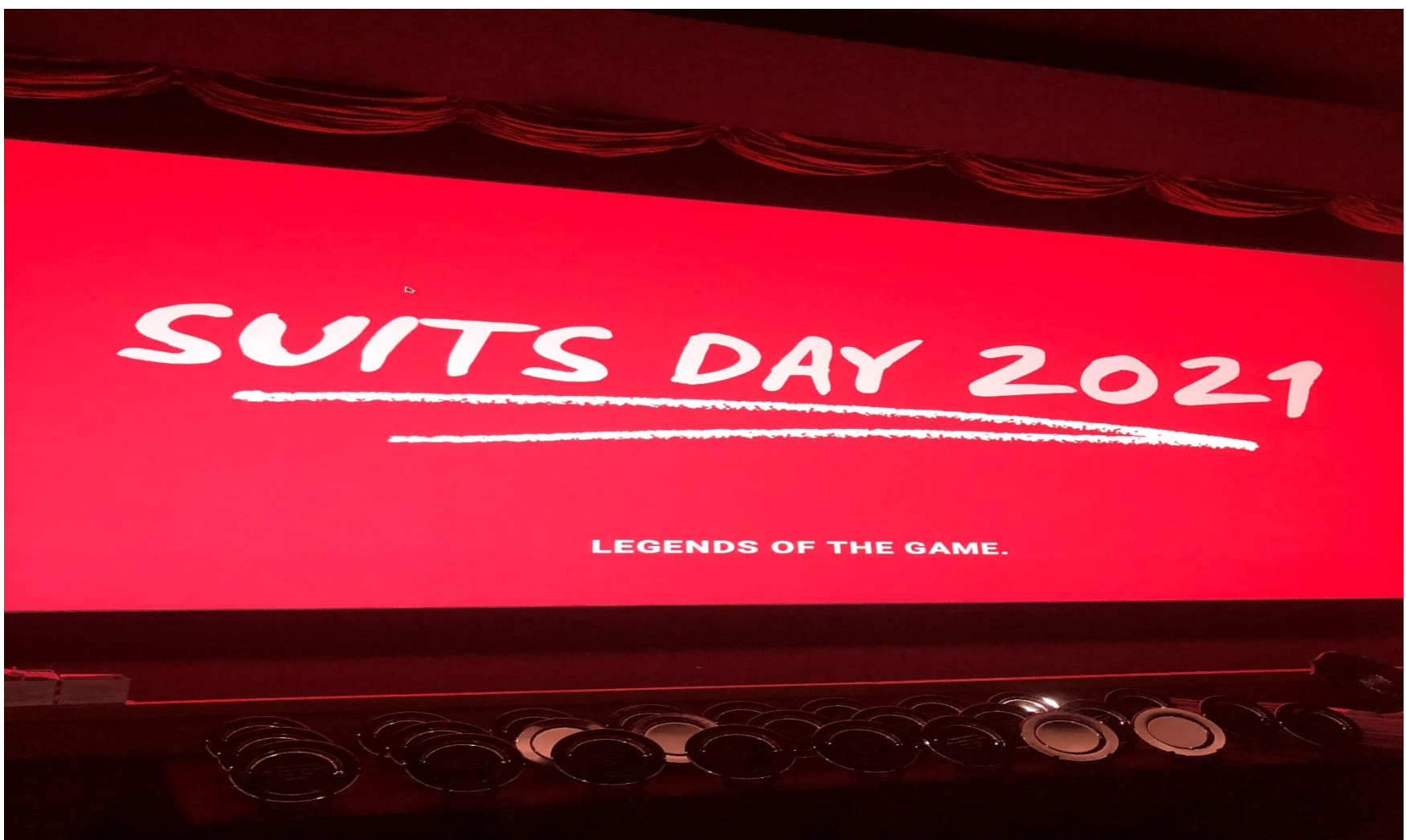




# Stone Soup Academy News

**Half Term 6**

## Super Suits Day Returns to the Academy



**Oliver Sillito**

This year has been unique but as always the Stone Soup family has held us together and we have as a result, achieved so much. The effort that students have put in this year has been truly inspiring! We worked so hard to ensure Suits Day happened this year and thankfully we managed to make it happen. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of June we took our year 11 students out and bought them each a suit which they then wore to 'screen one' at Broadway for our end of year 11 presentation. During the afternoon we handed out awards voted by staff and students. As well as Suits Day this year we have also produced our first yearbook for the year 11, which our year 11 students took away with them on the day. It was a fantastic occasion which we all enjoyed.



# Holme Pierrepont Day



Duncan Bennett

Students returned to Holme Pierrepont again this term and had a brilliant day. We started the day on the assault course and racing together in teams through various obstacles. Lots of climbing, jumping and running to start the day.

After this we were on the water either kayaking or paddle boarding. Everyone was happy to get wet as the temperatures soared past 30’c for the day.

A little break for lunch and on to the final activity. The Lagoon wipeout was great fun and a fantastic way to end the day.



## *In this Issue*

Suits Day  
Sport  
Enterprise Day  
Drayton Manor Trip

Media  
Music  
Photography  
HolmePierrepont

Food  
Hair and Beauty  
Business  
Sports day



# Hair and Beauty at New College Nottingham

Michelle Rogers

Since September 2021, students have been working on a level 1 course at the New College Nottingham. The course is made up of three units; ‘Introduction to the hair and beauty sector, Presenting a professional image in a salon and Creating an image’. These units were made up of smaller tasks, as well as a practical element that students were assessed on. Students were graded on how well they behave in a professional manner, health and safety within the salon, how well they researched using the internet and finally, how well they were able to create their desired final look that they planned in their presenting a professional image unit.

Whilst creating their image, students worked in groups of two, to create either a bridal look or a festival look. They started with a facial, applied makeup, and styled their hair to mirror what they had chosen from a look they had seen online.

