



BOURNEMOUTH SCHOOL

Newsletter for Parents

From the Headmaster



The focus of the second half of term has inevitably been upon ensuring that our Year 11 and 13 students are supported in sitting their GCSE and A level examinations, respectively. I am grateful to Mrs Critchley and her team of invigilators for ensuring the smooth running of the public examinations, which appears to be more complex year on year.

Year 11 students celebrated the end of their examinations with a Prom being held at the Highcliff Marriott Hotel. We were pleased to be able to work with BSG and their PSA to ensure that the event was enjoyed by all.

It is often perceived by those outside education that the months of June and July give an opportunity, as Year 11 and 13 are on study leave, to ease to the end of the academic year. Nothing could be further from the truth! Alongside preparing for the next academic year, colleagues are involved in supporting a plethora of events across the year groups. This half term these have included:

- Year 9 Drama Workshops
- Year 10 Geography Fieldwork
- House Cricket Competitions
- Year 7 Portchester Castle Trips
- Battle of the Bands
- Business Breakfast (to thank employers offering work experience to Years 10 and 12)
- Pilot Talks (from alumni Jonathan Miller and Archer Brook and former colleague Nigel Oates)
- Year 12 Trip to BU Business Experiences Day
- Year 6 to 7 Transition Day
- Year 7 AUB Creatives Workshop
- Year 12 Trip to Poole High School's Aspirations Day
- Year 12 Safer Driving Presentation
- Year 7 Trip to Monkey World
- Year 8 Trip to Marwell Zoo
- House Events and Sports Day
- Sixth Form Trip to Southampton University)
- Senior Prefect Team-Building in Eryri
- Law Society Trip to Middle Temple, London – through an alumnus
- London Galleries Trip for Years 8, 9 and 10
- Year 12 JP Morgan Trip
- Year 8 STARS event
- Open Evening
- Year 12 AUB Trip
- Dentistry Talks by Alumni
- Dyson Apprenticeship Assemblies – alumni led
- Used Uniform Sale
- Year 9 Celebration Day
- New Staff Induction
- Year 10 Celebration Afternoon
- Culture and Awards Evening

One of the most gratifying aspects of the last couple of years has been marked increase in the number of former students willing to give of their time to support our current students.

Our annual House Events and Sports Day was again a great success. Not only was the weather just right, but the level of participation was superb. It was very touching to see how committed staff and students were in contributing to either rowing and/or running 23 miles – one mile for each year worked at the school our much-missed colleague, Richard Cook. Nearly £500 was raised for Forest Holme Hospice in Mr Cook's memory. The Richard Cook Cup for Courage and Compassion was also awarded for the first time, and was shared by the House Captains of Moore and Scott Houses, Sam and Hector. Many congratulations to members of Moore House for coming top of the leaderboard.

The House Captains were again in focus during last week's charity events. It was pleasing to see so many events taking place – and a number of colleagues being "sponged". Alongside the events, money and food donations were collected for the local food bank.

With so much going on, it seems invidious to single out particular achievements, but I was particularly impressed by three of our Year 12 students achieving third place in The International Space Competition and two Year 12 students and one Year 8 student reaching the final of the Bloxham Sustainability Challenge. I am also very grateful for the large number of students who have volunteered to help at school events particularly Open Evening, and the Senior and House Prefect teams re-vitalising our efforts to raise funds for charity. None of these activities and events would be possible without the tireless efforts of our staff – thank you!

Over the last weeks, Mrs Ateaque and I have been working together to prepare for September. We have revised a number of policies, with the most significant change being in our approach to students' use of mobile 'phones.

As you will be aware, following a comprehensive consultation process with parents, students, and staff, Bournemouth School will transition to a smartphone-free environment for Years 7–11 from September 2026. This decision aligns with national guidance, benchmarking against other high-performing schools, and our core strategic duty to optimise academic focus, student wellbeing, and safeguarding.

The decision to move from a "on-site-out-of-sight" policy to a full restriction on site is driven by several critical operational and educational factors:

- **Academic Focus:** Growing evidence shows that constant connectivity and unrestricted internet access significantly undermine concentration and deep thinking.
- **Operational Friction:** The previous policy has become unsustainable. Staff frequently intercept devices being accessed during lessons and social times, distracting from learning and face-to-face peer interaction.
- **Safeguarding & Wellbeing:** High operational concerns persist regarding student exposure to inappropriate online content, non-consensual image sharing, and the broader impact of social media on adolescent mental health.
- **Transit Safety:** The leadership team noted increasing risks regarding student distraction and reduced situational awareness during commutes to and from school.

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) have actively engaged the school community to ensure a transparent process. While opinions naturally varied, three primary practical concerns were raised by parents. We proactively adapted the policy framework to mitigate these risks without compromising the policy's core objectives:

1. **Student Tracking:** GPS tracking devices (e.g., Apple AirTags) remain permitted to allow parents to monitor commutes.
2. **Emergency Communication:** Parents can route urgent messages through school reception. Additionally, a strictly vetted list of approved, non-smart "brick" phones will be permitted for use *only* during commutes; these must remain off and in bags during the school day.
3. **Transport Logistics:** To address digital bus ticketing concerns, the school has been in touch with MoreBus to ensure the availability of physical SMART cards for school transport.

In addition, students requiring smart devices for medical monitoring (e.g., glucose tracking) will be accommodated. For students in the Sixth Form there will be a phased approach to the use of Smart Devices, preparing them for university and workplace environments.

All students have been advised via assemblies regarding expectations and the educational principles behind the change. The full policy document detailing sanctions and the approved device list is now available through our website.

Careful financial planning enables us to continue to improve the School's infrastructure and facilities. We have also planned to increase the funds devolved to subject areas by more than inflation and have again set aside a sum of money to enable subject areas to bid for funding to support curriculum development. The most significant projects that we will have completed in this financial year will be:

- Replacement of all fire doors, including the resources block (partly funded by a CIF bid)
- Replacement of all remaining Windows 10 PCs
- Refurbishment of Music IT suite (including mini-keyboards)
- Lighting improvements
- Refurbishment of two laboratories and a prep room
- Installation of air conditioning/heating in the Study Centre and Room 53
- Sixth Form Study Centre corridor conversion
- Installation of a canopy in the junior playground
- Creation of a demonstration kitchen in Room 85

We are also re-carpeting areas of the main building, undertaking tree works in the Copse, improving the site signage, refurbishing offices and shared spaces, modifying the gates to the field and SDESC, improving front door security, and continuing our programme of classroom refurbishment. Our excellent site and IT teams will certainly have a busy summer ahead of them!

Staffing update

<i>Leavers</i>	<i>New Staff</i>
Mr M Budd (Premises; joined 2026) Mrs L Chmielewski (Spanish; joined 2025) Ms S Jones (Tech & Computing; joined 2003) Mrs J Knowles (LSA; joined 2023)	Mrs E Bravo Morillo (Spanish) MAT cover Mr R Compton (PRE) Mr C Connolly (Assistant Caretaker) Mr A Garcia (Spanish) Mrs S Harrison (Psychology) MAT cover Miss R Martin (English) Mrs M Rezvani (Design Technology) Mrs E Willis (Assistant Headteacher)

Ms Jones joined the School in September 2003 as the ICT Curriculum Manager. Over the last 23 years she has subsequently undertaken a number of roles within computing, technology and business studies. Throughout that time, she has been the consummate professional and unfailingly flexible and cheerful. Ms Jones will be greatly missed – we wish her well in her retirement.

In addition to some staff leaving us at the end of this term, it would be amiss of me not to mention two gentlemen who have given so much to the school over the last years. Mr Steve Pattle has been our careers adviser for the last 5 years. He has been a tremendous asset in gently guiding so many students towards their career paths – thank you!

One of our most treasured and esteemed colleagues is stepping down from the Board of Trustees at the end of term. Shortly before I was born, Alan Turle began his long association with Bournemouth School – firstly as a student and then as a member of the Old Bournemouthians' Association. When he retired from being a solicitor, we were quick to co-opt him onto the Board of Trustees. Over the last 10 years, Alan has become an invaluable member of the Board, and hugely influential. We have benefitted greatly from his wisdom and sage advice. Although he has stepped down from the Board of Trustees, we all hope that he will be a frequent visitor over the years to come. The only aspect that we won't miss, are his terrible jokes!

Other staffing changes for September:

- Dr T Carter has been promoted to the role of Assistant Headteacher.
- Mr M Knight will become a Director of Learning.
- Mr R Carr and Mr M Willis will become Year Co-ordinators, with Mr Willis continuing as our Personal Development Lead.
- Ms E Wallis is changing role from a Learning Support Assistant to a Cover Supervisor.
- Mrs R Cornish (LSA) will become our Attendance and Safeguarding Officer during Mrs Jeff's maternity leave. Mrs Short (Spanish) and Mrs Ford (Psychology) will also be on maternity leave.

Closing thoughts

As you will no doubt be aware, Mrs Ateaque will be the School's new headteacher from September. I will work alongside Mrs Ateaque and the new senior leadership team throughout the Autumn Term to provide continuity and support before leaving the School at the end of December 2026.

It has been a privilege to serve the Bournemouth School community as headteacher over the last 17 years – our students never cease to impress and surpass our expectations. I extend my deepest gratitude to our exceptional staff and trustees. Together, we have created a nurturing environment where our students can truly thrive. Thank you also for your continued support, and dedication to our school community. There'll be more from me in the autumn term – but in the meantime, have a wonderful summer!

"What may feel like the end of an era, is really just the beginning of something even more exciting"

"From Mrs Ateaque"



As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those who may not know me quite so well and to share a few thoughts as I prepare to become Headteacher of Bournemouth School in September.

It is a tremendous privilege to be taking on the role of Bournemouth School's 9th headteacher. Having served as Deputy Headteacher for many years, I know our school exceptionally well. More importantly, I know what makes Bournemouth School such a special place: our remarkable students, our dedicated and talented staff, our supportive parents and our shared commitment to excellence in all that we do.

Parents will be pleased to know that my ambition is not to change what has made Bournemouth School so successful, but to build upon it. Our purpose remains clear: outstanding outcomes for all through exemplary teaching and learning. Every decision we make will continue to be guided by this simple but powerful aim, ensuring that every student is challenged, supported and inspired to achieve their very best.

Alongside academic excellence, our four core values will continue to underpin everything we do. We believe that hard work is the foundation of success; that a smart appearance reflects pride in ourselves and our school; that discipline creates the calm, purposeful environment in which everyone can flourish; and that respect for one another lies at the heart of a strong and caring community. These values shape the culture of Bournemouth School and will remain central to our future.

I am excited about the opportunities ahead. We will continue to focus on making teaching and learning even better, broadening opportunities beyond the classroom and ensuring that our students leave Bournemouth School not only with exceptional qualifications, but also with the character, confidence and values that will enable them to make a positive contribution to society.

