

NEWSLETTER



“SMASHED IT!”

TBS A Level & GCSE students buck the national trend and break school records!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Weds 31st October
Halloween Horror
Thurs 8th November
Year 11 Parents' Eve
Thurs 15th Nov
Year 7 Parents' Eve
Thurs 29th Nov
Sixth Form Open Eve
Thurs 20th December
Presentation Evening

EQUESTRIAN SUCCESS



BAKING CLUB



TAG RUGBY



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SPORTS WATCH

Sports Leaders Update

Carey Camp

20 Year 12 students visited Carey Camp to complete their Sports Leader Level 2 course. Camping for 3 days in Wareham Forest they were involved in team building and leadership activities. The key themes were looking at their employability skills of communication, self-belief, teamwork, self-management and problem solving. Every Sports Leader made huge improvements in every aspect of the course. Throughout the weekend they showed great adaptability and resilience as the weather proved to be a challenge. Staff from the PE department supported this residential course and led the weekend activities. They are now looking forward to planning a Tag Rugby Festival for Year 5 and 6 children in the Blandford area.

National School Games – Loughborough

2 Level 1 Sports Leaders spent the final days of their summer holidays volunteering at the National School Games in Loughborough. Celine Collier and Georgie Bailey did two 10 hour shifts overseeing the Netball competition. They welcomed U15 teams from Superleague clubs including Surrey Storm, Teambath, Manchester Thunder and Wasps. The girls were involved in the administration, customer relations and crowd control of this very popular event. During the event they were also fortunate to meet England star Beth Cobden and see her Commonwealth gold medal plus the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Karen Bradley.



SPORTING SUCCESS

COUNTY CALL-UPS

Congratulations to Mollie, Jaz, Ryan, Logan and Oliver who all received Dorset County call-ups during October for football.

ENGLAND TRIALS

Congratulations to Year 10 student Connor, who has had trials to represent England's ability counts team. Connor has just completed a season with AFC Bournemouth's Ability Counts U16's, where he won the players player award.

BOWLS SUCCESS

Congratulations to Year 10 student Nathan who has not only won the Dorset U16's Bowls Championships during September, but also received a call up to the England Bowls Youth Academy!

Sixth Form students smash school records and buck the National Trends



The Blandford School is celebrating exceptional A Level and Vocational results today with students in the year group **smashing all previous records.**

The overall pass rate this year was a fantastic 100%, with 32% of students achieving the coveted top grades of A* - A, and 60% achieving A* – B. **These figures mean the school has achieved exceptionally well in a year when pass rates are down.**

Headteacher, Sally Wilson expressed her personal delight for students in the year 13 cohort, “Our results this year are just brilliant with so many students achieving their target grades and beyond, they should be very proud of themselves. On behalf of my staff and our Governing Board, I would like to congratulate all of them. Many have secured places at top universities, whilst others will be starting apprenticeships or entering employment. I would like to thank all staff who work with our post 16 students, the sixth form tutor team are extremely experienced and these results prove the quality of teaching and learning is very good. Business Studies, Chemistry and Spanish A levels all achieved 100% A*-B for all students. CTEC Business Studies achieved 90%

Distinction* or Distinction.”

Of particular note were A Level performances recorded by Ruby Opalka who achieved 2A*s and 1A, Ruby will now be heading to Manchester to study English with Creative Writing; Lauren Barton’s 2 A*s and 1B means she has achieved her dream of studying medicine at Southampton in September 2019; Emma de Sarum achieved 1A* and 2As and will be relocating to Exeter where she will read Law. Emma is an example of a student who has taken every opportunity whilst at TBS to be involved in numerous additional activities; Hector Solway achieved 3A’s and an A* which secures him a place at Bath to study Physics. Andrew Madders, Hari Teversham and Katie Willis-Fisher should be very proud of their 1A*, 1A and 1B.

Other A Level high fliers include Rheanna Jane, Alysha Henniker, Tilli Eager, Masmi Gurung, Scott Jones, Robert Myers, Katherine Stanley, Ellie Wills, Flo Hendy, Grace Ritchie and Seren Birtles...(continued)

Top performers on vocational courses, achieving Distinction* Distinction include Danny Cowley, Sam Gale, Georgia Galloway, Darryl Garbutt, Jared MacDonald, Issy Morris and Emily Park.

Emily Park should be exceptionally proud of her achievements, she began the Sixth Form on the Level 2 course and has stayed with us for three years. She is leaving us with a great set of GCSEs and Level 2 qualifications as well as a D grade in Health and Social Care A Level and Distinction*Distinction in her Business Studies CTEC (A*-A equivalent).

