



The fortnightly student newspaper for Stoke Newington School & Sixth Form

Year 8 no more than five rule: an argument for and against



SNS journalists Sam Foxell and Finn Morgan have their say on the the new school rule affecting their year group.

Have you caught wind of the rule declaring that year 8s can only be in groups of five or less during break and lunch? This is due to consistent

behavioural issues. Lots of year 8s are unhappy and have taken action by forming a petition asking for the rule to be lifted. However, some deem it a chance for year 8 to sort themselves out. What do you think?

The rule: year 8 students must not congregate in

groups of more than five people. If they do they must disperse immediately and to a distance of three metres between groups. If they refuse to disperse, their names will be noted and given to the head of year and they will receive a lunchtime detention.

Continued on page two

Dear parents & carers

I am writing to thank you for your ongoing support for the school in the last weeks: we very much appreciate this. You may also want to know that we are working with all our students over the coming weeks to develop increased awareness of mental health issues. Look out for more information in the January edition of Spotlight.

I am pleased to inform you that our Astroturf will be officially opened on 30th November. Your child may already have enjoyed using the new surface – or may be scheduled to do so later this year. I am very grateful to the PE department for all their

work in making this happen – and to our sponsors – the Football Foundation and Arsenal.

We look forward to seeing you soon, and certainly on Progress Review Day on 6th December.

Best wishes
Annie Gammon
Headteacher



A necessary rule until behaviour improves?

Continued from front page
For

Year 8 have a legacy of incidents and the senior staff like Ms Gammon and Ms Lashley believe that actions must be taken to make SNS a calmer place to be. Last year, when they were in year 7 and the behavioural problems started, the year group was only allowed in the fives courts at break and lunch which was too crowded, I'm sure all students can concur. The staff members have considered this and have now made a more reasonable rule – allowing us to use the whole playground, as long as we remain in small groups.

Students are annoyed but the teachers are certain that without this rule, things will only get worse. Learning is a priority at Stoke Newington School and the staff are only trying to enforce that. Mr Enebeli (head of year 8) says he is spending all his time making year 8 better. Maybe this is a good rule.

Against

However, some people think this rule is unfair. Why punish everyone in the year group and not just the students that cause all of the trouble? No longer should those that are well behaved in groups of more than five suffer and have their

friendship groups disrupted because of other people's behaviour. We have the SIMS system, so why don't we use that information to identify who is causing all the trouble, and then make sure they are the ones culpable for breaking school rules. Why don't we find the large groups of people who are making mischief and disperse them, not those who are chatting with their friends?

What now?

You've heard the arguments but now it's up to you. Feed back your views to your form representative who will talk to Ms Lashley and Mr Enebeli.

Year 13s get a DNA test



Image by Finn Morgan

By Jamie Hunt

On Tuesday 8 November, Mr Lyons and his Year 13s were DNA testing.

DNA testing is a powerful tool for identification. It is often used in daily life for parental testing, gene therapy and criminal investigation. The Wellcome Trust lent the equipment for the Year 13s to use for this experiment. The Year 13s were trying to find which of the family members were healthy and which of them was the carrier. They were using a new system that makes it easier to find out the answer of this mystery. They used a special gel, sinking dye and a camera on a tray to reveal the DNA of the one who was suffering from the disease.

SNS interviewed for German film!



By Lorelei O'Shea

On Thursday 10 November a film crew visited Stoke Newington School to interview a group of students for German children learning English.

The education company were producing a short film about English students living in London for German students studying English as a foreign language. During the interview they asked some basic questions like what we did on the weekend and what we do at school.

Benjamin Matheson took part in the interview and said: "It was enlightening and fun, we were under no pressure and only talked about ourselves."

Book review: Sweet Pizza by G.R. Gemin

By Isadora Hawkes

'Joe loved fried chicken and chips smothered in tomato sauce and mayonnaise, especially after a day at school - nothing else hit the mark as far as he was concerned.'

