

To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

06 Feb

U14s Girls County Cup, 12.00, away

07 Feb

U16s Girls Football Tournament,
away

D of E Expedition Evening, 18.30

09 Feb

END OF TERM 3

Italy Ski Trip departs

11 Feb

Berlin History Trip departs

14 Feb

Berlin History Trip returns

17 Feb

Italy Ski Trip returns

19 Feb

START TERM 4

20 Feb

Yr 7 & 8 Football v Beechen Cliff
County Cup Cricket Playoffs

21 Feb

Yr 10 CV & Application Sessions 1
U14s Girls Football Tournament

22 Feb

Yr 10 CV & Application Sessions 2
Yr 10 Football v Beechen Cliff, away
Yr 9 Parents' Evening

23 Feb

Women in Engineering Trip

26 Feb

Yr 11 Mock Examinations start

27 Feb

Yr 7 & 8 Football v Beechen Cliff

28 Feb

Yr 11 Football v IKB

01 Mar

World Book Day

Yr 10 Football v Beechen, away

03 Mar

D of E In-school training day

05 Mar

Trip to Concorde Museum

Dear Parents/Carers

I am conscious that this is my first letter home since the start of the year so it seems appropriate to wish you a (belated) Happy New Year and I hope that your start to the new year has been as rewarding and enjoyable as ours has been at the school. Despite this being one of the shortest terms of the year it has been one of the busiest. It has included Oldfield Sixth Form interviews for our Year 11 students, the start of the Year 9 option process, the launch of our Acceleration Programme, our Year 9 entrepreneurs have been marketing and selling products in the 'Big Pitch' and the preparations for Year 11 mock examinations at the start of next term. You will see from this newsletter that there is a plethora of events and activities planned between now and Easter; these include the OSA Quiz night (which I would thoroughly recommend), a Harry Potter Evening in the library, the dance umbrella, practice expeditions for our Duke of Edinburgh Award students, a ski trip to Italy and a history trip to Berlin.

Sports teams have had a very successful term, in particular our Year 9 Netball team, the girls football team and the boys Year 10 football team, you can read more about their successes later in the newsletter. I have seen both the Year 9 netball team and Year 10 football team play this year and their performances have been impressive. The boys are progressing well through the Somerset Cup and the girls have reached the finals. Their teachers have done an excellent job in coaching and training throughout this year and the students have shown great commitment and determination and it is great to see their efforts being rewarded by success.

I am very pleased to inform you that the School Governors have agreed to increase our budget for refurbishment over the next four years and we have allocated £900,000 over 5 years to undertake refurbishment and improve areas across the school. This is a long overdue investment and will allow us to refurbish all of the teaching rooms in Penn, the main school building and Malloy. We will also further improve the sixth form and the social spaces used by students at break and lunchtime. The work planned for this year includes the classrooms in Penn and some of those in the main building. Our students deserve the best possible environment for their learning and this investment will allow us to transform the teaching spaces in particular over the next few years.

I hope that you and your families have a very enjoyable holiday next week and look forward to welcoming the students back to what promises to be another exciting term.

*Mr Mackay
Headteacher*

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NOTICE BOARD



Homestay Places for Chinese Students – do you have a spare room?

We are looking for Homestay places in Bath for ten Year 7 Chinese Students (mixed sexes) for 8 weeks during the summer term 2018, from 28th April to 30th June, (not during half term week). Dates may change depending on flight availability.

The students will be attending Oldfield school in Year 7 and Year 8 lessons. They are here to improve their English and learn about our culture. As part of that we would like them to also be part of family life. The students would be hosted individually or in pairs of the same sex, within a home environment which provides daily home cooked meals, packed lunches and a bedroom with a study area. Homes must ideally be within walking distance of the school or be transport should be provided, if needed.

You do not need to have a child in Year 7 or 8 to offer a homestay placement, however we would particularly welcome interest from families in those year groups and these will be given priority.

If you can accommodate, to cover all living expenses including transport, we provide an allowance of £150 per student per week. If you would like an application form or would like to find out more information then please contact Miss Sackett or email c.sackett@oldfieldschool.com All placements are subject to a home visit and DBS check.



Harry Potter Book Night

Wizards and witches will receive their letter from Hogwarts once their permission slip has been handed to Mrs Pearce in the Library.

Thinking differently about travel in and around Bath

OPEN MEETING
We want your ideas about travel in Bath.

