



Dear Parents/Carers/
 Employer partners and the
 Stephenson community,

As the Autumn Term draws to a close, I would like to wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

Having worked hard all term, students will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries. It has been a busy and productive term with lots to tell you about and a few reminders to give too.

I offer thanks to our employer partners, work placement mentors, and volunteers who selflessly give their time, expertise and commitment to greatly enhance the educational experience of our students. Please see list of employer partners and volunteer organisations on page 2.

There was much cause for celebration in 2018. We secured the removal of special measures, saw; student numbers rocket, student progress improve, and high quality teachers retained. Within the last half term I am particularly proud of the junior leadership team that we have formed who are working on powerful projects to tackle community-wide

issues.

Many parents have contacted the school asking for advice on how to police, monitor and encourage the safe use of social media and electronic devices. Advice and guidance can be found at

www.thinkuknowhow.co.uk and we have shared a support flyer on page 4. We hope that this is useful and that parents/carers can approach this important issue together.

One of my favourite tasks at this time of year is to write to the parents/carers of all of the students who meet our expectations every day and as such position themselves in a manner that enables them to take full advantage of all of the opportunities that are available at Stephenson Studio School. These students embody the school pledge and are an example to the Stephenson Community.

The celebration has continued into our end of term rewards and is a reminder of why we are proud to be Stephenson.

When year 10 and 12 students return from Christmas they will begin the execution stage of their work placement projects which they have been planning since the last mid-term break. These projects enable students not only to further develop their employability skills (within the



CREATE framework) but equally importantly give rise to the opportunity to have a quantifiable impact within their work placement, leave a legacy and greatly enhance their CV.

Year 11 students on the other hand, with exams quickly approaching, will see their revision schedules moving up a gear and becoming more focused as they return from the Christmas break. We encourage parents to work with students on their revision schedules and routines prior to the new term.

There is so much more to say but I will let you read the Newsletter and wish you and your family a peaceful Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

K. Hobbs
 Headteacher

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Special points of interest:

- *A day of remembrance*
- *Success in work experience and introducing students to a career in engineering.*
- *Keeping your child safe and healthy online.*
- *Celebrating star students*

Work Experience and Tomorrow's Engineers

Stephenson Studio School currently works with 38 employers.

The work placements offer a wide range of experiences and we are grateful for the support of all our local business partners.

Currently we work with the following employers:

Fat Boys Café, the British Heart Foundation, Stephenson College IT Support, the Hermitage Leisure centre, Pets at Home, Redgate Animal Sanctuary, TEK MOT Centre, ETS, Hermitage FM, Humpty Dumpty nursery, Forest Way School, Penguin Pre School, Ellistown Playgroup, Mini Explorers, Cheeky Monkeys, Noah's Ark, Hugglescote Playgroup, IMS, GPI, Ath-

erstone Coop, Select Fashion, Bridge Road Coop, Meadow Lane Coop, Whitwick Coop, Vanita's Hair Salon, Hedonist, Jo Jo's Day Nursery, Copper Kettle Café, St Clare's Primary, All Saints Primary, Meadow Lane Riding School, Asda, Insomnia Café, Tyre King, TBD Waste Management.

Excitingly, GPI, a local company with an international presence, has offered our students two apprenticeship places for September 2018. This is a great opportunity with a high-profile local company, where our students are put to the front of the queue.

Employers are positive about Stephenson Studio School's students. Vanita's

Hair Salon gave a glowing report on Poppy Pedley, and has offered her a part time job and the possibility of an apprenticeship.

Hugglescote Playgroup commented that our students 'are always much better than those from other establishments.'

...

We were delighted to welcome the inspiring Tomorrow's Engineers project into school, bringing a hands on interactive introduction to careers in Engineering.

Our students engaged really well. It was encouraging to observe the teamwork and competitive spirit.

Especially impressive were our girls who were single-minded in their attempt to win, making frequent adjustments to get their car closer to its goal.

Stephenson students 'are always much better than those from other establishments.'

Remembrance Day & Other News

This year was the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War and we made a special effort to commemorate the sacrifices of our troops, with a day dedicated to Remembrance themed lessons.



Zach Price, member of the Junior Leadership Team, took an active part in the day.

'Remembrance day is a day to remember those who gave their lives in the first and second world wars,' he said. 'On this day everybody shows respect and thankfulness towards the soldiers. Remembering the fabulous soldiers, I came into school dressed in World War Two British battle dress to show my

respect and honour of having such great people do such a thing of giving their lives up in order to protect and save others. If it wasn't for the amazing soldiers I doubt that we would all be here today living our lives how we are.'

At 11 am students gathered in the college 'Drum' to listen to a member of staff play the Last Post and to reflect for two minutes in silence on the sacrifices our soldiers make.



Students also worked on creating a wall commemorating the deaths of soldiers in the war.



In other news...

We bid goodbye to Mr Adeyemi, our Science teacher, and express our thanks to him for all the work he has done. Next term we welcome Mr Ghandi who will take our Science students through to their GCSEs.

Lucy Rawlings

The whole school community was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Lucy Rawlings, one of our students, following her long, brave battle with illness.

Due to her poor health Lucy did not get to spend much time with us at Stephenson Studio School, though she attended transition and was a smiling, well-liked presence during the week.

The Student Leadership Team organized an afternoon in which the students could raise money for Lucy's Bluebird Trust, a charity established by her family to support her.

Students also created a memory tree and those who knew Lucy were able to share their memo-



ries of her.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Lucy's family and her close friends who lost a lovely girl.

The students raised £138.13.