Sweet Pizza is set in Wales in an Italian restaurant which stars a young Italian Welsh boy named Joe. His mum has given up all hope about the cafe as it is falling apart and losing customers. However, Joe, a young boy determined to prove his parents wrong, attempts to put the cafe back into business. While learning about the importance of the restaurant's roots, he doesn't just learn to cook but learns about the importance of his friends and family and the significance of his past.

Throughout the book Joe learns more and more about the injustice of his grandpa's life (especially during the Second World War) and, as a reader, you learn how Joe's character develops towards becoming a much kinder person.

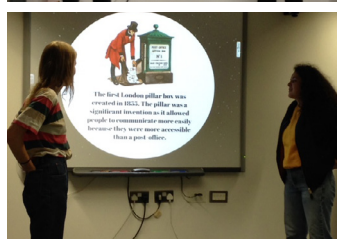
I think this book was very interesting as it not only taught me some of the injustices of history but the idea of aiming for your dreams. I think the clear themes in this story are passion, protection and identity. I would recommend this book to someone, however, despite the good morals and storyline, the story goes on for longer than expected. The challenges that are faced such as when Joe has to come to terms with his

best friend's past, are not as difficult and overwhelming as you might think they are at the beginning of the book.

I think the writer has a very original idea about the book and although I am not from a different culture, I think I understand how Joe feels about his past and how he wants it to be of some significance. I don't think I have any particularly different ideas culturally to how I act or what I want to do or be compared to other people but thinking about this story, if I were to go anywhere else in the world then I would seem culturally different and strange to them. I might act differently, behave differently, believe different things but that would still make me the same person. I wouldn't just suddenly change. I would still act the same way at first, however over time I would adapt to my surroundings. I would eat different food because it is more available. I would dress differently based on the climate, I would possibly learn to speak a different language.

I think that the relevance of this book is not the challenges faced by Joe but the strength that he retains to try and remain the person he thinks he should be despite the fact the norm for Joe is not to be cooking and creating sweet pizza but to be eating fried chicken. I think the main ideas of this story is Joe's attitude to his family roots and his identity.

Year 12 EPQ trip to the British Library



A group of Year 12 Extended Project students spent the day at the British Library taking part in the workshop 'Digital Pathways' to develop their digital research skills.

Students visited the Treasures Gallery and created group presentations on 'The History of Communication' inspired by objects such as the Magna Carta or the original lyrics of songs written by the Beatles in the British Library's collection. By investigating this object, they were led through a series of research activities to develop their critical thinking, information literacy and enquiry skills.

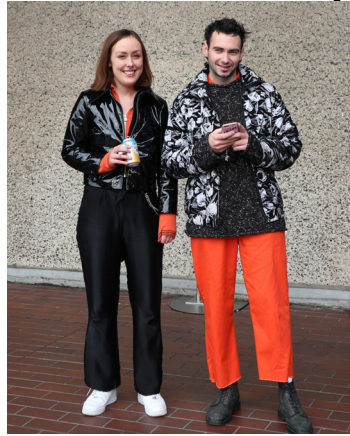
SNS students receive Petchey award!



By Evelyn Shlomowitz
Two students from SNS received a Jack Petchey achievement award at the Jack Petchey Foundation celebration evening last Thursday.

Jack Petchey is a business man who is now the founder of The Jack Petchey foundation. He is famous for starting out with very little money and then building himself up and becoming a very wealthy person. Every year, people nominate others for going beyond and above their expectations. This year not one, but two students (Evelyn, pictured, and Tamar, not pictured) were nominated from our school. They were nominated for volunteering at the local Brownie and Rainbow group (girl guides for children aged 5-11) that is at St Paul's Church on Stoke Newington High Street.

Year 9 Barbican photography trip



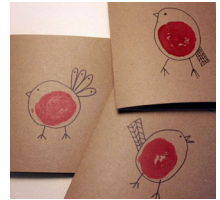
Images by
Tamar Singer

By Tamar Singer
Last Tuesday, a group of Y9 students visited the Barbican Arts Centre to take part in a fashion photography project.

