

Chipping Sodbury School Newsletter



As we approach the start of exam season, there have been many exciting and enriching revision opportunities provided across the school. Many students took advantage of extra sessions during the Easter holidays to support their learning. We recently welcomed actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company who ran highly engaging workshops on Macbeth to help bring the play to life and enhance students' understanding. In addition, all Year 10 students and a number of Year 11 students participated in a live stream of the RSC production of Macbeth. This was the first time the RSC had a live link to a school and it was broadcast to over 200,000 students across the country. I was enormously impressed by and proud of our students which culminated in a question and answer session with the cast. Two Chipping Sodbury School students were selected to ask questions which were broadcast across the country (please see photograph). Thank you to Mr Lewis who organised and co-ordinated all this work.

At this point in the year, exam pressure can be overwhelming. Ensuring all our young people feel prepared, confident and in control is very important when tackling exams. The theme for assembly this week is coping with exam stress. The materials on the Mind You website -<https://sites.southglos.gov.uk/mind-you/> provide excellent guidance and I would encourage students to use these resources. In addition, all tutors can help with revision timetables, teachers are preparing students in lessons with exam techniques, Inclusion is open at lunchtime to support any student with their studies and homework club is available after school in the Library with Mrs Vallis. 6th Form tutors are supporting our post 16 students. Jo Holloway, from the school nurse team, is available every Tuesday lunchtime for a confidential meeting should any student wish to seek further help. A rigorous revision timetable, which is followed and plenty of sleep are two vital strategies when preparing for exams. I encourage any student who is feeling extreme stress to speak with his/her tutor or Head of House to seek extra support should this be required.

Over the past few weeks, our Ten Tors Team has been busy preparing for their big expedition and we have a number of students who are participating in their Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition in the near future. I wish all students the very best in these exciting and challenging events.

A number of our 6th Form students recently graduated from their Access to Bristol course. This is a prestigious opportunity to enable local students to experience life at the University of Bristol whereby they can gain special access to academic expertise and facilities. It is highly competitive and I am delighted to say 8 students from Year 12 graduated from their courses this spring – very well done!

Forthcoming Dates

May

24th Parents' Evening 5 (Y7/Y8)

June

7th Y12 HE Apprenticeship Info Evening

20th Science Fair

20th Sports Personality Awards

21st Y6 Induction Day

25th-29th Y10 Work Experience Week

25th-27th Barton Hall PGL Trip

28th-29th Duke of Edinburgh

Bronze Expedition

28th Y12 Learner Consultation

Evening (Brimsham Green School)

28th Y11 Cotswold Edge Induction

July

5th Y11 Prom

10th Parents' Evening 6 (Y9/10)



We continue to work hard on our school improvement agenda; our focus is on improving outcomes for all our students. Estimated grades for this coming summer are looking positive at this point in time for A level and GCSE entries. All staff and Governors continue to work very hard to enable students to reach their potential.

I wish to congratulate Mrs Lynch in our Maths team who has been promoted to assistant curriculum leader in the faculty. She will start this new post after the half term holidays as Mr Chapman, our new Head of Maths, joins the school. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Thorpe for all her hard work this year working together with Mrs Tomlin in their relentless focus on supporting all our students with their progress in Maths.

We will be opening our doors to prospective new students after the May holiday as we welcome Year 5 children and their parents/carers for a tour of the school. Should you wish to visit us during the working day, please contact the school to make an appointment during the weeks when we run our tours; the details are on the website.

Finally, our next Ofsted inspection is now due. If you feel able to provide feedback about our school, please do so, <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

You will be informed when we receive the call. I am grateful for the insightful comments we have gathered from students as we strive to make our school community even stronger.



Good luck to everyone who is about to sit exams, put in the effort with your revision and it will pay off.

