



To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

16 Dec

End of Term 2; 12.15pm

3 Jan 2017

INSET DAY and START OF
TERM 3

5 Jan

Year 9 Options Evening

10 Jan

Robin Hood Theatre Trip

11 Jan

Yr 11 Music Soiree

12 Jan

U13s Boys Indoor Cricket
Year 9 Parents' Evening

13 Jan

Yr 10, 12, 13 Houses of
Parliament Trip

18 Jan

Yr 11 Music Soiree

19 Jan

Yr 11 Music Soiree

20 Jan

End of Yr 7 Readathon

24 Jan

Yr 10,11 Netball v Ralph
Allen

02 Feb

6th Form Parents' Evening

04 Feb

DofE Training and
Preparation

07 Feb

Yr11 Netball v Somervale

10 Feb

End of Term 3

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas is here already and I am quite sure that you and your children are looking forward to the festive season and also the opportunity to rest and recharge at the end of the longest term of the year.

School life continues apace and it has been a particularly busy month at the school. The carol service at Weston All Saints Church at the end of November was a highlight of the term for me; both the senior and junior choirs sang beautifully and were very ably supported by the concert band. The Christmas concert took place this week and once again our musicians performed to a very high standard on what was a very enjoyable and entertaining evening. Year 11 drama students performed their devised examination pieces on Wednesday 7th December, this event was very well attended by parents and students and thank you to all of you who supported them in the audience. The Christmas Fair on Saturday 3rd December was a great success and well supported by staff, parents and students. I would like to thank all of staff involved with these events for the time that they give to ensure that these take place and are so successful. I would also like to thank Oldfield School Association who work tirelessly on the school's behalf and finally all of you who have attended these events, for showing your support for the school.

There are two information updates that I would like to share with you. The first is that we are currently consulting on our admission arrangements for 2018 and a separate letter has been sent to parents outlining proposed changes to this policy. We are also required to consult with neighbouring Local Authorities and also with primary and secondary schools. The consultation closes on January 23rd 2017. The draft admission policy for 2018 is also on the school website.

The other update is regarding bus transport at the start and end of the school day. I have met with the managers of both ABus and First Bus to discuss a number of issues, including the behaviour of students on buses, the behaviour of bus drivers and also congestion and the sharing of information between school and the bus companies. Both of these meetings were very productive and I will be writing to you next term to explain in more detail how we will be working more closely with both companies in the future. The first positive outcome from these meeting is that First Bus has agreed to put an additional bus on in the morning and in the afternoon to help address congestion issues. Therefore there will be an additional service 37 at 07.40 from Hanham and an additional service 19 leaving the school at 14.45 from Monday 12th January onwards.

There are some staffing changes in place from January; principally as a consequence of maternity/paternity leave being taken by a number of staff. Mrs Pierce-Butler has started her maternity leave this week and her maths classes will be taught by Mr Thomas. Mr Fenwick will be the acting Head of Shelley House during her absence and his tutor group will be looked after by Mr Thomas. Mrs Morris will be on maternity leave from January onwards and her tutor group will be taken on by Mr Eidman (our new Head of Computing). Mr Allen will be on paternity leave from January and his classes and tutor group will be covered by Mrs Cross for this period. Other changes to tutor groups from January that Mr Herbert will be the new tutor for 7B and Miss Prior (our New Head of Science) will be the tutor for 8T. I am sure that you will join me in wishing our staff expecting a new arrival all the best. You will be delighted to hear that Mrs James has a new baby girl and both her and her daughter are well.

Wishing you an enjoyable Christmas and a happy new year.

Steven Mackay
Headteacher

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NOTICE BOARD



New After School Club; Geek Club

One of our enterprising year 10 student's has come up with an idea to run one of the extra-curricular clubs himself! He wanted to create a place for like-minded students to come together, learn from each other and enjoy the games and quizzes he puts together. He describes it as "A club for the many video game nerds and geeks to get together to play, trade, compete in lots of fun activities like trading cards, quizzes and lots more. What I aim for, is that the students attending this club will make new friends and find others who share their interests." Luke Jeffery, Year 10 Student. The club will be overseen by Mr March in DO7 on a Thursday after school.

Westfest Christmas Tree

Miss Williams and Miss Noakes have been running a Year 7 & 8 Christmas tree decoration club over the past term. The students have worked hard to make hand made decorations using felt and paper to decorate Oldfield's tree for the West fest Christmas tree competitions, which was on Saturday!

