

## To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Dear Parents/ Carers

This newsletter was due to be published in the week that schools were asked to close. Our communications with parents since have been focused on the arrangements that have been put in place to accommodate children of key workers in school and to provide resources for home learning. Therefore I thought that it would be a welcome opportunity to remind you of what school life was like before this crisis changed our way of life. This is likely to be our last newsletter for some time (in this format ) and I hope that it brings some joy in what has been very difficult time for everyone.

Best wishes and stay safe,

Steven Mackay



### Max

Introducing Maximus (Max), our school dog. He joined the school on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March and was able to meet lots of students in his first few days in school before we closed.

While only a small number of students have been in school over the last week, he has made some good friends already and has enjoyed his play time with them. He is really looking forward to meeting everyone properly when we all return to school. You can follow Max on his school (and other) adventures on Instagram@ Maximus\_Oldfield.

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

### County Athletics

We are delighted to announce that Esme McKenzie has been selected to represent Avon for the County Sports Hall Athletics Team. A number of our best athletes went along to a trial recently and took part on a number of events. Only eight boys and girls can be chosen for a team so this is an amazing achievement. Well done Esme!

### County rugby success

Congratulations to Cerys Williams in Year 10 who has successfully trialled for Gloucestershire County Rugby.

She trialled for the county on 2nd February 2020 at Cheltenham Tigers RFC where assessors watched her play a series of short games and she was notified a week later of her success! Her first training session was on 6th March at Cheltenham Tigers and Cerys played her first Gloucestershire match in March in a cluster of other county teams (Devon, Cornwall, Somerset). They beat Somerset, drew with Cornwall and lost to Devon.

We look forward to hearing about more of her successes in the future!

## Contact and communication with school

The school is open currently with a small number of students being supervised in school. Therefore we do have staff in school each day and the school office is staffed if you need to get in touch. There are members of the senior leadership team in school each day. You can continue to email [enquiries@oldfieldschool.com](mailto:enquiries@oldfieldschool.com) and any message will be passed to the relevant member of staff. Staff will respond via email rather than with a phone call and they will try to do so with two working days.

You can access items such as GCSEpod, SAM Learning and download Office 365 through the school website;

[www.oldfieldschool.com/student-area/](http://www.oldfieldschool.com/student-area/)

### Senior Netball

The senior netball teams took to the court at the end of term for a match against Wellsway. The Year 10 squad were a little depleted so thank you to Claudia and Charlene for stepping in at the eleventh hour!

Despite working very hard on the court the Year 10 squad just couldn't break the Wellsway attack and struggled to catch up at the other end. Congratulations to Thalia P who was voted player of the match.

The Year 11 squad had a very closely-fought game and the score was swinging every quarter! Strong performances from all players kept them in the game but unfortunately we were just pipped at the end. Congratulations to Charlotte E who was voted player of the match.



*Mrs Little, Second in PE*

### Year 10 and 11 Football

On 26th February, Year 10 and 11 travelled to Norton Hill School to play a recreational football fixture. All games had been cancelled during the week due to pitches being unplayable so we took the opportunity to get two year groups playing a small sided game on their astro turf.

The Year 10 game was very evenly matched with notable performances from Brad R in goal who made some excellent saves and showed brilliant decision making, Ralph D who was calm on the ball and made some good challenges in defence, Olly C with excellent leadership skills and Mohab M with excellent levels of effort.

The Year 11 team was slightly more one sided in Norton Hill's favour who had a strong team. There were good performances from Joe P who scored our only goal, Ollie G who was very good on the ball and retained possession well and Juan K-C who worked hard to keep the ball moving and create opportunities.

*Mr Driver, Leader of Learning PE & Dance*

### Year 9 football

On 3rd March, Oldfield Year 9 football team travelled to Chew Valley School to play in their first BANES league match.

The game started well with Oldfield in control. This led to Harry H opening the scoring after 10 minutes with a right footed effort from an acute angle that crept in at the near post. This was followed by another great effort from Jason J who was fouled in the build up, played advantage and was able to recover to chip the ball over the goal keeper. Jason was then able to finish from close range just 4 minutes later to make the score 3-0. Two minutes from half time Chew Valley managed to get one back to make it 3-1 going into half time.

