



# Stone Soup Academy News

## Half Term 2

### A Winning Start with Stone Soup



**Duncan Bennett**

Stone Soup students have joined in with a variety of sporting events this term.

We had three students join a leadership academy launch where they were given advice and coaching on how to be an outstanding leader. The day was a great success.

Students have also entered a Futsal competition where they performed admirably against strong opposition.

Students have also joined Dodgeball and Multi sports festivals this term. A mixture of year 9's, 10's and 11's participated with the dodgeball team leaving the competition undefeated!

Students who joined the Multi Sport Festival participated in curling, dodgeball and athletics. Students have risen to the sporting events this term with more to follow this academic year.



@stonesoupacademynotts

# Media Filters



Matthew Murphy

## Student-created Instagram Custom Filters

This half-term, students in Y10 have designed and created their own unique Instagram custom filters, using software called Spark AR. These filters are now available on the Stone Soup Academy Instagram page - @stonesoupacademynotts.

To try these filters out, just use your phone camera to scan the QR codes below and (if you have Instagram installed) you will be able to see the fantastic results.

Don't forget to give @stonesoupacademynotts a follow.



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# Exciting News in English

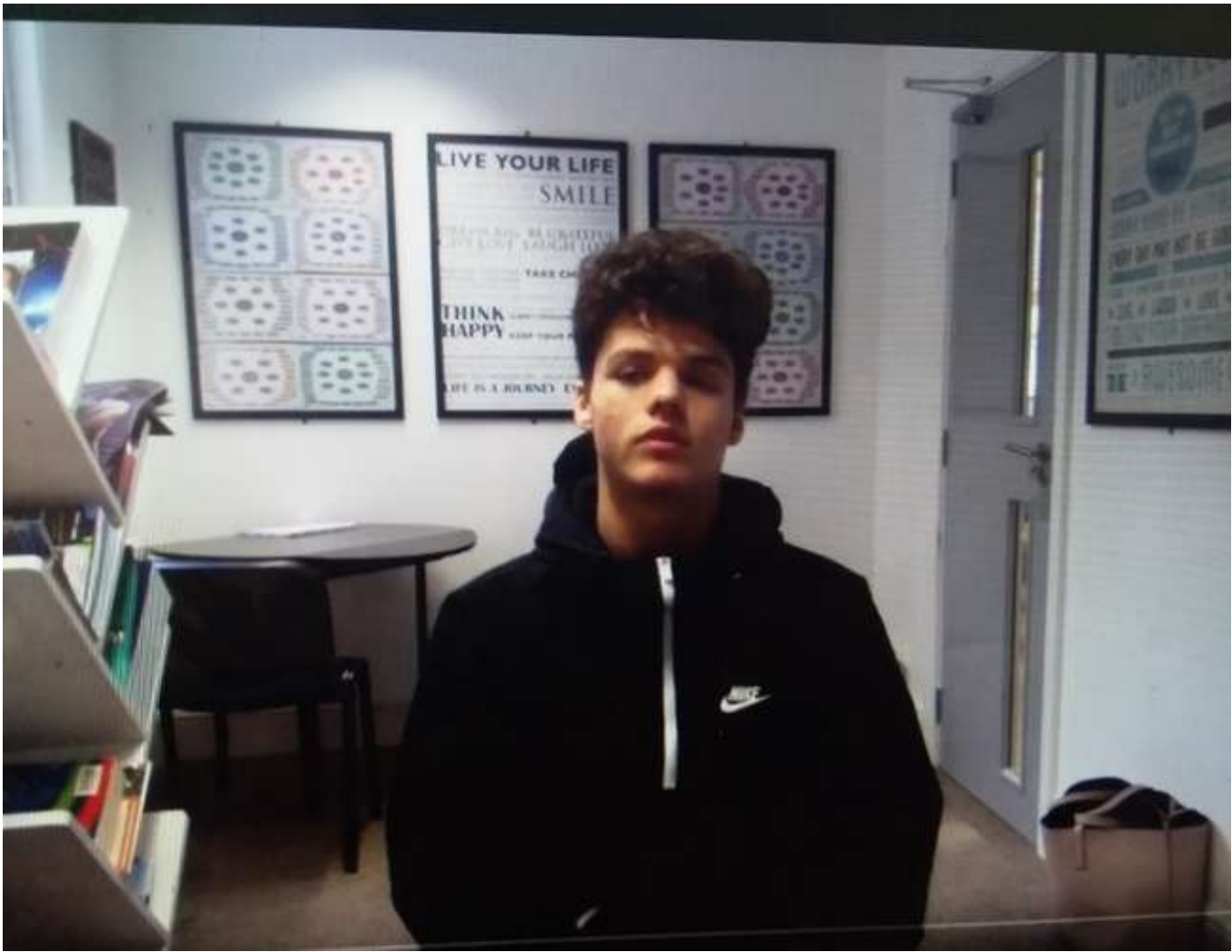
Richard Garbutt

## Nottingham City Literature

Giorgina Scott has written an entry for a competition as part of the Nottingham city of literature. ‘MyVoice’ is a new city-wide Creative Writing Competition for young people between 10-25. Giorgina was asked to write about what was important to her and has created a piece about how she would change the world. Success in the competition will give Giorgina a chance to become a published writer in the ‘Myvoice Anthology’.

## Year 11

The year 11 students have been working hard on completing their Speaking and listening presentations as part of their AQA GCSE course. The students have really risen to the challenge and have been able to use this as a platform to tell their own stories about their lives and experiences. 100% of the students who have completed their video presentations have passed so far.



Kian is one of the many students who shared his interesting story for his speaking and listening presentation.

## College Days

Duncan Bennett

Confetti, Multi Skills, Hair and Beauty and Mechanics have been offered this academic year.

We have given students the opportunity to be involved in taster days for colleges for some of our courses this year. Students have really taken to the college days on offer and are making great progress with their subjects.

