invited to attend The Bryanston Green Conference. This included Guest speakers talking about the Global Environmental Crisis, Business Ideas to help and the circular economy. Students were mixed into groups with other schools and set a Sustainable Business Challenge. The winning team, including Noah and Poppy, came up with a seeded toilet roll tube which can be planted after use.



#### **DOTTIE AND NIBBLES**

Dottie and Nibbles have been with us for over a year now. They have settled into life in The Hub really well and are experts at calming agitated or distressed students. Staff have been particularly impressed with the responsibility shown by the students in The Hub who are looking after them. The school will shortly be setting up an Amazon Wish List to help fund the upkeep of the Guinea Pigs. Please look out for these details on our Facebook page if you would like to help and purchase some items.





#### **YEAR 13 LEAVERS' BALL**

Year 13 recently celebrated their Leavers Ball at The Bank House in Sturminster Newton. They all had a wonderful time, spoilt with great food, drinks and a lovely setting.

Students had worked hard to fundraise for the event in order to keep the cost down, their hard work, and Mrs Privett's exceptional organisation meant a great turn out to finish their Sixth Form journey.

We look forward to seeing the students on results day, but until then, congratulations and enjoy your well earned rest.





#### **TEN TORS**

Congratulations to all our students who undertook and completed the very gruelling Ten Tors Challenge over the weekend of 7th-8th May. Three teams were entered two 35 mile teams and one 45 mile team. The challenge involves teams of six young people being totally navigating sufficient, and hiking to ten specified checkpoints on Dartmoor and camping overnight. The teams train during weekends throughout the year, sometimes camping out overnight in extreme weather



conditions. This year was the 60th anniversary of the event.

Hundreds of schools nationally compete and our students did a fantastic job, crossing the finish line in great time. Well done to them all and huge thanks to Nigel and Mike, who train the teams up each year.

The students who took part were: Laura, Ruby, George, Maisie, William, Luke, Dylan, Neve, Katie, Georgia, Eddie, Ben. Also Josh and Lucas who were part of a Cadets team.

#### DORSET SCHOOL GAMES CAN DO CYCLING EVENT

A group of students participated in the Dorset School Games Can Do Cycling event, hosted by Active Dorset and the School Games Organisers, and supported by British Cycling, Bournemouth BMX, Moors Valley, and the Forestry Commission.

The aim of the session was to coach students in techniques of BMX and mountain bike riding using the pump track and forestry areas in Watchmoor and Moors Valley.

The students all had a great day and learnt a lot from this experience.





#### **OPEN MIC NIGHT**





#### YEAR 11 LEAVERS PROM

This summer we have supported our students through the first national exams sat in nearly three years. Our Year 11 students took their exams seriously starting with lesson times, through revision sessions that were attended right up to their conduct in school before each exam. They were exceptional in manner and behaviour throughout and our invigilators were quick to compliment them and their performance each day of their exams.

We said a special goodbye to Year 11 in a Leavers' Assembly that took place before they went on study leave. The students had a lovely buffet feast laid on for them. Then there was the traditional shirt signing which was full of laughter and long-standing friendships. Finally students were led to the Sixth Form Hall where their tutors could say a special 'thank you' and 'goodbye' with individual tutor awards.

The celebrations were concluded a few weeks later with the Year 11 Prom at The Coppleridge Inn, Motcombe.

This was a chance for students to dress up, enjoy an evening of



food and dance with each other one last time. The students looked amazing and a lot of time and effort was put into their outfits as well as their arrival vehicles! It was a wonderful, memorable night and a real chance for them to celebrate all they had worked so hard to achieve.

Thank you to all the staff who helped support these events to ensure that our Year 11 students had a memorable last few weeks at SNHS.



As we now wait with baited breath to find out how they have fared in their exams, we would like to wish them lots of luck for their final results and all the best for their future choices.







#### **Sturminster Newton High School**

#### **MAKING HISTORY**

From the classrooms of the Department History at Newton Sturminster High School it is possible to survey miles of the beautiful Dorset countryside. This landscape is intrinsically entwined with our local history, encompassing iron age hill forts and the remnants of the old Somerset and Dorset Railway line, as well as the historic mills.