I am pleased to inform you that all nine of the Hair and Beauty students have completed their qualification with at least a level 1 merit. This is particularly impressive due to the difficult year we had with the lockdowns. Most of the theory and practical aspect of the course were done from home and they practiced their makeup techniques on family members and themselves. The only interaction with the college tutor was for one hour on a live lesson via Microsoft teams once a week. Well done to all involved.



Some moments from Hair and Beauty...



# Music Technology

Josh Glover

Music technology students have thrived in creating, developing, and publishing their own music online. Available on SoundCloud these tracks show the best of our year 11 cohort and what our newest students are capable of achieving.

I’ve been working closely with Y10 and Y9 students to preview what the next year in music will look like for them, with students producing their own promotional material for their tracks. Here are pictures of some of our students’ great album covers:

I’m incredibly proud of my year 11 students thriving under such

uncertain times and the interest in music technology across Y9 and Y10 is amazing. With over 2500 plays on SoundCloud, it’s pretty clear that our students' tracks are putting SSA’s music on the map.



# Media Day

Matt Murphy

The annual Stone Soup Media and Music day took place on 24th June. Students worked alongside staff to create 2 original moving image productions - a comedy and a zombie horror. Students worked collaboratively with each other to create story, props, costume, make up, special effects and everything else that goes into a media production. At time of writing, the editing process is in full swing and I look forward to writing about a successful premiere of the finished products in the next Stone Soup Academy newspaper.



# Rain or Shine it’s Time to Dine

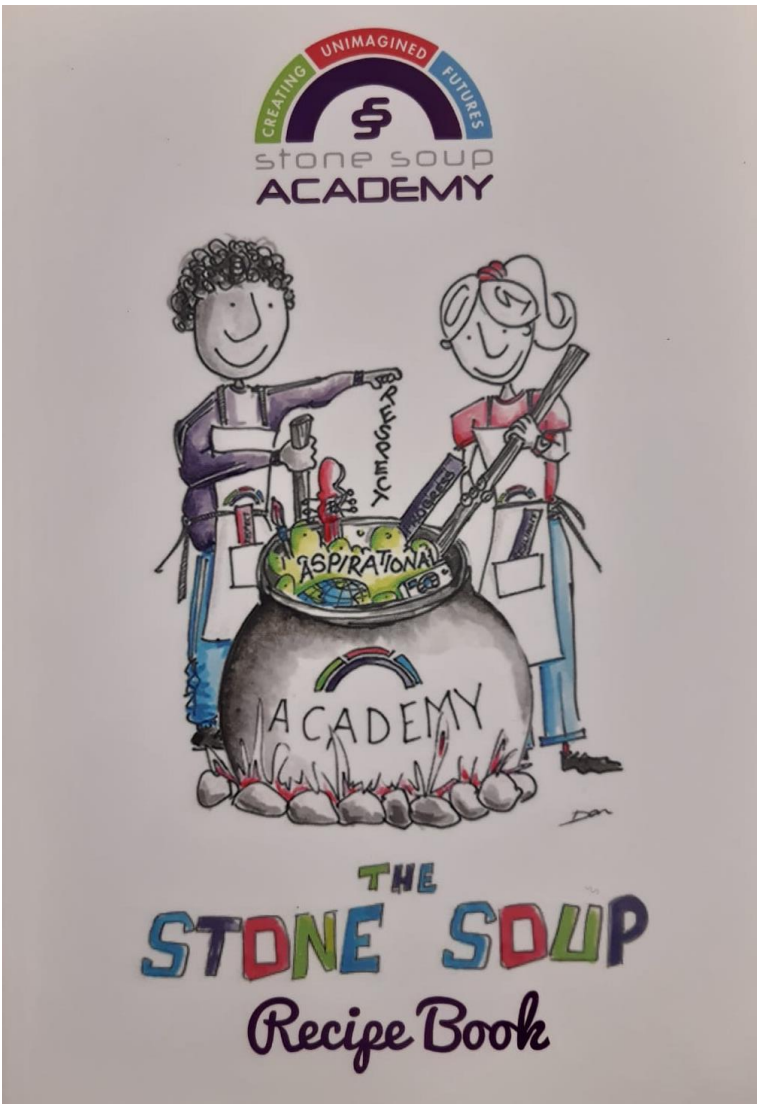
Leona Dunleavy

The last term has been a busy one in the academy and we have made a range of lovely things in the food room. Students have really embraced the recipes and we have been treated once again to the generosity of our students, who can’t wait to share what they have made. I am always so proud of the enthusiasm our learners have for sharing their food with others and delight at the pride they show when others enjoy their food. A favourite make this term has been caramel tarts.

Year 11 students were making them as one of their technical bakes, but the year 10 students were so impressed with them we gave them the chance to make some mini ones, which they loved. What a lovely treat these were and enjoyed by all who tried them.

Our year 11 students have worked incredibly hard this term to make sure they complete as much work for evidence to support their grade. We’ve seen students really commit to their work and their efforts have been fantastic. As part of their assessment students had to research and develop recipes for a brief, selecting two recipes they would make and evaluate as part of their assessment. Some of these recipes were so popular that I thought it would be a lovely idea to include them in the recipe list for the Stone Soup cookbook we have been developing.

Jess’s Buttermilk Chicken Burger and the Raspberry and Appleby Crumble were great dishes and both students were delighted when I told them they were included in the book. We took great pleasure in handing them their own copy complete with their recipes in print.



## Gym Club

Stevie Greaves

After-School gym has also been going strong this term. Many of the year 9’s have been coming after school to push themselves in the gym, Archie and Cesar in particular have been smashing it. Also a student who hasn't missed a day that is George Robinson; George feels the gym has given him that fire back! We have been doing a mix of Boxing and HIIT workouts which work brilliantly. Next year we plan on taking the afterschool gym to the next level, Involving new workouts, equipment and hopefully give students certification in gym use.