As someone who has worked with our students for many years, I know first-hand what they are capable of achieving. Their curiosity, resilience, kindness and ambition never fail to impress me. I also know that these qualities are nurtured through the strong partnership between school and home. I look forward to continuing to work closely with parents, whose support plays such an important role in the success of our young people.

Finally, I would like to thank all our parents and carers for your continued encouragement and support throughout the year. Together with our exceptional staff, you help create the environment in which our students thrive.

I wish all members of our school community a restful and enjoyable summer break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September as we begin the next chapter in Bournemouth School's proud history, building on the strong foundations already in place and continuing our pursuit of excellence in everything we do.

Summer Examination Series – 2026

GCE A level and GCSE Result Day Information

The invigilators and I would like to congratulate every student on their attitude, behaviour and commitment towards their public examinations this summer. We would like to wish them luck for results days and all the best for their future achievements.

Results Days:

Students are able to collect their results from Le Bistro (using the gates to the upper terrace) on the following dates and times:

GCE A level/AS level: Thursday 13th August, 2026

The school will open for collection **between 8am – 9.30am**

GCSE: Thursday 20th August, 2026

The school will open for collection **between 9am – 10.30am**

On both occasions senior staff, as well as myself, will be on hand to support and advise students with any queries.

Results will also be emailed to the **student's school account**. If a student wishes to nominate somebody to collect them on their behalf, they will need to give written authorisation. The nominated person will need to bring identification with them. Please email me with the details.

If a student is unhappy with their grade(s), there will be an opportunity to speak to a member of staff in school or via email. Please note that some staff may not access emails in the school holidays.

Students can access a copy of their exam script before deciding if they should request a review. To do so, the school will request candidate consent via a consent form before any review is requested. The school will share the outcome of each stage of the process with you promptly. Forms will be available on the website.

Please note, the deadline for priority A level reviews is 20th August, 2026.

**** It is important to note that during the appeals stages, results could go up or down or stay the same. You will not keep the higher of the grades, and an appeal cannot be withdrawn once a decision has been made. ****

I look forward to seeing everyone on results day. I appreciate it may be a time of anxiety, but the school is here to support the students and to help them achieve their potential.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs G Critchley
Examinations Manager
gcritchley@bournemouth-school.org

Year 7

Speaking to many Year 7s this week, we are all stunned that the year is almost at an end and Year 8 is fast approaching! It seems to have gone very quickly but the boys have certainly achieved a lot over their first three terms at Bournemouth School.

As ever, I cannot articulate how proud I am of the Year 7 cohort. They have truly embodied our values of Hard Work, Respect, Smart Appearance and Discipline.

This was very clear to see during our trip to Monkey World at the start of the month. After the focus and effort that had gone into the End of Year exams, everyone was excited to have a day out of school, and to visit the ape rescue centre that is home to over 200 monkeys and primates.

Having heard from Monkey World's Education Lead in an assembly about the horrific circumstances that many of the monkeys had been rescued from, the students understood that although we wanted them to have a day full of fun, they also needed to be very respectful of the animals we were observing and learning about. The boys' conduct was impeccable from start to finish. Not only did they find out about the conservation, rescue and rehabilitation programmes in place, they also had the opportunity to play on the Great Ape Play Area. Respect and good manners were shown throughout, to each other as well as to members of the public. They were a credit to the School.

In the same week as the reward trip, the boys experienced their first House Events and Sports Day at Bournemouth School. As Dr Lewis has already communicated, the day was fantastic and I am thrilled that the boys got to participate in and contribute towards a day of such high-quality sport and team building activities. All students regardless of year group came together to celebrate the achievements of their House and again, conduct was impeccable.

The hot weather certainly tested many students during Open Evening on 9th July, but, as ever, representatives from Year 7 came out in force and were only too willing to brave the high temperatures to show visitors around our school and share their experiences of the entrance tests and starting secondary education. I received so much fantastic feedback from families who were grateful for their effort, knowledge and advice, especially so close to the end of term when the students are tired! Year 7s also provided musical entertainment and help in various departments around the school; we couldn't run the evening without them.

Soon I will be handing over to Mr Knight, Director of Learning for Years 8 and 9 from September. I will confidently be able to tell Mr Knight that he is inheriting a superb cohort of intelligent, talented, and kind young men who are a credit to us and their families.

I wish you all a very happy summer break and would like to thank you for your support throughout the year.

Ms K Thorne, Head of Year

Year 8

Year 8

It has been a busy and productive term for Year 8, adding to a year which has been characterised by academic ambition, personal growth and an impressive willingness to embrace the many opportunities available both within and beyond the classroom.

Academic standards have remained high, with many students making excellent progress across their subjects and developing increasingly effective study habits in preparation for the demands of GCSE courses. Several students have achieved exceptional individual successes, including outstanding performances in the UK Junior Maths Challenge.

The enthusiasm with which Year 8 has embraced extracurricular life has been equally impressive. Students have represented the school and their Houses across a wide range of sports, including football, rugby, cricket, badminton, tennis, basketball, athletics and cross-country with some exceptional successes (especially in football and athletics) which you can read about elsewhere in this newsletter. Others have developed their interests through clubs such as Science Club, Dungeons & Dragons, badminton, football, band rehearsals and Student Council. Their willingness to volunteer, compete and support one another has made a significant contribution to the vibrant life of the school.

Many students have also enjoyed considerable success beyond school. Year 8 includes talented musicians, accomplished sportsmen and committed young people pursuing interests as diverse as karate, piano, music theory, swimming, scouting, go-karting, cooking, computing and the arts. These achievements reflect the determination, commitment and breadth of talent that exists across the year group.

Of course, Year 8 has also been a year of learning important life lessons. Many students have demonstrated increasing resilience by responding positively to challenges, developing into young people who are willing to contribute, take on leadership opportunities and support those around them. Their wider development has been supported by school personal development programme, with sessions run by external organisations such as STARS and Dorset Police.

To recognise a year of hard work, commitment and positive contributions to school life, Year 8 students enjoyed a reward trip to Marwell Zoo. Students had the opportunity to explore the zoo, see a wide variety of animals and spend time with their friends outside of the classroom. The students conducted themselves exceptionally well throughout the day and were a real credit to the school. We hope the visit provided a memorable way to round off a successful year in Year 8.

We would like to thank all of our Year 8 students for the positive contribution they have made to school life this year, together with the staff and families who have supported them. We wish everyone a restful summer break.

Dr T Carter, Mr M Knight and Ms E Wallis

Year 9

Year 9

As another successful academic year draws to a close, we would like to congratulate our Year 9 students on the commitment, resilience and maturity shown throughout the year.

This has been a significant stage in their education as they have begun their GCSE courses, embracing the increased academic challenge with enthusiasm and determination. It has been particularly pleasing to see so many students reflect thoughtfully on their own progress, identify areas for improvement and respond positively to feedback from their teachers. This growing sense of independence and self-awareness will serve them well as they continue through their GCSE studies.

Beyond the classroom, Year 9 students have made an outstanding contribution to the wider life of the school. Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Combined Cadet Force, House competitions, music, drama and an extensive range of sporting activities has been exceptionally strong. Students have represented the school with distinction in rugby, cricket, football, athletics, cross country, badminton, basketball and table tennis, while others have excelled in music, languages, reading competitions and school productions. These opportunities continue to develop resilience, teamwork, leadership and confidence, helping our students become well-rounded young people.

To celebrate and recognise the hard work and achievements of Year 9, we recently had an Enrichment Day. Students had the opportunity to program and fly drones, take part in team building exercises, use the AirJumpX super-sized inflatable obstacle course, hear from representatives from Dyson and AFC Bournemouth and take part in a culinary design challenge. Great fun was had by all!



Year 9 on the AirJumpX



Year 9 teambuilding exercises under the shade of the oak tree

We look forward to seeing this talented year group continue to flourish as they enter the next stage of their GCSE journey, and wish every student a restful and well-deserved summer break.

Dr T Carter, Mr M Knight and Ms E Wallis

Year 10 and 11

Year 10

The Summer term has been a busy and successful one for Year 10, marked by a number of important milestones and achievements.

A key focus this term was the completion of the mock examinations, which were sat under full GCSE conditions. This provided pupils with a valuable opportunity to experience the demands of the examination environment ahead of next year. The results highlighted the benefits of thorough preparation and effective revision, while also helping pupils to identify areas for improvement as they begin their final year of GCSE study.

Another major highlight was the Year 10 work experience programme. Pupils undertook a wide variety of placements, gaining first-hand insight into different careers and workplaces. Feedback from employers was extremely positive, with many praising our students for their maturity, enthusiasm, professionalism and willingness to contribute. The experience has undoubtedly given pupils greater confidence and a broader understanding of the opportunities available to them in the future.

Outside the classroom, Year 10 pupils have continued to make a significant contribution to school life through a range of co-curricular activities. Many have represented the school in athletics, cricket, football and the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), demonstrating commitment, teamwork and determination. Special congratulations go to Andrew, Barney and Riley, who earned selection for the Dorset Athletics team and represented the county in Exeter at the end of June – a fantastic achievement.

House spirit has remained strong throughout the term, with pupils embracing a variety of competitions and events. House Events and Sports Day were particular highlights, with Year 10 boys competing enthusiastically in both athletic and team-building challenges. Their positive attitude, effort and sportsmanship were a credit to themselves and the year group.

As we reach the end of another successful year, I would like to congratulate all Year 10 pupils on their achievements, contributions and personal growth. We look forward to welcoming them back in September as they begin their final GCSE year. Until then, we wish them all a restful and well-deserved summer break.

Mrs J Roche, Year 10 Co-ordinator

Year 11

The Summer term for our Year 11 students has, understandably, been dominated by their GCSE examinations. The build-up to this important milestone can be overwhelming, but the boys approached the exam season with resilience, maturity, and determination.

It was particularly encouraging to see so many students taking advantage of the masterclass sessions organised by each department, as well as choosing to come into school to revise. Their commitment and hard work have been commendable.

The Prom was a wonderful way to celebrate the end of their time at school. The boys looked incredibly smart in their suits and enjoyed an evening that will undoubtedly remain a cherished memory for years to come. Our sincere thanks go to the BSG parents and staff for organising such a fantastic event and creating a memorable venue. The boys truly appreciated all the time and effort that went into making the evening so special.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 20th August for Results Day and wish all of our Year 11 students every success. We hope they achieve the grades they need as they take the next exciting step in their education.

Mr P McCalister, Year 11 Co-ordinator

Sixth Form

As we approach the end of the summer term, this is the perfect opportunity to congratulate all of our Sixth Form students on what has been an exceptionally busy, rewarding, and successful year.