*Miss C Evans
Head of Technology*

New After School Club; Cricket

Details are being finalised for a new after school cricket club – one on Wednesday and one on Friday starting 2nd week back next term. Further details to follow, but if your child is interested please let Mr Pearce know.

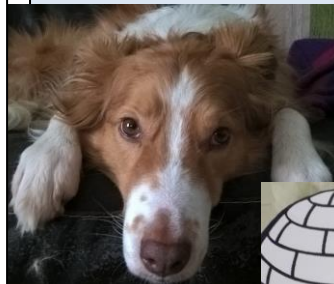
Please see the attached list of extra-curricular clubs that will run next term.

Pet Selfie Competition

This term Palmer House School Council representatives decided to support 'Mutts with Friends' as their chosen charity. Mutts with Friends is a non-profit making dog rescue operating in the Chew Valley and surrounding areas of Bristol and Bath. During November, Palmer House ran a 'Pet Selfie' competition and a dog food donation box. The students were given the opportunity to pay 50p to enter a picture of their pet or any animal they have photographed. Palmer House are very pleased to say that they raised a total of £102.50 for the dog charity and also had a big box full of dog treats and toys to donate. A huge thank you and well done to all the students who entered or donated money. The judging was incredibly tough and we are pleased to announce the winners who were all joint first:

- Rhianne Good Year 13
- Finlay Thornell Year 7
- Lizzy Summers Vodden Year 7
- Well done everyone!

*Miss Davies
Head of Palmer House*



Giving Machine

Now is the ideal time to help the Oldfield School Association without doing anything extra! When buying things on line (almost anything), please go through www.thegivingmachine.co.uk and it will generate free donations for our school!

It just takes a couple of minutes to sign up;

- Click on "join as a giver"
- Choose Oldfield School Association Bath, Bath and then "join and support"
- Fill in your details and join
- Everytime you go to buy anything online, login to your account and choose your retailer (which you can then add to your favourites to make it easier in future)
- GO SHOPPING!!

Oldfield Sports Stars

It has been an excellent term for our brightest and talented sports stars. Two of our students have recently secured Bath and Wiltshire sports grants. These are James Horrocks (Year 9) for his commitment to football and Sami Ait-Kaci (Year 7) for commitments to Judo. The grants were awarded due to their current academic and sporting ability.

The Oldfield sports talent doesn't stop there with boys in Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 beginning their journey into elite rugby through the Bristol Rugby player development program. The boys who have been scouted for their talent and invited to attend the program are Jimmy Davies (Year 8 & Clifton RFC), Kieran Saunders (Year 9 & Keynsham RFC) and Michael Symons (Year 10 & Cleve RFC). The boys appreciate how hard this will be but have accepted the challenge and have the full support of Oldfield School PE department.

*Mr John
PE Teacher*



BANES Year 7 Netball Tournament

A huge well done to the Year 7 students who took part in the BANES Year 7 netball tournament at Wellsway at the end of November. Sixteen teams took part and the tournament was split into two pools. Our students played amazingly well during the afternoon winning most games in their pool. Despite a very cold afternoon, the girls showed great effort and determination in each game. It was lovely seeing a number of parents coming to support the team in what was a very exciting afternoon. I would also like to thank my superb captains Eleni Francis and Maddie Haag for doing a fantastic job during the netball season. Well done girls!

We won 5 out of the 7 matches (drew 1 and lost 1) played during the afternoon and came second place in our pool. We then met Ralph Allen in our final match where we drew 1-1. This gave us joint third place overall. I am so proud of how the girls conducted themselves during the afternoon and represented Oldfield School.

*Mrs Bell
PE Teacher*



Year 10/11 Mixed Netball

Oldfield v Somervale. Excellent team effort, students were mixed in age group for a training match prior to the senior netball season starting in January. There were lots of strong performances throughout but particular congratulations to Eleanor Toms who was voted player of the match. I am really looking forward to next season's matches, starting with Ralph Allen in January. I am excited about the talent we have in our senior squads and am looking forward to the matches next season.

*Mrs Little
Second in PE*

Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Beechen Cliff school

On Wednesday 30th December the Year 10 and 11 boys Basketball team travelled for their very first basketball fixture. The boys were excited but a little nervous. During the warm up students nerves began to settle and their focus developed. The opposition were extremely talented and able basketball players, but the Oldfield boys didn't give up and continued throughout all four quarters to develop their resilience and team work to improve their individual and team performance. The boys should be really proud of their performance and build upon the skills learnt in this game in the future. A great team effort, Man of the Match goes to Joe Winstone.

