

To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

20—28 Nov

Yr 11, 13 Mock Examinations

22 Nov

D of E InfoEvening, 18.30

24 Nov

Kids lit quiz, Kingswood School

27 Nov

Young Chefs Event

28 Nov

Rearranged BANES Cross Country, Kingswood School

29 Nov

Yr 7 BANES Netball tournament, Oldfield

30 Nov

Carol Service, Weston All Saints, 7pm

02 Dec

Oldfield Christmas Fair, 10am-12pm

04 Dec

Code week starts

06 Dec

Engineering Club trip to Bath Uni

07 Dec

Yr 11 Parents' Evening

09 Dec

Bath Christmas Market Performance, 2-3pm

12 Dec

Italy Ski Trip Information Evening, 16.00

14 Dec

Oldfield Christmas Festival of Music, 19.00

15 Dec

End of Term 2
Finish at 1.10pm

Dear Parents / Carers,

You may recall that in the previous newsletter I informed you that another would follow shortly due to the multitude of events and activities taking place. This edition, too, is also packed full! Without our dedicated staff and enthusiastic student body this would not be the case and I would like to thank the staff for their hard work and new ideas which make this school what it is.

In this edition, there is a focus on sporting events and achievement and I am delighted to see many of our teams and individuals performing so well. I am also very pleased that our first primary school festival has taken place. We are supporting a cluster of local primary schools (Oldfield, St Mary's, WASPS, Newbridge and St Andrews) with sporting events with Mrs Bell coordinating this in her role as School Sports Coordinator. A number of our Year 9 students are involved with this as Junior Sports Leaders and they are proving to be excellent ambassadors for the school as well as thoroughly enjoying the experience. You may well have realised that we are seeking out new opportunities for students to lead and this is just one of them. Children need to be stretched and given responsibility outside the classroom just as much as in the classroom to fulfil their potential and to realise what they are capable of.

The planning and preparation for our Christmas activities and events are well underway. There are four music performances between now and the end of term; dates and details of these are provided in this newsletter. In addition to these events, the Oldfield School Association Christmas Fair is taking place on Saturday 2nd December. This is always a fun family event and an opportunity to support the OSA in their fundraising for the school and kick off the Christmas season. Don't forget to order your tree!

You will have noticed that in each newsletter there is a spotlight on a curriculum area. This time it is the Science Learning Area and this includes an introduction to teaching staff and a summary of extra-curricular activities and events taking place during the year. I am sure that you will agree that there is a lot going on in and outside the classroom.

Finally, I would like to update you on developments with regards to reports and parents' evenings. We have decided to change the arrangements for both of these this year following feedback from parents' and staff last year. Parents have asked for more opportunities to speak with subject teachers and for the gap between parents' evenings to be shorter. As a consequence we have decided to introduce an additional parents' evening for Year 7, Year 8 and Year 10 so that for each year up to Year 10 there will be two of these each year (Year 9 have the options evening in addition to the parents' evening). The schedule for these is as follows:

Year 7	12 th October 2017, 3 rd May 2018
Year 8	7 th November 2017, 12 th June 2018
Year 9	1 st February (Options Evening), 22 nd February 2018
Year 10	9 th January 2018, 21 st June 2018
Year 11	7 th December 2017
Sixth Form	25 January 2018, 5 th July 2018

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We have decided to discontinue the written tutor report at the end of the year. This was a summary from your child's tutor of the subject report of the end of year and it was felt to be of limited utility for parents given that the information that the summary is based on is made available to parents in the subject report. The additional parents' evening we feel will be a more effective opportunity to provide parents with feedback on the progress that their child is making. In addition, we have modified the reports so that the information on effort, homework and attitude to learning is given a Rag (Red, Amber, Green) rating and I hope that this is helpful and informative. A more detailed summary of the information that will be included in our subject reports has been attached to this newsletter and will be sent home with every report this year.

I hope that you are able to attend one of the Christmas events over the next month and, if so, I look forward to seeing you there.

