

To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

14—19 Feb

Yr 11 Berlin Trip

15 Feb

END OF TERM 3

25 Feb

START TERM 4

INSET DAY

WEEK 2

26 Feb

Students back to school

Yr 10, 11 Netball v Wellsway

Yr 7 Football v Beechen Cliff

Yr 9 Football v Beechen Cliff

27 Feb

Yr 10 Mock Interviews

Archaeology Handling Session, LRC

Yr 10 Football v Beechen Cliff

Yr 8 Football v Beechen Cliff

28 Feb

Yr 9 Parents' Evening

01 Mar

Yr 11 and Yr 13 Mocks Start

Women in Engineering Trip

06 Mar

Yr 10 Football v Somervale

Yr 7 Football v Somervale

Yr 10, 11 Netball v St Greg's

Yr 7, 8 Hockey v St Greg's

07 Mar

Energy Quest Workshop, Yr 7,8

Yr 8 Football v Somervale

08 Mar

BANES Oxbridge Conference Yr 12

Yr 11, 12 Maths Inspiration Trip

11 Mar

House Football Competition

12 Mar

Yr 11 Football v Writhlington

Yr 8 Football v Writhlington

Yr 8 Hockey Tournament

13 Mar

Yr 9 Vaccinations

6th Form Business Tour of Bath

Yr 5/6 Netball Festival

6th Form football v Writhlington

Yr 9 Football v Writhlington

14 Mar

Yr 10 Football v Writhlington

Yr 7 Football v Writhlington

Yr 7 Hockey v Ralph Allen

Rearranged 6th Form Parents' Evening

Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope that you were not too inconvenienced by the snowfall earlier this month and it was a reminder that we are still in the winter months. I suspect that your children had a great time playing in the snow and no doubt many of you joined in! Whilst I also took the opportunity to enjoy the wintry conditions, I confess that I am looking forward to Spring and it has been encouraging to see the days lengthen recently.

Once again our newsletter is packed full and shows how busy school has been since our last newsletter: It is never a question of trying to find items to share in the newsletter and the dilemma is always what to leave out. This edition includes a spotlight on the Science Learning Area as well as articles about the wide range of trips, curriculum activities and clubs (sporting and creative), that have taken place over the last term. This term is ending with a trip to Berlin for Year 11 history students. I was very fortunate to participate on a school trip to Berlin early in my career and it remains one of the favourite cities I have visited, I am quite sure that our Year 11 students will have an equally memorable experience.

We have ended the term with three nights of our school production of Mary Poppins. If you attended one of the performances this week then I am sure you will have had a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious time. I am very grateful to all of the staff involved (in particular Mrs Bloomfield, Ms Grimes, Mrs Robinson and Mrs MacNaughton) for all of their hard work since the start of the year preparing the cast for the performances this week.

I would like to wish Year 11 and Year 13 all the best in the forthcoming mock examinations and to remind parents of Year 11 students that we are running a study zone after school each day in the canteen. Attendance at this has been very good and your support in encouraging your son or daughter to attend is appreciated.

Finally, returning to the weather, it seems as if we will have an early taste of Spring weather over the holiday and I very much hope that you and your families have an enjoyable break and are able to take advantage of the promise of good weather next week.

Yours faithfully,

Steven Mackay
Headteacher

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

Second-hand School Uniform

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all those parents and pupils who have kindly been sending in their old school uniform to donate to the OSA. Feedback from parents who have bought second-hand uniform has been really positive.

All uniform donations will always be gratefully received. Just bring any clean, unwanted uniform to school in a bag marked "OSA", hand in to reception and we'll do the rest!

Giving Machine

Don't forget you can 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 and then "join and support"
- Fill in your details and join
- Every time 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!!

Dates for your diary

- 13th March, next meeting, at The Boathouse, all welcome.
- Friday 22nd March, OSA Quiz Night. Our annual night of fun and friendly competition.

OSA Quiz Night is back!

We are very excited to announce our next quiz night will be taking place on Friday 22nd March at school.

Come along for a fun and friendly evening. Tickets are only £8 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



OSA PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Very Serious Quiz

A NIGHT NOT TO BE MISSED

Licensed bar
Teams of 6.

FRIDAY 22ND MARCH @ 7PM

Tickets £8 per person and includes a delicious ploughman's supper

Tickets available through ParentPay or email enquiries@oldfieldschool.com

OSA
OLDFIELD SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Supporting Our School

NOTICE BOARD

Internet Safety

The PSHE department wishes everyone a safe and happy half term. Whilst we learn about internet safety with our students, here is a handy guide for all parents/carers on internet safety. The information provides information on internet browsers, websites, and app stores.

