



From the Headmaster

As we are in the penultimate week of a very short half term, I had anticipated having little to report, since I last wrote to parents in February. Whilst this is true in a number of areas of operations, in others we seem to have compressed 6 weeks' work into the last three or four! The following pages describe the activities of the last term.

On Friday 6th March, it was a privilege to attend the Scout Group's Royal Navy Inspection. The inspecting officer was greatly impressed by the scouts' engagement in a range of activities, from field-craft and first aid, to knot tying and problem-solving. With high levels of recruitment and a dedicated band of adult volunteers the groups is going from strength to strength under the leadership of Jim Alexander and Amit Kumar. Needless to say, the inspection was passed with flying colours – congratulations to all involved.

We continue to be proud of the sporting opportunities that are offered to our students. This half term has included House competitions in 5-a-side football and cross country. Students have participated in rugby 7s tournaments, with the Year 8 team becoming the county champions. Eight students were selected to represent the county at the English Schools Cross Country Championship in Liverpool on Saturday 14th March. The county sends a team of 48, so to have the school so well-represented is a testament to both our students and our dedicated team of staff.

We took advantage of a break in the weather to have a number of photographs taken on Wednesday 11th March, including:

- The whole school
- Year group photographs, commemorating the school's 125th anniversary (students arranged to form 125 with the photograph taken from above)
- Year 13 Leavers' (with student names recorded)

To accommodate the needs of the photography company there were some changes to the timetable for the day, and unexpected delays resulted in much of the day being disrupted. Our staff were superb in organising students to be in the right place at the right time. We look forward to seeing the results! Parents will be advised shortly on how they can purchase copies of the photographs.

We have been working with Chris Hall, a parent of one of our Year 12 students, to offer an event to parents and students to increase awareness of post-18 options. Chris runs Hallmark Broadcasting and has offered to host and record a "Question Time"-like event at which the pros and cons of students embarking upon a traditional degree course are compared with those of degree apprenticeships. We hope to have an audience of around 100 people. At present the panel will comprise:

- Professor Stewart Cotterill (Director of Education and Student Experience, Health Sciences University, Bournemouth)
- Tom Hayes (Member of Parliament for Bournemouth East)
- A local employer offering degree apprenticeships
- Yours truly (!)

The event will be on Wednesday 22nd April from 6-8 pm in our lecture theatre. The intention is that the recording would be made available to parents through our website – and could be made more widely available if appropriate. The opportunity to book your seat at the event will be offered before we break up next week on a first-come, first-served basis.

Other notable events this half term:

- A cooking demonstration from a vegan chef to Year 10 FPAN students
- A talk and “hands-on” workshop from a consultant vascular surgeon to members of MedSoc
- Year 8 life support training
- Arts/Graphics trip to the Design Museum and V&A Museum
- History/politics trip to the Houses of Parliament and the Imperial War Museum
- Year 13 parents’ evening and Year 12 Post-18 pathways launch
- Year 10 students attended a Careers and Apprenticeship Show at the BIC
- Technology students competing in a Rotary Competition
- Year 13 practice examinations (next week)
- Law and Criminology Day at Bournemouth University
- A range of guest speakers are scheduled for the Sixth Form
- Maths Challenge (Years 9-11)

Events yet to come this half term:

- Headteacher interviews (23rd/24th March)
- Year 12 Geography field trip
- House basketball
- Spring Concert (26th March; 6-7.30 pm)
- CCF Inspection Day (Friday 27th March)
- Ski trip to Italy over the Easter holiday

The Board of Trustees hope to be able to advise all parents of the outcome of the process to appoint my successor before the end of term.

Year 7

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. In addition, they are happy, polite, thoroughly likeable young men. I am in a very privileged position!

Attendance as a year group is a very impressive 98% and they have accrued just over 24,000 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 that Mrs Fernandez (our invaluable Learning Support Assistant) is frequently printing out certificates of merit for the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum awards.

Huge congratulations to the following students who, at the time of writing, had achieved their Gold Award for 180 achievement points:

Junior A	Edward D	George H	Harrison M
Edward A	Felix D	Mohamed-Liban H	Stanley O
Noah B	Max F	Abdulah H	Giulio P
Benji B	James F	Frank I	Jacob R
Franco B	Charlie F	Bertie J	Ved S
Toby C	Harris G	Alisher M	Jude S

A particularly special mention must go to Stanley Onaran who has earned his Platinum Award for reaching 230 achievement points. This is a significant milestone and one that should be praised highly. I am certain there will be many more awards of this level to present before the end of the year.

