

## To inspire, to learn, to succeed

### Important Dates;

#### 20 Dec

Christmas Concert

#### 21 Dec

END OF TERM 2; finish 12.20pm

#### 07 Jan 2019

WEEK TWO

START TERM 3; INSET DAY

#### 08 Jan

Students return to school

B&NES Yr 7, 8 Sportshall Athletics (A)

#### 09 Jan

Jamie's Farm Visit

Yr 10 Music Recital

#### 10 Jan

Book Buzz Event, Yr 7

Berlin Trip, Parents Info Eve

Yr 10 Music Recital

#### 14 Jan

New York Trip; Parents Info Eve

#### 17 Jan

Yr 10 Parents' Evening

#### 18—19 Jan

Yr 12 Psychology Trip to London

#### 23 Jan

KS4/5 Photography Walk, London

U13s boys football match (h)

Yr 10 & 11 Netball match (h)

OSA Meeting, 7pm

#### 29 Jan

Yr 10 CV Writing Workshop

#### 30 Jan

Yr 10 CV Writing Workshop

Girls in Mathematics Trip

Yr 10 Group Careers Session; Careers within sports and leisure

#### 31 Jan

Sixth Form Parents' Evening

#### 05 Feb

Yr 10/11 Netball (h)

#### 07 Feb

Yr 9 Options Evening

#### 09 Feb

School Production Rehearsal; all day

#### 11 Feb

School Production Technical Rehearsal

#### 12, 13, 14 Feb

School Production Performance; Mary Poppins

#### 14—19 Feb

Yr 11 Berlin Trip

#### 15 Feb

END OF TERM 3

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas is rapidly approaching and I am quite sure that you and your families are looking forward to time together over Christmas and the opportunity to relax and recharge batteries.

Our Year 11 and 13 students in particular will welcome the opportunity to rest after a very busy term for them, preparing for their mock examinations. It is easy to forget how demanding these are as all of their examinations are compressed into a two-week period with limited time to revise and prepare. Year 11 students received their results this week and this is a timely indicator of how they are progressing towards their GCSE examination targets.

It is impossible to mention all of the events and activities that have taken place this term but many are covered by articles in this newsletter. You will be very aware that the majority of these are dependent on staff being prepared to give up their time to organise and run these activities and I am grateful that so many of the staff at the school do so. We are also fortunate to have the support of community organisations who contribute to the school in many areas. I would particularly like to share my appreciation for the work that the Rotary Club do in running the Year 9 Enterprise Challenge, which goes from strength to strength every year. We are also fortunate in having a very active and well organised parents' association; who have had a very busy December supporting school events and running the Christmas fair. OSA are always keen to accept new members; if you are interested in joining, their contact details are in the newsletter.

Please note that we are currently consulting on our admission arrangements for 2020 and a separate letter has been sent to parents notifying you of proposed changes to this policy. The only changes are to the admissions number for the sixth form and clarification of the sibling criteria for Year 7 admissions. We are also required to consult with neighbouring Local Authorities and also with primary and secondary schools. The consultation closes on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. The draft admission policy for 2020 is also on the school website.

There are some staffing changes in place from January. Miss Prosser is leaving to work at Prior Park in the music department and will be replaced by Mr Hughes. Mrs Stevens is leaving at the end of this term following the return of Mrs Rhodes from her maternity leave. Also leaving is Mr Chapman who will be replaced by Mrs Hill in the maths department. Mrs Johnson has been promoted to a post at Sir Bernard Lovell School, Mrs Nash, one of our TAs in the inclusion department and our Attendance Administrator, Mrs Harsey, are also leaving at the end of term.

Miss Tovey has been appointed as our new Finance, Facilities and HR Manager and will start in post in January; her current role as PA to the Headteacher has been filled by the appointment of Mrs Bromiley, who starts at the school in the New Year.

Wishing you an enjoyable Christmas and a happy new year.

Steven Mackay  
Headteacher

### Dates for your diary

- Next meeting, Wednesday 23rd Jan, 7pm at The Boathouse.
- OSA Social, Thursday 24th Jan, Sub 13, Bath
- Mary Poppins, school production, 12th, 13th and 14th Feb, Main Hall.
- Friday 22nd March, OSA Quiz Night. Our annual night of fun and friendly competition. Further details to follow.

