



BEECHEN CLIFF

Easter 2019

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Message from the Headmaster

The Easter Term has been packed, as always, filled with parents' evenings, revisions sessions and a range of visits and activity which have yet again demonstrated the diversity of the offer at the school. As I write, the members of the Grease production are attending their final rehearsals for the school production which takes place in the next week. It seems that there is never a day when something is not happening. For many, of course, this is the last full term before the public examinations begin and we are all very aware of the work that has been done by so many of our boys and Sixth form students in preparation for this important milestone in their lives. Hopefully they will feel well prepared and confident as possible to take on the challenges which await them.

The newsletter will include, as it always does, a snapshot of the activities which have taken place over the course of the term and I know that a huge number of pupils have personally benefitted from the offer provided. Whilst there has been the usual level of success for our sporting teams it has been hugely positive to see the resilience shown by those involved in the activities which have challenged pupils to deal with factors which can impede even the best laid plans.

The Outdoor Education staff at the school have given boys a huge number of opportunities to 'test their mettle' when the going seems less than easy. Their ability to show leadership, support each other and work to achieve their objectives we are credit to them – and to the staff who have provided the challenge.

Theatre visits and art gallery experiences have been interspersed with the varied opportunities which have seen another hugely successful 'Bands Night' in March and a brace of impressive Spring Concerts at St Luke's Church more recently. The talent on show has been breath taking, although the great joy is seeing the pleasure taken by those involved in performing and being applauded for their participation. Your perusal of the newsletter will hopefully give you a sense of what the school aspires to achieve for its pupils and to provide the opportunities which will leave them feeling second to no one when they move out into the world. I would like to thank you as parents for supporting these aspirations and, of course, the staff who are willing to give to so freely of their time to make life as varied and fulfilling as they can for all pupils of Beechen Cliff.

May I wish you all a very happy Easter break.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Davies', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster

Easter – Mystery & Mayhem

Easter marks the most important event on the Christian calendar. It marks the event two thousand years ago when Jesus from Nazareth was put to death by the Romans, crucified on a cross, laid in tomb and, according to those who recorded the events at the time, came back to life - he was resurrected.

Why has this strange, somewhat cranky and unlikely story endured? As a PR exercise, if you wanted to set up a new global religion (which Jesus didn't) it would not be the textbook approach! However, whether you do the God/Jesus/bible thing or not, there is an undeniable poetry about the recorded events that resonates profoundly with our humanity. At its simplest level the Easter story helps us understand how we can lead happy and fulfilled lives.

Two thousand years ago large parts of the world were ruled by the Roman Empire - the biggest military machine the world had ever seen. Resist the empire, they would hang you on a cross. Crucifixions were happening all the time. The Romans proclaimed they were bringing peace to the world by marching into your town and if you resisted they would publically execute you.

At this time, the way you achieved your ambitions in the world was through force and violence. However, Jesus, this nobody, son of a carpenter, born in a stable, who hung out with the lowest of the low, came along with the message of humility, non-violent sacrificial love, a message of love for one's enemy, who sided with the marginalised, who stuck up for the weak, the persecuted and the poor. It was a radically different way of being.

Politically, Jesus' message was a provocative and subversive alternative to the established way of the world. Jesus offered a completely new idea that the world could be made better through ways other than violent, coercive, military action.

However, where it gets really interesting is the recorded story of Jesus' resurrection – mainly because it's such a mess. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John all tell the story of the discovery of Jesus' empty tomb differently.

Mark tells of Mary Magdalene and two others discovering the empty tomb. John says it was Mary Magdalene alone. Matthew tells of a violent earthquake (not recorded elsewhere) and Luke tells of a 7 mile walk the disciples did with the risen Jesus without knowing it was Jesusthey didn't recognise him. That's odd. John tells of two angels in white sitting where Jesus' body had been. Luke says it was two men in gleaming white, Matthew says it was an angel of the Lord who had rolled back the stone and who then sat on it ... like you do. If you read the accounts back to back, there is a lot of running about, excitement and general mayhem.

But there are another couple of odd things about this story. Firstly, it is to do with the women. The gospel writers all mention the women – it is the women who first declare "He's alive". Although the bible is full of strong, fearless women full of character, in the first century women did not have much respect in the way they have now – their word at that time meant next to nothing. So why would you tell a story that hinged on the witness statements of first century women?

The second odd thing is that Matthew mentioned that Jesus met up with his followers on a mountain top but some of them doubted it was Jesus. They doubted? Why would Matthew include this? If the point of your book is that Jesus is the Messiah, the King, the saviour of the world, the one everyone has been waiting for – why would you reach the crescendo of the story and include a line about some of his followers doubting – doesn't that ruin the moment? Doesn't that undermine everything being said in the story.

The four accounts of Jesus' resurrection contain a number of jumbled details. Some say the lack consistency is not important because this is God's word that we take it in faith and shouldn't question it. Others take it as proof of its susceptibility – it's all myth, fable, make-believe borrowed from the tales of the day.

If something extraordinary did happen, if someone did actually rise from the dead, how would the story be told? Maybe the slightly haphazard accounts reflects the buzz and electricity that comes from witnessing something so unexpected and extraordinary? Is this a reason to dismiss it? Or does it signal an authentic record of how different people experienced and remembered what they witnessed?

We are never going to establish scientifically if Jesus' resurrection was an actual bodily resurrection. I'm not sure trying would be a good use of energy.

Whatever you think – and it might be that due to the failure of the established Christian religions you feel pretty hostile towards the whole thing – I ask you to open yourself up to the sheer humanity of the Jesus story. Understand that these accounts of Jesus' life, death and resurrection were written by real people, in real times, with different sets of traditions, social challenges, influences and contexts. If you understand why people wrote these accounts and recognise the humanity of them - you might then discover their true power. Through them you might discover the divine.

The resurrection represented the establishing of a new world order based on a love transforming everything. It is about the death of the old ways of being (the death of greed, selfishness, violence, envy, holding grudges etc etc) and replacing these with new ways underpinned by unconditional love and forgiveness. Some would say it is about building heaven on Earth – building a heaven in the here and the now - we don't have to wait until we die!

Mr Oldham in his recent assemblies on equalities stressed the simple rule – treating others as we wish to be treated ourselves is a safe way to ensure we do not cause upset or offence. Let's go one step further – put people's happiness before your own. Care for people who most need it, stand up for what is right and don't just follow the crowd, welcome the immigrant, the refugee, the other nation, the other tribe, forgive those who have offended, respect all - irrespective of gender, religion, sexuality, ethnicity, spotty and not spotty. These are the things that will bring about a new way of being. It might be trite but these are things that bring true happiness.

On behalf of all the staff at Beechen Cliff, I wish you all a very happy Easter. On Easter Sunday morning before the mouthful of chocolate contemplate the remarkable story of Jesus and commit to a new way of being, resolve to be generous, love one another and put others' happiness before your own - that creates a heaven here and now.

Mr P Watts
Deputy Head

Dates for your Diary

Friday 5 April 2019 – Last Day of the Easter Term	The last day of the Easter Term is Friday 5 April. Lessons for periods 1 and 2 are the same as normal. Period 3 will be a whole school Assembly. All pupils will be dismissed after final Registration at 12.30pm. Please note that snacks will be available at both morning breaks but no hot lunches will be served.
6 th April – 22 nd April	Easter Holidays
10 th April – 12 th April	Grease - Kingswood Theatre at 7pm
Tuesday 23 rd April	Term 5 (Spring Term) commences at 8.25am
2 nd May – 10 th May	Lower Sixth Exams and Study Leave
17 th May	Upper Sixth Last day of term (start of study leave)

Essential Information



Reporting Absences

Please can parents take note of the contact details below when reporting an absence from School:

Lower School Pupils

To report a Lower School absence please call the Attendance Office direct on **01225 485222**, or you can email attendance@beechencliff.org.uk

Sixth Form Students

For Sixth Form students please contact Mrs Jones on 01225 485221, or you can email allisonjones@beechencliff.org.uk

If the attendance lines are busy, do please leave a message on the answer machines.

Changes in Contact Details

Please can parents and carers remember to inform the School in any changes in Contact information (telephone numbers, email address home addresses) as soon as possible.

Please inform the School office or email sue.davies@beechencliff.org.uk with new or updated details

School Contacts

Following the recent Year 7 Parents Evening feedback survey, some parents indicated that they were a little unsure of who to contact should they have a query. Please see below for clarification:

Pastoral matters – Tutor, Head of House or Mr Mann

Academic matters – Subject teacher, Head of Faculty or Mr Watts.

Lost Property – Karen Lothgren

Please use the headmaster@beechencliff.org.uk email address and your request will be forwarded to the particular person that you indicate on your email

Mr Mann

Assistant Head Pastoral

Dropping off and picking up pupils

Please be aware when dropping off and picking up pupils outside the school on Kipling Avenue to not park on the painted zig zag lines to ensure pupil safety.

We should also like to remind all parents and carers that if you drive through the main gates of the school the speed is restricted at ALL TIMES to 5mph.

Mr K S Mann
Assistant Headmaster

Online Safety

We have recently been aware that a number of Whatsapp groups have been set up amongst pupils.

The school has taken action to address particular incidents and we have spoken with the pupils involved about the importance of being careful with what they post on social media.