This term, Mrs Barnard-Dyson, from the careers department, has once again worked in conjunction with the NHS to support the boys to enter a nation-wide competition to raise awareness of the various career opportunities available in the NHS. The students heard from two aspiring medics from the 6th Form about what the NHS means to them, and they are now busily working on entries, which I look forward to reporting on in the summer newsletter. This is the start of the boys' careers journey with us and later on in the year, students will begin to use UniFrog, our online careers platform. This is a useful tool that will help them to research GCSE options, work experience and post-16 choices.

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 weekend teams. As ever, please do let me know of your son's achievements outside of school.

The whole Year 7 team would like to take this opportunity to 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 K Thorne, Mrs L Chmielewski and Mrs A Fernandez

Year 8

Year 8 have continued to throw themselves into school life with gusto both in and out of the classroom. Whilst the excessively wet weather limited the amount of time that they could be outside before half term, they have been making up for it recently with football on the astro and on the field being hugely popular, alongside the more informal games such as manhunt.

House competitions continue to be an important part of the school life for Year 8, providing a sense of belonging which spans across the year groups. Recent and current competitions include Basketball, the Million Minutes Reading Competition, 5-a-side Football, the Flag quiz and many more.

The hard work of this impressive year group can be summed up by the achievement points that they have acquired – averaging 120 points each – but this inevitably under-estimates the importance of the hundreds of kind and supportive actions that inevitably go unnoticed. The process of choosing their GCSE options has provided a renewed impetus for many boys, focussing their mind on their academics whilst also developing a new sense of maturity as they start to make important choices.

At the start of March, the boys took part in a life-saving skills session delivered by staff from Bournemouth University Hospitals. They learned about CPR and watched videos showing real-life emergency situations. Students had the chance to ask questions and find out more about what to do in an emergency. It was a really interesting session and gave students a useful introduction to some important life-saving skills.



As we look forward to the summer term, you may have seen that the year group will be spending the day at Marwell Zoo on 2nd July. This trip is an opportunity for the year group to enjoy time together outside of school and celebrate all the hard work they have shown throughout the year.

We hope that the boys have a lovely holiday.

Dr T Carter, Mr M Knight and Ms E Wallis

Year 9

This has been a short but busy term for Year 9.

In January, Year 9 enjoyed a trip to Poetry Live. They were lucky enough to hear poets including the Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage, and other influential poets such as Owen Sheers reading from their own poetry. As these poets all feature in the GCSE English Literature course that they have started this year, it was a wonderful opportunity for them to be inspired.

In February, the Who Dares Gives team came into school to work with our Year 9 students. This activity day, funded by JP Morgan, included engaging sessions focused on situational awareness, conflict resolution, confidence and teamwork. During the sessions delivered by veterans, students were physically challenged in a PT task, had their observation skills pushed to the limit trying to spot the perfectly camouflaged person hiding in the copse and learnt how to deal with potential aggression. As one student phrased it "I learnt how to avoid dangerous situations before they even happen". The day finished with a talk by ex-SAS soldier and TV personality Phil Campion, who inspired the boys with his positive can-do attitude – even when repelling pirates armed only with a fridge!



Several Year 9 students recently competed in the Dorset Closed chess tournament and achieved some excellent results. One student finished tied for first place in the Minor section, a fantastic achievement in a strong field. Another Year 9 student also competed in the Under-2100 section at a tournament on the Isle of Wight, where they won a rating prize. Congratulations to them on these impressive accomplishments.

Students across the year group continue to throw themselves into school life, averaging over 100 achievement points each. We are sure that next term will bring more of the same, with students aiming to be their best self every day.

We hope that the boys have a lovely Easter break.

Dr T Carter, Mr M Knight and Ms E Wallis

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 behaviour and classwork that I have seen.

25 students in the year group are on 100% attendance with a further 80 at over 97% attendance. As we tell the year group in assemblies, attendance is equitable to attainment. With this in mind, much of this term has been focused around students working towards their Year 10 mock exams at the end of April, as well as securing their work experience placements for May.

We have also started the recruitment process for prefects, in order for them to step into the breach after Easter as Year 11s prepare to go on study leave soon after. At the time of writing, we had received an impressive number of worthy applications (75 in total – the most we have ever seen!). It really is testament to this wonderful year group that so many are keen to give back and contribute positively to the school community.

Outside of the classroom, we have enjoyed House 5-a-side football (won by Moore) and Cross Country (featuring all of the year group, won by Darwin). Two boys represented Dorset in the English Schools Cross Country Championship, namely Riley A and Barney S. Congratulations to them on their impressive performances.

