

Weekly News Update Friday 11 March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We have all have been following the developments in Ukraine in the last two weeks. As with any humanitarian crisis, it is deeply distressing to witness. Here at Stringer, we want to help in the best possible way we can, through education, awareness and giving where we can.

Following discussions with our JLT and staff, and hearing reports from aid workers at the frontline that there is currently very little capacity to deal with donations of clothing and other items, we feel that monetary giving at this stage is the most effective. Therefore, on **Thursday 17 March**, we will be holding a **blue-and-yellow themed non-uniform day** to raise funds for the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

The DEC are coordinating the response for those who have been displaced. We are asking for a suggested donation of £1 for the non-uniform day – students can bring cash which will be collected at registration, or you can make a donation of any amount by credit/debit card or Instant Bank Transfer via the School Gateway. This can easily be accessed by using the following link: <https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>. Students who are involved in Dance Show rehearsals should wear clothing suitable for dance and are of course welcome to join in with the blue and yellow theme. Thank you in advance for your support.

Music

In brighter news, last night the Music Department held their annual Key Stage 4 Music Recital at St Matthias Church. The evening showcased the wide range of styles and musical talent of our Year 10 and 11 Rock School musicians. It was wonderful to see them performing to a live audience and we are extremely proud of all the students involved, showing hard work and dedication pays off. Thank you to the parents, carers and students who came along to support this event, and to our fantastic music department staff for their hard work to arrange it.

Dance

Next week sees the return of the *Let's Dance* event at Brighton Dome, which is managed and organised by Dorothy Stringer School. The school took over the organisation of *Let's Dance* in 2005 and since then, it has grown to be the largest celebration of school dance in the UK, with over 1700 students (aged 5-18) from over 70 local schools across Brighton and Hove taking to the stage, and dozens of young leaders helping backstage.

On Saturday 19th March we have our very own Stringer Dance Show at Brighton Dome. We are thrilled that our students will be back on that stage and are extremely proud of the resilience they have shown in the lead up to this event. Good luck and a big thank you to all the staff and students involved. Tickets for the dance show are £10.00. You can use this link to book: [Stringer Dance Show tickets](#)

British Science Week

Next week as part of British Science week, the Science department will be running exciting practical demonstrations on the steps outside the Sports Hall as well as other fun pop-up science activities. We will be documenting the week on Instagram, so make sure you're following @dorothystringerschool.

HMI visit

Yesterday we were pleased to welcome an HM Inspector into school to complete some research with us on our support of students through our literacy interventions. The learning which is taking place in these sessions is exceptional and we are very lucky to have high calibre staff leading these sessions, Miss Chapman and Mrs Westwood. We would like to thank all the dedicated staff

who supported this research, together with some of the students. Our aim is to make use of best practice to support all students with their progress.

Year 11 Leavers' Yearbooks – now available to order

The class of 2022 yearbooks are now available to order. The yearbook is made up of 76 pages in a hardback A4 book. It includes memories for the students such as letters from the Headteacher, Head of Year, and Form tutors; Year 7 and Year 11 school photos; tutor group photos; Year Group Awards voted by students, and much more.

Yearbooks are £12 each and can be purchased via the School Gateway system which can easily be accessed by using the following link: <https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>. **The deadline for ordering a Yearbook is Friday 8 April 2022.** If you have any questions or are unable to pay via the School Gateway, please email ad-oxs@dorothy-stringer.co.uk. If you require any financial assistance regarding the above, then please contact our Financial Support Officer (FSO) fso@dorothy-stringer.co.uk

Reminder: Year 10 BHASVIC Taster Day – Wednesday 13 July 2022

If your child would like to experience what it is like to attend BHASVIC, we strongly recommend that they attend the BHASVIC Year 10 taster day, during which students can attend sample lessons and explore the campus and facilities. The application form is now available on the BHASVIC website via this link: <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/admissions>. **There are limited places available, so we recommend booking quickly.**

Details about the Varndean College Year 10 Taster Day for our students will be made available as soon as we have them.

PE news and results

Climbing

The students below represented Dorothy Stringer at the Boulder Brighton Climbing competition. Out of the 16 schools to enter, we came 1st!!! Overall, we scored 2,733, with 2nd Place Blatchington Mill scoring 2,152. Well done Tom, Anya, Miles, Stan, Ollie, Yusef, Jack, Sylvie, Luca, Eleanor, and Dylan! Special mention to Anya, who came overall first in the U16 female event, and Stan, who came overall first in the U16 male event.

Basketball and Futsal

On Wednesday this week, to support the 'Let Girls Play' campaign as part of International Women's Day, we held girls only basketball and futsal sessions in the sports hall at lunchtime. These were great fun for all involved.

Netball

It has also been a busy week for the Dorothy Stringer Netball Teams. On Tuesday, the Year 7 Netball teams took part in the District tournament. Both teams played brilliantly, the A team winning all their group matches to qualify for the quarter finals. The B team, with some players taking part in their first games for Stringer, also qualified for the quarter finals. Both teams played tough matches in the quarter finals, narrowly losing both games. Special mention to the players of the tournament, Lola and Emily. On Thursday, the Year 10 team took part in the Brighton and Hove Tournament, again playing brilliantly and coming third overall. Keep up the hard work and dedication, girls!

Rugby

On Wednesday our Year 8 Rugby team played a tough fixture against Patcham High. Although they narrowly lost, it was clear to see how the team are improving, showing resilience, working as a team and giving a stronger performance each match. Keep up the great work, boys!

Last chance to enter the Dorothy Stringer Platinum Pudding Competition!

The deadline to enter this competition is Friday 18 March. Those who make it through to the final will be judged by Mr Desborough and Mr Hillier, with the winner being announced as the Stringer Platinum Pudding Competition Winner 2022 and receiving a baking-related prize. Further details can be found here: [Dorothy Stringer Platinum Pudding Competition](#)

Reminder: Tickets now on sale for Prom – Friday 1st July 2022

We are excited to be returning to the AMEX after a break for the last two years, for Year 11 students to celebrate completing their examinations and their time at Stringer. Further information has already been sent home and a link to the letter can be found on the Trips page of the SLG.

Root Word of the Week – Lumin, meaning 'light, shine, source' (Latin root word)

- **Illuminate** – light up
- **Luminous** – giving off light; bright or shining
- **Luminary** – a person who inspires or influences others, especially one prominent in a particular sphere

Key Dates

Non-Uniform Day in aid of Ukraine: Thursday 17 March

Inset Day (school closed to students): Friday 18 March 2022

Year 7 Parents' Evening (Via video call): Thursday 24 March 2022

Easter holidays: Monday 11-Friday 22 April 2022

Year 8 Parents' Evening (Via video call): Thursday 28 April 2022

Bank holiday: Monday 2 May 2022

Key Dates for 2021/2022 and 2022/3 are on our website: https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/pages/key_dates.aspx

****Note: If any of the hyperlinks in this update do not work, please copy and paste the link address into your address bar. ****

Take care and stay safe.

Matt Hillier