*Steven Mackay
Headteacher*

Subject Reports Information

As you will now be aware, we have modified the reporting structure. You will receive information explaining what the reports mean, specific to each year group every time you receive a report. What they all do share is a new RAG system to report on effort, behaviour for learning and homework. We hope that this will help identify easily if there are any issues that need urgent addressing. The criteria for these are:

Effort	
Green	Works to the best of ability at all times. Takes pride in the quality of work completed.
Amber	Generally works well but on occasion does not complete work to the best of ability.
Red	Rarely works to the best of ability. Does not demonstrate pride in the quality of work completed.

Behaviour for learning	
Green	Arrives to all lessons punctually and with the correct equipment. Behaves excellently in the lesson, taking an active role in learning.
Amber	On occasion can be late to lessons and/or does not have the correct equipment. Occasional misbehaviour has resulted in a sanction, or not engaged fully with their learning.
Red	Repeatedly late and/or rarely with the correct equipment. Frequent misbehaviour has resulted in some disruption, leading to sanctions, or frequent failure to engage with learning.

Homework	
Green	Completed to best of ability and always on time.
Amber	Completed but below expectations and sometimes late.
Red	Incomplete and well below expectations.

Thank you to all who joined us on Thursday night for the Acceleration Programme Information Evening. Further information will be sent out prior to Christmas and the presentation from the evening is now available to download from the website.

*Miss Lobbett
Assistant Headteacher*

NOTICE BOARD

Activities Week 2018

In addition to the array of trips on offer throughout the year, we also have an annual Activities Week. This year Activities Week is taking place between 25th-29th June 2018. During this week, lessons are suspended and students in Years 7-9 have the opportunity to take part in a range of enrichment activities both in and outside of school as well as the Whole School Sponsored Walk on Friday 29th. Further information will be provided to parents during Term 3. Students in Years 10 and 12 complete Work Experience during this week.



Christmas Events

We would like to invite you to the Christmas events hosted by the Music Department this year. Whether or not your child is involved in these events all will be warmly welcomed and we hope to see you there.

The concerts and services that the Music Department are hosting this year are;

- 7pm, 30th November - Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols in All Saints Church, Weston
- 10am, 2nd December - Musical performances at the Oldfield Christmas Fair in the school hall
- 2-3pm, 9th December - Performance at the Bath Christmas Markets, you will find us outside Bath Abbey
- 7pm, 14th December - Christmas Festival of Music in the school hall (traditional school Christmas Concert complete with tinsel and full on Christmas jollity in the second half!). Mulled wine and mince pies will be available in the interval, served by the OSA.

It would be lovely to see as many students, parents and friends of the school as possible come to together to celebrate Christmas this year.

*Ms Lobbett
Music Teacher*

School Visits

We are pleased to be able offer our students a wide range of learning experiences beyond the classroom. During this academic year we have a number of residential trips planned to destinations which include the Ardeche, Berlin, Belgian Battlefields and Barcelona. There are also a wide variety of day trips planned to support the curriculum, including a Business Studies visit to Marshfield Ice Cream, GCSE Geography fieldwork day in Clevedon, GCSE Science Live and a Food Technology Visit to the Bertinet Bakery. To assist parents with planning for upcoming visits, we have produced a calendar of expected trips which can be downloaded from the Extra Curricular Activities section of the school website. The details on this document are provisional until details of the trip are finalised, at which time parents will be informed by letter. In addition, there are occasions where we have the opportunity to run a trip which is not on this calendar. On these occasions, parents will also be contacted by letter in the usual way.



Year 9s Big Pitch project

Year 9 are working with Bath Rotary Club in developing ideas and learning about how businesses work. BAMF slime are one of the groups that have been successfully selling their products at school and will be working with the Rotary club on packaging, labelling and advertising.



Christmas Hampers

Don't forget to bring in items for the Christmas hampers for the Christmas Fair raffle. We're asking students to bring in items of their house colours, or wrap something in the colour of their house, **by Friday 24th November.**



Oldfield School Christmas Fair, 10 –12pm Saturday 2nd December

Please come along and support our school and your children.

