

## Headteacher's Message

The school joined the rest of the country this week in observing a 1 minute's silence following the terror attack at the Manchester Arena on 22 May. Inevitably our students described a mixture of emotions. Importantly however, we're resolute in not giving in to those who perpetrate such evil and allow these natural human emotions to cultivate the division and distrust that they seek to sow.

I am proud of the mature way in which our students were able to handle, discuss and support each other through their struggle to comprehend what had happened.

Reiterating this pride in our students, our year 13s are all predicted to meet or exceed their aspirational targets for their level 3

applied extended diploma in Science. Well done to our 6th formers and well done to the Science team.

Year 11 examinations are now well underway. We are proud to share that students, as expected, have conducted themselves impeccably. An increasing proportion of learners have fed back the benefit of utilising the additional support that was given in the form of constructing revision timetables, exploring revision strategies, timetabling revision sessions, improving exam technique workshops. My message to all students is, you only get out what you put in. As George echoes later in the newsletter, no excuses – be the best that you can be.

Year 10 students will begin their end of year mock examinations next half term and it is imperative they follow the



lead of the students in year 11 who are meeting success and ensure that their revision strategy takes them on the required journey of the next 12 months. For year 10, if it hasn't started already, then it needs to start now!

I hope that you enjoy reading our half term 5 edition and join with me in wishing our year 11 and year 13 students all the best for the future.

Have an enjoyable bank holiday weekend.

Mr Hobbs

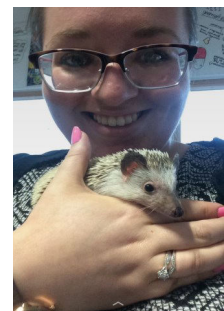
## Year 11 Relax with Ark Farm's Animals

As the Year 11 students moved into exam season, inevitably the stress began to show.

To help students relax Personal Coach Jess arranged for Ark Farm to come in. Ark Farm brings animals to schools and care homes, providing

children with an unforgettable experience.

Christie King said, 'I enjoyed the opportunity to see the animals. It helped me relax for my exams. I liked the tortoise Hermione best!'



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### Special points of interest:

- *Cute Hedgehogs visit Stephenson*
- *Year 10 are taken out of their comfort zone*
- *Students are inspired by a visitor*
- *Ten characteristics of success*



## Year 10 Start Welding

A great effort was shown by everyone in the Year 10 Engineering class when they had their first ever session welding.

Owen Hazeldine enjoyed the session, though it wasn't without its challenges. 'Welding was a good experience because I had a great time with something challenging.'

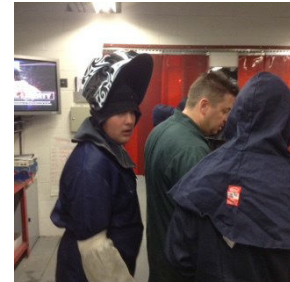
And as Harry Pope commented, 'The welding was awesome, but it was very hot after twenty minutes. I had to go and cool down I was that hot!' However he added, 'It was a good day and I would like to do it again.'

Josh Knight made the most of the session, relishing the challenges. 'I had an amazing experience. I learnt a lot and most importantly had fun.'

'I found welding to be a difficult experi-

ence,' Matthew Allen confessed, 'because of the sense of danger involved and the responsibility.' However he also commented that, 'Welding helped me achieve new skills'.

Stephenson is committed to challenging students and offering them the kind of opportunities that they might not get in other schools.



## Stephenson Pledges and Thinking about British Values

On Monday 8th May Year 10 students spent the day working with their tutors and their peers really thinking about the kind of school community they wanted.

Davinia Robinson from Babington Community College came in to help students think about positive behaviours and British values.

During the day, the students wrote pledges that the school could use.

### Pledge 1

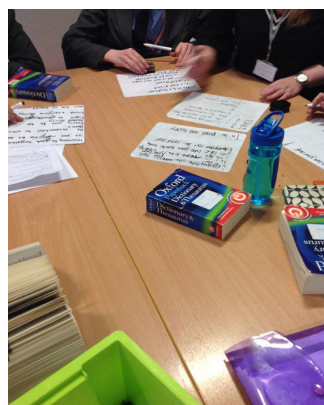
I pledge to always;  
Demonstrate pace, resilience and grit in my work  
To show respect and tolerance and treat people with kindness, using appropriate language and honourable behaviour  
To embrace the opportunities that are afforded to me, to allow me to learn, to grow and develop  
To work hard in all my lessons to the best of my abilities, knowing that there is no excuse not to be all that I can be

### Pledge 2

I will be positive,  
I will treat staff and students with equal respect  
I will not treat any other staff or student differently because of their culture, beliefs or background.  
I will strive to become the best person ready for the world of work  
I will work hard and be proud of what I achieve, knowing I have achieved it because I gave it my best, never any excuses.