Our Year 10 football team have enjoyed great success in two competitions. In the “Town Cup” they won their league and are now in the semi-final of the Town Cup.

They also took part in a “Futsal” tournament (which they won) and are now through to the semi-final of that competition also.

Mrs J Roche

Year 11

It has been a busy Spring term for Year 11, with a lot to fit into a relatively short period. The term began with pupils receiving their GCSE mock results, giving them a valuable opportunity to reflect on their progress and identify areas for improvement as they move closer to their final exams.

Following this, pupils took part in a range of A level taster sessions. These sessions allowed them to explore subjects they have not yet studied, helping them to make more informed decisions about their post-16 pathways.

Some pupils also visited Bournemouth and Poole College to explore it as a potential post-16 option. The visit provided a useful insight into college life and the courses available beyond Year 11.

Alongside their academic work, pupils have continued to engage enthusiastically in House competitions throughout the term. Events have included table tennis, cross country, a geography quiz and 5-a-side football, with great participation and team spirit shown across the year group. There have been limited opportunities for the boys to represent the school in sporting fixtures but a number of boys took part in various cross-country races. Please read my report for more details of that. We are also awaiting a Town Cup semi-final in football.

Students have also completed their second set of mock examinations, which has helped to build confidence and provide further preparation ahead of the summer GCSEs.

With only a few weeks remaining before exams begin, the focus is now on continuing good revision routines, staying organised and maintaining a positive mindset. We are encouraging all pupils to use the time ahead effectively so that they can approach the summer exams with confidence and give their very best effort.

Mr P McCalister

Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form students have been extremely busy this term, and one of the main achievements is the appointment of our new Senior Prefect team. These students have produced their own newsletter, which will be sent to all parents shortly.

After such a busy term, we often forget to stop and enjoy the benefits of hard work as we move hastily on to the next challenge. Therefore, we suggest that students use the spring break to reflect on what they have achieved, the challenges they have overcome, and what they have learned from these experiences. Finding a balance between attainment and relaxation is always key, and we like to celebrate student successes outside of school as well as their academic achievements.

These achievements are often posted on our website and can be found here:

[News - Bournemouth School](#)

Focusing on outside interests will inevitably help provide a balance between working towards future goals while also staying healthy and happy.

Mrs C Brown and Mrs T Holcroft

Term Information

End of term: **Friday 27th March 2026**

School finishes at 3.20 pm

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

Start of term: **Monday 13th April 2026**

Timetable is Week 1

Start of School 8.30 am

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

Carnival of Alternative Politics *- 14th February 2026*

In February we were able to nominate Politics students to take part in the inaugural 'Carnival of Alternative Politics' at the Freemasons' Hall in Bournemouth. Here, in between sessions including 'Imagining a better world', 'The Greek Myths and Modern Politics' and 'What does Europe mean to us today?', our students were invited to participate in the 'Young Persons' Political Speech Competition', giving a three minutes speech on 'The Adult World I Want to Live In'. The contest was judged by Bournemouth East MP, Tom Hayes, who placed our top candidate in second place (photo below). Well done to our Year 12 Politicians and we hope to take part again next year.

Mr B Bonds



British Physics Olympiad Success

We are delighted to celebrate Ben Willis-Owen's outstanding performance in the British Physics Olympiad (BPhO), a highly challenging national competition run from the University of Oxford's Department of Physics and overseen by expert physicists from both Oxford and Cambridge.

This year 9,500 students took part in Round Zero, with only 1,811 progressing to Round 1. Eight students from Bournemouth School progressed to this stage, an achievement in itself. Ben performed brilliantly, achieving a prestigious Top Gold Award, placing him among the top physics students in the country and securing his place in Round 2.

From there, just 116 students advanced and Ben was one of them. He went on to earn a Silver Award in Round 2, an exceptional achievement that highlights his advanced problem-solving skills and dedication.