Students at Multi Skills



Students at Hair and Beauty





# Producer of the Week

**Josh Glover**

Music Technology has started brilliantly this year, with our students continuing to produce high quality music and publish them to Stone Soup Academy's very own SoundCloud account. This term our students have been learning about the mixing process, and using professionally recorded music to create, and craft their own versions of these tracks. It has been truly amazing to see, and hear the work our students have been producing.

This year also marks the start of the Producer of The Week award (with complimentary certificate, and maltesers), which goes to students who have gone 'above and beyond' in their music work. I'm looking forward to seeing the incredible work our students will create.



# Dojo Rewards

Duncan Bennett

Keep working hard for Dojo Rewards with prizes and treats always on offer for those who perform above the rest at Stone Soup Academy.



# Desert Rats

Jordan Senior

This half term Desert Rats came to Stone Soup Academy to talk to our students and address some of the misconceptions by young people and the army.

Students then attended a day at Chilwell Barracks for military challenges and activities.

A student had this to say about the day

*"Mick and all of the other support down at the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade & HQ East were fantastic. So welcoming and made us all very comfortable. The insight given and the misconceptions addressed about the army were so valuable. I enjoyed it so much that I wanted to do the whole day again. I am very much looking forward to coming back and experiencing more."*



# Staff and Students

Oliver Sillito

Staff and students take part in our monthly fit Fridays! Once a month the staff and students take part in a range of activities to promote staying fit and healthy in school.

We put on boxercise, Ice skating, gym, football or a walk around town. Our students have the option of staying and joining in on fit Fridays and it was lovely to see for the first time doing it how many of learners stayed and took and enjoyed the time with staff outside







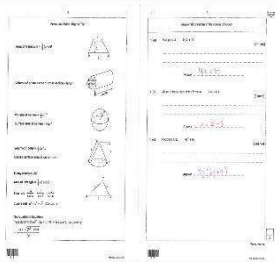

of the classroom environment.

We believe staying fit and healthy is a massive part of doing well in school and hope to keep this going and making it bigger and better.

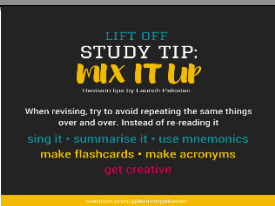
# How to for your exams

Younes Henini

*Starting to think about exams sooner rather than later can make all the difference when it comes to revision, and can have a positive effect on performance and grades.*

