

Important Dates;

10 Feb
 OSA Meeting, 7pm
08 Feb
 WEEK 1
12 Feb
 END OF TERM 3
22 Feb
 START OF TERM 4
 WEEK 2
25 Feb
 Year 9 Parents' Evening
01 Mar
 WEEK 1
05 Mar
 INSET DAY
08 Mar
 WEEK 2
11 Mar
 Year 13 Parents'
 Evening
15 Mar
 WEEK 1
 Science Week
22 Mar
 WEEK 2
29 Mar
 WEEK 1
01 Apr
 END OF TERM 4

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to start my piece for this newsletter, by thanking you for your support this term and your efforts in supporting your children in their home learning. I would also like to thank all those parents who have written to me to pass on their appreciation of the work that staff at the school are doing to support home learning; these are very much appreciated and welcomed by staff.

We have reorganised the parent area of the school website so that the home learning information is easier to find and is more accessible. This area also includes advice and signposting on mental health and wellbeing; which I am sure you will find useful. We are continuing to develop and improve online learning as we get more experience in this way of teaching. It has been a steep learning curve for both staff and students to grasp the technology required and the different ways of learning (as my Year 11 students will testify!). However, the decision to follow the in-school timetable in full with live lessons has, I believe, been the correct one. This has brought structure to the remote learning school day for students and staff and has ensured that we are much better informed about your children's engagement with their home learning and we are better equipped to respond to any problems that they are having. I appreciate that for some students this has been very demanding and difficult at times and I am very aware of the amount of screen time involved. There are a number of breaks between lessons during the day and I would strongly recommend that these are used to take a break from screen activity and to do something active.

We have been joined this term by students from Bath Spa University undertaking their second placement in their teacher training course. They will be delivering some live lessons during lockdown and then teaching face to face lessons as and when we fully reopen; which will explain why an unfamiliar face may appear on screen for some lessons.

I hope that you take the opportunity to read through this newsletter, I particularly enjoyed reading about how staff are keeping themselves fit and I will be having a go at the 'Name

That teacher' crossword over the weekend. For my part I am planning to get out on a bike during the holiday, although my local trails currently resemble a swamp so I am anticipating that it will be heavy going at times.

You know that I am reluctant to speculate about when we will be able to extend school opening to whole cohorts of our students, but I am hopeful that we will see this happening from 8th March onwards and that the next newsletter will be able to update you on the in-school experiences of our students.

Attached to this newsletter you will also find a revised term dates calendar for 2021/22, as there has been an amendment to the last one; the INSET day towards the end of September will be 23rd September and not 24th as originally sent out.

I wish you a restful half term break.

Best wishes and stay safe.

Steven Mackay, Headteacher

Contact Details

t. 01225 423582

e. enquiries@oldfieldschool.com

w. oldfieldschool.com

 @OldfieldSchool

 Oldfield_school


Date for your diary

Please join us for our next meeting on Wednesday 10th February at 7pm, online zoom meeting. Please email osa@oldfieldschool.com if you would like to get involved.

NOTICE BOARD

Calling all Year 9s!

We want to know what you have been up to during lockdown 3.0!

Tell us about something interesting you may have done, something you have made, perhaps a new pet.....anything really. If you have a picture to go with the story....even better.

Your nugget of news might be shared in the next assembly. 😊

Miss Bird, Head of Year 9

School Nursing Service delivery during lockdown

With the news of school moving to remote learning, we would like to assure you that the school nurse service is very much 'open'. Although students will not be able to access us in the normal way, they will still have access to the school nurse service in several ways:

- Contact someone at school and ask them to refer you.
- Contact the school nurse via texting CHAT health 07507334357 this can either be confidentially, or if you want to follow up from your school nurse please inform us which school you are at and that you want an appointment and this will be forwarded to the appropriate school nurse.
- Or contact the generic number: 01225 831666 or e-mail BATHNES.schoolnursing@virgincare.co.uk

If as a parent, you would like to discuss any issues with the school nurse please contact us on the generic number or e-mail as above.