Miss C. Grimes and Mrs S. Mills

Better School Transport in Bath & North East Somerset

Oldfield School would like to see improvements in bus travel for our students.

School bus campaigners, Sarah Warren and Joanna Wright have set up a petition calling on B&NES Council Leader Tim Warren and WECA Mayor Tim Bowles to make safe, independent travel to school possible and affordable for every child aged 11 to 18, at all schools, state and private, in Bath & North East Somerset.

If you are concerned about transport in B&NES and would like to find out more, or sign the petition, click here: <https://bit.ly/2zWi0UQ>



Oldfield School Residential Trips

Some of the residential trips we have coming up;

- Our Year 11 historians are currently on a trip to Berlin, due back on Tuesday 19th February
- Leaving on 29th March for 5 days, some of our Sixth Form students are off on a drama/English trip to New York City
- Further information will be coming out shortly about the Activities Week Residential trips to Barcelona, Paris, Bude, Battlefields, Cordoba and the 2 centre trip to Ardeche/Mimosa
- We have now sent out a letter with information on our planned ski trip for April 2020.

Further information on these and other trips is available on our website;

www.oldfieldschool.com/school-information/extra-curricular-activities/school-trips/



Request

Mrs Clark and her child development students desperately need dolls to carry out practical tasks like changing nappies and bathing a baby to enhance their learning and preparation for their exam. We are also interested in any newborn clothing in good condition for our computerised doll that each student takes care of over a weekend in Year 10 as well as any prams, feeding equipment, car seats and baby/ child safety equipment.

If you have any suitable dolls or clothing that you no longer need please would you consider donating them to us via reception. For any big equipment please kindly contact me via enquiries@oldfieldschool.com, as storage space is very limited. Many thanks.

Mrs A. Clark, Teacher of Child development

Ideas for World Book Day Costumes

Characters from... Harry Potter Series, Lord of The Rings, Terry Pratchett novels, Peter Pan, The One Hundred and One Dalmatians, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, The Hunger Games, Snow White, Cinderella, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Matilda, The Boy in the Dress, The Twits, Gangsta Granny, Tin Tin, Where's Wally, Paddington Bear, The Mr. Men stories, Rapunzel, Beauty and the Beast, Mary Poppins, The Cat in the Hat, Pinocchio, Horrid Henry, James Bond, The BFG, Charlotte's Web, Burglar Bill, Oliver Twist, The Series of Unfortunate Events, The Northern Lights, Fantastic Mr. Fox, Coraline, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, Little Red Riding Hood, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde... **REMEMBER prize for the BEST STUDENT costume and prize for the BEST STAFF costume!**

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March



Celebrate Reading and Books!

Games, Puzzles, Word Searches, Trails, Quizzes & Colouring in

DRESS AS A BOOK CHARACTER for £1 – Best Costume gets a prize!

Prizes, Competitions and lots of fun in the Library at Lunch time



Harry Potter

Book Night

Thursday 28th March

NEARLY 50 STUDENTS HAVE SIGNED UP TO THIS SPECTACULAR EVENT

Students will be part of a formal welcome by Hogwarts Staff, followed by the Sorting Ceremony. The Hogwarts Houses will then take part in the Tri-Wizard Challenge where their magical skills will be put to the test. After a Harry Potter Book Quiz and a formal Award Ceremony students will attend the Hogwarts Banquet.

WARNING: DEMENTORS ARE ON SITE

Please note that no owls can be brought into the Library

Students are asked to wear dress robes. Brooms should be placed at the entrance. We have an infestation of BilliWigs – the vivid sapphire blue insect that has a long curved stinger. Victims stung will suffer from giddiness, followed by levitation. Please aid afflicted students and then notify Administration.



Congratulations to all the cast, performers, staff and people that helped out with the school production of Mary Poppins, this week. The performances went really well and there was lots of lovely feedback from audience members. Photos and a write up to follow in the next newsletter.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING AREAS —

SCIENCE

Welcome to Science at Oldfield School!

Since our last time 'in the spotlight', the Science Learning Area has welcomed some new and valued team members. Mrs Conley has joined us teaching across Key Stage 3 and specialising in chemistry. Mr Axe, a biology and physics specialist, has also joined us in September 2018, along with Mr Reeves who teaches physics at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Our returning team members are: Mrs Hobbs (Second in Science), Mr Hamilton (Leader for KS3), Mrs Langsi (Leader for STEM), Mr Gann (teacher of KS3 Science), Mr Hellard (chemistry), Mrs Lewis (chemistry), Mrs Macalister (biology), and Dr Patterson (physics). The teaching team remain supported by our technicians Mrs Hemmings and Mr Pittard.