### Christmas Fair round up

We are very pleased to say that this year's Christmas Fair raised almost £1,300—a fantastic amount! Raffle prizes were won by parents old and new and students. Once again our Christmas trees proved popular with local residents as well as staff and parents—many of whom have been buying from us for years. There were various student solos and one of our parents, Tamilla, a professional violinist provided seasonal music in the hall and canteen. There were 33 stalls this year, and hot food was served at the snack shack; lovely generous helpings of pork, stuffing and apple sauce!

We would like to send a big thank you to every one of our members, staff and the caretakers for helping make the fair a success. A special thank you must go to Michelle Lormand, parent, for working her magic on the hampers and making them look spectacular.

Finally a big thank you to everyone that has helped out over the last year on all the different events—we wish you all a very merry Christmas and invite everyone along to our social on 24th January at Sub 13 on George Street in Bath. Next meeting is 23rd January at the Boathouse. We have a couple of up and coming events which we would appreciate help at; Mary Poppins and the quiz in March. Just email in to [osa@oldfieldschool.com](mailto:osa@oldfieldschool.com) if you can help out.

Susan Holway  
Chair OSA

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# NOTICE BOARD

## Harry Potter Craft Sessions

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ON TUESDAY LUNCH TIME IN THE LIBRARY

We will make wizard hats, wands, potion bottles, cloaks and other wizarding props ready for Harry Potter Night

**Donations of materials gratefully received!**

We need things like black card, black sugar paper, black crepe paper, sticks and branches, black spray paint, black fabric, black netting, black tissue paper, potion style bottles, pva glue and anything authentically wizardly...

### School Uniform

Please support the school in ensuring that your son or daughter has the full and correct school uniform when they leave for school in the morning. In particular could you ensure that their footwear is not branded or non-leather trainers as we have noticed an increase in these at present.

## Harry Potter Book Night

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019

5.00 until 8.30pm

**FREE** Activity in School  
Numbers Strictly Limited

Sign up **NOW** in the Library

**FANCY DRESS PRIZES**  
for authenticity and creativity

Evening consists of  
Sorting Ceremony, Three Wizard Challenges,  
Harry Potter Book Quiz, Wizard Banquet

## School holiday work experience opportunities

Swainswick Explorers runs creative childcare events for primary aged children ranging from holiday clubs to parties to Saturday craft sessions. They have a work experience programme for young people aged 14+ for after-school or holiday time. An application form is on their website

[www.swainswickexplorers.co.uk/work\\_experience](http://www.swainswickexplorers.co.uk/work_experience).

Some of their former volunteers now have paid work as young leaders. Get in touch with them or book a free Show Round (booking page of site) to meet them and see their place.



## Mary Poppins

Our fantastic cast are still busy rehearsing and practising this year's school production of Mary Poppins. The performances will be on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February and tickets will go on sale via ParentPay in the new year and I will give you all the details of that when we come back in January.

Please see below for our rehearsal schedule in Term 3. We only have a few rehearsals left before the performance. It is therefore really important that students attend all the rehearsals they are called for (including the rehearsal on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February). We have scheduled all the rehearsals in order to be ready for the performance and we need every cast member in every rehearsal from now on. If you are unable to come to any rehearsal because of illness, please could you let me know either by emailing [enquiries@oldfieldschool.com](mailto:enquiries@oldfieldschool.com) FAO Ms Bloomfield or bringing in a note.

I am really excited about the performance and it is already shaping up to be a spectacle of a show! I would like to thank all the wonderful student members of the cast for all their hard work since September and hope you all have a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious Christmas break!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Jan 7 INSET	Jan 8 SCENE 4, 8, 15 & 16	Jan 9 Full Rehearsal	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13
Jan 14	Jan 15 SCENES 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 15, 16, 18, 19	Jan 16 Full Rehearsal	Jan 17	Jan 18	Jan 19	Jan 20
Jan 21	Jan 22 SCENE 6, 11, 13	Jan 23 Full Rehearsal	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27
Jan 28	Jan 29 Full Rehearsal	Jan 30 Full Rehearsal	Jan 31	Feb 1	Feb 2	Feb 3
Feb 4	Feb 5 Full Rehearsal	Feb 6 Full Rehearsal	Feb 7	Feb 8 Full Rehearsal	Feb 9 Full Rehearsal 10-3pm	Feb 10
Feb 11 Tech rehearsal all day	Feb 12 Dress Rehearsal and Primary School Performance all day.  EVENING PERFORMANCE 1	Feb 13  EVENING PERFORMANCE 2	Feb 14  EVENING PERFORMANCE 3	Feb 15	Feb 16	Feb 17

## SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING AREAS —

### MATHS, COMPUTING & ICT and BUSINESS STUDIES

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Matthew Brooke and I am the Leader of Learning for Maths, Business and Computing. This will be my second year in role at Oldfield and I am very pleased with the progress that we have made as a learning area in the last year; namely by securing strong GCSE and A Level results which have helped to contribute to a huge increase in numbers of students studying all of the subjects that we offer at Sixth Form, as well as us being able to offer A Level Economics for the first time.