We started by seeing the exhibition *The Vulgar*, which followed 'vulgar' fashion throughout the ages. It documented the different meanings of vulgar and displayed a large variety of dresses and other outrageous clothes and accessories. Afterwards, we got to work

with photographer Laura Braun to experience street photography ourselves. In pairs we spread around the building, seeking out, speaking to and photographing members of the public wearing unusual or quirky clothes. Finally, Braun gave us valuable feedback on our work. This was part of an on-going project with the Barbican that will hopefully result in some students' work being published in and sold in the Barbican shop.

Inspiration!



Christmas card competition!

Design the SNS Christmas card that gets delivered to all friends and family of Stokey! Get creative, make it fun and make it festive!

Deadline for designs:

Wednesday 31 November!

Deliver to: nathan.holmes@sns.hackney.sch.uk
or the media workroom U202

Game review corner!



By Henry Allen-Taylor 71
Inside is the new platform puzzler by Playdead Studios and it might just be the best game of the year.

Playdead studios are a Danish independent development team who made the very popular Limbo in

2010. Six years later, their very anticipated spiritual successor came out in the 29 June 2016 at it blew all expectations.

In the game, you play as a nameless, faceless young boy. I think that is the only thing I can say about the plot with out going into spoilers territory but let me just say that it quickly becomes clear the something very sinister and dark is happening around you very quickly.

The puzzles in the game are hard but not that hard and you'll probably solve them before it gets tedious. What I love about this game is that it tells a story and makes you care about its characters

without telling a word. The game only lasts about four hours but you can remember every second. The art in this game is incredible and it's hard not to stop what you are doing a look at the amazing scenery. The best way to play this game completely blind because of the terrifying set pieces and the jaw dropping last twenty minutes which was completely funny and horrifying at the same time.

This game is a masterpiece. Just play it and you'll find out. I'll give this game a 10/10.



Stoke Newington School
& Sixth Form

SNS DEBATES BLACK LIVES MATTER

IS RACIST POLICING A PROBLEM IN THE UK?

**WEDNESDAY
23RD NOVEMBER
THEATRE**

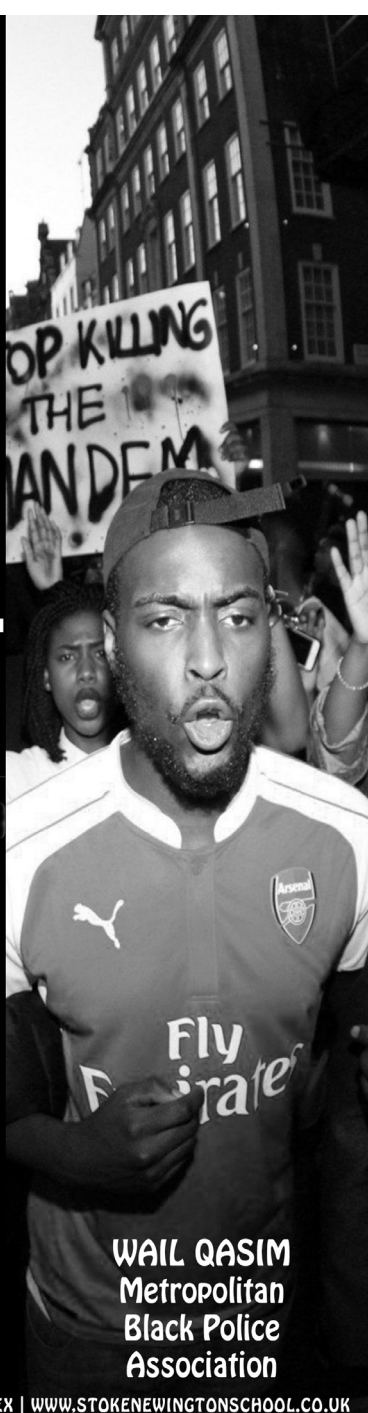
GUEST SPEAKERS:

JENNIFER IZEKOR
Commissioner
at the IPCC

JANET HILLS
Metropolitan
Black Police
Association

WAIL QASIM
Metropolitan
Black Police
Association

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