



BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL

Newsletter for Parents

From the Headmaster

As ever, the main focus of the term has been to ensure that we continue to prepare students in Years 11 and 13 for their impending public examinations. Students from both year groups have been sitting further practice examinations, assimilating the feedback and developing plans of action to address any identified weaknesses. There have also been a number of parents' evenings and a presentation to parents of Year 12 students about the process of applying for a place at university. Alongside these activities, colleagues have been continuing to develop their curriculum plans and teaching resources, and have been preparing for the implementation of a new assessment policy from September.

The highlight of this term was undoubtedly a team of students from Years 9 and 10 winning the National Cross-Country Final in Leeds. Until now, no team of students from a Dorset school had achieved this feat. Five years ago we had never taken a team to a National Final. Thanks to the efforts of our PE staff, seven teams have competed over the last four years. This competition is entered by hundreds of schools every year and the main contenders are typically schools from the independent sector. We are so proud of our staff and students.

In January, we launched a project to celebrate next year's 125th Anniversary of the School opening its doors. Whether an alum, a past or current member of our dedicated staff, or a friend of our school, we hope that as many individuals as possible will contribute in commemorating this event and celebrating the enduring legacy of Bournemouth School. As a first step, there is now a webpage to enable photographs and memories to be submitted – see <https://www.bournemouth-school.org/bs125/>.

At the end of February, we hosted a performance of the "Wasps' Nest" by local theatre group Vita Nova. It is intended that as a part of our personal development curriculum, all students in Year 8 will watch the play. Given the sensitivity of the material being covered, and to raise parents' awareness of County Lines, we offered parents the opportunity to attend an evening performance.

The play was written in response to the increasing dangers of County Lines (see <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines>), and includes the themes of knife crime and drug and alcohol addiction. Vita Nova is a community theatre group for those in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse (see: <https://vitanova.co.uk/>). The group's hard-hitting performance was followed by an opportunity to hear the actors' personal testimonies about the impact of addiction.

The aims of the production are to:

- offer an insight into how young people may be groomed and exploited by those involved in drug activity
- increase awareness of triggers and warning signs of potential involvement with County Lines
- enable students to hear from individuals with experiences of addiction
- increase students' awareness of the dangers and risks of carrying a knife
- explore the impact of social media and peer pressure on young people

The play was extremely well-received by those who attended. Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, the performance to Year 8 have had to be postponed until after the public examinations have been held.

The end of the half term was marked by the Darwin/Turner charity week at Friday lunchtime. We are very grateful to everyone for contributing to the collections for charity and to the prefects for their organisation of the events.

Other notable events this term

- Darwin/Turner charity week- the obligatory cake sale and tuck shop were supplemented by selling milkshakes, collecting donations for “Hope for Food”, and a “Sponge the Teacher” event
- Assemblies to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, and Careers in Science Week
- Maths Challenges and Olympiads in Linguistics, Computing and the Sciences
- Trips to the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton for performances of “*An Inspector Calls*”
- Women’s Business Breakfast, with inspirational guest speaker Padma Dayananda
- Half-term ski trip to Cerler, a high altitude, snow-sure resort in the Spanish Pyrenees in the region of Aragon
- Year 12 Politics trip to the Imperial War Museum and the Houses of Parliament
- Sixth form Art trip to the Tate Modern
- Life-saving training delivered to Years 8 and 9 by healthcare professionals from the RBH
- Music workshop at Poole Grammar School on Friday 7th March
- House competitions (including House Music, which was won by Scott House) and sports tournaments
- Guest speakers throughout the term (from for example, Dyson, Cardiff and Exeter Universities, etc)

As the term came to an end our CCF was inspected and we enjoyed our termly music concert. We were fortunate in having dry, albeit blustery, weather for our annual inspection. Following an impressive parade, the cadets engaged in a number of activities throughout the remainder of the day, show-casing the wide range of skills that they have been developing. Needless to say, the inspection was again passed with flying colours. The Spring Concert included pieces from a range of genres, with many featuring our Year 13 students; it has been a privilege to see such talented and motivated students develop during their time at the school.

Staffing changes

At the end of this term, Mrs Brown, our assistant librarian will be leaving us. Mrs Brown joined the school in September 2018, and has been of great support to Mrs Morgan in ensuring that the library has continued to flourish. Miss Lewis, one of our Pastoral Support Assistants, who joined us in January 2024 is also leaving the school next week to relocate and take up a similar position at Shrewsbury School. At the end of April, Dr Vine, who joined the science department in January 2016 will be retiring. We thank all three colleagues for their service and wish them well in their future endeavours.

The Beginning and End of the School Day

As you will no doubt be aware from the media coverage, all school budgets are under increasing pressure. Fortunately, due to careful financial management, we are not having to limit the number of subjects that are delivered, increase class sizes, or make staff redundant. We are not, however, entirely insulated from the financial pressures faced by all schools. To alleviate some of these pressures we have had to re-evaluate the provision for students before and after school. Consequently, from the beginning of next term, there will be some changes to when facilities and resources are available to students before and after the school day.

From Tuesday 22nd April, the following will apply:

Students may arrive at school **from 7.45 am**, entering the site through the green gates to the west of the main entrance (using their ID card to gain access). Students arriving from 7.45 am must remain in *Le Bistro* until 8.10 am. Students arriving between 8.10 and 8.25 may use the west and east entrances; those arriving late (i.e. after 8.25 am) may only use the main entrance. All students must leave the site **before 3.45 pm** unless they are involved in an activity directly supervised by a member of staff.

In addition to extra-curricular activities at the Sir David English Sports Centre, some facilities on the main site are also open to students after school. The school library is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday until **4.30 pm** and on Friday until **4 pm**. Students may use the computers in room 53 for independent study on Monday to Thursday until 4.30 pm and on Friday until 4 pm. Room 53 also accommodates our "Success Club" from 3.30pm to 4.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for students who would like some additional support.

Facilities Improvements

- Security improvements have been made to the school's entrances; all staff and students must now use their ID cards to enter and exit the premises, drastically reducing the risk of unauthorised access to the site. Further improvements are planned via CCTV upgrades, and training for staff and students is under way for lockdown procedures, which will include a drill early next term.
- Exterior lighting around the site has been upgraded in a number of places with dusk-to-dawn/PIR activation as appropriate and LED fixtures.
- The canopy was completed ahead of schedule, with all works taking place within one week after Christmas. This addition has resulted in less crowding in *Le Bistro* at break- and lunchtimes, and students have appreciated the shelter during inclement weather. As the year progresses, we hope to make further use of this space for outdoor functions and events
- The lecture theatre has been completed and is now in use. Users of the theatre have appreciated the comfort of the seating, the warmth of the space and the clarity of both the audio and visual facilities.
- Works to refurbish some other aspects of the library/resources block has now been completed. These refurbished facilities include three new IT suites, two offices, and toilets for both students and staff (please see photos on the following page). We anticipate having the facility fully open and operational after Easter.
- We have submitted a bid to the Department for Education for the replacement of fire doors across the site, and are beginning to plan for some other improvement works to be undertaken before September.



Year 7

Our Year 7 students continue to thrive and respond well to the challenges coming their way from both inside and outside the curriculum.

Attendance as a year group is a very impressive 97% and together they have accrued nearly 21,000 achievement points since the start of the academic year!

The boys continue to make every effort to embrace our school values of hard work, determination, smart appearance and respect, evidenced by the fact I compiled a very long list of names of students who deserved to receive a special letter of recognition either for their Attitude to Learning (ATL) or progress grades after the Spring progress reports were published. In some exceptional cases, students were singled out for praise for outstanding results in both aspects of academic life.

For Attitude to Learning, our expectation is that a student gets a B grade. This means they are behaving well in lessons, are ready to learn and are trying to complete all tasks to a high standard. Of the 2744 ATL grades given out by teachers to the Year 7 cohort, only 38 of them were "C" grades, which shows that the boys are focused and working hard around school.

This term, Mrs Barnard-Dyson, from the careers department, worked in conjunction with the NHS to once again support the boys to enter a nation-wide competition to raise awareness of the various career opportunities available in the NHS. All students who entered received achievement points and the winning entry by Ojas L in 7N is shown opposite. This will now be submitted to the national competition – congratulations Ojas!

