

To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

06 Jan 2020

INSET DAY

07 Jan

Term 3 starts

WEEK TWO

Yr 13 mocks start

09 Jan

Russia Trip Info Evening

16 Jan

Yr 11 Parents' Evening

17 Jan

End of Yr 13 mocks

21 Jan

Yr 11 Information Evening

U15 Girls indoor cricket match

22 Jan

Yr 2 Primary School Festival

29 Jan

KS4/5 Photography tour and gallery visit, London

30 Jan

Sixth Form Parents' Evening

31 Jan—01 Feb

Yr 12 Psychology Trip, London

03 Feb

House Sport Week

05 Feb

Harry Potter Night

06 Feb

Yr 9 Options Evening

08 Feb

School Production Rehearsal

11, 12 Feb

School Production; We will

Rock You

13 Feb—18 Feb

A Level Salamanca Trip

14—18 Feb

A Level Russia Trip

14 Feb

End of Term 3

Contact Details

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you enjoy reading what is our last newsletter of 2019; which demonstrates the range of activities and opportunities available at the school as well as highlighting the achievements of our students over the last term. You will notice that the weather is the common theme with mention of rain and wetness throughout many of the articles. I know that it is a national stereotype to be weather obsessed in the UK but I cannot recall an autumn quite as damp as this for some time; hopefully the New Year will bring clear skies and frosty mornings which are more in keeping with the season!

Despite the very wet weather, this term, our sports teams have continued to develop and make an impact in both local and county competitions and have now been joined by competitive sixth form teams. The Duke of Edinburgh Award goes from strength to strength and our students showed their resilience in dealing with very challenging conditions earlier in the term to complete their expeditions; with a number having now completed their Silver Award. All of our successful DofE participants will be receiving their certificates and badges in our end of term assembly.

The end of term music events have been hugely enjoyable. Our students have performed in the carol service at Weston All Saint's Church, in the OSA Christmas Fair, in the city centre to support the Bath Rotary Clubs and at the Christmas Concert, which brought to a close a very busy and successful couple of weeks for our musicians and their teachers. Thank you to all of you who were able to attend any of these events, this is very much appreciated by students and staff.

There are some staffing changes in place from January. Mrs Henly is leaving having been appointed to a maths teaching role at Ralph Allen School. Mrs Westlake, our ASD Champion, is leaving our SEND team as is Mrs Hamerton. Lastly Mrs Ogilvie is retiring at the end of the term, having worked in our school office for 16 years, and we wish her all the best in her retirement.

New staff joining us in January are Mr Makroum, who will be teaching maths and taking Mrs Henly's classes, Mrs Chorianopoulou in our SEND Department and Mrs Lewis will be joining us in the school office.

Could I remind you that Monday 6th January is an inset day, therefore the first day of school for students will be Tuesday 7th January and that this is Week 2 of the timetable cycle.

Wishing you an enjoyable Christmas and a very happy new year.

Yours faithfully

*Steven Mackay
Headteacher*



Christmas Card Competition

This year the Art Department hosted the very first Oldfield Christmas card competition. We were delighted with the amount of entries we received for this competition, over 300! All of the designs showed understanding of the brief and captured the true sense

of the holiday period. All staff were invited to shortlist the winning design and we eventually decided on a winner. Congratulations to Evie Waller for winning this year's competition. A pizza morning prize was awarded to Mr Driver's tutor group for the most high quality entries. Well done to everyone that entered!

Mr Pearce, Head of Art

Dates for your diary

22nd January 2020

Next meeting of OSA, at school, 7pm

27th March 2020

Quiz Night, dining room, school; all welcome

Christmas Fair

Big thanks to all those staff, students and helpers that contributed to the school Christmas Fair on 7th December. We took nearly £1000 this year. Thanks to everyone that came along to support the students and school, and to everyone that contributed to the amazing hampers. Thanks also go to Komedia Bath, The Bath Soft Cheese Company, Room Confectioners, Juicy Orange Café, and Matt Fiddes martial arts, for contributing prizes for the raffle.