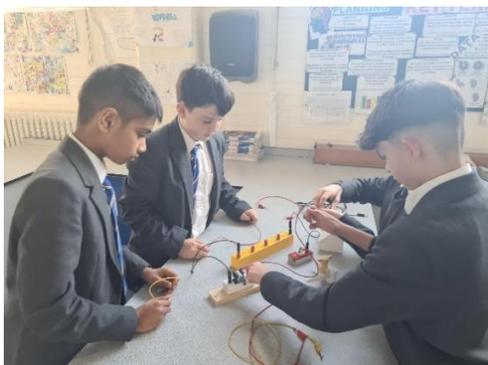
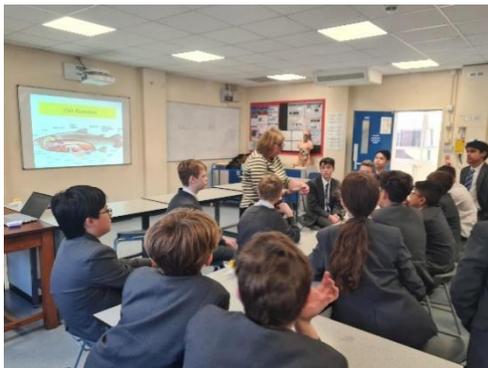
Miss T Hunt

Science Club

Year 7 Science Club continues to run weekly and has been well attended. This term has seen a range of activities from biology, chemistry and physics including: designing electrical circuits, dissection of a fish and viewing crystal formation under a microscope. Students have also been set engineering challenges to design and build a strong tower and a shuttle landing pod with a parachute. We are also pleased to have external speakers in to deliver an astronomy session and provide students an opportunity to view the sky with a powerful telescope.

We look forward to welcoming our next cohort of Year 7 science attendees after Easter.

Mr R Carr



Bournemouth School Library

**GO
ALL
IN.**

2026 is the **National Year of Reading** and it is amazing to see that our students and staff have welcomed the new year by borrowing over 6000 library resources during the spring term.

Over 50 students have taken part in the library's *Palentines* paired reading activity, where students were encouraged to find a book buddy and share the same story over the half term.

As part of the World Book Day celebrations Year 7 and 8 students took part in the **Million Minutes House** Reading Challenge, with results of the competition being announced just before the Easter break.

Winners of the House **Dungeons and Dragons** competition were announced at the beginning of March; Scott were victorious as House champions. As always, the judges were amazed with the creativity and talent expressed in everyone's designs. Ved in Year 7 was crowned the individual winner with the creation of *Ninewave*, a Pokémon-inspired creature, impressing the judges with how well he had managed to integrate it into the world of D&D; with a well laid out stats block, attacks and description.



Year 9 students finished the **House Dystopian Reading** competition, with a total of 206 novels and short stories being read, and Elgar were named champions.

The Carnegie Book Award shortlist was announced 10th March, so the new term will see the return of the **Carnegie Shadowing Book Group**. This popular group will meet weekly, and will be open to Year 9+ students.

The library is also pleased to announce that students have been taking part in the **Poetry by Heart** national poetry recital competition; submitting their performances for judging at the end of March. Finalists for this competition will be announced at the end of April.

The library currently has three **Duke of Edinburgh** volunteers, and they are doing a great job helping with stock and display work - thank you Saharsh, Ben and Zach for all your help.

Wishing everybody a happy Easter break.

Mrs Morgan

Bournemouth School Librarian

HOURS:

Monday	8.30-4.30pm
Tuesday	8.30-4.30pm
Wednesday	8.30-3.20pm
Thursday	8.30-4.30pm
Friday	8.30-4.00pm

For more information:

library@bournemouth-school.org

Accessit

Bournemouth School Library WebApp

<http://uk.accessit.online/brn22/#LandingPage>



Physical Education

Year 7 Football

The Year 7 boys have had a brilliant few weeks of football, showing real character, teamwork, and plenty of exciting attacking play. Our Town Cup match against Winton turned out to be another nail-biter. After going a goal down, Cohen got us right back into the game with a fantastic solo equaliser. The team kept pushing, and for the second match in a row, we grabbed a last-minute winner, this time thanks to a calm finish from Fabio after some great play from Quinn H. The 2-1 win gave us our first three points of the group stage and a huge confidence boost.

Next up was a long trip to Colfox in the County Cup, but the journey did not slow the boys down at all. They came flying out of the blocks, with Quinn H scoring twice in the first half. After the break, the team stepped up another gear, and Abdulah H stole the show with a brilliant second-half hat-trick. The whole squad played with real energy, staying solid at the back while keeping the pressure on throughout to secure a 7-2 victory.

In the coming weeks we carry on with a good number of fixtures in both the Town Cup and the County Cup. In the Town Cup, the boys will take on Avonbourne and The Bishop of Winchester Academy, two games that will be important in deciding the group standings. We are also excited for the next round of the County Cup, where we will be up against Highcliffe School.

The boys should be really proud of their recent performances. They have shown great determination, worked hard for each other, and played some fantastic football. With more big matches on the way, there's a lot to be excited about.