We have further developed what we are able to offer outside of lessons with a number of exciting extra-curricular activities taking place, as detailed below. It is particularly exciting that within Maths we are working hard to strengthen and develop our links with Bath University. Already this year they have supported us by running a Year 7 enrichment day and hosted an event for our Year 12 Further Mathematicians.

In Business Studies we are currently working closely with Bath Rotary Club who are visiting the school to work with some of our Year 9 students. They are working on developing a wide variety of business skills through the "Big Pitch" project. In Computing we are currently offering Lego Mindstorm coding and robotics on Thursday lunchtimes.

We are joined this year by Mr Burford (Maths), Mr Abood (Business), Miss Schoppler (Maths) and Mr Chapman (Maths) who has been with us since September will be leaving at Christmas and we will be joined by Mrs Hill as his replacement. They join an already established team made up of Mrs Britton (Business Studies), Mrs Eason-Blake (Maths), Mr Eidman (Computing and ICT), Mrs Henly (Maths), Mr Howard (Computing), Mr McHugh (Maths), Miss Monaghan (Maths), Miss J Prior (Maths) and Mr Spence (Maths).

*Mr Brooke  
Leader of Learning*

#### Maths Enrichment

It has been a very busy term in Maths and we have been really pleased that students have participated and enjoyed so many Maths enrichment opportunities.

#### Marvellous Matrices – Y11

On the 4<sup>th</sup> December, some of our Year 11 students took part in an after school session on 'Marvellous Matrices'. They explored a little of the history of matrices and their many applications in today's world before getting to grips with multiplying them and using them to solve simultaneous equations. A little taster for a topic which is covered in Further Maths at A Level.

#### Christmas Constructions – Y7

On the 12<sup>th</sup> December, some of our Year 7 students got mathematically creative and festive in an after school session on 'Christmas Constructions'. They got to grips with compasses and geometry to construct some Christmas decorations. Here are some photos of their work:



### Parallel Club – Year 7, 8 & 9

It has been lovely to welcome a group of regular attendees at both the Year 7 Parallel Club (Wednesday lunchtimes, D04) and the Year 8 and 9 Parallel club (Tuesday lunchtimes, D04). In these clubs we explore topics and problems that complement the curriculum and in Year 8/9 we have also started practising for the UKMT Team Challenge rounds with 'Shuttle Runs' and team 'Cross number' puzzles. All are welcome - if you haven't been before, why not try us out in Term 3? Busy at lunchtime? No problem - you can get involved online through [www.parallel.org.uk](http://www.parallel.org.uk). We have a lot of students taking part in this online club every week. A special 'shout out' goes to Theo Gardiner in Year 8 for consistently topping the leader board as well as the following students who have undertaken many of the challenges in the past 12 weeks; Daniel Pledge, Samuel Ojeiwa, Angel Baker, Hannah Waters, Eleni Francis, Fin Cole, Ava Trewren, Lily Wyber, Mae Van Raalte, Amin Othman, Izaak Lawton. It's not too late to join in and perhaps catch up on some of these 'parallelograms' over the Christmas holidays. If you are in Year 8 or 9, sign up to the teacher code [vltl56](#). If you are in Year 7 then use the teacher code [v65rwy](#).

*Miss Monaghan  
Second in Mathematics*

### Year 7 Bath University Extension Session

On 5<sup>th</sup> December we welcomed Bath University for a 2 hour session in the gym with 30 of our Year 7 students. Students took part in six 20 minute activities which explored aspects of A Level decision maths in a fun and accessible way. Activities included the 'three utilities problem' regarding the optimal way to connect three buildings to gas, electricity and water with minimal overlaps. They also investigated connecting points with lines on balloons, magic numbers and epidemiology problems. The students were very positive about the experience – many thanks to Bath University for this very enjoyable session.

