

Chipping Sodbury School

Newsletter



Forthcoming Dates

November

13th Inset day
16th Cotswold Edge open evening
16th Y9 Immunisations
27th Y11 Mock exams start

December

6th Christmas Concert, St.John's
7th Parents' Evening 2
13th Awards Evening, Town Hall
15th End of Term 2

I trust everyone had a good half term break and is suitably refreshed for term 2. We had much to celebrate last term with great success from our Greenpower team, many sporting achievements and a fantastic 6th Form visit to New York. Many students continue to consistently access our homework support session in the library with Miss Stiddard at the end of the school day. She is impressed by a strong commitment to work and desire to succeed.

I have been meeting several Year 7 students to gain feedback regarding their experiences as they have moved from primary school to secondary school. This is very useful information to help us make that transition point as smooth and as successful as possible. I am very grateful to those students with whom I have spoken who have been so clear; this will help us further plan for forthcoming year groups.

We are currently in the process of inputting our first Review data and you will receive a copy later this term. Term 2 is always a very busy few weeks for Year 11 students. We have our Cotswold Edge 6th Form Open Evening on **Thursday 16th November** at Yate Academy. I strongly recommend that students in Year 11 attend this important evening to gather information regarding their next steps. Students should be seriously considering courses or apprenticeships; don't leave it too late. In addition, mock exams start on **Monday 27th November** for GCSE courses – all Year 11 students should be starting their revision, help is available should anybody require it. It would be helpful if there is an expectation at home that there is a period of study each evening and at the weekend.

I sent a letter home via the post at the end of last term along with a copy of the Home/School Agreement. I would be grateful if you could sign and return the agreement to your son/daughter's tutor. In addition, we will be sending the data collection and annual consent forms home (via students), which again will need to be signed and returned.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Katherine Turner
Headteacher

Drop off and pick up

We have recently had some difficulties in the main bus drop off/pick up area by the front of the sports centre due to volume of traffic. Please note that cars should use parking bays and not the bus area or where there are double yellow lines. One car has recently been clipped by a bus.

It is often very busy at 3.15pm in this area of the school and we do need to keep everyone safe. You may find it more convenient to park off the school site.

Thank you for your assistance.



Rugby

The Year 7 and Year 9 teams competed extremely well in the recent rugby tournament held at Bradley Stoke School.

For the Year 7 team it was their first opportunity to test their newly learnt skills as only a minority play rugby outside of school.

They played some good rugby and finished the tournament winning two and losing two games. The boys really enjoyed themselves and conducted themselves superbly.

The Year 9 team was pooled with Abbeywood, Bradley Stoke, Brimsham and Marlwood. Once again the Year 9 team dominated the opposition; powerful tackling, quick turnover ball and agile running resulted in an impressive set of results against all of their oppositions. The team won all four of their games.

It was really encouraging to see a few boys who have not had much rugby experience, perform to such a good standard.

Mr Bowden



On 11th October 2017, 43 students and staff travelled by coach to the Lyceum Theatre, London to see 'The Lion King' musical, with music by Elton John, lyrics by Tim Rice and a musical score created by Hans Zimmer.

Disney's beloved film was a spectacular theatrical experience with glorious colours, stunning effects and enchanting music. The artistry and imaginative way the characters were brought to life was superb!

An enjoyable music trip at London's West End was had by all!

Music Department news

We have our annual Christmas concert on Wednesday 6th December at 7.30 in St John's Church. Tickets are available for £3.00 from the Music Department. Students who are taking part will be bringing home a letter in the next few days. Please could you return the reply slip to the Music Department.

In addition, fees for instrumental lessons in terms 3 / 4 are due. Please could you pay these via ParentPay by 20th November at the latest. If you would like to change instrument or start instrumental lessons please speak to Mrs Boulton or Mr Cox.

Visit from the National Youth Jazz Orchestra

On Thursday 28th September we welcomed a 6-piece band from the National Youth Jazz Orchestra who gave a concert to all of our Year 7 students, together with visiting students from St Paul's Primary School. This was an excellent opportunity for our students to hear some of the best young musicians in the country and we hope it has inspired them to develop their own musical skills.

