

To inspire, to learn, to succeed

Important Dates;

23 Nov

Week 2

Yr 13 Mocks start

Yr 11 return to school

Yr 8 self-isolating students return to school

25 Nov

Yr 9 Sports leaders session (weekly)

27 Nov

Yr 13 Mocks finish

30 Nov

Week 1

INSET DAY

01 Dec

Yr 11 Mocks start

03 Dec

Extra-curricular clubs resume

14 Dec

Yr 11 Mocks end

16 Dec

Christmas Concert (tbc)

18 Dec

School closes early

END OF TERM 2

05 Jan 2021

INSET DAY

06 Jan 2021

Week 2

START OF TERM 3

Dear Parents/Carers

This has been a rather unsettled start to Term 2 for all of us at the school given that all Year 7, Year 11 and some Year 8 students have had to self-isolate since the October holiday. Thankfully we have not had any further Covid cases in the school and with the return of Year 7 this week and Year 11 and the Year 8 students who are self-isolating next week, we should be fully open again from Monday onwards. While it was inevitable that at some point there would be a confirmed case in the school community, the reality of having to respond to this and to ask students to self-isolate has been a reminder of the importance of the measures that we have in place to ensure that the integrity of year group bubbles are maintained. Our students have continued to respond really well to the rules and measures in place to keep everyone safe and parental support with this is very much appreciated.

It has become increasingly clear that, while we are able to continue to maintain the quality of teaching and learning to deliver the full curriculum, much of the most rewarding and enjoyable school experiences have had to be significantly curtailed. With this in mind we are determined to bring some of the fun back to school life in the run-up to Christmas. We have a number of ideas about this I will write to you shortly to let you know what these are. Related to this there will be a shortened school day on the last day of this term; which will mean that the school day will finish at lunchtime on Friday 18th December.

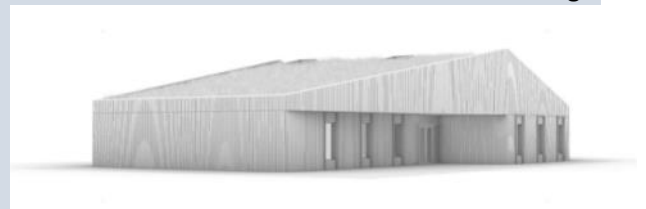
We have been able to continue to run some school events in a Covid secure way. These have included: a Year 7 welcome concert (which you can view on the school website); the Armistice ceremony; a fund raising day last week for Children in Need and PE and music after school clubs. I am hopeful that we will be able to develop these as the year progresses.

Your children may have informed you that a large hole has been excavated next to Westgate Field. This is the site for our new SEND base; which will be completed by Easter 2021. Our current SEND accommodation is inadequate and not fit for purpose so this facility will transform our provision in this area. The new building will also serve as an ASD Specialist Resource Base, with up to 10 places for high functioning ASD secondary age children. Currently there is no provision of this nature in BANES and this will allow young people who otherwise may not be able to access mainstream education the opportunity to do so from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form. BANES have made a contribution to funding this project and the 10 commissioned places will be funded by an annual grant from the government.

The new SEND base has two full size teaching rooms, four small group rooms and also office and social spaces. Its location next to Westgate Field will also allow us to develop the outside space to the rear of the building in the future. It will also be the most environmentally friendly and sustainable building on the school site.

I hope that you enjoy this newsletter, which includes a spotlight on our Science Learning Area and an update on House news.

Best wishes and stay safe,
Steven Mackay, Headteacher



Contact Details

t. 01225 423582

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Oldfield_school

NOTICE BOARD

Warning Allergies

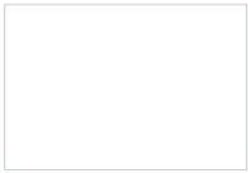
Many of our students suffer serious nut and sesame seed allergies. Therefore, please remember not to include these in your child's packed lunch. We are a nut free school.

Parking around school

A further reminder to parents to please be careful when picking up and dropping off at the beginning or end of the school day. Parking should not be on the double yellow lines at the front or side of the school, near Penn, and drivers should be mindful of other traffic, our neighbours and most importantly, students crossing the roads.

Furthermore, parents should not pull into the main school carpark to drop off students, this blocks the area for teachers and staff trying to get to work.

The Official Oldfield
Christmas Card 2020



Actual Size: 150mm x 140mm Scale 1:1

This year our school plans to send a Christmas card to people linked to our school and in our community.