The second half was a lot closer with Chew Valley coming out, applying a lot of pressure on us which led to them scoring again to get back into the game. With this goal coming 10 minutes from the end of the game the pressure was on to keep the game tight and prevent another goal. Oldfield kept battling and trying to keep possession of the ball and eventually persistence prevailed and Jason was able to complete his hat-trick to put the game out of the reach of Chew Valley.

An excellent performance from the team and individuals, including Fred K, Finn W and Evan M. Well done to everyone who played!

*Mr Driver, Leader of Learning PE & Dance*

### Year 9 Football

Another week and another win! We started the game with confidence and urgency. It took a while but we finally broke the deadlock and went 1-0 up with a lovely goal. The flood gates were open and by half time it was 3-0. The ball didn't venture out of their half for nearly the whole game which forced them to do a ball over the top and run. Which is exactly what they did and with their pace they got a goal back. However at this point it was too late as we were on top and finished the game comfortably with a 6-2 result to the Oldfield boys.

*George Sweet, Year 9*



### Year 7 Football

We had a fantastic first game with Year 7 against Chew Valley. I was very happy to see some developments from training transfer into our team performance during our first game. We witnessed high efforts, strong team morale and Billy hitting the woodwork in the first half. However, despite our efforts we lost 5-0. Nonetheless, it was really enjoyable to witness all the boys enjoy a full game of football. When questioned, Captain Kian reflected and said "our performance was alright. Honestly we could have been more physical and a bit more accurate with our passes and shots on goal. Communication was a big strength of ours throughout which led to great team organisation and that will definitely help us in the future. Increased pressure and physicality is needed for our next game against Somervale next week". Big stand-out performances from Kian, Billy, Nathan and Mohammed. Well done boys!



*Mr Driver, Leader of Learning PE and Dance*

### Year 8 Football

Our Year 8s travelled to Chew Valley School on Tuesday 3rd March.

The boys started the game very well with some good saves from Robert P and Noah and Reilly were solid in defence. Chew Valley however did take the lead. The boys hit back almost instantly with Claudiu sprinting through and hitting the ball into the top corner.

Chew valley got the next goal which made it difficult for Oldfield, as they were now having to chase the game. Lewis and Eoin played well in the middle of the park driving the team forwards.

Chew Valley did get the next 3 goals to win the match 4-1. Joe played excellently when moved into defence to stop any further goals from Chew Valley.

Man of the match and goal scorer, Claudiu said "we were unlucky to lose and feel that the team has to take their chances better".

There were many positives to build on from the first game of the season and the boys can press on to have a successful season. This can be accomplished with Tom S and Emmanuel as an attacking force.

Overall the boys should be very pleased with how they conducted themselves with a brilliant attitude, a real credit to themselves and Oldfield School.

*Mr Coleman, PE Teacher*

### Year 11 Football

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Oldfield Year 11 football team played Chew Valley School on a bitterly cold, wet and windy afternoon up on Lansdown paying fields. The game started remarkably well with Ryan capitalising on an error from the Chew Valley defence to score after just 22 seconds! Easily the quickest goal I have ever seen in a school football match. Chew Valley did however ease into the game and their strongest players started to influence the game. After approximately 15 minutes Chew Valley had equalised. As the game continued Oldfield played some really nice passing football which meant they were able to create some good chances. This led to Oldfield going 2-1 up but this was quickly equalised by Chew Valley.

Into the second half, both teams were trying to keep possession of the ball and chances came at both ends of the pitch. Oldfield had a disallowed goal due to offside which was undoubtedly a very close call and would have been referred to VAR if we had the available technology. Chew Valley capitalised on this good fortune and kept trying to create chances and eventually broke through the defence and scored late in the game to win by 1 goal. A really unlucky result for Oldfield but well played by a team, who worked well together.

# TRIPS AND EVENTS

## Year 10 Royal Marine Training Day

On a very cold and windy Tuesday in February, the Royal Marine's Visibility Squad visited Oldfield School to put students through their paces. The Marine visit provided students with the opportunity to gain an insight into life as an Elite Royal Marine and participate in a range of teambuilding and leadership activities designed to enhance students' confidence and leadership skills.