These types of online incidents are becoming more common and cause distress amongst pupils and we would like to work with parents to avoid such issues. In particular, we would urge you to consider carefully whether your son should be involved in any Whatsapp group – or any other platform – and if he is, to check regularly the messages he is sending and receiving. We are aware that pupils will make mistakes and that developing social awareness in person and online is an on-going learning process; however, social media provides a means by which pupils sometimes will say, or take actions, which are more hurtful than they might in person.

Whilst pupils will face consequences from the school if they are in breach of our Code of Conduct, our primary focus is to educate them, alongside yourselves, about sensible and appropriate use of social media. The NSPCC website subsidiary website Net Aware has useful advice and guidance and a specific page on Whatsapp, which it states has a minimum age of 16: (<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/whatsapp/#>).

We will continue to address healthy relationships, online safety and equalities education through PSHE, assemblies and pastoral work and are grateful for your partnership in this.

Given the growing concerns of the use of mobile phones and the current research highlighting the negative effects on mental health, memory, attention span, creativity and emotional intelligence of young people, why not try one of the following:

- An evening at home without phones
- Turn off the Wi-Fi at a set time
- Phones/tablets to stay outside your son's bedroom at night
- 'screen-free' mealtimes to encourage face to face interaction
- Lead by example by not using your mobile/tablet excessively in front of your children

Should you have any questions or ideas about ways in which we can work together, or require further advice please do not hesitate to contact us using the school e mail address headmaster@beechencliff.org.uk

Reports

Please note that Upper Sixth and Year 11 Full Reports are now available for parents to view on e-Portal. Progress Reports for Years 7-10 will be published on Thursday 4th April.

If you have problems accessing these reports please email datarecords@beechencliff.org.uk.

Mr T D Markall
Assistant Headmaster

Free School Meals and 16–19 Bursary

We are aware that in these difficult economic times a family's financial circumstances can change suddenly. You can apply for free school meals at any time, if you meet the eligibility criteria as set out by the Government.

For further details about free school meals please contact Mrs S Davies, in the Main School Office. Alternatively, you can find information on free school meals and how to apply on the Bath and North East Somerset website:

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/schools-colleges-and-learning/school-meals-and-catering/free-school-meals>

If you are eligible, we urge you to apply. Not only will your child benefit from a healthy and nutritious meal every school day, but also eligibility may open up other areas of financial support for your child at school.

Also available to Sixth Form students is the 16-19 Bursary. This fund is available for payments to help with educational equipment, subject required trips, uniform and travel, where there is evidence of financial need. For further information, including how to apply, please contact headofsixth@beechencliff.org.uk.

All information for Free School Meals and the Bursary Fund are kept in confidential files.

Mr T D Markall
Assistant Headmaster

Spring Term Refectory Menu

The planned menu for the coming week, commencing 23rd April is:

Tuesday: Chicken and Bacon with a Tomato and Basil Sauce, Beef Stroganoff, Creamy Leek and Cheddar Pasta Bake (G)

Wednesday: Roast Turkey, Pork Steak with a Bean Cassoulet, Spinach Sage and Stilton Risotto

Thursday: Madura Chicken, Steak and Kidney Pie (G), Tomato and Mozzarella Tart (G)

Friday: Fish of the Week, Cumberland Ring Sausage with Onion Gravy (G), Red Onion Potato and Pepper Tortilla

Please be advised that any of the above can be subject to change

Mr D Keal
Head Chef

Year 11 Revision/Coursework Catch-up Class Schedule 2019

In the build-up to GCSE Exams in May/June all Year 11 pupils will be completing coursework and preparing for exams in lessons. Some subjects are running extra sessions to support this process. Details are given below:

SUBJECT	REVISION CLASS/COURSEWORK CATCH-UP CLASS TIMES	DATES
Maths	Thursday 3:20-4:15pm in M3/M4/M5 (both Higher and Foundation tiers)	February to May 2019
Design and Technology	Workshops open 3:30-4:30pm on Tuesday and Thursday Computer rooms (T5/T6) available every lunchtime	February 2019 onwards
Food & Nutrition	Tuesday 3:20-5:00pm in T3/T6	February 2019 onwards Coursework deadline 4/4/19
Triple Science & Combined Science	Combined Science Higher tier: Wednesdays 3:20-5pm in S4 Foundation tier: Tuesday lunchtimes in S5, Wednesday lunchtimes in S8.	February to May
History	Daily after school in the two weeks prior to exams beginning	May 2019
English	English Language(Small group sessions): Tuesdays 3:20-4:00pm E-Lincoln, E-Lassman, E-Ridley English master classes (Students aiming for grades 8 and 9): Wednesdays 3:20-4:00pm E-Ridley General help drop-in session: Friday lunchtimes in E-Lincoln	January to May 2019 January to May 2019 January to May 2019
Geography	Tuesday after school until 4.30pm in P1	February to May 2019
Art	Tuesday and Wednesday 3:20-5:00pm in the Art Room (Dali) (other days possible following a discussion with the teacher)	January to April 2019
Photography	Wednesdays 3.20-4.30pm in the Photography room (Klimt)	January to April 2019
Computing/ICT	Wednesday after school until 4:30pm with Mrs James in C1 Thursday after school until 4:30pm with Mrs Biggs in C3	January to May 2019
Languages	Monday lunchtime drop-in session in C3 After-school revision sessions by invitation only on various days	January to May 2019
Music	Every day after school until 4:30pm in the Music centre in discussion with the teacher. These sessions are designed for extra time on coursework. Monday and Thursday after school until 4:30pm. Revision sessions in preparation for the listening exam.	January to March 2019 w/c 25 th March to May 2019
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics	Monday after school 3:20-5:00pm	February to May 2019

We recommend that pupils take advantage of these revision sessions as part of their exam preparation over the weeks and months ahead. **For some pupils regular attendance will be essential if they are to achieve their full potential in their GCSEs.** We appreciate that some pupils may wish to attend sessions that are running at the same time. In these cases we suggest pupils alternate between the sessions from week to week.

Mr A Seal

Revision Class Co-ordinator

Sixth Form

A-Level Physics are going to run 3 revision sessions over the Easter Break:

Day, date, Time & Place	Module from A level Physics	Contents
Friday, 12/4/19 09:00-12:00 in S3	AS Module 3 & AS Module 4	Forces & Motion Electrons, Waves & Photons
Tuesday, 16/4/19 09:00-12:30 in S4	A2 Module 6	Particles & Medical Physics
Wednesday, 17/4/19 09:00-12:30 in S5	A2 Module 5	Newtonian World & Astrophysics

Mr M Cooper
Head of Physics

Senior Prefect Team 2018-19

The Senior Prefect Team's work draws to a close after Easter as Upper Sixth students make final preparations for their A Levels. This year's team has made a significant impact on the Sixth Form and wider school and we wish to take this opportunity to publicly thank them and share some of their work. Highlights have included taking a lead role in the BANES-wide project Boys in Mind (Girls Mind too) promoting mental health issues across BANES; entirely organising and producing the highly successful TEDxBeechenCliffSchool 2019 (videos for which can be found at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsOxv-Du_5zk0pCxxq0i4EwnXr8Kozhbt); running charity campaigns for 'Show Racism the Red Card' and Challenge Aid Kenya and Tanzania; setting up and maintaining the Beechen Cliff Sixth Form Twitter and Instagrams accounts; and promoting integration across the Sixth Form with a Winter Ball at the Apex Hotel, dodgeball tournament and Bands nights. In all these areas, and more, the Team has been proactive, reliable and committed to supporting one another and the school. Head Boy, Stuart Blair, and Head Girl, Maddison Wordon, have spoken eloquently at whole school assemblies, presentation evening and at Sixth Form Open Morning, led the Senior Prefect Team and inspired those around them. The school is enormously grateful for contribution of the team members and wish them the best in the next steps beyond school. Recruitment for next year's team will take place in early June.

Mr J Oldham
Head of Sixth Form/ Safeguarding Lead

Internal Summer Exams 2019

KS3 Summer Exams (Years 7-9)

Pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 will be taking formal internal examinations in many of their subjects in the terms ahead. These exams are used to assess the progress pupils have made this year and to give pupils useful practice in taking formal examinations in preparation for external exams in the future. In some subjects there are several exams assessing different aspects of the course. Examination results may also contribute towards setting for next year in some subjects.

In order to prepare pupils for the exams, subject teachers will provide pupils with revision information. Some revision will take place in lessons but it is also expected that pupils prepare for exams independently at home. As part of the preparation for exams, pupils will have an exams assembly and tutor meetings dedicated to revision tips and exam timetables. Revision guidance for pupils and for parents supporting their sons with revision is also available on the school website in the *Exams and Assessment - Support and Guidance* section.

<http://www.beechencliff.org.uk/school-life/academic/exams-assessment/year-7-9/summer-exams/>

The dates of the Summer Exams this year are given below. Most exams fall within a Summer Exam Week for each year group but Year 7 Science exams will be taken at a different time. All exams will take place during timetabled lessons in the normal classrooms.

Year 7 Summer Exams

Subject	Date of Exam(s)
Computing	w/c 13 th May
English	
French	
Geography	
History	
Maths	
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics	
Technology	
Science	w/c 3 rd June

Year 8 Summer Exams

Subject	Subject	Date of Exam(s)
Computing	Italian	Thursday 16 th May to Wednesday 22 nd May
English	Maths	
French	Religion, Philosophy & Ethics	
Geography	Science	
German	Spanish	
History	Technology	

Year 9 Summer Exams

Subject	Subject	Date of Exam(s)
Computing	Italian	w/c 3 rd June
English	Maths	
French	Religion, Philosophy & Ethics	
Geography	Science	
German	Spanish	
History	Technology	

A more detailed timetable with dates and times of exams for each teaching group in each year is also available on the section of the school website referred to above.