There will be:

- musical performances by students, including our choir and samba band
- stalls run primarily by students; if your child would like to run a stall, please send £2 in with the form to reception.
- high quality Nordman Christmas trees; Christmas trees are available to pre-order so you need not worry about availability on the day of the fair. We have a limited number of the Nordman Non-Drop Christmas trees available: 5-6ft trees cost £35 and 6-7ft trees cost £40. Cheques should be post-dated 2.12.17 and made payable to the OSA
- a raffle for some great prizes; please send in donations. Perhaps you have some unwanted gifts you could donate or have an interest or business that may be willing to contribute something e.g. a yoga class, massage, riding lesson etc.
- this year we are again asking each House to produce a hamper. We would like students to bring in different coloured items depending on their House (Neptune - blue; Maia – green; Minerva – red; Apollo - yellow). House points will be awarded to the House that comes up with the best hamper
- this year we will also be running a nearly new uniform sale. Please send in any donations of blazers, trousers and skirts in good condition
- refreshments run by the OSA

Come along and enjoy the fair, meet other parents and see what innovative ideas the children have come up with for their stalls.

ALL DONATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO SCHOOL BY FRIDAY, 24th NOVEMBER.

Volunteers are crucial to the success of the fair and it is also a great way to get to know other parents. If you can spare a half hour or more of your time on the day that would be fantastic, just email us your details and we will contact you before the fair: osa@oldfieldschool.com

OLDFIELD SCHOOL'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 2nd December

Festive Hampers & Prizes
Musical Performances by Students

Festive Gifts & Treats
Nordman Fir Non Drop Trees

KIDS GO FREE!
50p ENTRY FOR ADULTS

10am – 12pm

PRE-ORDER XMAS TREES £35/£40
FOR 5-6ft/6-7ft TREES, EMAIL osa@oldfieldschool.com

Giving Machine

Now is the ideal time to help the OSA without doing anything extra! When buying things online (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!!

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING AREAS —

Science

Welcome to Science at Oldfield School!

I would like to take the opportunity to firstly introduce you to our team. The Science Learning Area now has a new leadership structure, which I have the pleasure of leading. Mrs Hobbs is a physics specialist and is in post as Second in Science. She also leads our KS4 curriculum. Mr Hamilton is a biology specialist and leads KS3. Our returning team members are: Mrs Langsi (chemistry), Mrs Lewis (chemistry), Miss Hodges (biology), Mr Heuff (biology), Mrs Macalister (biology). We are delighted to introduce Dr Patterson (physics) and Mr Hellard (chemistry) to the Learning Area this year; both are experienced teachers and are very welcome additions to our strong team.

We have a number of exciting extra-curricular activities taking place in our learning area. Year 11 chemistry students have already enjoyed an interactive and practical Spectroscopy workshop as part of our University Outreach work. Year 10 will soon be offered the opportunity to attend a GCSE Science Live days, where they will hear from influential scientists and gain unique insights into the latest guidance on the new GCSEs. Year 9-10 students will also soon be invited to participate in an interactive, inspiring STEM day led by facilitators at UWE, Bristol. For our younger learners, the weekly lunchtime Astronomy club is already growing, and we plan to launch our STEM club for KS3 students after Christmas. Our lunchtime Engineering Club is very popular and we have a trip to Bath University Robotics Department coming up in December, where the students will have the chance to meet scientists that work at the university and discuss their research developing drones. We are delighted with the enthusiasm with which our learners approach their lessons and feel privileged to work with them.

We are proud to offer all three science disciplines at A Level, and we very much look forwards to continuing to work with our learners beyond GCSE studies. Our guaranteed small group sizes allows for excellent tuition and coaching, which is translating into excellent outcomes for our students.

We look forwards to working with you and your children over the coming months and years in their academic journey.

Ms E Prior
Leader of Learning - Science

Oldfield Sixth Form— Cambridge University Visit

This term, myself and two other students got the opportunity to visit Trinity Hall, which is part of Cambridge University, for two days. During this trip we got to stay in the student accommodation at Trinity Hall and visit other colleges that are part of the University such as Robinson College. We experienced two lectures to help us get an idea of what a typical University day is like; I went to the arts and humanities lectures as this is the area I am most interested in pursuing, but lectures that focused on science and engineering were also offered. During the evening, we got the chance to explore the city of Cambridge through a treasure hunt activity which was really fun.