Saturday 3rd March 2018
9.30am to 2pm
Wera Hobhouse MP
and other political and campaign groups will be present to join the discussion about the future of travel in and around Bath
at The New Oriel Hall, Bath BA1 6RA

Share your views and help create a transport vision for Bath.

Event is free and open to all members of the public. Booking essential as numbers are limited. To book your place email: transitionlarkhall@gmail.com

For more information see <http://transitionlarkhall.uk/event/symposium>



Harry Potter

Book Night

Friday 9th March 2018

5.00 until 8.30pm

Free Activity in School

Numbers Strictly Limited

Sign up now in the Library

Fancy Dress

Evening consists of

Sorting Ceremony, Three Wizard Challenges,
Harry Potter Book Quiz, Wizard Banquet



????Quiz Night????Quiz Night???? Quiz Night????

OSA Quiz Night is back!

We are very excited to announce our next quiz night will be taking place on Friday 16th March at school.

Come along for a fun and friendly evening. Tickets are only £5 and include a delicious ploughman's supper. There will be the usual licensed bar and snacks available. You can form teams of 6 people or come along and we'll put you in a team. You can purchase tickets through ParentPay or send in money/cheques in a clearly labelled envelope to reception.

Any questions, email osa@oldfieldschool.com

Dates for your diary

16 March 2018, Quiz Night, Oldfield School.

11 April 2018, OSA Meeting 7pm Boathouse

21 April 2018, Pop-up Restaurant Dinner Fundraiser

OSA PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Very Serious Quiz

A NIGHT NOT TO BE MISSED

Friday 16th March 7PM ENTRY

TEAMS OF UP TO 6 - £5 ADMISSION OLDFIELD SCHOOL

LICENSED BAR

ENTRY PRICE INCLUDES PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER AND A DRINK

EARLY BIRD TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE 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 —

Introducing Team Creatives!

The Creatives Learning Area has grown this year so that we now include art, design technology, drama, music and photography. I have the pleasure of leading the team of specialist teachers who work tirelessly with students across all age ranges and disciplines. I am primarily an art and design teacher but I also lead photography and teach this to A level. Miss Evans is second in the area with direct responsibility for guiding technology; her specialist area is food, catering and nutrition. We have another Miss Evans who is our specialist textiles teacher, Mrs Johnson who is a product design specialist and Mrs Sackett who specialises in textiles and product design. In the Art Department, we have Mr Pearce and Miss Noakes who both teach all age ranges and some technology and photography as well. Mrs Bloomfield leads the performing arts subjects (drama and music), and is one of three specialist drama teachers, the other two being Miss Grimes and Ms Carter. Ms Lobbett is leading music this year and she works closely with Miss Prosser our other music specialist. We have two technicians, Mrs Dowding and Mr Fuller, who support the teaching staff and work alongside our students in a range of practical situations.

In addition to the diverse and exciting curriculum schemes of work, we offer a broad range of extra-curricular opportunities. Year 10 drama students have worked on the school's Shakespeare Project and experienced performing with professionals at the Egg Theatre; they brought their production back to school and shared this with our Year 11s as part of their English studies earlier in the year. Students from all year groups played in a range of music concerts and celebration events in the build up to Christmas. These took place at school, at the Bath Christmas markets and at Weston All Saints Church. Art and photography students have been busy creating work for several competitions including RSC Young Photographer Apprentice Award and the Black Swan Open Arts competition. The school was represented by two of our Year 10 budding young chefs at the Rotary Young Chef of the Year competition that took place at Bath college. Well done to Alfie Hogg and Kieran Gregory for taking part, they both worked hard to produce two healthy courses for under £10.00 for two people.

For our younger learners we offer regular lunchtime and after school clubs in all of the various subject areas. We are delighted with the attendance at these sessions and we enjoy seeing and listening to the fabulous work that is produced.

Later in the year we will be celebrating more of our students' creative journeys through the school play, Battle of the Bands and the summer art and technology exhibition with music. We hope to see many of our students, parents and friends at these events to enjoy and celebrate everything that has been done by our creative and talented students this year.

Mrs R Capetti
Leader of Learning - Creatives



Sports Hall Athletics County Final - Monday 29th Jan

Both Year 7 and Year 8 girls qualified for this event which was held at UWE. Students performed really well during the afternoon as a team and with their individual events. I am so impressed by our students, I am sure some of them will go on and be selected for the County team ready for the national competition. It was such an exciting afternoon and was a pleasure taking our students who are so talented.