I regularly ask Year 7 Form Tutors to nominate Star Students – two per form – who have demonstrated the Bournemouth School values. Mrs Fengler (our Deputy Head of Year 7) looks forward to visiting these students and awarding them with a sticker, as well as sharing with the class why they have been nominated by their Form Tutor. The aim is to recognise smart appearance, hard work, respect and determination. At the time of writing, the following students have received the recognition this term:

7D - Joseph E; Jasper VR; Oscar C; Adam M; Aba AM; Rafael R; Benjamin T

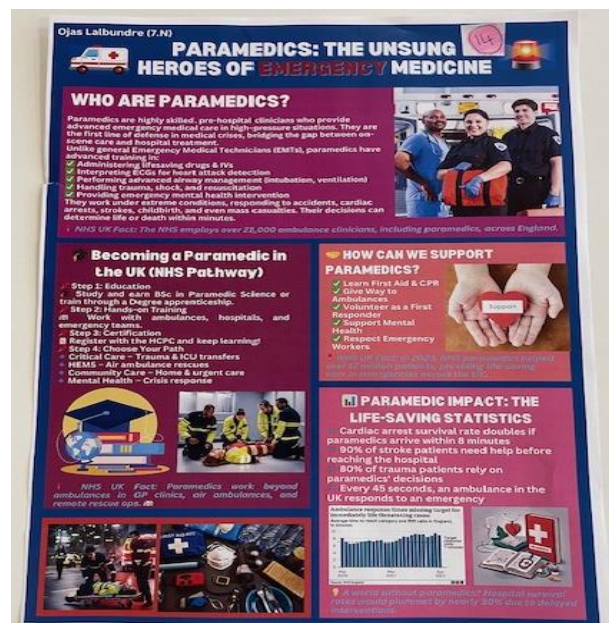
7E – Charlie G; Aflie N; Josh H; Alex C; Reuben H; Shrihan PK; Enzo H; Finley B

7M – Leo D; Charlie G; Anthony I; Alan K; Tobe N; Divyam S; Max T; Jake R; Lukas E; Arnav M; Adam L; Nadeem A

7N – Sam B; James K; Edward W; Thomas R; Dylan G; Sammy S

7S – Samay S; Ruzgar Y; Mason J; Emmett B; Toby B; Freddie R

7T – Benjamin T; Ethan C; Aadam KK; Riyash R; Anshumann MSB; Nathan E



Outside of lessons, we continue to see great success in rugby and football with students honing their skills in school, as well as with their teams outside. There has also been much success in art, dance, music, squash and swimming. As ever, please do let me know of your son's achievements outside of school.

The whole Year 7 team, both academic and pastoral, wish you and your families a happy and peaceful time over the Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming you back for the start of the Summer term.

Ms Thorne, Head of Year

Year 8

With GCSE options now selected, students can look forward to focusing on their chosen subjects from September. The challenge between now and then, however, is to remain focused in the subjects that they have chosen not to continue to study!

The recent Spring progress reports highlighted how hard the Year 8 boys are working, and classrooms are calm, focused and industrious around the school.

The boys have had the opportunity to learn important first aid skills this term, and later on in the year they will be taking part in workshops on the themes of cyberbullying, knife crime, relationships and team building. As ever, we want our students to be striving for academic excellence, but of crucial importance is the need for them to be happy, healthy, well-rounded individuals who can go out into the world equipped to deal with its many challenges.

In English, Year 8 have been working on creative writing skills - creating vivid, atmospheric settings that transport the reader to a different place. Aayatollah in Turner House used the technique of flashback as a structural device to create the dramatic piece he wrote in a lesson. I have included it below to show off his talents as a writer:

His mind betrayed him, pulling him away to a memory he hadn't touched in years. He was back on his family farm, a boy of eight, running through golden wheat fields with his younger sister. Their laughter carried on the wind, mingling with the hum of summer. He could see his mother's apron dusted with flour and hear his father's low chuckle as he called them inside for supper.

As the gunfire faded into an uneasy silence, Callum reached under his uniform and pulled out a small, dirt-smeared locket. Inside was a faded photo of his family, their faces blurred but familiar. He held it tightly, as though it could tether him to a world beyond the carnage. That memory of the wheat fields, of simpler times, wasn't just a fragment of the past – it was a promise of what he was fighting to protect.

He closed his eyes for a moment, steeling himself, before rising to his feet. If he survived this, he vowed, he'd find his way back to that sunlit life.

On behalf of the Year 8 team, I would like to wish you a happy and restful break over Easter and we look forward to welcoming the boys back for the start of the Summer term.

Ms Thorne, Head of Year

Year 9

This has been a term for building on the good habits that the boys have acquired since the start of their GCSE studies back in September. Lessons are purposeful and although there is work to do with the use of Learning Journals, boys are doing well in assessments.

The top 11 students for progress this term are as follows:

Sanhith P, Alexander S, Aarav J, Andrei B, Lucas S, Edward A, Jack H, George R, Edwin T S, Jaden V and Hiu Hong W

A huge well done to them and also the boys who have achieved wonderful results in assessments.

In February, we were delighted to welcome NHS intensive care nurses and a university lecturer for a Life Support workshop, where the boys were taught CPR and had the opportunity to ask a range of questions on this vital life skill. Needless to say, the visiting staff spoke very highly about the boys and I was delighted with the feedback I got from Miss Lewis, who organised the event and deserves a big thank you.



House matches have been fast and well contested and football practice has been well attended, a sure sign that the boys are really buying into the school community. Summer's coming and then it will be Year 10!

Year 10

Another busy term has passed and to their credit, the majority of the boys in the year group have approached their studies with a mature, enthusiastic attitude. To walk around the corridors and pop into lessons is a privilege and I have been delighted by the standard of classwork that I have seen.

The top 10 students for progress this term are as follows:

Zayn B, Harley V, Leo A, Jacob T, Ben D, Ewan M, John N, Arjun R and Benjamin S.

Assemblies are focussed around following the simple rules that help to make the school what it is and the vast majority of the year group follow them perfectly. However, there are one or two students who are still learning and this is taking a little longer than I expected, but we are getting there.

Whilst this term has been about working towards their Year 10 mock exams at the end of April, some boys found the time to visit J P Morgan on a "Open Door Day" where they listened to a director talk about his career and spoke to other staff about the industry.

Outside of the classroom, we have enjoyed House 5 a-side football, Basketball and Cross Country (the last one featuring all of the year group).

Four boys represented Dorset in the English Schools Cross Country Championship, namely Ollie N, Ben S, Finn OM and Henry F. Congratulations to them.

Mr Robjohns, Head of Year 9 & 10

Year 11

Our Year 11 students continue to grow as individuals and as a community as they take strides towards their GCSE exams, now seemingly just days away! Their character and kindness contribute to making Bournemouth School such a special place to be. 'The little things being the big things' is something that we often spotlight through form time and assemblies, and it is the superb team of Form Tutors: Mr Coward, Mrs Finch, Miss Hamalienko, Miss Hunt, Mr Sekhar and Mr Rixon, with support from our brilliant PSA Mrs Cornish, who personify this through their unrelenting care.

Miss Gosling and I draw inspiration from the efforts of our boys when they are at their best, both in and out of the classroom. Here are just some of the highlights from this term:

21 students have been awarded their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze level and 53 their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Over the February half-term break, Alex F travelled to Thailand for his second-year 'Ror Dor' (ROTC) camp, held in Kanchanaburi. Over the three-day camp, he trained in static line parachuting, learning the full setup process and the correct procedure for jumping out of an aircraft. This intense training pushed him out of his comfort zone and gave him invaluable experience in discipline, teamwork, and overcoming psychological barriers. Before the camp, Alex spent four days at his yacht club, preparing video evidence for his GCSE PE coursework. During this time, he also taught international school students how to sail over three days. He guided them on land, coached them in the boat, and later supervised from the safety boat once they gained confidence. Alex reported that it was a rewarding experience to pass on his knowledge of sailing and help young sailors develop their skills on the water. More recently, Alex and his helm took part in the 420 Inland Championships at Rutland, finishing 7th out of 28 boats which included their first race win as a crew! This event was one of the main selection events for Team GBR. Their second qualifier at the Royal Southern Yacht Club comes just before Easter. Good luck Alex!

Leon H reports that our CCF sections are preparing well for Inspection Day, to which Year 11 are centrally involved. As of next year, current Year 11 students will be given senior roles as IC's. This means that they have been working hard to secure the promotions they have been aiming for. They are also supporting the leading of Inspection Day activities within their groups, through which they will be setting examples for Year 9 and 10 students who will be embarking on their first external inspection. This will involve the opportunity to potentially take part in the Honour Guard, representing the entire CCF section in front of the Inspecting Officer.



Our Year 11 football team enjoyed an eventful season coming to its end this term including both challenges and successes. A close encounter was sadly lost against Winton School but a 2-1 victory coming against LEAF Academy saw us finish second in the league!

Huge congratulations to Sam S and Jake S who represented our school cross country team in the senior boys category national finals in Leeds. Our senior boys team finished in 25th place which is an outstanding achievement given the incredibly high level of competition in the event.

In the world of Bournemouth School House Competitions Year 11 have contributed to the programme through House hide and seek which took the shape of an Easter Egg hunt around school. Result to follow after Easter!

Finally, I'm really proud to report that Year 11 have to this point accumulated over 12,000 achievement points this year.

Here's to a Summer term rich in GCSE success for Year 11!

Mr Lewis, Head of Year

Prefects

Year 12: Senior Prefects

The new senior prefect team took over from their Year 13 counterparts in February. The new, expanded team, led by Luca G as School Captain, consists of five Deputy School Captains, as well as House and Deputy House Captains.



Some of the new senior prefect team

Mentoring Lead

My name is Will and I have been given the role as one of the deputy school captains. I take biology, chemistry, and maths as I love all three subjects. I am the head of educational mentoring and I'm excited to help the younger students perfect their skills to be ready for GCSEs and to get top grades, with help from my eager mentors. I have already launched prefect support in Success Club and look forward implementing more mentoring across the school.