Having celebrated our strongest set of examination results at KS4 and KS5 for quite some time, we have continued to enjoy building on the success from the 2017-18 academic year. In addition to our focus on preparing students for academic success, we are continuing to build the profile of our subject across the school and have focused on engaging our learners in the wonder that is science in the real world! Students are enjoying a number of exciting extra-curricular activities taking place in our learning area. The Year 7 STEM club have enjoyed making LED Christmas cards, rocket cars, egg parachutes and even their own glue! Our Year 7-8 'Science in the RAF' club have enjoyed learning all about the science involved in the armed forces; the gliders and medical airdrop contraptions which they made, were of a super quality. They have also learned all about measuring wind speed and have even made their own search and rescue lights from LEDs and salt water. In March we are looking forward to inviting Year 7 and 8 students on a half day Energy Quest – watch this space!

At KS4, our Girls Engineering Challenge teams have been designing projects to address 21st Century engineering problems; we are so proud of their independence and team work. In March we will be taking them to Birmingham NEC to a showcase of national entries. Our Year 10 triple science students have enjoyed a workshop specialising in problem solving delivered by our contacts at Bath University, and we look forward to continued growth in outreach work in the future. In Year 11 we have seen a huge soar in the uptake of specialist revision sessions such as our lecture-style masterclass evenings. The momentum being gathered by many of our students is wonderful to experience.

Our KS5 cohorts are also enjoying challenges and learning outside of the classroom; our Year 13 Physics students had a great time when they visited the CERN hadron collider earlier this year. Academically, some have elected to pursue additional qualifications such as Biology Live. We are proud to continue our offer of all three science disciplines at A Level, and we very much look forward 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.

With just over half of the academic year to go, this is a good opportunity to celebrate the fantastic start that our learners have got off to, and to encourage their continued hard work and participation in our area this year.

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

Miss E Prior
Leader of Learning - Science

Educating our Most Able: Acceleration Programme

Following the success of last year, during which time the acceleration programme was trialled with a group of 172 students across selected year groups, the initiative was launched whole-school in November. There has been great development with regards to the enrichment being offered, with 18 additional opportunities taking place each term for our More Able students.

In addition, at the start of the year all curriculum areas identified a number of Gifted and Talented learners from each year group, with a total of 127 students now also engaging with the scheme. Gifted and Talented students are those achieving a level significantly in advance of their peer group within one or more subjects, based on criteria established by the learning area.

The Brilliant Club – Scholars Programme



On 15th January, twenty students (twelve from Year 10 and eight from Year 12) attended the launch for this year's Brilliant Club Scholars Programme. Students spent the day at Bristol University, where they took a tour of the campus, met with current third year university students, and engaged in referencing, Russell group university and study skills workshops. The Year 10 students have been selected to work with a PhD tutor who is a well-known Bristol poet, and Year 12 have embarked on a 2,500-word dissertation on Economics. Students have made an excellent start to the programme and the selection process for the Year 7 cohort will begin in Term 4. We are delighted that the Year 7 launch trip will take place at the University of Oxford on March 25th. Parents of the selected students will be informed after half term.

2018-19 Lecture Series

The academic lecture series is now well under-way! There are a total of 56 lectures taking place between January and May, some of which have nearly 200 students attending. Below is the programme of exciting topics being covered:

Understanding how we behave from a multidisciplinary perspective
Why telling stories makes us human
How language shapes the way we think
Parasites – could a zombie apocalypse really happen?
Donating blood-what's it all about?
How Vivienne Westwood changed my life!
Stock markets and how they work
John Maynard Keynes and the beauty contest when everyone changed their mind
What can <i>Strictly</i> tell us about the philosophy of history?
The science of sperm
Free lunches antipodean style
'Sweeping the Sheds' - Legacy: The winning culture
Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the church leader who planned to kill Hitler
The mathematics of love
The role of the amygdala in criminal behaviour
Patriarchy: Have humans always lived this way?
The art of conducting: Drama or leadership?
The chemistry of drugs
How can physics be used in medicine?
How could the universe fit in the palm of your hand?
Red Terror: The Chinese Cultural Revolution
Le Verlan: French slang and its origins
Becoming an illustrator
How our brain works: why we do what we do when we didn't plan to do it

Preparing our Sixth Form students for their next steps

Our Sixth Form students have had a number of experiences and activities to help them prepare for their next steps after A Levels, whether that is University, an apprenticeship or future training and employment. A number of our students are currently attending enrichment sessions run at Kingswood School to prepare them for Oxbridge or Russell Group applications and a similar group of students will shortly be attending the BANES Oxbridge Conference.