*Mr Brooke*



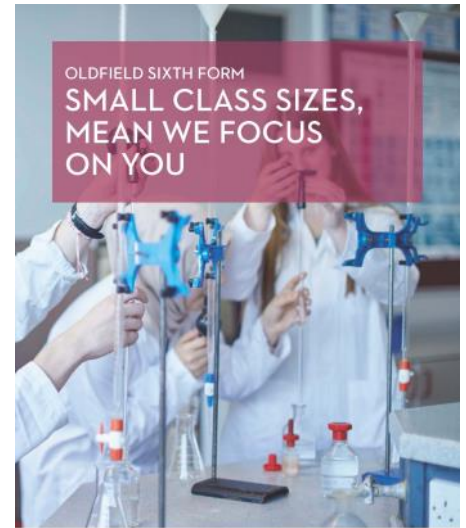
### Senior Team Maths Challenge – Y12/13

On the 27<sup>th</sup> November, four of our sixth form mathematicians (Tom Templeton, Dan Weston, Fred Beresford and Ethan Harrup) represented Oldfield at the Senior Team Maths Challenge in Chippenham. This is a national competition which required mathematical, communication and teamwork skills. Well done to our team for taking part – an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

### Senior Kangaroo – Y12/13

On the 30<sup>th</sup> November, Dan Weston and Jack Gibert took part in the Senior Kangaroo, having achieved Gold Certificates in the Senior Maths Challenge. Well done to Dan and Jack for achieving qualification in this national challenge.

Deadline for sixth form applications is 21st December 2018. All speeches from the information evening are now available on the website.



**MOD DE&S Outreach Schools Event**

Year 12 students received a very warm welcome to the Ministry of Defence Outreach Schools Event based at the Abbeywood site on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November. The event involved a series of talks from members of the armed forces including project professional, engineering, IT, finance, commercial and business apprentices. Students also had the opportunity to look around displays of DE&S equipment. The day gave students an excellent insight into the different types of careers available within the MOD.



**Unmistakable Voices**

The Year 12 music class had the pleasure of hearing the BSO perform works by Stravinsky, Shostakovich and Walton in the Victoria Rooms in Bristol. It was a fascinating concert showcasing work written during significant moments of each composer's musical career. There was much to inspire and to discuss, and I am sure both students and staff gained a lot of musical insight from the experience.

We are looking forward to hearing the BSO again in March when we plan to take a much bigger group of students to hear work by the great film composers Williams and Zimmer.

### U14s Girls Football

The U14s girls football team travelled to Worle community school in Weston Super Mare to play in the second round in the Somerset cup. We started the game well and took an early lead in the first two minutes with Quinta scoring. However, we dropped off a bit and Worle challenged our defence and hit the crossbar and lucky for us didn't manage to score. On attack we were great and managed to score two more goals before half time; Quinta scoring her second and Mia getting her first goal of the game.

At half time we had a chat about our shape and passing the ball quicker. We started really well and scored another

early goal with Quinta achieving a hat trick. I then made early substitutions with Jayla making her first appearance in the team along with Freya. The girls settled and the goals kept flooding in with Izzy scoring, Mia achieving a hat trick with an outstanding top corner shot from the 18 yard box and Quinta scoring the final goal of the game. The final result finished 8-0 to us and Izzy was voted player of the match from the opposition. The team are now through to the 3rd round of the Somerset cup. Well done girls!

*Miss Hooper  
PE Teacher*



### Year 9 Netball Tournament

The Year 9 netball Tournament took place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November and was hosted and run by Oldfield.

The students played well during the start of the tournament winning our first game 14-2 against Somervale. We fought hard against Ralph Allen but lost our second game. Our third game against St Greg's got off to a good start and we were leading 9-4 after the first half. During the second half St Greg's managed to get 5 goals in a row which wobbled the girls and sadly they ended up losing this match, 10-12. It was very close and we just missed out getting into the semi finals.

The results were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wellsway
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ralph Allen
- Joint 3<sup>rd</sup> St Greg's / Hayesfield

Although the students were disappointed, they played some very good netball and I am very proud of their commitment to training and the support they have shown for each other. Thank you to Eleni Francis and Maddie Haag for being reliable captains and keeping me informed of changes week to week. Well done to all the players who made it into this squad.