Mr J Perch

Year 8 Football

The Year 8 football team have played 4 matches so far this term. In the quarter final of the County Cup, they beat St Peter's 5-2. Into a strong wind in the first half, the boys were able to keep the ball under control and dominate possession for the majority of the half. We took a 2 goal lead through Max and a great first time strike by Riley. Unfortunately, St Peter's scored two goals in quick succession as the first half ended 2-2. In the second half, the boys had so much control and were able to move the ball quickly. The defenders were able to keep the pacey St Peter's forwards quiet and our attack created lots of opportunities and were able to take three of them and the final score was 5-2. It was a great team performance and, in the semi-final, we will play either Emmanuel or Budmouth.

In the Town Cup, we have played Winton, Avonbourne and Livingstone. I have changed the team around for these matches to give other boys the chance to represent the school. Against Winton we had a very good 6-2 win, followed by a 7-0 victory against Avonbourne. Against Livingstone, the score was 8-0 and a number of boys represented the school for the first time, which was great to see. In the semi-final we will face a school in the East side of the league. There will be some fixtures between the time of writing and the Easter break and finals are likely to take place in the Summer term.

It has been great to see the high numbers of boys turning up to football club each week. The boys have created a great atmosphere which is fun and enjoyable for all.

Mr P McCalister

Year 9 Football

The Year 9 football team returned to action after Christmas with a Town Cup match against Winton School, a familiar opponent after our thrilling 3-3 draw and penalty shootout win before the break. The team started slowly this time, and Winton took an early lead following a defensive mistake. However, just before half-time, Ethan M produced a moment of magic — a stunning strike from 30 yards out, into the wind, and straight into the top corner to level the score.

Winton came out quickly after the restart and regained the lead, but the boys showed great determination. A well-worked short corner routine saw Chris A rise highest to head home the equaliser. Then, in an incredible twist, our usual goalkeeper, Toby A, sealed a memorable 3-2 victory with a superb long-range effort from 25 yards – almost the last kick of the game! Despite the miserable weather, it was a brilliant all-round performance.

Next up was a County Cup tie away at Lytchett Minster. On a very muddy pitch, we went 1-0 down but responded well through a tidy finish by Hugo M. Unfortunately, Lytchett proved the stronger side and took a deserved 2-1 win.

Our latest fixture came against a strong LEAF team. Frank C and Dylan J impressed with their work rate and skill, but despite plenty of chances, the game ended 7-2. On another day, it could easily have been 5-5!

We now await confirmation on whether we have made it through to the Town Cup semi-finals. Well done to all the boys for their ongoing effort and team spirit this season!

Mr L Hedges

Year 10 Football

This has been a season prosperous in results, and consistent in grit, determination and character! The U15 group began their campaign with a cup match away at St Peter's School before Christmas. A mismatch in physicality saw early battles lost for Bournemouth School in midfield which led to our downfall and cup exit.



However, the group looked forward to playing local rivals Glenmoor and Winton in the new year, particularly as this strong outfit had proved a difficult opposition in the past. After conceding an early goal, an outstanding midfield performance from Captain Leon P and a solid backline built by Jordan V built a platform for Barney S to break free and provide a cool finish to level the score at the break. Our U15 grew enormously as the match went on with Josh L and Elliot

G linking well down the right. Deep into the second half Frankie T smacked the crossbar with a venomous free kick before Alfie S struck home meaning Bournemouth School won 2-1.

LEAF Academy at home; another physical test. Jacob D provided excellent communication and encouragement throughout, along with two top class saves to restrict LEAF, as did Max G through blocks and clearances from left back. Harley F was our midfield engine, who won balls and linked well with Finn S, who showed close control and great feet throughout. Man of the Match had to go to Max C who battled relentlessly up front. His tenacity made our equalising goal out of nothing, before Malachy H finished past the LEAF keeper. The game ended in a 1-1 draw; a great result against very strong opposition.

Up next were The Bishop of Winchester Academy, following Bourne Academy conceding the fixture 3-0, and 3 points to us. Bishop proved to be another tough physical test, along with boasting a number of AFC Bournemouth Academy players. Getting into a 2-0 lead with set piece quality from Frankie T and Leon P, but frustratingly we gave away a goal following a lack of organisation from an opposition set piece. With some home truths heard at half time, we dominated the second period which led to Harley F scoring a great header from a corner, before Barney S smashed home into the corner to put the game beyond the visitors.