Head and Deputy Head of Darwin – Matthew and Adam

Hello, my name is Matthew and I am the new Darwin House Captain. It is a great privilege for me to be able to say that, as I have been in Darwin since I first joined in Year 7 and am very proud to be able to represent my house around the school. For my A-Levels, I am taking Biology, Psychology and Economics, with the hope of becoming a psychologist when I am older, as being able to help people and make a difference is something I am very passionate about. Outside of school, some of my interests are music and playing the guitar, along with doing sports, whether it be football or running. I am really excited about my new role and having the opportunity to give back to the school that has supported me so much since I joined all those years ago. I will make sure to always do my best and set a positive example, with the aim of hopefully inspiring the younger students to do the same.

I'm Adam, and I'm the Deputy Head of Darwin House. I take French, Economics and Psychology and I aim to study Economics at university. I'm honoured to have this role and hope I can help Darwin and Matthew be successful in all parts of school life.

Head and Deputy Head of Elgar – Fred and Sai

Hi, I'm Fred and I'm thrilled to be House Captain of Elgar this year. I am currently taking Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Computer Science at A level as well as being a keen sportsman outside of school. I aim to make Elgar a fun and inclusive house which students are proud to be a part of. I am also supported by an amazing prefect team who would love to hear from the students of Elgar as we believe every voice is valued. I look forward to seeing Elgar House thrive over the next year!

Hi, I'm Sai and I am the Deputy Head prefect of Elgar. It is a privilege to have this role. I enjoy playing rugby, representing the school with our first XV. I take Biology, Chemistry, Maths and EPQ as I aspire to be a doctor. I look forward to working with Fred to bring a competitive and nurturing atmosphere in our House. We strive to make Elgar a better community for the younger years.

Head and Deputy Head of Moore – Archie and Ethan

Hi, my name is Archie and I'm the new Moore House Captain. I'm studying English, History and Politics with the hope of studying law and becoming the next Harvey Specter. My biggest passion is surfing which I am an instructor in. It's an honour to be given this role and I hope I can help anyone who needs it.

Hi, my name's Ethan and I am currently taking A level PE history and Biology. I joined as an external student from Oak Academy and spend most of my time in the great outdoors, hiking, camping and even white-water kayaking!

Head and Deputy Head of Newton – Risinu and Laras

I'm Risinu the new Newton House Captain. I am extremely grateful to be in this position and I intend to continue to work hard to make the school a better place. I have a deep passion for the sport of basketball and I am very interested in biology - especially the field of medicine.

Hi I'm Laras the new Deputy House Captain of Newton. I am indebted to have received this role and be able to work alongside such great people. I am a dedicated athlete representing both my club Bournemouth and the County Dorset competition to national standards. I take biology, PE, and psychology A levels in which I hope to study Sport Science at university in order to pursue a career in the sport industry.

Head and Deputy Head of Scott – Aaryan and Ben

Hi, my name is Aaryan and I'm the Head of Scott House! I am currently studying Biology, Chemistry, Design Technology, and Core Maths; with the idea to hopefully study Dentistry in the future! In my free time I enjoy training in martial arts, and currently I compete for England in Karate. I hope to improve Scott House and invoke motivation in our form groups to win us the House Cup!

Hi everyone, my name is Ben and I'm the Deputy Head of Scott House and I study A-Level Maths, Further Maths, Physics, and Computer Science. In my free time I enjoy competing in chess, judo and speed cubing, as well as long distance running. I hope to pursue aerodynamics in motorsport as a career and one of my future goals is to complete an Ironman Triathlon.

Head and Deputy Head of Turner – Noah and Bartosz

Hi Bournemouth School! My name is Noah, and I am the new Head of Turner alongside my Deputy, Bartosz. As an external student I'm super excited to join this amazing sixth form and give my all to the role. I can assure you I am absolutely committed to helping others and fostering growth, my career aspirations aiming at medicine would hopefully point towards that. My subjects include, Biology, Chemistry, Maths and EPQ but I promise that isn't my only focus, contrary to some of my friend's beliefs; I love hikes and the Beatles, as well as well-designed book covers. I am always open to questions and feedback, so reach out to me or Bartosz with anything Turner related!

Hi Bournemouth School, my name is Bartosz. I have been at Bournemouth School since 2019 and I came from Jewell Academy. For subjects I am heavily focussed on STEM, with A-Levels of Maths, Physics, Further Maths and Computing. For each of these I participate in relevant societies and talks. I also take part in CCF and specifically I am in the Royal Navy section, so I'm happy to talk about any of those matters!

Sixth Form

It has been another busy term in the Sixth Form, with students applying themselves to their studies, as well as embracing the extra-curricular opportunities on offer. It is lovely to see the studious atmosphere in the Sixth Form Study Centre as students continue working hard towards the Year 12 mocks and the Year 13 exams. Year 13 have completed two sets of mocks in preparation for their A Levels and many students were encouraged by their excellent results, whilst others must now consider how they access support to step up in these last weeks to achieve their potential.

Year 13 students are excited about the opportunities that lie on the other side of their exams. Many students have received university offers, including offers for Oxford and Cambridge, whilst others have secured degree apprenticeships in areas such as finance and technology with companies including JP Morgan. Please continue to encourage your sons and daughters to let us know of their successes and to let us support students who may be disappointed and need some encouragement.

Year 12 and 13: Revision Guidance

Students should now all have a revision plan/timetable in place. Please ask to see your child's timetable, so that you can help support them and keep them accountable. It is important that they all have a quiet place to study and are putting in the effort needed to reach their targets. Encourage them to place their mobile phones out of reach, to reduce distractions. A weekly Study Tips email is sent every Friday to all students providing useful advice on different study techniques.

Year 12 Spring Term News

As always, Year 12 have enjoyed a busy and fulfilling Spring term. In terms of our prefects, head of house, and society leads, it has been a pleasure to see students making the very best of leadership opportunities afforded to them and making a genuine difference within the school community. Equally, this term it has been wonderful to see so many students opting to attend the range of wider enrichment opportunities that we have offered, such as mathematics lectures and talks from visiting speakers. Attending such talks demonstrates genuine academic inquisitiveness, and this curiosity is a quality that universities and future employers actively seek.

Our focus in tutorial sessions this term has been on ensuring that students are creating the right independent study habits while also maintaining a focus on personal health and wellbeing. Our focus in assemblies has been directed towards the upcoming Year 12 examinations and possible pathways that will follow when students complete their A Levels. Year 12s have been fortunate to hear from several Year 13 students regarding apprenticeship and university preparation.

UCAS Evening

Wednesday, 12th March saw the Sixth Form Team launch the UCAS application process to Year 12 students and parents with an informative UCAS evening. This session guided parents through the UCAS hub, as well as the reforms to personal statements. This was then followed up with a talk from Surrey University during Wednesday enrichment, which explained how to decide on courses and destinations. Hopefully, this has now set students in good stead ahead of the Spring/Summer terms, where they will continue to receive support and guidance ahead of application submissions in December/January.

A fortnightly newsletter, *Next Steps*, is now going out to Year 12 parents with information and key dates, so that parents are aware what their child should be working towards now. We have also devised a fun activity with the aim to encourage students to engage in some research into possible pathways. The goal is for students to fill in a row, column, or diagonal line of research in the weeks to come. Year 12 students should pop into the study centre when they have crossed off a line, so that we can reward them.

University and post A-Level pathway bingo

Find a university that offers the course that you want to study	Find a university that offers a summer school	Research the apprenticeship opportunities on UCAS	Make sure that you can access your Unifrog account
Research a university with a high student satisfaction rate	On Unifrog, open your personal statement section and answer the first question	Attend a careers and apprenticeship fair	Research student finance options
Research a university which is classified as campus-based	Research three gap year programmes	Research the degree opportunities at local universities	Research apprenticeship section on Unifrog
Research apprenticeship opportunities on- Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK	Research the degree courses that require you sit an additional subject entrance test	Research degree courses that require you to sit the UCAT or LNAT.	Discover a university that has a diverse extracurricular programme.

Year 12 exams and finding balance

With Year 12 exams on the horizon, it is key to follow the revision advice outlined above. However, after such a busy term, we often forget to stop and enjoy the benefits of hard work as we move hastily onto the next challenge. Therefore, we suggest that students take the spring break to discuss what they have achieved, the challenges they have overcome, and what they have learned from the experience. Finding a balance between attainment and relaxation is always key. Students need to balance their future goals while also staying healthy and happy. If you are struggling to find this balance, please do speak to your Tutor or your Head of Year.

Societies and Visiting Speakers

Mrs Barnard-Dyson has arranged some fantastic external speakers, workshops and interview support for the students. In March, we had the hugely successful Women's Business Breakfast. Students were given the opportunity to hear from an inspirational keynote speaker followed by several guests from a variety of different industries. Year 12 students can look forward to Dyson workshops and guest speakers from Pharmaceutical firms to mention a few.



Women's Business Breakfast

Student-run societies are a key strength of the sixth form, providing students with opportunities to take on leadership roles, develop valuable skills for the future, and explore their interests in greater depth. They are also valuable for university applications, as a way of illustrating their dedication to their chosen subject.

Computing Society

This term, the Computing Society have been going from strength to strength with a large group of dedicated members. Their current project involves salvaging old computers and repurposing them to construct their own server. Along the way, they are learning lots about how computers are constructed.



