



Welcome

What a lovely summary of the amazing range of things our students have been doing you have before you this week! Hopefully this is a welcome tonic to the current uncertainty we all face and a great reminder of how young people can make the most of their opportunities when they have them.

You will have received my regular updates about the current situation and I won't dwell on that here, but do keep up to date with the messages via ParentMail and the school website. Thanks for your support and understanding at this time and enjoy the newsletter! I am looking forward to being in a position to return to being this kind of school in the future.

Chris Holmwood

Headteacher

Bletchley Park Light Show Project

My name is Zara, and I took part in the Bletchley Park Light Show project. In this project, we learnt about Islamic arts and history, and designed our own floral patterns which would be projected onto the Bletchley Park Mansion in a beautiful light show, celebrating Islamic arts, history, calligraphy and mathematics. I had the opportunity to speak on the radio a couple times about the beauty of art and history, with its links to mathematics and coding within the project. This has not only helped me in aspects of my school life such as my Arts Award Gold project, but it has also helped with my confidence, as I was completely out of my comfort zone and had never done anything like this before. However, upon speaking on the radio, I found that it wasn't as scary as I had expected, and I'm glad to have been given the opportunity more than once.



Year 7 Gamelan Workshops and Concert

Our annual Indonesian Gamelan Workshops took place at the beginning of this month, taught by Peter Smith, one of the country's leading experts. On Wednesday 6 March 30 hardworking students, inspired by these sessions, demonstrated the skills they learned (teamwork, listening, memory skills, co-ordination, patience and musicality among others) performing on the beautifully carved and decorated genuine Indonesian instruments.

Here is what some of our students had to say about the experience:

Sam Wyer 7CVF It is an amazing opportunity for students to experience Indonesian music. It's unique with a hypnotic and enchanting sound.

Sophie Hamilton-Mills 7CVF The expert guided us through the workshop. I played the pot shaped instruments (bonang) and I thoroughly enjoyed the session and would definitely recommend it.

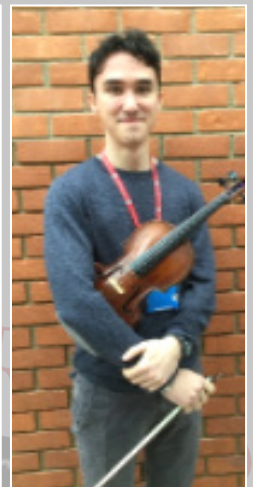
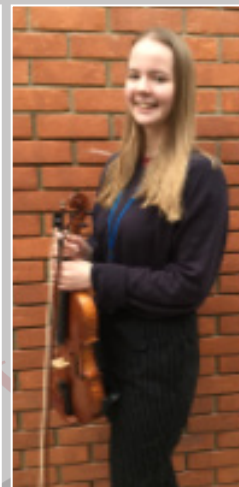
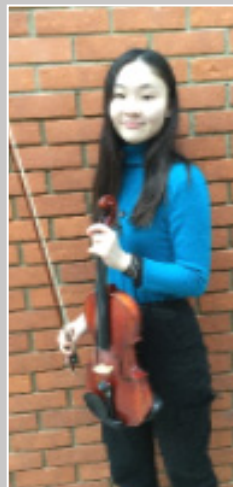
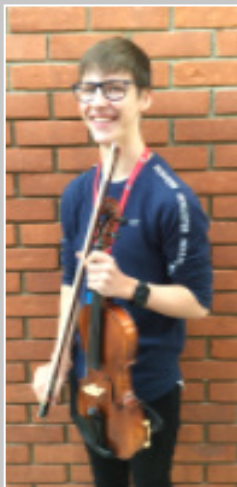
Lily Harris 7BCE We had to make sure we played in time with everyone. The people who played the gongs had the hardest job because they had to make they hit them at the perfect time.



Sixth Form Recital



Our year 12s and 13s performed their solo recital of a programme of music lasting between 6 and 12 minutes in the AS and A level mock exam.