The day demonstrated to students how, working as a team, you can achieve more.

This is what some of the students that got involved said:

"The day helped me think about what to put on my prefect application next year".

"It was fun working in a team".

"I really want to join the marines, it was interesting finding out when I could apply".

"It was a lot of fun, good exercise and told us what it is like in the Royal Marines".

We are really grateful for this event and look forward to working with the Royal Marines again

in the future.

*Mr Abood, Head of Year 10*



## RUSSIA!



Sixth formers in the History department travelled to Russia in February to complement their study of the Soviet era. The snow still lay on the ground in St Petersburg when we arrived, and provided a stunning backdrop to a packed itinerary of historical sites including the Church on Spilled Blood and the Cruiser Aurora.

The State Hermitage Museum (the Winter Palace) was breathtakingly ornate and beautiful, and we stood in the very room where the Provisional Government was arrested by Bolshevik revolutionaries during the October Revolution. A night train to Moscow provided excitement, if not sleep, and we managed to get around many locations in the capital too, with a highlight being the stunningly decorated stations of the Moscow Metro, constructed under Stalin. This trip was everything an educational tour should be: the students enriched their understanding of the fascinating and beautiful country of Russia.



*Mr Allen, Head of History*



## TRIPS AND EVENTS CONT.

### We are the Champions

It's official – Oldfield rocks!

A massive congratulations to all our talented and dedicated students who took part in this year's school production. Over 30 performers took to the stage and gave three performances over two days which were full of energy, enthusiasm and fun.

We were really pleased to welcome Year 3 students from WASPS to watch the show and it was lovely to see them clapping and singing along.

Despite being 'under pressure', students also performed on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February to a public audience and to much acclaim!

*Ms Bloomfield, Head of Drama*



### Flying Start Competition

Back in November graduates from AIRBUS came in to work with 30 Year 8 students. There was a quick lecture about the basics of aircraft engineering and then a trial run with paper aeroplanes to allow the students to put their knowledge into practice. Students then formed teams and spent the time designing, costing, making and testing their own gliders. The students competed against each other with the top 3 teams going to the regional final at the Bristol Aerospace Centre.

Fast forward to February and all three teams had worked really hard to modify their gliders and prepare their presentations for the regional final. They all pitched and presented really well. Competition was tight but I am pleased to announce that 'SAS' (slow and steady) made it through to the Grand Final. Well done to all the students who took part.

*Miss C Evans, Acting Leader of Learning Creatives*

### A Day in Court

As part of our ongoing careers development programme, a group of Year 10 students experienced "A Day in Court" during the last week of term 3, as they were invited to partake in the event organised by the University of Law. It was targeting those that may be considering a career in law, with the emphasis on the role of a Barrister.

The Year 10s took part in a very exciting session, supported by law professionals and University of Law students, debating the facts of a mock case and acting on behalf of a defendant. A group of students were even able to present their argument to a real judge in a mock court set-up.

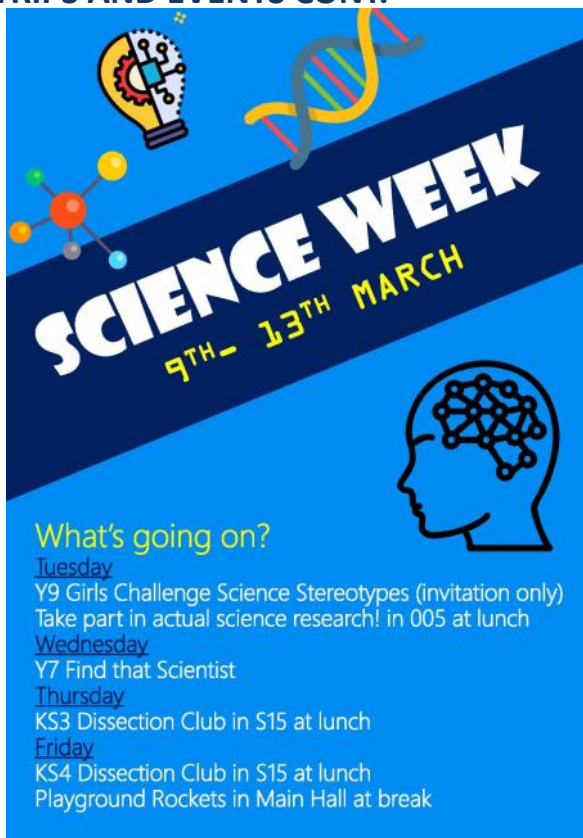
The University of Law were really impressed with the students. Jade Montagna, Student Recruitment Officer commented that "We were delighted to have Oldfield School attend our Day in the Life of a Barrister workshop on 12th February. All the students engaged well with the day and behaved brilliantly. They were brilliant at preparing for the mooted competition and deciding how to argue their case. I know a couple of them will go onto be fantastic barristers, solicitors and judges and I am sure all of them will go onto have successful careers in their chosen area. We would be keen to do another event with Oldfield students".