Finally, we would also like to extend our thanks to everyone that has helped out this year at the various events and activities that the OSA support. If you would like to get involved please email osa@oldfieldschool.com, or come along to our next meeting on 22nd January. Merry Christmas!

NOTICE BOARD

Uniform

Please support the school with regards to our expectations on uniform by ensuring that any replacement shoes purchased over the holiday period are in line with our uniform policy (this is outlined on the website). Also that students do not return to school in January with haircuts/ styles that are contrary to our policy (this includes tramlines and unnatural hair colouring). Could you also ensure that you son or daughter does not return with any facial jewellery such as nose piercings.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Volunteering in the Library

Volunteering work available in the Library:

Lunchtime Library Assistant

Application: Students must apply in writing for the position as Library Assistant, explaining fully why they would make a good Library Assistant and how they would contribute towards the Library.

Work includes:

- Working on the desk issuing, renewing and returning books
- Tidying returned books onto the shelves correctly and neatly
- Tidying book shelves correctly and neatly
- Ensuring displays are tidy and presentable
- Ensuring the Library is tidy including furniture etc.
- Ensuring other students are behaving well
- Helping other students to find books and with other work etc

Working hours:

- Per session - 30 minutes at lunch time
- A minimum of one session per week – more if wished
- A minimum of 8 sessions per half term (i.e. 8 sessions in approx. 5-8 week period)

Signing off:

- Each session will be registered on the day
- Signed off on the condition that all sessions have been completed within the period of volunteering
- Signed off on the condition that all volunteering has been completed to a good standard.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF EVENTS

Harry Potter

Harry Potter Book Night is being held at Oldfield School on Wednesday 5th February 2020 from 5.00pm until 7.30pm. This hugely popular event was oversubscribed last year, and the sign-up sheet will be going out in December. The event is open to all students, Years 7-13, and many staff are also part of the evening. The event involves everyone being dressed up (best authentic and creative costume wins a prize), a Sorting Ceremony, three Wizard Challenges, a Harry Potter Book Quiz and a Hogwarts Wizard Banquet.

We Will Rock You

We are busy rehearsing for our production of 'We Will Rock You' which will be performed at school in the spring. We have a lovely and enthusiastic cast from across the school. The songs are so catchy that lots of us can be heard humming Queen songs as we wonder around school. Do pencil in 11th and 12th February so that you can come and join us!

Ms Bloomfield, Head of Drama

Candle Conference Trip

Year 13 religious studies students were fortunate enough to experience a university style lecture from Dr Peter Vardy, a leading philosopher of the 21st century. The lecture encompassed a range of material which will aid students in their preparations for A Level exams at the end of the academic year. The Candle Conference, held in Bristol, allowed our students to take part in a seminar and discussion to help narrow down their evaluative skills while also giving them the opportunity to ask questions to a real life philosopher who they only normally read about in their textbooks.

We look forward to many more trips of this kind.

Miss Hollywood, RS Teacher



**OLDFIELD
SCHOOL**

SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Mock Elections

As many of us trudged through the rain and wind to cast our votes in the actual General Election, Sixth Form students ran their very own mock elections. We had four fantastic candidates running for office. Tristran Speakman represented the Brexit Party, Tom Lucas battled for the Labour Party, William Templeton helmed the Conservative Party and Nafisa El-Turke led the Liberal Democrats.

Each candidate took part in a leadership debate, answering questions from other Sixth Formers around policies connected to Brexit, the NHS and education. It was an enthusiastic and, at times, heated debate but our candidates put up a fine show.

The following week, the candidates gave their closing remarks in assembly and then the Sixth Form voted.

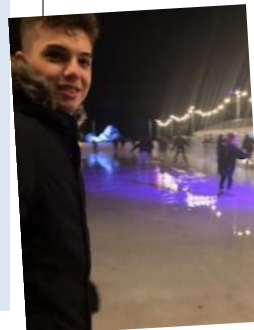
The Labour Party won the largest number of votes, winning 45% of the votes. The Conservatives came in second with 27% of the vote share, Liberal Democrats in third and the Brexit Party trailing in fourth.