On Monday 21st March a mixed group of KS3 and KS4 students set off on a private tour to explore the history of



Sturminster Mill . Approaching the mill on foot, the students enjoyed the glorious sunshine as they crossed the River Stour. The group was given a tour by Jonathan (the miller) as the rare water-powered turbine drove the mechanisms to mill the flour. All members of the party enthusiastically climbed to the top floor of the mill to find the sacks of wheat. Another highlight was the view of the miller's workshop (just as it might have been in the heyday of the mill).

Following the tour, the students were introduced to Vicky deWit, Museums Advisor for BCP and Dorset Councils. The students were issued with source packs and encouraged to investigate the



links between the fulling mill at Sturminster and the fisheries in Newfoundland. As 'young curators' the students were invited to visit Dorset History Centre to research this remarkable migration story with a view to designing exhibition panels to be displayed at Sturminster Mill and Sturminster Museum July 2022 from onwards. This forms

part of an ongoing local heritage project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Association of Independent Museums.

The next stage of the project involved Zoom links with our twinning school in Newfoundland, J M Olds Collegiate. During these meetings it was discovered that many of the students in Newfoundland can trace their ancestry to North Dorset. As explained by local writer and historian Roger Gutteridge, many local surnames have links with the migration. Some examples include: Rose, Young, Hillier and Fudge.



#### **MAKING HISTORY cont.**



The links with Twillingate helped to inspire the creative side of the project. Several students participated in an arts project to create puppets for a shadow puppet film to be projected onto the side of the mill. A further group of KS3 students collaborated with a band of professional musicians to record the soundtrack for the film. Not only did the students enjoy the music workshops, but they also learnt about local folk music in the process.

This phase of the project culminated in a celebration evening on Sunday 17th July to showcase the results of the Swanskin Seafarers



research project. On a balmy summer's evening, Sturminster Mill provided an enchanting backdrop for the premier of the shadow-puppet film. Live music and the unveiling of the information

panels added to the excitement. Elliott, a Year 9 student, gave a well-received speech in which he explained the purpose of the project and thanked Roger Gutteridge and the Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust for extending to students this remarkable opportunity. Several students brought along friends and family to enjoy the occasion.

The project will now move into a new phase to capture oral histories of more recent migrants to Sturminster Newton. Further information will follow in the autumn.







#### **OPEN EVENING**

# Sturminster Newton High School Open Evening

Thursday 29th Sept. 2022 (6.30-8.30pm)
For pupils currently in Years 5 & 6 and their parents



If you would like to see the school, other than during the open evening, we have appointments available W/C Monday 19th September. Please contact the school office for an appointment.

We look forward to meeting you.

## "This School continues to be Good" Ofsted 2018

Sturminster Newton High School, Bath Road, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 1DT Tel: 01258 472642 Email: office@mysnhs.net www.mysnhs.net



#### SIXTH FORM UPDATE

Year 12 had a busy end to their academic year. They ran their very own Young Apprentice two day challenge where students worked in teams to create a small soap making business. They had to make the soap, think of a brand, market the soap and 'sell' the soap to potential clients. Students worked amazingly well together, with a local business mentor to support them along the way. Each team then delivered a pitch to our quest Dragons. The Dragons and mentors were very impressed with each and every student and the maturity they displayed whilst working in their groups.



On Wednesday we welcomed Young Enterprise in to deliver an Employability Workshop; students worked independently and in teams looking at the skills they had developed over the previous two days. Students were also given an opportunity to work on their personal statements with advice and guidance on offer.

Thursday saw a mock interview day where students were supported by people from the local business community who gave mock interviews on a one to one basis with each student. Feedback was given and CVs critiqued, a great experience for all involved.



Friday was Yr12's fun day. They set off to Bournemouth with some students taking the Pier Zip Challenge whilst others enjoyed the beach or a bit of shopping in town. A great reward trip for all their hard work this year.

During the last week Yr12 had a relaxed Step Up Day to Yr13 with their tutors and supported our new Sixth Form intake during the Subject taster day.

Yr12 and some of our new Sixth Form intake enjoyed a day at Bath Spa University, with a tour around the

campus to find out what university campus life could be like. We then enjoyed taster lecture sessions in: Psychology, Law and English Literature before heading to Bath city centre for a couple hours of free time to explore what Bath has to offer.