Mrs Bell
PE Teacher

Overall results

Year 7 girl - Fourth overall

Year 8 girls - Winners!!!!!!! We smashed it.

Names of students taking part;

Year 7 team

Maddy Davies 7B
Imogen Yap 7S
Rhi Hughes 7L
Tess Harvey 7G
Briony Davies 7G
Freya Keyford 7S
Jess Causey 7S
Matilda Coles 7S

Year 8 Team

Livvy Britton 8L
Eleni Francis 8G
Claudia Pearce 8L
Mia Sparks 8L
Maddie Haag 8N
Chloe Priestley 8N
Eloise Parker 8N
Chloe Marrett 8B



Bristol Schools' Swimming Association Secondary School Championships Final

Oldfield took seven swimmers to the Bristol Schools' Swimming Gala Final held at Horfield pool. The team included five swimmers who made the individual final. The ever competitive Year 11, Jack Gibert managed to come a very close fourth in the hotly fought 50m breaststroke against athletes up to two years older than him. Year 10 Finn Searle in the freestyle just missed out on the podium too as he competed for the third year running for the school. The combative Year 8 Sophie Cameron swam her heart out in the freestyle final and achieved a time very close to her PB – a creditable achievement on a wintry school night. Lastly in the individual races, Year 7 Toby Rudge in the breaststroke swam like a fish but alas did not manage to make the podium on this occasion, however next year he stands a very good chance as he will have completed another 1000 km of training and still be eligible to race as a junior.

The junior girls' team managed to get wildcard entries for both the medley and the freestyle relays and acquitted themselves very well.

A big thanks must go to parent helpers Mrs Gibert in the heats and Mr Searle for the final and especially to Mrs Pierce Butler who stepped in to help out for the final too.

Lastly, the athletes were incredible, every time they race they put so much into every stroke and were all incredibly professional throughout. Swimming is a brutal sport where the race is always against the clock so the greatest of respect goes to all the Oldfield students who train so hard and race so competitively.



Mr Crow

Oldfield School Running Club Kelston Roundhill Challenge

The inaugural Kelston Roundhill Challenge was undertaken by seven runners this year, of which only three athletes managed to make it. Due to the fact that the run takes place in mid winter, the terrain is especially muddy and difficult to move across. The event is exactly 5 kms long with an elevation of 150 metres and it has to be achieved within 30 minutes to be able to get back for Period 5. Very well done to the three athletes who made it this year who were Year 7s Matty S and Theo G, together with Year 10 Finn S.

The running club has had consistent support from students this year with a hard core of between eight and eleven making the run in all weathers. We look forward to another year of participation. If you are a student or a member of staff and would like to join in we meet at the sports hall office at 13:15 on Tuesdays and generally run for 25 to 30 minutes and our winter course is along the towpath towards Bath and back.

Mr Crow



Year 9 Netball team - success again!

Following the successful win at the Year 9 BANES netball tournament the team went through to the Winter School Games quarter finals. We played against St Bede's who travelled from Bristol. The girls were outstanding considering they have not played since the tournament before Christmas. We secured an outstanding win- 32-2 - and are therefore through to the next round.

The next round will be the Winter School Games finals at Bristol UWE on Tuesday 30th January. Player of the match was given to Charlotte Emmerson awarded by the opposition. Well done to the girls and good luck in the next round.

Miss Hooper



Year 10 Boys Football

Well done to the under 15 boys (Yr10) on making history and reaching the last eight of the Somerset District Football Cup after a 2-0 win against Writhlington. They are the first team from Oldfield School to progress to this stage in the competition. Goal scorers, James Horrocks and Callum Lovell.

Educating our Most Able: Acceleration Programme 2018

The Brilliant Club – Scholars Programme

On Friday 12th January, twenty students from Years 10 and 12 were excited to visit Cambridge University for the launch of the Scholars Programme. The Scholars Programme is an academic programme run by The Brilliant Club, an organisation which aims to widen access for outstanding pupils in non-selective state schools to the UK's most selective universities. University researchers (PhD Tutors) are placed in schools, teaching university-style tutorials to groups of four to six pupils. This is proving to be



**The
Scholars
Programme**



a unique opportunity for our students to experience university-style teaching whilst working with a world-leading expert. Those engaged in the programme are currently attending PhD tutorials once a week and preparing a 2,000-word dissertation on Neuroscience or Feminism in French Literature! Congratulations to all involved.