Sixth Form Christmas Social Event

As part of our bi-termly Sixth Form social event, we went skating at Bath on Ice, although there was rather more water than ice around. So tempestuous was the weather that the rink resembled a swimming pool. Far from putting off our intrepid Torville and Deans, they took to the ice/water with grace and dexterity. Special mention must go to both Jay Ditung and Omar Othman for some spectacular and very damp falls.

For our Easter social event, the social committee is looking forward to organising our Spring Ball- dates to follow!



University of South Wales Visit

Our Sixth Form creative students had the opportunity to take part in a lecture hosted by University of South Wales's Sara Lee. Sara is a senior lecture at the University and give our students an overview of courses that are on offer and university life in general. She talked through her career, education and how she managed some of the highstreets leading retailers purchasing departments within the UK and internationally. She showed students how their studies can be used to further their careers. She also talked about the importance of being confident within your own work and how developing effective communication skills is the key to success. Sara also showed students examples of university level work and how they can adapt their current project to be fresh and contemporary. Sara was kind enough to look over some of the A Level work and talked in-depth about how students can develop their investigations further.

Thank you to the team at USW for visiting our school!





Sixth Form Football Match

On Wednesday 4th December Oldfield First XI football team travelled to play St Katherine's Sixth Form in Round 2 of the Somerset School Cup. The game was very evenly matched throughout; admirably, both teams were trying to play passing football on a boggy December pitch. Despite Oldfield's best efforts, St Katherine's opened the scoring after 7 minutes with a counterattack that caught the Oldfield defence off-guard. This kickstarted Oldfield's intensity levels and Oldfield started to get more of a handle on the game and were able to dictate the play more than St Katherine's. Oldfield's persistence paid off with Max Barker opening the scoring for Oldfield after 25 minutes to level the scores. Oldfield continued probing the St Katherine's defence and were creating chances regularly. Oldfield's second goal came after 35 minutes when a Barker free kick was parried by the goal keeper for Sam Bezzant to prod the ball home.

During the start of the second half Oldfield endured a period of pressure that led to a goal at 55 minutes for the home team, that was disallowed due to offside. This was the scare that Oldfield required to raise their game again and begin some of the simple quick passing that had put them in front. Oldfield then enjoyed their own spell of possession and eventually were rewarded with a powerful Jay Ditung header that put the game out of reach for St Katherine's. The game ended 3-1 and Oldfield march on to the quarter finals of the Somerset Cup to face Gordano or West Somerset School.

Mr Driver, Head of PE and Dance



Bath Rugby visit

Bath Rugby have come into school and delivered 3 taster sessions to the majority of our Year 9s during this term. Students have loved the opportunity that Bath Rugby Foundation have provided. Sixteen students took part in Project Rugby School Festival at the end of the term to take part in further rugby.

A massive thank you to both of the coaches Dan and Curtis. Hope to see you again!



Year 8 Cup Game vs Holyrood School

Result: 7-3 loss

Oldfield school made a bright start to the match, with Emmanuel Athanasiou scoring after the first two minutes following a mistake from the Holyrood defence, intercepting a pass and easily slotting the ball past the helpless keeper. This spurred Holyrood into life with Oldfield conceding a penalty only a few minutes later, only for Rob Paget to pull off an amazing penalty save, diving away to his left at full stretch pushing the ball out for a corner. Unfortunately, Holyrood scored from the resulting corner to equalise after 7 minutes of the first half. They were ahead after 10 minutes following a turnover from Oldfield in midfield. Oldfield fought back into the match and earned themselves a penalty of their own and, following a retake for encroachment, Tom Sayers smashed the ball into the net for the first of his two goals. Oldfield were level for four minutes with Holyrood restoring their lead using their pace to attack the wide areas and crossing in for their striker to have an easy finish. Tom Sayers again equalised for Oldfield with a fine finish following a long ball which wasn't dealt with. The first half of this end to end game ended all square at 3-3.