*Mr Pearce
Head of PE and Performing Arts Faculty including PSHE*

Swimming success!

For the second year running Oldfield School has competed in the Bristol Schools' Swimming Association gala – the highest level of school competition in the region. The standard of competition is absolutely red hot with many of the swimmers attending competition at a national level.

After a fast and furious heat gala in Easton where all 15 competing athletes gave their absolute all, the school was delighted that 7 athletes made it to the final at Horfield Leisure Centre. The competition is especially difficult as they have only 3 categories for 7 year groups making it very difficult for the younger years in each category. The lone Year 8 super star, Erin Hammond, newly arrived from New Zealand battled to a very creditable 4th and 5th in the butterfly and free respectively.

Our most successful age group were the Intermediate girls, Amber Hammond, Freya Bradley, Georgia Boulton (all Year 10) and Year 9, Ella Longford, who formed the relay team. In their individual events, every final race was nail biting as our girls battled and fought to place as high as possible in each race. However in the relays, the whole crowd were screaming as the teams ploughed up and down neck and neck. Their highest place was in the freestyle where they were beaten into 3rd place by Wellsway by just a few hundredths of a second!

Finn Searle, last year's winner in the Junior Freestyle and the only boy in the final's team, earned a late call up to the final; he still managed to take a few scalps, coming a creditable 6th. Not only has he stepped up an age group but he's reduced his swimming to concentrate more time on cyclo-cross racing. Finally, Ella Theobald who last year was considering giving up swimming is now back into it with a vengeance coming third in the butterfly and the free – an amazing performance.

The whole event was very exciting and it was fantastic to see how determined, dedicated and professional each athlete was in their event, well done all who competed in both the heats and the finals.

*Mr Crow
Geography Teacher*

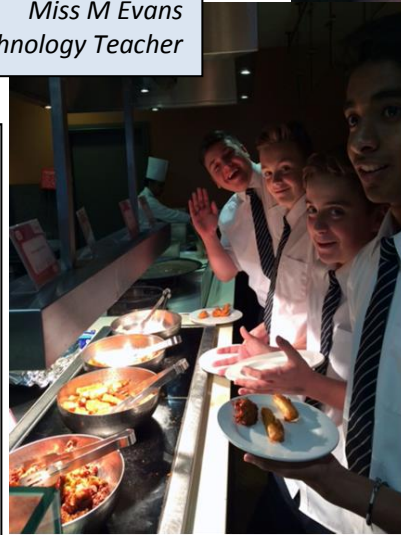


TRIPS AND EVENTS

Trip to Jimmy's Restaurant

On 3rd November GCSE Catering students visited Jimmy's World Spices in Bath to research world cuisines for their Year 11 Controlled Assessment. Students had the opportunity to interview the manager to find out how the food is prepared and served at the restaurant, as well as trying some new and exciting dishes to give them ideas for their practical exam later in the year. Students particularly enjoyed the live cooking demonstrations at each world station!

*Miss M Evans
Technology Teacher*



Speech and Language Therapist talks to Y11 Child Development GCSE Students

Our Year 11 Child Development GCSE students were very fortunate to have Lizzie Fox from C&D Independent Speech & Language Therapy come and talk to them to support their learning about children's intellectual development. She gave a fascinating insight into her role; the qualifications needed; a typical day and the techniques she uses to diagnose and support young children with speech and language issues. We enjoyed learning about some of the reasons why some children have a delay and the resources used to test and diagnose were really interesting. A big thank you to Lizzie for giving up her time and preparing such an interesting talk. It will definitely support the learning and understanding of the GCSE Child Development students as they prepare for their GCSE next year.

*Mrs A. Clark
Teacher of Child Development*

Learning to Spell!

Building on the success of last year's event, the English Department welcomed ninety Year 5 students from WASPs Primary School for a morning of writing-related fun.

Following a Harry Potter theme, the budding J.K Rowlings earnestly grabbed their quills and penned magical descriptions of Ollivander's Wand Shop, before designing and creating their very own wands! Having cast their spells (complying with all Health and Safety regulations, of course!), the students went on to demonstrate their persuasive skills by designing adverts to appear in the shop windows of Diagon Alley.

A wand-erful time was had by all, with delighted students declaring that the day was "magic" and that they are "excited about joining Oldfield" in the future.

Thanks to the teachers and parent-helpers from WASPs, as well as Professors Morris, Reed, Brewer and Diamond, for contributing to a spellbinding day.

Oldfield School of Witchcraft and Wizardry looks forward to opening its doors again next year...