Looking like strong contenders to win the 'Town League', our U15 squad entered into a Futsal Tournament against other local schools. Bournemouth School won the competition comfortably with wins of 9-0, 3-0, 3-1 and 4-0 amongst the results. All players were outstanding both in performance and attitude. They qualify for the finals in April.

Mr R Lewis

Year 11 Football

The Year 11 football team enjoyed the Town League being played in the Autumn term and we started with a comfortable 2-0 win against Bourne Academy on a very wet, muddy pitch. This was thanks to an own goal and then a deft finish from Jamie M. This was a good building block for the Winton game the following week, where we stormed into a one nil lead with a bullet header from Tom D. We then surrendered the lead quite quickly, going 2-1 down with only minutes left to play. Thankfully, our pressure told and we forced an own goal giving us a thoroughly deserved draw.

LEAF arrived for the next game and we were confident that we could get a result. A 3-0 win was our best performance of the term, with goals from Ben D (x2), who played superbly throughout, and Tom D. This meant that we were top of the league and were through to the semi-finals in the Spring term.

Our last game of the term was in the County Cup, where we played Poole Grammar School. Despite a very good start, we were eventually beaten comfortably 0-5, which meant a disappointing end to the term. We await the semi-final match and hopefully we can progress to the final.

Mr D Robjohns

1st XI Football

Our First XI season returned from its mid-season break with a visit to Brockenhurst College. Led out by Captain Will O, a valiant effort from Bournemouth School who showed outstanding spirit after being two goals down in 10 minutes; a mistake and a deflection to blame. 2-1 at the break with Sam K scrapping up front and netting beyond the oncoming keeper. There was only one side in the contest for the rest of the game; 2-2 with 20 minutes to go following a bullet header from Ollie T. With no substitutes available, fatigue set in and we lost to a ball over the top with 10 to play. The boys left all they had on the pitch and were commended by the opposition and Alex James, Premier League Referee, as by far the better side.





Next up was the long-awaited Dorset Cup quarter final against Canford School. A tricky free kick from Macadou S fooled the opposition keeper to take Bournemouth School into an early lead after withstanding some initial pressure from Canford. Strong midfield work from Benji W and Xavier B allowed us to remain on top through the half which saw us go in 2-0 at the break following another direct free kick, this time

a net breaker, from Joel M. The mission laid out at half time was to protect our zero at all costs. Man of the Match Ollie L was superb in doing this, as was Harrison W who made an outstanding save from the penalty spot.

Richard Taunton College visited us next boasting a decent run of results and strong league position. Frustratingly, we gave away an early lead from a long a range effort. However, after composing ourselves Bournemouth School were able to shift gears and get in at half time leading 2-1 following goals from Captain Will O and Ben F-M. Our dominance through the first half sadly did not continue into the second; we tired and with lack of options on the bench, Richard Taunton were able to work an equaliser before the game ended 2-2 with the points being shared. Pedro D M put in an outstanding display securing Man of the Match!



Gryphon School awaits in the semi-final on the Dorset Schools FA Cup.

Mr R Lewis

Cross-Country

The Autumn term finished with the National Final of the Cross-Country Cup at Princethorpe College in Rugby. Both the Intermediate and Senior teams performed admirably on a challenging course. It was great to see our name in the programme and announced as defending champions before the Intermediate race. Our team of Riley (16), Barney (22), Felix (99), Reuben (104), Josh (126) and Tom (142) gave it their all and as a team finished in 13th position with 241 points. The Senior team also had a great race. With half of the team being in Year 11, it was the first time they had competed with students in Year 13. As has become standard, they used each other to work through the field and have very respectable individual finishes. Finn (45), Oliver C (47), Oliver N (50), Ben S (53) and Sam S (87) finished in 8th position overall with 195 points.

The new year brought many cancellations due to the weather. This also hit Cross-Country with the County Championships having to be postponed twice! This meant that it was a nightmare for the Dorset selectors as the South-West regional teams had to be nominated by schools. I nominated a number of students who travelled down to Exeter on Saturday 7th February. The course was an absolute bog and easily the worst underfoot conditions I have ever seen. Positions are in the table below. Special mention must go to Finn who unfortunately lost a shoe on the first lap but continued valiantly to the end with only one shoe!