Students in this year’s cohort have chosen a wide variety of future careers and routes including degrees in medicine, law; mathematics; physics with professional placement and research placement; criminology; music production; mechanical engineering; veterinary nursing; zoology; business management and enterprise innovation; marketing; archaeology and anthropology; accounting and finance; psychology, optometry and dance.

As a truly comprehensive sixth form we are equally pleased that students who have chosen alternative routes than HE have been successful in securing their chosen paths which include an apprenticeship with Thames Water, an IT apprenticeship and entry into the armed forces.

Sally Wilson, Headteacher



TBS EQUESTRIANS ATTEND NSEA SHOW JUMPING COMPETITION

On Saturday 29th September, Zoe, Lily, Courtney, Chloe, Kate and Lottie from The Blandford School all attended the NSEA show jumping at Leweston. The girls had a fabulous day competing in the 70cm, 80cm, 90cm and 1m classes. They all did really well but especially the teams in the 80cm class - Lily, Courtney, Chloe and Kate, coming in 2nd, and Lily, Chloe and Lottie coming 4th. Courtney also came 2nd individually in the 80cm and 90cm classes. Fantastic results for all.



HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday 3rd October over four hundred students and staff gathered on the field at lunchtime to take part in The Blandford School's annual House Cross Country competition. Showcasing a range of different colours to highlight the support of their house, students were awarded 1 house point for each member to complete the near 1 mile course, plotted across the picturesque school grounds. Congratulations must go to the champions of each year group:

Year 7: Melissa & Harley

Year 8: Toby & Ishita

Year 9: Jay & Lottie

Year 10: Tom & Zoe

Year 11: Lewis and Mirren

Sixth Form: Sam

Staff: Mrs Smith & Mr Spry

After a few moments of our Sixth Form helpers counting competitors at the finish line, the results were announced as follows:

4th: Lacy (96 Points)

3rd: Beaumont (97 Points)

2nd: Montfort (111 Points)

1st: Lancaster (121 Points)



BAKING CLUB

Miss Pickett has recently launched a new baking club at TBS. The first session was held on the 1st October, where the group made Jam Tarts - YUM!



The Blandford School would very much appreciate all parents/guardians support in not smoking in parked cars when collecting your children from school. Thank you for your support in helping to promote a healthy lifestyle to our students.

INHALER CHECK

With the weather changing and temperatures becoming much lower, I felt this would be the perfect time to ask if you could check the expiry dates on the blue inhaler of your child, it is un-damaged and still has Salbutamol/Ventolin inside it. Cold air is a very common trigger for an Asthma attack therefore I am trying to anticipate any problems before they become a problem.

I have set up an Emergency Asthma Kit at The Blandford School so that in case of such an emergency and the student didn't have their inhaler with them then we could use the Emergency kit. However, I need parental consent to use the Emergency Asthma Kit if it's needed. To this end, you will find the link if you go to Information, then Medical Information and you will see it on that page.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries at all. You can contact me via email sburton@blandfordschool.org.uk, by phone 451121 Ext 230 or in person at Reception.

Susan Burton
Lead First-aider

GCSE RESULTS: Records smashed for the second time this summer!



It has, without doubt, been a magnificent summer for students and staff at The Blandford School. Last week saw post 16 students smash school records and year 11's collecting their results today have followed suit.

In the new exams which have been described as 'the toughest for a generation', the results were exceptionally good: 76% of students achieved a standard pass in English and 64% a strong pass. In maths, 72% achieved a standard pass and 52% a strong pass. The combined figure – those students who achieved at least a standard pass in both English and maths was therefore 66%,