The Engineering Society

The Engineering Society has been particularly busy this term, taking on exciting hands-on projects. They have successfully built an electric motor for an RC car entirely from scratch, designing and 3D-printing bespoke components. Their latest challenge involves constructing rubber band-powered cars, pushing their problem-solving and design skills even further. The society also generated a real buzz in school when they welcomed a local car enthusiast and YouTuber [Sam's Garage](#), who not only shared insights into his home-built kit car but also brought it onto the school site, giving students the chance to see his work up close.



Other societies have also benefited from visits by professionals. The Law Society has enjoyed a series of insightful sessions with Lester Aldridge Solicitors, giving students a valuable look into the legal profession. Meanwhile, the Medical Society has welcomed distinguished guests, including a consultant vascular surgeon and one of our own alumni, Harry Beckett, who is currently in his second year of medical school. His visit provided aspiring medics with an inspiring first-hand account of life as a medical student.

These opportunities not only enrich students' learning but also give them a taste of the careers and industries they may one day enter. We look forward to seeing more exciting initiatives from our societies in the coming months.

Opening of our refurbished lecture theatre-mathematic masterclasses

This term, we have been delighted to announce the opening of our refurbished lecture theatre. This space offers a wealth of opportunities for groups of students to experience university and conference-style talks. We kicked off this term with a series of maths-based masterclasses for Mr. Whitmarsh-Bauer. These enrichment lectures have covered topics such as sets and infinity, number theory and group theory.



Year 12 - 13 Football

Despite such a large focus on academic studies this term, it is also wonderful to celebrate our students for their sporting achievements. Wednesday, 12th March saw the 6th Form 7-a-side house football competition, which was an opportunity for students to engage in some healthy competition, learn to work as a team, and have some fun. The victorious house was eventually Moore.



Celebration of student achievements outside of school

With the demands and challenges of studying A Levels, it is often hard to believe that our students find time to pursue other interests outside of school, yet so many do. This term, we wanted to highlight and celebrate the endeavours of some of our Year 12 students.

Congratulations to Lucy J who has been selected for the Southwest England volleyball team. This is a phenomenal achievement as only 12 players out of the whole of the southwest are selected. As a result, Lucy has an interregional championship in May half-term in Kettering where she will be representing southwest, and all the matches are live streamed on YouTube.

We also wanted to celebrate the achievements of Xavier J in 12 Moore. Xavier has always been a keen athlete, representing Bournemouth School in a variety of sporting activities. However, for quite some time, he has also been dedicating much of his time and making great strides in the sport of rowing. He has already achieved several accolades and achievements. Last year, he was joint winner of the Under 19 Men's Four Nations Beach Sprints Series. He was one of only five Under 19 men (with him being the youngest) selected for the Great Britain Beach Sprints team for the World Rowing Championships in Genoa, Italy, which took place at the start of last term. This year, Xavier has also successfully completed the British Rowing Diploma, and most recently, he was one of only four Under 19 men selected to row for Great Britain at Coupe de la Jeunesse in Los Alcázares, Spain. The dedication and perseverance that such achievement must take is inspiring and we wish Xavier all the best of luck with this in the future.

Finn S. recently played in the 2025 Masters section of the Isle of Wight International Chess Tournament. The tournament consisted of 9 rounds 6 days. For each game, each player had 90 minutes play time with a 30 second increment per move. Finn joined the tournament with an international rating of 1887 and being the 107th seed. He ended the tournament with 5/9, putting him in tied 33rd place, with his tiebreaks making him 39th. He gained a 134 rating, raising his international rating to 2021. Additionally, he gained a 65 national rating, bringing his national rating to 2163, thus making him the highest rated chess player in Dorset! Some of his best results in the tournament include beating FM Neil Dickenson who had an international rating of 2283 and drawing IM Jovanka Houska who had an international rating of 2344 and who is also the highest rated woman chess player in Britain along with being the 9-time British Women's Chess Champion. Huge congratulations to Finn on his success!

We have a lot of fantastically talented dancers in the Sixth Form, specialising in different forms of dance. Antony D. has been performing across the country in recent weeks, most recently dancing in the Peggy Hawkins fundraising gala. Elsewhere, Pranav B recently performed at a local cultural event in tribute to a legendary Malayalee playback singer P Jayachandran. Pranav performed one of his most popular songs before moving into high-energy Bollywood/Punjabi, Tamil and Malayalam tracks.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to the following students for achieving their DofE awards in the last few months:

- Ben H. - Silver
- Christopher P. - Gold
- Shayan B. - Gold
- George P. - Gold

Chris, Shayan and George are awaiting their invites to the award ceremonies in London this summer.

The Term Ahead:

Year 12:

Examinations: 22nd - 25th April 2025

UCAS Search Tool Display: 29th April 2025

Work Experience: 28th April - 2nd May 2025

UCAS Undergraduate Applications Open: 13th May 2025

Year 13:

Last day of teaching: Friday 9th May 2025

Mrs Brown, Director of Sixth Form

Term Information

End of term:

Friday 4th April 2025

School finishes at 3.20 pm

School buses will run at normal times in the morning and afternoon.

Start of term:

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Timetable is Week 2

Start of School 8.30 am

School buses will run at normal times in the morning and afternoon.

Safeguarding at Bournemouth School

Mrs C Wood, Assistant Headteacher/DSL

Safeguarding the young people in our care is absolutely our number one priority in school.

Please do contact us if you have any questions or queries:



BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL

Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Clare Wood
Assistant Head



Deputy Safeguarding Lead (Primary DDSL)

Suzanne Picot
Attendance & Safeguarding Officer

Deputy Safeguarding Leads



Dorian Lewis
Headteacher



Katie Ateaque
Deputy Head



Nick Stroud
Deputy Head



Rebecca Issott
Assistant Head & SENDCO



Clare Brown
Assistant Head & Director of Sixth Form



Tammy Holcroft
Deputy Director of Sixth Form



Kelly Thorne
Head of Years 7 and 8



Dave Robjohns
Head of Years 9 and 10



Richard Lewis
Head of Year 11



Luke Hedges
Head of PE



Will Pyke
Governor responsible for safeguarding

School holidays can be an anxious time for some families so please do use our website to navigate your way around some support agencies that you can turn to. If you need to report something during school holidays you can find contact details on these pages (Link to 'External Agencies'). Click on the QR code to take you straight to it or you can use www.bournemouth-school.org and follow the link.



Contacting the school's safeguarding team

Email: dsl@bournemouth-school.org
Telephone: 01202 512609
www.bournemouth-school.org/safeguarding

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility.



BCP Safeguarding Children Partnership website is a very useful resource for you if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Safeguarding of young people within our area. It can be reached here: [BCP - BCP Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Netflix's series "Adolescence"

Many of you may have seen Netflix's series "Adolescence", which has received praise for its cinematography and acting. However, its core message is even more significant. This 4-part series delves into the reality of child knife crime in the UK and its connections to misogyny and incel culture. If you have not seen it you may have heard about it in the press, on social media and on the national news. As a school, it's crucial that we provide students with a safe space to express their concerns and educate them on these issues. The guide below explains some of the language used.

✓Hard Work

✓Discipline

✓Smart Appearance

✓Respect

Incel culture

PARENT GUIDE



The recent **Netflix drama Adolescence** has highlighted the troubling rise of incel (involuntary celibate) communities and their influence on young people. As a parent, it is important to understand this online subculture, recognise warning signs, and engage in open conversations with your child. This guide explains incel ideology, key terms, signs to look out for, and conversation starters to help you support your child. You can find further support on our website.

What is an incel?



The term **incel** stands for 'involuntary celibate' and refers to men who believe they are unable to form romantic or sexual relationships despite wanting to. Some incel communities foster resentment towards women, blaming them for their perceived misfortune. These forums (often online) can promote misogyny, victimhood, and, in extreme cases, radicalisation.

Key Incel Terminology

Red Pill – From The Matrix, refers to 'waking up' to the 'truth' of gender dynamics, as incels perceive them.

Chad – An attractive, successful man who is desirable to all women.

Stacy – An attractive woman who is seen as prioritising men like Chad.

Becky – An average woman, often contrasted with a Stacy.

Femoid/Foid – A dehumanising term, implying women are inferior.

Black Pill – Belief that nothing changes with self improvement or effort.

80/20 Rule – A theory suggesting that 80% of women are attracted to 20% of men, fuels resentment.

Andrew Tate – A key promoter of incel ideology.

Signs to Look Out For:

- Low self-esteem
- Use of incel language
- Hostility towards women
- Isolation and secrecy
- Increased frustration & anger



Conversation Starters:

- What do you think makes a healthy relationship?
- Do you think it's fair to blame one group of people for personal difficulties?
- How do you decide whether something you read online is trustworthy?

Follow @youcantknoweverything_homeed

One of the many key messages from this series is to consider that students may not openly share if bad things are happening to them. This could be due to fear of repercussions. There is a video you can watch that shows the importance of looking out for signs [Are You Listening?](#) It is important not to panic and think that if you notice some of these things then your child must be getting criminally exploited! These are indicators and at the very least may offer you a platform to discuss what your child is being exposed to/ doing in the on-line world that so many of our young people move around in. As a school we are frequently exploring additional ways to enhance education and training on these topics for both staff and students. If you have any concerns about anything please refer to the school website where there are links to outside agencies, or you can speak to your child's Tutor or one of the safeguarding team.

Parental support for parents with a child who is at risk of or experiencing criminal exploitation



[Escapeline](#) is a local charity who offer training, support, and guidance on preventing child exploitation.