Name	Age Group	Position
Edward	Minor Boys	39 th
Barney	Inter Boys	13 th
Oliver	Inter Boys	18 th
Riley	Inter Boys	24 th
Ben	Inter Boys	25 th
Finn	Inter Boys	29 th
Henry	Inter Boys	54 th
Sam	Senior Boys	39 th



The Inter boys' team after racing at Exeter

Eventually the County Championships took place on Friday 27th February. We had full teams out in every age group and were the defending team champions in all age groups. All pupils who took part, ran with great resolve and showed fighting spirit throughout to do their very best. Individual results are below but in the team competition; the minor boys finished second, the junior boys 4th, whilst both the inter and senior teams were first and crowned champions for the second year in a row. The Junior boys lost their three-year streak of being champions, but the boys are determined to be back next year to challenge for the title once again! It was a special day for the Inter team, with Finn crowned County Champion for the first time. Ollie repeated his podium performance from 12 months ago and we had a total of 8 boys in the top 11 – a truly magnificent feat. In the senior boys, we had another podium as Sam finished runner-up. It was great to have Will make his first start line for the school and register a top 10 finish. A huge thank you to Ewan and Harvey who are leaving us in the summer at the end of Year 13. They have been part of many teams throughout the years reaching national finals and always put the team first, even when it is not their preferred distance! Without them at this competition, we would not have won the team Championship. Laras also competed in the senior girls, finishing 7th to secure her place on the Dorset squad for the National Championships.

Minor Boys	Position
Edward	6 th
Edan	10 th
Frank	13 th
Ben	18 th
Finn	19 th
Nathaniel	20 th
Leo	24 th
Harris	27 th
Patryk	28 th
Reuben	32 nd
George	36 th
Junior Boys	
Eduardo	16 th
Reuben	18 th
Jake	26 th
Benji	32 nd
Barney	34 th
Inter Boys	
Finn	1 st
Oliver	3 rd
Ben	4 th
Riley	5 th
Barney	6 th
Jacob	7 th
Josh	10 th
Will	11 th
Charlie	22 nd
Tom	25 th
Senior Boys	
Sam	2 nd
Will	8 th
Ewan	10 th
Harvey	11 th



Following the completion of the County Championships, 8 students were selected to represent Dorset at the English School's Championships in Liverpool on 14th March. In the inter boys – Finn, Oliver, Ben, Barney, Riley and Jacob; senior boys – Sam, with Will as first reserve; senior girls – Laras. We wish them all the best and hope they enjoy the experience.

I look forward to next year with optimism given the enthusiasm the pupils have shown throughout this year.

Mr P McCalister

Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

The Combined Cadet Force has continued to enjoy an exceptionally busy and successful period, with cadets across all sections demonstrating commitment, skill and a high standard of conduct in a wide range of activities.

One of the highlights at the end of the previous term was the Regimental Dinner, which saw the largest attendance to date and was held in the Grand Hall at Canford School. The evening was a considerable success and provided an excellent opportunity to celebrate the achievements and fellowship of the contingent in an appropriately formal setting. During the event, Flight Sergeant Maselino was awarded the Bryant J Saunders Memorial Trophy, in recognition of outstanding merit.

The contingent has also seen considerable success in air rifle training and range work. More than 90 cadets completed their Weapon Handling Tests on the Scorpion air rifle, marking a significant achievement in both participation and standards attained. Cadets approached the training with focus and maturity, and the range practices that followed produced some excellent shooting performances.

Prior to the February half term, a team of 14 RAF cadets represented the contingent at the South West Regional Air Squadron Trophy Competition, competing against Combined Cadet Force units from across the region. The team performed exceptionally well, securing a very close second place overall and thereby earning progression to the National Finals, which will take place during the summer term. This was a highly commendable performance against strong competition. Particular congratulations go to Sergeant Rose, who was the highest-scoring cadet in the Space discipline.

A number of important training courses were conducted on 7th March, providing cadets with valuable opportunities to develop and demonstrate their skills. A total of 19 Year 10 cadets successfully completed their Weapon Handling Test on the L98A2 rifle, performing to a notably high standard throughout the day. In addition, a group of Year 11 and 12 RAF cadets undertook a Method of Instruction course, preparing them to take on teaching and instructional responsibilities in the near future. Senior cadets from both the Army and RAF sections also completed an Advanced Drill Course, covering advanced foot drill, cane drill and drill instruction, thereby strengthening the contingent's ceremonial and leadership capability.

Looking ahead, on 20th-21st March, 40 cadets will take part in the contingent's second Great Tommy Sleep Out in support of the Royal British Legion. Cadets will remain at school on the Friday evening and will participate in a range of activities, including laser tag, night patrolling and feeding in the field, before spending the night sleeping in the copse to the rear of the school. This event is intended to raise awareness of, and funds for, homeless veterans, and we are proud to support such an important cause. If you wish to contribute, then please donate via this [link](#).