<b>1. Set goals:</b> setting goals is a great place to start, as this will set the tone for the next few months. Start by writing down the subjects you’re studying and the grades you want to achieve. Underneath each subject, write out the list of topics you’ll need to understand as well.	
<b>2. Create a realistic revision timetable:</b> building a revision timetable will add structure to your studying and allows you to organise your time in the way that best suits you and your schedule. As you will be mapping out study slots for each topic, if you identify a subject that you want to spend more time on, you can add these extra sessions in. It’s also important to create a realistic schedule and know there are limits to how much work can effectively be completed in a day. Balancing leisure and revision equally means you’ll be much more productive and motivated in the long run and be able to revise more effectively.	
<b>3. Understand your learning style:</b> everyone works in different ways. Understanding your learning style and whether you’re a visual, auditory or kinaesthetic learner will make revision so much easier! Tailor each study session by choosing more effective revision techniques that will make remembering and recalling information much easier.	
<b>4. Take regular breaks:</b> taking regular study breaks is so important when it comes to revision. Aim for 30-45 minute sessions with short breaks in between and ideally no more than 4 hours of study per day. This way you’ll have much more productive bursts of revision.	
<b>5. Practice papers:</b> one of the best revision tips to help you prepare for your GCSE exams is to do as many practice papers as you can. They will help you become familiar with the exam format, question style and time restraints, so when it comes to the real thing you’ll already know what to expect. Completing old exam papers is also a good way to test your current knowledge and help you identify any areas you’re struggling with. Ask your teachers for a few years’ worth of papers and schedule one or two a week into your revision timetable.	
<b>6. Work in a group if it help:</b> if you’re finding revision too much to tackle on your own, then working in a group is a great way to find support. Collaborate with your classmates and create a revision group. Not only will it enrich your learning as you can explore the thoughts and ideas of others, it will also help you improve your communication and collaboration skills.	

**7. Mix it up:** mixing up your study habits is a great way to stay motivated, inspired and keep your brain alert and active while revising for your GCSEs. Try alternative methods such as listening to a podcast, watching videos or documentaries, and working in a group, creating revision posters, moving to a new study area or using different coloured paper for each set of revision notes.



Teachers will be holding extra sessions for students if they would like to take up the option of extra revision. Notify your personal coach or teacher as soon as possible to book a session.

# Living Literacy Life at Stone Soup Academy

Kerry Day

Summer Term 2018-2019 the Academy set up a Spelling Bee in form time to improve engagement and focus in the mornings and evenings, when we gather as form groups. We have been tracking this data and Richard Garbutt (Head of English) will be using the data for his research in the upcoming months. Students have really enjoyed being competitive and the best form group have won a prize every half term. We are hoping that long term results will show that students spelling scores improve each week.

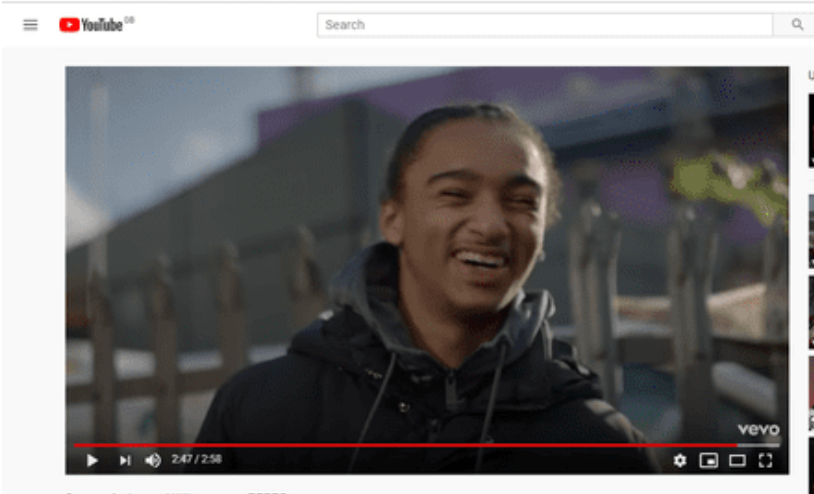
Secondly we placed an exciting bid to Nottingham Forest Football Club that would see our Library become a Bibliotherapy room and help students link Literacy to their own lives. We are excited to see what the outcome of the bid will be.

Moreover we have created a set of Literacy Mastery words for each subject that; if used correctly, offer students dojo points and rewards. This is a further incentive to work on Literacy skills.

In January Declan Barker, the Premier league projects manager from Nottingham Forest will be coming in to offer us a 10 week course for 10 lucky students. This will be used to improve reading in the Academy. The programme will have 20 hours of fun and practical games based around literacy and 20 hour of classroom tasks. The programme will be funded by the Literacy Trust. There has been a lot of work with Literacy so far in the Academy and we will be continuing with new ideas and programmes over the next academic year.