It is very important that young people continue to access health support in this time, so please don't hesitate to contact the team as required.

School Nurse Team

OLDFIELD SCHOOL

LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH

Our school is pleased to announce a competition for young people to design a logo that will be used to promote LGBT+ History Month 2022.

We have teamed up with B&NES Council to create a promotional logo.

This logo will be used in the local area.

So, get your imaginative ideas flowing by designing a logo that:

- Helps promote the message of LGBT+ equality
- Is memorable
- Refers to our local area, Bath & North East Somerset
- Will stand out when used small or large.

You can draw your designs or create them using Photoshop. This competition is open to all young people under 18. You can enter as many times as you wish.

Designs should be sent to Mr Pearce by 28th February.

E: j.pearce@oldfieldschool.com
With your name, age, and tutor group.

The show must go on!

Whilst our theatres are in lockdown there are still plenty of opportunities for students to engage with local and national theatres;

- Bristol Old Vic have filmed a virtual backstage tour of the theatre which our students can access on this link: <https://vimeo.com/bristololdvic/take-a-tour> and enter the password **tourbov2020**. This film offers a great opportunity to see what happens backstage at the theatre and learn about careers in theatre.
- If you want to watch live theatre there are a number of productions which students can access from home following this link, www.Dramaonlineibrary.Com/series/national-theatre-collection-iid-190464 username: 8Cb'9Vz' password: 1Sp(3Nt). This is our very own school login and is for our staff, students and their families.
- During lockdown, follow [Oldfielddrama](https://www.instagram.com/oldfielddrama) on Instagram to find out about online opportunities, courses and productions during lockdown.

Miss Bloomfield, Head of Drama

NOTICE BOARD

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

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.

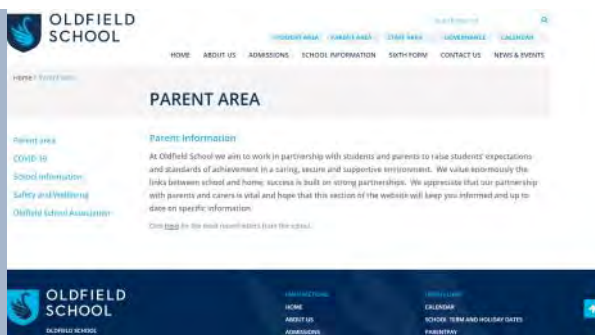
Furthermore, parents should not pull into the main school carpark to drop off students, this blocks the area for teachers and staff trying to get to work.

What's on the website

Several areas of our website have been updated and rearranged to make it easier to access the information you may need. Have a look at these pages for specific information;

- **Parent letters** www.oldfieldschool.com/parent-area/covid-19/letters-to-parents/ - the latest letters from school regarding the pandemic and school life.
- **Remote learning** www.oldfieldschool.com/parent-area/covid-19/remote-learning/ - you will find information that describes the arrangements for remote learning that will be in place under different circumstances. There are also documents describing how students will receive feedback and what will happen in place of homework, as well as a student guide to using the Oldfield SharePoint site.
- **Pastoral Information** www.oldfieldschool.com/parent-area/covid-19/pastoral-information/ - we have updated this page with information on relevant local authorities and how to access support for your child.
- **Student area** www.oldfieldschool.com/student-area/ - this section has lots of useful information for students on accessing their online work and support if they need it.

The “search” option on the website, located at the top of each page, is also a very handy tool if you are having trouble finding a specific item.



Together For A Better Internet

With an increase in all our social media and internet usage during lockdown it is really important that we know what our children are accessing on the internet and understand how we can help them to keep safe online. As we know,

keeping connected is important but doing so safely and positively is also key for our mental health.

This term, our PSHE lessons have focused on cyberbullying and the effects that on-line abuse can have on our mental and physical health. Whilst students can see the benefits of social media, they are also well aware of the impact negative interactions can have on them, so knowing where to get help and report any problems is key.