We are very proud of the commitment the Sixth Form have showed to their studies and to their fellow students; we wish them all a very restful summer break and look forward to seeing them back on Friday 2nd September.

The Sixth Form Team



#### SIXTH FORM UPDATE Cont.



## Do you have an interesting and enjoyable job?

We are looking for parents/friends of the school to talk to our students about their jobs, career and experiences.

If you are able to spare an hour to talk to a group of students we would love to hear from you!

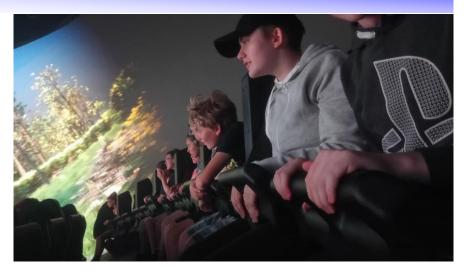
Please contact careers@mysnhs.net or phone the school on 01258 472642 and ask for Mr Dodman in the first instance to discuss further.

Thank You



#### FRENCH TRIP — LOIRE VALLEY

The MFL department had the great privilege of taking a group of 29 students to the Loire Valley from Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July. We had a jam packed few days in very hot weather, we saw a thermostat in Tours telling us that it was 42 degrees. Despite the hot weather and the non stop nature of the trip, our students were an absolute joy to spend time with, the coach driver was moved to tears at the end of the trip, having never experienced such a







polite and respectful group in his career.

Sunday saw us experiencing the smoothest crossing, I have ever known, followed by a long coach journey on very smooth French motorways, arriving at our hotel just in time for our dinner in the park.

Monday was a full day in Futuroscope, verv French Theme Park with some unusual rides, the two most popular rides seemed to be Mars Attack and Robot Dancing. We returned briefly to the hotel for quick refresh. returning for our dinner in the park, followed by a few more hours on the rides before watching the evening show, an amazing light festival with fireworks.

Tuesday, after a short lie in until 7:30 and breakfast, we were back on the coach to visit the beautiful Château d'Ussé, the inspiration for the author Charles Perrault to write Sleeping Beauty.

## HQ

#### FRENCH TRIP — LOIRE VALLEY Cont.





After a picnic lunch in the shade, we were back on the coach to visit the town of Tours, so called for its many towers (une tour in French). This beautiful town gave students the opportunity to do some shopping but more importantly to eat some amazing ice creams. On our return to the hotel, we had a quick turn around to go into Futuroscope once again for our evening dinner. Students decided that due to the very hot weather we had experienced they wanted to spend time in their bedrooms and have an early night.

Wednesday was an even hotter day, however by pure fluke we had the two coolest activities on this day: our visit to the mushroom caves and the Aquarium. As we entered the caves there was a murmur of content from the students as the cool air hit us. The caves, which originally were limestone mines, are a constant 12degrees and today are a mushroom farm, which produces specialised mushrooms for Paris restaurants. They also have some extraordinary sculptures depicting the many styles of houses found in the Loire Valley. After eating our lunch under the incredible Château d'Amboisse we drove to the Aquarium, where we not only got to see a wide range of fish but also got to handle Koi fish and stroke them as they swam past us.

Thursday saw an early start and a long coach journey up through France before we ended in the port of Cherbourg. We had an opportunity to visit one of the Titanic's departure ports, which today is La Cité de la Mer and take a quick stroll around the town before then boarding the ferry. Even our ferry journey had a moment of excitement as the SBS used the ferry to practice boarding a moving ferry.



#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 completed two weeks of work experience at the end of term. We have been lucky to continue to offer this as a school as many other local schools have struggled to place students or simply do not give students the opportunity anymore. All students in Year 10 had some kind of work placement for the two weeks. We have had students in placements ranging from car mechanics to countryside rangers, archaeologists to architects and teaching assistants to aerospace engineers.

The feedback from employers has been overwhelmingly positive. Lots of placements have resulted in jobs, offers of apprenticeships and future career prospects. Students have done very well in presenting themselves as polite and hardworking, demonstrating strong initiative.

A huge thank you goes out to all the employers that

offered their time and expertise to our students.

This could not have been arranged without Mrs Hann who has been a superstar in organising paperwork, chasing placements and sorting out the breakfast on Monday morning.