Sleaford Mods are an English electronic punk music duo formed in 2007 in Nottingham. The band features vocalist Jason Williamson and, since 2012, musician Andrew Fearn. Some of learners recently took part in a recent music video for their new song featuring Snowy from Nottingham. Armani, Kai, Katie, Hamza, Georgina and Matthew P showcased their wonderful Stone Soup smiles in front of the camera. The song is a very honest song about how people are feeling around current issues in our country and not forgetting the youth and how positive they can be to make things better.



# WE Day

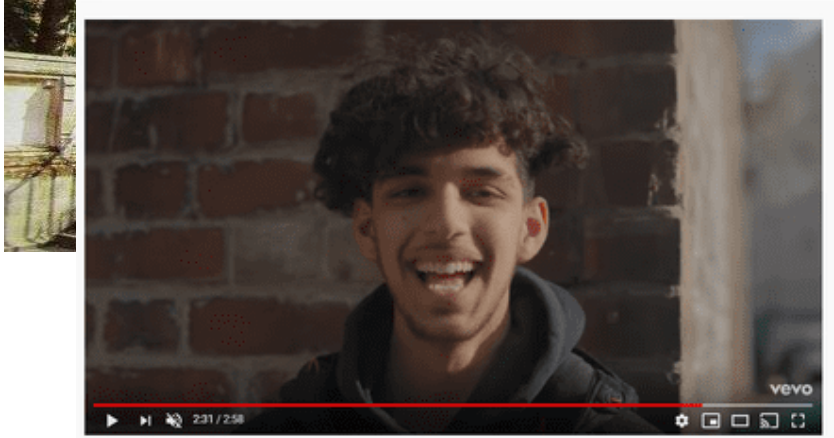
Holly Lee

During the term pupils have taken part in a workshop which encouraged pupils to discuss and voice issues in society that have an impact on them. The group of students worked as a team to create an action plan to tackle and improve upon this issue. The work the pupils put into the workshop impressed the WE organisaition so much that the group was invited to WE Day-where two of our pupils were selected to speak on stage to over 1500 people. The event brings together world-renowned speakers, A-list performers, and tens of thousands of youth to celebrate a year of action that transformed communities and changed lives, among them was Martin Luther King III.



# Sleaford Mods

Oliver Sillito



him in a manger."

As inspiration. The pupils designed multiple hexagon tiles each considering various materials and techniques, then sewn together to create one large quilted collection of work which is currently on display around a column in St Mary's church.

## St Mary's Church Project

Holly Lee

In November students studying creative subjects; Art, Textiles and Photography, were given the opportunity to exhibit work within St Mary's Church. The creative multi-media piece of art was inspired by the birth of Jesus in a manger, with the quote:

"Luke 2.7

She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid

## John Lewis adds some special ingredients to Stone Soup

Kerrie Henton

Work experience is going from strength to strength at Stone Soup Academy. We already work with Crowne Plaza, HMRC and Trent Bridge and in February we will start our first work experience project with John Lewis in the Victoria centre. This will be a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain first-hand experience of the retail business and to future pick their own career.