Chipping Sodbury School's first mufti day on 19th October, was in aid of Freewheelers EVS, a charity identified by Trym House to support this academic year. This charity is a blood bike service operating in the South West, that depends entirely on donations and support of unpaid volunteers. This service delivers essential bloods and medical supplies to those that need it most. Staff and students raised £520.62 for this very worthwhile charity, THANK YOU! One of the volunteer riders, Nigel Dean, came in with one of the impressive blood bikes for students (and staff) to sit on, he also spent time talking about the invaluable job Freewheelers EVS do.



Where will the money go?

- £30 pays for life saving medication to be delivered to a patient at home.
- £80 pays for donor breast milk to be delivered to a Neonatal Intensive Care Uni.
- £250 pays for a blood bike for a whole shift and could help to save 10 lives.
- £1000 pays for blood to be delivered to the air ambulance service for one month.

Netball Matches v Brimsham – Wednesday 11th October

Year 7A – lost 10-0, player of the match was Sian Edwards
 Year 7B – lost 4-0, player of the match was Lois Kendall
 Year 8A – won 12-7, player of the match was Crystal Haas
 Year 8B – lost 10-1, player of the match was Sophie Hughes
 Year 9 – won 16-9, player of the match was Mia Williams
 U16 – lost 24-20, player of the match was Katie Pellow

Netball matches v Yate Academy – Wed 1st November

Year 7 – Won 29-1, player of the match was Remi Bragg
 Year 8 – Won 17-1, player of the match was Carys Stephenson
 Year 9 – Won 25-2, player of the match was Grace Clark
 U16 – Won 40-5, player of the match was Poppy Smith

Some great results girls – Well done!
 Miss Joyce/Miss Winter

Cricket Star

Gracie Clark plays for Coalpit Heath Cricket Club and was put forward by her coaches to attend trials for Gloucester Cricket Club – Girls Under 13 squad. Gracie attended one of three trials at the beginning of September; approx. 80 girls in total attended. Gracie has been selected into the squad and will start her training with the team in January at the County Ground.

Gracie is the first girl at her club to be selected to represent the County.

- Wear bright or fluorescent clothing in daylight or poor light.
- Wear reflective clothing at night; it shows up in vehicle headlights. Fluorescent clothing is not so visible after dark.
- Always use your lights after dark, in the rain or if the weather is overcast or reduced visibility.
- It is illegal to ride a bicycle on the road with no lights after dark. (White lights at the front and red at the rear).
- Check that all lights are in good working order.

CYCLE SAFETY



Personal Tutoring in the Sixth Form

With the new school year well underway, our team of personal tutors have begun their meeting schedule with the sixth formers. This involves regular meetings, on a one-to-one basis, in the sixth form block during tutor time.

In year 12 this means that the tutor will get an overview of each student's needs and aims and construct simple and achievable targets that will focus on moving each student in the direction they need to go. As a basis for all discussions we focus on 'VESPA': Vision, Effort, Systems, Performance and Attitude. Initially we check that the student has proper organisation systems in place and is working at an appropriate level (as, for some, the 6th Form can be something of a shock.)

The targets are reviewed and amended each meeting to ensure we are constantly driving students on to achieve their best.

In year 13 at this time of year we are gearing up for UCAS applications and checking personal statements whilst ensuring the students are going full steam ahead with their work.

Of course this tutoring is an incredibly valuable support system for all students and the more effort they put in to achieving their targets the more successful they are in school and in moving towards their aspirational goals.

A Level Results

What a brilliant bunch of A level students we had leave us this year, Results day was filled with joy and celebration and talk of university places secured, along with when apprenticeships are starting. It is always so rewarding to work with the Sixth Form students and we are always so proud of their achievements. This year they really have gone above and beyond what is required from them as students and their hard work really paid off.