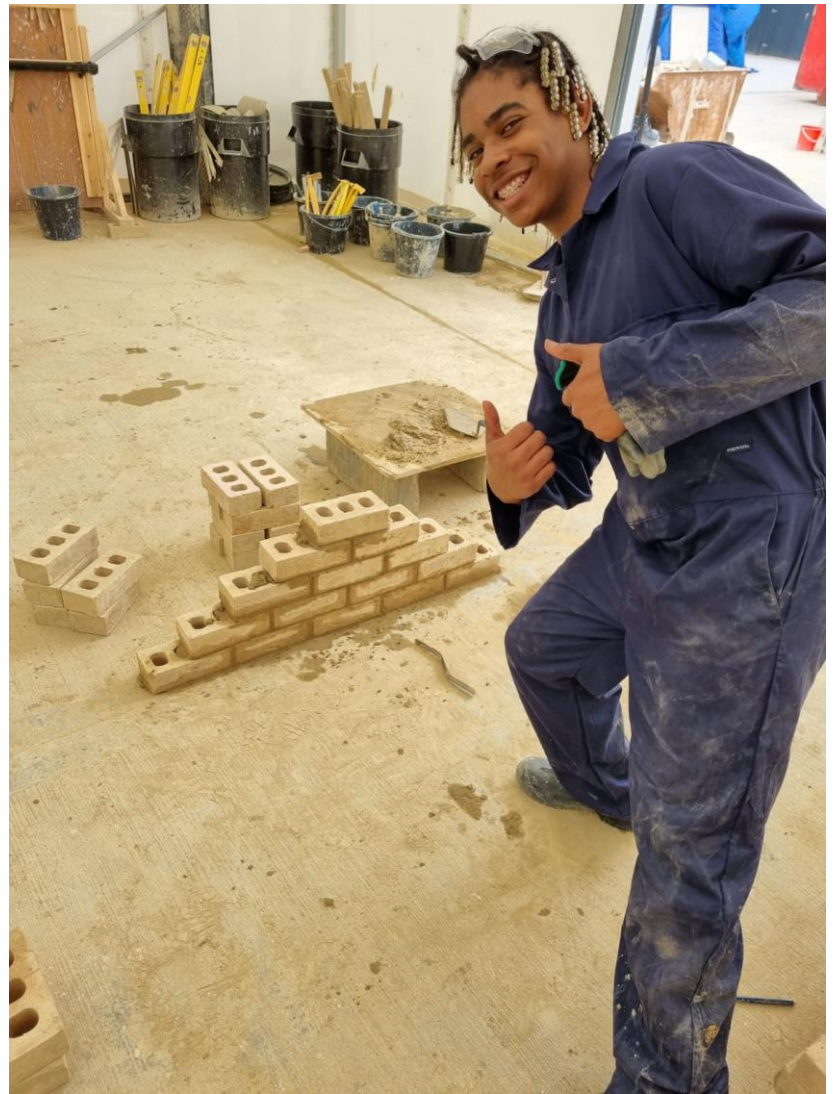




# Multi Skills

Stevie Greaves

This term has been brilliant for getting our year 9's into college and giving them a taster of what Multiskills has to offer. The students that came with me to Basford college are the ones who have put their name down for Multiskills next year; to say they enjoyed it would be an understatement! Every one of them loved it and not only took part but excelled in bricklaying. We did two weeks and the tutors were amazed at how passionate our young learners were. A few students stood out such as Shay, Faine and Tavo, who got special mentions for picking it up so naturally.