Year 10 Summer Exams 2019

Year 10 exams will take place during the week of **10th June**. Some exams will take place in formal exam halls and will be formally invigilated. Others will take place in normal lessons. These exams may be used to inform tiers of entry for Year 11 where appropriate. When not attending exams pupils will attend lessons as normal.

As at KS3, pupils will be prepared for exams in school and revision material will be made available to pupils via teachers and departmental websites. Pupils are also expected to prepare for exams independently at home. The *Exams and Assessment - Support and Guidance* section on the school website also provides useful guidance.

<http://www.beechencliff.org.uk/school-life/academic/exams-assessment/gcse/yr10-subject-information/>

Pupils will have the exam process explained to them in a year group assembly and by tutors in advance of the exam week. There will also be the opportunity to discuss revision strategies with teachers and tutors before the exams.

Copies of timetables will be given to pupils after Easter. The timetable will also be available on the school website at this time.

Lower Sixth Summer Exams 2019

Lower Sixth examinations will take place from **Thursday 2nd May to Friday 10th May** (excluding Monday 6th May). Mr Oldham, Head of Sixth Form, has already written to all parents to explain the arrangements and purpose of these examinations.

Copies of the examination timetable will be given to students before the Easter holiday. The timetable can also be found on the school website or via the link below:

<https://www.beechencliff.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Lower-Sixth-Summer-Examination-Timetable-2019-v2.pdf>

Mr T D Markall
Assistant Headmaster
March 2019

If you're worried about how your child is coping with exams at school, this link will take you to advice and information from Young Minds about how to support them:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/parents-guide-to-support-exam-time/>

The Boys In Mind (Girls Mind Too) strategy was launched this term in BANES to address the issue of boys' mental health and suicide rates. As a lead school in the strategy, some of our Sixth Forms students have been involved in the making of films which address what it means to be a boy, and the struggle to open up about mental health. Gabe Barnes and Alex Pakeman have been instrumental in the production of the films, and were part of the panel answering questions at the launch event at the end of January. Beechen Cliff also have provided a case study about changing the culture around boys' mental health for the BIM (GMT) website, as well as an assembly format which had a huge impact in the Sixth Form. You can watch the videos and read the case study on the website - <https://boysinmind.co.uk/>

We are currently sharing good practice with other lead schools in the area, and working hard to promote the strategy nationwide. Over 40 members of Beechen Cliff staff have volunteered for Solution Focused Training, which starts this week and will continue next term.

Miss Polly Netto and Mrs Susie Ingram



Charity Fundraiser

In July Clare Coverdale, our Food Technician is going to be taking on Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds for the Lewis Moody Foundation which is linked to The Brain Tumour Charity. Brain tumours are the biggest cancer killer of children and adults under 40 with 10 children and teenagers in the UK being diagnosed with a brain tumour every week. All money raised will go to fund vital research into brain tumours, reduce diagnosis times through the HeadSmart campaign (<https://www.headsmart.org.uk/>) and give families affected much needed respite and the chance to create special memories.

The trip is completely self-funded so every penny raised, goes directly to the The Brain Tumour Charity. Please see the link below to Clare's Just Giving Page.

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/claretakesonkilimanjaro

Quiz and Curry Night – Friday 26th April 2019

Tickets Available Now on Parent Pay. . .

The school is organising another Quiz and Curry Night on Friday 26th April in the Refectory – it will include a selection of curries, a quiz and a raffle. Come along with family/friends in teams of 4-6.

All proceeds from the event will go to support the Sixth Form charity project work in Transylvania with People Against Poverty.

Mr T Markall

BEECHEN CLIFF

QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT

The Refectory
Friday 26th April
7:00 –10:30 pm

Tickets
£8
Main Office or ParentPay

Includes the quiz and a selection of curries
There will be a bar

Fundraising for Sixth Form Project work with People Against Poverty in Romania

Come with family and friends in teams of 4-6

Beechen Cliff PTA

Latest winners

Congratulations to

the latest Beechen Cliff PTA 50:50 Club winners for January and February 2019! The winning numbers were drawn at the PTA meeting on 25th March 2019 and are listed below:

January 2019

1 st Prize	£112.50	– number 98
2 nd Prize	£75.00	– number 409
3 rd Prize	£37.50	– number 563

February 2019

1 st Prize	£112.50	– number 328
2 nd Prize	£75.00	– number 183
3 rd Prize	£37.50	– number 589

Winners are contacted via the details supplied when signing up so do keep me up to date of any changes via the email below. Please also feel free to contact me if you just want to check what your numbers are! (All of the above winners have been contacted.)

New and leaving members

Thank you and welcome to all of you who have recently joined and signed up to the 50:50 club. The draw for January will take place at the next PTA meeting. Good luck!

Don't forget, you can cancel your membership at any time, simply by cancelling your standing order. If payments stop for three months in a row, your numbers will automatically be reallocated. We will attempt to contact you to confirm, but if your details have changed this may not always be possible.

How to sign up

The 50:50 club operates like a lottery, with members signing up to a small standing order each month (most people donate between £1 and £5) which buys numbers in the draw. We use a random number generator to select the numbers at our PTA meetings. The prize fund is 50% of the donations and is divided into first, second and third prizes. The other 50% goes to the PTA to help fund activities, equipment and opportunities for the students and each year, the 50:50 club raises over £2000 for the school.

As you can see, the monthly first prize is now over £100! If you would like to join in, **new members are welcome anytime and it is very simple to set up**. Please just contact me letting me know how many numbers you would like each month (£1 each) and I will give you details of how to set up the standing order.

Sarah Mitchard (parent and 50:50 co-ordinator)

beechen5050@gmail.com

Tel: 07909962272

Attendance Aces

"Huge congratulations to the following boys who have achieved 100% attendance despite the harsh winter with many viruses. Your commitment and resilience is admirable."

BYRON			
BY1	10	Green, Joseph	100%
BY2	10	Couchman, Jed	100%
BY2	7	Rhodes, William	100%
BY3	9	Holley, Elliot	100%
BY3	10	Rawlings, McKenzi	100%
BY4	7	Costello, Macklin	100%
BY4	10	Posth, Otto	100%
BY4	8	Tribe, Thomas	100%
BY5	7	Gould, Edward	100%
BY5	11	Neilson, Rex	100%
BY8	11	Blair, Finlay	100%

CHAUCER			
CH1	9	Colbeck, Charlie	100%
CH1	7	Logsdon, Gruffydd	100%
CH2	11	Kelsh, Thomas	100%
CH3	7	Wilson, Kai	100%
CH4	7	Atwell, Jonathan	100%
CH4	11	Bobrowski, Oliver	100%
CH6	7	Hollingworth,	100%
CH7	7	Elliott, Benjamin	100%
CH8	10	Abreu, Joseph	100%

KIPLING			
KS3	8	Healy, William	100%
KP2	11	Lyne, Frederick	100%
KS3	7	Moor, Finley	100%
KS4	11	Turner, Michael	100%
KP4	10	Hine, Jack	100%
KS3	9	Joy, Rufus	100%
KP4	10	Lodge, Patrick	100%
KP5	8	Barrow, Jake	100%
KP5	9	Joyce, Jack	100%

MILTON			
ML2	9	Alleyne, Max	100%
ML6	7	Butler, Isaac	100%
ML1	11	Clark, Thomas	100%
ML8	7	Gaur, Yash	100%
ML5	9	Granger, Elliot	100%
ML2	8	Hassan, Mohamed	100%
ML3	7	Houston, Alistair	100%
ML8	8	Jarai, Zoltan	100%
ML3	8	Masani, Zubin	100%
ML1	10	McLeod, Elliot	100%
ML1	8	O'Keeffe, Oscar	100%
ML1	11	Salisbury, Joshua	100%
ML2	11	Smith, Cobey	100%
ML8	7	Smith-Burrell, Angelo	100%
ML5	7	Spurrell, Niall	100%

SHAKESPEARE			
SH1	10	Delves-Broughton, Theo	100%
SH1	9	Lomas-Wright, Oliver	100%
SH1	11	Phillips, Matthew	100%
SH3	10	Roberts, Bartholomew	100%
SH4	11	Hazael, Marley	100%
SH4	11	Williams, Benjamin	100%
SH5	8	Kirchner, Isaac	100%
SH5	11	Therrien, Jac	100%
SH6	8	Anderson, Finlay	100%
SH7	11	Bartlett, William	100%
SH7	7	Burton, Daniel	100%
SH7	8	Hazael, Rowan	100%
SH7	10	Prasad, Vivek	100%
SH8	10	Bullock, James	100%
SH8	8	Gustard, Jonty	100%

Miss P Netto / Mrs A Wilmot / Mr M Walker / Mr M Newell/ Mr J Forrest

Deputy Heads of Houses

Word of the Fortnight

Histrionic

(can be used as an adjective or a noun)
= excessively theatrical or dramatic in character or style

Use it:

As an adjective –

They were aware of his histrionic behaviour.

As a noun - Some say Richard II's rhetoric is tragic, whilst others say it descends into histrionics.