**Some more photos from the term**

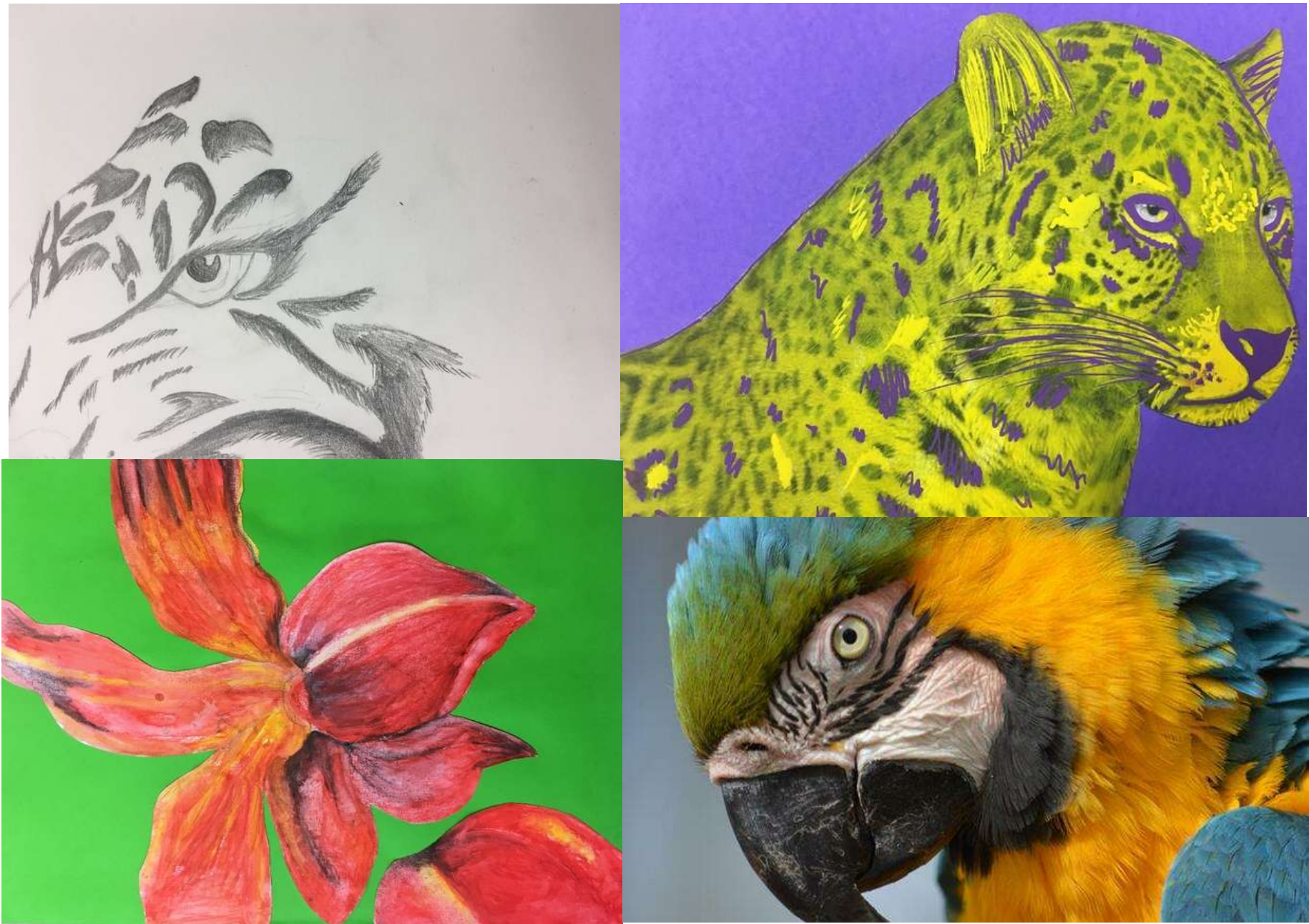




# Hear me roar in Art

Holly Lee

During this term pupils have continued creating some fantastic pieces of artwork based on 'Tropical'. Pupils have investigated into different artists and used a wide range of materials to experiment with, developing their drawing and application skills. On Friday 13th Art students will have the opportunity to go to Twycross Zoo to draw from and take photographs of tropical animals first hand. The plan is to manipulate the images taken at the Zoo to develop their work, before planning their art final pieces.



# Street Doctors

Rebekka Ashmoore

We continue to place a high priority on educating our students on knife crime. Last month we invited the Street Doctors back to work with our students. The Street Doctors were set up in 2008 by medical students in Liverpool who realised they could save lives by teaching emergency first aid to young people. Our learners were involved in interactive sessions tailored for young people where they were taught what to do if someone is bleeding or unconscious. Teaching young people to call for help and deliver simple first aid can and does save lives and it was great to have our students involved in these workshops.

# HMRC

Jordan Senior

Students have followed on from their success from last year and completed another week of work experience with HMRC. The programme was followed by three of our students; Matthew P, Harrison, Ethan G and Eduardo. HMRC have come in to the academy to deliver tax fact sessions. Ethan and Eduardo went to HMRC to meet their mentors for two hour sessions, these mentors will continue to work with these students if they go on to apply for more work at HMRC. Overall, HMRC continues to be a huge success with our students.

# BTEC Sport Sets the Pace

Duncan Bennett

BTEC Sport continues to move from strength to strength with a new cohort ready to work hard and complete all the coursework necessary for top grades. Expectation is high within the PE department to maintain the 100% pass rate achieved last academic year and 44% of students achieving above expected progress. This new cohort are excited to prove they are the best yet and achieve even better grades this academic year.