The contingent's Biennial Inspection will take place on 27th March, when Lieutenant Colonel Antony Sharman will attend to inspect the quality, standards and overall effectiveness of the cadets within the contingent. The day will begin with cadets demonstrating their ceremonial drill, followed by a full programme of competitive events designed to test a variety of cadet skills. The inspection will conclude with a formal prize-giving in the afternoon. Cadets have trained hard throughout the term in preparation, and a strong standard is already evident. Senior cadet appointments for the coming year will also be announced during the course of the day.

The summer term promises to be equally full. The contingent is once again preparing for its annual Adventure Training visit to Tile Barn Centre in the New Forest, where cadets will take part in a range of challenging and developmental outdoor activities. In addition, a small group of senior cadets is planning to undertake parachute training at the Army Parachute Centre, Netheravon, on Salisbury Plain. Army and RAF camps are also expected to run during the summer term, providing further opportunities for cadets to develop their military knowledge, leadership and resilience in demanding environments.

Overall, the contingent continues to go from strength to strength, and the achievements of this term are a clear reflection of the enthusiasm, discipline and commitment shown by cadets and staff alike.

Wing Commander Sean Dally, Contingent Commander

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

The School's Sea Scouts and Explorers started January working on Staged Swimmer badges in preparation for the RN Sea Scout Swimming Gala 2026 in February. That fine work achieved excellent results with Explorers making a relay and U16 backstroke finals, a Scout relay team starting a final and three individual U12 Scouts earning places in freestyle and backstroke finals. They also had time for team building at HMS Raleigh in Cornwall and viewing the 108-year-old grand trophy – next year's goal!



Our Pioneer Explorers also had another visit to HMS Raleigh's on-base RN simulator "Chaos" – a sinking ship where they had to problem solve, act, and react to save the sinking ship – total CHAOS!



The 35th's Pioneer Explorers also attended a STEM Challenge Day at RNAS Yeovilton during February half-term, competing against Sea Cadets and CCF units from across Southern England. They started the day with a tour of the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm Museum, then earned an Honourable Mention with their unique design of plane undercarriage.



Congratulations are in order – 27 new Scouts and Explorers were invested into the Group during our annual AGM held at Le Bistro. Several months of learning the Scout Promise, Scout Law, history of Scouting and the 35th's past association with Bournemouth School resulted in these new members joining us and the world-wide family of Scouts. Well done all!

A Scout Patrol Leader Training Camp was held in March for the second consecutive year in Bournemouth. Five of the six 35th's Patrol Leaders, pictured here, joined twenty other Scouts in a weekend full of learning, team building and leadership training. They will continue to use their skills to direct and teach their Patrol members in various Scout activities, land and water based.



Finally, after much preparation, the 35th Bournemouth School Sea Scouts RN47 were privileged to host Brigadier Ged Salzano MBE RM, Commander Royal Naval Cadet Forces, as the Inspecting Officer for our 2026 Royal Navy Affiliated Sea Scout inspection. Hosted by Headmaster Dr Dorian Lewis, the Brigadier was joined by other leaders representing the UK RN Affiliated Sea Scouts, Christchurch Cadets and Bournemouth District Scouts. We passed with flying colours! A major highlight of the evening was the

presentation of the new Royal Navy Sea Scout Burgee — with the 35th becoming the second unit in the UK to pass inspection and receive the updated design.



Jim Alexander, Group Scout Leader RN47

School Lottery Draw Spring Term 2026

The School Lottery raises money for projects that will benefit pupils and pays THREE CASH PRIZES every month! This year we have been raising funds towards our Lecture Theatre's fantastic upgrade, providing some of the up-to-the minute technology that will benefit every student. In previous years, the lottery has funded the Main Hall seating, staging equipment for school performances and a minibus.

Lottery numbers are drawn by pupils at the end of each term. Three winners for each month in that term are picked at random by school pupils. Here's this term's winners from January to March:

Month	Winning Ticket	Ticket Holder Surname	Drawn by:
January 2026	385 513 360	Bailey Bailey Adams	W D Walbridge E Weng A Rains
February 2026	97 735 741	Baker Turle Thomas	P Ruggeri J Jeff N Skorge
March 2026	305 267 330	Schell Johnson Humble	L Smith J Peel H Long

Congratulations, a cheque for £100 is on its way to each of you!

Sharp eyed readers might have spotted that lottery winner Bailey won two prizes in January's draw! Book that cruise now!

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 20 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.