Spell it:

Histrionic
his-tri-on-ic

Pronounce it:

his-tree-ON-ic



Theme of the Week

Theme of the week this week is introducing an activity that we are asking all tutors groups to take part in over the next eight weeks. In conjunction with the English Faculty, we will be looking at eight books shortlisted for the Carnegie Award, one per week. Tutor groups will be asked to read a short section of each book, and then discuss their thoughts before submitting some feedback. There will then be a vote at the end of the process, and we as a school will be able to see if we agree with the judges' decision.

Theme of the week will introduce the activity (including information on the Carnegie Award and the shortlisted books), and then pupils will use silent reading/journals slot to look at each book in turn, and complete feedback. Theme of the Week will continue to change every week.

The book that wins the Carnegie Medal should be a book of outstanding literary quality. The whole work should provide pleasure, not merely from the surface enjoyment of a good read, but also the deeper subconscious satisfaction of having gone through a vicarious, but at the time of reading, a real experience that is retained afterwards.

We are taking part in this activity for several reasons:

- To enjoy discussing what makes a good book as a tutor group.
- To spark a debate about "judging books by their covers" or on its first few pages and decide which books look the most interesting.
- To compare results at the end of shadowing to see if predictions were right.
- To introduce you to books you might not otherwise read.

Thanks,

Mrs A Wilmot and Mrs A Ivic

Departmental News

Art and Design

On Monday 18th March Mrs Judd took the Lower 6th Artists into Bath to the Victoria Art Gallery where we watched 'Sharmanka' a kinetic sculpture created by Russian artist and inventor, Eduard Bersudsky. The sculptures use recycled furniture, metal scrap and grotesque carved figures. They are lit with coloured lights and move to Russian circus music creating a theatrical performance. The shadows that were cast on the walls have been a great inspiration as has the



pieces seen on this trip.

idea of using sound and movement to create artwork.

Whilst at the gallery we also saw work of Val Hunt who with inspiration, ingenuity, humour and skill creates fascinating pieces based on animals and plants that are close to extinction. She uses recycled objects to create her pieces presenting an important message about recycling and preservation. As the students progress towards their personal projects we hope to see more work that is more exciting, challenging and creative like the



English

2019 Carnegie Shadowing Book Club

Love reading? Want to be inspired and empowered by literature? Want to voice your opinions and engage in thought-provoking debates? Then we'd love to hear from you. Please see **Mrs Ivic** in the English office to register your interest for the 2019 Carnegie Shadowing book club.

The Carnegie medal is awarded annually to the writer of an outstanding book written in English for children and young people. Our new Shadowing group will meet bi-weekly in the Library on **Tuesdays (week 1, from 12:20)** to read and debate the shortlisted novels and consider which one we believe is worthy of winning. Light refreshments will be provided.



<https://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/downloads.php>

Mrs Dunn

Accelerated Reader Coordinator

Warhammer Team

Our Warhammer team battled schools from across the UK in the semi-finals of the National School League, unleashing tiny plastic death in the wonderful surroundings of Warhammer World in Nottingham. This was the first time this particular group of students took part in the competition and they played with impressive skill and good humour, even though we did not get through to the final. Maybe next year!



Mr W Saunders
English

History

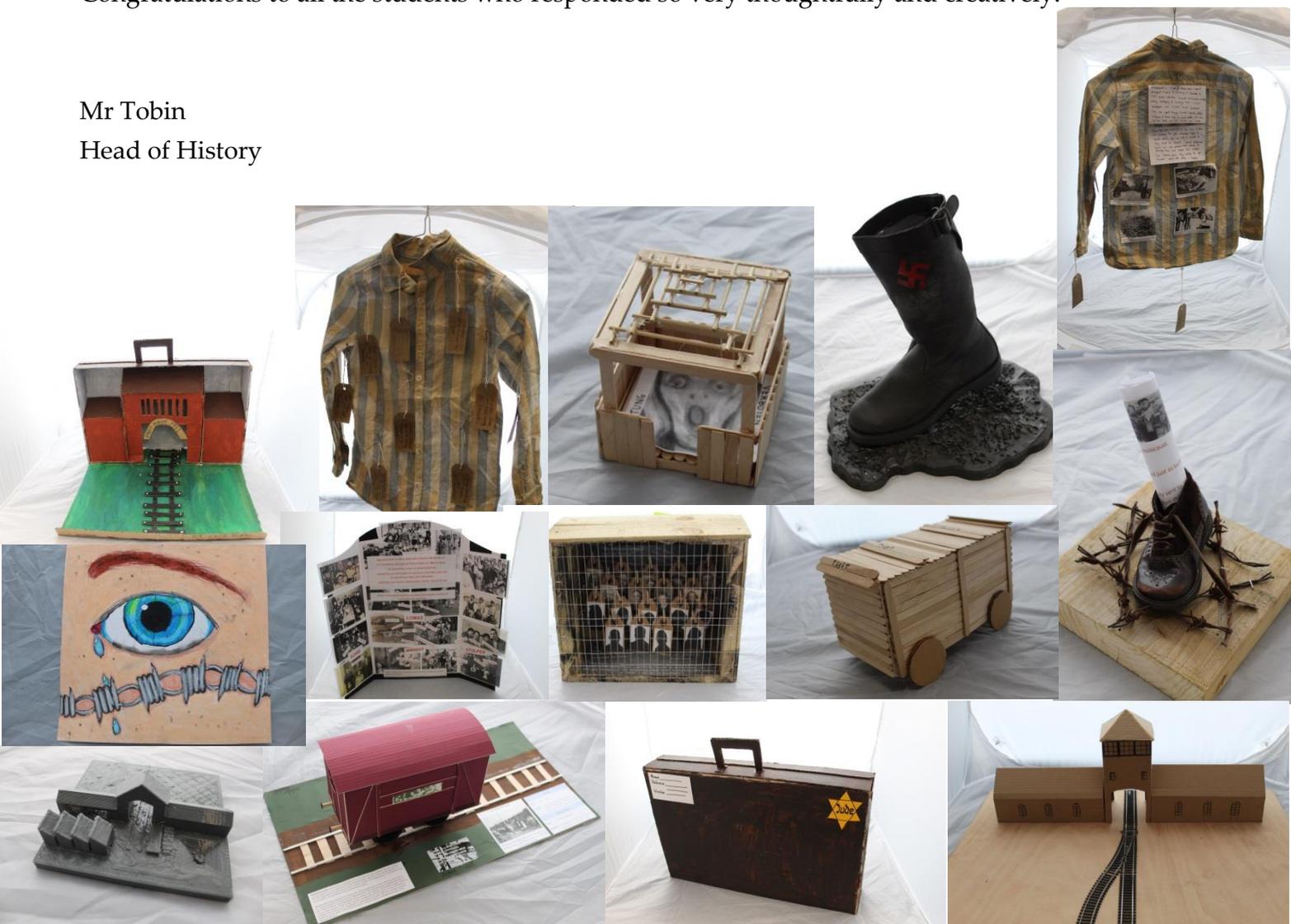
Outstanding Year 9 students' creative responses to the Holocaust Education Day on Friday 25th January 2019

Many Year 9 students produced truly outstanding pieces of work showing both their creativity and emotional intelligence in response to the carousel of workshops on the Holocaust Education Day. These workshops explored aspects of the Holocaust not dealt with via the RPE and History programmes of study, including malnutrition & starvation in the ghettos & camps, transport & extermination logistics, artistic representations of the Holocaust, present-day German memorials to Holocaust victims in Berlin, German Jewish emigration in the 1930s, justice after 1945 and the nature of Nazi evil.

These photographs show just some of the creative responses by the students – you'll agree with the Holocaust Education Trust, I'm sure, that they show truly outstanding engagement and compassion on the part of the students.

Congratulations to all the students who responded so very thoughtfully and creatively!

Mr Tobin
Head of History

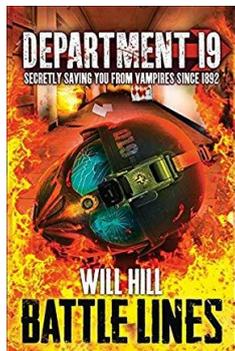


Literacy

Reader of the week

Our final 'Reader of the Week' for this term goes to **Jude (7BY3)** who is within touching distance of becoming our next word millionaire (only 34,864 words to go!) having taken 10 Accelerated Reader quizzes, with a fantastic pass rate on each book and winning 155 points for Byron. Jude has most recently read:

Battle Lines (Department 19, Book 3) by Will Hill



Dracula is on the verge of coming into his full power. Department 19 is on the back foot. Ladies and gentlemen: welcome to war. The stakes? Mankind's very survival...As the clock ticks remorselessly towards Zero Hour and the return of Dracula, the devastated remnants of Department 19 try to hold back the rising darkness.

Jamie Carpenter is training new recruits, trying to prepare them for a fight that appears increasingly futile. Kate Randall is pouring her grief into trying to plug the Department's final leaks, as Matt Browning races against time to find a cure for vampirism. And on the other side of the world, Larissa Kinley has found a place she feels at home, yet where she makes a startling discovery. Uneasy truces are struck, new dangers emerge on all sides, and relationships are pushed to breaking point. And in the midst of it all, Department 19 faces a new and potentially deadly threat, born out of one of the darkest moments of its own long and bloody history. Zero Hour is coming. And the Battle Lines have been drawn.