Students have also attended a workshop on revision and study skills and, as part of our Future Quest partnership, a session on developing a skills portfolio and thinking about what skills, experiences or activities will help them stand out from the crowd. We have also been fortunate that Keith Ledbury, our link with Bath Avon Rotary Club and previously a Headteacher, has been helping our Year 13 students prepare for University interviews.

Next term will be a busy one for all our Sixth Form students. Year 12 will be attending the UCAS conference and Cardiff University Open Day. Three of our Year 12 students, who applied for the Rotary Club Young Leader's Award, will be spending their half term week in the wilds of Dartmoor developing their team work and leadership skills. Our Year 13 students will, of course, be preparing for their final A Level examinations and we wish them every success.

Mr Nash
Head of Sixth Form



Year 12 Psychology Trip – London

On 18th – 19th January, 26 Year 12 Psychology students continued their exploration of mental health and psychopathy on a residential trip to London. The trip began with a visit to the 'Museum of the Mind', situated in the grounds of Bethlem Royal Hospital in South London. The hospital was founded in 1247 and was the first institution in the UK to specialise in the care of the mentally ill. They continue to provide in-patient care, with the on-site museum providing an important resource to support the history of mental healthcare and treatment.

Following a couple of hours in Covent Garden, we embarked on the 7.30pm gruelling Jack the Ripper walking 'terror' tour around Aldgate East, Whitechapel and Shoreditch, walking down the old narrow alleyways and being transported back to the streets of the Victorian East End. Our tour guide was excellent, providing a wealth of knowledge on the murder sites, victim history and police investigation into the mystery of Jack the Ripper! The trip was a great success and our budding psychologists were an absolute pleasure to take away for the weekend!



Miss Lobbett



Senior Basketball

On Tuesday 11th December, Oldfield hosted a triangular tournament with St Mark's and St Greg's. The first game against St Marks saw two very evenly-sided teams battle for the first points of the tournament. Captain Hugo Villaran showed strong leadership by quickly organising the team into the defensive and attacking systems that the team have practised during training. This well-practiced structure in game plan resulted in a win against St Mark's 14 – 8. Strong performances came from Marley Carpenter, Declan Tugwell and Kane Rogers-Dixon. Following this match, St Greg's beat St Mark's 28 – 7. The third and final game saw Oldfield play St Greg's. It was clear that St Greg's started the tournament with confidence. Despite this, Oldfield performed really well and individual performances stood out, particularly Jack Hobbs, Ben Gascoyne and Zain Ali. The final score was 38 – 13 to St Greg's. Overall, this places the Senior Basketball team at second place in the BANES Basketball League.

Mr Gann

Junior Basketball

On Wednesday 12th December, Oldfield Junior Basketball team also hosted a triangular tournament with St Mark's and St Greg's. Both teams were extremely well-practiced and identified areas of the game that Oldfield are fairly inexperienced at. As a result both teams beat Oldfield Junior team. Despite the losses, all players gained great experience and it was everyone's first ever basketball fixture. Top performances were seen from Harry Huggins-Bird, Travis Morris and Oshea Prehaye. Well done team! Keep training and working on our areas of development.

Many thanks to Kamran Ashraf and Izzy Rudge! Without their assistance in officiating and use of live buzzer with our new scoreboard, we would not have been able to run such an efficient event.

Senior netball v Ralph Allen

The senior netball squads got off to a flying start taking part in a friendly training game against Ralph Allen last week. Games were fast and furious and all players had plenty of court time to get back into the season. The Year 11 squad had a challenge up against a very tall Ralph Allen Year 11 squad. However, they rose to the challenge and never gave in, improving each quarter and constantly battling to get the ball into the shooting circle. A very successful first game captained by Ruby Lovegrove and supported by her vice captain Taylor Hacker. Congratulations to Nadia Sibunruang who was voted player of the match by the opposition.

The Year 10 squad had similar battles on the court and were able to meet the challenge producing some very strong performances to win their game. Particularly strong performances from the defence team meant that the opposition found it difficult to find a way into their attack and a high degree of accuracy from our shooting pair meant that nearly every ball was converted. Well done to Lisa Kurdziel who led by example as captain with the support from her vice, Nelly Lord. Congratulations to Hannah Edwards who was voted player of the match by the opposition.