Students have been attending NTU to participate in sport practical with football, basketball, badminton, table tennis and dodgeball the favourite sports this year.

The following awards have been achieved:

- Footballer of the term – Owen Mason
- Basketball player of the term – Travesse O’Neil
- Dodgeball player of the term – Michael Ladica
- Badminton player of the term – Connor Whiteman
- Table Tennis player of the term – Reece Grantham

The introduction of Boxercise has also been a massive success and the students have loved participating in boxing once a month. Here are some images from the sessions.





# Solo Exhibition

Sally Croft

This term the talented Photography student Dylan Bradford has had his first solo exhibition featured at St. Mary's Church based in the Lace Market. Through Photography, Dylan has found a way to experiment with the way he sees the world around him as well as a way to express himself.

Dylan has been selling his photography to raise his profile as a photographer.



Please get in touch if you would like more details on how to buy Dylan's photography.

# Sunshine Moments

Harriet Duffel

Since starting at Stone Soup Academy, I have formed some fantastic relationships with both the students and staff here. It has been wonderful to learn about everybody, and support them with their education.

My superstar moments would be when Corey asked for me to be his personal coach. He is doing amazing with his behaviour and works really well always aiming to get his Dojos.

My second superstar moment would be helping Giorgina with her English competition. Her passion towards philosophy and how she puts this into words is really great to see. Keep up the great work!

# Social Corporate Responsibility at Stone Soup Academy

**Kerrie Henton**

Business links at stone Soup Academy have grown significantly over the past year and with them comes great opportunities for collaborative working. Nexus Lexus is a local risk management company who gave up a full day in October as part of their social corporate responsibility to support the development of our courtyard. They supplied planters and plants and lots of decorative items to bring life to the area. Working hard with Stone Soup Students they cleaned, cleared and built. It was a great day despite some October showers. Thank you to everyone involved.



# Photography

**Sally Croft**

Photography students have been exploring what 'Identity' means to them. Through the inspiration of the photographer, Allison Diaz, students have been experimenting and playing with various ways of manipulating their imagery. Through manipulation students have begun to question how this could change the portrayal of the identity of their model.

Here is some of the student's work



# Confetti

Osiris Santana

This year introduced our new partnership with Confetti, a media and arts college in the city centre, offering students at Stone Soup the college experience as well as the opportunity to earn a qualification. One notable alumni of Confetti is our very own Head of Engagement, Oliver Sillito. In an effort to play to the strengths of our learners, the current videography curriculum has had a focus on music, teaching the students various techniques used in music videos while also incorporating the basics in camera set up. Our students have impressed the staff at Confetti, displaying a quick proficiency and adeptness at camera work and a keen eye for angles and innovation. The term project goal is to have a fully filmed music video, as well as an interview with a local Nottingham musician. We are only just scratching the surface with what we can do with Confetti, but the future is looking very bright!



# Paul Smith

Leona Dunleavy

This term we were lucky to be invited to visit the Paul Smith head offices in Nottingham to discuss exciting opportunities for our students at the academy. The team at Paul Smith were delighted to hear of our new Textile Design course and we were blown away by their generous donation of rolls of fabrics, trims, buttons and zips. This has been a wonderful start for the course and we couldn't be more grateful to the Paul Smith team for kick starting our resources in such a brilliant way. We can't wait to see what our students produce with them.



# Food for Thought

Leona Dunleavy

After the dramatic transformation over the summer holiday, our much awaited new food room has been a hive of activity this term and has filled the academy with wonderful smells and tasty food throughout the term. This has been a really popular option with our students and we have been able to develop a cooking club as part of our Friday enrichment sessions. Students have been so enthusiastic to develop their cooking skills and delighted to have staff and students taste their delicious food. It has been wonderful to see our young people cooking and eating their own lunch and see their confidence grow.



# Year 9 Back with a Bang

Kyle Saddington

This term the year 9 cohort have been very busy with group projects and individual projects done throughout the weeks, from business ideas delivered through a dragons den style presentation to the year 9's creating their own version of the game show The Cube.