## Some moments from Suits Day...





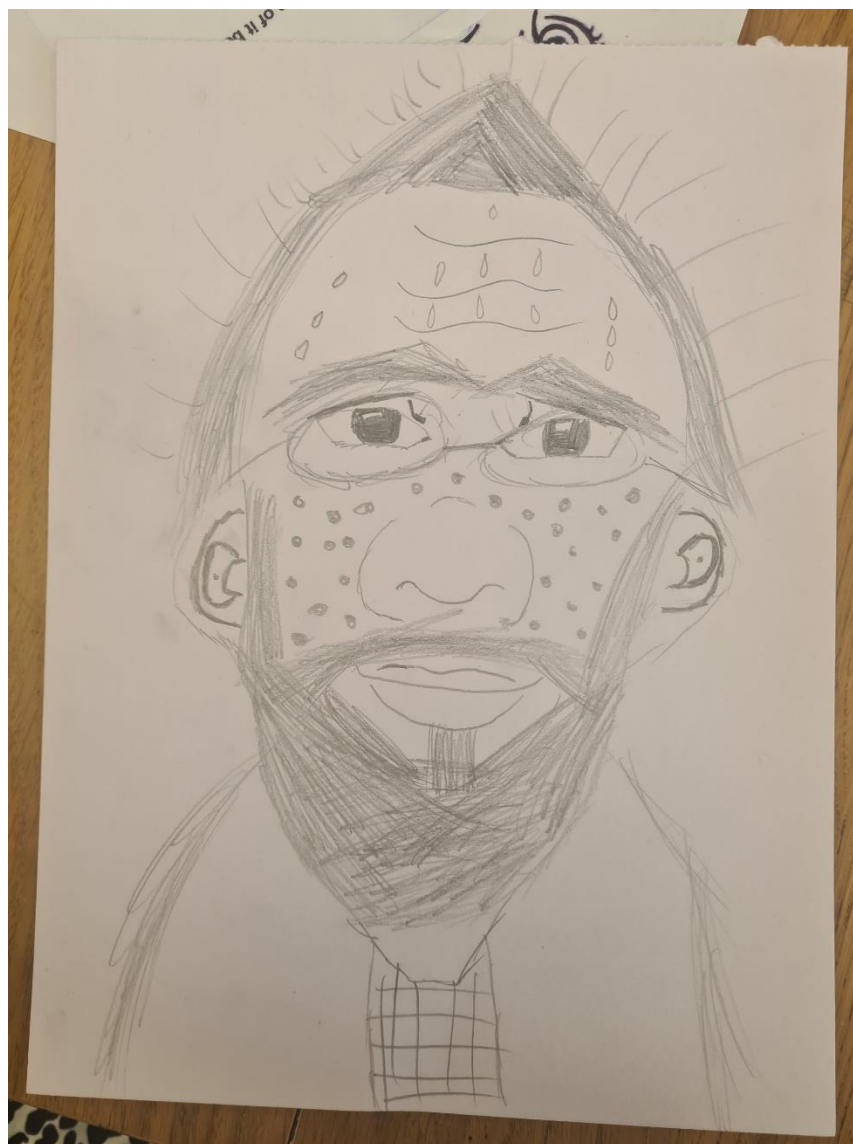
# Building a Brighter Future

Annie Gadsby

It has been a busy time in the creative quarter this term. In the art department the year 10 students have been focusing on a Pop Art inspired project called “this is me” which focuses on the things that make them who they are such as likes, style, family, friends etc. Their artist focus has been Grayson Perry and his vases depicting his life and personal journey. The pupils have been preparing to create their own Perry inspired pot, depicting their own likes and individuality through design, research, mood boards, mod podge and planning. As well as the year 10 pop art project, the year 9’s have been participating in lessons which explore different themes and skill development. So far they have explored caricature art, wax printing and watercolour painting which has been met with good results.

In photography, the students have been exploring the styles of different artists and how to physically manipulate their images to match the artist influence. Amy, in particular has been a very popular focus as the students have greatly enjoyed the results achieved through nothing but a picture, a pillow, a pin and a little bit of patience. They have created some lovely images which are now proudly hanging in the window of the photography department allowing their work to come to life in the style of Friend.

And finally, the creative quarter had an amazing turn out a couple of weeks ago for the Art and Photography Day, which allowed all students at Stone Soup to attend workshops and have a go at the creative subjects. The theme of the day was “what does Stone Soup mean to you?”. The attendees had access to mini canvases, paper, paint, pens, glitter, printmaking and photography and were encouraged to create their own unique piece which would then be gathered as a collective to be displayed within the school. The students really enjoyed this as not only were many of them trying something new, but those who already study the subject enjoyed helping and advising their schoolmates on new techniques. The team work, commitment and hard work was wonderful to see and the resulting work of the day was fantastic.





# Stone Soup Awards

Jordan Senior

The Stone Soup Award was created from a small idea in the midst of lockdown during a ‘Creating Unimagined Futures’ meeting over zoom. In this meeting we thought of ways in which we could reach out to our Alumni who may just need that small boost of support to get them on the right track. From this meeting the Stone Soup Awards were born.

The Stone Soup Award is an amount of money up to £500 open to any student who left us more than 1 academic year ago. Each young person can access the fund if they meet two simple criteria.

- If they are out of work or in unstable employment (zero hours, supply etc)
- Attended Stone Soup and have completed their Stone Soup journey more than 1 year previously

The award has been set up to help students from Stone Soup gain work or improve their prospects to gain work.

During our first awards in January, four former students were successful. The requests that they made ranged from getting a bus pass and some new clothes to being able to attend training courses.

Below are quotes from the first award winners:

“ The laptop purchased really helped me with my College work, I have completed all the work on there and it's been very useful and has really helped me a lot with knowing I had up to date equipment to aid me in my studies”.

“I have successfully completed my first assessment for my TA course, I found it challenging but very rewarding. The impact that this course has had on me has been amazing and I feel like I have something positive to work towards. I am currently doing my second assessment and I will keep

in touch with Stone Soup to let you know how it's going”.

“I've been working as a care assistant and the shoes and clothes have really helped me feel better and more comfortable. I am able to get the bus to places I would have had to walk to which has helped me see more people throughout the day”.

The impact of this award cannot be underestimated. We know that our alumni often don't know where to turn for support once they have left Stone Soup. When they receive our award letter offering them a new opportunity it is giving our alumni new motivation to better themselves.

Our award is growing in interest and in the June meeting we had 14 applications. From these applications we awarded 7 amounts ranging from books to support one of our alumni who is currently in prison and wants to better himself, 4 vocational courses and equipment to support vocational careers.

Even when a student may not be successful, we are still offering support and advice to help them with their next steps as not all problems can be solved through money. We have also taken students who have applied for Confetti College to have a tour of Confetti. They met with their support team and went to have a look around at all the state of the art facilities they have to offer. This is all a part of our transition process in making sure students feel ready and equipped to leave school.





# Experiment Madness

Amy Dennett

This term in Science we have been doing some creative and exciting experiments. The Year 9's have had the opportunity to do an experiment every week as part of their last half term at Richmond House. They have done: the hydrogen gas experiment; carbon snake; electricity circuits; PH testing; making volcanoes and oobleck. They have completed these really well and have improved their skills when conducting experiments.

Also as part of the wellbeing day we had 3 groups of a mixture of Year 10s and 11s who participated in Science experiments as a new experience. For these experiments we made a carbon snake and completed the hydrogen gas experiment.



## Alumni

Oliver Sillito

As we all know Suits Day is our main Stone Soup tradition. Unfortunately due to COVID we could not do our usual celebration back in the summer of 2020. However we always planned to have our students come back to visit us. This proved to be successful, finally. After trying three times throughout last year we planned and got our students back. We had a buffet and hosted it in the games room of the school. For many of the students who came back it was their first time since we went into lockdown for the first time. In March 2020 we found out how they were getting on. Some at college, some were at work and some needed a little more Stone Soup support. It was a great afternoon and another reason why Stone Soup is a special place to work.





# Monumental Boys & Girls

Darrell Drummond

What an absolutely monumental year it has been in the Maths Department for all of our students here at Stone Soup Academy.