Thank you to all the students that attended the event, and congratulations on making such a great impression.

*Alex Williams, Careers Adviser*



## TRIPS AND EVENTS CONT.



**SCIENCE WEEK**  
9<sup>TH</sup> - 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH


**What's going on?**

Tuesday  
Y9 Girls Challenge Science Stereotypes (invitation only)  
Take part in actual science research! in 005 at lunch

Wednesday  
Y7 Find that Scientist

Thursday  
KS3 Dissection Club in S15 at lunch

Friday  
KS4 Dissection Club in S15 at lunch  
Playground Rockets in Main Hall at break



The week of 9th March was British Science Week! During the week all students in Year 7 made rockets in their science lessons which were fired in the playground on Friday at break time. So many creative designs - engineers in the making! Mr Axe and Ms Walters ran two dissection clubs during the week for KS3 and KS4 students. The club was so popular we had to spread into two rooms. The students dissected a mouse and were able to identify key organs. Not for the squeemish! With a focus this year on diversity students took part in tutor time quizzes, made brilliant posters and played games to learn about some less well known scientists. Well done to all for taking part in the activities.

*Miss Houston, Science Teacher*



### New Views

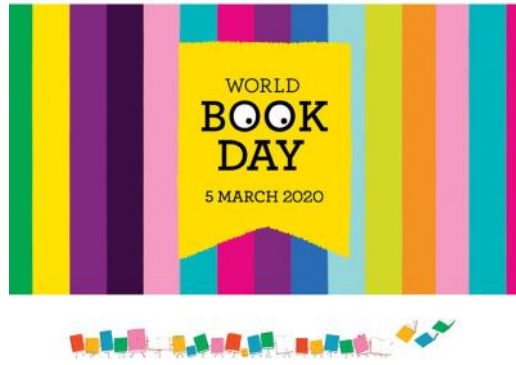
We have been lucky enough to be selected as a school to take part in the National Theatre New Views project.

Four of our students: Lewis C in Year 11, Fin C and Jessie A in Year 10 and Joe C in Year 9 submitted their original ideas and on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March had the opportunity to meet playwright Matt Hartley. Each student had a 1:1 session with the writer and got some feedback as to how to develop their ideas further. Students now have time to work on and develop their pieces.

In the future we are going to work with students from the Royal High School and hopefully students will get the chance to take part in a shared workshop with GCSE students there to develop their skills further.

*Ms Bloomfield, Head of Drama*

# TRIPS AND EVENTS CONT.



Yet again a fantastic effort was made by staff and some students for World Book Day. The science department's interpretation of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves, complete with the looking glass, won the staff competition.



## TRIPS AND EVENTS CONT.



### Year 12 Bath Business Tour

On 11<sup>th</sup> March, Year 12 Business and Economic students went on our third Bath Business Tour trip.