The Sixth Form community has much to celebrate, and many of our achievements, events, and success stories can be found on the school website. We encourage students, parents, and carers to visit the site to read more about the outstanding contributions and accomplishments of our Sixth Form students throughout the year.

At this time of year, it is always with mixed emotions that we say farewell to our Year 13 students. They have made a significant contribution to the life of the school, and we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved during their time at Bournemouth School. We wish them every success and happiness in the next stage of their journey, whether that involves university, apprenticeships, employment, or other exciting opportunities.

We hope they know that they will always be part of the Bournemouth School community and that a warm welcome awaits them whenever they return. We look forward to hearing about their future achievements and celebrating their successes in the years ahead.

Year 12 UCAS, Apprenticeship and NEA Preparation

Although the term is ending, the hard work continues. Year 12 students have begun their UCAS applications with enthusiasm, and many have also started work on their Non-Examination Assessments (NEAs), which form an important part of several A Level courses. Students will also be preparing for admissions tests such as the UCAT and LNAT, alongside other university and subject-specific assessments.

We wish the very best of luck to those attending summer schools, sitting entrance examinations, or completing additional work experience over the summer. These valuable opportunities will help students return for Year 13 with renewed focus, confidence and momentum.

Celebrating EPQ Success

This year, many Year 12 students completed and presented their Extended Project Qualifications (EPQs) alongside studying for their chosen subjects. These projects, ranging from academic essays to practical artefacts, reflected students' personal interests and academic passions – and once again we had a wide range of topics and creations.

From evaluating the claims about carbon plated running shoes, to a student designing and piloting their own underwater Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV), we have had a phenomenal spectrum of projects this year. The students continue in the EPQ tradition of composing a range of curious questions and creations and as EPQ lead, Miss Greenslade, couldn't be prouder of them.

Successfully balancing A Levels, work experience and university/apprenticeship applications alongside their EPQs is no small achievement – an Extended Project takes an incredible display of organisation, commitment and enthusiasm, and we love seeing passions come to fruition. Congratulations to all involved, and have a well-deserved break! You made it to the finish line!

Please see below for just a few of our incredible topics, both essay and artefact:

Essays:

- How far can you go in an hour using only your own force? A study into Human Powered Vehicles.

- Evaluating the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Precision Oncology for Lung Cancer
- To what extent did social determinants influence the management and health outcomes of Sickle Cell Disease within the UK's Black Communities?
- Which reward system best makes adolescents addicted to video games?

Below – picture of the ROV previously mentioned.



Designing and constructing a Fender inspired Stratocaster in the style of Jimi Hendrix, taking into account both the musical and technical advancements since his death in 1970.



Looking Ahead

As we conclude another successful year, we encourage students to use the summer break to consolidate their learning while also prioritising rest and recovery. Year 13 will bring new challenges, and a well-rested mind is key to future success. We wish all students and their families a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved summer break.

Senior Prefect Team Building Adventure in Snowdonia

At the start of July, Mr Perch, Mr Nichols, Mrs Holcroft and Mr McGregor were fortunate to accompany twelve of our Senior Prefects on an unforgettable team-building trip to Snowdonia, Wales. We departed on a warm Sunday morning and, despite many of us still feeling the effects of House Events and Sports Day, the minibus karaoke soon lifted spirits and set the tone for the adventure ahead. By the time we arrived, everyone was full of enthusiasm and ready to embrace the challenges of the next three days.

Our first team-building task was to set up camp before heading out on a gentle 5km walk around Swallow Falls. Along the route, students enjoyed spectacular scenery, including views of the famous “Ugly House” and the surrounding Welsh countryside, complete with plenty of sheep. Back at camp, the team worked together to prepare a veritable feast before rounding off the evening with several fiercely competitive games of Uno.

Day two provided the highlight of the trip as the team tackled the challenging Watkins Path. With Mr Nichols’ Mountain Leader qualification guiding us, we diverted from the main route towards the bwlch between Yr Aran and Clogwyn Du. Careful navigation and some light scrambling saw us successfully traverse the ridge of Clogwyn Du before joining the Rhyd-Ddu Path and eventually reaching the summit of Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon).

The ascent showcased the very best qualities of our Senior Prefects. There was tremendous camaraderie, resilience and encouragement on display throughout the day. The exceptionally warm weather brought spectacular views across Snowdonia, although it also meant plenty of well-earned water stops along the way. After celebrating at the summit, we descended via a more leisurely route towards Llanberis, with the mountain railway providing a constant landmark beside us. By the end of the day, the group had completed an impressive 14km hike.

Following a hearty Welsh breakfast on day three, the team set off to explore the stunning Ogwen Valley. The route took us past Llyn Bochlwyd, along Gribin Ridge and around Llyn Ogwen. For some of the more adventurous members of the group, a diversion up to the dramatic Devil's Kitchen added an extra challenge before we completed another impressive 7km of walking.

While the scenery throughout the trip was breathtaking, the most memorable aspect was the opportunity it provided for students to learn more about one another, discover their own strengths and build lasting memories. There were smiles throughout, a genuine sense of togetherness, and countless examples of the leadership qualities that make these students such excellent role models. Their conduct throughout the trip embodied exactly what we hope for from student leaders within our school community.

Above all, the experience reinforced the pride this team feels in representing Bournemouth School. We returned tired but inspired, and we look forward to seeing them continue to demonstrate the same spirit, determination and leadership throughout the year ahead.

Sixth Form Careers, Societies and Opportunities

This term has been packed with opportunities for our Sixth Form students to explore future pathways, develop employability skills and gain valuable insight from universities, employers and alumni.

Our Year 12 students completed a successful week of work experience, gaining first-hand experience across a wide range of industries. We were delighted to celebrate their achievements at our annual Work Experience Business Breakfast, where employers were thanked for their invaluable support. Several students reflected on how their placements had developed their confidence, skills and career aspirations, while the event also provided an excellent opportunity to strengthen our links with local businesses.

Students considering higher education benefited from a university admissions and interview workshop delivered by Merton College, Oxford, while a group of students also visited Bournemouth University for an Enterprise Experience Day, taking part in business, marketing, project management and entrepreneurship activities.

We were also pleased to welcome back former student Archer Brook, who shared his experiences of training to become a commercial pilot. His engaging talk explored the different routes into aviation and gave students the opportunity to ask questions about careers in the industry. We were equally grateful to welcome another alumni pilot, Jonathan Miller, who also spoke to students about careers in aviation.

Our students also enjoyed success in national competition. Joe (Year 8), Elliott and Sam represented Bournemouth School in the national final of the Bloxham Sustainability Challenge, presenting a detailed environmental impact assessment of a proposed Scottish wind farm using advanced GIS analysis. Competing against Year 12 teams from across the country, they were awarded a Certificate of Excellence for their outstanding presentation, professionalism and analytical skills. Joe received special recognition for his exceptional contribution as the only Year 8 student in the competition, with judges praising the team's maturity, evidence-based thinking and impressive presentation skills.

Mrs Holcroft, Deputy Director of 6th Form

Careers Information

This is a particularly poignant article for me to write as I am about to retire from my role as careers adviser to this wonderful school. During the five academic years I worked at the school, speaking individually to over 2,000 students, I have been consistently impressed by the quality of the conversations and range of aspirations expressed.

Students inevitably focus on the 'now', striving to prepare for GCSEs and in Year 12, for A levels. However, during our conversations we also had the opportunity to think about the 'not yet', exploring together the potential future pathways their subject choices could lead to. We would talk about higher education, gap years, entering work direct, either via an apprenticeship or trainee position. As each academic year passed, I noticed one particular question began to dominate – how would AI impact the future of work?

As a careers adviser, this question exercises me too. There is no shortage of expert opinions to be had on this question. Social commentators, politicians, and the 'tech bros' themselves have been increasingly vocal on how AI might transform the workplace. Opinions range from dystopian futures to encouragingly optimistic ones. Scenarios where machines exclusively own the means of production and we have no work to do; to hopeful ones of AI taking on all the drudgery of work leaving us to be endlessly engaged in new and exciting tasks. There is much talk too of artificial general intelligence, AGI, and how it will further advance the power of technology, exceeding the capabilities of human intelligence. But like my career conversations with the students, it is again a case of 'now, but not yet'.

This topic formed the basis of my last assembly to Years 10 and 12, considering how today's students should approach their futures in this AI age. As firms continue to invest heavily in AI, there is a growing trend towards reluctant adoption amongst workers concerned about the erosion of their skills. The computer scientist Arvind Narayanan wrote recently that knowledge workers would need to spend a much higher fraction of their time on learning, re-skilling, and growth, in order to stay competitive as AI capabilities increase.

AI investment by employers is also fuelling a reluctance to recruit for entry-level jobs due to the business costs of getting new starters 'up to speed', working alongside these new AI tools. James Reed, CEO of Reed Recruitment noted that graduate entry level positions advertised had fallen from 180,000 three/four years ago to 50,000 today. With a UK student population of around 2.8 million and roughly 1 million graduating each year, immediate career prospects are to say the least, challenging.

But AI is currently a case of 'now, but not yet' in terms of tangible widespread task/job disruption. Many of the knowledge-based jobs that are most at risk from AI, such as Legal, Business & Finance and Software Engineering continue to report strong demand in terms of university degree subject applications. In overall terms, the Office for National Statistics reports that total job vacancy trends continue to remain broadly flat.

So how should Generation Z prepare for this? Numerous studies agree that leaning into the soft skills of creativity, critical thinking, reasoning, empathy and emotional intelligence makes a lot of sense, as these are all skills that today's large language models struggle to emulate convincingly.

Additionally, students should cultivate both an appetite for continual upskilling and a willingness to pivot into new roles in response to the impact of technological advances in the workplace and changing and emerging consumer demand. Students should embrace AI and build their understanding of its capabilities and limitations. Literally become 'AI Native'.

When discussing possible career choices with students, I would often reframe their question in terms of 'what do you want to try next?' rather than 'what career do you want to pursue?'. The word 'career' is literally more about journey and for many of today's young people, that journey is likely to take more twists and turns than an alpine pass!

Finally, if there is one overriding message I would want to leave with students, it is to build resilience; to embrace setbacks and see them as learning opportunities. To be curious, question everything, open to new ideas and opportunities as they arise. So thank you Bournemouth School for the privilege of serving your students and thank you students for the so many insights I have gained from you.

Steve Pattle

House News

Darwin House

It has been another excellent academic year for Darwin House, with students across all year groups showing the determination, enthusiasm and teamwork that we strive for. Whether competing in house events, supporting one another around school or representing the school on a wider level, everyone in Darwin has demonstrated these important values that help to make our house such a strong community. I'm really proud of our excellent participation across all competitions which has led to some amazing results, including an important third place at this year's House Events and Sports Day, which has heavily contributed to our strong position in the house championship. I'd also like to highlight a few standout athletes from House Events and Sports Day: Oliver Canavan who broke the Year 12 school record for the 1500m, and was deservedly awarded the "best athlete" award; Razvan Andrei who won the award for the 6th form athlete and Tydan Farley who brought home a win in the Year 10 Pentathlon. Well done on exceptional performances!