Term 4 Accelerated Reader House Totals

Great reading this term boys! **239 AR quizzes** were taken, totalling nearly **9,928,000** words! The winners therefore this term are;

1st Chaucer	3,736,100 words
2nd Milton	2,114,000 words
3rd Byron	1,764,200 words
4 th Kipling	1,297,100 words
5 th Shakespeare	1,016,400 words



Accelerated Reader Top Readers (by House)

Oliver (7CH5)	709,987 words
Joseph (7BY2)	403,666 words
Ben (7ML7)	338,572 words
James (7KP4)	338,511 words
Freddie (7SH8)	262,195 words



And finally, don't forget to pop into the library and choose a book to read over the Easter Holidays! We have plenty to choose from, and a librarian is always on hand to help you if you need a recommendation!

Mrs Dunn

Accelerated Reader Literacy Coordinator



Languages

Montpellier Exchange

Last week saw the 2nd part of the French exchange with Montpellier, when 40 pupils from Beechen Cliff and Hayesfield School hosted their French exchange partners in Bath. The pupils had already spent a week with their partners in October last year in Montpellier so everyone already knew their exchange partner well.

The French arrived late on Friday evening after a 14 hour train journey and the weekend was spent with partners showing them around Bath and other local areas of interest. The weather for the French here was amazing and it was wonderful to be able to showcase our beautiful region in such lovely sunshine. The French enjoyed visits to the Jane Austin Centre, The Costume Museum, The Roman Bath and eating fish and chips at a traditional English restaurant. They also spent a day in Bristol where they undertook a Banksy tour and created their own spray painted posters. The French enjoyed a day at school in lessons with their partners where they were able to observe the differences between the French and English School system. The week ended with a party at Bonghy-Bo where a vast oriental buffet was laid on for all 85 of us including teachers and we had a lovely evening mixing with each other ending with some impressive speeches from our students in French.

Overall, it was a very enjoyable week for both the French and English. An excellent opportunity to improve language skills as well as cultural understanding and I know that many new friendships have been made that will continue to flourish. Well done to all those involved.



Mrs J Merrett
Deputy Head of Languages

Maths Department

2019 so far in Maths...

Since the turn of the year our pupils and students of years 11 and 13 have been focusing on the build up to their summer exams. Attendance at afterschool revision sessions has been really encouraging and a huge amount of progress is being made. I would urge all those with summer exams to make sure they use the Easter holidays well and come back to school in April full of questions for their teachers. A reminder of those revision sessions:

Year 11 Wednesdays and Thursday after school 15.30 – 16.30 in M5

Sixth Form: Tuesdays 15.30 – 16.30 in M4 and M5

There are also drop-in support sessions for ALL year groups during Thursday lunchtimes. First lunch (12.20 - 13.05) in M3, second lunch (13.20 -14.05) in M2. All welcome!

Maths Extracurricular events

Year 10 Maths Feast

Four boys from year 10 took part in the recent Maths Feast competition at St Gregg's school. Up against top mathematicians from local schools they came out on top! A great performance from the boys.



Year 12/13 Senior Maths Challenge



Unusually, the SMC fell in half term this year. Regardless, three sixth formers came into school to take the exam. Joe Morris and Ben Tidswell achieved Gold Awards whilst Tom Henly achieved a Bronze.

Of 100,000 entries nationally, Ben was placed in the top 5000 students and subsequently took part in the Senior European Kangaroo paper where he achieved a Merit Award.

Joe Morris was placed in the top 1000 students and so qualified for the prestigious British Maths Olympiad - Round 1. In this paper, Joe came in the top 100 students and was awarded a Bronze Medal, (pictured). Joe was then invited to take the British Maths Olympiad - Round 2, where he repeated his performance of last year, in achieving a Distinction Award.

Congratulations to all.

Year 10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge

Pupils from the top sets in years 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Challenge. Of the 62 pupils who took part the school achieved 12 Gold, 18 Silver and 23 Bronze Awards. Stephen Davey recorded the highest score from year 11 whilst Theo Delves-Broughton was the highest in year 10.

Congratulations go to the following pupils who qualified for the Intermediate European Kangaroo paper, (where we are still waiting for the results):

Year 11: Stephen Davey, Fynn Honeyman, Louie Osbourne, Josh Carter, David Jolley, Thomas Kelsh and Rowan Yardley.

Year 10: Theo Delves-Broughton, Kael Honeyman and Charlie McKim.

Yr 8/9 Team Challenge

Our Yr 8/9 team headed up to the Royal High School to take part in the regional final of the UK Maths Trust Team Challenge. In a highly competitive field they finished a very respectable 9th. Well done to the four of them.

CIPHER CHALLENGE

As ever we had a strong turnout in this year's event, with 15 boys invited to attend the annual talk by NetCraft (sponsors of the Cipher Challenge) about current aspects of web security, specifically online currency. Several of these boys were attending for the third or fourth time, but it was great to see a couple of year 9 boys coming along to their first one.

And there's more....

25 of the Lower Sixth Further Mathematicians attended this year's Maths Inspiration Lectures at the Forum in town – this is always a very inspiring event and I know it opened their eyes to some of the possible career paths that Maths may lead them.

Have a good Easter!

Mr E R Gill

Head of Maths

edwardgill@beechencliff.org.uk

Music

The department has seen another busy term both in and out of the classroom with lots of practical coursework being recorded and public performances to prepare for.

The Annual School Concert took place on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st of March. Once again we were fortunate enough to take advantage of the large space and fine acoustics of St Luke's Church. Both concerts were a great success with many favourable comments being received from parents, staff and pupils alike. Over the two nights the musicians played to approximately 200 people and a copy of the concert programme can be found below.



Annual Music Concert at St Luke's Church Programme

Concert Band

Mambo No 5 – Prado arr. Bocock

Little Suite for Band (1. Prelude 2. Ballad. 3. Festival) – Grundman

Year 7 Orchestra

Shaker Hymn – 'Lord of the Dance' – Trad arr. Cathrine

Tequila – arr. Calvert

Chamber Choir

Beati quorum via – Stanford

String Ensemble

'Dido's Lament' – Purcell

Libertango – Piazzolla

Saxophone Ensemble

Bohemian Rhapsody – Mercury arr. Manilla

The Lone Ar-ranger goes Sax Mad! – Buttal (with apologies to Rossini)

Choir

It don't mean a thing – Mills arr. Beale

True Colours – arr. Nourse

Folk Group/6th Form Folk Band

Devotedly Bouyant at Abos – trad. Klezmer

'1643' – Seth Lakeman arr. by the group

Percussion Ensemble

'To Catch a Flying Stick' – Brian

Guitar Ensemble

Rondo – Purcell

Superstition – Wonder

Touch her Soft Lips and Part – Walton

Swing Band

Cousin Mary – Coltrane arr. Berry

Jive Samba – Adderly arr. Taylor

Mr Magic – Grover Washington Jnr

Sixth Form Duet – Leo Plain (Piano), Sam Hendra (Vocals)

Skinny Love – Birdy

Concert Band

Saturday Night Fever – Gibb arr. Vinson

Hootenanny – Walters

Music Department		
Concert Band, Year 7 Orchestra		Mr P E Calvert (Head of Music)
Folk Group, String Group, Choir		Mrs A P Nourse
Guitar Ensemble		Mr T Clark
Swing Band		Mr M J Daniels
Percussion Ensemble		Mr J Calvert
Choir		Ms M McCombe
Saxophone Group		Mrs E Bolton
Chamber Choir		Mr C Sillem
<hr/>		
Senior Musician		Leo Plain
Deputy Senior Musicians		Thomas Horobin Gabe Winbolt
<hr/>		
Percussion Ensemble	Joshua Barnett Joshua Compton Rory Self Jeff Tribe	Thomas Tribe Oliver Williams Luca Williamson Ellis Windsor
<hr/>		
Year 7 Ensemble	Tomas Beare Oliver Fishwick Rory Gallagher Edward Gould Thomas Hewson	Alex James Rory McDonald Oliver Richards Harvey Sharp James Smith Samuel Talbot
<hr/>		
Choir	Gabe Winbolt Gavin Colman Will Reed Isaac Elliott Tom Horobin Tom Clark Leo Plain Kirsty Bain Anna Varzepetyan Catherine Tait	Finley Scott Ben Elliott Thomas Hewson Toby Kingston Noah Sparkes Verity Brewerton Millie Stagg Emma Champney Henry Hegarty Martha Leslie
<hr/>		
Chamber Choir	Freddie Burden Verity Brewerton Emma Champneys Thomas Clark	Gavin Colman Martha Leslie Will Reed Millie Stagg Gabe Winbolt
<hr/>		
Strings/Folk Band	Will Reed Rory Self Freja Madeley Rory Akbar Kirsty Bain Verity Brewerton Josh Dong Louis Pain Joshua Barnett	Oliver Williams Gavin Colman Amy Richards Thomas Hewson Edward Gould Finley Mancey Niamh Massacessi Megan Harris Millie Stagg

Saxophone Group		Emma Champneys Thomas Horobin Leo Plain Joel Rogers
Swing Band	George Downing Sam Hendra Tom Horobin Harry Lewis	Leo Plain Louis Pain Joel Rogers Will Reed George Walker
Guitar Ensemble	Gabriel Barnes Jonah Brosnan Gavin Coleman Rory Gallagher	David Jolley Robbie Laughlen Michael Penny Hamish Phillips
6 th Form Folk Band	Gavin Colman Will Reed	Freja Madeley Verity Brewer Rory Self
Concert Band		
Clarinets		Finley Richards James Stephens Nell Winbolt
Flutes		Kirsty Bain Verity Brewerton Ben Pearcey Will Reed
Drums		Dylan Stoneman
Bass		Declan McDonald
Saxophones	Sam Batstone Gabriel Bonner-Thomas Emma Champneys Daniel Eggleton	Thomas Horobin David Jolley Leo Plain Oliver Richards George Waters
Trombones		George Downing Oliver Tooley Ben Kirby Woollett
Trumpets	James Clark Harry Lewis	James Smith George Walker Anna Varzhapetyan
Horn		Tom Blethyn
Tuba		Martha Leslie

Over the course of the last two terms, the department has created a dedicated band room for pupils to practice in. This has seen a great take up in usage and several school bands have made great progress since the facility has become available. Lots of the groups performed in 'bands night' which took place on Friday March 1st and was a great success with accomplished performances being played to an appreciative crowd. My Thanks go to Mr Watts for his involvement in developing the 'band' culture at Beechen Cliff.