Our Year 9 cohort have become the first group to successfully achieve an Entry Level Qualification in Maths! A huge cheer in the house for Shay, Archie, Shania, Millie-Jayne, Caesar, Faine, JJ, Mason, Keane, Tavinho, Kyran and Kiante! I think we should have a special mention too for Kyle for some excellent teaching and also for enabling everyone to do so well in their exams!

Next up in our roll of honour are our Year 10 students. Normally, it is only Year 11s that sit their Functional Skills exams but this year has seen a good number of Year 10s achieving the qualification a year earlier than normal. Big shouts to Chloe J, Ellie-May, George R, Jai, Joseph, Kyle N, Lia, Remai and Ryan for passing their Level 1 exam! By my reckoning there should be even bigger shouts for Chantaya and Dylan who have both passed their Level 2 exams. Wow! Huge thanks to Becca, Megan, Helen, Amy and Connor for some great work in teaching and helping all these students to achieve their qualifications this year!

And what about the Year 11s? This last term saw all of them and I do mean all, working as hard as they could to provide the evidence for their GCSE grades. We all look forward to seeing how well they do in the summer when their results are released. But this round-up would not be complete without the list of students who passed their Functional Skills. And what a list it is!

Passing their Level 1 qualification were Adam, Chloe H, Chloe M, Elisha, Ioana, Jay, Kaleb, Keighanna, Kurtis, Kyron, Max, Malakei, Nelson, Paris, Preston, Reece, Renae and Tristan. And what about all the Year 11s that passed their Level 2 qualifications? Record breakers - that's what they are! Are you ready? Here we go - Corey, Franki-Louise, Jasmine, Jessica, Kaci, Kai, Kyfer, Mia, Michael, Ryan, Shane and Yasin. That's 12 passes at Level 2 in total and a new record for Stone Soup! A big thankyou to Jason and Younes for some great teaching and for encouraging all of these students to do so well this year!

Now remember boys and girls - these qualifications are more than just a bit of paper. They are the gateway to more success and also prove to your future colleges and employers that when it comes to maths you know what you are doing. Take pride in each bit of paper you are awarded because you have earned it. If you want to then you can frame it just like Leonardo and then with Kate by your side you can stare at it lovingly. Take care





# Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education

Osiris Santana

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education has continued to address the needs of our students, as well as helping contextualise events happening around the globe. We've continued using Votes For Schools, with high levels of engagement, to tap into the thoughts and opinions of our students over a range of subjects. Students are afforded the opportunity to speak their minds within their form groups, which is facilitated and moderated by form tutors, often expressing complex opinions that may be challenged by fellow students or staff. Not only does this help students express themselves honestly and openly, it assists our learners in defending and strengthening their arguments, as well as a chance to consider opposing viewpoints. In essence, each form group can be its own debate club. Students are then encouraged to vote on the weekly topic, which is often related to current events. Recently we have covered questions pertaining to whether we take nature for granted, if the refugee crisis is actually over, if we talk enough about consent and if it's appropriate for there to be a 13 and under version of Instagram. In cases like the consent topic, we are given a good view into what needs our students may have and which topics to further address in our PSHE curriculum.

We have further embedded Relationship and Sex Education into the Academy in a variety of ways. Imani continues to teach a timetabled PSHE lesson for our Key Stage 3 students, as well as having visitors and videochat sessions for Key Stage 4, the DREEAM Workshops and the NHS Outreach Health & Support Team, respectively. We are hoping that as lockdown restrictions ease, we will be able to work closely with Street Doctors and the NHS Outreach Team to better accommodate our students with visits to the Academy. Jordan has also lead Barclay's Life Skills lessons for our leaving Year 11s to ensure that they are equipped with the necessary skills for financial literacy and independence.

In an effort to better tailor the PSHE curriculum for the needs of our learners, I've received Safeguarding in Education training so that I stay privy to any incidents that need addressing either individually or across the school, particularly around relationships/sex, drugs and alcohol and gang activity. You will now see my smiling face with the rest of the safeguarding team posted around the building. Likewise, I've received training from the local Nottingham C-Card scheme, providing our students with an additional member of staff who can administer condoms and impart important sexual health information.

Furthermore, we've looked at different ways to utilise the vast resources available to us via the PSHE Association and Twinkl, with plans for next year's PSHE/RSE Curriculum to be delivered as an extended form time on Fridays.

# Business Studies Building Entrepreneurs of the Future

Duncan Bennett

Business students continue to make excellent progress and are enjoying their course. We have completed our first unit, Introductions to Business and have moved on to preparing for their exam on Finance in Business. The year 10 cohort are the first students to complete this course and will be moving into year 11 next academic year. The entrepreneurial skills will be put to the test when a workshop is provided by the Enactus NTU team in the following academic year. The team will look at building the necessary skills to be a successful entrepreneur. This will include being adaptable, innovative, articulate, influential and resilient.



# Eco-School

Josh Glover

Recycling across the academy has continued to promote environmentally friendly practices to our students. We've extended this out to Richmond House so both sites are now recycling.

Taking our eco-school agenda to the next step we are looking at ways we can reduce our carbon footprint and involve students more in our work. Over the next term I will be inviting staff to complete a survey to help calculate our carbon footprint from there we will be looking for ways we can reduce our impact either by offsetting our carbon emissions or by reducing them.

We're looking forward to involving the students next year through the green flag award, an internationally recognized award for raising awareness of our environmental impact to young people!

# Music Day

Josh Glover

Music day was a huge success for our students with a variety of activities available to all students, not just those that take music. During music day we had students learning how to create and play a hip-hop drum beat, learn to play guitar and bass, and record our own Head of PHSE Osiris who rapped about the negative effects of knife crime and county lines. A number of students also jumped on this track adding adlibs to this track. Music and Media day was a massive success and thank you to all staff and students that supported our students trying something new!