Beyond sports competitions it has been really encouraging to see so many Darwin students getting involved in the house, whether that be with music, academic challenges or volunteering. Every contribution no matter how big or small helps strengthen house spirit in Darwin. This is seen so evidently looking at the achievement points total where we have accumulated over 22,000 achievement points which is the most in the school! Therefore, as House Captain I would like to deeply thank all the students for their amazing attitude towards school this year. They are the reason Darwin has been able to achieve so much and nothing in the house would be possible without them all. I wish everyone a fantastic summer break and am looking forward to seeing students back having (hopefully) enjoyed the heat! Thank you!

Oli Thorne, Darwin House Captain

Elgar House

This academic year has marked not only an exciting new chapter for Elgar House, but also a renewal of House spirit across the entire school. The return of the "House Assembly" brought all Elgarians together to celebrate a shared identity and ambitious vision for the future, while our partnership with Bournemouth Food Bank in this year's Charity Week showcased the compassion, generosity and enthusiasm that define students across every year group.

Our rise from 6th place to 4th in the House Championship is a source of great pride and reflects the commitment shown by our students throughout the year. It gives us real confidence as we continue to strive towards the top of the table!

Deputy House Captain Andreii Kanaiev reflected on the unity that has developed across Elgar, describing the House as “one big family” and reminding us that there is still much more to come from September. That shared ambition has been central to everything we have achieved this year.

Beyond competitions, Student Voice Leader Ishaan has continued to represent Elgar by promoting new ideas for the future, including the return of non-sporting House competitions and greater opportunities for younger pupils to become involved in House life.

Yet the success of the House system cannot be measured by points alone. It lies in the friendships formed and the welcoming community that has flourished throughout this academic year.

And finally, no reflection on this year would be complete without expressing a heartfelt thanks to the Year 10 Prefect Team for their dedication and hard work. In particular, Aarav Jain and Jack Excell deserve special recognition for the warmth and enthusiasm they brought to New Boys’ Day on 26th June, helping to ensure that our incoming pupils received a truly memorable welcome to both Bournemouth School and Elgar House.

Elgar has much to celebrate and even more to anticipate. Together we look forward to writing the next chapter of our story.

James Pearson, Elgar House Captain

Moore House

Moore House has undergone a whirlwind of achievements this year, with a huge emphasis on the past few weeks. We had an incredible day at House Events and Sports Day, as the mighty house we are, and came out in first place with numerous outstanding athletes and athletic achievements within the house. House Events and Sports Day, to me, not only highlighted the incredible achievements that Moore house members accomplished but also the intense comradery and house spirit within every individual apart of the house. The energy brought by Moore is what helped pushed our incredibly talented athletes just that little bit harder to secure our win.

It was amazing seeing every individual from every year group so willing and inclined to put all their energy into supporting the vibrant community of Moore house, it’s not often you can say that people paint themselves fully purple just for House Events and Sports Day! Throughout the year, members of Moore house have been able to demonstrate their unbelievable talent and resilience in a range of house events from sports, like basketball, football and badminton to music and even Dungeons and Dragons. The individuality of the people who make up Moore house is what makes us such a vibrant and tight-knit community. I am immensely proud to say that we stand strong in the championship table, however, this would not have happened without the encouragement and support from our peers within Moore house and the motivation to strive to be the best person you can be day in and day out. Some could even say we “Strive for Moore” consistently, building a successful and supportive community for all. I believe, this year, we have all embodied Sir Bobby Moore’s characteristics of resilience, determination and ambition, and that is what has made this year so fantastic for every member of Moore.

Sam Wilson, Moore House Captain

Newton House

As Newton House Captain, I’m proud to reflect on this summer term being one of enthusiasm, resilience and house spirit shown by our students. While House Events and Sports Day on Friday 3rd July didn’t bring the final result we had hoped for, the determination and encouragement displayed throughout the day perfectly represented what Newton stands for. Our Sports Captain, Rudra Chauhan, worked tirelessly to keep spirits high and motivate students across every event, while face paint helped bring the house together and created a fantastic atmosphere of support from the sidelines.

Charity Week was another highlight of the year, with our Charity Event Captains, Yakub Maatoug and Dylan Gallacher, playing a key role in organising successful tuck shops and the new and exciting “Beat the Sixth Former” event. Thanks to their leadership, alongside the generosity and enthusiasm of students across the house, the week was a great success and demonstrated Newton’s commitment to supporting the wider community.

A particular highlight was our house assembly, led by our Year 12 prefects, which provided a valuable opportunity for students from every year group to come together and celebrate Newton House. During the assembly, we were delighted to recognise this year’s House Heroes, selected by form tutors for their positive attitude and contribution to the house: Oli Weddell, Ben Edwards, Joshua Peel and Jasper Thompson. It was fantastic to celebrate their achievements in front of the whole house and recognise the positive impact they have had throughout the year.

It has been a great term, my first full one as House Captain, and I look forward to bringing the same energy into next year!

Ben Kemp, Newton House Captain

Scott House

As the 2025/2026 academic year comes to a close, it is important to reflect on what it means to be in Scott House.

When I took on the role as Head of Scott House, my main goal was to reignite pride and passion in our community. To see exactly that being portrayed at House Events and Sports Day as our crowd cheered on the Scott athletes, was a true reflection of what we have built together. In addition, using our figurehead Robert F. Scott as a role model, the new Scott House values of courage, resilience and unity accompany the school values. These have helped guide our students to excel in everything they have set their mind to do.

From academic success and personal achievement, to the way in which students present themselves with kindness and compassion, there is so much to be proud of this year.

I want to say a huge thank you to the students of Scott - your energy, effort and enthusiasm are what makes our house a special team. I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together next year. Have a brilliant summer!

Hector Godden, Scott House Captain

Turner House



Well done to the whole of Turner celebrating the end of another fantastic year in the best house of all!

It was amazing to lead the house assembly where we could all come together as a house for the first time this year. I’m proud to celebrate our house heroes. Well done again to Adam Albrizeh, Harry Morgan, Stas Chojnacki and Finn Gallagher. I’m looking forward to awarding new house heroes next year!

House Events and Sports Day was a brilliant opportunity for our keen athletes! I was delighted to see everyone getting involved. Definitely lots of fun and even more face paint!

I hope everyone enjoyed Charity Week, especially wearing green for Bournemouth Food Bank but also Turner too.

Have a relaxing summer ready for Turner domination in the house standings next year.

Charlotte Crowe, Turner House Captain

Student Council

It has been a busy and eventful year for the Student Council. Our focus has centred on ensuring that every student's opinion and idea are heard and valued in our community.

Throughout the year, we based our duties around two key principles: communication and representation. By maintaining strong links between the Student Council and the Headmaster, we have ensured that the voices, ideas, and suggestions of the student body have been listened to and successfully transformed into meaningful, real-life changes.

One of our key achievements has been redesigning a new route around Le Bistro, which made access easier and improved time efficiency for students during busy periods. We have also held discussions with Mr Willis regarding the content students would like to see in their Personal Development lessons, so that these sessions really reflect the interests and needs of the student body.

In addition, we collected valuable feedback regarding smart device rules on the school site, coinciding with the new government legislation. Students' views and thoughts have again contributed directly towards the development of the final policies, which were recently released. These achievements demonstrate the importance of effective communication between students and staff, as well as the value of fair representation and commitment.

Above all, every student should feel confident to be themselves and understand that their opinions matter regardless of their age or experience. As Deputy School Captains for Student Voice, we are committed to continuing this work by collaborating with students across all year groups to help make Bournemouth School an even more united, inclusive, and respectful community.

Ruoyi and James, Deputy School Captains for Student Voice

Battle of the Bands

I am delighted to share the successful return of the Battle of the Bands competition. A competition involving eight bands competing against each other in an action-packed tournament designed to exhibit a selection of musical talent throughout the school. One of the aims with this competition is also to allow the freedom of any genre of music, which I can confirm this was the case, with music ranging from the soul of Stevie Wonder to popular hits like Mr Brightside.

A huge congratulations to all of those involved in Battle of the Bands, providing the judges with a truly difficult choice in deciding the winners. The winners are to be invited to perform in front of the whole school in our leaver's assemblies to showcase their talent. This competition sums up the versatility of the school's musical abilities which were enjoyed by many with overwhelming feedback from teachers and students. The most prominent being "This is what Bournemouth School is about."

Furthermore, this competition highlights the deep sense of community of those in Bournemouth School, where students work together through resilience and discipline to strive for excellence, supported by all of those around them, ultimately summing up the Bournemouth School community.

Finally, look out for the final winners which will be announced on the school website and notice boards in the upcoming days!

Oskar Dudding, Deputy School Captain for Music

Mentoring

This academic year, we were delighted to be appointed as Deputy School Captains for Mentoring. Together, we have focused on developing two key areas of the mentoring scheme: pastoral support and academic mentoring, with the aim of strengthening relationships across year groups and ensuring that every student feels supported throughout their time at school.

Pastoral mentoring has centred on Years 7 and 8, where we wanted to increase the visibility of older students as approachable role models. During the summer term, we have enjoyed visiting Year 7 forms for games of rounders, giving us the opportunity to get to know students in an informal setting while helping them become familiar with the mentoring team. We are excited to build on this next year by introducing more activities that encourage as many students as possible to get involved and feel part of the school community from the very beginning.

Alongside this, we have continued to develop the academic mentoring program. This year, mentoring prefects have provided one-to-one support for Year 11 students, offering subject-specific guidance and general study advice in the lead-up to their GCSEs. Seeing these mentoring partnerships develop has demonstrated the real value of peer support, building confidence as well as academic resilience. Looking ahead, we are already beginning to connect with students moving into Year 11 so that support is in place from the very start of the academic year.

We hope the mentoring scheme will continue to grow, creating a culture in which students feel confident to seek support, build lasting relationships across year groups and contribute to the welcoming, supportive community that makes our school so special.

Sophie Nicholson & Jonathan Baptist, Deputy School Captains for Mentoring

Charity Week

This year's Charity Week has been an outstanding success, not only because of the incredible enthusiasm, generosity, and school spirit shown across all year groups, but also thanks to the efforts of everyone involved. The week has been packed with exciting events while raising vital support for those in need.

Among the most popular attractions was the RC car race event, which saw students testing their motoring skills against a Monaco-inspired circuit full of plenty of tight twists and bends. This competition became one of the highlights of the week, enjoyed thoroughly by both participants and organisers. Our champion of the event was none other than Shray Verma, in 8 Scott, with an astonishing lap record of 26.2 seconds! He should be very proud to have done so well on such a challenging track.