Unfortunately that was all the scoring that Oldfield would do, with Holyrood using their size at corners to score 2 unanswered goals, scoring 4 goals in 10 minutes to take the game away from Oldfield. Tom Sayers nearly completed his hat trick at the end of the half, latching onto a ball and taking the ball around the keeper, only to see his goal-bound shot handballed by the defender. Sadly his resulting penalty skewed high and wide and with it any chance of getting back into the game. *Mr Glover, PGCE student*

Year 9 v Backwell School

We came back to our first game of the season better than ever. We instantly put massive amounts of pressure on them and with the treacherous Lansdown winds on our side, we went 1-0 up in less than a minute. We kept this pressure up and another minute later it was 2-0 to the Oldfield boys. After this we still kept up the pressure but less so as they started to play better and it went 2-1. With many amazing balls going through to Jed, our lead just kept on growing until it was 6-2 to Oldfield. To finish them off we scored two more lovely goals with one of them being an amazing ball from Fred to Jed who slotted over the keeper's head from outside the box. The final score ended in 8-3 to Oldfield and we are looking forward to our following game in the cup.



George Sweet, Year 9



On 11th December, Year 7/8 boys travelled across the Bath hills to Writhlington school to play the first ever BANES interschool secondary school dodge ball fixture.

Dodgeball is an emerging sport within the curriculum and one of the most popular enrichment clubs at Oldfield School, so creating a fixture with another school was just what the students needed to elevate the sport to new heights.



When we arrived the boys were split into two teams of five ready to compete against a fired up Writhlington team. The tournament was played in a round robin setting with both Oldfield teams starting well using power and co-ordination to out-fox the opposition and get some wins onto the board. After a thrilling round robin tournament Oldfield teams finally finished in a respective second and third place overall. After the tournament all teams came together to play a large mixed game demonstrating the true values of sport through friendship and respect. As stated this was the first ever fixture in BANES but will not be the last.

Mr John, PE Teacher

Sports Hall Athletics

The first round of the Sports Hall Athletics took place at Wellsway School on Wednesday 11th December. This event was for Year 7 and 8 boys and girls from BANES schools.

Oldfield School had full teams in every age group and there were many strong performances during the afternoon. Seven schools from BANES entered this competition and Oldfield students showed to be one of the strongest schools in this event.

The final results were as follows.

- Year 7 boys - First place
- Year 7 girls - Second place
- Year 8 girls - Third place.
- Year 8 boys - Fourth Place

Big congratulations to the Year 7 boys and girls who have now qualified for the county round which will be held at UWE in January. Individuals who performed well on the day have also been invited to trial at Bristol Grammar school to see if they can make the BANES team.

If students require more information on this please come and see Mrs Bell as soon as possible.

U14s Girls Football Team

The Year 8 and 9 girls travelled to Gordano school for the Somerset cup. Gordano were a team with a lot of experience and a team who often get to the final of the cup. We lost on this occasion, however the girls were a credit to themselves and the school. They maintained a positive attitude and demonstrated excellent resilience. Well done girls.

Miss Hooper, PE Teacher



TRIPS AND EVENTS

Oldfield English Host Creative Writing Workshops

On 25th and 26th November Oldfield English Department hosted 137 Year 5 students from WASPS and Newbridge primary schools for our annual creative writing workshops. The students were taught by Oldfield English teachers and practiced skills in vocabulary building, sentence structure, planning and creative writing. The sessions were focussed around Superheroes and Harry Potter and encouraged students to create original and imaginative work which they will now take back to primary school and continue to improve. Thank you to all staff involved for such a wonderful event with two of our partner primary schools.



Mr McGettigan, English Teacher



Year 8 Art Trip to London

Over 113 Year 8 students visited London this term as part of our annual Christmas visit. We visited the permanent collection of the Tate Modern and had lunch overlooking the Thames. Some of our students were brave enough to climb to the top of the viewing platform and see the London skyline. This is a 360 degree view of London and students had the opportunity to see St Paul's, the Shard and the National Theatre. We then dashed over to the other side of London to visit the V&A Museum. On route we saw some of the Christmas lights around the city and this year's Christmas window displays. Whilst inside the museum, our students

independently explored the permanent collection, this space is huge and students had the opportunity to go to an area that interested them. The feedback from the gallery staff was extremely positive and all said how well our students conducted themselves throughout the day. Well done Year 8!