*Mr D Blower
Second in English*

The Good Food Show

Year 9 and Year 10 students went up to the NEC to visit the BBC Good Food show. There were lots of food stalls, selling inspiring products, from white truffle rapeseed oil, pistachio fudge, Gower Brownies and spelt pasta. The day was topped off by a fun cooking show by Paul Hollywood, who showed us how to make no-knead bread and American pancakes.

*Miss M Evans
Technology Teacher*

The Clothes Show Live

Year 10 Textiles students visited The Clothes Show at the NEC in Birmingham where they saw a Fashion Futures careers talk with speakers from the fashion industry and explored a range of stalls and stands, from high street shops and independent designers to University stands where they could see examples of degree level work. We were also able to watch the fantastic Rock the Runway Show which showcased lots of inspiring designs!



Oxford Debating Workshop

On Monday 28th December a group of debaters from years nine to eleven took part in the Oxford Debating Workshop that Oldfield School hosted. We had participants from five different schools: Beechen Cliff School, King's College Taunton, Redmaids High School, Hampshire Collegiate School. Justin Graham was our workshop leader, a student from Oxford University reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and a keen debater himself. Not only did he take us through the rules and regulations of how to debate in the Oxford style, but he also talked about how you would apply for Oxford University for those students interested in that goal.

It was a wonderful and informative evening and we are very grateful to Justin coming all the way from Oxford to give us this workshop. Our KS3 team have already been putting what they've learned into practise in their debates!

I was also extremely proud of the conduct of our students during this session. Justin remarked that he was: "Impressed by the students' commitment to debating, their critical skills and their keenness to develop."

We are now set for our Oxford Debating Competition which will be held at St Mary Redcliffe in Bristol on 16 January 2017 where we will be entering 3 teams.

*Miss Diamond
English Teacher*



Our Remembrance Events

On 25 November, the History Department was fortunate to be able to host a series of workshops and talks by Jeremy Banning, an archaeologist and historian of the First World War and the BBC's historical advisor for the Somme centenary this year. Every student in Year 9 participated in the workshops and all had the opportunity to soak up some of Jeremy's prodigious knowledge on the subject of the war. This helped the students in their work towards their second assessment of Year 9, in which they argued whether life in the trenches was as terrible as is sometimes portrayed. The students were absorbed by all the new information Jeremy presented, and showed a great interest in the topic, as reflected by the comments below. Hopefully Jeremy will be able to return to work with Oldfield students again in the future.

*Mr Allen
Head of History*

"Jeremy Banning came to school and did a presentation on Life in the Trenches, he explained every gory detail from trench foot to the happy times of the war. He gave a moving assembly on Remembrance; he also told stories of the soldiers, family and survivors. This touched everyone in the room. This was a great day because I really love history and learning about my favourite topic (WW1)." Molly Noble, 9S

"We had a talk from Jeremy Banning on World War One. He explained all about the trenches everything from the design to the diseases. After giving the talk to everyone we all had an assembly where the year gathered and we had a talk about the war and people who were involved and the Durham Light Infantry. I really enjoyed the day." Tom Davis, 9L

"I found it especially moving when he talked about the old woman whose father died in the war because it was very upsetting and really opened my eyes to what happened to people who had to stay behind while their father, husbands and sons went off to war. In all it was a very interesting day because I love learning about history and especially WW1 and WW2." Liz Gane, 9N



William Ormes Roder, Year 8, playing the Last Post followed by a 2 minute silence by the whole school.





OLDFIELD SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Thank you from Oldfield School Association

We just wanted to send our thanks to all the staff and parents that helped out with the Christmas Fair, and for all the amazing donations for the House Christmas Hampers. It was a great morning, really busy with lots of happy faces and we raised a lot of money for the school. The students were very enterprising this year – lots of new ideas and bacon butties went down very well with adults and children alike!

Don't forget to keep an eye out for events coming up in the New Year and if you have any requests for items you would like us to fund, please email osa@oldfieldschool.com