*Mrs Bell  
PE Teacher*

### Senior Netball

The Year 11 squad had a good start to their 2018/19 season campaign with a friendly training game against SBL. We trialled lots of unit combinations both in attack and defence with a view to league matches starting in January. The entire squad worked very hard throughout - the game was very tight in every quarter not allowing much room for error. I would like to particularly mention the shooters, Libbi Perkins and Hannah Edwards (thank you for stepping in late!), for their continued effort and motivation and to Keziah Marrett for an awesome performance in defence. Strong court play from Ruby Lovegrove, Nadia Sibrunruang and Hannah Weldon kept us in the game and the final score of a draw was a fair representation of both squads' effort. Bring on the new season in January!!

*Mrs Little  
Second in PE*

## U15s Boys Football

The U15's boys travelled the short distance to Lansdown to play local rivals Beechen Cliff for their 2<sup>nd</sup> round Somerset Schools Football Cup. The team entered the match as underdogs despite the strong result in the 1<sup>st</sup> round. The boys started really well in tough conditions with Joe Paradise opening the scoring in the first 5 minutes, shocking the opposition and showing Oldfield that the game was there to be won. Beechen Cliff threatened in attack but the solid back four of Archie Gillet, Sam Sparks, Jayden Matthews and Oli Arkwell worked brilliantly together putting bodies on the line and sending Beechen's strikers back up the field.

With solid defence and a strong wind, the boys began passing and playing beautiful tactical football hitting Beechen on the counter attack and Paradise latched onto a through ball and chipped the keeper with an outrageous shot. A clean sheet and brilliant saves from Ieuan Chakrabarti-Adams meant Oldfield went into half time 2-0 up. Both teams were hungry for the ball and the play intensified with both teams exchanging shots in early stages of the second half. Enter substitute keeper Greg McFarlane who made some early saves to ease him into the match. Beechen made some tactical substitutions and once again pushed the score to 2-2 with 10 minutes to play, but Joe Paradise had other ideas and a beautiful slide pass by Juan Kennaugh-Colegate was poked past the keeper and Oldfield were leading again. With 3 minutes to play Oldfield were showing some signs of tiring at the back which meant Beechen scored a last minute equaliser to take the game to penalties.

Jubilant scenes below as Gregor McFarlane saved the final penalty kick sending Oldfield through to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the cup



Both teams traded penalties with Oldfield being the first to crack and send it high and wide for Beechen to score for the win. Step up super goalkeeper McFarlane who made four outstanding penalty saves and scored his own penalty in sudden death to send Beechen out of the Cup and Oldfield through to round 3!

## Year 7 Netball tournament

The Year 7 netball tournament was held on 29<sup>th</sup> November at Oldfield. The team worked really hard during the afternoon winning all the games in their pool except for drawing one and losing one. They came second in the pool and were up against the winners of the other pool who were Ralph Allen. The students played really well in this match beating them 3-1.

The students then faced Wellsway again in the final but we sadly lost 3-1 to them. This result placed us second overall. The students worked incredibly hard in all matches and it was a pleasure managing the team on behalf of Mrs Little.

The results were as follows;

Oldfield v Hayesfield 1-0 Won— Player of the match Leila Distefano  
Oldfield v St Markd 5-0 Won—Player of the match Sylvia Kurdziel  
Oldfield v Writhlington 1-1 Draw—Player of the match Sienna Bristow  
Oldfield v Wellsway 3-0 Lost—Player of the match Leila Distefano

Well done to the following students who made up the team;

GS Caitlin King, GA Silvia Kurdziel, WA Ruby Paradise, C Brooke Bazley, WD Ella Hamnett, GD Leila Distefano, GK Sienna Bristow, Jasmine McKenzie WD, Nicole Whitehead WA

Mrs Bell



### U13s Boys Football

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November we participated in the 2nd round of the Somerset County Cup against St Katherine's. Despite the freezing cold and rainy conditions we did amazingly well. Right at the start of the game Rory scored to make it 1-0. This was closely followed by a goal from me (Fred) to make it 2-0. But, on the stroke of half time they scored to make it 2-1.

In the second half it took us a bit more time but deservedly Jason scored a brilliant goal to make it 3-1. Soon after, I was fortunate to get a free kick from a good position and was able to score to make it 4-1.

