

## FIVE MINUTES WITH: HANNAH, SCHOOL PUPIL AND STAR OF EDUCATING YORKSHIRE

**E**ducating Yorkshire hit our screens in early September and since then it has taken the country by storm. Since the very first episode, people have been glued to their screens waiting for another teenager to share their views on life in school.

One of the episodes saw the hard working, determined maths teacher and Deputy Head Mr Steer trying to tackle a maths class which features a group of close girls who want to talk about weekend plans rather than algebra. One of the girls from the group, Hannah Rzepkowski, took time to talk to me about the show, her social life and what came next after Educating Yorkshire.

### LOOKING BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL LIFE AND YOUR LIFE NOW, WHAT WOULD BE THE BIGGEST CHANGE, IF ANY?

My attitude; I'm more motivated and really want to do well, I was very immature in school.

### WHY WERE YOU VERY IMMATURE IN SCHOOL? WAS THERE A LACK OF INTEREST?

I got bored and would rather mess around and have a good time with my mates.

### DID ANYONE IN PARTICULAR MOTIVATE YOU?

Mr Burton, as you saw on my episode and Mr Steer.

### YOU'RE VERY CLOSE TO BAILEY WHO HAS BECOME A STAR OF THE SHOW SINCE THE FIRST EPISODE. HAVE YOU GIVEN HER ANY ADVICE ON THE REST OF HER JOURNEY AT THORNHILL?

Yeah, I messed up – I could have been capable of A grades – but I messed around and missed my chance. I told her to put her head down before it's too late.

### NOW YOU'RE AT COLLEGE, WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING?

Media, I enjoyed getting filmed so I thought I would see what life is like behind the camera!

### MANY PEOPLE READING THIS WILL HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO COLLEGE. HOW DID YOU FIND IT?

It was weird at first; I had no friends here whereas at school I was quite popular. Nobody knew me (apart from being recognised off the Educating Yorkshire advert!) so it was a big change for me.

### BUT YOU STILL GO OUT WITH SHERIDAN AND OTHERS?

Yes, I'm still very close with them all. We're always together after college and at weekends

### WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR HANNAH?

I want to go to university and have a job something to do with media, preferably a TV producer.

**MATTHEW WILSON**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

**T**he college will celebrate its 40th anniversary this week and will mark the day it was officially opened by then Education Secretary Margaret Thatcher in 1973.

The Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees, Councillor Kathryn Nelson will be on hand to officially open the college's refurbished common room, before leaving students to celebrate in style with themed music, food and their very own 70s photoshoot!

We hope you all have a great time – here's to the next 40!

**ROBYN AKRAM**



**HANNAH, SECOND LEFT, WITH OTHER STARS OF THE HIT TV SHOW**

## SPORT

The latest from the college playing fields!

### FOOTBALL

Stockton Sixth Form College 2 – 2 Trinity College

Stockton Sixth Form College 2 – 5 King's Academy

### RUGBY

Stockton Sixth Form College 5 – 40 Prior Pursglove College

Stockton Sixth Form College 0 – 60 Hartlepool FE

**JAMES GREGORY**

# COLLEGE TIMES



## NEW COMMON ROOM UNVEILED

**T**he start of the college year is often peppered with the "new", whether that is the arrival of new students or merely a new timetable. However the beginning of this college year has brought about a whole new "new" in the form of a £250,000 renovation project that has transformed the somewhat outdated common room and cafeteria into an unrecognisably fresh, modern space.

The renovation, which was carried out over the summer holidays, follows on from last year's unveiling of the refurbished LRC, a bright, positive area for quiet study. Yet the college has never been solely focused on simply providing a great teaching and learning environment and so the cafeteria and common room were also brought up-to-date to create a social space in which students can relax, eat and socialise.



**THE COMMON ROOM RENOVATION MARKED THE END OF THE COLLEGE'S £5M FACILITIES UPGRADE**

"This year the common room is inviting and there is an energy to it that wasn't there last year, it's great!"

Hannah Pearson, second year student



The renovated space is fitted with 55inch screens, it has wi-fi connectivity and the walls display exciting pieces of artwork created by Stockton Sixth Form's own talent.

Colourful, clean and current, the new common room and cafeteria are not only a testament to the leadership of the college but also to the student council, who carried students' opinions forward and played a large part in the renovation plans.

The general consensus has been immensely positive. The renovation is seen as a step towards the future for SSFC which this year will be celebrating its 40th birthday. Second year pupil Hannah Pearson stated "last year the common room was okay, it did its job but that was about it. This year the common room is inviting and there is an energy to it that wasn't there last year, it's great!" – a sentiment that many seem to agree with.

**SARAH CARSON**

Thanks for picking up the first issue of College Times! Every half term you'll get the latest on what's been going on in and outside of college with news, reviews, interviews and comment. The paper is completely written by students at Stockton Sixth Form College, and here is your chance to meet the team!



**THE TEAM (ANITA WAS WITH US IN SPIRIT!)**

**ROBYN AKRAM – EDITOR**

Robyn is an avid television lover and film watcher. She is obsessed with shopping and fashion. She studies Drama and English.

**SARAH CARSON – EDITOR**

Sarah is a second year student who studies English Language, English Literature and French. She enjoys culture in the forms of art, literature and music.