The tuck shop also proved itself to be incredibly well-received with students, allowing them to enjoy a wide range of treats throughout the week. Combined with a plethora of other fundraising activities, it played an important role in helping us raise money for charity.

Meanwhile, our football tournament produced a fantastic atmosphere around the school. With the FIFA World Cup capturing the attention of football fans globally, students embraced the chance to represent their year groups and compete for glory in a tournament of their own. The matches were fiercely contested and brilliantly played, providing an exciting conclusion to an amazing week of sport.

We'd like to extend a massive thank you to all our prefects in the Sixth Form, who have tirelessly worked towards organising the events for the week. It was their dedication and efforts behind the scenes that made this week possible, giving students plenty of chances to get involved.

Finally, we'd like to thank everyone who donated to our food collection. Together, our school community contributed a record number of food items as well as raising £489.55, which is an astonishing achievement, demonstrating the generosity and compassion of our students, parents, and staff.

Parry Shukla, Year 12

End of Term Information

Friday 17th July 2026

School finishes at 3.20 pm

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

Start of Term Information

Thursday 3rd September 2026

Term opens for Year 7 and Year 12 only

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

Friday 4th September 2026

Term opens for all years

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

ADT Department

Year 12 Arts University Bournemouth Summer Show

A Level Graphics & Art students visited the Arts University Bournemouth Summer Show, exploring work from a range of creative disciplines. The exhibition introduced students to different pathways within the visual arts, including Fine Art, Illustration, Photography, Animation and Graphic Design, helping them consider future study and career opportunities.

The visit provided inspiration for their own work and encouraged students to explore the range of possibilities within the creative industries.



Art Trip to the National Gallery and Portrait Gallery

39 Art students from Years 8, 9 and 10 enjoyed a day in London visiting the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery.



The visit began with a guided tour of the National Gallery, where students explored a range of famous paintings and learned more about the artists, techniques and history behind them.

Students then visited the Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer Portrait Award 2026 exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. Seeing contemporary portraits alongside the Gallery's permanent collection gave students plenty of ideas and inspiration for their own work.

The trip provided a valuable opportunity to experience original works of art first-hand. All students represented the school well and were a credit to the ADT Department.



Product Design – Rotary Technology Tournament

Every year, the Rotary Club organises an event called the Rotary Technology Tournament. Lots of different schools' attend with students across all years. This year, we took along a KS3, 4 and 5 group. It is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) day in which the students are given a challenge, tools and materials, and they have to design a solution and then build a product.

Each group showed a tremendous amount of team work and all of them really enjoyed the day. I am really pleased to announce that we did walk away with some prizes. Our KS3 team won the 'innovation' prize of the day; they were the only group in the room (out of about 20) to develop their product in a completely different way to everyone else. Even better, our KS5 team won the challenge and we now have an engraved plaque in reception. Well done!

Mrs Catford



Geography Department

This term there have been various trips and visits within Geography.

We kicked off the summer term with a visit from Dorset Heath Partnership on Wednesday 15th April, who spoke to Year 8 students about local wildfire case studies, linked to their Hazards topic just before Easter. Some accounts from the students are below:

"Thank you, Lisa and Sarah, for coming into school and educating us on wildfires in Dorset. Previously, I didn't even realise wildfires could be in England, even Dorset. I enjoyed seeing the animals of our heathland (e.g. adder and slow worm). As well as this it was interesting learning about the recent fires in Canford Heath, Wareham and Newton and Holt, seeing the dangers of wildfires and the reactions of the firefighters." - Zachary

"I learnt that there are many animals living in the Dorset Heaths, some of which don't live anywhere else. I also learnt how dangerous it is to have open fires and barbeques in the forests and heaths. When the fires start, they can take up to 2 months to be fully put out, and lots of water needs to be used" - Isaac

"I became a fireman. They gave me an oversized hat that made me almost unable to see, and a 'beater' to snuff out the fires. Even though I wasn't in a real fire, it was quite tiring work. It made me appreciate and respect what real firefighters do" – Rafan

The year 12 Geographers had 4 fieldwork trips. Firstly, they visited Boscombe to investigate the impact of regeneration. Then to Studland, investigating sand dune succession through transects across the dune system. The third trip was to Moors Valley, where students worked with the rangers to investigate soils within forest systems, and the interaction between human wellbeing and forests. They also had a great talk about how Moors Valley operates both as a visitor attraction and working forest. Finally, they visited Southampton, again investigating regeneration of the city.



On Monday 8th June, three students (Joe, Elliott and Sam) participated in the national final of the Bloxham Sustainability Challenge at the headquarters of Dalcour Maclaren in Bicester. Seven finalist teams were invited to present an environmental impact assessment of Vattenfall's proposed South Kyle II onshore wind farm in Scotland. Using GIS, they had to analyse datasets and policies within their chosen categories (transportation, socio-economics, noise and shadow flicker and water, soils and geology) to determine whether the project should go ahead.

We are incredibly proud of our team. Their maturity, professionalism, and thoughtful approach to the challenge were outstanding. They were also presented with some challenging questions and responded brilliantly throughout. They received a certificate of excellence within the final.

Joe will be receiving an additional prize – the competition was aimed to be for Year 12 students, thus he was the only Year 8 student involved. He was outstanding – the event host pulled me aside at the end to say how impressed she was with how Joe presented, and how he answered questions.

Dr Evans, who runs the challenge, said: 'The judges found the decision-making extraordinarily difficult. The standard of presentations across all seven schools was genuinely exceptional. All teams demonstrated real geospatial insight, analytical rigour and the kind of confident, professional communication that impresses industry experts. Your students should be enormously proud they were fantastic!

She added: "Your team were exceptionally impressive - they were professional, knowledgeable and demonstrated superb GIS skills. Their mitigation strategies showed real depth of thinking, and showed exactly the kind of evidence-based, professional thinking that impressed our judges."



Year 10 visited Hengistbury Head at the beginning of June – luckily the rain held off but we battled the wind throughout the day! The students were excellent – completing beach profiles, groyne height measurements and field sketches at each site.

Towards the end of June, they visited Boscombe for their urban fieldwork. Students were again superb, collecting data looking at varying quality of life within urban areas. Their questionnaire

work was excellent, students displayed confidence in their questioning of members of the public.

Year 7 Portchester Castle History Trip

In early June, Year 7 were once again taken to Portchester Castle to explore the grounds, inner and outer bailey and the Castle keep. This trip is an excellent enrichment opportunity for our students, complementing their work at Key Stage 3 by reinforcing their understanding of how and why castle were built and how they have changed and adapted over time. Portchester Castle is a superb site to visit and has a rich history, all the way back to Roman times.

Our students engaged very well with their tour leaders (the History staff!) and were given scenarios and imaginative situations to work through, requiring them to problem-solve regarding how they would attack and defend the castle! Our students learnt about how Portchester Castle's banqueting hall for King Richard II, how the castle was used to house prisoners from the Napoleonic Wars and also how the buildings have been adapted and changed over time. Naturally, the castle's Keep was a highlight, with many interesting and engaging displays inside, whilst the roof of the castle's Keep provided a fantastic photo opportunity from the top, looking over Portsmouth Harbour.

My thanks go to the History staff and other staff who accompanied these trips to ensure their smooth running. Significantly, a big thankyou to our wonderful Year 7 students who were an absolute credit to the school. We look forward to another visit in 2027!

Miss K Castle, Head of History

Teacher Champion Awards – University of Bath

At the end of June Mrs Barnard-Dyson and Mr Beal were invited to attend the University of Bath Teacher Champion Awards to collect an award on behalf of Richard Cook. Richard passed away in October last year after his battle with cancer but had been nominated for an award by a former student currently studying at the university. Each year the University of Bath recognises and celebrates the important role teachers, advisers and support staff play in guiding students on their path to university and encourages undergraduates to nominate a teacher who has helped guide and support them on their journey. Richard was awarded the 'Never Alone' prize, highly apt in terms of Richard's genuine kind hearted and supportive attitude that he consistently gave to all of his students over his 23 years at Bournemouth School. His family were there to see his award being presented.

The student who nominated Richard wrote:

Richard Cook – former Head of Sixth Form, Bournemouth School – deserves the Teacher Champion Award. During my struggle with declining mental health he became more than a teacher: he was an advocate, mentor and practical support system. He authorised out-of-class breaks when anxiety peaked, arranged exam adjustments (timed rest breaks, extra time and a quiet solo room), and referred me to CAMHS to get extra domestic and clinical support. As my educational mentor he did fortnightly health-checks, gave tailored careers advice, and met with exam officers and my tutors to ensure reasonable adjustments were implemented consistently. He invested time – sitting with me to plan revision in manageable steps, drafting a compassionate UCAS reference that contextualised my challenges, and regularly checking in when I felt overwhelmed. His calm, non-judgemental encouragement transformed my confidence and attendance; concrete adjustments turned impossible exam days into achievable ones and directly supported my path to university. Richard's combination of emotional care, bureaucratic advocacy and practical teaching changed my life. He models exactly what a Teacher Champion should be: skilled, compassionate and relentless in supporting students to succeed.



Bournemouth School Library News (Summer)

Our students and staff's continued enthusiasm and support for the library has been wonderful, and a staggering **18,346** books have been issued during this academic year.

Students continue to demonstrate their zest for reading, entering the numerous House reading competitions and library events with enthusiasm:

- 183 Bookbuzz books gifted to all Year 7 students.
- **206 novels** and **short stories** were read as part of the **Year 9 Dystopian Literature** house competition, which saw **Elgar House** named champions.
- All Year 7 and 8 students took part in the **Million Minutes Reading Challenge**, logging an astounding total of **169,068 reading minutes** during March. Congratulations to **Scott House** who took the top spot and the house points after reading an impressive **37,885** minutes. **Finn (7M)** was crowned the 2026 Champion Reader, with **Nisarg (7E)** and **Aris (8N)** taking the Year 7 and Year 8 runner-up places.
- **Ved (7S)** took the accolade of **Dungeons and Dragons** House Champion with the creation of *Ninewave*, a Pokémon-inspired creature, and **Scott House** were victorious as House D&D champions.

The library continues to host a number of lunchtime and after school clubs for all year groups:

- **Warhammer Club** members have painted and battled with miniatures from Age of Sigmar and 40K campaigns, meeting weekly after school on a Thursday.
- **Dungeons & Dragons** adventurers gather after school, with student dungeon masters running numerous successful quests for over 70 students this year.
- The Year 9+ **Carnegie Book Group** read all of the 2026 shortlisted novels, and voted *The Boy I Love* by William Hussey as their favourite read.

