



## Weekly Newsletter

Issue No. 12 | 2nd December 2022

### UPCOMING DATES NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Monday 5th  
Year 11C GCSE Art Controlled  
Assessment

Thursday 8th  
Year 11D Textiles Controlled  
Assessment

Monday 12th  
Trip to Parliament

Monday 12th  
Trussell Trust Food Collection

Mon 12th - Fri 16th  
Festive Food Week

Thursday 15th  
Christmas Concert

**NEW DATE!!** - Friday 16th  
Christmas Jumper Day - MUFT!

Friday 16th  
End of Term - Early closure  
12.30 pm, transport arranged  
for 12.50 pm



### Headteacher's message ....

For the last few years there has been a greater emphasis placed on the importance of being able to read confidently and fluently at The Stonehenge School. This was an area that we were developing with students before the Covid pandemic hit, but since time at school was missed it has become an even more vital area of whole school improvement.

Many of you will be aware that we have had Accelerated Reader and Bedrock in place for some time as a way to promote regular reading and to help students develop their vocabulary. By the time pupils complete their GCSEs they need to have a reading age of 15 or 16 years old in order to be able to understand the vocabulary in the questions that they are being asked.

We regularly measure the reading ages of almost all of the pupils in the school. This is reported home to parents to give you an idea of what their reading age is, which is then easy to compare to their actual age and give you an idea of whether they are above, on or below where they need to be. In school we are delivering lots of different interventions such as Key Stage 3 phonics programme, and a new fluency programme called Reading Plus that some pupils are accessing in lessons. These are designed to help students catch up.

Parents have often asked me what they can do to help their child do better in terms of their grades. Beyond subject specific feedback, there is a key area for support that they need from you, and that is to ensure that reading takes place at home as well as in school.

There are a range of ways that you can do this so over the next few newsletters I will share ideas on how you can get them reading at home. This website is a really good starting point for all ages:

<https://www.teachertostoyourhome.co.uk/articles/the-parents-guide-to-reading>

Mrs Dean  
Headteacher

The Stonehenge School is proud to  
present

# *A Christmas Concert*

15th December 2022

— 7.00Pm —

**Soloists | Instrumentals | Bands |  
Choir**

**TICKETS -**

**ADULTS - £5.00**

**CHILDREN/OAP - £3.00**

Tickets to be purchased via ParentPay  
with a limited number available on the  
night.

There will be refreshments available and  
a raffle on the night

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# News articles

## Getting children to read during the Teenage years

As your child moves into secondary school, reading can be seen by them more as work than fun, and teenagers may stop reading for pleasure or stop reading at all. Here is some advice to support your teenager through these years:

- Young Adult (YA) novels tackle the edgy issues teenagers struggle with, from romantic longing to peer pressure to grief and trouble at home or school. Teenagers will gravitate toward relatable subject matter whether they are personally grappling with these issues or are seeking vicarious thrills.
- Merge movies with books. Hollywood is turning to teen literature for ideas more than ever. Offer your teenager the print version to read before or after a big film comes out and discuss with them the similarities and the differences between the two. Which was better? The book or movie? Why?
- Graphic novels, once dismissed as comic books, are now recognised as literature. These books may be the key to getting some teenagers hooked on books and are available in a wide range of genres, from adventure and fantasy to historical fiction, memoir, and biography, so certainly, there is a graphic novel out there to suit your teenager's taste.
- Encourage your teenager with appropriate adult-level books. Find non-fiction titles on subjects your teen's curious about, such as climate change, race, political corruption, or true crime. Check adult non-fiction bestseller lists to see what is going viral.
- Try some poetry. Novels in verse and performance poetry are an increasingly popular trend. Poems are easy to read as they have all that white space on the page. The spare and lyrical approach to poetry can pack a punch.
- Let your teenager get an audiobook to listen to on the way to school or on long drives. They can download audiobooks to their smartphones to not risk looking uncool because they will be under headphones or have their earbuds in.
- Model reading at home, where your teenager can see you. Express your interest and enjoyment and talk about what you are reading. Always take a book with you when you go to the beach or waiting in a long queue. Demonstrate to your teenager that reading is a pleasure and not a chore.
- Keep reading material around. Children who grow up with heaps of books around them tend to read more. Fill the bathroom, car, dining table (wherever there is a captive audience) with comic books, graphic novels, and magazines geared to their interests. There is nothing wrong with "micro-reading."
- Hand your teenager a gift card to your local or online bookshop. They may discover the treasure-hunt fun of looking for a brilliant book.

"So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, go throw your TV set away, and in its place, you can install a lovely bookshelf on the wall." - Roald Dahl



# STONEHENGE SCHOOL LIBRARY

## Book of the week



### Junior

#### Barb the Brave

Dan Abdo & Jason Patterson

Barb is a Berzerker, one of a group of warriors sworn to protect the land of Bailiwick from monsters.

But the fearsome crew soon meet their match in the evil villain Witch Head. Using power from his magical sword, he tricks the Zerks and takes them captive . . . All except Barb, who escapes, taking Witch Head's sword with her.

Together, with her best friend, Porkchop the yeti, Barb must free her fellow warriors so they can stop Witch Head from taking over the land. On the way, she'll battle vampire goat fiends, snotgoblins and a giant with serious foot odour issues (but please don't mention that to him – he's very sensitive about it!)

The deeper Barb gets into her quest, the harder it is to keep the blade's awesome power under control . . . Will she be able to rescue her fellow warriors before it's too late?