Mr Pearce, Head of Art



Bathmaticians

On Wednesday 4th December, 30 Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to spend the morning working with mathematics students from the University of Bath on a range of hands-on maths problems. Pupils worked on 6 different stations looking at a range of problems. These included 'The Maths Behind Spreading Diseases' – involving playing 'Rock Paper Scissors' wearing sparkly bracelets as well as 'Geometry on a Curved Surface' – involving drawing various shapes onto balloons. A fantastic morning was had by all.

Ms Stephens, Maths Teacher



Employer visit from creative agency, Mr B & Friends

In November the school was delighted to receive an employer visit from a local creative agency, Mr B & Friends, whose presentation and discussions with students helped raise awareness of the wide range of careers available within marketing, branding, advertising and the wider creative sector. A group of 35 Year 10 students were able to meet with staff from the agency, including their Creative Director, Strategist, Designer, and Animator, to understand more about the work that they do. They were also able to find out more about entry pathways into careers within the sector, and skills needed. As part of their visit, the staff from Mr B & Friends also attended a Year 10 media studies lesson, where they were able to contribute to group work focusing on successful marketing campaigns. One student was also able to secure a work-experience placement with the company. A huge thank you to Mr B & Friends for such an interesting visit!

Mrs Williams, Careers Adviser



TRIPS AND EVENTS

Year 9 Trip Art to London

On a very wet morning in mid-December nearly 100 of our Year 9 students visited the National Portrait Gallery and National Gallery in Trafalgar Square, London. Students had the opportunity to explore the permanent collection, including seeing Van Gogh's famous "Sunflowers" painting and toured around the gallery in smaller groups with staff. All of the students enjoyed this culturally enriching experience and had the opportunity to take loads of photographs that they can use to enhance their art work in school. We also had time to enjoy the Christmas lights and stop for a spot of pizza in Leicester Square. It was a delightful day and all thoroughly enjoyed, well done Year 9 and thank you to everyone for supporting this trip.

Mr Pearce, Head of Art



Year 10 CV Writing Workshop & Mock Interviews

As part of our programme for careers education and preparing all our students for the world of work, Year 10 students attended a CV writing workshop led by Richard Bush from Bath Avon Rotary. All students have been invited to apply for jobs advertised on our website, complete a CV, covering letter and application form in preparation for mock interviews in March.

Richard gave them invaluable advice on the do's and don'ts of job applications and CVs and we are very much looking forward to seeing the professional work students will produce.

We try to offer as many of our students a mock interview opportunity as possible but sadly we do not have the capacity to provide an interview for all. If any Year 10 parent/carer feels their child would really benefit from the opportunity, please contact the school via the enquiries@oldfieldschool.com email.

Mr Nash, Head of Sixth Form and Careers

Science Live A Level Trip

In November, the Science Department took the A Level scientists to Birmingham Town Hall to listen to presentations from renowned scientists across the world in the annual Science Live Conference. The biology sessions included Professor Robert Winston talking about human progress and the ethics behind scientific study, Dr Jenny Rohn presenting a stark picture on the revenge of microbial attack and a very gripping talk from Dr Giles Yeo educating us all on the genetics behind dieting. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day, with many bringing in what they had learnt into following lessons. It is safe to say Dr Giles Yeo has a surge in his book purchases that evening as most students have bought his book. This trip will form part of an annual trip and we can't wait to see who will be presenting the future of science next year.

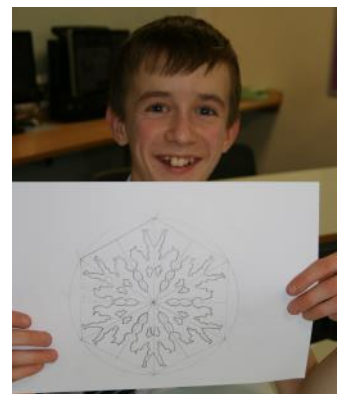
Ms Cornelius, Leader of Learning Science



Mathematic Constructions

On Thursday 12th December, a group of Year 7 students used mathematical equipment and their creativity to construct unique, festive snowflakes!