Katherine Turner
Headteacher



School uniform

A number of students occasionally wear black jeans to school. Please could we have your help in ensuring no student wears denim to school. Jeans or denim clothing is not part of our school dress code. The majority of students do look very smart and take pride in their appearance. Thank you for your help in maintaining our standards.

Chipping Sodbury Festival Concert

We are currently busy rehearsing for our school summer concert which takes place during Chipping Sodbury Festival week on Tuesday 12th June in the Town Hall. Please can all performers return their reply slips as soon as possible to the Music Department. Tickets are available from the Music Department at a cost of £3.00 each. Come along and enjoy an evening of music and entertainment.

Mrs Boulton & Mr Cox
Music Department

Ten Tors 2018

Ten Tors training has been disrupted this year due to the snowy weather, but we've nearly made it.

We've been training around the local area, in the Mendips, in the Brecon Beacons and been down to Dartmoor twice, including a very nice wild camp at the bottom of Sourton Tor. We also spent a couple of hours orienteering around Westonbirt's Silk Wood.



In the Brecon Beacons



The crow's nest at Westonbirt



At the top of Kitty Tor

We have one more training session left walking in the Cotswolds before the Ten Tors event on the 11th to 13th May 2018.

During the event the progress of the team will be available on the Ten Tors website at www.tentors.org.uk and there will be regular updates on Facebook and Twitter.

Ms Jarvis

Ten Tors Team Manager

Follow the Chipping Sodbury School Ten Tors team on Twitter @CSSTenTors

Physical Education Extra Curricular Programme Summer term

<u>Day</u>	<u>Lunch (12.30-1.00pm)</u>	<u>After school (3.15-4.15)</u>
Monday	Year 9 Boys use of Sports hall	Staff Meetings
Tuesday	Year 7 boys use of Sports hall	Girls Rounders (All Years) KS3 Boys Cricket
Wednesday	Year 10 Boys use of the Sports hall	Fixture night KS4 Boys Cricket KS3 Badminton
Thursday	Year 8 Boys use of the Sports hall	Boys and Girls Athletics Club
Friday	Year 11 Boys use of the Sports hall	

Sixth Form News

Personal Tutoring in the Sixth Form

We strive for high attendance at CSS. For a student to reach their full educational achievement full attendance is essential. Any absence affects the pattern of a student's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. Any student's absence disrupts teaching routines so may affect the learning of others in the same class

Year 13 students are currently accepting university places, apprenticeships and are making choices for their future. The exam season is almost upon us and revision is a key part of our student's daily routine. A top tip for concentration, which can really have an impact on energy levels and focus is to keep away from junk food. Keep your body and brain well-fuelled by choosing nutritious foods that have been proven to aid concentration and memory, such as fish, nuts, seeds, yogurt and blueberries. Whilst you may think it's best to study for as many hours as possible, this can actually be counterproductive, so use your revision timetable and stick to it.

This is also a crucial time for our Year 12 students as they need to start thinking about what they want to do following 6th Form. Think how you can add value to your personal statement or C.V. and about work experiences you can complete to achieve this. Work experience can be a great way of demonstrating key skills you have gained as well as helping to really convey your interest and enthusiasm in a particular subject area. Work environment is great as it builds up transferable skills

As a personal tutor we support the application process and will guide you in the correct direction. Keep up the good work; we are very proud of you.

Ms T Cheverton
Sixth Form Tutor



FAO Year 13 Students

Did you know that as a Year 13 student you should have received a vaccination to protect yourself against meningitis and septicaemia?

Meningococcal disease is a rare but life-threatening disease caused by meningococcal bacteria. Meningococcal bacteria can cause meningitis and septicaemia and both diseases are very serious.

As a Year 13 student you should have received a meningococcal vaccination in either Year 10 or Year 11 but we know many Year 13s did not receive this. The vaccine is being offered in response to a growing increase in cases of an aggressive strain of meningococcal W. It is very important that you receive the vaccine as young adults are most at risk. This disease can cause meningitis and septicaemia that can kill in hours and those who recover may be left severely disabled. The vaccine also protects against three other meningococcal groups too – A, C and Y.