Mrs Little, Second in PE

Girls football Somerset Cup – 3rd round

The Year 8 and Year 9 girls played in the third round of the Somerset cup against Gordano School. The girls went into the game lacking confidence as Gordano are a team who all play together outside of school. Despite this, the girls began the game positively and both teams scored early on to make it 1-1, a fantastic strike from Mia Sparks. The girls were disciplined in their positions and worked well to create some fantastic attacking opportunities. One outstanding play actually enabled us to take a 2-1 lead due to great passing and movement and a great finish from Kiera Foster. Unfortunately, just before half time a good attack from Gordano and a lack of communication from us saw Gordano equalising and making it 2-2. If it wasn't for Maddie Haag making some fantastic saves, keeping us in the game, Gordano may have taken the lead before half time. At half time, we had a positive talk and the girls could win the game if they continued to work hard and together. However, as the game went on fitness started to drop and the girls positioning was starting to lose shape. Gordano managed to get a 3-2 lead into the second half. The girls created some fantastic opportunities in the second half both Izzy Seymour and Kiera foster were denied by Gordano's outstanding keeper making excellent saves to stop us equalising. Leading into the last 10 minutes of the game Gordano managed to find the back of the net to make it 4-2. Despite, the 2 goal lead the girls continued to push forward and make Gordano's defenders and keeper work into the final minutes. An outstanding game where all girls should be extremely proud of themselves and some fantastic comments from the spectators. Player of the match was rewarded to Maddie Haag, voted by the opposition. Well done girls.



Miss Hooper

Sports Hall Athletics

Year 7 and 8 boys and girls took part in this event at Wellsway school on Tuesday 8th January 2019.

This is a great event where students compete as a team in both track and field events. Each student can compete in up to three track and two field events including the relay. There were many great performances from each team during the event and every point counted. The best individuals during the event have been selected for trials to form a BANES team and many Oldfield students were included. The top two teams from each age group went through to the county round and we were delighted that both our Oldfield Year 8 teams qualified for this with the girls winning overall and the boys being runners-up.

So on Monday 28th January we set off to the county round of the Sports Hall Athletics held at UWE. Both our Year 8 boys and girls were looking forward to competing against other top schools across the county.

Both teams did well during the afternoon in both track and field events and I felt we might have a chance of medals. We were therefore delighted when both teams were awarded silver and this result exceeded our expectations.

Congratulations to all the student that took part during the afternoon.

Year 8 girls team

Maddy Davies (Captain)

Imogen Yap

Jayla Mckenzie

Freya Keyford

Jess Causey

Matilda Coles

Year 8 boys team

Alfie Barron (Captain)

Sam Ojeiwa

Evan McLain

Dan Pledge

Finn Williams

Jason Johnson

I would also like to thank Eleni Francis and Eloise Parker for kindly giving up their time to help out at the initial event. They helped assist with the triple jump event and did a fabulous job. They also supported the younger athletes and prepared them for their events.

Well done to all those involved.

Mrs Bell



Year 10 Football v Buckler's Mead

The Year 10 (U15) football team curve of fortune continues upwards as they showed a mature and decisive performance against strong contenders Buckler's Mead Academy (Yeovil) and secured their place in the last eight of the Somerset Schools' Cup.



Oldfield enjoyed the majority of the possession in the first half, with some lovely passing and high pressing - everything but the finish at the end for the first 10 minutes. Then on the 20 minute mark a beautiful break down the wing and low pass by Ryan Dunn meant that Damani Jones could use his unfavoured foot to plough

the ball under the goalkeeper and send the Oldfield boys into dreamland. The visitors responded by shaking off the long bus journey and started to show threatening passes, carving through the midfield and eventually scoring the equaliser on the stroke of half time.

Oldfield started the second half with more promise and started to attack through the weaknesses in Buckler's Mead's team. Then in the fifty fifth minute a blistering run by Ryan Dunn dribbling through a minefield of players added Oldfield's second goal. It was an absolute cracker and Dunn's agility and precision in front of the keeper was outstanding. This prompted their manager to change formation to all-out attack and strong defending from MOM Ollie Arkwell meant Oldfield could use this to their advantage and hit them on a fast break with Dunn finishing the job 5 minutes from time with another great goal.

Final Score: 3-1

Goals: Damani Jones, Ryan Dunn (2)

Man of the Match: Ollie Arkell

Mr John, PE Teacher

Tennis Club Inspiration

On Thursday 7th February, I was fortunate to attend a workshop for female PE teachers with Judy Murray at the University of Bath. At the time, the University was hosting the Fed Cup, which is the female equivalent to the Davis Cup.

Judy Murray is incredibly passionate about tennis and the need to encourage more women into the sport, especially from a young age. She is the creator of 'She Rallies', an initiative aimed to give girls the opportunity and encouragement to try the sport.

The workshop showed us skills and games to engage students and get them performing actions that directly relate to the tennis technique which they can progress to at a later stage. All the skills and drills were aimed to be used within a small space, such as our sports hall here at Oldfield. It highlighted that you don't need a tennis court to start to learn the fundamental skills required for tennis and takes out factors such as weather conditions which can make learning this highly skilled sport a challenge.