Mrs Eason-Blake, Maths Teacher



Duke of Edinburgh

On an extremely wet weekend in September the DofE Bronze and Silver students embarked on their final expedition with external provider Ocean Rock Adventure. The expedition saw the students travel east to the great Cotswold Way Uffington and the brilliantly named 'Valley of the Race Horse'. The weather was not in our favour and really challenged students as they orientated and navigated across vast fields and bridal paths to their campsite at Brunswick Farm. After the 10-mile trek students settled down to a well earned rest before setting up camp and cooking before stormy weather engulfed the camp with torrential rain. Morning rose with 'Derek the Donkey' howling his cry at full blast (Keith the Cockerel was on holiday) and another gruelling challenge awaited our happy but slightly sodden campers. Breakfast served, tents packed and sleeping bags rolled, the teams set off back to the pickup point at the other end of the valley for Bronze. The Silver students continued onwards to their night's location setting up tents in hurling winds. Once the storms had passed the students slept under a blanket of stars and woke to early morning frost before departing across the Cotswold Way and their final location. Oldfield students arrived back to school achieving something worth more than a badge and certificate, they achieved a sense of pride and independence that shows them that anything is possible if they believe in themselves and each other. Well done to all



students taking part in this award. It was a pleasure to share their company; they are all great role models and ambassadors for their families and our brilliant school.

Mr D John, Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator



Year 9 Cyber Day Trip

On 3rd December, a group of nine Year 9 students spent the whole day at UWE as part of the UnlockCyber event. They spent a full day undertaking activities related to the cyber world. Companies such as Airbus, Dyson, the Nationwide Building Society and the South West Cyber Crime unit ran workshops showing students how and what skills they use in their everyday job roles. The students were able to utilise equipment and specialist training on offer from the business providers.

The sessions covered an actual cybercrime scene, hack your classmates, Wi-Fi Jamming, fingerprinting and other cyber based tasks.

As a result of the interactive sessions, the students were able to ask career related questions and find out how to get in to such a job role. The overwhelming response was you just need to be enthusiastic and driven. Showing evidence of practical skills is now as important as the type of qualifications you may possess. Using websites like www.hackthebox.com and <https://immersivelabs.com> can be just as important for skills development.

The role of the National Cyber Security Centre was explained, and the fact that there are many unfilled jobs in the sector was highlighted, as well as the bursary and intern schemes they currently run. There is more information on <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/overview> and a suite of competitions are available for students from Year 8 upwards.

Overall a tired but enthusiastic group returned to school with potential future career ideas.

Mr Eidman, ICT Teacher

FROM OUR COMMUNITY



HOW TO HELP YOUR TEENS NAVIGATE THEIR PEERS MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

INCLUDING AN INSIGHT INTO THE NEW YOUTH COURSE
BEING RUN IN JANUARY 2020 FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Thursday 9th & 16th January
5-6PM
Freedom Auditorium cafe
£10 per adult (plus cafe costs)

Email admin@trc-uk.org for a space

www.trc-uk.org

[@trauma_recovery](https://www.instagram.com/trauma_recovery)

[UKTRC](https://www.facebook.com/UKTRC)

[@trauma_recovery](https://www.twitter.com/trauma_recovery)

NHS
Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust

RUH Evening Careers event 2020

This event offers a fantastic opportunity for students in **Year 10 or above** who **live or study in the RUH catchment area** (see website for map) to **meet staff members** and **talk about careers in the NHS**.

SAVE THE DATE
Tuesday 3 March
2020, 5 - 7.30pm

Booking is not currently open—please check our website in the second week of February for details on how to book a place.

Find our website by typing in:
<https://bit.ly/2xNitK7>

Places are limited and will be offered on a **first-come, first-serve basis**.



For more information contact:
ruh-tr.careersengage@nhs.net or
call 01225 824281 or 01228 821542

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WE WILL ROCK YOU

A Music by
Ben Elton & Queen.
Presented with permission from
www.schoolswillrockyou.co.uk

FEB 11 - 12TH 7.00PM
TICKETS ON SALE VIA PARENT PAY