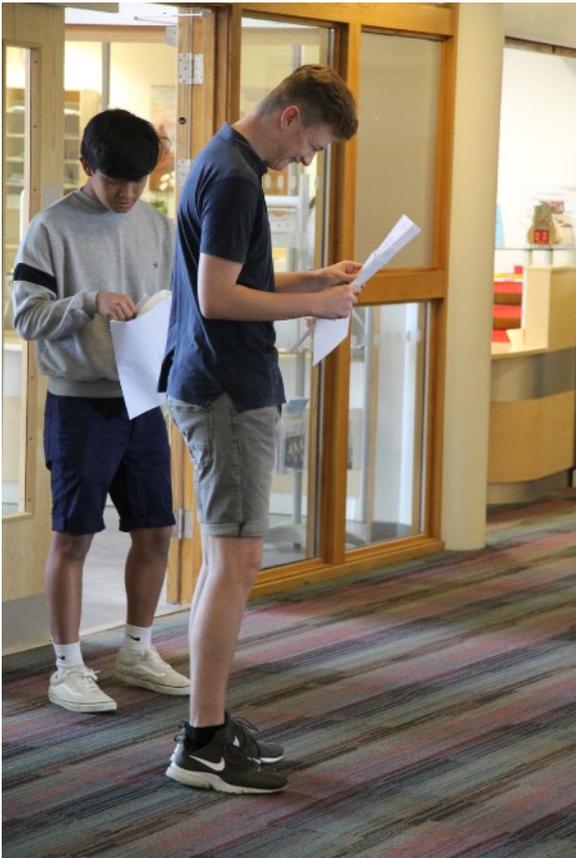
with 49% achieving a strong pass.

High Ability students performed very well indeed with 50% of them achieving a Grade 7 or above in English and 45% achieving a Grade 7 or above in mathematics; 25% of entries achieved Grades 9-7 (the old A*/A) and 75% 9-4 (A*- C). Science results were phenomenal and the 'best ever' for TBS, other subjects which have shown significant improvement this year are geography and languages.

There were some excellent individual performances with a host of students gaining impressive sets of the coveted Grade 9 which is awarded to the top 3% of students nationally. Samuel Hughes and Mansoon Tamang top the leaderboard with both achieving seven Grade 9s, two Grade 8s and one Grade A; Olivia Sellen also did brilliantly with her five Grade 9s and 3 Grade 8s closely followed by Amy Lewis who achieved four Grade 9s, five Grade 8s and 1 Grade A; Emma Wright also achieved ten 9-7 passes with three Grade 9s, three Grade 8s and four Grade 7s. Other students who will be celebrating include Akira Lane with three Grade 9s, two Grade 8s, three Grade 7s and one Grade A. Rosie Belle Platts, Louie Didcott and Chloe Russell all achieved three Grade 9s, two Grade 8s, two Grade 7s and one Grade A; Lauren Green gained two Grade 9s, five Grade 8s and two Grade 7s; Joshua Pitman achieved two Grade 9s, one Grade 8, three Grade 7s and one Grade A. The list of high fliers goes on and on with the following all achieving Grade 9s and Grade 8s within their suite of excellent results: George Lewis, Oliver Dobson, Alfie Panchaud, Andrew Thomas, Felicitas Bissel, William Rogers, Poppy Failes, Alice Knightbridge, Georgia Roncaglia, Lilijan Erim, Harry Sutton, Ben Willson, Leah O'Loughlin, Oliver Cleal, Grace Gardiner, Oliver Hendy, Alex Robinson, Georgina Bailey and Edward Winkle.

Sally Wilson, Headteacher of The Blandford School said, 'This is a really fantastic set of results and I am thrilled to see so many of our students of all abilities doing so well. As ever, students have worked incredibly hard and one can only admire the commitment and determination of our young people who have achieved such high grades across a broad range of disciplines. I would like to publicly congratulate my colleagues whose dedication and resilience in a period of significant assessment and curriculum change should be applauded. I am delighted to say that the vast majority of students will be joining the sixth form where I am sure they will continue to do well!'

Sally Wilson, Headteacher



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THE BLANDFORD SCHOOL

Thursday 29th November 2018

All potential students and parents are welcome.

The evening will start with a presentation at 6pm followed by the opportunity to tour the school and talk to students and staff.

Reasons to be part of our Sixth Form

- 100% Pass Rates & Outstanding 'Value-added'
- Staff dedicated to helping you succeed.
- A curriculum that is tailored for you, offering both academic and vocational courses.
- Exclusive facilities designed by students for you.
- Specialist help for your future career path.



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Invitation

The Dorset NHS Trusts are coming together for you to explore a wide range of NHS careers. Come and find out more about the type of job roles we offer first hand from the people that are already doing them and find out how we can help you to get in, get on and go far.