We would like your help! Use the box above to design a festive Christmas card design that captures the values of our school. Use your imagination, be creative, the card should be festive and be based on our core values: To Learn, To Inspire, To succeed.

The card must be an original design and drawn out using colouring pencils. You cannot use any other media – no felt pens.

Deadline for entry: Wednesday 25th November
Prize: Amazon Voucher for the winner & pizza tutor time for the tutor group with most good quality entries.

Name: _____ Tutor Group: _____

Competition Time!

The chance to win Amazon vouchers and pizza for your tutor group!

Once again we are launching the Oldfield School Official Christmas Card competition. The chance to design the school's Christmas card, which will be sent out to local businesses, care homes and our neighbours. Students are invited to design their entry using the template, sent out last week. A hardcopy of this template is also available in school, and will be issued during tutor time.

Designs should be imaginative and capture a sense of the holiday season. Students are asked to use colouring pencil only, when creating their entry. The deadline for completion of their designs is **Wednesday 25th November**. Ideally students should hand

in a hard copy of their designs, but if this is not possible, please email a scanned version to enquiries@oldfieldschool.com, FAO Mr Pearce.

The winner of the official design will receive an Amazon voucher and their design used as the school's official Christmas card. The tutor group with the most quality entries will be awarded with a pizza tutor time for their efforts.

Thank you for your continued support in encouraging your child to participate in our extracurricular offerings.

Mr J Pearce, Head of Art

Evie Waller's winning design 2019



Term Dates 2021-2022

These have now been agreed as:

Term 1	6th September 2021 (Y7/10/12 only) to 22nd October 2021
Term 2	1st November to 17th December
Term 3	5th January to 18th February
Term 4	28th February to 8th April
Term 5	25th April to 27th May
Term 6	6th June to 22nd July
Inset days	2nd Sept, 3rd Sept, 24th Sept (tbc), 29th Nov, 4th Jan.

Updating details –general and medical

Please ensure you keep us up to date on where you live and contact numbers and email if they change. Also, if your child suffers from a medical condition then we need to be informed of any changes. Please do so by emailing

enquiries@oldfieldschool.com

Second-hand School Uniform Sale

Our second-hand uniform order form is now “live”! You can place your order by visiting the OSA section on the website www.oldfieldschool.com/about-us/osa/second-hand-uniform-sale/

We are selling Price & Buckland blazers, jumpers, ties, skirts and trousers and PE kit. Some of our stock is old logo, which can still be worn in school, and is priced accordingly.

The order form lists all the possible sizes, but is not necessarily what we hold in stock. Your order will be checked against our stock and an email will be sent with your confirmed order and amount owing. Items will be dispatched to your child at school, once we have received payment. The stock is checked on a termly basis by volunteers so please be patient with us and do not expect to receive all the items you order.

How to place an order:

1. Visit www.oldfieldschool.com/about-us/osa/second-hand-uniform-sale/ and complete the order form or request a hard copy via osa@oldfieldschool.com
2. Submit your order by 27th November 2020.
3. Once the form has been submitted we will check stock and email you with your confirmed order and amount owing.
4. Pay online to the OSA account detailed on the price list, including your **child’s name and tutor group as a reference.**
5. Once payment has been received your order will be sent to reception in named bags for students to collect.
6. We will aim to have orders processed by the end of term.

PLEASE NOTE, WE CANNOT ACCEPT RETURNS.

If you would like to help out with the uniform, please do get in touch, we are always looking for helpers! Email osa@oldfieldschool.com



SECOND-HAND SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICE LIST

	Old Logo or no logo	New Logo
PE Shorts/skorts	£4.00	
PE Tops	£3.00	£5.00
PE Jackets	£4.00	£6.00
Tracksuit Trousers	£2.00	
Blazers	£4.00	£7.00
Trousers	£4.00	
Skirts	£4.00	
Grey Jumpers	£3.00	£5.00
Ties	£2.00	

All proceeds from uniform sales go straight back into supporting your school.

Please note, we are only able to accept Price and Buckland second-hand uniform donations.

Our bank details are: Lloyds 30-90-54 A/C 01977615

Christmas Trees!

We are pleased to be able to let you know that once again the OSA will be providing Christmas trees for you to order and buy.

- The beautiful Nordman Fir non-drop Christmas trees are available at £35 for 1.5—1.75m and £40 for 1.75—2m.
- They will be on sale on Saturday 5th December from 9am—12pm, at school.
- You can pre-order by emailing the OSA and paying online to the OSA account or pay the correct cash on the day; we won’t have the facility to give change.