As we get near the end of term we are busy doing final performance recordings and finishing touches to composition coursework for both GCSE and A level pupils. I would be grateful if parents could check with any year 11 pupils and sixth form students studying music that they have completed all their relevant coursework!

Finally may I take this opportunity to thank Mrs Nourse and all the Peripatetic Music Staff for their dedication and hard work. I would also like to thank Leo Plain (Senior Musician), and Tom Horobin and Gabe Winbolt (deputy senior musicians) for all their help and support with extra-curricular activities.

We look forward to all musical activities next term which will include the annual Young Musician competition for years 7-10 and two days of music making (vocal and instrumental) at Hayesfield School. Further details about both these events will be given in the new term.

Mr P E Calvert
Head of Music



Musical Theatre Group – Greece

BEECHEN CLIFF SCHOOL

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BATH THEATRE SCHOOL



PRESENTS



Grease

10-12 APRIL 2019

7pm Tickets: £12 / £10 U18s
£1 Beechen Cliff Students



KINGSWOOD THEATRE, BATH

Box Office: 01225 640046

WWW.BATHTHEATRESCHOOL.COM/TICKETS

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JIM JACOBS AND WARREN CASEY

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THEATRICAL RIGHTS WORLDWIDE

Outdoor Education

Duke of Edinburgh

As you are reading this the school's Duke of Edinburgh programme is in an unusual position. By the end of March we have run three training expeditions, one at each level and all were a success for the training we wanted to achieve. Next term we will embark on a very active period with more training and then assess expeditions at all levels. Normally the expedition season starts at the end of March but this year we had to arrange our expeditions to fit in with an already full and wide ranging school calendar which meant we had to start early. For the first time we have done it and we are still going strong.

Our first expedition was a Silver training held on the Wiltshire Downs. Weather was generally good and dry but on the Sunday whilst walking back to Marlborough the wind was very strong. Almost blowing some people over. Despite a couple of injuries everyone was intact and survived to tell the tale of a good three days walking and seeing several of the Wiltshire White Horses. There was walking up hill along ridge lines, along the canal and up and down hills again and yes a few people hobbling by the end but we did not lose anyone and Ollie did get his pair of 5kg dumbbells back!!

The second expedition was for the Golds and held in Brecon based out of Tir Y Cwm. After a later than planned arrival in poor weather we had a good start to the training walk even though the overnight rain was torrential. Nearing midday there was one small incident followed by another and we had to seek help to extract two students off the mountains. The main party walked to safety and found a small welcoming café whilst the Brecon Mountain Rescue Team dealt with the recovery.

Conditions on the top worsened and the walk down was hard but well conducted. The weather did not abate until much later when we were back at Tir Y Cwm. In a short message afterwards the MRT said that we were well equipped and prepared and the whole incident was dealt with properly. A good learning experience for all.



Finally, a Bronze level training weekend based locally at Chelwood and a walk in to Keynsham. Fortunately, the weather was good and this provided the opportunity for some good map and compass training on the Friday leading to a full days walk on the Saturday. Who would have thought that the weather would hold so well for us.

Looking forward to next term the DofE programme only increases with more Bronze training and assessments for Year 9, a Silver expedition on Exmoor for Year 10 and a Gold expedition to the Lake District for Year 13s. On top of all that there is still a lot of volunteering, skill development and physical activity going on. I will be looking for help on the Bronze training weekend on 17th & 18th May when we are due to have over 70 boys plus about the same number of girls from Hayesfield School at Chelwood and then a week later the assessed expedition to Exmoor.

The DofE staff are not permanently based at Beechen Cliff School but are present on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, Thursday lunchtimes and all day Friday in the Staff room, Pavilions. To close, a word of thanks to everyone who has supported DofE so far this year from the Headteacher who has acted as our School based contact whilst we were away, through Finance, catering team and PEd department to the team of ladies at reception who issue letters and handle lots of questions. Everyone's input helps with the overall achievement. Let's see what next term brings.

Mr Carroll & Miss Lesslie
DofE Team
Beechen Cliff School



Ten Tors Training 2019

Beechen Cliff is well represented at this year's event. We will put out 5 teams (30 pupils) who have been in training since January for this gruelling but rewarding challenge across Dartmoor.

Training started on the Mendips with the route taking in sites such as Cheddar Gorge, Burrington Coombe and Crook Peak. This was a windy day, a theme which continued into the Black Mountains in February with gales forcibly trying to remove groups from the summit plateau of Pen Alt Mawr. This training session is also known for the savagely steep ascent straight from the minibuses in the morning. A great way to wake up and start the day!

And so on to Dartmoor at the start of March and another windy weekend with torrential rain over night. Groups coped well camping out in these conditions with some of the older sixth form groups shrugging off the conditions as 'standard'. Our younger teams in year 10 met with a steep learning curve about camp craft and what the exact definition of horizontal rain is.

At the time of writing the forecast for the penultimate training session is benign and dare I say it, sunny. The distance is significantly upped on this one and again at the end of April. Both remaining trainings involve an overnight wild camp on the moor. Year 10 teams will be attempting the 35 distance at the event in May and the sixth form tackling the 45 and 55 distances.

Best of luck for the event to all our teams in May. I am sure they will retain Beechen Cliff's proud heritage with Ten Tors.

Mr. Brewer
Head of Humanities



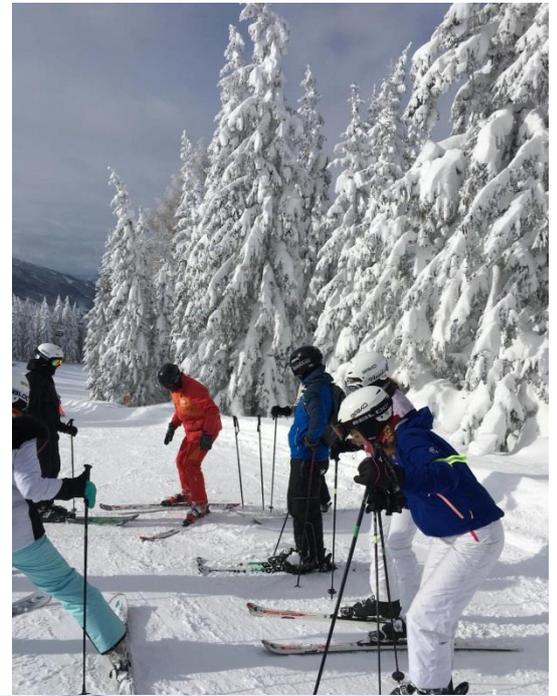
Austria Ski Trip – Schladming January 2019

With an unprecedented amount of snow falling prior to and during our trip tip to Schladming the “white gold” can also become the “most dangerous gold”. Three metres of snow had fallen in Austria just before we arrived with picturesque conditions across the Austrian Alps.

The Beechen Cliff group of 53 students and 7 staff revelled in the waist deep conditions and powder that tested the technical skill and nerve of the advance and intermediate skiers, who described it like floating or surfing a wave. For the beginners there were the perfect conditions on freshly groomed pistes to practice their turns, gain speed and increase their confidence.

There is a famous saying in German that “the wind is the builder of

the avalanche” and as some lifts closed temporarily due to the vast amounts of snow on the trees overshadowing the lifts, our instructors took exceptional precautions to ensure that all skiing took place on safe terrain.



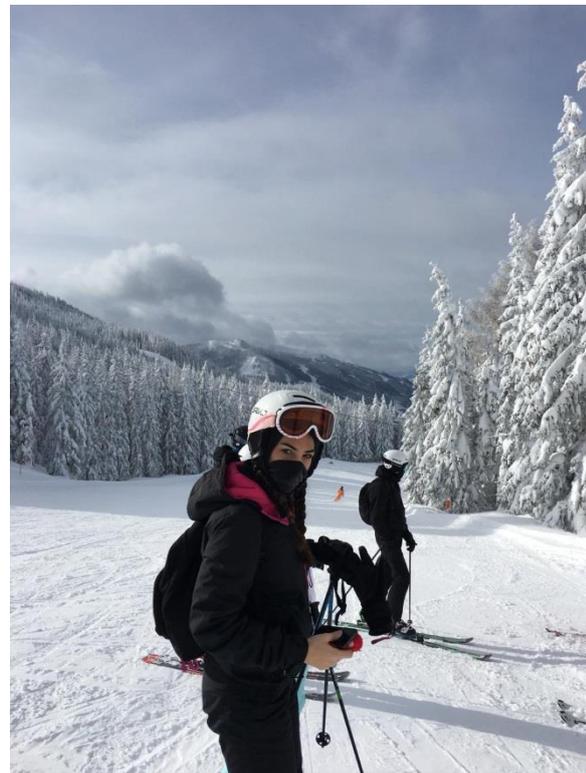
As the week progressed and the sun came out, the conditions enabled our beginner group to progress so quickly that they were heading down the Schladming world cup run to the middle station from the top of the mountain by day 3!