[Ivision Trust](#) is a national charity who offer telephone support and webinars for parents and carers.

[St Giles Trust](#) is a national charity. Their website contains lots of information on the signs of exploitation and on police involvement. The Trust runs several peer hubs, but there are currently none in the BCP area, so they cannot provide face to face support here. However, we can access the hubs for foster carers, or where children are moving to live with a parent living within the catchment area of a hub.

Prevent Radicalisation and Extremism by Acting Early



It can be hard to know what to do if somebody you know is expressing extreme views or hatred towards groups within society. Family and friends are often the first to spot worrying changes taking place. If you do have concerns there is a very helpful on-line resource you can use for further information and guidance [ACT Early | Prevent radicalisation](#)

Messages of hate can take many different forms. 'Educate Against Hate' has produced common questions and answers, as well as providing resources for you as Parents, should you be concerned. The link to this site is here



[Parents' Resources - Educate Against Hate](#)

Report Remove Report Remove is here to help young people under 18 in the UK to confidentially report sexual images and videos of themselves and remove them from the internet. The link to the web-site is [Report Remove | Childline](#)



Shore was launched in 2023 to provide a **safe and anonymous place for young people** to get help and support. The aim of this website is to **prevent harmful sexual behaviours** among young people. It's for anyone who:



- has questions about healthy sexual relationships
- wants to change their own behaviour
- is looking for reliable information to help them respond to someone else's behaviour

It can be accessed here: [Home - Shore](#)

Vapes - We have been asked by BCP Council to encourage you to share any information as to the location of local shops/names that are providing children with vapes, particularly any known to contain THC. You can call 101 to report any intel, or 999 if it is an emergency.

BCP Consultation

BCP Council are currently proposing to introduce a 20mph neighbourhood in Winton and some surrounding areas to make our roads safer. This will be subject to consultation with people who live, work, study and travel in the area. You can find out more about the proposal and have your say here: haveyoursay.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/winton-20mph-neighbourhood (respondents need to be aged 14+ to register).

A Level Politics Trip to the Imperial War Museum and the Houses of Parliament, March 2025

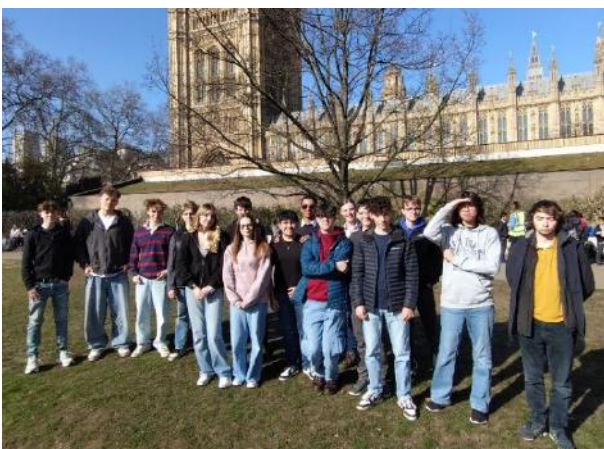
In March, A level Politics students travelled up to London to visit the Imperial War Museum, where we visited the 'Peace and Security: 1945-2014' exhibits, before taking some time to look round the other sections of the museum. After a lunch stop in the museum's school room, we transferred over to Parliament, where we were given a guided tour of the site, including access to the viewing gallery in the House of Commons, and an education session on political parties. For many students the highlight was a visit from our Bournemouth East MP Tom Hayes, who spoke to the group and took questions.

Students' reflections:

"It was tremendous to see behind the curtain, getting a peek into the legislative work of British Parliament."

"The tour of Parliament was really interesting, especially watching a debate from the gallery."

"Meeting Bournemouth East MP Tom Hayes was a very interesting experience and helped put studies into a real world perspective."



Philosophy Religion and Ethics (PRE)



In February half term some of the Year 12 RS A level students went to London after being chosen to take part in a lecture series held at the Institute of Philosophy. Students heard lectures on:

“Who Am I? The Philosophy of Personality Psychology” with Dr Anna Dadaian, University College London.

“Mad Philosophy: Mental Health, Rationality and the Philosophy of Psychiatry” with Pablo Hubacher, Cambridge University.


“How different could you have been?” with Dr Margarida Hermida, King’s College London and

“Is there such a thing as a natural disaster?” with Dr Sheena Ramkumar, Durham University.



I Didn't Know Philosophers Did That!

**10 philosophers
1 day
all your questions questioned**




This event brings together 10 philosophers who will share their research and innovation with students. Designed to boost your confidence for university applications, this event offers you the chance to connect with current philosophers who were once in your shoes.

Explore how philosophy shapes the world and how you can be part of it!

What's happening on the day?

- Whistle-stop tour of our 10 different areas of research
- Lecture on media representations of morality: Can rap music and violent videogames be bad for us?
- Interactive lunchtime presentation: Are we really in control of what we eat?
- Seminars on 'Who am I?', 'Why disasters are not natural', 'Am I happy?' and 'Where is the truth?'
- Interview with a philosopher: dismantling stereotypes and what it's like to be a philosopher

When: Tuesday 18 February 2025 @ 10am to 4pm
Where: Senate House, Malet Street, Bloomsbury, WC1E 7HU
Who is eligible: State school students in years 10,11 and 12
How to apply: Teachers can nominate students [here](#)
More info: email us info@ididntknow.co.uk





If any students are interested in Philosophy courses outside of the elements in lessons and the A level course then the Philosophy Foundation run courses for all age groups. <https://www.philosophy-foundation.org/philosophy-for-children>

Holocaust Memorial Day 2025

On January 29th Years 11-13 heard from Gloria Silver who spoke eloquently about her father's experience during the Holocaust. We were given accounts of his childhood as well as the journeys he made and the experiences he had. Students were impeccably behaved and asked some fantastic questions. Both Gloria and her husband travelled from London to speak at Bournemouth School and were very grateful for the wonderful, warm feedback they received from both students and staff who were in attendance.

Miss Hamalienko, Head of PRE



Art and Design

As the term becomes increasingly busy with the upcoming Year 11 and 13 exams, our Year 10 students had a snippet of what's to come with a 5-hour mock exam. From the start of the year, all of our Year 10 students have worked extremely hard to develop their use of colour and painting skills in both watercolour and acrylic, we even had one oil painter. We are very proud of their efforts and have included a few working progress photos below. Unfortunately, we cannot share finished pieces as this is live work, however, towards the end of the school year we hold an exhibition where you can view the hard work and dedication our students have put into their studies. We would love for you to attend and will be sharing details in the future.



Mrs Vickery Peach

KS3 Art

Year 7: Printmaking and Marine Conservation

Our Year 7 pupils have been experimenting with reduction printmaking techniques, producing stunning prints inspired by coral reefs. They have been learning about the importance of preserving these underwater ecosystems. Their individual prints will join as a group to form one large coral reef.



Year 8: Architectural Design and Model-Making

Year 8 students have been building on their perspective drawing skills by developing 2D concepts into 3D structures. They have learnt cardboard construction techniques to craft impressive 'grand design' models.



Miss Chessher

Design Technology

The Year 10 students in GCSE Design Technology have been working incredibly hard on their lamp projects and they have finally been completed. Some excellent CAD work has taken place with lots of 3D printing, 2D Design work and laser cutting and great hand skills shown through lamination and working with vacuum formed HIPS. Most of the class used spray paint to finish their lamps and lots used acrylic paint to add artistic effects.

Below are some pictures of their work:

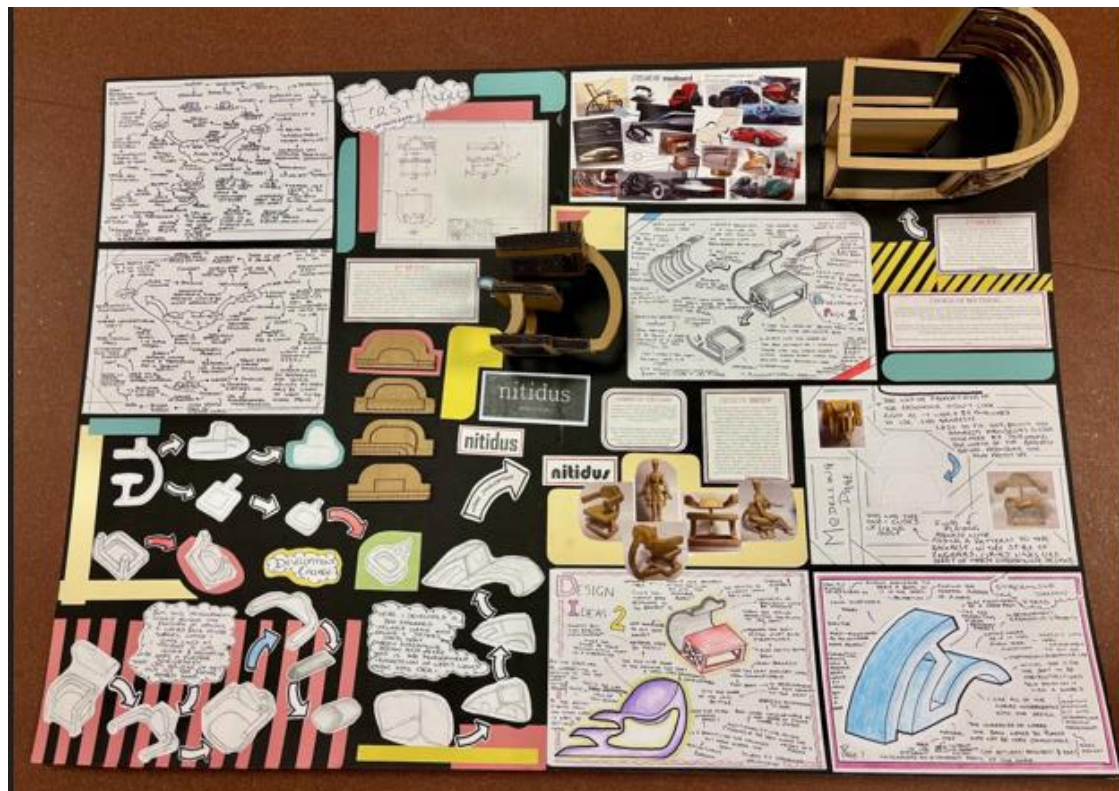


Mrs Catford

A Level Product Design

Year 12 were given the brief to produce a 1:12 scaled model of a seat which was both ergonomic and aesthetically different. They were asked to avoid design fixation and to make their seating as original as possible. They had to fully utilise the 'iterative process' to model and develop, simultaneously testing the ergonomics and aesthetics. They then produced a display board to showcase all of their work. As you can see, their work has been produced to the highest quality and we are extremely pleased with their outcomes.

Below are pictures of the boards and the scaled seats.



✓Hard Work

✓Discipline

✓Smart Appearance

✓Respect



✓Hard Work

✓Discipline

✓Smart Appearance

✓Respect







Mrs Catford

Bournemouth School Library

It has been a busy and enjoyable term in the library as we continued to welcome staff and students throughout the school day.

Y7 and Y8 Book Club are currently reading ***Squirm*** by **Carl Hiaasen**; an entertaining adventure about the great outdoors, protecting the environment, and family resilience. We are very much looking forward to lots of book chat as we start shadowing the Carnegie Book Award with a group of Year 9 students during the summer term.

Our Dungeons and Dragons House Competition was jam packed with innovativeness including drawings, writings and models. Once again, we had to employ the services of an outside adjudicator to make the final decisions. **Jack** in Year 11 was crowned our individual winner with the creation of a unique and detailed player class called ***The Corrupted***, and **Moore** were victorious as House champions.

We have been hearing the progress of building works downstairs throughout the term but this did not deter our students who continue to be avid readers; with a total of **6,345** library books issued since the start of the Spring term. Our Year 9 House Dystopian Reading Competition was testament to this with a total of **157** novels and short stories read, and Newton House named champions.

World Book Day was celebrated in March with our Bournemouth School Great Book Bake Off and Book Sale. The Great Book Bake Off once-again amazed staff and prefect judges, who awarded the top prize to a Year 8 student with his rendition of the sandworm from Frank Herbert's *Dune* series, and second prize to Ethan in Year 7 for his creative traybake inspired by Louis Sachar's novel *Holes*.



The library is also pleased to announce that the students taking part in the **Poetry By Heart** national poetry speaking competition have submitted their performances for judging. We now have to wait, with bated breath, for the results in May.

All students in Years 7 and 8 are now zealously taking part in our 'Million Minute House Reading Competition'. So far, a staggering **48,552** minutes have been logged.

BookTrust '**How Does Reading Benefit Children?**' March 2023. Children who read are more likely to;

- Overcome disadvantage caused by inequalities
- Be healthier and happier children with better mental wellbeing and self-esteem
- Do better at school and make more progress across the curriculum
- Develop creativity and empathy

Wishing everybody a happy Easter break.

The Library team

Careers Events and Opportunities

It has been a busy and inspiring term for the Careers team, with a wide range of events and visiting speakers helping students explore future pathways across all year groups.

Year 7 students took part in the *Step into the NHS* competition, where they designed job adverts to promote careers in the NHS. Congratulations to Ojas Lalbundre (7N), whose detailed and engaging poster on paramedic medicine was selected as the winning entry.

We were also thrilled to host a team from *BBC Bitesize* as part of their Careers Tour. Students had the opportunity to hear from a diverse panel of professionals, including representatives from the BBC and local businesses, offering valuable insights into career paths across multiple industries.

Year 13 students attended Bournemouth University's *Humanities and Law Insight Day*, gaining a deeper understanding of degree courses and career options in these fields. Meanwhile, Year 8 students were visited by *Enact Education*, who delivered an engaging drama performance exploring options and choices in preparation for their GCSE selections.

Students in Years 10 and 12 had the opportunity to visit *JP Morgan* as part of their 'Open Doors' events, where they learned about the company's operations and recruitment process. Year 9 and 11 students have also explored post-16 options through visits from local further education providers, including *Kingston Maurward*, *St Peter's School* and *Bournemouth & Poole College*.

Finally, we were delighted to welcome back several alumni, who shared their experiences of studying degree apprenticeships at prestigious employers such as *Barclays*, *Jaguar Land Rover*, *Deloitte*, *Dyson*, *JP Morgan*, *Mazars*, and *McLaren*. Their insights provided invaluable guidance for students considering alternative routes to university.

Looking ahead, our Year 10 and 12 students are excited for their upcoming work experience next half term, where they will gain valuable insights into the world of work.

If you would like to get involved in our careers provision, whether through delivering a careers talk or hosting a work experience placement, we would be most grateful. Please contact us at careers@bournemouth-school.org

With even more exciting events and opportunities planned for the coming months, we look forward to continuing to support our students in exploring their future careers.

Tim Riddles, Careers Leader

Learning to Learn – Starts at School, continues for Life

It is no secret that our educational system is currently under intensive scrutiny; educationalists, parents and employers are all questioning whether the curriculum is truly fit for purpose in best preparing our young people to progress into adulthood. The outcome of a school education can be considered in terms of the Social Capital and Economic Capital. Social Capital includes the ability to forge relationships, discern right from wrong, a strong sense of identity and place, respect and tolerance of others and kindness. Economic Capital is measured not just in the qualifications gained but also the vital 'soft skills' such as communication, teamwork, creative thinking, initiative and problem-solving.

Peter Hyman, ex-political strategist and headteacher recently commented in the New European magazine that the existing curriculum and regime of schools can often lead to students 'parking Initiative at the School Gate' where the only problem-solving required was how to scoff one's lunch within the 30 minutes allotted¹. As the school's Careers Adviser, whilst I have the luxury of being impartial and independent, staff may be relieved to know that this article is not going to be a line-by-line critique of our educational system. Instead, I want to briefly highlight the many ways in which the system can indeed help prepare students to transition into adult life and the world of work.

I have the privilege of delivering individual career conversations with all of Year 10 and all of Year 12 students. In those 40 minute encounters, I often gain invaluable insights into their individual experiences of the school environment. One of the frequent comments I hear is 'what's the point of x, I'm never going to use it?' Or perhaps, 'why do I need to understand poetry or analyse texts written centuries ago?' This is where I can make a difference by re-framing their thinking. When a student is grappling with a piece of text, or trying to understand a poem and what the author is trying to convey, they are developing generic critical analysis and communication skills – skills which, by their generic nature, can be applied in a myriad of different situations. Who is the author – what is the context of the piece – what is his/her lived experience – is there a bias or message being imparted? These critical questioning skills can serve a student when confronted with any new information in any work or social situation – especially relevant in the context of the rise in misinformation within social media.

Peter Hyman also talks of the importance of developing oracy skills – listening and speaking. Whenever there is a class discussion, or a group work activity, students have the opportunity to exercise and develop these skills. Work experience can also help nurture these social skills – the confidence to actively listen and ask questions to confirm understanding. Even, dare I say it, the careers conversation is another opportunity for the student to demonstrate listening and speaking skills and I am pleased to say that the vast majority do!

There is a more fundamental response to the 'what's the point' question though – whether it be Geography, Maths, Physics, RS, in each case the student is learning how to learn – developing the skills of curiosity, perseverance, checking, research, consulting with others and literally hunger for knowledge acquisition, that will help prepare them for the future. There is a mantra in Careers Guidance circles of 'lifelong learning', an attitude of perpetual curiosity that equips one to successfully navigate the career journey. Our workplace is evolving at a pace unparalleled in recent times. The rise of technology, and in particular AI, is transforming and will continue to transform the nature, type and content of work. Just as existing jobs will be modified or complemented by AI, others will disappear, and crucially new ones will come to the fore along with the new skills required to fulfil them. At school, nurturing that appetite and openness to learning, not just of the popular subjects, but of all subjects, will be an excellent preparation – after all, in life and in work there will often be tasks that one would rather not do, but are required to; so as I used to say back in those City days, 'JDI' – just do it, and move on.

¹ New European 'The exam system is failing our children. Discuss' 20 Feb 2025

Whilst Peter Hyman may have a point regarding the rigidity of the school curriculum and timetable, and the risk of literally stifling creativity and individualism, this can be significantly offset by the enrichment activities and societies offered by schools. CCF, the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, work experience opportunities, are all fantastic opportunities to nurture those soft skills of creativity, problem-solving, initiative, and perseverance. In the sixth form here, there are numerous societies covering different themes. Alongside work experience, there are opportunities for local volunteering, which can help develop social skills, teamworking and build self-confidence. There are visiting speakers from different careers and professions, such as dentistry, or engineering; whilst attendance is optional, I cannot stress enough the value of engaging with these events and getting used to speaking to the representatives – cultivate that curiosity so that instead of saying, 'I'm not going, I don't want to work in engineering', try the response 'let's see what they have to say'.