The standout success of the year was our **Poetry by Heart** club: after a considerable amount of time and hard work four students submitted performances to the Poetry By Heart national recital competition. All of the performances were awarded Commended or Highly Commended by the competition judges, and amazingly one student, Staś, was successful in securing a place at the Grand Finale, which saw him perform his selected poem on the stage at The Globe, London at the beginning of July.



Thank you to all students, staff and parents for another wonderful year.

Mrs Morgan

Bournemouth School Librarian



Accessit
Bournemouth School Library WebApp
<http://uk.accessit.online/brn22/#LandingPage>



Science Club

Year 7 science club have experienced a great range of activities this term from biology, chemistry and physics including a 'flaming' new session where students created fire writing, experienced coloured flames from introducing salts to Bunsen burner flames as well as igniting gas bubbles in safe and spectacular fashion:



Students designed and built parachutes to compete for the longest flight.



We are also very grateful to the Bournemouth Natural Science Society (BNSS) who provided a hands-on experience with a range of reptiles, arachnids and large insects.



We look forward to continuing science club in September.

Mr Carr

Success in the International Space Competition

A huge congratulations to Parry Shukla, Miles Haigh, and Alex Flint who independently took part in the International Space Competition 2026, where they were challenged to create an innovative model of a futuristic space station orbiting Mars. The competition required teams to design either a 2D or 3D model and produce a detailed report explaining key features such as docking systems, environmental protection, life support, crew wellbeing, and mission operations.

Participants showcased impressive creativity and scientific thinking, developing designs that tackled real-world challenges like radiation shielding, sustainable life support systems, and safe space travel. The project also required careful consideration of feasibility, innovation, and clear communication through visual models, video submission and a written report.

We are incredibly proud to share that the team achieved an outstanding **third place**, demonstrating their exceptional teamwork, ingenuity, and dedication. The judges commented that their submission 'stood out for its originality, strong research, and thoughtful approach to the competition challenge. The judges were particularly impressed by the quality of your work and your presentation.'

Ms Hunt

Physical Education (Summer)

Year 7 Cricket

Every Wednesday, between 45 and 50 boys turned up for cricket practice and I have been delighted with how much the boys have enjoyed learning some new skills and playing small sided games. Their attitude and behaviour have been first class and it has been disappointing that we had so few matches due to rain and also cancellations.

Our first of only two matches was against St Michael's School, Colehill and we batted first on an unpredictable pitch. Runs from Joel and Lakshya helped us reach 129-2, but the star of the match was undoubtedly George, who smashed his way to 43 before helping to clear up the opposition's innings by claiming 3 wickets. A resounding win that, believe it or not, took us through to the final against Poole Grammar School, played at Broadstone CC.



Poole got off to a flying start and although we pegged them back towards the middle of the innings, a score of 122 was always going to be a tough ask. Ryan batted well before he got an unplayable delivery and despite useful knocks from Finn and William, we fell 22 runs short.

The most positive aspect of the term was the sheer enjoyment the boys had at practice and I urge all of them to try and join a club outside of school and to keep their enthusiasm for the game.

Mr Robjohns

Year 8 Cricket

The Year 8 cricket team endured an incredibly frustrating season, with the weather proving to be their toughest opponent. After numerous fixtures were cancelled, rearranged and then cancelled again, the boys had very little opportunity to play competitive cricket. Following a bye in the first round of the competition, we were subsequently awarded victories over both St Michael's and Poole High after neither school was able to rearrange their rain-affected fixtures. Remarkably, this meant the team progressed to Finals Day at Clayesmore School without having played a single match. In the semi-final, we faced Bryanston and after winning the toss, Bryanston elected to bat first, and the boys were determined to restrict them to a manageable total. An early breakthrough from Samay set the tone, with excellent bowling performances from Matthew (3-6), Kaesh (2-3) and Timo (1-6) helping to bowl Bryanston out for just 56. Opening the batting, Ojas (9) and Monish (3) provided a steady start before Pranav and Arnav came to the crease. Arnav struck a fine boundary before being caught, bringing Charlie to the wicket. Charlie's unbeaten 11, alongside Pranav's composed 8, guided Bournemouth School comfortably to victory and into the final.



In the final, the boys faced a strong Poole Grammar School side, who won the toss and elected to bowl first. Monish (15) and Joe (5) opened the batting before both were dismissed. Arnav contributed a valuable 9 at number three before Charlie produced an outstanding innings of 37 not out. As wickets fell around him, Charlie anchored the innings superbly, with a useful contribution of 14 from Ojas. Matthew joined Charlie at the crease to see out the remaining overs, helping us post a competitive total of 126.

Poole Grammar began their reply positively, although Samay struck early with an important wicket. Their number two batter proved difficult to dismiss, finishing unbeaten on 47, while their number three added 8 before being caught from Kaesh's bowling. A well-made 48 from their number four kept the chase on track, and despite another wicket falling late in the innings, Poole Grammar's number five only needed to score the remaining three runs to secure victory. Although the final ended in disappointment, the boys should be immensely proud of their performances. Having reached Finals Day without playing a competitive fixture beforehand, they showed tremendous resilience, skill and teamwork throughout the day. Their excellent bowling, determined batting and positive attitude were a credit to the school, and they can look back on an impressive campaign despite narrowly missing out on the title.

Mr Perch

Year 9 Cricket

The Year 9 cricket team has enjoyed a successful and competitive season, producing some excellent performances with both bat and ball.

The season began with a strong victory against Ballard School. Batting first, the team posted an impressive 167 runs, thanks to outstanding innings from Lewis, Nrupadh and Vaibhav. Their confident batting set the tone for the match and proved too much for Ballard, who were unable to chase down the target.

The team then faced Forres Sandle Manor, where the bowlers took centre stage. A disciplined bowling performance restricted the opposition throughout their innings. Dylan claimed two wickets, while Yash delivered a superb spell to take three wickets, helping secure another excellent win.

In the cup match against Sherborne School, the team made a dream start in the field, running out one of the opening batters in only the second over. Sherborne recovered well and finished on 127 runs, a target that looked achievable. However, Sherborne's bowlers produced an excellent display, generating significant swing and making scoring difficult. Despite a determined effort, the team fell short of the target and exited the cup competition.

The team responded brilliantly in the plate competition against Winton. Batting first, they produced one of their best performances of the season, posting 153 runs. Issac led the way with a superb 42, while Vaibhav continued his excellent form with a magnificent 51. Winton batted positively and lost only one wicket during their chase, but our bowlers and fielders did enough to ensure they finished short of the target, securing a well-earned victory.

Unfortunately, despite progressing in the competition, the team's plate run came to an untimely end as adverse weather meant the next round could not be played.

Overall, the season has been full of positives. Strong batting displays from Lewis, Nrupadh, Vaibhav and Issac, combined with impactful bowling performances from Dylan and Yash, have highlighted the talent and potential within the squad. The players have shown great commitment, teamwork and resilience throughout the campaign, and they can be proud of their achievements this season.

Mr McGregor

Year 10 Cricket

Our under 15 side started their short campaign this season with a home cup match against St Edwards School. The visitors put up a score of 145-6 from 20 overs which saw Felix take 3 wickets and Shanmukha 1 wicket. Ojas made two consecutive catches as well, with Arav bowling. With the bat, Bournemouth School were only able to amass 114 runs losing 9 wickets in the process. Felix made 15 runs, and Alex 9.



The next outing was a trip to Bashley Cricket Club to face Ballard School. With the bat Bournemouth School totted up 99 runs from 14.2 overs in a 15 over game. Well done to Josh and Arav for scoring 18 and 15 respectively. We looked strong favourites to win by restricting Ballard until the midway point and giving away some runs in a few very expensive overs. Captain Alex impressed taking 2 wickets for only 2 runs in his 2 overs. Ojas also took a spectacular wicket, but frustratingly Ballard made the total with 1 over to spare.

To round off the season, Bournemouth School U15 cricketers faced Gillingham School at home in the Vase. On a scorchingly hot July afternoon, the sides agreed a 15 over contest with Bournemouth School winning the toss and electing to bat first. We made 64 with the loss of 6 wickets. Felix scored 13 runs and Alex 18. Gillingham knocked the score off within 7 overs losing only 3 wickets. Well done to Shanmukha for taking a wicket through bowling, and catching from Felix bowling. Well done also to Captain Alex for taking a wicket, caught behind by keeper Leon.

Well done to all the boys who represented the school this year.



Mr Lewis

Athletics

Track and Field Cup

It has been another busy and successful term for athletics. The number of boys attending training continues to grow, and the overall standard of performance has improved significantly. This was reflected at House Events and Sports Day, where an impressive nine school records were broken.

Due to the redevelopment work at Kings Park, the county trials were cancelled. As a result, our first competitive fixture of the season was the first round of the ESAA Track and Field Cup, held at South Wilts Grammar School. Our performances in this competition have improved year on year, so expectations were high going into the event.

The Junior team (Years 7 and 8) produced an outstanding performance despite challenging weather conditions, finishing in first place.

Several athletes delivered excellent individual performances, with the team scores shown below.

1 : 420pts : Bournemouth School, Dorset

Event	Name	Perf	Wind	Points	Name	Perf	Wind	Points
Hurdles	Riley Cox	15.9		10pts	Adam Lasek	16.3		8pts
100m	Jeremy Mbanuzuo	12.9		21pts	Theo Nagy	13.8		13pts
200m	Ben Paul	27.2		19pts	Austin Elliott	28.0		17pts
300m	Barney Cutts	43.9		17pts	Dan Dumbrava	46.7		12pts
800m	Eduardo Brandao	2:17.9		24pts	Iwan Taylor	2:34.4		18pts
1500m	Benji Trimby	4:43.4		26pts	Max Smyth	5:06.7		20pts
Long_Jump	Riley Cox	4.17		13pts	Austin Elliott	4.65		18pts
High_Jump	Jeremy Mbanuzuo	1.53		21pts				
Triple_Jump	Eduardo Brandao	10.24		20pts	Adam Lasek	9.39		15pts
Pole_Vault								
Shot	Ben Paul	8.90		16pts	Andrei Gaina	12.13		26pts
Discus	Barney Cutts	17.40		11pts	Tobe Nwankwo	24.16		18pts
Javelin	Iwan Taylor	20.93		13pts				
Hammer	Theo Nagy	18.54		11pts	Dan Dumbrava	22.76		15pts
Relay	<u>Andrei Gaina , Tobe Nwankwo , Benji Trimby , Max Smyth</u>					55.7		18pts

The Intermediate team (Years 9 and 10) also competed exceptionally well. Traditionally, the strength of this squad lies on the track, while the field events are an area for development. Overcoming strong teams such as Bishop Wordsworth and Poole Grammar was always going to require an exceptional performance, but the boys gave an excellent account of themselves, producing some outstanding individual results and making a very encouraging start to the season. Their team scores are shown below.