“Personally, I really enjoyed the trip it was great to get an insight into all different types of businesses to see how they run and operate on all different levels. I found the trip enjoyable and would highly recommend it for future years.” *Cameron Griffin, Year 12 Business Studies Student.*

“During the trip, it was interesting to see our economics work in real businesses. We learnt how supply and demand varies due to many different factors within different businesses. Businesses such as John Antony and the Theatre Royal were able to tell us about the behaviour of customers and the consumption of goods and services.” *Alfie Ferris, Year 12 Economics Student*

It was an interesting day to visit Bath Building Society due to the announcement that morning from the Bank of England cutting interest rates that day. They discussed the effect this was going to have on the Building Society and their borrowers.

John Antony spoke about consumers’ trends and creating brand loyalty and how profits are made on different popular items that customers repeatedly purchase.

We would like to thank all those businesses involved including Theatre Royal, John Antony, Bath Building Society, Gradwell Communications and especially Barclays Bank for hosting us all for the day including a tasty lunch. We look forward to running this trip again next year.



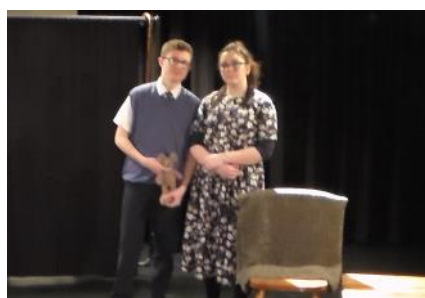
*Mrs Britton, Business Studies Teacher*

### GCSE Drama Exams

Year 11 Drama students performed their scripted pieces on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Over the last two terms they have had to select and develop scripts from page to stage and as a part of their GCSE had to perform in front of a visiting examiner and a live audience. The students did a fantastic job and we look forward to finding out how they did in August. For now though it is full steam ahead preparing for the written exam! Fantastic work Class of '20 – you have been an absolute pleasure to work with!



*Ms Bloomfield, Head of Drama*





# PSHE Matters

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Androulla Nicolaou who is part of the Topaz Team from Avon and Somerset Police came in to talk to our Year 8, 9 and 12 students on County Lines and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). She also held talks with staff and parents about the dangers facing our students and guided us through some tough topics.

What the students, staff, parents and carers gained from these talks was the importance of **talking to each other**; making sure that our students know that they can talk to parents and carers if something is sent to them that makes them feel uncomfortable, to always tell someone. Very often children think they will get into trouble for what somebody else has sent them and in many instances avoid telling someone who can help. We must make sure that we give our students a voice and let them know that we can help.

If you would like more information on keeping your loved ones safe on-line please visit the following website; [internetmatters.org](http://internetmatters.org) or email [helpline@saferinternet.org.uk](mailto:helpline@saferinternet.org.uk) or call 0344 381 4772

The online world offers a wealth of resources for education, entertainment, and connection with other people. Unfortunately, the internet can also pose dangers and whilst our students are away from school we want them to stay safe online. Here is some information about apps that give our students a life line to friends and family;



Many teens will have a profile on Facebook without using it much. Even so, Facebook's platform allows for interactions with strangers, and its various levels of privacy and multiple means of sharing can make what seem like private interactions more public than a user may realise.



Like Facebook, Twitter isn't the most popular teen social media platform, and while teens should continue to take care with it—and parents should be aware that there's no way to prevent teens from coming across adult material, and no particularly effective means of stopping harassment—it is tamer than some online outlets.



Instagram is much more popular among teens, and it is based primarily on sharing images which people in a user's network can then comment on. Because it is based on images, Instagram can tempt teens to post embarrassing or inappropriate images online, but it has similar privacy settings to Facebook, which means that the user can exercise some control over who can see their content.



Snapchat is based on sharing images. These images 'disappear' after a few seconds however, most devices can capture any images that appear on its screen. And while Snapchat now notifies users when someone takes a screen grab of an image they have put up, some apps allow users to circumvent this feature. As a result, Snapchat is even more likely to lure teens into thinking an inappropriate or embarrassing picture will never be seen again.



TikTok allows users to create short-form video clips with a range of special effects to gain a following and build a community around their passions. These videos can be shared outside of TikTok on other accounts linked to a user's profile. Some content will not be suitable for children so check the privacy settings.

It is worth getting your children to check their privacy settings as some of these apps allow strangers to know the exact location of the owner of the phone.

*Mrs Macnaughton,  
PSHE Coordinator*