Firstly to begin the term there was a change in staffing and philosophy within Richmond House where we focus on doing things together as a team and focus on social skills with everyone within the group. There has been a vast amount of positives that we have accomplished this term and start with the Year 9's began their enterprise projects. These are individual projects where we promote all the learners to use their knowledge and likes within life and translate that into an idea that could potentially raise money for the school and a selected charity. The first steps of this project came from research which was conducted through internet and physical research after each learner had their ideas in mind. Once they had produced an idea the next steps were to put a presentation together to ask for funding to help their business from the two selected interviewers being Kerrie Henton and Kevin Wildrianne. Each learner presented their ideas to them both and asked for funding through their presentation which we are glad to say all of the learners secured to help with their projects. This project is now at the stage of preparing the products or service of which they have chosen with the next steps of selling what they have created to raise money. This is something to help promote the learners with skills for life, the idea of this is to help all the learners of budgeting and thinking about where the money goes and how to spend it in a positive way that will not detrimentally affect their ideas.

Through the term Remembrance Day was one of the major days that occurred and this is something that we as a year 9 cohort decided to look into properly and show our respect for the fallen. To begin the learners started a discussion about what they know about Remembrance Day and what it is in their opinion how it is a special day. This was a very refreshing and very mature discussion done by all of the learners and we decided to progress this further by creating something to show the respect that they were all discussing. This was done by everybody in the building of Richmond house drawing around their hands on red card, every learner and every

staff member did this and were encouraged by all learners to do. Once we had enough red hands the learners then wrote a message on the hands they had created showing their respect and writing a message that they thought the soldiers would have wanted to hear. After this we then glued the hands with messages on onto some black card to create a wreath which all of the year 9's were unbelievably proud of. Below is the image of the wreath and some of the year 9's showing it off with pride.

To finish the term we are continuing with our enterprise project with the first final production display of their projects to staff members within Stone Soup to show what they have created, with the idea of their first sales being done in the near future. We are also celebrating Christmas with the traditions that go with as well as learning about the history of Christmas and why we really celebrate it.

# Nottingham Post Teaching Awards

Kevin Wildrianne

## 2019 Nottingham Post Teaching Awards

The Nottingham Post Education Awards 2019 celebrates the achievements of truly remarkable people who make our community a better place. Hosted at the Crowne Plaza in December, it is the biggest awards show of its kind in the county. Once again this year, we are on a search for Nottingham's finest. Covering categories such as Student of the Year, Science and Engineering, Inspirational Teacher of the Year, Sporting Achievement, plus many more. Nominations can be from all walks of life, of all ages, and from all over the region.

This year our very own Oliver Sillito ‘Head of Engagement’ has been nominated in the competitive category of ‘Support Staff of the Year’, former student Beth Bull is up for the ‘Science and Engineering’ award and Current Year 11 student Ethan Allsop has been nominated for the ‘Humanities Award’.

All three nominees are already winners in our eyes and we wish them all the best for the ceremony.

# Maths Functional Skills Souperstars

Darrell Drummond

This term has seen a number of our students passing their Maths Functional Skills Exams: Katie-Leigh, Callum B., Callum M, Ellie-Mae and Harrison were all successful at Level 1 And, Mason N., Jessica, Eduardo, Reece J., Connor, and Reece H. all passed at Level 2

Bring it on!

## Some photos from the year



# Votes for School

Osiris Santana

In an effort to further promote Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE), Stone Soup Academy celebrated Thanksgiving! As the resident American, I have introduced a yearly tradition that I cherished at home and thought worked within the ethos we have at the Academy. During Form Time, each student and staff member wrote down something they were grateful for, this could be anything material or non-material. We received some really thoughtful and amazing answers, equal parts heart-warming, funny and even philosophical.