### Pledge 3

I pledge to always;  
Lead by example and challenge those who don't show respect bully and use unkind words  
To understand that people around me want me to do well in life and achieve the best for me and I will not challenge their hard work and efforts  
Take full advantage of the help, support and opportunities that are available to me.  
Work hard and make no excuses  
Respect others, the school and myself.  
Believe in me



## Year 11 Students are Inspired! By Emma Woods

As Year 11 started their GCSE's they got a special visit from an ex-international and premiersip rugby player.

George Fouche is UK number one inspirational speaker. Born in South Africa, he never stopped until his dream

came true. He achieved his dream through his ten characteristics which he developed through his experience of



never stop believing that he could do it.

George Fouche first told the year 11's of his background, about being told he'd never amount to much. How he lived on a council estate, and how through his rough childhood he never let it define what he can do. Through his journey he never stopped anything from achieving his dream - to be a international rugby player.

He told the year 11's how even though he got knocked down time and time again he got back up to try to be better. He told them to

never let go of your dreams and that you should protect them. When he got told he'd never walk again he didn't stop trying until he could walk on his own two feet out of the hospital.

He taught us it doesn't matter what others do; it's about you being happy. Just like when he became a qualified maths teacher because that's what made him happy and joyful to wake up in the morning.

Next he introduced a workshop that had done during the 2016 Rio Olympics with Usain Bolt. This is where he got the students to choose their colour pen and write down their aspirations. George then went through the ten characteristics everyone has but have yet to

## George Fouche's 10 Characteristics for Success

George Fouche shared with the Year 11 students the ten characteristics that he believed that you needed to have in order to be a success.

He showed, talking about his own life and experiences why they were so important.

The following are the ten characteristics which he said the students needed to develop:

- \* Drive
- \* Discipline
- \* Self-confidence
- \* Competitiveness
- \* Focus
- \* Commitment
- \* Time management
- \* Determination
- \* Adaptability
- \* Emotional maturity

The year 11 students reacted with a strong positivity to succeed, knowing their own worst enemy but if they get through their own mental block they can be anything they want to be, just like the studio school believes in. The students enjoyed the energetic speech, which they took only a positive attitude to and feel more motivated for the rest of their GCSE's.

### Why is Punctuality Important?

Being on time:

- gets your day off to a good start and puts you in a positive frame of mind, so that you can make the most of your learning opportunities.
- sets positive patterns for the future. You can't expect to keep a job if you're always coming in late;
- leads to a good attendance record and

means you don't miss any morning notices;

- leads to better achievement because you attend the WHOLE of all of your classes;
- leads to understanding that school is important and education is valuable;
- helps you develop a sense of responsibility for yourself and towards others and is a sign of good character;

- is respectful to your teacher and to your classmates and builds good habits for later in life when your employer pays you to be on time;
- is very important indeed. Research shows that attendance and punctuality are the single most important factors in school

# Teacher Profile—Ms Brentley

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## How long have you been teaching?

I have been teaching 12 years

## What made you decide to become a teacher?

There has never been any other job that I have wanted to do. Ever since I can remember I have always wanted to become a teacher, and I really do think I have landed my dream job. I originally wanted to be a primary school teacher, then I changed to a secondary music teacher, then an English teacher, so now I'm settled as a humanities teacher.

## What do you like about teaching at Stephenson?

Every school is unique. Stephenson Studio School is a great school to teach at, being so small it gives me the opportunity to get to know every single student. I have never worked in a school that is so fast paced.

## What do you do when you are not teaching?

I like to keep busy as I hate being bored!

When I am not teaching, I manage to get to the gym regularly and bake at week-ends. My family are in Bristol, so, if they are not visiting me, I am often on my way to see them in the West Country, stocking up on proper pasties!

## What book are you reading now?

I am reading 'Suffragette: My Own Story' by Emmeline Pankhurst, it's inspiring to read how much women (and some men) fought for the rights of women to have the vote... I will be voting on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June.



The Year 11 football match with Lutterworth Studio School. A tough game, but great to see the students showing grit and determination—the qualities of Stephenson and the qualities of success.