# Engaging News

Becky Ashmore

After returning from lockdown, the engagement team placed a heavy focus on the year 11's and encouraging them to complete as much evidence as possible towards their final exam results. This ranged from phone calls with students and parents encouraging the learners to attend, to literally sitting with them as they completed work to ensure they were getting it done. As always we want nothing but the best for our students, but the fact that recent times have been a little crazy and unpredictable meant it was, on occasions, hard to help the students dig deep to find the motivation to complete work. However, the engagement team put a lot of time and effort into emphasising the importance of them completing work and supporting them all the way in getting it finished, using every intervention and engagement technique in the book! This definitely paid off and we are extremely proud of the effort the majority of the students showed to achieve the best grades possible.

Now the year 11's have left us, we are working very closely with our current year 10's, encouraging them to work hard and engage in lessons as they will more than likely be the first year group in two years to actually sit their GCSEs, and like with our recent leavers, we want them to achieve all they are capable of and will support them wholeheartedly on this journey.

This term our year 9's have come over from Richmond House to High Pavement and we have been working on transitioning them to our soon to be year 10's. They have all settled in so well and have made a fantastic start! Long may it continue!



# Enterprise Day

Duncan Bennett

This term we held our first ever Enterprise Day for all students. The day consisted of each subject offering a work experience simulation for the morning allowing students to engage with a real life experience of jobs within that subject. Ideagen also provided prizes for those that showcased the values that they deem important in their workforce. The values consisted of the following:

- Honesty & Integrity
- Humility and Courage
- Pride & Excellence
- Problem Solving
- Pace & Momentum
- Positivity & Perseverance

The prizes available were a £25 Amazon voucher, branded merchandise and a stadium tour of the Nottingham Forest Ground.

The day was fantastic with both staff and students enjoying the experience. Here are a few highlights from the day:



Students took on the role of either a coach, PE teacher or personal trainer for the morning.

“I’m the best goalkeeper in the school so I had to be the coach for the morning”

Darnell



Students took on the role of either a beauty therapist or salon manager for the morning.

“I’m doing nails all day, I am the boss!”

Rihanna



Students took on the role of either a news reporter or journalist visiting the caves of Nottingham to report on

“The caves were interesting and I was the best student on the trip”

George

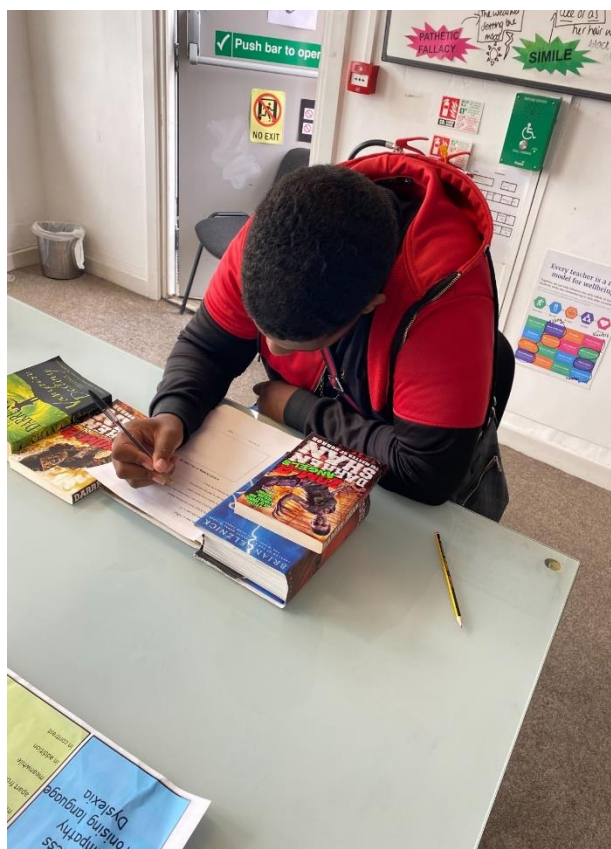


# Living Literacy Life

Kerry Day

This term we have been continuing with our weekly Literacy tasks throughout the Academy and staff have been recording feedback on how the tasks have been working within their lessons. The staff have worked hard to get the task completed every week and have given some great feedback and ideas. The students have enjoyed many of the tasks and have gained confidence in some areas of Literacy. We have also been approached to run a pilot project for the National Literacy Trust called Game Changers and it is aimed at a group of up to 8 girls. We will be starting this project on Monday 21st of June and it will be taught by Rebecca Hale in the Library. After approaching the BookTrust they have agreed that our school qualifies for a Special School Library Pack. This means that we will receive 40 books that are dyslexia friendly, for reluctant readers and interactive books. We will also receive some graphic novels and sensory books. This will help to enhance our school library and make reading more enjoyable for those who struggle with it.

In the upcoming academic year we are looking to use the Library on a more regular basis for lessons and have audiobooks in the Library for those who are less fond of reading. We will continue with our Literacy tasks and track the progress of our projects.



## *An update on English at the Academy.*

This term in English we have been working hard with our year 11s to make sure they have the best evidence for their English qualification. We have run a very successful set of mock exams, in which some students have achieved their functional skills qualifications and we have organised intervention to help students catch up with any necessary work. We have had some excellent group discussions for the functional skills speaking and listening qualification, and as a school we have received superb feedback about how we conducted this qualification.

Year 10 have been working very hard on their creative writing skills in preparation for year 11. Year 9s have been focusing on basic Literacy skills and have been transitioning into the High Pavement site in preparation for their September start as year 10. We have taken students out to get a feel of what it would be like to be a journalist, as part of our Enterprise Day that happened on the 26th of July. Students loved this experience and it was a successful day.

In the upcoming academic year we are hoping to take some students to a public library and a University Library, to give them an insight into life in post 16 education. We will be focusing on the year 11 GCSE exams which will hopefully take place in summer 2022.