There is a Business Breakfast event for women in business coming soon. Whilst it might be tempting to decide whether to attend purely on the basis of interest in any of the speakers' current jobs, the real value of attending will be hearing about their journeys – careers aren't decided at 18, progressing unchanged until retirement. Find out about each speaker's journey, the unexpected twists and turns, how they coped with setbacks and took risks as new unexpected opportunities arose.

In short, let that curiosity push doors; I often advise adults looking to pivot away from current roles to push doors – see if they open. Many won't – the rejected application, the promising interview that didn't result in a job offer – the application with no response at all – but keep pushing, and eventually that door will open. Nurture and develop that curiosity and perseverance now, both in one's curriculum subjects and enrichment opportunities, and it will equip you for life.

Stephen Pattle, Careers Adviser






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✓Hard Work

✓Discipline

✓Smart Appearance

✓Respect

Physical Education

Year 7 Football

The Year 7 football team has had a fantastic season in the Town Cup, with some excellent performances and plenty of memorable moments. The season started with a bang against local rivals Winton School. This was perhaps the best performance of the season as the boys ran out 5-0 winners. The team played with confidence and showed great teamwork, which was a promising start to the season.

Next, we faced The Bishop of Winchester Academy and secured an impressive 11-0 victory. This match gave several players the opportunity to make their debut for the school team, and they all played a key role in what was a dominant performance. In our third match against Oak Academy, Riley C scored a fantastic opener, and Sam B was on top form, netting a brilliant hat trick. The team won 6-2, with strong contributions from everyone on the pitch.

We kept up the momentum with a 6-1 win against Avonbourne, where the boys worked well together and played some great football. In our final league match, we triumphed 5-2 against Bourne Academy, with Teodor D stealing the show by scoring a superb hat trick to secure the win.

As league winners, we have earned a spot in the semi-finals, where we'll face the second-place team from the east side of the league. The boys have worked hard to get to this point, and we are all excited for what is to come. Well done to all the players – keep up the great work! We are looking forward to the semi-finals and the chance to build on our success.

Mr Hedges and Mr Perch

Year 8 Football

The Year 8 football team has shown great determination and teamwork throughout their recent fixtures, demonstrating both skill and resilience.

In their County Cup match against Poole Grammar, the team faced very tough opposition, ultimately losing 5-2. Poole Grammar displayed strength and speed across the pitch, making it a challenging contest. Despite the result, Toby played exceptionally well in goal, making several crucial saves to keep the team in the game.

In their Town Cup match against Oak, the team battled hard to secure a thrilling 3-3 draw. Oskar was the standout performer, scoring all three goals, including a dramatic last-minute equaliser to complete his hattrick. This fixture was also special as several boys represented the school for the first time, making a positive impression on the pitch.

The team followed this with an impressive 5-0 victory over TBOWA. The boys created numerous chances, with Frank, Chris, Ethan and Riley all having a positive impact on the match. Their sharp passing and quick movement overwhelmed TBOWA's defence, allowing the team to control the game from start to finish. Eddie's switch to the left wing worked well with he and Leo able to combine well in attack. Reuben worked tirelessly up and down the right wing to create numerous chances, showcasing excellent attacking play and teamwork to dominate the game. Harry, Kamyab and Lucas also played their first match for the school and were brilliant.

Another exciting encounter saw the team draw 3-3 with Winton. This time, it was Eddie who stepped up in the closing moments to score a crucial last-minute equaliser, ensuring the team secured a well-earned point.

Despite a strong effort in their match against Avonbourne, the team fell to a 4-2 defeat. They applied relentless pressure throughout the game and worked tirelessly to create scoring opportunities but struggled to convert their chances.

Overall, the team has shown great spirit and improvement, with memorable performances from many players. With continued effort and dedication, they are sure to build on these experiences in future matches. Well done to everyone involved!

Mr McCalister

Year 9 Football

Once again, turn out for practice night on Wednesdays was incredible and some evenings there were over 40 students enjoying themselves.

Our first match was against The Bishop of Winchester Academy, who we only sneaked past last year 1-0. However, it was a different story this year as the team swept them aside 4-2.

Next up was Oak Academy and it was immediately obvious that our attitude wasn't right for the game, failing to give the opposition the respect they deserved. A narrow 1-0 victory was not celebrated for long as we faced a Winton side that we had lost to in the Town Cup final last year. Again, we came up short, with a long-range free kick floating in securing the win for Winton with just a few minutes to go. Quite frankly, we were very good that day and were unlucky not to come away with at least a draw, but that is sport sometimes.

A loss against Leaf the following match meant that we would not qualify for the semi-finals of the cup, which is a real shame for all those involved.

Perhaps one of the highlights of the term was the 7 a-side matches against Poole High School, who brought their students over on a Wednesday evening to play in two matches. It was great fun and allowed all of the students who have not represented the school this term, a chance to do so.

Well done and thank you to all the students who have made Wednesday nights so enjoyable. It has been a season of "what ifs"!

Mr Robjohns

Year 10 Football

The Year 10 football team has had an exciting and action-packed season, showcasing their resilience and skill. While their journey in the County Cup came to a heart-breaking end in the quarter-finals, the team's performance has been a testament to their hard work and determination.

In the County Cup, the team faced off in a nail-biting penalty shootout after a thrilling match, ultimately losing 9-8 on penalties. Despite the loss, their effort and team spirit were commendable, and they can hold their heads high knowing they gave it their all.

In the Town Cup, the Year 10 team has been in great form. They kicked things off with a narrow but crucial 1-0 win over LEAF Academy, followed by an impressive 3-0 victory against Glenmoor and Winton. Their defence and attacking play were solid in both matches, showing the depth of their talent and teamwork. However, their winning streak was interrupted with a tight 1-0 loss to Avonbourne, but the team remains confident as they move forward.



The team's remaining game against The Bishop of Winchester Academy is a crucial one. With a strong chance of advancing to the semi-finals in either 1st or 2nd position, the team is determined to finish the group stage on a high note and secure their spot in the next round. The boys have shown great commitment in the past few weeks and it has been a pleasure coaching them and watching them take what they are learning onto the pitch. There have been standout performances from Emilio P, who scored 2 goals and had 1 ruled out for offside vs Winton, and the defensive partnership of James A and Stanley D only conceding 1 goal in 3 games.

Mr Perch

Year 11 Football

The Year 11 football team has had an eventful season, marked by both challenges and strong performances, culminating in a crucial final league game that secured our place in the semi-finals.



Our match against Winton School was a tough one. We had been leading 2-1 for most of the game, with Luca and Jonny both scoring excellent goals, and Xavier providing both assists. However, in the final minutes, Winton managed to score two quick goals, taking the match 3-2. Despite the loss, the team played well and showed great determination, with the match being closely contested throughout.

Unfortunately, our scheduled games against Oak Academy and Bourne Academy were cancelled, which left our final league match against LEAF School as the decider for a spot in the semi-finals. In this match, we went 1-0 down early in the second half but fought back strongly. The team came close to scoring several times, hitting the bar twice, but it was Sam R who stepped up, scoring twice to secure a 2-1 victory. This result saw us finish second in the league, earning our place in the semi-finals, which will take place shortly before Easter.

While the season has had its ups and downs, the team has shown resilience and the ability to perform under pressure. We are now looking forward to the semi-finals, where we hope to build on this momentum and finish the season on a positive note.

Mr Hedges

1st XI Football

Bournemouth School's First XI have had to endure a challenging second half of the season after some positive results before Christmas. Strong performances and wins against Peter Symonds, Farnborough and St Peter's were followed by disappointing results against Poole Grammar, Itchen College and Lychett Minster. Injuries and cancellations were contributing factors to a fragmented campaign.



Frustratingly a heated fixture against Queen Mary's ended in defeat, which was quickly followed by an excellent performance against Barton Peveril, but missed chances and being hit on the break cost us dearly. We collectively thank the departing Year 13s for their contribution to our First XI and look forward to the incoming current Year 11 talent enriching what already exists in the current Year 12 pool.

Mr Lewis

1st XV Rugby

The second half of the season has been a rewarding journey for our 1st XV rugby team, filled with memorable performances and close encounters. We started with a convincing win against Ringwood, where several players scored their first-ever tries, marking a proud moment for the team. Following this, we faced Itchen College in a thrilling match that ended in a heart-breaking 1-point loss, showing the team's resilience and determination despite the narrow defeat.



The Hampshire 7's tournament was another highlight, with the team progressing to the Cup competition after wins against UTC and Emberly in the group stages. In the quarter-finals, we came up against a powerful Lords Wandsworth side, and although we were knocked out, the experience was invaluable for the players.

Looking ahead, our final game of the season is against Brockenhurst next week. It's a chance for the team to end the season on a high note. Overall, the second half of the season has been a testament to the growth of the team, with players continuing to develop both individually and as a unit. We look forward to finishing the season strong and celebrating the progress made throughout the campaign.