The second day started with a talk about the application process to Cambridge and Oxford specifically but also gave information on applying to University in general which I found really helpful. We then walked around the University site where all the lecture halls and subject buildings are located, past the huge library (which holds approximately eight million books) and then visited the Fitzwilliam Museum. This trip provided a valuable opportunity to sample university life, answer any questions or worries about the next step after A-levels and gain more information about applying to Oxbridge or a Russell Group university which seemed to me, before this trip, a very daunting prospect.

Freya Spear, Year 12



**OLDFIELD
SCHOOL**
SIXTH FORM

.....PE NEWS....PE NEWS....PE NEWS....PE NEWS....PE NEWS.....

Bronze in British Olympic Gymnastics Team trials

We were very impressed to hear about the achievements of one of our Year 7 students, Jay Franklin. He competed in the South West regional gymnastics finals in September and came first overall, making him South West champion! He had to achieve a certain score that was high enough to qualify for the National Finals, which he did comfortably. Only three boys in the whole of the South West qualified for elite grade 3. He went on to compete in the National Finals last week and came 8th overall! The South West region was placed 3rd, earning them a bronze medal.

Well done Jay and good luck with your ongoing training.



Year 8 Netball Tournament Results

The Year 8 netball tournament took place on Wednesday 1st November at Writhlington School. The team played amazingly well, winning all the games in their pool and drawing with Wellsway.

Team List

Maddie Haag (vice captain)
 Thalia Perkins
 Eleni Francis
 Mia Sparks (Captain)
 Leticia Perez
 Gaby Edwards
 Chloe Marrett
 Madeline Rawcliffe
 Chloe Priestly



The results were as follows;

Win against Somervale (10-1) Player of the match Maddie Haag
 Win against St Gregs (7-2) Player of the match Chloe Marrett
 Drew against Wellsway (3-3) Player of the match Chloe Marrett
 Win against Ralph Allen (4-3) Player of the match Chloe Priestly
 Wellsway ended up in the final as they beat us on goal difference which was frustrating!

We met Hayesfield in our final and drew 3-3 which gave us overall joint third place with Hayesfield. The standard of netball was very high and I would like to thank the Year 8 team for their amazing demonstration of teamwork and sportsmanship during the tournament. They have been a real pleasure to train and manage over the last few months. Well done girls!!

*Mrs Bell
 PE Teacher*

Well done to all the students that participated in the bleep test, full results are displayed in the PE area. Congratulations to the top scorers in each year;

Year 7 girls	Score	Position
Matilda Coles	9.1	1
Imogen Yap	8.4	2
Matilda Lewis	7.7	3

Year 7 boys	result	Position
Evan McLain	11	1
Harry Hamilton	11	1
Fred Kershaw	11	1
Jed Meerholz	11	1

Girls Year 8/9	Result	Position
Rosie McLain	11.1	1
Emma Poploski	10.1	2
Ruby Frampton	10.1	3

Year 8/9 Boys	Result	Position
Will Hall-Haines	11	1
Leo Ashman Cox	10	2
Mohab Murshan	10	3

Year 10/11 Girls	Result	Position
Katie Williams	9.3	1
Mia Barnes	8	2
Lana Williams	7.5	3

Yr 10/11 Boys	Result	Position
Joey Williams	11	1
Bailey Clements	7.3	2

Year 4 Primary Indoor Athletics Festival

On Wednesday 15th November ninety Year 4 students from St Mary's, St Andrews, and WASPS came over to take part in a festival run by our sports leaders in Year 9, and selected Ambassadors from Year 10.

The Year 4 children took part in a series of indoor athletic events and finished with a very exciting relay. The Oldfield young leaders and ambassadors took charge of managing each of the teams and running the different stations. They welcomed the schools, lead warm ups and generally looked after the children during the afternoon.

