

# Newsletter

Date: 14th February 2025

Excellence | Kindness | Respectful

## Message from Mrs Hingley

As we finish for the half-term break, I would like to share with you some staffing changes. Today, Mrs Sidley (House Leader for Key Stage Four) leaves us to pursue another role. We would like to thank Mrs Sidley for the support that she has provided during the time she has been with us.

Continuing within the area of student services, Mr Kerr has made the difficult decision to step away from the Head of Key Stage Four role, also to take effect from after half term. Mr Kerr is also a Deputy Faculty Director for PE, music, health & social care and performing arts, and trying to juggle both roles has been a challenge. He has therefore made the decision to focus his attention on securing the best possible experience in the classroom for our young people, and securing the best possible grades, so that his work opens doors for our students. I am sure you will all join me in thanking Mr Kerr for the tireless work he has done to support Years 10 and 11, and will continue to do, but in a different capacity.

Thank you for your support this half-term, and a reminder that we return to school on Monday 24th February. Have an enjoyable half term break.

## Key Dates

Whole School  
Half Term

17th – 21st February 2025

Key Stage 3 Assessment Week

3rd – 7th March

Date

Year 11

Mock Exams

24th February – 7th March

Year 10

Assessment Week

17th – 21st March 2025

Year 11

Mock Results

27th March 2025

[Parent Calendar-Click here](#)

## Celebration Slips / House Points

Wedgewood House

643 points

Moorcroft House

649 points

Duchess House

715 points

3rd

2nd

1st

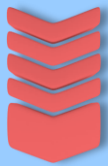
## Values in Action



### Excellence

Huge congratulations to our U13 Boys' cricket team for winning the City Indoor Cricket Finals. In the final against St. Edward's, our boys showcased exceptional skill by restricting them to just 18 runs off 8 overs - we chased it down in just 2 overs to seal the win. Now, we look ahead to the County Finals!

## Attendance



Year 7  
96.3%



Year 8  
94.2%



Year 9  
92.7%



Year 10  
92.3%



Year 11  
90.2%

Whole school  
92.9%

[Attendance info-Click here](#)

## Personal Potential

We have received some fantastic news from Gus M in Year 10. He recently had the opportunity to play for 433 Academy in Spain, and it was there where he was spotted by Port Vale Academy. Gus has been offered a six-week trial with Port Vale Academy which is such a great opportunity for him to showcase his skills and further his football career. Wishing him the best of luck, what an incredible achievement and here's hoping he continues to progress and succeed!

## Year Group Update

### Year 7

Despite a lot of illness around at the moment, Year 7 have still managed to maintain their excellent attendance record. Thank you for your continued support in helping us to achieve this. On Thursday Year 7 visited Chester Zoo as part of the Aspire day. Although a very cold day, Year 7 worked superbly to complete their work books as they enjoyed their time around the zoo.

### Year 8

It is pleasing to see Year 8 attendance starting to move in the right direction, despite lots of colds and other illnesses circulating. Year 8 experienced a variety of different activities on their Aspire day where they were given the opportunity to improve their knowledge and skills with Microsoft, demonstrate their fabulous baking skills, whilst also getting an introduction to apprenticeships, a future thinking point.

### Year 9

Year 9 have finished this half term in an excellent fashion by thoroughly making the most of the Aspire day. Year 9 spent Thursday working with the RAF on a series of STEM activities. This gave the opportunity to develop new skills, put into practice existing skills and demonstrate how well they can work as part of a team. We have been working with the RAF for many years on these STEM days so a big thankyou to them.

### Year 10

Year 10 participated in their second Aspire day this week. They were joined by Newcastle College, who provided information on apprenticeship opportunities and T Levels. The Staffordshire Road Safety Team also took part, delivering sessions focused on making responsible choices. Additionally, students completed lessons on relationships as part of their ongoing RSE curriculum.

### Year 11

Since our shout out to Year 11 on the PiXL apps last week, students have continued to diligently address the gaps identified in Mock 1. In less than a month, they have answered over 7,000 questions, with an impressive increase of 2,500 questions in just one week. Next week, we move to the halfway point of the **WAT 10 Week Secure a 4** maths study plan, click here for access: [WAT Secure a Grade 4 in Maths - Week 5](#).

## Safeguarding and welfare

MPFT  
Scan the QR code to see the topics we cover

+ 0-19 Service Podcast

Mini episodes under 15 minutes

Families Health & Wellbeing Service MPFT

FREE, reliable & trustworthy information

For parents, carers & young people

Available on

## Student Leadership

Subject Ambassadors at STBA are passionate student representatives who promote and support their academic subjects. They advocate for their subject's importance, assist in organizing events, and encourage student engagement through discussions and activities. Working closely with teachers, they help improve the subject experience by providing feedback and supporting curriculum development. They also mentor younger students, offer guidance, and represent their subject at school events. **Inspire others, share your passion, and make a difference—become a Subject Ambassador today!**