If you're not 100% sure you've had the MenACWY vaccination contact your GP surgery now to check. If you are continuing with further studies in September, make sure you get vaccinated before September. It's free and it could save your life.

For more information please talk to your parents/carers or staff at your school, or visit <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations/Pages/men-acwy-vaccine.aspx>

High quality care for all, now and for future generations

The Library

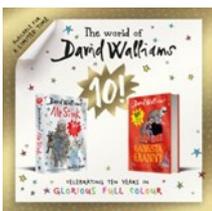
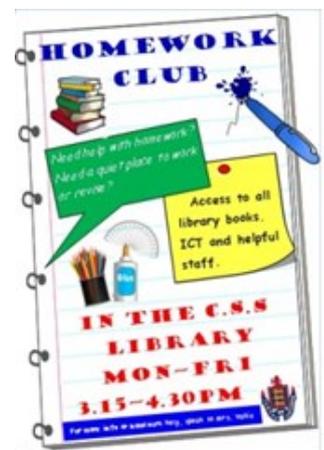
Hello everyone,

My name is Mrs Vallis and I have been given the job of HLTA here at CSS. As part of my exciting new role, my challenge is to create a “BUZZ” in the library and around the school focussing on literacy and running interventions with PP and low ability students.



So what is new? These next two terms, until 18th July 2018, all students can take part in our **Summer Reading Challenge**. As an incentive, there are four Cineworld cinema tickets (one for each house) to be won by way of prize draw. Challenge sheets can be collected from the library and on them are reading and writing related tasks to encourage and motivate students to read. So far, there are over 50 challengers working their way through the sheet. To be entered into the draw, students need to hand in their completed sheets to me or the Junior Librarians in the library.

We have lunchtime and after school clubs that are held in the library with many students attending, which is wonderful. **Art club** is popular as getting the creative juices flowing, **board game club** stops the “boredom” and encourages social interaction and our ever growing **homework club** is a great space for completing homework and revising for those important tests; all with me on hand to help.



Coming soon, at the end of June, we have **David Walliams** week and despite school trips, we are planning a wacky and weird Walliams’ themed week.

If you would like any information on any of the clubs or the library resources, please feel free to get in contact.

Mrs Vallis

Summer Reading Challenge

We have our first place winner – Maisey Caswell in SV2 has completed the Summer Reading Challenge in three weeks. 200 House Points to SEVERN!

With an amazing book cover for Harry Potter – the Hawaii Version, a book review on the Harry Potter series plus reading several of new books including Swallows and Amazons. An incredible achievement! Well done Maisey!

2nd, 3rd and 4th place still up for grabs...so tutors motivate your groups.

Challenge sheets available in the library. All challengers will be entered into a prize draw.

Mrs Vallis



Student News

Year 7 student, Jacob Bright, had an extremely busy Easter cycling 170 miles to raise money for a number of projects that help children in Albania. Cycling the Way of the Roses, which runs from Morecombe to Bridlington, Jacob bravely battled freezing temperatures, strong winds, sleet and even snowfall! The coast to coast cycling trail spans the width of the country and includes steep hill climbs in the Yorkshire dales, alongside glorious views of the Forest of Bowland AONB. Jacob and his team raised an amazing £1500 so far which will go into supporting Albanian children in various ways, including buying crafts and materials to run activities for the street kids and girls in safe houses, buying football equipment to support the football camps that Jacob's dad helps to run and allowing the children in the orphanage to go swimming – an event that they may only experience once a year! Jacob and his family will be doing further excellent work during the summer by visiting Albania and directly aiding with the community projects there.

Well done to Jacob and his family for this amazing work!