Lecture Series

One hundred and seventy two students across years 7, 10 and 11 have been invited to engage in a series of Acceleration Programme lectures and workshops, the first of which took place this week. As is the case with any individual undertaking an undergraduate or postgraduate qualification, all teachers were required to complete an in-depth dissertation in order to gain their degree. Within Oldfield School we have a rich, varied range of university level expertise. Staff are excited by the prospect of sharing this wealth of knowledge with the students selected for this programme.

There are a series of twenty lectures and workshops taking place within lunch times over the next two terms, all of which have been designed to inspire and encourage students to have high aspirations and expectations of themselves and their achievements whilst at Oldfield School and beyond. The feedback I have received from both staff and students has been fantastic – thank you to both staff and students.



Acceleration Programme 2018: Lectures and Workshops

Date	Location	Title	Lecturer
31 st January	LRC	Could the future be running our vehicles on chip fat?	Mrs Hobbs
1 st February	PS4	Trump: How we got here, what might be coming next, and what we can do about it..	Mr Bevan
5 th February	LRC	Maths from the Movies: Good Will Hunting and Homeomorphically Irreducible Trees	Ms Prior (Maths)
8 th February	LRC	'What can we learn from traditional societies?'	Mr Peacock
21 st February	LRC	"Sexual Strategies – the battle of the sexes". Rated PG	Mr Hamilton
26 th February	LRC	Fermat's Last Theorem and Unsolvable Puzzles	Ms Prior (Maths)
27 th February	LRC	The Criminal Mind: Brain dysfunction or Socialisation?	Ms Lobbett
1 st March	106	Drug-Dealing History: The Opium Wars of the 19 th Century	Mr Allen
7 th March	LRC	Using photo-ID to study marine mammals	Ms Ashford-Hodges
8 th March	D05	Modular Arithmetic	Mr Brooke
15 th March	LRC	Catenary Curves and Building Bridges	Mr McHugh
19 th March	LRC	Understanding Prime Numbers: The Unknown	Ms Prior (Maths)
21 st March	LRC	The Science of Sperm; Make it, Clean it, Freeze it,	Ms Prior (Science)
11 th April	LRC	Pharmaceuticals	Mr Neba
19 th April	LRC	The Mathematics of Cars	Mr Herbert
25 th April	LRC	"Using Physics as Medicine"	Dr Patterson
4 th May	D03	Stock Markets: Supply and Demand	Mr Spence
9 th May	LRC	The Chemistry of Drugs	Mrs Lewis
16 th May	LRC	Free lunches antipodean style	Mr Mackay
18 th May	LRC	'Auctioning the Amazon Rainforest'	Mr Fox
23 rd May	S11	Genetics	Mr Heuff

Aspirational Mentoring

Selected students from across Years 10 and 11 have been invited to participate in 1:1 aspirational mentoring, led by a variety of staff volunteers from across the school. These meetings are currently taking place once a fortnight during morning registration and have been designed to be challenging and focus on measurable outcomes. All students involved have received a progress book and will have the opportunity to learn about revision strategies, Growth Mindset and to set and discuss aspirational and academic targets.

Miss Lobbett

HOUSE NEWS

Charity Fundraising

The Heads of House were over the moon as the school raised an incredible £974.50 for Children in Need. We are passionately proud of each of our houses, but it just goes to show what can be achieved when we all pull together. Well done Oldfield!

The next big charity event on the calendar is Sport Relief, which will kick-off the week commencing the 17th of March. Be prepared to strap on a pair of boots, slip in to a leotard and warm up your shoulders – there will be plenty of action to look forward to. Mrs. Little and Mr. Gann have a plethora of competitions and activities planned. If anyone is planning anything outside school to raise money for Sports Relief, please let your Head of House know – we'd love to announce it for you.

Welly-wanging!

Speaking of throwing things, the inter-house 'Welly-wanging' competition returned for 2018. Brave competitors from all years pitted themselves against the rain and mud to sling rubber footwear in the spirit of house glory. Various techniques were tried, some rather more successful than others; Miss Vickery's effort almost crossed the launching line, whilst Mrs. Macnaughton narrowly avoided bunting her boot into the innocent on looking spectators, until up stepped the hero of the hour – Nico 'the Trebuchet' Long – whose Herculean effort broke the 20m barrier to win the competition fair and square. Well done Nico – house points to Maia house!