I am very excited to start planning to implement these skills into tennis lessons and tennis club.

I hope our students will follow the progress of our Team GB ladies as they won all their group matches during the 4 day Fed Cup at Bath University. They also won the group stage play-offs to advance to the World Group II play-offs, which if they win will see them reach the elite World group level for the first time in 25 years. The profile of women's tennis is increasing all the time and I hope the success of our home team will inspire more girls (but also boys) into the sport. I look forward to welcoming lots of new and existing tennis players to tennis club in the Summer Term.



Miss Vickery

WASPS Year 2 Coaching session

On Wednesday 23rd January we went to WASPS and delivered a coaching session to all three of their Year 2 classes. Ambassadors from Year 9 were group leaders and looked after the children, taking them to each of the different activities and supporting them when necessary. The Year 10 students delivered the different activities and were the main coaches. All the classes enjoyed themselves and the class teacher remarked on how engaged and happy the children were. These sessions are beneficial to all those involved and it was a pleasure seeing how well our students managed during the morning.

If your child is between Year 8-10 and would like to be a sports ambassador and experience helping out at festivals and supporting the primary school children please contact me by email enquiries@oldfieldschool.com FAO Mrs Bell.

Thank you to all those involved.

Holly Fairweather

Ilham Darr

Maddie Leach

Ella Causey

Remy Benson

Daisy Fisher

Ellie Lester

Ollie Snook

Herbie Bailey

Henry Beauchamp

Ned Knapman

Leo Davies

Mrs Bell

PE Teacher and SSCO



Year 2 Primary Winter Festival

On Wednesday 30th January we held our second primary school festival at Oldfield school. St Marys, Newbridge and St Andrews each came with a class of Year 2 students. Due to the cold weather conditions the festival was held in the sports hall. Our Year 9 Sports Leaders ran the stations, each delivering a different activity which they had planned out themselves to approximately ten primary school children. They all did a very good job and this was great experience and evidence for them to use for the current sports leadership qualification they are doing.

Our Year 8 ambassadors did a fabulous job looking after the children and taking them round to each activity. They handed out lots of praise stickers and we had positive feedback from a number of primary school teachers who were commenting on how well they were doing.

Our next festival is a Year 5/6 netball festival on 13th March 2019. If your child is currently in Year 8 and is interested in becoming an ambassador please ask them to come and see me and I will add them to my register.

Mrs Bell

PE Teacher and SSCO



HOUSE NEWS



Our second house-welly-wanging competition took place on Friday 8th February. Luckily the sun was shining, so no wellies needed to be worn.....only thrown!

It was great to see more students taking part than the previous year. Lots of staff also came to support their tutees, which is always lovely to see and the students really do appreciate it. Of course, they couldn't just stand and watch, many had a go themselves. Maybe in future Mr Hellard should leave the welly wanging to the professionals after he released the welly far too late, got lots of height on it and managed to land on an unfortunate by-stander—luckily no harm was done.

There was lots of variations in technique; some more successful than others. The Oldfield welly wanging record was held by Nico in Year 10 at a distance of 22m. Unfortunately he couldn't retain his title and was beaten by James in Year 11 who has set the new record at 25.2m. Well done James, however Mr Santarpino bettered that distance by throwing a whopping 27m. Both James & Mr Santarpino are in Apollo house.



The distances thrown by all students were added up to find the overall winning house. In first place, with a total of 267.20m was Apollo very closely followed by Maia who reached 263.40m. Neptune finished 3rd with 208.30m and Minerva followed up in 4th place with 149.30m.

House Quiz

Every term, the Heads of House, send out a quiz to our tutees as a fun tutor time activity. This term, we have

asked staff to venture into their lofts and dig out photos of themselves as babies. Students are already excited to see the photos and try to match names to faces. You'll find a few unexpected matches in there!



Reward Event; Silent Disco

Our reward for those students who had gained the most house points in Term 2 was a silent disco! For those of you who are new to this concept, it involves the participants listening to music on headsets colour-coded to various music channels. The outcome was lots of students and staff bopping away out of time with each other but in perfect sync to their own music—in an eerily quiet room! Mr Fox, Mr Gann and Mrs Macnaughton had made the playlists and students could choose between these throughout the event—recognising when they were listening to the same music by the coloured lights on the head sets. The silent disco has become a new favourite of the Heads of Houses and some of the other staff who attended too including Mr Abood, Mr Martos and Mrs Sweet.