The global 'Safer Internet Day' is focusing on 'Together For A Better Internet'. The day is about helping our students tell fact from fiction and looking at ways we can all work together to create an internet they can trust. You can use the following link to visit the website for advice. There are top tips for parents and carers as well as students.

www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021

Question the source

Fact or opinion

Is it too good to be true?

Check with your friends

Talk It Through

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING AREAS — HUMANITIES

The Humanities Learning Area comprises the Geography, History, Religious Studies, Sociology, Psychology and Child Development subject areas. Together we want to enable young people to understand and critically interpret the world they live in. Across the different subjects we strive to equip students with the necessary skills and attributes to be effective and responsible citizens, in both a community and global context.

The Humanities are delivered by a group of talented and dedicated teachers. Geography is taught to all years and is delivered by a team of five specialists; Mr Fox, Mr Santarpino, Mrs James and myself, Mr Peacock. This year we have been joined by Ms Davies who is also Head of Year 7. History is also taught to all year groups and is led by Mr Allen. The rest of the History team are; Ms Battell, Mrs Mills, Miss Houghton, Mr Mackay and Mr Russell, who are all History specialists with a diverse range of areas of expertise. We have a new Head of Religious Studies (now known as RPE- more below); Ms Pamby and this subject is also taught by Ms Bird, who is Head of Year 9. Social Sciences is led by Mr Fenwick and includes Psychology which is taught at A level and Sociology which is taught at both GCSE and A level. Ms Sancto teaches GCSE Sociology and A level Psychology and Ms Lobbett teaches A level Psychology. The Social Sciences department also includes Child Development and Health and Social Care which is taught by Mrs Clark and is delivered at GCSE and A level.

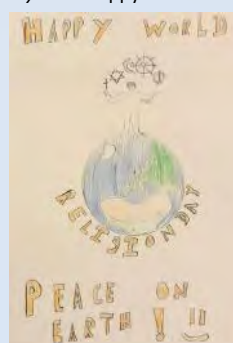
Ms Pamby has some exciting news about Religious Studies- starting with the name;

We are really excited to introduce a slight name change in RS. We are now the department of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE for short). We think the new name really celebrates our multidisciplinary subject and curriculum. Our curriculum at Oldfield intends to have students building a religious literacy as well as gaining a broad understanding of different world views (including non-religious). The curriculum also allows students to taste the world of philosophical and ethical studies, allowing them time to engage with some of the greatest thinkers of our time, from St Thomas Aquinas to Immanuel Kant, (even in Year 7). The aspirational course of study allows students to build not only the knowledge, but also the critical skills that enable them to access the study of theology, philosophy and the social sciences and we are so excited to be discussing and debating some of those impossibly difficult philosophical questions such as 'was religion formed in the human mind?' to 'do we need a rule of law in society?' with our students!

We have also been celebrating World Religion Day which took place on 17th January 2021. During this week Muslims, Christians, Hindus, Jewish people and many others arrange joint events to learn about each other's religions and world views. Miss Bird ran a fantastic 'virtual' competition to celebrate the occasion, the challenge was to create a design that promotes world peace and the day itself. We have had many wonderful entries and we would like to congratulate three of our best entries (pictured here).



Finley Hill - Happy World Religion Day



Hudson Gelderblom - Faith Collective

These are testing times for all staff and we have had to adapt what we teach to the restrictions that are in place. The team who deliver Humanities all have a deep knowledge and passion for their subject and a broad range of teaching experience. We believe that each of the subjects enrich the lives of individual learners and help develop the capacity to critically reflect upon and question our complex, shifting world. Please do engage with your child's studies: ask them about what they are studying and get them discussing and justifying the issues and topics. I'd be delighted to hear from you if you have any ideas or feedback for us.

Mr Peacock, Leader of Learning: Humanities

History Play

The History Department is doing its best to adapt to the peculiar situation facing us at the moment. The core curriculum for Key Stage 3 remains unchanged: Year 7 are studying the Norman Conquest and medieval queens, Year 8 are looking at how transatlantic slavery impacted Bath, Barbados and West Africa and Year 9 are trying to understand the reality behind the 'American Dream' in the 1920s. Optional extension projects allow the students to draw links between these topics and the wider world.