Email; osa@oldfieldschool.com



Christmas Raffle

We are excited to be able to announce this year’s raffle will still take place, it will be online! Tickets will be available on ParentPay shortly and there will be lots of great prizes to win, including our popular Christmas hampers and Amazon fire tablet.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING AREAS —

SCIENCE

Hello, from the team that won the staff World Book Day competition! We are already thinking about this year's competition to secure the win for the second year running.

We are thrilled to introduce two new science teachers into our team; Mr Taylor, a physics specialist, joins us, as well as Miss Eatock, a biology specialist.

Miss Eatock says 'I teach Science and Biology A level and have thoroughly enjoyed my first term here at Oldfield School. I share my passion for the subject with my two boys who are eight and five and love carrying out some kitchen chemistry. Along with many of us at the moment, our weekends are taken up with walks, cycling and exploring. One of my favourite areas of Biology is genetics and I am looking forward to finding out what is lurking in the Oldfield School pond in the Spring and Summer months!'

Mr Taylor says 'My career up until now has been in the tech industry, including leading global companies. It's science in action. I'm a guitarist and play in a Bath based 80s tribute band. Can't wait for COVID to be over so we can start playing gigs again! I also snowboard and am an acceptable golfer.'

Over the period of lockdown the Science team remained busy re-structuring our KS3 curriculum. This has involved redesigning the lessons we teach and the way we assess our students here at Oldfield. Our lucky Year 7s have started on this new and exciting curriculum. During this term, with some students isolating, the Science team have got to grips with teaching our curriculum online — most of us have become a whizz at Microsoft Teams.

We fully understand the impact that the first lockdown had on our students. We have worked tirelessly in making sure that the gaps that were formed in our students' learning have been closed and as a result we have adapted our curriculum to allow for extra consolidation and revision time.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 regulations our students can only watch demonstrations of our amazing practicals. Hopefully these restrictions will be lifted soon (fingers crossed for just before Science Week in March!).

The main piece of ground breaking news that the department have to share is that our laboratories are no longer odd shades of pastel. Gone are the pink, yellow, blue and green labs. Over the half term we were treated to new windows (ones we can open!) and our lovely laboratories painted in an off-white colour.

We are all looking forward to getting back to a relative normal, giving our students hands-on, practical experience in the amazing world that science provides. Maybe a positive of this pandemic is that the world has opened its eyes to the importance of a science education and the amazing work that goes on behind the scenes in this type of scenario.

All the best,

Mrs S Cornelius

Leader of Learning: Science

Current scientific reading: 'What is Life? Understand Biology in Five Steps' by Nobel Prize winner Paul Nurse



Apollo

We had a great start to Term 1 and were leading the way with house points. However, Minerva have just slipped past us into pole position but we're not too far behind and I know we'll claw it back.

As with every aspect of school life currently, House business is also very different due to the current restrictions. I don't want that to stop us from having lots of fun, especially in the lead up to Christmas. Apollo will be taking part in lots of house quizzes with a prize for the winning tutor group. Term 1's quiz winners are yet to be decided due to 4 tutor groups all having the same amount of points. Tie break questions are being sent out this week.



Children in Need

Children in Need is usually our biggest charity event in school and it is a charity that needs help more than ever following the current pandemic. We knew we couldn't hold our popular cake sales and movie nights due to year group bubbles so we had to think hard about how to raise money this year. Non-uniform day is always a big hit with the students and an easy way to raise money but we wanted to do more. That's when we thought of holding a virtual raffle. We could never have imagined how popular it was going to be with both students and staff. We raised an incredible £1100 just from the sale of raffle tickets. We'd like to thank you all for contributing to this fantastic amount of money raised. The raffle was streamed live from our House Instagram page with Mr Gann as compere. The lucky students who won prizes will have them delivered by the end of the week. In total, with non-uniform day and the raffle we raised the brilliant sum of £1610. We were thrilled at this amount and we know Children in Need will be too. As a thank you for the students' and their parents' contributions, staff put on their dancing shoes to create this special video which the students thoroughly enjoyed watching during House assemblies this week. We hope you enjoy it as well. www.oldfieldschool.com/school-information/care-guidance-support/oldfield-houses/

Hello everyone!

It's so wonderful to be back from my medical leave. Honestly, I've had such a warm welcome back from everyone in Maia House and I have really enjoyed catching up with all those pupils who have earned so many house points over the past 2 terms. Keep it up everyone!!

