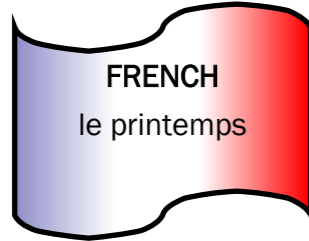


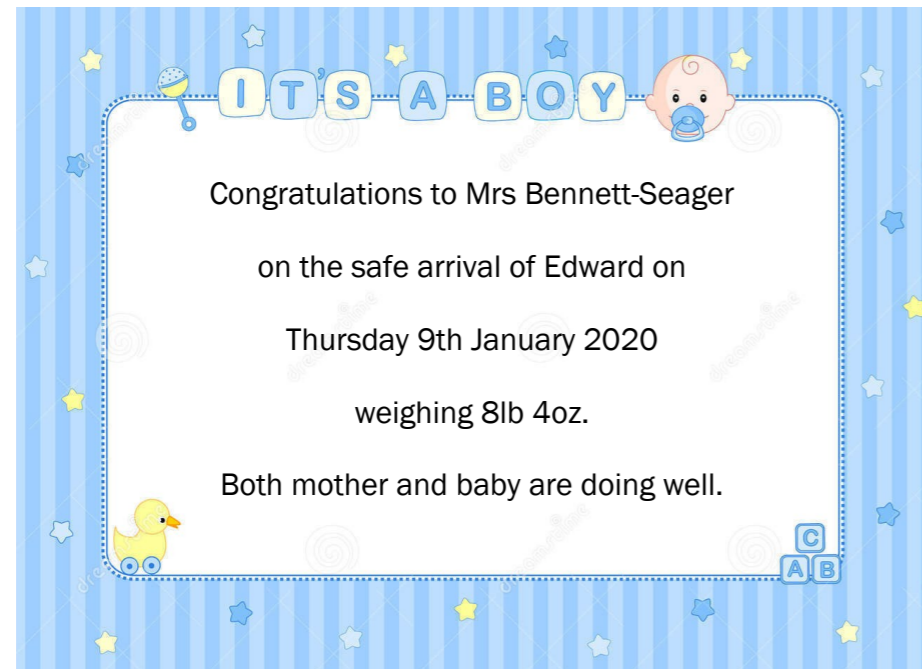
The Stanway School  
A Humanities and Maths & Computing College  
Winstree Road, Stanway, Colchester, Essex C03 0QA  
Telephone: 01206 575488  
Email: admin@stanway.school  
Website: www.stanway.essex.sch.uk  
HEADTEACHER: JONATHAN BLAND BSc (Hons)



### COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL - ONLINE SURVEY

Help shape the future of youth facilities!  
Opportunities for young people to develop, be safe and well is a key priority for Colchester Borough Council.  
On behalf of the Council, 4Global is seeking young people's view on existing and future facilities for young people between 8 and 19.  
Your views will be really important in the decision we make, so we really value your opinions. The form should take no longer than a couple of minutes.  
Any participant who leaves their contact details will be entered into a draw to win one of ten Cinema/Rollerworld vouchers. All personal details provided will be destroyed when the draw is finished.  
If you have any questions about this survey or the project then you can contact Jo Besant at Colchester Borough Council on 01206 506943

<https://xanderb.wufoo.com/forms/m14z0pzx07n83pi/>



# The Stanway Times

## ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION'S 60TH BIRTHDAY CHURCHILL SPEAKING COMPETITION



On Tuesday 14th January, Chloe and Emily (Year 9) attended the English Speaking Union's 60th Birthday Churchill Speaking Competition, graciously hosted by Colchester County High School for Girls. They had spent time preparing for their roles as the Chairperson and Questioner and represented the school brilliantly at the competition.

Unfortunately, our speaker could not attend so I stepped in - and the children who won the competition were in my group. It was a real eye-opener to experience what the students had volunteered for and I am not afraid to admit the competitors did a much better job! A great experience for the girls and another competition to enter will be advertised to students soon.

Mrs Beck Hansen-Spurr

### DIARY DATES

- **Thursday 30th January**  
Year 11 Parents' Evening 4.00 - 8.00pm
- **Monday 3rd February - Friday 20th March**  
Year 11 SIGMA Examinations
- **Friday 7th February**  
Non Uniform Day
- **Saturday 8th February**  
VEX EDR competition at Brunel University
- **Thursday 13th February**  
Year 10 Parents' Evening including Future Choices Information Evening 4.00 - 8.00pm
- **Monday 17th - Friday 21st February**  
Half Term
- **Sunday 23rd February**  
School Show Rehearsal 10.00am - 4.00pm
- **Monday 24th February**  
Non Pupil Day
- **Tuesday 3rd - Friday 6th March**  
School Show 7.00pm
- **Thursday 12th March**  
Year 8 Options & Parents' Evening 4.00-8.00pm

**READING INTERVENTIONS - I NEWS NEWSPAPER ARTICLE**

Ben Lyttleton tells **Susie Mesure** of the goals behind his book series 'Football School'.