Our exam classes are also carrying on as normal, with Year 10 learning about migration and the British Empire, Year 11 concluding their depth study on Nazi Germany and students in the Sixth Form continuing to delve into the worlds of Tudor England and Soviet Russia.

We are happy to be able to provide a full timetable of lessons and we are still finding out new ways to exploit the technology we have available. In a recent lesson with Year 7 Mr Allen was able to recreate the Battle of Hastings using Playmobil and a visualiser, which certainly kept him happy for 45 minutes.



Mr Allen, Head of History

Year 7 Science

Year 7 have produced some amazing pieces of work on the rock cycle. Including some very creative applications to the rocks used in Minecraft. Even during lockdown, the students are able to continue to build on their practical skills. Here is a piece of work from Ella Steel 7S, applying practical work to the concept of the greenhouse effect.

*Mrs Cornelius,
Head of Science*

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Monday 1st February 2021

Retrieval practice

- Nitrogen takes up 78% of today's earth's atmosphere
- Trees and plants are planted, and dissolving in the oceans
- Crust and upper mantle, lithosphere
- Weathering and erosion, how rocks on mountains end up at the bottom of oceans
- Weight and gravity levels differ, mass
- Less friction, benefits of streamlining

Quiz

- 1 Carbon dioxide
- 2 Oxygen
- 3 Oxygen
- 4 Nitrogen
- 5 Carbon dioxide

Investigating how carbon dioxide affects temperature change

Control: volume of water
Dependant variable: temperature
Independant: Alka-Seltzer

Flexible Oldfield?

On 27th January the Oldfield School Community benefited from a yoga session delivered by Alexandra Mackenzie who is the parent of a student at Oldfield School and works as a yoga instructor in her studio, YogaKave in Bath.

There was a good turn out of students, parents and staff who were able to take advantage of the health and wellbeing benefits of yoga. I personally found it challenging, relaxing and it enabled me to stretch out my body which was very welcome with the amount of time sat at a computer screen recently. I would like to thank Alexandra for giving up her time, and if you enjoyed the session and want to do more yoga virtually (and in person soon, hopefully) then don't hesitate to make contact with Alexandra through her website www.yogakave.com. We are hopeful of organising some more sessions to be delivered in the same way soon and hope you will get involved.

Mr Driver, Head of PE



Modern Foreign Languages work

Language students have embraced a host of interactive sites to enhance their online lessons.

The collage features several educational tools: Blooket Gold Quest, Wordwall with a list of adjectives (selfish, nice, unpleasant, chatty, hard-working, generous, naughty, lazy, strict, difficult, jealous, funny, annoying, kind), Kahoot! on a smartphone, Mentimeter on a tablet, Learning Apps.org, and Quizlet on a laptop.



**OLDFIELD
SCHOOL**
SIXTH FORM

Science Olympics!

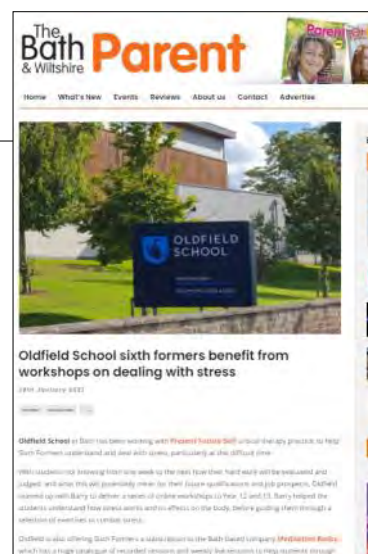
Sixth form chemists took part in the annual Chemistry Olympiad. It is an international competition which tests the students' chemistry application skills. We are looking forward to seeing how our students performed and if they get into the next round.