Up and coming house events

Some things to look forward to... Each house is launching a colour-themed quiz. Every entry will earn a house point and the first to answer all the questions earns a house award. Minerva are currently leading the race for the house cup, with a mighty 11,252 house points earned so far this year. Apollo are a close second, with 11,172 and Neptune third with 11,014. With three terms down and three to go, there is still plenty to play for. Also, there is a Harry Potter themed evening planned for Friday 9th March. Mrs. Pearce the school librarian has spells, potions and owls tucked up her sleeves. If you are interested, speak to your tutor for details.

TRIPS AND EVENTS

Christmas Ice Skating

The Sixth Form celebrated the end of the Winter term in true Christmas spirit by going ice skating in Victoria Park in Bath. The students had a wonderful time although the variety of skating proficiency was rather varied. Jessica Coleman glided gracefully across the ice like a budding Jayne Torvill. Others slipped around in abject terror looking like they might fall over at any time. Obviously I will not be naming names, so Oscar and James can both feel reassured that their dignity is still intact.



Mr Nash



The Rotary Club Young Leaders Award

The Sixth Form has had a long standing relationship with Bath Rotary Club and I am very pleased to announce that two of our students, Freya Spear and Tom Templeton, have been chosen to take part in the Rotary Club Youth Leadership Award. Both students will be attending a residential over the Easter holidays and will then be organising a presentation to deliver to the Rotarians.

Lab Rat Theatre performance

On Monday 15th January, Oldfield School hosted a performance of the play Lab Rat performed by Midnite Theatre Company. The theatre group is made up from students from Christchurch Grammar School in Perth, Australia and previous alumni of the group include Tim Minchin. The group are touring the UK with their performance and are building cultural links with schools and theatrical institutions including Oldfield School.

Their play Lab Rat was commissioned especially for the tour and the students at Oldfield were the fourth audience ever to see the production. As well as watching the performance, our Year 10 GCSE and Year 12 A Level Drama students had the opportunity to take part in a Q&A session after the show and talked about the production and compared their experiences of studying drama at school with the cast.



This has been a great opportunity for our students to forge international links and meet students from another culture. We hope to build on this relationship and hope to establish further links in the future.

*Ms Bloomfield
Head of Drama*



Write up for school newsletter, By Toby S

This time last year I attended an open call audition for the West End tour of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. 120 children attended the audition and I was lucky enough to be picked to perform in the show as one of four sewer boys. I was really excited but also a little bit scared, as it was my first professional show. I had to learn the song 'Teamwork' with a dance routine along with other songs and after lots of rehearsing was ready to perform at Bristol Hippodrome in January for a two week run. I met Charlotte Wakefield who was Truly, Claire Sweeny, Jason Manford and Phil Jupitus as well as lots of other West End performers and they all signed my programme!



I was then invited to audition for the West End tour of Evita and was again lucky enough to be picked to perform in the Bristol Hippodrome run during February. I wasn't sure if I would enjoy this musical as much but I loved this one as well. Evita is a more serious musical based on the life and death of Eva Peron and has the famous song "Don't cry for me Argentina". Emma Hatton played Eva and before Evita was Elphaba in Wicked, she had an amazing voice!

To my surprise I was then asked to audition for the West End tour of Joseph with Joe McDerry and was selected to be part of the children's choir. We all had show t-shirts and were on stage sat on steps for the whole of the show. We had a lot of songs to learn with actions and we also had a medley song of our own at the start of Act Two. I loved being on stage for the whole show. This time I had to perform in Bristol and at Cardiff Millennium Centre during May.

More recently this November I performed at Her Majesty's theatre West End London. This time with my Stagecoach dance troupe. We danced and sang a routine from the musical Kinky Boots and Newsies.

I feel very lucky to have taken part in these shows and I hope that I have the opportunity to do more things like this again next year – who knows!



Maddy D, Year 7

Maddy represented Yate Athletics Club in the South West Championships and won two bronze medals. She came 3rd in the 60m sprint and 3rd in the shot put. Maddy threw an impressive 5m 67 in her throw. We are looking forward to see Maddy progressing and representing Oldfield school. A MASSIVE congratulation to you.

*Miss Hooper
PE Teacher*