The evenings provided a veritable feast of four star Austrian fare and entertainment by the way of the now infamous “Waltzy’s Quiz”, bowling and a highly entertaining talent show hosted by Lower Sixth students William M and Isaac DB.

A brilliant week where students developed their personal confidence and resilience impressed us with their ‘have a go ‘and ‘can do’ attitude. Let’s hope that this confidence and these positive traits have a significant impact on their wider school life.

My personal thanks to Mr Watts on his last school ski trip, for his dedicated support and attention to details as Deputy Party Leader over the past 8 years. His questionable ski attire and unwavering etiquette will long remain in the memories of those who had the pleasure to be in his company on the piste.

Mr K Mann
Assistant Headmaster



USA Ski Trip 2019

A much smaller group headed back to the United States for an 8 day trip which included New York, New Hampshire and Boston. An early flight from Heathrow allowed time for sightseeing around New York ending with a visit to the Top of the Tower to see the fantastic view of the city. After checking into the hotel we headed to Loradella's Pizzeria for our evening meal before an early night.

Up nice and early on the Sunday, we took the Staten Island ferry past the Statue of Liberty and into Lower Manhattan where we visited Wall Street and Ground Zero before making our way up into New Hampshire for our 5 days of skiing.

Over five hours skiing each day at two different resorts across the five days meant the boys had lots of variety and time on the slopes. By day three the majority of the 28 beginners were showing their skills down intermediate slopes and covering many miles each day.

Evening activities included a trip to a high school Ice Hockey final at Plymouth University and many hours in the games room, outdoor heated pool and hot tub, just what was needed after a hard day on the slopes. The boys didn't go hungry with 3 different options at both breakfast and dinner in the buffet provided by our fantastic hosts at the Indian Head.

Our last stop before heading home was Boston but not before some tax free shopping where boys and staff picked up some bargains for themselves and others. Our visit to Boston included Quincy Market, the harbour and part of the Freedom Trail and of course a little more shopping.

Thanks to all the boys and staff for another fantastic trip. The next trip is in March next year, if you are interested please contact Mr Macdonald.



Sport

Sports Results

Date	Fixture	Type	Result	Score
26 th March	U16a football vs Ralph Allen	League	Won	5-3
26 th March	U14a football vs Ralph Allen	League	Won	5-0
27 th March	U13a hockey vs Colstons	Friendly	Won	1-0
27 th March	U16a @ Rosslyn Park 7's	Tournament	n/a	See Match Report
28 th March	U13b football vs Oldfield	League	Lost	6-0
28 th March	U12a football vs Ralph Allen	League	Won	2-0
28 th March	U12b football vs Oldfield	League	Lost	3-0
28 th March	1 st VII rugby 7's @ Rosslyn Park	Tournament	n/a	See Match Report
28 th March	U18b tennis ve Marlborough College	National Cup	Lost	5-1
29 th March	U13a cricket sixes	County Final	Won	See Match Report
30 th March	U13a hockey vs Bristol Grammar	Friendly	Lost	11-0
30 th March	U12a hockey vs Bristol Grammar	Friendly	Lost	10-0
30 th March	U12b hockey vs Bristol Grammar	Friendly	Lost	10-2

Sporting Fixtures

The details below are correct at the time of publication. Please check the BCS Sports website for updated information.

Day	Kick off /start	Fixture	Meeting Time	Transport	Finish / Return
Thursday 25 th April	14:00	1st XI/ U15a Cricket vs Dauntsey's (a)	12:30	MB x2	19:00
	14:30	U15a Cricket vs Dauntsey's (a)	13:00	MB	18:30
	14:30	U12a Football vs Norton Hill @ Odd Down 4G	13:30	MB	16:00
	16:00	U14a Football vs Norton Hill @ Odd Down 4G	15:00	MB	18:00
Saturday 27 th April	09:30	U13a/U13b/U12a cricket vs KES (a)	09:00	n/a	12:00
	09:30	U12b cricket vs KES (h)	09:00	n/a	12:00

Mr M Walker
Fixtures Co-ordinator

Airsoft

The Airsoft Club has been involved in a number of sessions in woods adjacent to the school and, since the sun decided to shine on us again, this has proved popular.

The marshalls for these clubs are provided from the ranks of Year 11 and the support they give to the younger boys is excellent – demonstrating extremely well the level of comparison which we would hope to see in our boys.

In addition to the regular school sessions, we have managed to get in two mornings at Warminster Airsoft, a venue which allows the boys to try out various strategies and achieve the objectives set by the ingenious staff at the centre. Hopefully the summer will give the opportunity for more venues to be sought out to expand their repertoire of scenarios.



Football

Year 7 Football – Season Review

The year seven season has been a triumph! The commitment shown by all boys across all teams has been simply superb. Throughout the matches and in training the boys have tried to improve our 'total football' philosophy and the 'pass and move, play what you see' mantra, which has consistently been adopted by all the teams.

The highlight being our game 5 a side tournament at home versus Ralph Allen and our away victory at Somervale illustrated our passing game. Special mentions must go to Leni Broncon, Joe Hayward, Freddie Wilcox, Herbie Samuels who have all led by example this season and have been key to our successes. Well done all.

Mr C Sillem

Football Tour 2019

This was possibly one of our most successful U12 football tours; all the boys were able to participate fully and the weather was more than kind. I cannot remember another time when I have had to give out sun cream in March!

Our first port of call was at Exeter, playing matches against St Peter's High School. The boys were kitted out in the orange shirts and white shorts of the Cruyff - era Holland team. Whilst we were not about to witness 'total football' there is no doubt that aspiration and determination were seen in abundance.

Our boys performed very well in their games, battling to achieve four draws, three wins and only one defeat. Mr Watts was keen to put the success of his Delta squad down to the pre-match training schedule, although he may well have had a point, given the tenacity of his team in later games.

Leaving Exeter (incredibly slowly due to the city centre traffic), we made our way to Paignton and booked into the hotel, greeted again by the familiar faces of staff who have come to value our annual visits. The evening then moved into the phase which involved the boys choosing their meals at the local Harvester restaurant and demonstrating that there appears to be no upper limit to the amount of cherry soft drink which can be consumed. At the end of the evening, buoyed by salad, chips and (purportedly) ice cream, the happy party made its way back to the hotel. It is to the credit of the boys that the local staff remarked on how exceptionally quiet they were. Obviously the games had taken their toll and the need for some rest before Friday's heavy schedule of matches.

On Friday morning, following a breakfast of substantial quantity, we made our way to the ancient market town of Totnes. Again, the sun shone and the town looked at its best as we circled the outer walls of the Norman castle and made our way down the high street. The hour of wandering the town in small groups passed remarkably quickly and all too soon we were embarking on the buses for the visit to Churston Grammar School.



The matches played at Churston were considerably more of a challenge; the combination of larger grass pitches and a large spectator presence proving difficult to deal with in the first round of games. By the second round the boys had found their feet and it was soon clear that our teams were a match for the opposition. The three games played by each of the teams finished fairly even and our stoic defences had proved up to most of the challenges set.

Barely did we have time to say goodbye to our hosts and it was back on board the buses for the next round of matches at Torquay Boys' Grammar School. The three teams which took to the field against our boys were very good and the tired legs and footballing minds were likely to find this a struggle. I need not have worried. The Eagles team fought out a spirited game, pummelling the goal with shots but unable to make their dominance pay. In the end we run out 2-0 losers, although it was one of the best performances the team had put on. The Deltas fought out a 5-3 victory and were more than a little pleased with themselves! The Corsairs were taking on Torquay's A team and the quality was clear from the start. Despite the huge challenge the team held out until the final minute, heroic defending and goalkeeping having kept the match even for the majority of the time.

The end was now in sight. The fish and chip shop had been contacted, seagulls pre-warned that twenty seven boys with fish and chips would be available for general "food mugging" and the benches on Babbacombe Down vacated for Beechen Cliff use. The sun was going down and an idyllic scene greeted us, the views towards Start Bay in the West and the Jurassic Coast to the East proving great conversational points. Not for the boys, of course food consumption was the primary consideration.

Mr A Davies
Headmaster



Year 8 Football

It is fair to say that the boys struggled to find consistency this season. While the ability, commitment and work ethic of our Academy players was a tremendous boost for the squad, the team could never afford, especially given their limited availability, to rely on them too heavily. Some squad members were a little over-awed by their dazzling talent and at times lacked the confidence to express themselves and play to their own potential.

On the positive side, when the boys relaxed a little and came out of their shells, they played some attractive passing football, allowing for a more cohesive team performance. With greater movement off the ball when in possession and through eradicating any 'ball watching', when not, the team will give a far more accurate account of itself in seasons to come.

All of this, combined with the breadth of squad and the fact that as the boys develop, some of their rivals will lose the physical advantage they enjoyed this season, all bodes well for the future.

Mr C Sillem

Year 11 Football

The year 11 football team are looking to finish the season with the BANES trophy after a disappointing season in the ESFA and Somerset Cup. A disappointing performance in the first round of the ESFA ended in defeat back in September.