### Senior

#### The Bone Spindle

Leslie Vedder



Filore, a treasure hunter with a knack for riddles, is busy running from her own deadly curse, when she pricks her finger on a spindle. Bound to the sleeping prince Briar Rose with the spindle's magic - and chosen as the only person who can wake him - Fi is stuck with the prince's ghost until she can break his ancient curse and save his kingdom.

She's going to need a partner. A warrior huntswoman with an axe to grind (literally), Shane couldn't care less about curses and ancient texts. But instead of riches, the two girls find trouble.

Dark magic, witch hunters, nightmarish beasts - and of course, curses - all stand in their way as Fi and Shane undertake the dangerous journey into a forgotten kingdom where the sleeping prince's body waits.

## COLDER WEATHER - UNIFORM

We would like to ask parents to please remember now that the colder weather is here of the school policy regarding wearing jumpers. Please see below which is part of our uniform policy.

V-Neck jumper (Optional) In colder weather, pupils may wear a plain, black V-neck jumper in addition to their normal school uniform. Jumpers may be worn with a blazer, not instead of. Cardigans and sweatshirts, including the PE jumper are not permitted.

# Maths Homework Club

## Thursdays

### 2:50pm - 3:30pm

### Room 81

Need help with your maths homework?  
Come along!

## Matt Dickinson, Everest Summiteer

On Wednesday, Years 9, 10 & 11 were lucky enough to meet Everest summiteer, film-maker and writer, Matt Dickinson. Having worked for the BBC, National Geographic and The Discovery Channel, he was able to explain to our students what opportunities are open to them when they leave school, and how these opportunities have contributed to his successful career. He also told tales of his Everest experiences, describing the day he came across the famous 'Green Boots' marker and how taking Toffee Crisps as his snack of choice turned out to be a very poor decision!

Matt has written both fiction and non-fiction books and on Wednesday we purchased his trilogy 'The Everest' Files' for our school library.

If your child is in these year groups, please talk to them about the many interesting things Matt had to say about successfully climbing the world's highest mountain!

Hayley Blake



**'My favourite part was then he brought awareness to the lifestyles and difficulties people in developing countries face, and taught us to be grateful as we live in an already-developed country.'**

**'My favourite part was when he told us about his dangerous journey and the plane not being safe- an interesting story.'**

**'I learned that two people, who are very alike, can have vastly different possibilities, even when sitting right next to each other.'**



# SCIENCE CLUB



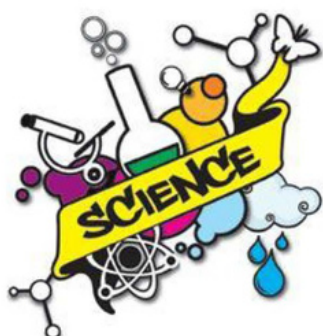
**This week we will be making bath bombs and gluep**

**When: Wednesday 7th December**

**Where : Room 49**

**Time : 3.00- 4pm**

**Please sign up before hand.**



[illegible]

- Cereal
- Soup
- Pasta
- Rice
- Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce
- Lentils, beans and pulses
- Tinned meat
- Tinned vegetables
- Tea/coffee
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- UHT milk
- Fruit juice

Toiletries - deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste, hand wipes

Feminine products - sanitary towels and tampons

Baby supplies - nappies, baby wipes and baby food

Face masks and hand sanitiser

## SCHOOLS CONSULTATION 2024 - 25

**The consultation starts on Friday 25 November 2022 and it ends on Friday 13 January 2023.**

The consultation documents can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation)

I would be grateful if all schools could share these proposals with parents and encourage them to email any comments to the Local Authority so that any returns, give an accurate reflection of the views of all school communities.

To respond to this consultation please send your comments by email to [admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk) or you can write to:

**School Admissions Team  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN**



## Wiltshire Wellbeing

Your library – a warm and friendly welcome this winter



Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire libraries are extending a warm welcome to all this winter and offering:

- A **free warm space** to sit, stay and take part in activities
- **Hot drinks**, where possible
- **Warm packs** (including a blanket, hot water bottle and a thermos mug) for anyone who would benefit from some free essentials
- Basic **energy advice** in all but our smallest libraries and referrals to the energy advisors at Warm and Safe Wiltshire
- Signposting to community partners and agencies that can **support** you through the rising cost of living.

For more details, contact your local library, email [libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk) or visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-news](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-news).

For more information to support you through the rising cost of living, visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living).



# We are Hiring!

We at Imperial Cleaning Services are looking for bank staff members who are available to join our Team as Cover Staff for Salisbury & Amesbury areas.

Hours are between 3pm & 8pm  
Monday To Friday  
£11 per hour

For More information please email  
[nick@imperialcleaningservices.co.uk](mailto:nick@imperialcleaningservices.co.uk)  
or call  
07778355578



## CHRISTMAS JUMPERS donations needed!

Do you have any unwanted  
Christmassy jumpers? Donate today  
for reselling in our Uniformd shop.

Recycle and help us raise funds!



## Good quality SHOES needed!

Shoes are in high demand in our  
Uniformd shop at the moment.  
We need your help to keep up!

Help us out and donate any outgrown  
shoes and trainers in good condition  
that you have lying around the house.



FOLLOW THE LINK TO OUR UNIFORMD SHOP -

[WWW.UNIFORMD.CO.UK/STONEHENGESCHOOL](http://WWW.UNIFORMD.CO.UK/STONEHENGESCHOOL)