Then just to top it off, Finn wiggled his way through the defence and chipped it over the keeper to make it 5-1. That's how it finished. A particular mention to the back four, who kept many shots at goal out. Alfie Barron also made an incredible save when the opposition placed the ball in the top right corner. Well done lads for the win! Looking forward to the next round of the cup.

*Written by Fred Kershaw – Year 8*



### Key Stage 3 Table Tennis Team

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December Oldfield KS3 table tennis team travelled to St Mark's school to play the B&NES competition. The team was made up of 4 players from across Year 7, 8 and 9; Jacob Cook, Harry Shellard, Riley Taylor and Charlie Box. Of the schools that entered in B&NES we came in 4<sup>th</sup> place and the students were incredibly close to coming in 3<sup>rd</sup> place on points.

The students all had a good experience playing against some really experienced players who play at clubs outside of school. We are particularly hopeful for the future with three out of the four students performing against largely Year 9 students. All students showed excellent resilience and represented the school exceptionally well. Looking forward to the next table tennis event!



### Girls football mini tournament – Somervale & St Gregs

The two teams, U14s and U16s, travelled to Somervale to play in a mini round robin against St Greg's and Somervale schools. The U16's team played in two different groups as the team were mixed, Year 9s and Year 11s. First up the U16s team played Somervale U16's. This game was 12 minutes each way, at half time the score was 1-0 to Oldfield with Quinta scoring. The girls began the second half with more confidence and great play and we managed to win the game 5-0, goals from Quinta and Mia, who got a hat trick.

The U14s (Year 7s) played Somervale. It was their first match playing as a Year 7 team, with a few new additions from Mika Lucas-Smith, Sylvie Llewellyn and Bex Fagan. The girls played two halves of 10 minutes, the first half was a 0-0 battle where Oldfield predominately had most of the possession and shooting opportunities. In the second half, the girls really pushed to score a goal to win the game. Excellent shooting from Sylvie and Silvia who both managed to score a goal each, to win the game 2-0.

The U14's (Year 9) team played St Greg's Year 9 team. The first half was a battle and a 0-0 draw. After a team talk and some tactical decisions, the girls went into the second half strong and closed down the opposition quicker. The team managed to win the game 2-0, with goals from Mia.



The last game for the U14s (Year 7) team was against St Greg's Year 7. This time the girls had a bit more competition and had to work well as a team to be able to score a goal. The St Greg's goalkeeper was very good and our strikers found her challenging. However, in the last minutes of the game Sylvie managed to find the back of the net and the team won 1-0.

The final game for the U14s (Year 9) team was against Somervale (Year 9s). This was a game where the team would always have a tough competition. The last time we were up against Somervale, we managed to win on penalties. The game was a great battle and unfortunately, neither team managed to score and the game finished 0-0.

*Miss Hooper*

## Celebrating our students achievements in their individual activities outside school

### Oldfield School Cricket Stars

A number of Oldfield students have recently had cricket trials for Somerset and Gloucester County Cricket. We are delighted to share their success with you;

#### Somerset County Cricket

**Eleni Francis**- U15 County age group squad.

**Maddie Haag** – U15 County age group pathway squad.

It is a really exciting time for girls/women's cricket. Somerset CCC are implementing the new ECB directive and will be working more closely with the schools and cricket clubs in order to accelerate talent through the county system. Six hundred girls began the trial process across the U13, U15 and U17 age groups - so for Eleni and Maddie to make the cut (20 girls have been selected for the U15 Squad) having only ever played a handful of matches, really is amazing.

#### Gloucestershire County Cricket

**Gabby Edwards** - U15 County age group squad

**George Sweet** – U13 District squad

**Hamdi Saleem** – U17 County

Hamdi plays County age group at Gloucestershire and was selected for the Bunbury festival, representing the South & West. He was also selected for the best of Bunbury cricket festival representing the South & West and London & East. Subsequently he made his Downend 1st XI Debut in the semi-pro, West of England Premiere League. At the end of the season he was given a two year first-class academy contract. Well done to all our cricketers. We wish you all the best this season and look forward to hearing how you all get on.

*Mrs Bell*



### Eleni, Year 9

Eleni competed at the Welsh & South West England Indoor Athletics Championships in Cardiff recently and won silver in the Under 15 Long Jump and bronze in the Under 17 Triple Jump—a brilliant result but especially as she was competing an age group up!

Well done Eleni.