**T**he first lesson is biology. What has poo got to do with football?" Ben Lyttleton, the co-author of the popular book series *Football School*, is pointing to a corresponding image on a screen in front of Year 7 pupils at the Stanway School in Essex.

Hands shoot up but not before someone shouts out: "Tottenham!" It's not the answer Lyttleton, a Spurs fan, is looking for – but he smiles before pressing on with his lesson, *Football School*-style. Lyttleton and his best friend Alex Bellos wrote the fact-packed books to get through to children who might prefer playing football to reading.

"You have to eat to play football, and before you do football you have to do a poo, because you don't want to do one on the pitch," Lyttleton tells the school children. He clicks to a shot of Gary Lineker. "Lineker pooped on the pitch. He wasn't well and hadn't eaten the right kind of food."

Lineker should, of course, have fuelled up with bread, pasta, potatoes and rice because footballers need

The authors Alex Bellos, left, and Ben Lyttleton



**He rounds off his take on biology with a quiz on the Brazilian striker Ronaldo**

Brazilians are dribbling, they're essentially dancing the samba, because samba involves wiggling your hips a lot and keeping your upper body very still."

Lyttleton even tries to make pupils feel better about getting their homework back marked with red pen by showing them a proof from a book covered in red and green markings.

"That showed to me my editor had read every single word and was trying to make it better. So whenever you get a piece of work back with all these markings... feel happy because your teachers are helping you."

Research shows that getting authors to visit pays off for schools, helping to boost reading levels, confidence and enjoyment. A recent report by the National Literacy Trust found that twice as many young people could read above the expected level for their age at schools which invited authors to visit, compared with peers at schools that didn't bother.

Lyttleton, who reckons he vis-

carbohydrates, not to mention vegetables and protein, Lyttleton explains. He rounds off his take on biology with a quiz involving the Brazilian striker Ronaldo farting, peeing and burping. Suffice to say, Stanway's pupils are loving this special assembly, organised by the school's head of English, Kat Jones, to persuade reluctant readers that books can be fun.

Like many secondary school teachers, Jones worries that boys aged between 11 and 14 in particular can struggle with reading. The most recent Sats tests – the national assessments taken by Year 6 pupils – show that just 60 per cent of boys reached the expected standards in maths, reading and writing – compared with 70

per cent of girls. And it's getting worse for boys, with the proportion reaching the expected standard in reading dipping to 69 per cent in 2019 from 72 per cent the previous year.

"Books compete with the Xbox and similar things where they're getting entertainment instantly," says Jones. "The *Football School* books are about showing pupils you can have the same level of enjoyment from reading."

"*Football School* is education by stealth," adds Lyttleton, explaining the idea behind the series, which runs to seven books and teaches children about the world through football facts and stories filtered by curriculum subject.

Football clubs help them to ferret out fresh snippets. "We find we get better access when we tell them we're writing for kids because they appreciate what we are trying to do."

In the assembly, geography and culture follow the biology lesson. Lyttleton, who is clutching a football, argues that Brazil's flair for the sport is down to its climate and penchant for samba.

"Many Brazilians learn to play football on the beach, and if you can master that then you can be brilliant playing on a nice flat surface. Plus, when

its up to 50 schools a year, is back at Stanway, where he spends the rest of the day talking philosophy with small groups. "In ancient Greece and Rome, philosophers were thinking about big questions, about how we live our lives. The reason this is a *Football School* lesson is because football clubs have a philosophy," Lyttleton tells them. "Liverpool is a very community-minded club. 'You'll never walk alone' is their motto. That's their philosophy."

Jones uses the *Football School* series in the school's reading interventions, where a small group reads with an adult. In one Year 8 group, one boy's reading age jumped more than two years in six months.

And another fan, Felix Torode, discovered *Football School* after Lyttleton visited his school, Corpus Christi in Brixton, south London. His mother, Amelia, says he used to prefer kicking a football to picking up a book.

"Ben came to talk to Felix's school a week before his ninth birthday, and when he counted his birthday money [we] bought every *Football School* book."

Felix says the books make him laugh and think at the same time, while giving him facts. Back of the net for Lyttleton and Bellos.

**YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING**

The Year 11 Parents' Evening is taking place on Thursday 30th January 2020 from 4.00pm - 8.00pm.

Please book your appointments online - <https://thestanwayschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk> or follow the link on the school website.

To log in you will need to enter your child's details in exactly the following format that his/her details are recorded on our database. Please follow example below:

Surname: Bloggs  
Forename: Joseph

You will also be asked to enter your child's date of birth. Please use the format as set out in this example: 01/01/2020. Once you have logged in, you will then be able to choose the appointment times with the teachers in the time slot that you have selected.

**PAYMENT REMINDERS**

TRIP	PAYMENT No.	AMOUNT	DUE DATE
Ski 2020	Final	£190	Now due
Music Tuition - Spring term	Payment 1	£25	Now due
Madrid	Payment 3	£150	24 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Disneyland	Deposit	£30	31 <sup>st</sup> Jan
Danbury Camp	Payment 2	£50	7 <sup>th</sup> Feb