Magazine article

We were pleased to be featured in The Bath & Wiltshire Parent Magazine recently, covering our Sixth Form workshop on dealing with stress. The whole article can be found here;

thebathandwiltshireparent.co.uk/2021/01/oldfield-school-sixth-formers-benefit-from-workshops-on-dealing-with-stress/



Sixth Form applications still open

Firstly, many thanks to all students who have already applied to Oldfield Sixth Form, we will be in touch shortly regarding arrangements for consultations.

We appreciate that these are very uncertain times for Year 11 students and have therefore decided to keep our applications open for the foreseeable future. If your son/daughter has not yet applied for Sixth Form, but wishes to do so, they can fill in the online application form here: www.oldfieldschool.com/sixth-form/how-to-apply/sixth-form-application-form/

We cannot, unfortunately, guarantee first choices for these later applications, however in previous years only 5 out of 160 applications were unable to take their first choice subjects and we will endeavour to ensure students get to do suitable subjects. We would still strongly encourage you to apply if you are unsure of your future options at this point.

Mr G Nash, Head of Sixth Form

Technology

As a practical subject, COVID-19 has given us lots of obstacles to overcome. As usual the students at Oldfield school have risen to the challenge and have been working hard in school during Terms 1 and 2 and at home during Term 3 to develop their skills and knowledge.



Our Year 12 Product Design students have been working hard on a project that combines architecture and sustainability to design and make housing out of shipping containers for the abandoned Rio 2016 Olympics site.

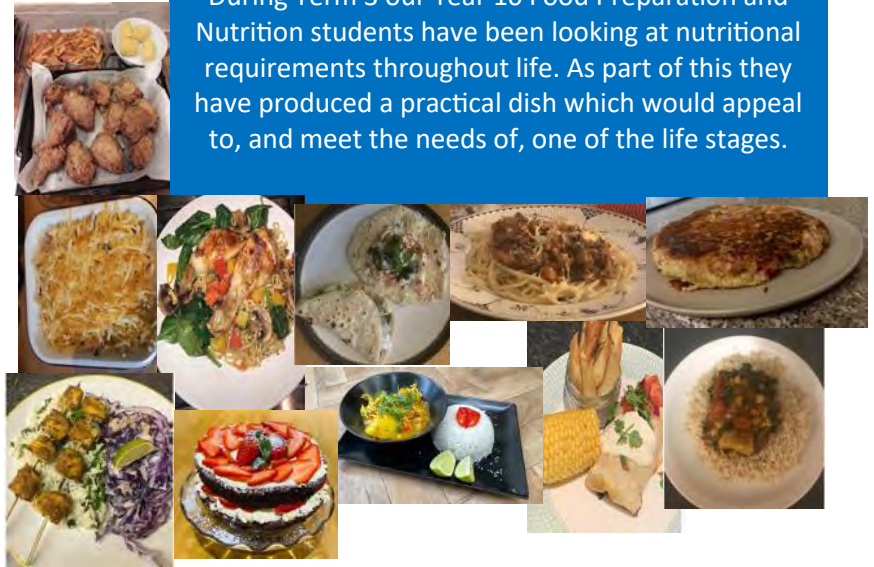


Our Year 12 Textiles students have been developing their knowledge of different designers. They have developed a variety of skills, through researching techniques used by the designers, in their sketch books.

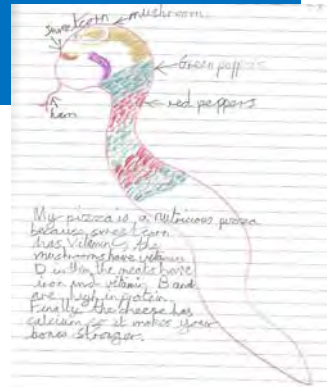
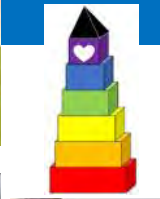


Our Year 10 Textiles students have been using CAD to mockup their fashion designs.

During Term 3 our Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition students have been looking at nutritional requirements throughout life. As part of this they have produced a practical dish which would appeal to, and meet the needs of, one of the life stages.



KS3 have been taking part in a variety of design and make challenges including marble runs, architecture towers and making sustainable products.