The team showed their potential in the early rounds of the Somerset Cup progressing through to the quarter finals with some excellent results against local teams including a strong Norton Hill team. Injuries and illness meant a depleted team in the quarter final where we went down 2-0 to Castle School.

It was fantastic to see over 40 boys playing for the school A and B teams this year and I hope they continue to play after year 11.

1st XI Football Report

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against	Goals Difference
10	7	1	2	41	14	27

The 1st XI have enjoyed some excellent wins this season but unfortunately just came up short in the Somerset Cup.

With many of the squad entering their final year at Beechen Cliff, some of which have been with us for 7 years, the aim for the season was to win the Somerset Cup, a competition we have won for the last two seasons.

Progress in the tournament was good, easing through the 1st and 2nd rounds. The 3rd round saw Beechen Cliff meet their toughest opponent, Millfield School. The squad travelled to Kingweston knowing they would be in for a tough test. Beechen Cliff took a well-deserved early lead but Millfield hit back levelling the scores at 1-1. Beechen Cliff dominated the game, and squandered chance after chance. The game was taken into extra-time where fatigue kicked in for both teams. After extra-time the score line remained, meaning penalties was the only option. In a nerve-racking 15 minutes, the penalties went to sudden-death and Millfield scored the decisive goal, sending them through and the holders crashing out. This was clearly a huge disappointment for the players who had put in a phenomenal performance and deserved a lot more.

In the National Cup, again the team progressed well, easing through the early rounds. We reached round 5 which has been our best run in the competition for some years. In round 5, we played a very strong Thomas Hardy school that just had the edge on the day, mainly down to a very useful striker. The players learnt a lot from this performance and responded well in future games.

Overall, the players can be very pleased with their season. The only games we have lost have been very tight and could have gone either way. I hope many of the students who are leaving us continue to play football long into the future; there is a lot of talent in these players! For the Lower 6th coming through, they will have a big responsibility next season to step up and learn from these experiences.

Best wishes to Fin Coyle, Tom King, Louis Bradley, Harry Mason, Henry Dixon, Ollie Sheppard and Tolu Gbadegesin who are leaving us this year. All have contributed to Beechen Cliff football for many years so we thank you for your service!

Rugby

England call-up for Beechen Cliff players

We are pleased to celebrate the news that four of our rugby players have been included in the latest England U18 rugby squad. George Worboys, Nahum Merigan, Orlando Bailey and John Stewart have been picked for the squad which will prepare for internationals against Scotland, Wales and France in March and then a Six Nations Festival in April.

Commenting on the good news, Head Master Andrew Davies said: "I know that all the staff and pupils at Beechen Cliff are incredibly proud of our rugby players. George, Nahum, Orlando, John and all their teammates are such powerful role-models to the younger boys in the school; both on the pitch and around school. I really look forward to seeing them representing their country, city, school and families in the coming months."

All four are products of the RFU AASE (Achieving Sporting And Sporting Excellence) programme that the school runs in partnership with Bath Rugby which is now in its fourth year and are the latest in a number of age group internationals coming off the Beechen Cliff production line. These four have all been stalwarts of the school's 1st XV, who have had a very successful season in the RFU National AASE League, competing against the AASE partners of all the other Premiership clubs. They were unbeaten in the league phase of the competition, before losing in an agonisingly close Final. They have since maintained their high level of performance in the ensuing Academy League season, playing for Bath Rugby U18s.



George Worboys is an attacking full-back who also excels at fly-half. His place kicking is a major strength, having finished the AASE season as the League's top points scorer with a success rate of nearly 80%. But it is his dancing feet and counter-attacking intent which most likely appealed to the England selectors.



Nahum Merigan, who last month signed his first professional contract with Bath Rugby, joined the school two years ago in order to fulfil his rugby potential and is a boarder in the school's boarding house. He is a ball carrying No8 capable of busting defences with his power, combined with subtle off-loading skills. He has already won his first England cap, having toured South Africa with the England U18s last summer.



Orlando Bailey is a fly-half who has been much talked about in the region for a while now. He is currently an U17, but playing international U18 rugby a year young should not daunt him. From the Dorchester area, he also moved to Beechen Cliff 6th Form to challenge himself by playing at the highest level in the AASE League.



John Stewart is also from Dorchester. John is also a year young but this is never evident in his play. A strong ball carrying, hard-hitting hooker, John is a real student of the technical and tactical side of the game.

Director of Rugby, Sean Turner, concluded: I am delighted for these lads. They have worked so hard to earn their call-ups and the recognition is fully deserved. There is an Honours Board at the school and I know the boys consider having their name added, alongside some illustrious names, to it to be a huge accolade. The talent stream of rugby players coming through the school and its rugby programme is very encouraging. I know there were one or two other players who were also very close to being selected and I am sure that in the years to come there will be many more names added to the Honours Board."

Mr S Turner
Head of Rugby

Hockey

It has been a very successful term for boys hockey at Beechen Cliff, with a fantastic numbers of boys playing in school matches, training after school and also at lunchtimes. At the junior end we have had a huge amount of games including a U12 C team fixture and Saturday matches which has meant that many more boys have had exposure to hockey at an early age. The U14 boys played very well at their Avon county tournament and narrowly missed out on going to regionals, the U16 lads have had unprecedented success this year and, having won their county and regional tournament, head to Nationals at the Olympic Park at the end of April, their commitment to hockey has been incredible, we wish them the best of luck.

Lastly our senior teams have had a large number of matches, competing in all of them and enjoying some social hockey along the way. Next term we will be having some mixed hockey matches in the sixth form, a first for Beechen Cliff! Special thanks goes to Captain Archie Foster whose dedication to the hockey at Beechen over the years has been very impressive, he has driven the senior hockey and passed on much of his skill and experience to the younger lads by helping with numerous coaching sessions. To all the boys, staff and parents who have been involved in making the 2019 hockey term such a success, a massive thank you; I hope we can continue to build from here.



Mr J W Mortimore
Head of Hockey

U12A Hockey – P7 W2 D0 L5

The U12a hockey squad has had a strong start to their time in secondary school, showing their skill and determination from the start. It has been exciting to see the boys persistently asking about the next training session or when the next game is. The boys have had some mixed results against some very strong hockey schools, demonstrating the will to not give up. They have had some excellent victories throughout the season, with particular notice to the 'Booker Plate' runners up of 2019. We are looking forward to seeing how they develop throughout the coming years at Beechen Cliff.



U12B Hockey – P5 W2 D1 L2

The U12B hockey team had a successful season. They started out as a mixture of experienced and novice players but by the end of the season the team were able to play some attractive hockey. This was in no small part due to the enthusiastic coaching of Mr Mortimore and Mr Bowett.

Results

Monkton Combe	Won	5 – 3
Dean Close Prep	Lost	5 – 4
KES	Drew	1 – 1
Colstons	Won	0 – 4
Bristol Grammar	Lost	10 – 2

Mr J Henly



Netball

It's been a tough season for both 1st and 2nd teams, with needing to adjust to new lower sixth members joining the squads. Training took a while to get going at the start of the year, but eventually numbers crept up and once fixtures started, the girls remained committed to training both after school and during their games session.

Both teams got off to a flying start, beating Sexey's comfortably in the first matches of the season. Unfortunately, those would be the only wins of the season. The two squads fought hard every match, with the 1sts really pressurising, competing with and only narrowly losing to Royal High, Prior Park, KES, Monkton and Colstons in some very physical battles.

Thank you to the 23 girls that have represented this school over the last few months for working hard and making coaching here truly enjoyable. Also thank to Mrs J Merrett and Mrs Y de Glanville for taking charge of the 2nds, I know they really appreciate it.

Miss S Robbins

Netball

Easter Tennis Report

Earlier this term 16 pupils in Years 7-10 had the opportunity to work as ball boys at the Fed Cup at Bath University. This was a fabulous opportunity which the boys really embraced and the feedback the school has received on their conduct and efforts has been exceptional. I am really proud of the group and hope they enjoyed the experience.

The summer tennis season is already underway with recent fixtures against Marlborough College and Colstons.

The first team began the summer season with a confident 6-0 victory over Colstons in rather windy conditions in Bristol. On the same day the U13A and U13B teams both narrowly lost 2-4 to the same opposition in really competitive games.

The second team had a very competitive game at home against Marlborough in beautiful spring sunshine, though, despite some close matches, eventually lost 1-5.

After Easter Year 7/8 tennis practices and Year 9/10 tennis practices begin after school. All are welcome to attend the practices and they start the first week back:

Week	Year 7/8 Tennis Practice	Year 9/10 Tennis Practice
w/c 22 nd April	Tuesday 23 rd April	Tuesday 23 rd April
w/c 29 th April	Monday 29 th April	Tuesday 30 th April
w/c 6 th May	Tuesday 7 th May	Tuesday 7 th May
w/c 13 th May	Monday 13 th May	Tuesday 14 th May
w/c 20 th May	Monday 20 th May	Tuesday 21 th May

Practices will then run on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout June.

We will have two U13 teams (Year 7/8), two U15 teams (Year 9/10) and both 1st and 2nd Teams competing over the next two terms. There will also be house tennis competitions, a Year 7 internal tournament and our annual Road to Wimbledon competition for pupils in Year 8/9. We also hope to take a group of Year 10 pupils to Wimbledon for a day to watch some world class tennis.

It promises to be an exciting few months ahead.

Mr T D Markall
i/c tennis