For more information on these events and many more, please follow us on Twitter [@SBE_Music](https://twitter.com/SBE_Music)

MUSIC EVENTS DIARY

DATE/TIME	EVENT
TBC	Composition Concert
Tue 12 May	Music Residential Course Information Evening
Sun 5 - Thur 9 July	Music Residential Course
Wed 15 July	Summer Concert



World Book Day - March 2020



This year marks thirty years since the death of renowned writer Roald Dahl. To celebrate World Book Day the school was transformed into the world of Roald Dahl's imagination and filled with characters from his stories. Students across the year groups took part in a range of Dahl themed competitions including code-cracking, hunting for hidden golden tickets and a Character Quest. The overall winners of each competition were rewarded with a book bundle and Wonka bar!

Character Quest Winners – House competition

1st place - Sycamore - Farhat Mohamad 7SEK
 2nd place - Chesnut - Darcey Trowse 7CVF
 3rd place - Hawthorne - Emily Machipisa 7HLH
 Joint 4th place - Birch - Loyin Assan 7BKB
 Joint 4th place - Elm - Esther Bomisade 7ENA

Code-breaking Winner – Kaveshaan Sivarajan 7CVF

Golden Ticket Winner – Bethany Tyler 9CCF

Happy reading!

Mrs Hazell - Director of English

Yr12 Geography field trip to North Wales



On the 4th of March we travelled to Betws y Coed in the Snowdonia National Park, North Wales for our three day field trip.

With the help of Hanni from the Field Studies Council on the first day we collected secondary data on the local area using iPads and the internet...all in the comfort of the field study centre. Later that day we walked into town to collect primary evidence, which included smelly mapping (!) and conducting a questionnaire.

On day 2 we travelled to the seaside! Firstly we looked at coastal landforms, mainly a cave system, in Porthmadog before travelling to Criccieth to measure beach sediment size, investigate beach gradient and collect information on the effectiveness of the coastal management techniques. There was even time for a quick ice cream!

On the final day we walked to a local woodland to investigate the impact of different tree types on interception rates before walking to a nearby river to measure soil infiltration rates.

We had a great time, it was a fantastic way to experience geography.



Spanish Trip

Our trip to Spain in February now seems like a distant memory. In the 4 days we spent there, we met the deputy mayor of Sanlucar de Barrameda and visited the town hall and gardens. We spent time with our partner students at Juan Sebastian Elcano School and were treated to a lovely Andalusian breakfast as well as some typical singing and dancing. We also spent a day in Seville, visited the Plaza de España; the Alcazar and we also had time for some shopping. Our students were so pleasant, well-mannered and well behaved that staff at the airport; shop assistants; hotel staff and random people in the streets complimented us about them. It was truly a pleasure taking them there.

We have now started planning for next year's trip so if you are continuing with Spanish at GCSE, look out for the next years Spain trip invitations!

MFL team

MFL



The British Biology Olympiad 2020

The British Biology Olympiad is open to KS5 Biology students. This year 9520 students from 668 different schools from around the world took part. All of the students who wanted to enter the competition sat two 45 minute papers this February. The papers were demanding and challenging but hoped to give students an opportunity to expand and extend their biological talents. Student's who obtained the top scores were awarded medals or certificates. We were pleased that over half of our year 13 students achieved this, with 1 commendation, 6 highly commended and Eloise Smith gaining a Gold medal. In addition, a number of year 12 students decided to take part even though they had only completed part of the syllabus tested within the competition. One student achieved a Highly Commended certificate and three students gained Commended certificates. The remaining students all did very well, with some only missing out on a prize by a point or two and the most important thing was that they enjoyed the experience.



Dr Pichowski

Careers Spotlight!

Graphic Designer

We are delighted to place the role of Graphic Designer in the careers spotlight!

Graphic Designers create visual branding, adverts, brochures, magazines, website designs, project packaging and displays.

Students will usually be required to obtain either a HND/degree in Graphic Design or a visual arts subject. Along with these academic qualifications excellent communication skills, attention to detail, organisational and budgeting skills are also essential for success.

There are currently 524 Graphic Designers in the Milton Keynes area and it is predicted that this role will grow by 12.9% until 2024 creating an additional 95,317 jobs in the UK.

The average salary for a Graphic Designer in the South East is £28,730.

For further information regarding this career pathway and to discover more options please visit unifrog.org



PE News



A Level Sociology Conference 2020



Sociology students across three schools spent the day with Lead Examiner and Author Keith Trobe. They gained valuable skills and knowledge in preparation for their exam.

Mrs Samadi - Team Leader of Social Sciences