HOUSE COMPETITION

Do you know which teacher you might find in the garden with a spade or fork or who is a 'top gem'? That's what we've asked the students in our latest house competition. A crossword has been created using the surnames of members of staff. There are prizes on offer for the first student in each house to complete the crossword correctly. Keep your entries coming in! Every student who enters receives a house point and will go into a draw to win an Easter egg in Term 4.

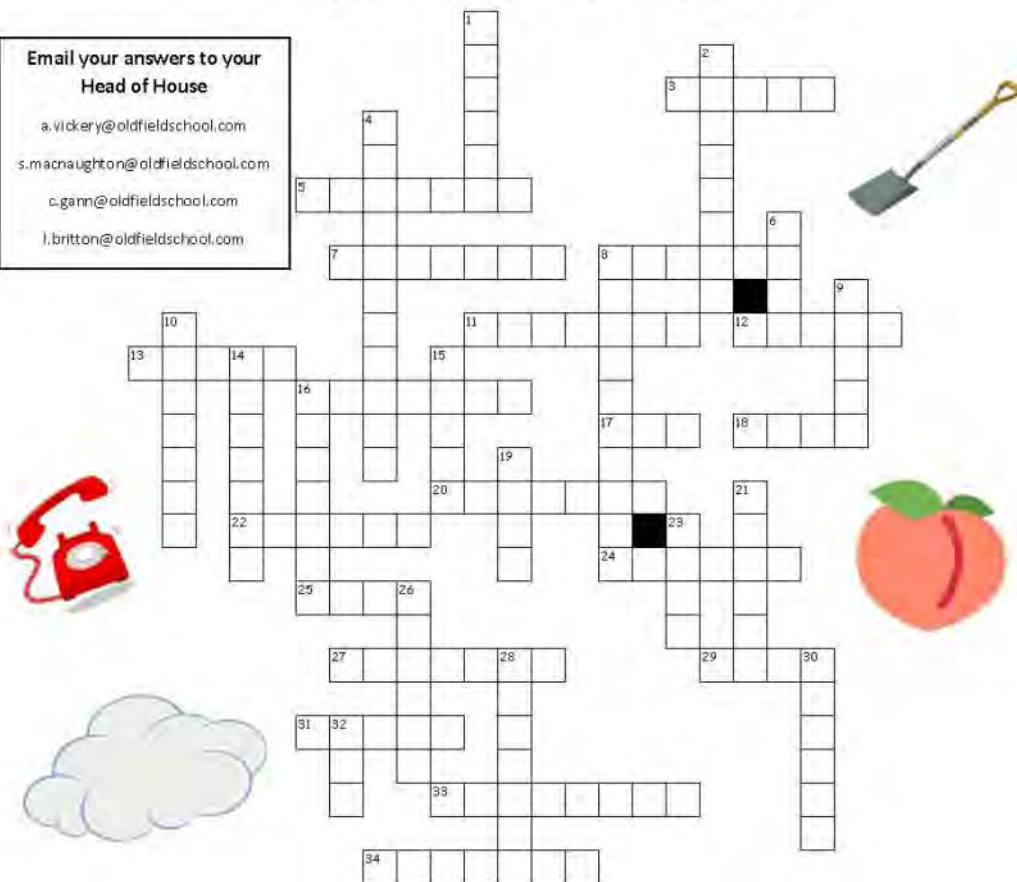
Keep your eyes peeled for more quizzes and challenges coming soon. Every time a student takes part, their name goes into the draw for Easter goodies next term so the more competitions you get involved in, the higher your chances of winning. Good luck!