And finally the biggest thank you to all the students who represented the school in an exemplary manner and have done







#### JUBILEE WINDOWS AND BAKE SALE

It was lovely to be able to celebrate The Queen's Jubilee in school. Tutor groups decorated their windows with Jubilee themed designs ready for judging and staff baked cakes for a Bake Off style competition and charity Bake Sale.

Mrs Cot's Tutor Group, 11 Raleigh won the window display competition, comments from the judge were... 'A lot of thought, creativity and a clear theme. A 'First Class' Winner!' The Hub also had a mention from the judge for the effort students had put into their bunting. Sixth Form were praised for the use of characters! On Bake Off day staff brought in various baked creations that were judged 'Bake Off' style by members of our school council.

The overall winner was presented with his apron... congratulations Mr James! The cakes were then sold during lunch and break time, raising in excess of £50.00 for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

Thank you to everyone that took part in both of these activities.





#### SUMMER SAFETY

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service want your child to have a fun and safe summer. As many secondary age students become more independent, spending time with friends outdoors it is important they understand the risks and are able to make informed choices for their safety. Please take a few moments to discuss how they can stay safe:

Fire safety outdoors: BBQs and campfires. Due to the high fire risk, BBQs and campfires are banned in many parts of Dorset. If you do have a BBQ further safety advice can be found here <a href="Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service">Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service</a> | Barbecues (dwfire.org.uk) If clothes catch fire: stop, drop and roll. If someone is burnt: cool, cover and call for help <a href="Burns and scalds - NHS">Burns and scalds - NHS</a> (www.nhs.uk) Never play with matches or lighters or set deliberate fires which can easily get out of control, putting lives at risk.

Water safety: If possible swim at a lifeguarded beach between the flags. Jumping directly into water can cause cold water shock which will cause even the strongest swimmer to be in difficulty. If you get into trouble when in the water then Float to live: lie on your back with your arms and legs out like a star until your breathing calms. If you see someone in trouble in the water, encourage them to Float, do not enter the water yourself, if possible throw them something to hold on to, call 999 and ask for the coastguard if at the coast or fire and rescue service if inland. Do not jump into unknown water, you do not know what hazards there are. Be aware of tides and currents and underwater hazards. Further safety information can be found here: Know the risks (rnli.org)

Road safety: always wear a seatbelt when in a vehicle, take care and stay alert as a pedestrian and wear helmets when on bikes, scooters and skateboards. THINK! – Road safety

If your child needs help in an emergency call 999. If they have a mobile phone ask them to download the what3words app which will help them give an accurate location. <a href="what3words/">what3words ///
The simplest way to talk about location</a> Calling the emergency services as soon as possible will make sure help gets there as quickly as possible, but never call 999 as a joke or hoax call. <a href="tel:462">(462)</a> Stern Hoax Call Message - YouTube)

The messages can be found on this video: (462) Summer Safety Key Stage 3 and 4 - YouTube

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service wish you a happy and safe summer.



#### NORTH DORSET GIRLS SWIMMING GALA

Thursday 9th June saw the return of the North Dorset Girls' Swimming Gala. The event was hosted by Sherborne Girls at the Oxley Sports Centre in Sherborne.

A group of 12 girls from Years 7-9 represented SNHS. Many of the team had not swum in competition for some time or ever before in a few cases. All races were keenly contested and although we didn't have any winners all of the girls acquitted themselves well.

In the final standings Year 7 were 6th= out of 8 schools, Year 8 were 5th and Year 9 were also 6th. Well done to everyone who took part: Ruby, Imali,

Rosie, Mya, Antonia, Jess, Myla, Eliza, Ruby, Gracie, Neve and Ella.



#### **GOVERNOR UPDATE**

It has been another momentous year for the school community. We came into the year still facing COVID restrictions and with uncertainty as to how and when we would return to a normal life. Thankfully as the year has progressed we have returned to normality and we have had much to look forward to.

The Ski trip returned in February and despite the endeavors of the weather, a large team of students and staff managed to get to Austria and had a wonderful time.

As the year wore on, training for and completion of the Ten Tors challenge returned with our 3 teams achieving remarkable results. Sports day returned and I saw the determination and enthusiasm with which competitors took part in the athletics events, with a great release of energy after so much lock down. There were three new school records set on the track on Sports Day; Imali in the 800m winning in a time of 2m55s; Mya in the 1500m with a time of 6m03s and Liam in the 100m in a time of 12.03sec, all brilliant achievements.