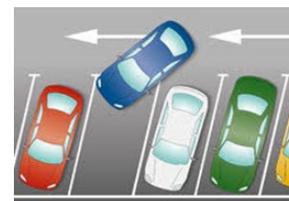
Date for your diary

Thursday 16th August - A Level Results Day

Results will be issued in the Sixth Form from 8.00am – 10.00am.



3.15pm collection: We are experiencing increasing problems at the end of the school day when many cars arrive to collect students. Please could you use the parking bays and not stop on double yellow lines or the bays for the buses? The driveway is frequently blocked preventing traffic from moving and causing a potential hazard for students. Thank you for your help.



Sixth Form News

On Wednesday 25th April the following year 12 students successfully graduated from Access to Bristol University in various subjects:

Emma Vandeleur – Politics

Shannon Stewart – Physics

Ellis O'Brien – Applied Maths and Computer Science

Holly Rallison – Archaeology and Anthropology

James Keeping – Childhood Studies, Education Studies and Psychology in Education

Nicholas Davidge – Historical Studies

Access to Bristol provides local students with an unprecedented opportunity to experience student life at the University of Bristol. This year 783 students completed the programme across 28 different subject streams. The students have attended academic taster sessions in their chosen subject area as well as learning about the transition to university and wider aspects of student life.

Year 13 student Holly Parker also graduated from the Pathways to Law scheme which is run through the Sutton Trust and supported by the Legal Foundation. She has attended a wealth of activities over the past two years including lectures, seminars, work placements in an established law firm, a residential conference and e-mentoring by current law students. Holly was one of 32 students to complete the scheme this year. The commitment Holly has put into completing Pathways to Law, whilst studying her A Levels is to be highly commended.

The Access to Bristol scheme has real benefits to the students who are successful; the university will offer this group of students a guaranteed offer from the University of Bristol at their contextual level provided the students meet the full entry requirements of the course, including admissions tests or work experience requirements. If the course holds interviews or auditions as part of the selection process, the students will be guaranteed an interview or audition.

Several of our students applied for Sutton Trust Summer Schools and I am pleased to let you know that Matthew Hellen was successful in his application to study Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy at Nottingham University.

Arno Turner is also to be congratulated on his selection for the GB Target Sprint squad. During May and June he will be competing in international competitions in Italy, Germany and Holland in preparation for the World Championship in Korea later in the year. The Sixth Form will be cheering for him in all of his events. Good luck!

Olivia Archard and Joe Rosenthal have been busy applying for apprenticeships and I am so proud to let you know that both have been successful in their interviews at Renishaw. In September Olivia will be starting on the manufacturing apprenticeship and Joe will be starting on the technical apprenticeship. Good luck to Jack Dando who has reached the final interview stage at Hanson and to Zoe Perry who is waiting to hear back from her recent apprenticeship interview.

It is that time of the year when our year 13 students are working very hard in their final weeks until their exams. The exams begin on Monday 15th May and the final exam is on Tuesday 26th June. The students have worked hard on their studies for the past two years and the Sixth Form team wish them every success with their exams. As parents, this time of the year can be very stressful; if there is anything we can do to help please do not hesitate to contact us.

Year 12 Mock Exams

Revision and preparation is taking place for the year 12 mock exams starting Monday 14th May until Friday 25th May. The mock exams will be a gauge for all subject teachers to make judgements; along with the past assessment and work completed during this year for the students' UCAS predicted grades. The students are aware of the importance of the mock exams and have been working hard getting prepared for them. Good luck and keep revising.

The importance of Sixth Form students wearing their lanyards

Cotswold Edge Sixth Form students have the real privilege of wearing their own clothes and not a uniform. For identification purposes it is essential that all students in the school community are able to identify who is who; therefore Sixth Formers are all issued with a lanyard which must be worn at all times when they are at any of the Cotswold Edge schools.

Please could parents help us by making sure the students remember their lanyard each day, we really appreciate your help and support with this.

Ms Gill Hilleard
Head of Sixth Form