Miss Vickery, Head of Apollo House, Mr Gann, Head of Maia House, Mrs Macnaughton, Head of Minerva House, Mrs Britton, Head of Neptune House

Name That Teacher

Email your answers to your Head of House

a.vickery@oldfieldschool.com
 s.macnaughton@oldfieldschool.com
 c.gann@oldfieldschool.com
 j.britton@oldfieldschool.com



Across

3. Always found with Ivy
5. Can usually be found in church
7. Don't give this teacher grief
8. Usually down by the stream
11. Top gem
12. Can be found getting their feet measured
13. The King with 6 wives
16. This teacher can be found at war
17. Is this teacher as sly as his name suggests?
18. Can be found hanging around with Matthew, Mark & Luke
20. Hopefully they're not at the barber shop
22. Don't be fooled by the name; one of the taller members of staff
24. Usually find this person in a car
25. Dennis can't be far from this teacher
27. In the garden with a spade & fork
29. Up in the clouds
31. Did this teacher discover a peach?
33. In PE lessons you learn both batting and '.....' skills
34. '.....' we have a problem!

Down

1. Don't leave things lying around, they might be swept away
2. This famous Crusoe was the narrator of a shipwreck novel
4. This Scottish teacher isn't always the best behaved
6. You can always give this teacher a ring
8. Large, open space full of blossoming flowers
9. Hope this teacher isn't envious
10. Usually found showing off their fabulous plumage
14. Teacher or dog?
15. Collect some water with this teacher
16. Island made up of England, Scotland & Wales
19. Is this teacher in the river?
21. Can be found spending their pennies
23. Unlike their name, this teacher doesn't get in a flap
26. Can be found jumping through rings
28. Casually throwing things around
30. Can be found outside of nightclubs
32. This teacher loves to chop wood

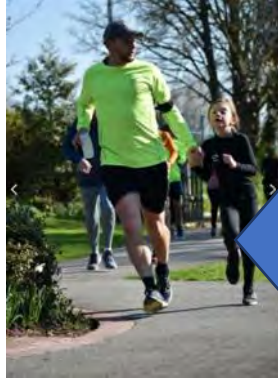
How staff are keeping active we hope you are staying active too—why not try some of the activities below.



Mr Brooke still braving the cold on his bike and also taking the opportunity to advertise Mapei, for all your tile adhesive and grouting needs.



Mr Burford was running 2 miles a day throughout January! He thinks his trainers were originally yellow .

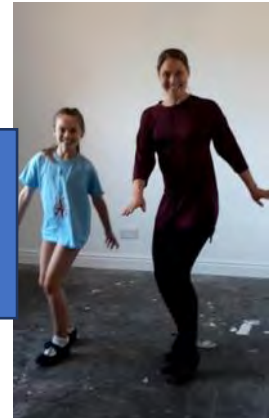


Mr Dorman, missing the park runs but still getting out for regular exercise.



Mrs Macnaughton is delivering Jazzercise remotely from home, this is her, post workout!

Mrs Smith has been taking advantage of a carpet replacement at home and has been using the room to practice some Tap with her daughter.



Mr Driver doing the Oldfield Community Yoga session led by Alexandra Mackenzie with his daughter, realizing how lacking in flexibility he is!



Mr John loves a weights session and lockdown 3 isn't going to stop him. When you are back in school you will have to ask him how much he can bench.



Miss Hooper is always desperate to get on her bike and grabs every opportunity to do so. If she isn't cycling she is running or doing home workouts!



Mr Gann can't live without exercise, pictured on the only day of sunshine in January but he has been running in all weathers.

Mrs Ziegler is still running, walking, attending yoga and strength training classes but is missing going climbing and getting out in the mountains.



Mrs Bell is keeping fit by doing lots of core activities and whole body workouts at home while also enjoying the fresh air and scenery in the garden.



When the students aren't in school the dancers just have to express themselves through their own dances wherever possible, as shown in the Sportshall foyer by Miss Vickery and Mrs Macnaughton.



PROPER NUTRITION



TRANQUILITY

PSHE Newsletter

Many of the topics we covered in the previous lockdown are worth revisiting in this new lockdown. For most of us, self-isolation has disrupted our daily routines. Below are some top tips on how we can help ourselves and our families during this lockdown as well as providing other websites that you can visit for advice on keeping your family happy and safe in these very strange times.