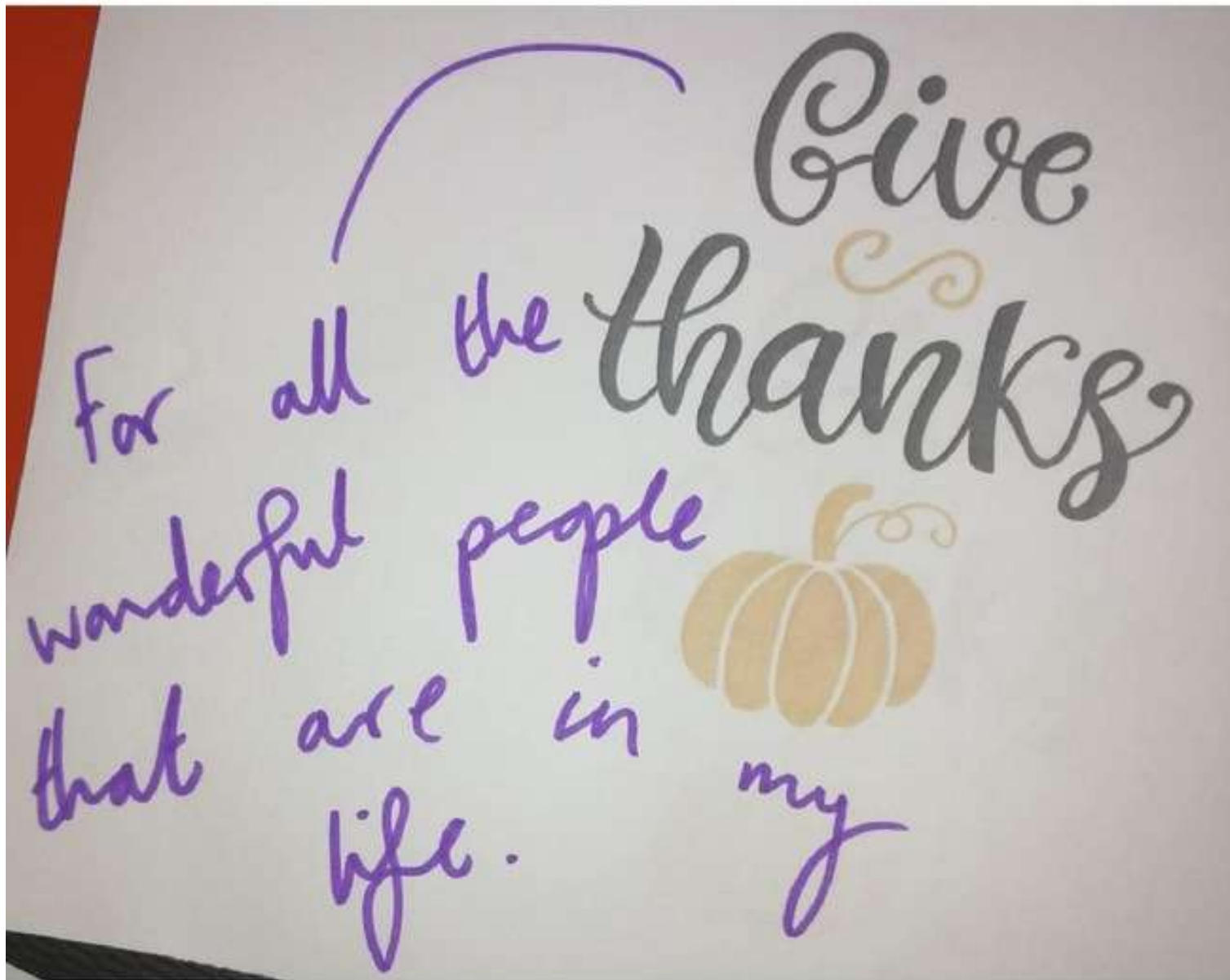


We’ve also had a successful term carrying out the Votes for Schools curriculum. Votes for Schools is an educational resource that provides us with weekly questions and lesson plans, that we deliver in form time and then ask students to share their opinions. The questions are used to stimulate individual thinking, morality, philosophy and the PSHE curriculum at large.

For example, in mid-November the question shared was “Do you think it is possible to reduce bullying in your school?” When the results rolled in we noted that only 35.7% of students said “yes, it is possible” while 64.3% said “no.” Interestingly, boys were closely split: 41% yes and 59% no, whereas girls had a greater difference: 23% yes and 77% no.

In form time, we were able to unpack student’s opinions, which proved incredibly eye opening. Many students believed that the school took measures to reduce bullying but questioned the effectiveness. Others believed that they personally could make some changes to reduce bullying but found it hard when in a group of mates. Another problem to combatting bullying is its pervasiveness on social media, a space that schools may struggle to engage with or have little power within.

These opinions were all expressed by students, displaying just how thoughtful and considered our pupils are when given the opportunity to express themselves. Keep up the great work in form time!



# Mechanics

**Lucian Johnson**

Mechanics consists of six students from Stone Soup Academy. The students are really enjoying the course this academic year as this gives them an opportunity to work in an authentic car garage environment working on salvaged cars, and with real work tools. The students get an amazing real life experience of what a working garage is like. We are hoping that all students get their qualification at the end of the year that will enable them to go on to further education or even continue building on their experience in car garages. The mechanics course is delivered at Nottingham College and below are some photos of the students in action.