### Annabelle Page, studying a PHD at Oxford University

Annabelle was Head Student at Oldfield School between 2013-2014, and gained A-Levels in Music, English Literature, and Philosophy. After leaving Oldfield, Annabelle studied Music at the University of Sheffield. She graduated in 2017

with first class honours, and continued on to a Masters Degree in Musicology at Sheffield, funded by the White Rose Arts and Humanities Council. Whilst undertaking her MA, Annabelle applied to the University of Oxford to study a DPhil in Renaissance Italian music. She gained a Masters Degree with distinction, and is now in the first year of her AHRC-funded doctoral degree at Magdalen, Oxford.

Annabelle's research is based on the composer Claudio Monteverdi, who she first learned about in her Music A-Level classes at Oldfield School. She is compiling a complete critical reception history of Monteverdi's works, using sources from between 1580-1700 to establish who his 'first audience' were, and what they thought of him. She will be travelling all over Europe and beyond to find examples of critical reception, from letters and theatre programmes, to musical quotation and plagiarism, in order to help build an accurate picture of Monteverdi's impact as a composer.

Good luck with your continuing studies, Annabelle!



# HOUSE NEWS

Following on from the last newsletter where we reported all the activities students and staff got involved with for Children in Need; we are very pleased to announce the final total raised was £1,828.86. This

is the most amount of money we have ever raised for a charity so a huge thank you goes to the students and their parents who donated money towards this great charity. We are already thinking of what activities we can do for next year to try and smash this target.

Another thank you goes to the staff, students and their parents who donated items for the OSA Christmas hampers. The four hampers looked fantastic in the house colours. The hampers were judged Mr Nash and he decided the Apollo hamper was the most impressive. Miss Vickery would like to say a big well done and thank you.



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December was a very Christmassy day. During tutor time, the Heads of House were joined by some students to help decorate four Christmas trees in house colours. 9T were asked to help Miss Vickery decorate the Apollo tree as they were the winners of the house quiz during Term 1. Mrs Pearce, our very creative librarian, made some lovely decorations for the Neptune tree featuring Neptune himself. Miss Prior and 9L created blue and white paper chains for the tree. Mr Gann had some lovely handmade decorations from Dr Patterson and 9S to add to the Maia tree. Some of Mr Gann's tutees from 10D helped decorate. 7G were busy creating decorations for the tree as well as decorating their own classroom for the festive season.

Friday also saw the first house 'Tug of Tinsel' competition. Students from each house took on other students in a tug of war competition. It was great to see so many students taking part and to see how they worked as a team. Each house had at least one win. There were also lots of staff very keen to take part! Overall it was a very enjoyable event.

## Bath On Ice

Students from all four houses have finished the year with a festive trip to Bath On Ice. The trip was the most recent reward trip for students who had achieved the most house points in Term 1.

It was an eagerly anticipated trip and all 65 students and staff who attended had a great time especially Mr Gann who took to the ice like a duck to water! Miss Vickery, Mr Fox and Mrs Macnaughton took on a coaching role and awarded points for everyone staying on their feet from the sidelines! Whilst there were some falls and slips all students walked away with cold feet but happy faces!

Please remember that points mean prizes, the next reward trip will be held in Term 3 for the top house point achievers this term.



# TRIPS AND EVENTS

## Newbridge Towers Residential Home Visit

Year 12 Level 3 Health and Social Care students have been on a very informative visit to Newbridge Towers Residential Home, just down the road from Oldfield. We were greeted by Karen, the senior manager who took us on a private tour around the home. Karen was very passionate and dedicated to her job and answered all our questions with loads of information. We also had the opportunity to talk to other members of staff who were also very helpful. We met some of the residents that were living in the care home; 19 in total aged from 60 to 97 years old. The students really enjoyed our visit and we gained a lot of information about what one of our care settings looks like and how it is run. This will undoubtedly help students with their learning and assessments throughout the course. We now hope to visit some more health and social care settings including a nursery and local primary school.



## Year 13 L3 Health and Social Care

As part of their Anatomy and Physiology unit our Year 13 students were visited by Mike Priscott who gave a talk about Cystic Fibrosis. Mike and his wife are both carriers of the faulty gene that leads to Cystic Fibrosis and three out of four of his children have the disease. He described the emotional impact of this diagnosis, including being told his children would not live into their teenage years, as well as the issues around the treatment and monitoring including the twice daily phsio given by his wife to each child and the frequent hospital trips. It was informative and truthful insight into life with the condition. There were more positive outcomes than he would have imagined; his oldest daughter has just turned 50 and one of his son's plays cricket for a local team.