Louise Barnaby has 4 A*'s (Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology) and is now busy packing to attend Cambridge University to study Natural Science. She was a really outstanding CSS student who always put the hours into her studies which she has such a great interest in. I am sure she will truly enjoy life at Cambridge.

All of the students who applied to university have their places (67% of our year 13's). We have some fantastic apprenticeships as well at Renishaws, Frampton Primary School and Audi.

This year we welcome our new year 12's and they are already stepping up to the challenges of their studies. It is going to be another brilliant year in the Sixth Form and we have lots of really exciting things, New York in October and Camps International Peru. In Year 12 James Keeping is busy fundraising for his month long expedition in the summer term.

Our first Year 12 trip of the year was on Friday 22nd September where we all attended a University and Apprenticeship Fair to get lots of ideas about their future careers and next steps.

We also had our Parent/Tutor evening on Thursday 28th September where both year 12 & 13 parents had the opportunity to meet the sixth form personal tutors.

A date for your diary is the Cotswold Edge Open Evening on Thursday 16th November. Details on the poster on the next page.



COTSWOLD EDGE SIXTH FORM



A LEVELS:
 A*-A grades **22%**
 A*-C grades **83%**
 A*-E grades **98%**
 Students going to their first or
 second University choice or
 Higher Apprenticeship
100%

OPEN EVENING

Date: Thursday 16th November **Time:** 6-8 pm

Venue: Yate Academy, Sundridge Park,
 Yate, Bristol BS37 4DX

Come along and see the wide range of level 3 and level 2 courses we offer

Amy Holden, former Chipping Sodbury Sixth Form student who is now in her third year studying for a degree in Biochemistry with Medicinal Chemistry at Keele University has successfully completed two months' summer work experience placement at a local Biochemistry company, Hello Bio. She thoroughly enjoyed her experience and we were pleased to receive extremely positive feedback from the directors: "Amy was extremely helpful and worked hard, we were happy to have her over the summer and would gladly welcome her back. She was a great Ambassador of both Keele University and Chipping Sodbury School"

Extra-Curricular clubs

Key
SH – Sports Hall
AT – Autumn Term
AY – All Years Groups

	Monday		Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday		Friday	
	Lunch	After School	Tutor Time	Lunch	After School	Tutor Time	Lunch	After School	Lunch	After School	Lunch	After School
PE (Autumn Term)	Y9 Boys use of SH 12:30-1pm			Y7 Boys use of SH 12:30-1pm	Girls Netball (AY) Boys Rugby (AY) 3:15-4:15pm		Y10 Boys use of SH 12:30-1pm	Fixture Night 3:15-4:15pm	Y8 Boys use of SH 12:30-1pm	Girls and Boys Cross Country (AY) 3:15-4:15pm	Y11 Boys use of SH 12:30-1pm	
Music	Jazz Band 12:45pm A6 (AY)		Orchestra 8:50-9:10am A6 (AY)			Choir 8:50-9:10am A6 (AY)			Ukulele 12:45pm A6 (AY)			
Youth Speaks (Debating and Public Speaking Club)					Fortnightly from 17/10 3:30-4:45pm Y8 Students Alternating venues between BGS and CSS							
Friendship Club								3:15-4:15pm The Pod				
Computer Club								3:15-4:15pm C3 (AY)				
H/W Club		3:15-4:30pm Library (AY)			3:15-4:30pm Library (AY)			3:15-4:30pm Library (AY)		3:15-4:30pm Library (AY)		3:15-4:30pm Library (AY)

Board Game Club in the library

Board game club was a great opportunity for students to make new friends and learn new skills. Students brought in their own games to share with others and there was a brilliant atmosphere within the group. We will repeat the event before the Christmas break.