They did an amazing job with many of the students exceeding expectations.

I would like to thank all the students that took part and made the afternoon a success. The feedback from the Primary teachers and students so far has been really pleasing and we look forward to our next festival which is due to be held in January.

Mrs Bell (SSCO and PE teacher)

Bristol Schools' Swimming Association Gala

The Oldfield School swimming team put on an incredible show of power, determination and strength in the second heat of the Bristol Schools' Swimming Association Gala. Sadly Izzy Medley had to pull out after an old shoulder injury flared up in practise. There were fine individual performances and a great team performance from the junior girls who managed to get on as first reserve team for the final. Sophie Cameron did especially well to make it through to the final in the 50m freestyle final. The junior boys showed prodigious talent with Toby Rudge making the 50 breaststroke final, a fine performance for a Year 7 competing against Year 8s.



In the intermediates, Finn Searle, a former schools' final freestyle champion made it through to the final again this year despite him diversifying into elite level cyclo-cross. Lastly, in the seniors, Georgia Boulton despite a valiant effort, was unable to replicate past glories; whereas the ever reliable Jack Gibert managed to battle through injury to secure a breaststroke spot in the final.

Thanks very much to all the athletes and their parents for supporting a really enjoyable evening of high intensity, hotly fought swimming where school rivalry trumped club rivalry.



The team was: Sophie Cameron, Izzy Medley, Chloe Purnell, Ellie Babbage, Toby Rudge, Leo Whitehead, Josh Kazombo, Finn Searle, Phoebe O'Donnell, Jack Gibert, and Georgia Boulton.

Mr Crow

Year 7 girls football team

The Year 7 girls football team played against Selwood Academy in the first round of the ESFA PlayStation competition. This was the girls first ever football match here at Oldfield and they have never played together as a team. The girls were unbelievable and worked extremely hard. The score was 1-1 at half time and they still had plenty to give to win the game. We got an early goal during the second half and went 2-1 up, goal scored by Jess. Selwood continued to battle against us and managed to get an equaliser. The rain poured down, yet this did not stop the girls from continuing to push for a winning goal. We were down to the final 4 minutes of the match and we had a to try and get a goal, otherwise it would result in extra time. The girls managed to pick up a scrambled ball in the box and Bronwen managed to kick the ball in the goal to gain us a 3-2 lead. A minute remained and Selwood continued to battle and put our defence under pressure. The final whistle went and the girls had successfully managed to win the game and are now through into the next round against Gordano School. Well done girls!



*Miss Hooper
PE Teacher*

TRIPS AND VISITS

Macbeth Performance

Year 10 Drama students took to the stage on Monday 13th November and performed as a part of the Shakespeare Schools' Festival. Since September, the students have been working in lessons and in after school rehearsals to create their version of Macbeth. This 30 strong cast worked with professional directors, stage managers and lighting and sound technicians at the Egg Theatre in Bath and played out to a packed house – the venue was sold out! The performance was really good and the Shakespeare Schools representative commended the students on their mastery of choral speaking and the energy and dynamism of their performance.



Well done to all of Year 10 Drama classes on a wonderful performance! We look forward to seeing more of your work.

Ms Bloomfield and Miss Grimes.



After another very successful Halloween Pumpkin Carving Competition the judges are pleased to announce the following winners:

TOM D 7N – Yellow House

ROSE 7H – Green House

KARL 7G – Red House

LUCY S 8T – Blue House

And Mrs Ogilvie (Support staff) – Staff Winner!



Conkers!

Last term saw Oldfield host its first inter-house conker competition. Whether or not students had played conkers before, plenty of them took part to win points for their houses. Apollo House were the overall winners with the most students taking part and winning matches, however Marnie Scott in Year 9 from Minerva house was the champion winning 4 matches. Well done to everyone who took part.....especially those brave enough to take on Mr Mackay; a



seasoned professional! We look forward to seeing more students take part in our next inter-house competition.

Miss Vickery (Apollo), Mrs Macnaughton (Minerva), Mr Fox (Neptune) and Mr Gann (Maia).