As shown in my recent Maia House Assembly, I have been promoting the importance of celebrating diversity, accepting differences and expressing individuality. If you have missed our Maia House Assembly, please follow the link below and watch in your spare time:

<https://youtu.be/CJ5qoLW2LN4>

Finally, I would like to say a HUGE well done to everyone who has donated and raised money for Children In Need. It was wonderful to see our success as a school and a true appreciation to witness what we can do together despite recent COVID restrictions in place. Well done everyone!

The Minerva Motto is '**I Can't But We Can**' and in Term Two we certainly showed the other Houses how to work as a team; following on from 7D winning the Cygnus Spotting Competition, 11B were the overall winners of the House Competition '**What Am I?**' at the end of term! Minerva were also making their mark in whole school competitions too. Well done Theo in 7D who won the **Pumpkin Carving Competition** and bagged himself a prize and those all important house points. Finley in 7B was the overall winner for '**31 Days, 31 Questions**', our Black History Month quiz. We also have to mention Miss Evans and Mrs Cornelius who won the staff competition to collect as many Cygnus' and return them to roost from around the school. Our next Minerva competition poses the question "**How Many Minervans?**" Who will be the overall winner of this classic?

As this newsletter went to press we were in the lead; a whopping **6,212** house points! Keep up the excellent work everyone. If you can, join the extra-curricular clubs when they resume in December, read those books, take part in those competitions and most importantly work hard in all your lessons. Be respectful to your peers and your teachers and kind to those that need that bit of extra support at the moment. Remember that as Minervans we are in it together **...we can!**

Hello Neptune!

I am so excited to be your new Head of House! Some of you know me already and if you don't, I am Mrs Britton. I am already starting to get to know the House and have been visiting tutors this week. Thank you to all the lovely students who have stopped me to tell me they are in Neptune - I have received a very lovely welcome.

You have all done so well in getting house points this week and we are now just over 6000! This is an amazing achievement and you are all working very hard.

Don't forget about the **Christmas writing competition**, the deadline is **7th December**. There is a £10 Amazon voucher for the top prize and a £5 for a runner up. Each entry gets a house point - you have to be in it to win it!

Well done for all of your achievements this week and the amount of money raised for Children In Need.

I will be heading round with the 'Neptune Star of the Week' on Monday.

Keep up the good work and always try your best.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Bath City Football coaching

This term we have welcomed Bath City Football Club to Oldfield School. They have a separate organisation within the club that deliver community football. They are currently delivering sessions on Mondays after-school to Year 8 and Year 10 students. We look forward to these starting again on 7th December so please encourage your son/daughter to come along and get involved, you never know, they could be scouted to join them!

Mr Driver
Head of PE

Let's Make Music!

Music Extra-curricular Activities

While we are unable to run the majority of our music clubs, following the latest guidance from the Department of Education, we are still continuing with our concert band practice, as this is done virtually. Concert band is open to everyone who plays a portable instrument and can read notation. There is no minimum standard and new members are always welcome. We have set up a 'Microsoft team' for all concert band members so that they can rehearse at home, especially if they find themselves in isolation. We are working on two pieces at the moment and each of these pieces is going to be put together in a video which we will release in place of a Christmas Concert. If your child would like to be added to this team they should let their music teacher know or you can email enquiries@oldfieldschool.com to let me know to add them.

Mrs Robinson
Head of Music

Year 7 Concert

While we can't hold concerts in school the Year 7s have been working hard on their performance skills in music and have put together a wonderful Year 7 welcome concert. You can find this concert here;

www.oldfieldschool.com/school-information/faculties/performing-arts/music/

We asked our Year 7s to participate in an online version of what would have been our normal showcase of talent. We are really impressed with their efforts to continue to make music during this difficult time and I am very proud of our Year 7 musicians.

Watch out for more Year 7 performances in our virtual Christmas concert!

Well done to all those involved.

Mrs Robinson,
Head of Music

PSHE

Its been a busy few weeks in both our PSHE lessons and tutorials. In both, we have started new topics and are looking to future events such as Anti Bullying Week on 16th- 20th November.

Last term we began the process of relaunching our Equalities Team at school. We asked all students to come up with a new name for the group as well as to design a new logo. Ms Sackett and myself have been really impressed with the fantastic designs. We will share the 'winning' design as well as some of the others in our next newsletter. We were also overwhelmed with the response of students to join in the different teams that we will focus on within the school. We are working out the logistics of meetings and will be in touch with those who have emailed us when we have a firm plan of action. There is however still time for you to get involved so please email me s.macnaughton@oldfieldschool.com if you would like to be a part of one of the teams.