Mr McGregor

Cross Country

The Spring Term has been a remarkable season for our cross country teams, marked by outstanding individual performances and a historic achievement in team competitions.



National Cross Country Cup Final - The Intermediate Boys achieved an extraordinary feat by winning the National Cross Country Cup title on 1st March. In a remarkable display of consistency, the six runners finished close together to secure the championship, despite none finishing in the top 20.

Leading the way was Ollie (24th), followed by Ben (27th), Finn (28th), Henry (31st), Riley (36th), and Jacob

(39th). Their incredible teamwork earned Bournemouth School a total of 110 points, narrowly beating St Paul's, Middlesex (112) and The Perse School, Cambridge (113). This was the first time a Dorset team has won the National Cross Country Cup title.

The Senior Boys faced a tricky test against some of the best cross country runners in the country. Finishing in 25th position as a team, they all put in a huge effort to get around a hilly course. Alex (53), Sam (77), Oliver (101), Ewan (113), Harvey (123) and Jake (133) shows how competitive a race it was.



County Championships at Kings Park

Our athletes delivered incredible results at the County Championships, where we made history by winning all four team competitions for the first time ever.

Minor Boys

The Minor Boys delivered a dominant performance, finishing with just 13 points:

- Benjy (1)
- Max (2)
- Jake (4)
- Ben (6)
- Iwan (21)
- Ted (36)

Runners-up Sir John Colfox scored 113 points and Allenbourn finished third with 115.

Junior Boys

Another fantastic team performance saw our Junior Boys win with 36 points:

- Riley (3)
- Barney (5)
- Reuben (13)
- Felix (15)
- Josh (22)
- Leo (34)

Poole Grammar came second with 96 points, while Gillingham placed third with 120.

Inter Boys

Our Inter Boys claimed both first and second place in the team standings:

- 'A' Team (14 points)
- 'B' Team (42 points)

Colfox followed in third place with 94 points. Standout individual performances included:

- Oliver C (2)
- Oliver N (3)
- Sam (4)
- Finn (5)
- Ben (6)
- Henry (7)
- Jacob (14)
- Walter (15)
- Josh (19)
- Alec (30)

Senior Boys

Our Senior Boys finished with 42 points, claiming first place ahead of Poole High (67) and Leweston (77):

- Alex (3)
- Harvey (11)
- Ewan (12)
- Oliver (16)

Senior Girls

We were equally proud of our Senior Girls:

- Elena (5)
- Laras (6)

Both athletes performed brilliantly in a highly competitive race.

South-West Regional Schools at Newquay

All runners who finished in the top 10 qualified to represent Dorset at the South-West Regional Schools event in Newquay. This resulted in a record 14 students from one school taking part — a testament to the strength and depth of our running program.

English Schools National Championships

The season concluded with the prestigious English Schools National Championships at Ardingly Showground in Sussex on 15th March. Eleven pupils from Bournemouth School competed against an elite field on a challenging course, representing the school with determination and resilience.

Congratulations to all our runners on a phenomenal season! We are incredibly proud of their hard work, dedication, and achievements.

Mr McCalister

Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

So far this academic year, the cadets have been busy with plenty of opportunities for all to take part. The contingent has once again demonstrated its excellence as one of the top CCF units in the country. The younger cadets have shown their ability to quickly learn new skills, while the senior cadets have put these skills into practice. Through leadership, teamwork, and communication they have passed down their knowledge by training and guiding the junior cadets.

The Navy section has successfully organised and scheduled a record number of activities. Cadets had the opportunity to visit the Navy's new aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth, as well as our parent ship, HMS Portland, providing them with valuable insights into naval operations. During Exercise Swallows and Amazons, cadets sailed out of Portsmouth on naval yachts—a memorable experience we hope to repeat later this year as the weather improves. After the Easter holidays, a visit to the Damage Repair Instructional Unit in Portsmouth is planned, where cadets will learn critical skills such as repairing a sinking ship and preventing compartments from flooding.

The Army section has had a busy and exciting year. Earlier, cadets visited Bovington Camp, where they explored the Royal Wessex Yeomanry's Challenger II battle tanks and trained on tank simulators. More recently, a group of new Army recruits, led by their NCOs, took part in the Great Tommy Sleep Out at the school. This event put their newly learned skills to the test as they set up camp in the woodland behind the school, cooked their own meals using military-issue rations, and spent the night sleeping in bashas. Their hard work made the event a great success, raising over £1,600 for the Royal British Legion to support homeless veterans. Meanwhile, the senior Army cadets participated in a range day, where all but one met the requirements for their Marksman qualification, demonstrating impressive shooting skills.

The RAF section has secured a strong number of air experience flying slots and a gliding session so far this year. Fortunately, the weather has been on our side, allowing more sessions to go ahead compared to last year. In January, 15 cadets visited RAF Brize Norton, where they explored various squadrons and toured the airfield of the largest RAF station. Meanwhile, the section's senior cadets competed in the Royal Air Squadron Trophy regional event at Blandford Camp, achieving an impressive 4th place in the South West. While this result wasn't enough to qualify for the national finals, it was a fantastic achievement given the high level of competition.

There have been plenty of exciting tri-service events taking place recently. Just before Christmas, senior cadets attended the annual Regimental Dinner, a formal black-tie event that gave them the opportunity to experience the ceremonial and traditional aspects of military dining.

The highlight of the Spring term was undoubtedly the annual Inspection Day, which allows cadets to showcase their skills and professionalism through a full day of activities. This year, the contingent welcomed Lt Col Mans on 28th March. The day began with a ceremonial inspection parade, followed by a contingent-wide competition where cadets demonstrated their abilities in various challenges, including first aid, leadership, fitness, navigation, and STEM. Cadets performed exceptionally well, with the contingent's band once again leading the parade and delivering an outstanding performance throughout the day. Lt Col Mans was highly impressed by the turnout and skill level of the cadets, giving special recognition to the contingent's band and honour guard.



Bournemouth School's 35th Bournemouth Sea Scouts RN Unit 47

The School's Sea Scouts and Explorers started in January at a local leisure centre spending a couple of weeks working on Staged Swimmer badges in preparation for RN Sea Scout Swimming Gala in February. All that excellent work helped achieve our best result in over 15 years with an Explorer podium medal, a relay team making a final and several top 10 finishes from our Scout team. Participation medals were presented to all celebrating the 50th anniversary of the event at HMS Raleigh in Cornwall, with the 107-year-old grand trophy also displayed.



On the same weekend, our Pioneer Explorers had a first time visit to an HMS Raleigh on-base Royal Navy simulator “Chaos” – a sinking ship where they had to problem solve, act, and react to pipes bursting and compartments flooding in order to save the ship – total CHAOS!





A Scout Patrol Leader Training Camp was held in March for the first time in Bournemouth for over a decade. Five of the 35th's Patrol Leaders joined twenty other Scouts in a weekend full of learning, team building and leadership training.



Congratulations are in order – seven of our Scouts completed their Chief Scout's Gold Award in December and January. Three years of challenging work, nine Challenge Award badges, six Staged/Activity badges, Leadership and nights away camping all were necessary to earn the highest Scout Award for these members. Well done!

Finally, we have just taken delivery of eight brand new, three-seat canoes! Leaders are currently in the process of unpacking and fitting them for twenty-four new recruits to begin boating activities with us after Easter. But our Pioneer Explorers will test them out first with a night paddle on the River Stour, head torches illuminating the way. The 35th Bournemouth Sea Scouts are ready for Spring training, the weather and water to quickly warm so we can begin our next adventures.



Jim Alexander, Group Scout Leader RN47

School Lottery Draw Spring Term 2025

The Lottery raises money for school projects that will benefit pupils - and pays THREE CASH PRIZES every month. This year we are raising funds towards the Lecture Theatre refit, providing up-to-the minute technology that will benefit every student. In previous years, the lottery has funded the Main Hall seating, staging equipment and a minibus.

Lottery numbers are drawn by pupils at the end of each term. Three winners for each month in the term are picked, at random by school pupils. See the list of winners from December to March below.

Congratulations to this term's lucky winners – a cheque for £103 is on its way!

Month	Winning Ticket	Ticket Holder Surname	Drawn by:
December 2024	48 488 455	Leonard Simpkins Dale	B Norgrove N Ali P Kandala
January 2025	70 458 599	Fernandez Jones Hawker	A Lasek T Reid M Gonzales-Vieira
February 2025	270 33 390	Johnson McCabe Bailey	M Chillakuru V Jina D Michaeli
March 2025	111 489 52	Aswath Simpkins Green	J Tang W Dennis H Marshall

About the Lottery

The lottery is open to parents, carers, grandparents, staff and ex-pupils. Tickets are £1 each, paid by monthly standing order and a participant can hold up to 15 tickets. Each month's total income is split; 50% goes to the School Lottery Fund and the other 50% is split equally between 3 winning tickets, each drawn by a school pupil.

For example, if £600 of tickets are sold in a month, the School Lottery Fund will receive £300 and three ticket holders will get a cheque for £100 each. The monthly amount varies according to the number of people contributing. If you are not already taking part in the lottery, use the email below to sign up.

A huge thanks to the parents and friends who play the lottery and contribute to this fund. If you don't currently participate but would like to, please email us at lottery@bournemouth-school.org.