OUTDOOR ACTIVITY



MUSIC

Stay Active

Staying active keeps us physically and mentally healthy. Exercise in its many different forms will stimulate the body as well as the mind so when you are at home choose something that suits you. We are all so different. The PE and Dance department have put together a list of activities for students to try during their timetabled lessons (this is attached to Show My Homework). Walking is a wonderful way to keep fit and active during lockdown (as long as lockdown rules are adhered to). There are many local instructors who are continuing to run their classes on-line. If you used to attend classes before lockdown you do not necessarily have to miss your regular classes.



CONTEMPLATION



HEALTHY SLEEP



FITNESS



LOVE

Hygiene Happy!

Did you know that having good personal hygiene can make us happier and more confident? Keeping up those healthy habits is so important. The routine of washing, brushing teeth and putting on fresh underwear is really important. Again, its all about routine, and keeping healthy routines will help families during this lockdown.

Keeping Connected

It is so important for our mental health to try and stay connected with others during lockdown. Keeping conversations, texts and messages positive is also just as important and this is a theme that will be explored in our PSHE lessons this term. Sometimes, however, we can get lost behind texts and other messaging services. Humans like to see faces and have conversations. It can really lift our mood. With virtual learning now in place students get to see their teachers and classmates (if they turn their cameras on) and this has been a huge benefit to many. Being aware of new apps on phones and tablets is a great way to make sure that interactions are fun, safe and age appropriate. Check out www.internetmatters.org for information relating to support and practical tips to help children benefit from connected technology and the internet safely and smartly. **Connection isn't all about social media** What happens if once a week we plan to connect with our families in a different way. It could be a conversation with a relative we haven't seen for a while or cooking as a family, put on a favourite song to dance around to, go for a walk or play a game that hasn't been bought out of the cupboard for ages!

Mindfulness

It can be easy to rush through life without stopping to notice much. Paying more attention to the present moment – to your own thoughts and feelings, and to the world around you – can improve your mental wellbeing. Some people call this awareness "mindfulness". Mindfulness can help us enjoy life more and understand ourselves better. You can take steps to develop it in your own life. An explanation of mindfulness for students; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTsUEOUaWpY> A mini meditation (1 minute meditation from Headspace to help with stress); <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1Ndym-lsQg>

The Sleep Factor

Having spoken to many of our students in their PSHE lessons, it is clear that students are tired! With such an interactive day in Teams lessons and then continuing to use social media and the internet in their downtime, many students are finding it more and more difficult to rest and fall asleep. All of our routines are so different, but remember **Sleep is our Superpower!**

5 top tips to establish a good bedtime routine

- Avoid watching the news before bedtime.
- Create a routine for yourself and stick to it.
- Try to go to sleep and wake up at the same time.
- Have a relaxing bath or shower.
- Make sure gaming, phone use and searching the web are stopped a few hours before bedtime. It will help your mind to switch off and power down.

Other useful websites;
www.mind.org.uk
www.kooth.com
www.childline.org.uk
www.youngminds.org.uk

FROM OUR COMMUNITY

A new website for young people, by young people

Young people from the Youth Forum B&NES have created a fun new website full of activities for young people to do! After experiencing lockdown, they wanted to help other young people learn and try new things to support their wellbeing. They have created this website to break down the barriers to accessing activities. Young people can browse activities, create a bucket list and let us know their activity suggestions.

[Youth Activities | Activisite \(wixsite.com\)](https://www.wixsite.com/youthactivities)



support phonenumber
for young people aged 10-25

01225 312 481

3pm - 7.30pm Mon - Fri
9am - 7.30pm Sat - Sun

Immediate, free support offered by
Off The Record B&NES



Online babysitting course

For those students who are looking to gain experience for a potential career in the early years, we have developed an online course to provide an introduction to babysitting. It will be beneficial to those who would like to develop their understanding of caring for children.

[Register for course](#)



VIRTUAL

**APPRENTICESHIP
EVENT 2021**

SAVE THE DATE

**3RD MARCH
- 2-5PM -**

www.bathcollege.ac.uk/apprenticeships