| Day | Activity | Times | Meeting Point | Teacher | Year Group |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Monday | Biology Club | 08.00 - 08.30 | S22 | Mr Hamilton | invitation only |
| | Homework Club | 3-4.30pm | Learning Resource Centre | Miss Lowes | All years |
| | Judo Club (10 week course starting 16.01.17) | 3-4pm | Sports Hall | External coach; Ivor Delahay | KS3 (Information letter to follow) |
| | Let's Get Cooking Club | | | Mrs Dowding | Fully booked |
| Tuesday | Homework Club | 3-4.30pm | Learning Resource Centre | Miss Lowes | All years |
| | Signature Dance Club | 3-4pm | Dance studio | Mrs Macnaughton | Years 7, 8 |
| | Big Pitch Club (enterprise challenge with Bath Rotary Club) | 2.45 - 3.45pm | 006 & 007 | Mrs Folland | Year 9 |
| | Catering Club | 3-4pm | 108 | Miss C Evans | GCSE Year 11 class only |
| | Senior Netball Club | 3-4pm | Sports Hall | Mrs Little | Years 10, 11, 12, 13 |
| | Senior Football Club | 3-4pm | Gym | Mr John, Mr Gann | Years 10, 11, 12 |
| | School Play Auditions/rehearsals | 3-4.30pm | Main Hall | Mrs Bloomfield | All years |
| | Creative Writing Club | 3-4pm | P01 | Miss Brewer | All years |
| | Child Development Club | 3-4pm | 004 | Mrs Goddard-Palmer | GCSE Year 11 |
| | French GCSE Club | 3-4pm | 205/007 | Miss Morens | Year 10, 11 |
| GCSE Music Composition Workshop | 3-4pm | Music Room | Mrs Robinson | Year 11 GCSE class only | |
| Wednesday | Homework Club | 3-4.30pm | Learning Resource Centre | Ms Lowes | All years |
| | STEM/Science Surfing Club | 3-4pm | S21 | Mr Cooper | Years 7,8,9 |
| | Physics Workbook Intervention | 3-3.45pm | S11 | Mrs Hobbs | Invitation only; Year 11 intervention |
| | Spanish Culture: Music, Cinema and TV | 2.45-4pm | 204 | Mr Cirera | GCSE Spanish students |
| | Gifted and Talented Dance | 3-4pm | Dance Studio | Mrs Macnaughton | Students will be invited to participate |
| | Junior Netball Club (starting 11th Jan) | 3-4pm | Sports Hall | Mrs Little, Mrs Bell | Years 7, 8 |
| | Junior Football Club | 3-4pm | Sports Hall | Mr John/Mr Gann | Years 7, 8 |
| | School Play Auditions/rehearsals | 3-4.30pm | Main Hall | Mrs Bloomfield | All years |
| | GCSE Geography Controlled Assessment Catch up | 3-4pm | N13 | Mr Peacock | Year 11 |
| | GCSE ICT catch up (starting 11th Jan) | 2.45 - 4pm | Computer room | Mrs Britton/Mr Eidman | Year 11 |
| | Philosophy Through Film | 2.45 - 3.45pm | DS1 | Ms Bird | All years |
| | Band | 3-4pm | Music Room | Mrs Robinson | All years |
| | Blues Band | 3-4pm | Music Room | Mr Hayward | All years |
| Thursday | Homework Club | 3-4.30pm | Learning Resource Centre | Ms Lowes | All years |
| | Debating Club | 3-4pm | PO3 | Ms Diamond | All years |
| | GCSE Dance rehearsal (unit 4) | 3-4pm | Dance studio | Mrs Smith | GCSE students |
| | GCSE Spanish Club | 2.45 - 3.45pm | 201 | Mrs Roveglia | Year 11 GCSE class only |
| | Fitness Suite and Bootcamp | 3-4pm | Fitness Suite | Mr Gann and Mr John | All years |
| | Multi skills Club | 3-4pm | Gym | Mr John | Invitation only |
| | House Basketball | 3-4pm | Sports Hall | Mr Newport | All years |
| | GCSE PE Revision Club | 3-4pm | 107 | Mr Pearce | Year 11 |
| | Year 11 Business Booster | 2.45 - 3.30pm | EO8 | Mrs Folland | Year 11 GCSE class only |
| | Geek Club | 3 - 4pm | DO7 | Luke Jeffery and Mr March | All years |
| | Child Development Club | 3-4pm | 004 | Mrs Clark | GCSE Year 11 and Year 10 |
| | Junior Choir | 3-4pm | Music Room | Miss Lobbett | Years 7, 8 |
| Senior Choir | 3-4pm | Music Room | Mrs Robinson | Years 9 - 13 | |
| Friday | GCSE PE Revision Club | 3-4pm | 107 | Mr Pearce | Year 11 |
| | Baskerville's Gym Club (06.01.17 - 10.02.17) | 3 - 3.45pm | Gym | Baskerville's gym | Paid for club running for 6 weeks |
| | Drama Club | 3-4pm | Drama Studio | Mrs Bloomfield, Miss Grimes | Years 7, 8, 9 |