3 : 446pts : Bournemouth School, Dorset

Event	Name	Perf	Wind	Points	Name	Perf	Wind	Points
Hurdles	Tydan Farley	12.8		21pts	Marcus Pickering	12.9		20pts
100m	Andrew Szewczyk	12.1		22pts	Ollie Axtell	12.7		16pts
200m	Finlay Baker	25.1		20pts	Olly Lloyd	26.4		16pts
300m	Mikey Bean	37.5		27pts	Pawel Betlej	41.6		17pts
800m	Barney Smith	2:03.0		28pts	Alec Suscens	2:18.1		20pts
1500m	Riley Austin	4:25.6		24pts	Josh Allnutt	4:38.7		22pts
Long_Jump	Tydan Farley	5.09		15pts	Andrew Szewczyk	5.00		15pts
High_Jump	Alec Suscens	1.45		14pts	Ethan McDade	1.50		16pts
Triple_Jump	Pawel Betlej	10.37		13pts	Ozzie Devassey	10.90		16pts
Pole_Vault								
Shot	Marcus Pickering	10.91		19pts	Olly Lloyd	9.55		14pts
Discus	Ollie Axtell	28.84		20pts				
Javelin	Barney Smith	28.26		12pts				
Hammer	Mikey Bean	22.10		12pts	Finlay Baker	21.34		11pts
Relay	<u>Ozzie Devassey , Ethan McDade , Riley Austin , Josh Allnutt</u>					52.7		16pts

These performances saw both teams qualify for the Regional A Final, traditionally held at Millfield in mid-June. Having qualified in first place, the Junior team entered the competition as favourites to secure a place in the National Final in Chelmsford.

The boys rose to the occasion with a series of consistent performances throughout the day, supported by some exceptional individual displays. Their collective effort earned the team a historic first qualification for the National Final, scoring 457 points to finish ahead of Bishop Wordsworth on 440 points. The team was understandably delighted with this achievement, while recognising that continued hard work would be needed to compete at the highest level.

The individual scores are shown below.

1 : 457pts : Bournemouth School, Dorset								
Event	Name	Perf	Wind	Points	Name	Perf	Wind	Points
Hurdles	Rafa Malcolm	14.1		19pts				
100m	Jeremy Mbanuzuo	12.4		26pts	Theo Nagy	13.0		20pts
200m	Ben Paul	27.8		18pts	Austin Elliott	27.9		17pts
300m	Barney Cutts	44.3		16pts	Dan Dumbrava	45.5		14pts
800m	Eduardo Brandao	2:14.3		25pts	Iwan Taylor	2:22.4		22pts
1500m	Benji Trimby	4:42.6		26pts	Max Smyth	DNF		0pts
Long_Jump	Iwan Taylor	4.90		21pts	Austin Elliott	4.90		21pts
High_Jump	Jeremy Mbanuzuo	1.59		23pts	Benji Trimby	1.23		11pts
Triple_Jump	Eduardo Brandao	10.02		19pts	Rafa Malcolm	10.10		19pts
Pole_Vault								
Shot	Andrei Gaina	12.01		26pts	Ben Paul	8.35		14pts
Discus	Tobe Nwankwo	22.68		17pts	Barney Cutts	19.30		13pts
Javelin	Ted Fewings	25.70		18pts				
Hammer	Theo Nagy	24.67		17pts	Dan Dumbrava	26.61		19pts
Relay	<u>Max Smyth , Tobe Nwankwo , Andrei Gaina , Ted Fewings</u>					57.0		16pts

The Intermediate team knew that qualification would depend on several results going in their favour. Unfortunately, that was not to be, and they finished in fourth place behind Poole Grammar, Bishop Wordsworth and Millfield. The standout performance came from Barney Smith, who won the 800m in an outstanding time of 1 minute 58.3 seconds. Several members of this team have represented the school at the Regional Final on four occasions, demonstrating remarkable commitment and dedication. We thank them for their outstanding contribution to school athletics over the years. Their results are shown below.

4 : 465pts : Bournemouth School, Dorset								
Event	Name	Perf	Wind	Points	Name	Perf	Wind	Points
Hurdles	Marcus Pickering	12.1		24pts	Tydan Farley	12.4		23pts
100m	Andrew Szewczyk	11.3		30pts	Oliver Axtell	12.3		20pts
200m	Finlay Baker	25.0		20pts	Josh Matthews	25.5		19pts
300m	Mikey Bean	37.9		26pts	Olly Lloyd	42.1		16pts
800m	Barney Smith	1:58.3		32pts	Charlie Powell	2:22.8		18pts
1500m	Josh Allnutt	4:38.5		22pts	Riley Austin	4:21.9		25pts
Long_Jump	Andrew Szewczyk	4.98		14pts	Tydan Farley	5.16		16pts
High_Jump	Ethan McDade	1.53		17pts	Riley Austin	1.47		15pts
Triple_Jump	Ozzie Devassy	10.62		15pts	Josh Matthews	10.58		14pts
Pole_Vault								
Shot	Marcus Pickering	10.81		18pts	Olly Lloyd	8.18		9pts
Discus	Oliver Axtell	29.27		20pts				
Javelin	Barney Smith	26.66		11pts	Charlie Powell	26.79		11pts
Hammer	Mikey Bean	22.99		12pts				
Relay	<u>Finlay Baker , Josh Allnutt , Ozzie Devassy , Ethan McDade</u>					51.5		18pts

Ahead of the National Final, Ben was unfortunately ruled out through injury, providing Jordan with a well-deserved opportunity to join the team after a season of consistent training and performances. Although the day began under cloudy skies, the weather soon changed, and the athletes competed in extremely hot conditions.

The National Final brought together the winners from each Regional A Final, along with the five highest-scoring qualifying teams from across the country. The standard of competition was exceptionally high, with many schools having established histories of success at this level. Our boys competed with determination and resilience throughout the day, doing themselves and the school proud and demonstrating what can be achieved through commitment and hard work.

Special congratulations go to Andrei, who won the shot put; Eduardo, who finished second in the 800m; Iwan, who claimed second place in the long jump; Jeremy, who finished fourth in the high jump and fifth in the 100m; and Benji, who placed fourth in the 1500m.

One particularly courageous performance came from Ted, who suffered an injury during the second race of the day. Despite this setback, he battled to the finish before bravely competing in the javelin on one leg to secure valuable points for the team.

When the final results were announced, the team was delighted to finish eighth nationally, out of 440 Junior teams that entered the competition. While there was a sense that a fully fit Ted may have helped us finish even higher, this achievement represents a remarkable milestone for the school. Reaching the National Final for the first time and securing a top-eight finish is something that both staff and students will remember with great pride for many years to come.



County Championships

Due to the ongoing redevelopment work at Kings Park, county trials did not take place this year. Instead, entries were accepted through school nominations, which proved to be a fantastic opportunity for our athletes. A large number of pupils represented the school at the Dorset County Championships, producing some outstanding performances.

Congratulations to everyone who competed. A full list of pupils and their results is shown below.

A special mention must go to Oliver Canavan, who made his sixth appearance at the County Championships. Oliver not only won the Senior Boys' 1500m title but also broke the Championship record in the process – a remarkable achievement.

Name	Event	Result
Jordan Mooney	100m	2nd
	200m	3rd
	High Jump	3rd
Junior Adewoye	100m	4th in heat
	200m	4th
	Long Jump	3rd

Name	Event	Result
Nathaniel Gavin	800m	4th
Leo Cambers-Rossingh	800m	7th
	Javelin	4th
Ed Davies	1500m	4th
Max Smyth	1500m	7th
Edan Mulvey	1500m	8th
Archie Nichols	Discus	2nd
Oliver Stalley	Shot	9th
Joel Lloyd	Shot	8th
Luke Stalley	Shot	10th
Rafa Malcolm	Hurdles	1st
Josh Matthews	100m	5th
	Long Jump	2nd
Jemery Mbanuzuo	100m	6th in heat
	High Jump	1st
Austin Elliott	200m	5th in heat
	Long Jump	9th
Ben Paul	200m	6th in heat
Olly Lloyd	200m	4th in heat
Iwan Taylor	300m	4th
	Long Jump	5th
Barney Cutts	300m	6th
Eduardo Brandao	800m	4th
Reuben Holleran	1500m	9th
Benji Trimby	1500m	7th
Andrei Gaina	Shot	2nd
Tobe Nwankwo	Discus	2nd
Ted Fewings	Javelin	7th
Ethan McDade	Triple Jump	3rd
Alex Di Bella	Triple Jump	1st
Andrew Szewczyk	100m	1st
Finlay Baker	200m	7th
Mikey Bean	400m	4th
Barney Smith	800m	2nd
Finn O'Mahoney	800m	3rd
Thomas Knight	800m	8th
Riley Austin	1500m	3rd
Felix Hall	1500m	9th
Ollie Newton	3000m	1st
Ben Shawyer	3000m	2nd
Alec Suscens	High Jump	11th
Daniel Buckland	High Jump	8th
Oliver Axtell	Discus	3rd
Charlie Powell	Javelin	6th
Marcus Pickering	Shot	2nd
Jayden Benstead-Brooks-Dravec	Long Jump	1st

Name	Event	Result
Ewan Brown	400m	2nd
Harvey Palfreman-Kay	400m	4th
Will Moss	800m	3rd
Oliver Canavan	1500m	1st

Following the County Championships, the pupils below were selected to represent Dorset at the South West Championships. Competing against the region's best athletes, they once again produced some excellent performances.

A particularly outstanding achievement came from Josh Matthews (Year 9), who improved his long jump personal best by almost 50cm to achieve the qualifying standard for the English Schools' National Championships. The competition takes place over two days in Birmingham on 10–11 July, and we wish Josh every success as he prepares for his first national championships.

The South West Championship results are below:

Junior Boys - Year 8 and 9

- Josh Matthews - Long Jump 5.98 1st - ES standard
- Jeremy Mbanunzo - High Jump 1.58 6th
- Ethan McDade - Triple Jump 11.54 3rd
- Alex Di Bella - Triple Jump 11.54 4th

Inter Boys - Year 10 and 11

- Jayden Benstead Brooks Dravec - Long Jump 6.22 4th
- Andrew Szewczyk - 100m 11.67 – 5th in heat
- Barney Smith - 800m 1.58.8 4th
- Riley Austin - 1500m 4.19 7th

Senior Boys - Year 12 and 13

- Oli Canavan - 1500m 4.05 2nd
- Ewan Brown - 400m 52.6 6th

The final athletics event of the year was Town Sports, where local schools come together for a fantastic day of competition. It was another successful occasion for our team, with Mikey Bean breaking the 300m record in an outstanding performance.

A total of 33 boys represented the school, and thanks to consistent performances across all events, the team deservedly finished as overall winners.