"It was really fun and I got to play with people that I wouldn't normally see"
Year 8 student (Eleanor Gregg)

"It was great to meet new people and it was fun to socialise with them"
Year 7 student (Maisey Caswell)

"I really enjoyed it and it was nice to see everyone helping each other"
Year 9 student (Gabby Dyer)



New York

October 2017 marked a new phase in Chipping Sodbury Sixth Form's history, the first sixth form trip to New York City. We have done trips before to various places but they generally have been subject based. This trip was different, this trip was about resilience, broadening horizons and seeking out different cultures or ways of life. For some on our trip it was the return to a city they love and for others it was the first time out of the country. We managed to hit the important sights like Brooklyn Bridge, Central Park, The Empire State Building as well as Macy's. The feedback from the students we have had about how much more they are looking forward to travelling has been really positive, so much so we are running this trip again in 2019, so if you would be in the sixth form then maybe you could join us.

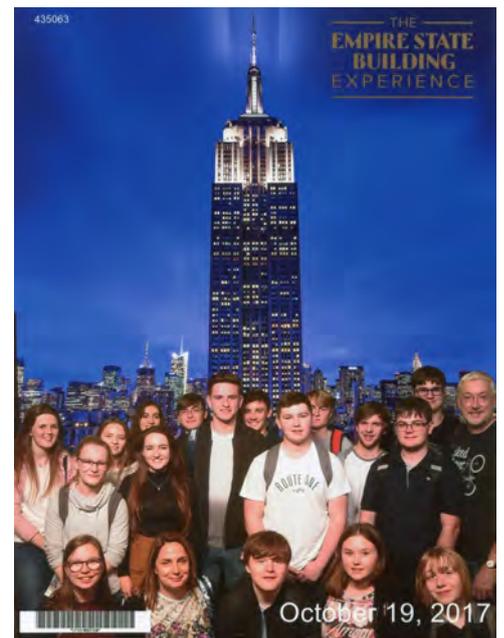
Y12 student James Keeping's report of the trip is below.



We started our trip on Wednesday morning at about 0800hrs and travelled from school to Heathrow airport. We arrived at the airport with plenty of time to spare as our flight was delayed by an hour. Flight took eight hours to arrive where we landed at JFK Airport at 1900hrs (US time). After the drive to the hotel in Brooklyn we all were given our rooms, able to unpack, recover from the flight and have a quick look around the local area.

On Thursday we awoke to have breakfast in the hotel and at 0900hrs we left to get the subway to walk over Brooklyn Bridge into Manhattan. This had the best view.

After our stroll through the area we arrived at the 9/11 Memorial to pay our respects to those who lost their lives. We then visited the new World Trade Centre before we set off to the local mall where we were able to buy and eat lunch from a huge range of food stalls. In my opinion the portions were a lot bigger than at home. After this our guide left us so, directed by Mr Blacker, we walked south to the



bottom of Manhattan Island to Battery Park and the Staten Island Ferry. The ferry ride gave us a great view of the Statue of Liberty. After we were baked in the sun on the ferry we walked into Times Square. The sight was overwhelming and the photos didn't live up to the standard of what the human eyes could take in.



After leaving Times Square in awe, we again got onto the subway where we were ahead of schedule but it was great timing for the Empire State Building. The security in the building was like being in the airport. After two elevator rides we reached the open air view point where the views were amazing. At 86 floors high we arrived just in time to see the sunset over the New York skyline. The sight was picturesque. This is when we ended the day and went back to the hotel for the evening.

On Friday we awoke for a morning walking tour in and around Central Park. We crossed the bridge used in Fantastic Beasts and the area where Friends was filmed. We walked to the Plaza Hotel and then walked down Broadway and we were able to make a



toilet stop in Trump Tower! We then strolled for a few blocks to see inside the Rockefeller Centre and the ice rink outside, then on to Grand Central Station with the whispering walls, where we had lunch.

We then walked past the MET, back into Central Park, went to the Belvedere Castle which overlooked the whole of central park and the billion dollar stretch. There were turtles in the pond. We explored the north, the Natural History Museum and the New York Public Library. Then we walked across the Highline Walkway and went back to Times Square for a while.

Saturday was our last day. We had a relaxed morning where we spent the morning shopping in Macy's department store and some people went to the Morgan's Library and Art Museum for a taste of culture. After a quick stop back at the hotel to collect our luggage, we travelled to JFK by coach for our overnight flight home.



James Keeping , Y12