Thank you to Mike for sharing his family's story and for bringing to life a part of the curriculum that students will be tested on in their module exam in January.

Mrs A Clark

## Christmas Festival, Weston Church

We were very proud to continue the tradition of holding one of our Christmas celebrations at Weston All Saints Church. A variety of students from all year groups performed a range of carols, pieces of music and readings. Parents, staff, friends and the Chair of Governors enjoyed the evening enormously and were also keen to join in with singing and readings where appropriate. We are very grateful to Weston All Saints Church for their continued support and particularly to Mark Searle, Rector, who made us especially welcome and delivered a Christmas address. At the end of the evening we collected £140.00 to support the work of Julian House and Save the Children Fund.

A huge thank you to all of the students who worked so hard and contributed to this event, and, of course, to Mrs Robinson and all staff who made sure it was so enjoyable.

Mrs Capetti

Leader of Learning Creatives



## Visits from Year 5 primary school children

This week, Oldfield's English department welcomed 145 Year 5 students from local primary schools to come and be superheroes for the day, for our annual writing workshop. Over two days, both groups from WASPs and Newbridge were fantastic as they created their own superheroes and wrote a formal letter to the director of Universal Studios to get a spot in the latest film. We love putting this workshop on every year as it is a great opportunity to meet some Oldfield students in the making! Remember, stay super!



Mrs Brewer  
English Teacher



## UWE Cyber Security Trip

On the 4<sup>th</sup> December ten Year 9 students visited UWE for the Cyber Security Day. The students were able to take part in practical workshops run by companies such as IBM, Just Eat, Corvid and the South West Cyber Crime unit. They were able to try their hand at hacking, as well as understanding the different aspects of cyber crime and how it can be prevented but also how it happens. They were given information on specific career in this industry and how they can seek future employment opportunities.

There was a key note speaker from Modux, who graphically explained how their job is to break in to companies and their cyber systems to test them out as part of his job.

The Cyber Security team from GCHQ were also present to run a session for the teachers and to try and encourage students to think about the career opportunities as there is a major shortage of individuals but a vast surplus of opportunities. Competitions are now being run for Year 8 girls and Year 10 mixed teams in a nationwide cyber security competition which has a good uptake of Oldfield students. Please see Mr Eidman for further details. Students who participated are : Jessie Amor, Sophie Calderwood, Henry Court, Nathan Finch, Eleni Francis, Cara Holway, Imogen Keyford, Molly Lander, Ella Regan and Jack Slade.



*Mr Eidman  
Head of Computing and ICT*

## Debate Club Competition

On 28<sup>th</sup> November the Debate Club went to Stonar School to compete in round one of the English Speaking Union Debate competition. The assigned motion was 'This house would weight votes such that the younger the voter, the more powerful their vote', and Tom Eden-Bull and Jed Quinn each gave an articulate and rousing performance, arguing forcefully that younger voters should be provided greater influence in elections, given the great and long lasting impact that political decisions will have on their lives. Pitted against Millfield School, the debate was the most hard-fought and spirited of the night, and Tom and Jed earnt special praise from the judges for their composure and focus under pressure. Tom and Jed are through to the second round, which will take place in January next year.



*Mrs Holly  
English Teacher*

## Year 9 Mable Day

This term 20 of our Year 9 MABLE students took part in a photography workshop hosted by a local photographer, Lee Spencer-Fleet. The workshop ran for the duration of the day and allowed students to learn how to use a DSLR camera and then apply this new found understanding practically. Lee then spent the afternoon hosing the student how to edit the images and everyone produced some really good results.



## KS3 London Art Gallery Trips

The Art Department has been celebrating the love of all things creative this December! 161 students travelled to London over three separate days to a variety of galleries; The National Gallery, The Tate Modern, V&A and the Saatchi Gallery. Each year group took part in a workshop hosted by each gallery. Our students were fantastic! They really did themselves proud by engaging with the presentations and challenging their own understanding of the work that they had been shown. The vocabulary and appreciation that our students showed impressed the educational teams and we have been invited back; 'the intellectual students that Oldfield school is clearly producing through their engaging Art curriculum'. Each student received a pack that contained art materials and The Art Book that will support their understanding of Art and can be used within their lessons.

*Mr Pearce  
Art Teacher*