The Junior Leadership Team (JLT)

Although the Junior Leadership Team only came together in the early weeks of October, they have already started many projects.

These include promoting positive mental health, celebrating diversity within the school and the community, and tackling social issues within the community. The JLT has divided into smaller groups, and work on the projects separately, reporting back progress to the

entire team, and helping each team work together to improve.

Currently, one of the projects involves searching for the New Year 10's that could take the place of the members of the Junior Leadership Team next year. Application letters and meetings are set to begin in early January. Surveys have also been completed, showing what needs to be improved in the local area.

Mr Scales, a school trustee, recently commented on the JLT. He said that Natalia has been very successful in chairing the meetings, and was impressed by the remainder of the team working together efficiently. Mr Scales commented on the sensitivities of the subjects at hand in the meetings.

The mission of the Team is to improve the community of students, as well as the community surrounding the school.

Dealing With Abusive Behaviour on Social Media

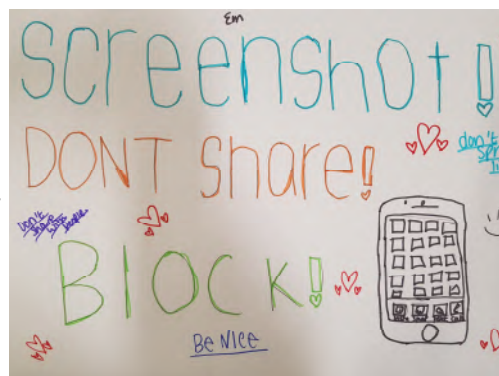
For much of the time social media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat) is a great way for us to stay in touch with family and friends.

Unfortunately, it can also be a place where we experience nastiness and abuse.

We feel it is important to work with students on how to communicate safely, healthily and effectively on social media as in the real world.

When students receive abuse our message is clear:

1. Screenshot
2. Block offender
3. Report to parents and teachers
4. Do not share on social media or through messaging.



We would Like to share the positive letter we have been able to send to some of our students



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Wednesday 19th December 2018

Dear

It is with pleasure that we write to share that your daughter is a credit to yourself and the school in that she is consistently well behaved at school and always tries her best. Your daughter is focused in lessons, polite to teachers and responds positively to feedback about her work and behaviour.

Often in schools this kind of behaviour could go unnoticed, as it should be a given. However we thought it right to celebrate the important contribution that attributes like this make to the school community and our ability to be proud to be Stephenson.

We hope that you pass on this recognition to your daughter and join with us in taking the opportunity to tell her how proud we are of her.

Have a lovely time over the festive period.

With kind regards,

Mr Keith Hobbs
Headteacher





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www.stephensonstudioschool.co.uk

Reminder:

First day back in half term 3 for Year 11 is Monday the 7th January. College courses will be running as normal and students should not miss these sessions. Parents are reminded that there are less than ten college days left until the end of course — students can't afford to miss any time.

First day in half term 3 for Year 10 is Tuesday the 8th January. Monday is an inset day and teachers will be taking part in training.

Keeping Your Child Safe Online

Keeping our children safe online is an increasingly important part of our job as parents and teachers.

The website thinkuknowhow.co.uk provides help and advice for parents on a number of topics, including:

- * Protecting your children from sexual abuse online
- * Keeping your children safe from harm
- * Helping your child to get the most from the internet
- * Parenting in the digital age
- * Reporting incidents to CEOP (National Crime Agency)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

In order to help you manage the electronic devices your child uses, we attach the guide on the next page.

Get started

Set parental controls on your broadband to prevent your children seeing things they shouldn't

For smart phones check parental controls are also set up on the mobile network

Set up the device safely

Use the device setting so you can only download age appropriate apps and games.

Set up password control or disable in-app purchasing so big bills are not run up accidentally.

Disable location services so your child doesn't unintentionally share their location with others.

Download age appropriate apps you're happy for your child to use.

Talk about staying safe

Be aware of key issues and how to discuss them with your children so they know how to stay safe online.

If your child is using social networking apps check their profile and privacy settings, making sure they are not sharing personal or private information with people they do not know.



SETTING UP A DEVICE SAFELY FOR KIDS

YOUTUBE
SETTINGS → TICK SAFE SEARCH FILTERING → TICK STRICT

TURN OFF IN APP PURCHASES
SETTINGS → GENERAL → RESTRICTIONS → TURN OFF IN APP PURCHASES (NOT GREEN)

DISABLE SAFARI BROWSER
(IF YOU DON'T WANT THEM SEARCHING ANYTHING)
SETTINGS → GENERAL → RESTRICTIONS → ALLOWED CONTENT

MAKE ITUNES SAFE
(TO KEEP DEVICES SEPARATE WHERE YOUR ITUNES ACCOUNT HAS BEEN CONNECTED TO)
ITUNES ON YOUR COMPUTER → EDIT → PREFERENCES → DECIDE WHICH SHOWS AND RATINGS ARE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS DEVICE AND OTHER DEVICES.

SAFARI
SETTINGS → GENERAL → RESTRICTIONS → SET IT UP THE WAY YOU WANT IT AND APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

DISALLOW UPLOADING OR DELETING OF APPS
SETTINGS → GENERAL → RESTRICTIONS → INSTALLING APPS OR DELETING APPS

GUIDED ACCESS
(FOR KIDS TO STAY WITHIN AN APP, TO AVOID GOING TO OTHER APPS AND WEBSITES)
SETTINGS → GENERAL → RESTRICTIONS → SCROLL DOWN TO LEARNING → ACCESSIBILITY → GUIDED ACCESS → TOGGLE ON

www.code4parent.com.au