# Expanding the Experiences within the Academy

Duncan Bennett

The gym expansion is set to start over the summer, with equipment ordered and ready to be set up for the start of the next academic year. We plan to have more weight equipment, areas for boxing and another exercise bike. The new space allows us to continue to deliver excellent lessons in the gym and continue to offer a gym club to more students. This is an exciting expansion and one that will benefit both staff and students in the academy.



## Key Stage Three

Kyle Saddington and Imani Lockhart-Davis

Throughout the year, guiding the learners to achieve a qualification in Maths has been the ultimate aim in Key Stage 3; this is the first attempt at gaining qualifications for Key Stage 3. Everything that we have done within the subject of Maths has been aimed towards the qualification and this was the term where we entered our Key Stage 3 cohort for Entry Level 3 Maths. All of the learners have sat mock exams and throughout the whole process of the exam all learners did exceptionally well considering this was their first real exam. The results also suggest this as we had a 93% successful pass rate, which is an excellent result for the Key Stage 3 cohort. All of the learners were exceptionally proud of themselves and even one of our learners achieved 100% in their exam, which has prompted the entry of Functional Skills Maths.

This term has seen a significant change for the Year 9 cohort, as their time at Richmond House has come to end. The time of year has come where the Key stage 3 team supports the learners with choosing their options and helping transition into the new building. This being a significant change for learners as they now become Year 10 with new classes, new personal coaches and new challenges along the way.

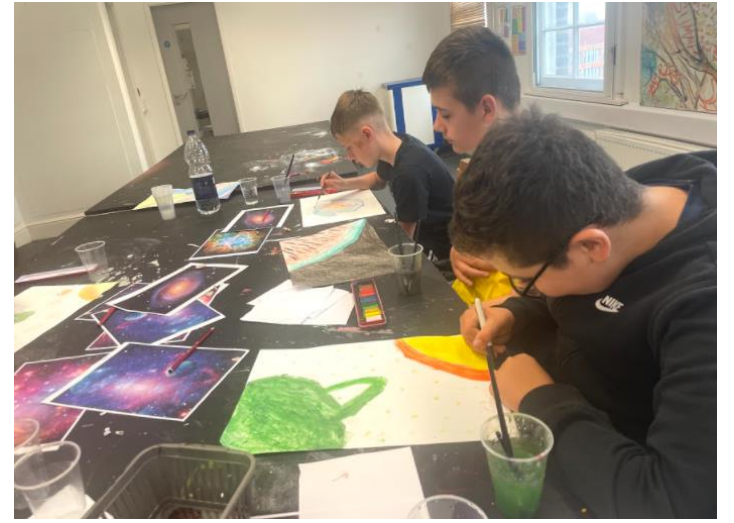
Richmond House is also taking on a new venture, Stepping Stones. Stepping Stones is an early intervention strategy that we are offering to mainstream schools. The aim is to support mainstream schools by working with students in Year 7, 8 and 9 who are in danger of exclusion. This new venture will focus upon a curriculum delivered through themed projects. As this is a new project, we are running a pilot programme for 4 weeks. We have six learners signed on until the end of this term. This is something that is very exciting for Stone soup and Key Stage 3 as a whole as we already have confirmed numbers throughout the next academic year.

Three weeks into the pilot scheme, there has been nothing but positivity from all the six learners and their parents. Such a positive start to the programme has seen all the learners enjoy their education again and fall



back in love with school, one of the main aims of the Stepping Stones programme. The programme has been full of hands-on learning where all learners have enjoyed different aspects of Stepping Stones so far. One of the themes that has been the most successful to date has been space and planets and is evident with the smile on their faces.

Here are some early moments from Stepping Stones



# DJ Academy

Chelsey Reid

This half term there have been many exciting events happening across the academy. One of these has been the media and music day. During the day I took a number of students across to the Four Four Dj Academy in which they were able to learn basic DJ'ing skills such as mixing two different songs together and learning how to use the different DJ'ing equipment. A number of students revisited the DJ academy at a later time due to them enjoying it so much the first time. When students were confident in what they had learnt, they were able to freestyle DJ, use the microphones and have lots of fun!

# Sport Extends Links with DCT Boxing Academy

Duncan Bennett

Year 11 students have now finished their course and are awaiting their results from this year's Q TAGs. It has been a great year with some amazing success stories. We are hoping for some brilliant results and look forward to hearing from the exam board. The Year 10's continue to make excellent progress with some exceeding progress targets towards the end of the year. They enjoy attending NTU campus for practical sport and there is a group of 10 students who regularly attend Friday enrichment at DCT Boxing Academy. Our boxing sessions are run by elite coaches and seeing our students push themselves every week is great to see.





# Investigating Nottingham's History

Taylor Gilmour

As part of this term's Enterprise Day the English faculty ran an investigative journalist workshop and visit to the newly renovated Nottingham Castle. George, Kyle, and Rimai were some of the first to be welcomed back into the Castle after its three year closure. During this time, a staggering £30 million has been pumped into redeveloping the Castle in efforts to make it one of the most popular tourist destinations outside of London.

Tasked with investigating some of the new changes, the boys took part in two of the many workshops the historic Castle offers; the newly opened Robin Hood Experience and a descent down into the belly of the Castle on the Nottingham Castle's Cave Tour.

During the Robin Hood Experience the group learnt about the history of Nottingham's most famous landmark and the man, the myth, the legend that is Robin Hood. After being first emersed with a cinema in the round telling the story of Robin Hood, the group were able to practice their archery and bow staff skills using the new virtual interactive games. Rimai proved himself to be quite skilled when it came to handling the bow and arrows!

After the 'Robin Hood Experience' the boys then prepared to delve deep down into the caves that snake beneath the Castle. On the tour the group heard the rich history of the caves, with some stretching as far back as the 11<sup>th</sup> Century to the original Castle's creation in 1068 by William the Conqueror, through to their more contemporary use as air raid shelters during the Second World War. The three were shocked to learn that over time some people literally carved a life out for themselves in the caves with some of them acting as homes to Nottingham's poorest and elaborate fridges to Nottingham's richest!