Up and coming Events

Next term we have lots to look forward to. Weather permitting, our next house event will be paper aeroplanes. Typically the British weather grounded our planes last year and they never got into the air. We also have Comic Relief on Friday 15th March so we're busy thinking of new fundraising ideas to try and beat our fantastic total raised for Children in Need.

We hope our students have a restful February half term and return, ready and raring to get involved with House events.

Mr Fox, Mr Gann, Mrs Macnaughton, Miss Vickery

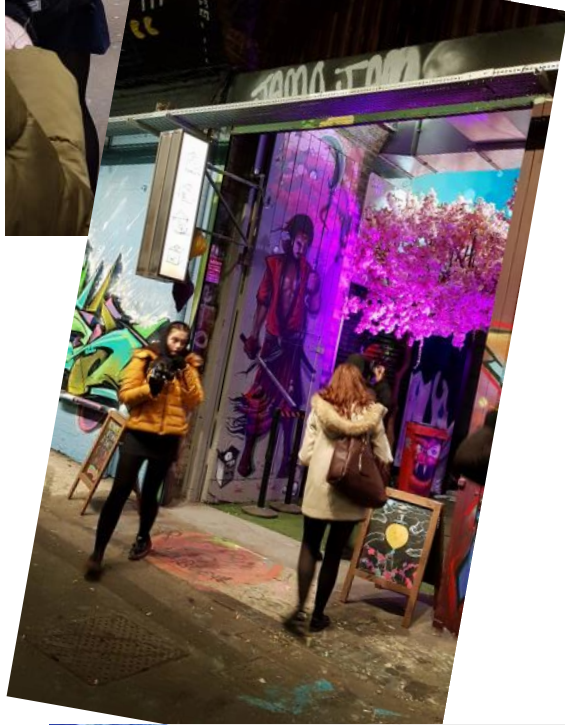
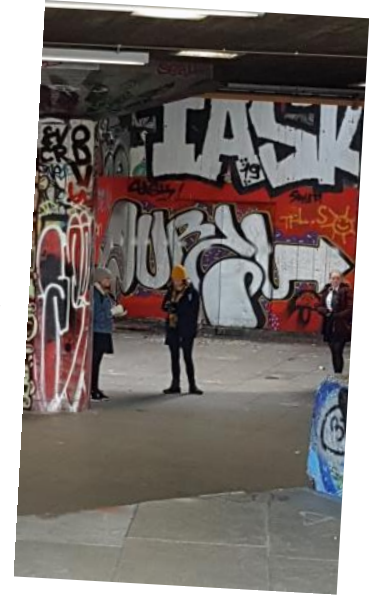
TRIPS AND EVENTS



London Photography Trip

London was truly calling when 48 of our photography students embarked on an eleven mile walk around the capital! The aim of our visit was simple; explore as many different areas of the city as we could fit in and capture a good range of images to use within our students' projects.

Year 10, 11 and Sixth Form students started the day at Camden Town and capitalised on the bright colours set against the cold grey sky. We then ventured over to the British Library to take in some of the brutalist architecture that that area has to offer. Here we saw fantastic examples of leading line set across a range of buildings. We then walked over to Russell Square and the British Museum to capture some of the Romanesque statues and street furniture.



As we approached midday we ticked off Neal's Yard, Leicester Square and Covent Garden before taking a well earned pizza break. Here we had a chance to warm up and recharge the cameras! Our group then ventured across the Thames to the South Bank and the famous graffiti tunnel, Leake Street, home to some of Banksy's earlier work.



Just before the evening sun set we explored Westminster, St James' Park and Buckingham Palace and eventually boarded the coach at Hyde Park Corner. All of our students came back with a wealth of images that will impact their projects greatly. The students have expressed how much they enjoyed their trip; Oliver McEwan described the trip as 'Peng', whilst Jude Bunting said 'London has many inspiring views'. Our Sixth Formers are already planning to return to carry out their own independent studies of some areas of the city we visited.

I have expressed how proud we were of all students that attended the trip, they conducted themselves well and behaved sensibly as we walked around the city. On behalf of the staff that attended the trip, thank you to everyone that made this trip possible and your continued support with these extra-curricular events that ensure that all of our students get the most out of the creative subjects.