As we come to the year-end, Activities Week has returned after a two-year absence, with more events than ever, including horse riding, biking, swimming, visiting Go Ape and Snow Trax, taking part in archery, climbing, games, tie dye and many more events. I saw the enthusiasm with which the Sixth Form met the Dragons Den challenge over an intensive 2-day programme, during the week.

Year 11 Prom and the Year 13 Ball have been worthy events to mark the end of exams through the summer and I think have helped create some great memories for the students as they end their school days.

So normality has started to return in this difficult year. This return is due to the hard work of the teaching and support staff who have worked hard to transition the school back from a pandemic footing to the vibrant place of learning it has always been. The return is also due to the resilience and determination of the parents and students who have grasped the opportunities as they have occurred and engaged whole heartedly in school life.

As the year draws on, we are also saying goodbye to three of our Governors; Lesley Woods, Lucy Gilbert and Phil Hammond. They have been important and valued Governors for many years making a positive contribution to school life. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to the school. Louise Duffy our Clerk will also be leaving at the end of this school year, we wish Louise well for the future and thank her for her efforts as Clerk.

So to you all I say thank you. It is your efforts, staff, students and parents, who have returned the school to normality after the most trying time we have faced as a community, for a number of years. I hope you can all now look forward to a well-earned rest over the summer.

Thank You

Rob Watt



#### NORTH DORSET SCHOOLS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Wednesday 22nd June a group of 30 Year 7 and 8 students travelled to Yeovil to take part in North Dorset Schools Athletics Championships.

Although some of the team had competed before a number of students were taking part for the first time or in events (Javelin, Shot and Discus) that they had only learnt this term.

Everyone competed well and did their best with a number of outstanding performances.

On an individual basis the following students achieved podium finishes:

Year 7
Jackson 1st in boys 800m
Imali 2nd in girls 800m
Tom 3rd in boys javelin
Will 3rd in boys shot putt

The teams finished as follows: Year 7 boys 6th out of 7 Year 8 boys 4th out of 7 Year 7 girls 8th out of 9 Year 8 girls 6th out of 9 Year 8
Ben 1st in boys 800m
Liam 2nd in boys 100m
Elliot 3rd in 1500m
James 3rd in shot
Boys team 3rd in 4x100 relay



#### **GERMAN SCHOOL LINK**

We are delighted to have been approached by Phillip Melanchthon Gymnasium who are keen to build a long-term relationship with us, with the hope of developing an exchange style programme.

The school is a mix of both private funding and public school and has a strong ethos of promoting languages with certain subjects being taught in English, such as Geography and History.

This means that September 2022 will see Year 9 students who are studying German corresponding with a German student via a special Google classroom link. We will also be taking the opportunity to have Years 10 and 11 students talking to their German counterparts via zoom meetings.

In the Spring term we will be welcoming one of their English teachers to our school, who will be supporting Mr Burt in the preparation of Year 11 German students for their GCSE speaking exam.

We are hugely looking forward to this exciting new opportunity for our students in their language learning.



#### **KEEP UP TO DATE**



Keep up to date with school news, events, sports fixtures, notices and everything else you need to know on our Facebook and Instagram pages, there are lots more photos to see there:

https://www.facebook.com/Sturminster-Newton-High-School-571299693043661/

https://www.instagram.com/sturminsternewtonhighschool/



#### **CONGRATULATIONS ELSIE**





#### **Sturminster Newton High School**

#### **Diary Dates**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July Last day of term students

finish at 1pm

21<sup>at</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> July Inset Days

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Sept Inset Day

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept Year 7s and Sixth Form in

for induction day, all other

years not in

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept All students return to

school

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Sept School Open Evening

(tbc)

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Sept Inset Day

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct Year 7 Tutor Evening

24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Oct Half Term

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov GCSE Presentation

**Evening** 

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec End of term

## **NEW SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS**

08:30 - 15:00

**RETURN TO SCHOOL INFO** 

Thursday 1st September 2022 - INSET DAY, no

students in school

Friday 2nd September 2022 - Year 7 and Sixth

Form only in school

Monday 5th September - all students in school