All three students were shining examples of what it means to be a student at Stone Soup Academy. The boys enjoyed their time exploring and uncovering the Castle's rich history and have said how they would like to revisit in the future once even more of the refurbishments are open to the public.





# We Got It!

Kerrie Henton

We received the exciting news this term from the Department for Education that we had achieved our 'Significant Change'. This is an agreement from the Department for Education that we can now increase the number of students at Stone Soup Academy and develop a Satellite site.

This means that we will keep our site on High Pavement and then hopefully purchase an additional site in which we will be able to grow our year 9, our Key stage 3 Stepping Stones provision and our Pastoral Sixth Form.

It is an amazing opportunity for the academy and testament to the amazing work that we do with our students, our parents/carers and our community. This year has been a crazy year with covid 19 again impacting our learner's journey but in spite of this we have still managed to increase our student numbers, start a pilot project for Stepping Stones and be nominated for two awards through the Times Educational Supplement for Best Use of Technology and Head teacher of the Year, of which we were delighted.

I am so proud to lead our Academy and each passing year we seem to achieve more and more. Our students are achieving great outcomes, our attendance is good (although we always strive for better!) and our young people are happy and consistently tell us how much they enjoy coming to Stone Soup and value their time with us.

So our next steps will be to find a large building very close to High Pavement into which we can develop and grow and also welcome back our students as they join our first ever pastoral Sixth Form. Here we will not deliver subjects but we will continue to support our students as they step out into the real world. Whether that be into work, college or training. We will still be here as part of their Stone Soup family.

I hope that everyone has a fantastic summer and we will look forward to welcoming you back in the new term.

# New Appointments

Becky Ashmore

We are pleased to announce two new promotions within the academy; both internal appointments who have worked within the engagement team at Stone Soup for some years now. From September Michelle will be our Assistant Head of Engagement KS4 and Imani Assistant Head of Engagement KS3. We are delighted with these appointments and excited about what these two posts will add to the Academy.





# Love of reading

Younes Henini

- *Reading Makes You More Empathetic.*
- *Reading is a way to escape your own life, and can take you to faraway lands, other times, and put you in other people's shoes.*
- *Reading Keeps Your Brain Healthy.*
- *Reading Reduces Stress.*
- *Reading Helps You Sleep Better.*
- *Reading Sets an Example for Kids.*

How can you support your child to love reading?

Give your children something to read this summer holiday.

The first step in getting your child to read more is to help them enjoy doing it. The best way to accomplish this is by providing them with something that they actually want to read. Today's kids are more drawn to short readings, such as magazine articles or articles on websites and that's okay! Get them to read, whether it's a 500-word blog post or a 500-page classic novel, it doesn't matter.

A lot of kids already have tablets, e-readers, or laptops. Each of these platforms is already familiar to your child, so why not use it to promote reading for fun? Children read articles online, or they can download books from websites like Amazon or Barnes & Noble. Children can adjust the size of the font and the colour of the page background to suit their preferences. They can also bookmark pages and highlight text, just like in a traditional book.

Getting the whole family involved to foster a love of reading can be facilitated by involving the whole family in the process. Scheduling times to read together or have individual reading time can help get your kids into the routine of picking up a book and putting down their PlayStation controller. If there are older children in the house, encouraging them to sit down and read with their younger siblings can bring benefits for them both. Playing reading-related games can be a fun way to introduce reading to children as well.

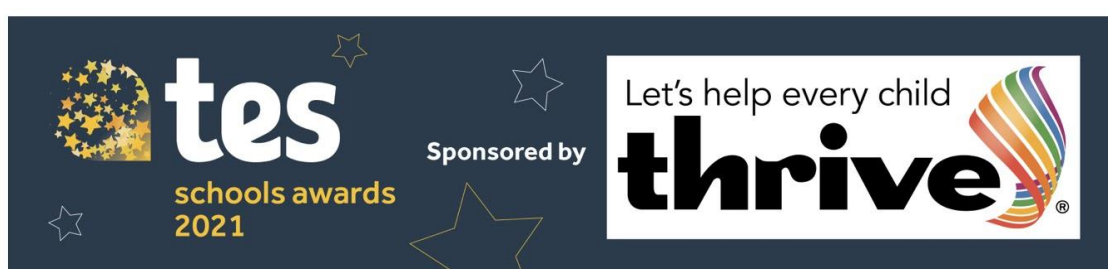
# National Recognition for Stone Soup Academy

Kerrie Henton

We are so proud to have been recognised by the TES Educational Awards 2021. Stone Soup Academy was nominated for two of the prestigious national awards for Best Use of Technology and Headteacher of the year. Both of these awards were against competition from all areas of education across the country and it was a massive honour for us to be nominated in a shortlist of 8 other schools.

It is amazing what our academy is able to achieve and a good example to our students that with commitment and effort we can achieve anything. Our list of awards and nominations continues to grow as despite the lockdown and pandemic we were also recognised within the Pearson Awards this year in the category of 'Making a difference'.

Next year we will continue to put ourselves forward as our students deserve to work for an academy in whom we are all very proud.





# A Winning Finish for Stone Soup Academy

Connor Bartle

Students ended the term on a high with three final event days of the term. Our annual Sports Day was a massive success and both staff and students had a fantastic day. We visited Drayton Manor theme park and had a blast. We rounded the term off by having a transition assembly to celebrate the success of our students and look back on some of the highlights of the year. A brilliant term and another amazing academic year. Enjoy the summer!



## Parent Governors Needed

Kerrie Henton

### Please join us on our Governing body.

No experience required just a desire to continue to make our Academy great for our young people.

If you have a child at Stone Soup Academy and you have time for 4 meetings a year then please give me a call for an informal chat. I will be more than happy to tell you all about what we do and what a difference you could make.

This is a voluntary role but we are a nice bunch so I hope that you might help us. Thank you