*Mr J Pearce
Teacher of Photography
(Now better than a TomTom around London)*



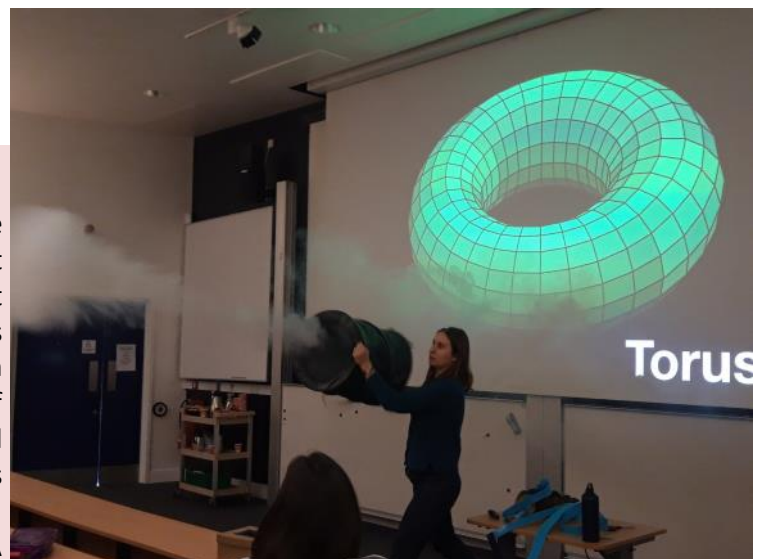
Enterprise Challenge Christmas Market

In partnership with Oldfield school, the Rotary Club had arranged a prime location for students to sell their goods at Green Park Market. Students did really well setting up their stalls, promoting their products and thoroughly enjoyed selling their Christmas themed products to the general public.



Girls in Mathematics

On Wednesday 30th January 16 students had the opportunity to attend a mathematics enrichment event run by the Advance Mathematics Support Programme at the University of Bath. The day was aimed at girls in Year 9 to inspire them mathematically and to broaden their awareness of where maths could lead them. Activities included smoke rings powering across the lecture theatre as part of a talk on shape; magic tricks which stunned the audience (as did the maths behind them); a Q&A with university students and employees who use maths in their work; and a closing talk from Dr Emily Grossman. Students were enthusiastically involved in all aspects of the day and enjoyed the range of activities on offer. Warning: be prepared if they ask you for a book for their next trick...



*Mr Burford
Maths Teacher*

Year 10 Careers Education

As all Year 10 parents will already be aware, students are busy writing their CVs and letters of application for our mock interview day, which will be held on the first week back after half term. A series of job adverts and job descriptions have been published on our website and students have been given the opportunity of applying for the job that best suits them. Of course, if they have a specific ambition they can apply for that job instead. All Year 10 students have attended a CV writing workshop hosted by Richard Bush from Bath Rotary Club. This is the second year Richard has helped run this process and recruited interviewers for the mock interview day and we are enormously grateful for his continuing support and hard work on our behalf.

We have sixteen guests from various sectors of employment, from education and IT to the health services or engineering, joining us on the mock interview day and hope that over 120 students will participate on the day.

*Mr Nash
Head of Sixth Form and Careers*



The winning team "Concord Pigeons"

Flying Start Challenge!

This term 20 Year 8 students have taken part in Flying Start Challenge, which is an engineering competition in the South West of England run by nine aerospace companies. The Flying Start Challenge offers students a practical insight into the world of engineering.

The first round took place during an off-timetable day at Oldfield. The day was run by graduates from Airbus. The 20 students were split into 5 teams. Each team had to design, build and test a model glider. The three teams whose gliders flew the furthest then went on to the Bristol regional final at Aerospace Bristol.

The three teams: 'Concord Pigeons', 'CJS Aviation' and 'Boys with a Z' then had to give a presentation, fly their gliders and be tested on their knowledge to a panel of judges against other local schools. All the teams worked really hard and the judges were really impressed by the students' creativity, knowledge and professionalism. They were particularly impressed by the 'Concord Pigeons' who took first place and

are through to the final at The Helicopter Museum in Yeovil! Well done to all the students who took part throughout the Challenge!

*Ms Evans
Head of Technology*



Bristol Rocks

A group of our students have been involved in an initiative called Bristol Rocks, the idea is that they decorate rocks, include an inspirational message and then hide the rocks around Bristol and Bath for people to find. Once they were completed our students went to Victoria Park in Bath and hid the stones in various locations. Did you find any? A few have already turned up on facebook.

Mr Sully
SENCO



Jamie's Farm Visit

This term we had a wonderful trip to Jamie's Farm in Box. We had the opportunity to spend the day working on the farm and preparing an evening meal. We chopped wood for the fire, sowed seeds for the summer, groomed the animals and cooked our dinner. Unbelievably one of the sheep was giving birth and one of our students actually helped deliver it!



Table Top Cricket Competition

Mr Hearle and Alex from Lord's Taverners have been running Table Top Cricket for some of our students. They have been training weekly for the last two terms ready for the festival on the 22nd January in Taunton. Our students had a great time and we placed 4th out of all the schools. Our students noted how it improved their teamwork and leadership skills and promoted great sportsmanship all round.