**TESSA BURY – SUB-EDITOR**

Tessa will listen to just about any type of music. She escapes through films, reading or just daydreaming.

**CHLÖE STEWART – PHOTOGRAPHY**

Chlöe's favourite subject is Art and Design. Her hobbies include playing guitar, singing, song writing and photography.

**ANITA ROBSON – NEWS REPORTER**

Anita is a self-confessed Big Brother fan with a love of classic films. She also reads (a lot).

**ASHLEIGH PEARSON – NEWS REPORTER**

Ashleigh likes drawing, reading, comedy films and nature. Rock and metal are her favourite music genres.

**JAMES GREGORY – SPORTS WRITER AND REVIEWS**

James enjoys following sports such as tennis, Formula 1 and Moto GP in addition to watching TV, books and Nintendo Wii games.

**MATTHEW WILSON – INTERVIEWS & OPINION**

Matthew studies Politics, Law and Economics. He likes to discuss politics and his views on the subject.

**IF YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN THE COLLEGE NEWSPAPER THEN JUST COME ALONG TO B008 IN WEDNESDAY'S STUDY PERIOD.**

# STUDENTS SUPPORT MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



On Friday the 27th September, people all over the country took part in Macmillan's 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning', which raised money for Macmillan Cancer Support through cakes and coffee. The event started nationally in 1991, and since then, in total, has raised over £75million. One in three people will get cancer, so it really affects us all. Macmillan provides the essential support for those living with cancer, and their families.

Stockton Sixth Form College student, Joe Swift, 17, knows first-hand what a difference Macmillan can make. Having recently lost two grandparents and an aunt to cancer, Joe says that it 'really does affect everyone', friends and family included, but it 'helped to know that Macmillan were there'.

Joe says that being personally affected by cancer really pushed him to do something to help others, and support the charity. So in September, he brought the coffee morning to Stockton Sixth Form, selling delicious cakes for the amazing cause. £156 was raised in college, and money was raised in charity boxes, and in a local pub. In total, Joe raised over £190 which is more than enough to fund a Macmillan nurse for an entire day. Well done, Joe!

**ANITA ROBSON**

# WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY CELEBRATIONS!

Health and Social Care and Psychology students arranged a fantastic fundraiser in aid of World Mental Health Day earlier in the term.

The students organised a range of activities intended to tackle stigma associated with mental illness and to raise crucial funds for the Mental Health Foundation, a charity which works to end discrimination against people with mental illnesses.

Head of Psychology, Julie Liddell, said of the event: 'We don't think twice about someone walking around with a broken leg, so why is mental illness so shocking?'

One in four people will be affected by mental health at some point in their lives and that's why this event was so important – to educate us all and to stop prejudice. Well done to all involved.

**ASHLEIGH PEARSON**



**NEWS REPORTER ANITA GETS INVOLVED WITH AMNESTY AWARENESS**

# AMNESTY STUDENTS LAUNCH FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

On the 11th October, members of the college Amnesty International group held a cake sale which raised £56! All proceeds went straight to Amnesty, who bring awareness to violations of human rights, and help people whose freedom has been taken away.

The cake sale was also to raise awareness for Amnesty's 'Pocket Protest' campaign, where petitions and campaigns can be helped simply through texts. To sign up, text PROTEST, followed by your full name and date of birth, to 70505. It's free for under 18's, so please help!

**ANITA ROBSON**

## NEWS IN BRIEF A WHOLE NEW GLOBE

The Globe Theatre in Stockton is being refurbished as part of the council's £38m redevelopment of the town centre. The Globe, originally built in 1913 as Teesside's first cinema, hosted a number of big names from the 1960s to the 80s, including the Rolling Stones and The Beatles. The building was used as a club, theatre and bingo hall before being closed for good in 1997. Plans are now under way to renew the building back to its former glory by restoring its surviving original features and adding some new touches. We look forward to some exciting shows being played there in the future!

**ASHLEIGH PEARSON**

## WHAT'S ON! YOUR GUIDE TO THE NEXT FEW WEEKS IN COLLEGE

**OPEN EVENINGS**

There will be two Open Evenings next term, Thursday 7th and Tuesday 19th November, and the college will welcome prospective students to come and have a look at the subjects and facilities we offer. Subjects will of course need enthusiastic students to come and explain what they enjoy about their subjects and why it's a good course to take. If you feel like you could help out on either of the two nights, please speak to your tutor!

**CHILDREN IN NEED**

This year Children in Need fundraising will be on the 15th November, and there will be many fun events taking place so you can contribute and give generously for this much-loved charity. There will be cake stalls and the continuous stream of dots around college where you have to guess how many there are in order to win a grand prize! There will also be a 'go bare faced' day for girls to volunteer to wear no make-up for a day in aid of the charity – so come on girls scrub those faces!

**COLLEGE PLAY**

The college play this year carries elements of surprise as we see the majority of our excellent Drama and Dance students partake in a multiple sketch show. Please think about coming to support your fellow peers in this comedic play and if you're even up for taking part then see Nicola Mejia for more details. All involved meet on a Thursday lunchtime in the English corridor. More will be revealed closer to the time so watch out!

**ROBYN AKRAM**