Congratulations to Finley in 7B for winning the '31 Days, 31 Questions' competition; the quiz questions based on our Black History Month icons around the school. He got 30 questions correct and has won an amazon voucher so he can choose a prize of his choice.



Sixth Form Information Evening

This year's Sixth Form Information Evening took place earlier this week. This was the first time we have run an online event of this nature and we had an impressive turn out of students and parents signing up to view the presentations on subjects and hear from Head of Sixth Form, Mr Nash. If you missed the evening, but would like to hear about the subjects, the recordings of all of the presentations will be available shortly on the website.

If you have not received your copy of the Sixth Form Prospectus, please get in touch, or you can download a pdf from the website; www.oldfieldschool.com/sixth-form/prospectus/

You can also view a short video introduction to Oldfield Sixth Form, by the Head Students and Deputy Head students and take a virtual tour of Penn House. www.oldfieldschool.com/sixth-form/

You can access the application form online here;

www.oldfieldschool.com/sixth-form/how-to-apply/sixth-form-application-form/

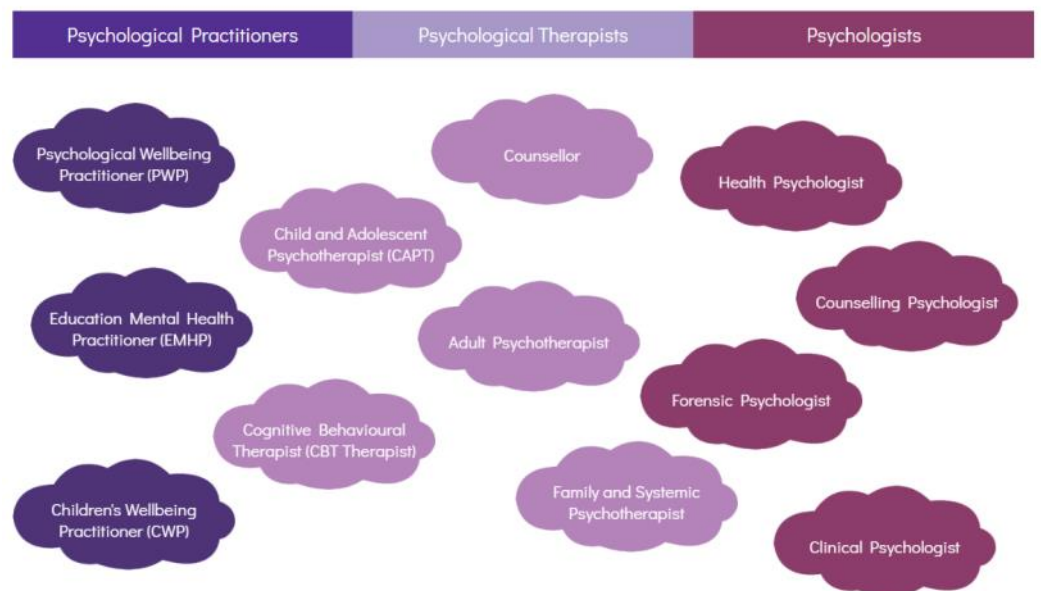
Deadline for Sixth Form applications is **Friday 18th December 2020**, the last school day of Term 2.

If you have any questions about the Sixth Form, or would like to find out more about specific courses available, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Nash; g.nash@oldfieldschool.com

Psychology Careers Talk

Last week our Sixth Form had the opportunity to hear from the Psychological Professions Network. They delivered an online presentation which gave students an introduction to the careers that are available within psychology. They showed us a really useful 'career map' which provided information about the entry requirements, training routes and salaries for different psychology careers. There was also top tips given for getting into psychology careers and a Q&A to finish. This was particularly useful for our Year 13s applying to Psychology courses at University at the moment.

Miss Sancto
Psychology Teacher



Psychology Professions Network Careers Map

FROM OUR COMMUNITY



**THE WESTON WELCOME CAFÉ AND FOOD CLUB
ARE REMAINING OPEN FOR FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUALS
DURING NOVEMBER**

**THE CAFÉ IS SERVING TAKEAWAY MEALS
(No charge, but donations are welcome)**

**THE FOOD CLUB IS OPEN AS NORMAL
(Pay £3 per family, and do your food shopping)**

EVERY MONDAY 12 NOON TO 2.00PM

WESTON HUB, PENN HILL ROAD, WESTON

NEXT TO THE REAR ENTRANCE OF THE RUH