The results for each year group are shown below:

Year 7

EVENT	NAME	RESULT
100 METRES	Glenn Agyemang	4 th – 14.3s
200 METRES	Jordan Mooney	1 st – 27.6s
800 METRES	Max Smyth	3 rd – 2mins 42s
1500 METRES	Ed Davies	1 st – 5mins 13s
HURDLES	Rafa Malcolm	1 st – 14.3s
RELAY	Junior, Jordan, Cohen, Glenn	1 st – 55.7s

EVENT	NAME	RESULT
SHOT	Joel Lloyd	3 rd – 7.72m
DISCUS	James Foote	1 st – 17.14m
JAVELIN	Archie Nichols	1 st 27.61m
LONG JUMP	Junior Adewoye	1 st – 4.42m
HIGH JUMP	Cohen Ng	1 st – 1.25m

Year 8/9

EVENT	NAME	RESULT
100 METRES	Josh Matthews	4 th – 12.2s
200 METRES	Olly Lloyd	3 rd – 25.5s
3/400 METRES	Iwan Taylor	2 nd – 43.4s
800 METRES	Ed Brandao	1 st – 2mins 17s
1500 METRES	Reuben Holleran/Benji Trimby	2 nd – 4mins 37s
HURDLES	Alex Di Bella	1 st – 14.0s
RELAY	Josh, Olly, Jeremy, Ethan	1 st 49.8s
SHOT	Andrei Gaina	1 st – 10.64m
DISCUS	Tobe Nwankwo	1 st – 28.08m
JAVELIN	Ted Fewings	5 th – 25.29m
LONG JUMP	Austin Elliott	3 rd – 4.68m
HIGH JUMP	Jeremy Mbanuzuo	1 st – 1.58m
TRIPLE JUMP	Ethan McDade	1 st – 11.68m

Year 10

EVENT	NAME	RESULT
100 METRES	Tom Phelps	2 nd – 12.3s
200 METRES	Finlay Baker	2 nd – 24.0s
3/400 METRES	Mikey Bean	1 st – 39.3s
800 METRES	Alec Suscens	2 nd – 2mins 17s
RELAY	Tydan, Fin, Mikey, Oliver	1 st – 47.7s
SHOT	Marcus Pickering	2 nd – 10.92m
DISCUS	Oliver Axtell	1 st – 29.85m
JAVELIN	Charlie Powell	3 rd – 31.35m
LONG JUMP	Tydan Farley	3 rd – 5.10m
HIGH JUMP	Alfie Smyth	1 st – 1.32m
TRIPLE JUMP	Pawel Betlej	1 st – 10.75m

Finally, we would like to thank our departing Year 13 athletes, Ewan Brown and Harvey Palfreman-Kay, for their outstanding commitment and contribution to school athletics over the years.

They have proudly represented the school at National Cross Country Cup Finals, Town Sports, the Track and Field Cup, County Championships and South West Championships, always demonstrating dedication, determination and sportsmanship.

We thank them for everything they have contributed to school sport and wish them every success in their future athletic careers and beyond.

Mr McCalister

House Events and Sports Day

On Friday 3rd July, our annual House Events and Sports Day took place at Kings Park in glorious sunshine, creating the perfect setting for a fantastic day of competition, teamwork and school spirit.

Students from all six Houses threw themselves into a full programme of track and field athletics, demonstrating outstanding determination, resilience and sportsmanship throughout the day. The standard of competition was exceptionally high, with an incredible nine new school records being set across a range of events. Congratulations to all of the students who competed and to those who achieved these remarkable performances.

School Records:

- **Y8 300m** – E. Brandao 40.7s
- **Y8 Shot Putt** – A. Gaina 11.73m
- **Y8 High Jump** – J. Mbanuzuo 1.64m
- **Y8 Discus** – T. Nwankwo 30.87m
- **Y10 800m** – B. Smith 1.58.2
- **Y10 4x100m Relay** – Scott House (A. Szweczyk, O. Axtell, F. Baker, M. Bean) 47.5s
- **VI Form 1500m** – O. Canavan 4.05.4
- **Female 100m** – M. Owiredo-Yeboah 14.6s
- **All Years 5x100m Relay** – Moore House 1.07.5



Alongside the athletics, students took part in two exciting team-building challenges that tested communication, cooperation and problem-solving. It was wonderful to see every House working together so effectively, encouraging one another and striving to complete each challenge as quickly as possible. The enthusiasm, teamwork and House pride on display were a real highlight of the day.

This year's event also featured the inaugural Richard's Running and Rowing Relay, held in memory of our much-loved friend and colleague, Mr Cook. The relay raised money for Forest Holme Hospice, where Richard spent the final weeks of his life. The response from our students was truly heartwarming. Throughout the day there was a constant queue for both the running batons and the rowing machines, with students eager to take part and contribute to such a meaningful cause. Their generosity, compassion and determination reflected the very best of our school community. We had the opportunity to welcome Richard's friends and family to the event, and they were truly overwhelmed by the behaviour and attitude of our students.



The overall House competition was decided by the narrowest of margins, with Moore House successfully retaining the House Events and Sports Day trophy after a closely fought contest with Scott House. Every point mattered, and the excitement continued right to the final results, making Moore House's victory all the more memorable.

A huge thank you goes to all the staff, students and volunteers who helped make the day such a success. From the outstanding athletic performances to the incredible teamwork and the overwhelming support for Richard's Running and Rowing Relay, the day was a wonderful celebration of achievement, friendship and community spirit. We are immensely proud of everyone who took part.

Mr Hedges

Combined Cadet Force

It has been a busy few months for Bournemouth School CCF, with cadets stepping smartly from inspection and competition into adventure training, station visits, parachuting, swimming, ceremonial handover and national-level RAF competition. The programme has been full, varied and, most importantly, carried out with the teamwork, discipline and good humour expected of the contingent.

March saw the contingent complete its Biennial Inspection, and the day ran exactly as hoped. Lt Col Antony Sharman, our inspecting officer, gave a glowing report, recognising the hard work put in by cadets and staff alike. A particular highlight was the contingent competition, which ran throughout the day and brought out the best in the cadets. Teams were tested across a range of stands, with leadership and teamwork very much to the fore. The overall winners were team Yellow Submarine, led by Cpl Evie Morris and AC Rudra Chauhan, which was an excellent result and a well-earned victory.

In May, cadets visited Tile Barn Activities Centre for a packed adventure training day. Mountain biking, Jacob's ladder and low ropes all featured, giving cadets the chance to test themselves outside the usual training environment. The visit was very well received, with a fair bit of determination and the occasional reminder that gravity remains undefeated. It was an excellent opportunity for cadets to build confidence, support one another and enjoy something a little different.

The RAF section also travelled to RNAS Yeovilton, where cadets were shown around squadrons on site and had the chance to speak with regular service personnel about day-to-day life in the Armed Forces. Cadets were able to get up close to a range of military helicopters, making the visit both informative and memorable. For many, it gave a clear sense of how classroom and parade-square training connects to real operational roles.

May also brought the ceremonial handover from Year 13 to Year 12. The outgoing Year 13 cadets completed their final parade and formally handed over their appointments to the incoming senior team. The departing team has performed extremely well over the past year and leaves behind a standard that the new team will be keen to match. The contingent now moves forward under Underofficer Sophie Asquith, RSM Joshua King and RQMS Cameron Ramsay.

In June, eight cadets took part in a static line parachute course. After putting in a considerable amount of effort during training, each cadet went on to complete their first solo static line jump. Those who took part described the experience as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and an amazing adventure. It was a demanding course, but the cadets rose to the challenge superbly and can be rightly proud of what they achieved.



The RAF section competed in the national final of the Royal Air Squadron Trophy at RAF Wittering, having qualified earlier in the year. Twelve of the best RAF sections in the country took part, competing across events including drill, shooting, first aid and cyber. Despite the disappointment of losing team IC CWO Maselino because of a date conflict after the final was rearranged, the team produced an outstanding performance. The cadets won the Cyber stand and finished fourth overall nationally, the contingent's best result in the competition for 20 years. That is a serious achievement and a credit to the team's preparation, focus and resilience.



The Army section will soon take 60 cadets to annual summer camp at Okehampton Camp on Dartmoor. With a focus on teamwork and discipline, cadets will take part in paddle sports, shooting, blank firing exercises and a number of competitions across the week. Summer camp is always one of the highlights of the cadet year, and this year promises to be no different. Alongside camp, cadets will also attend a variety of courses over the summer, including visits to HMS Raleigh and BRNC Dartmouth for leadership and music, as well as first aid courses closer to home.

Across the year, the cadets have worked incredibly hard and made the most of every opportunity placed in front of them. Their commitment, enthusiasm and willingness to support one another have been excellent, and they should be highly commended. As always, sincere thanks go to the team of volunteer instructors who give up their time week after week to make these opportunities possible. Without their steady effort behind the scenes, the cadets simply would not be able to take part in such a wide and ambitious programme.

Wing Commander Sean Dally, Contingent Commander

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

The School's Sea Scouts and Explorers started camping this year in late March by participating in Bournemouth District Night Activity. Our Explorer teams finished 1st and 3rd, and our Scout teams had a top ten result and two further top 20 places. Excellent results from a stern test of navigation and teamwork into the late hours of a Saturday night in the New Forest, and from a record field of over 50 teams.



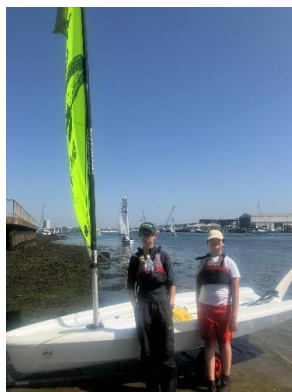
Finishing March, we attended the St. George's Day Parade in Central Bournemouth. Celebrating the Patron Saint of Scouts, we reflected on the Scout Law and renewed our Scout Promise at the Lower Gardens Band Stand.



April, we purchased 15 new kayaks with paddles and safety equipment. Doubling our kayak fleet has enabled us to put two instruction sessions on the river at the same time with permitted Explorers and Leaders.



May half-term our Scouts and Explorers participated in a weeklong Royal Navy Sea Scout Camp where they sailed, paddled, power boated and had an exceptional week of aquatic experiences in Southampton and Portsmouth. New skills and new friendships from across the UK Sea Scout Groups provided many lasting memories.



First weekend in July we entered the UK National Sea Scout Regatta 2026 in London, on the Thames at Hampton Court. Our Scouts won the U12½ and Explorers U16 divisions in kayaking. Ollie and Franek are National Sea Scout Champs – well done! Our best team performance in decades resulted in additional finals (one) and semifinals (two) results across single-handed dinghy rowing and Gig pulling. Proud achievements!



We finish the term in July still getting on the water and hope all have a great summer break!

Jim Alexander, Group Scout Leader RN47