Tuesday 27th November 6pm – 8pm
Dorset HealthCare HQ, Sentinel House,
4-6 Nuffield Road,
Nuffield Industrial Estate,
Poole, BH17 0RB

- Open to all ages – A really good intro for those thinking about a future career within the NHS
 - Tailored advice and guidance
- Professional discussions with NHS staff members of your choice
- Access to staff from over 30 different areas within the NHS including both mental and physical health and clerical/support service roles
 - Apprenticeship information stands

Event organised by Dorset HealthCare as part of Our Dorset Workforce

**Our
Dorset**
WORKFORCE



Supporting bereaved children
Registered Charity 158338

Christmas Concert

Rock Choir
Matt Griffiths
Significance Sign
Choir

School Hall
Sunninghill Prep
Dorchester
DT1 1EB

Tickets £5
Under 14s
Free

Raffle &
Refreshments

30th November
Doors 7pm
Start 7:30pm

To book tickets call 01258 837071
or email

phoebe@mosaicfamilysupport.org

'Friends of The Blandford School' charity now available to support through Amazon Smile

The Friends of The Blandford School charity is now available to support through Amazon's 'Amazon Smile' programme. AmazonSmile is a 'simple and automatic way for you to support a charity of your choice every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as amazon.co.uk, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your selected charity.'

To select Friends of The Blandford School as your chosen charity on Amazon Smile, simply search for us under the 'pick your own charitable organisation' option.

Any funds raised via Amazon Smile will go directly to support our work enabling students from families experiencing financial difficulties by providing access to school trips, uniform support, extra-curricular activities plus more.



HALLOWEEN HORROR AT TBS

On Wednesday, 31st October, from 5-7pm we will be hosting our first ever Halloween reading event: 'Halloween Horror'. As well as being lots of fun for our students, we will be opening up our library for parents to come in, look at the books we have on offer and to talk about how you can support your child's reading habits as they move up through the school years. Representatives from Dorset Libraries (our Blandford branch) will also be on hand to advise you on how you can make use of their online resources and guide you through

joining the library online – you will have access to school computers to do this on the night if you would like to.

For students, we will be serving drinks and treats, alongside our 'Bone-chilling Book Hunt' around the darkened corridors of Block 1. And then, to bring the evening to a spooky conclusion, we will have, 'Story in the Shadows' – read by our mystery ghoul. Please feel free to pop in to Block 1 at any point between 5 and 7 on 31st October 2018.

Halloween Horror

- ‡ Lanterns in the library
- ‡ Bloodcurdling Books
- ‡ Devilish drinks
- ‡ Terrifying treats



31st October 2018
From 5-7pm

Story in the Shadows
@ 6.30pm

NETBALL UPDATES FROM MRS BAILEY AND MRS SMITH

The U19's narrowly missed out on a place in the county finals at the North Dorset tournament hosted here at TBS. They beat Leweston Clayesmore and St Mary's then lost to Bryanston 6-7 in the semi final. The U16's have qualified for the U16 county tournament recording good wins against Clayemore Gillingham and St Mary's. They now travel to Budmouth for the County finals in November,



Our Year 7 Netballers are off to an excellent start, beating Shaftesbury School just before half term. The Player of the match was Olivia. Our Year 10 team also beat Shaftesbury, with the Player of the Match being award to Mollie. We've had a great turnout for netball training so far this term and look forward to our match at home V Gillingham the first weds back after half term.

Blandford School Sixth Form Students Take the Lead for Primary Tag Rugby Festival

As part of their Level 2 Sports Leader Award students from The Blandford School 'Sixth Form' delivered a Tag Rugby Festival to local Primary School children. Budding rugby stars from Milldown, Pimperne and Durweston received an hour of coaching from the Year 12 leaders. After this they played some friendly games against teams from the other schools. The 20 leaders were involved as referees, touch judges, timekeepers and coaches. Throughout the afternoon the leaders were inspirational and did an amazing job of encouraging every child to enjoy the festival and play more rugby.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES TRIP TO CANARY WHARF

In November, ten Sixth Form girls will be visiting Barclays in Canary Wharf, London.

This is a wonderful opportunity which will give the girls a chance to see some interesting career opportunities in the city, meet senior women managers and people who have recently gone into this industry and understand the jobs available at Barclay's. They will also be able to see the working environment in a large global firm.

Many thanks to William Williams who have kindly agreed to fund the students' rail tickets and underground to London.

STUDENTS ATTEND DIGITAL WAVE CONFERENCE AT THE BIC



On Tuesday 2/10/18 46 GCSE Computing and Creative iMedia students attended the annual Digital Wave Conference at the Bournemouth International Centre.

The day was very interesting and included presentations from a variety of industry leaders from different digital fields such as digital marketing, software testing and web design. There were also stalls and activities where students could find out more about local college and university courses as well as exhibitors with new technology products. Some of the highlights of the day were a presentation by Jamie Spafford, the co-founder of SORTEDFood, a YouTube channel with over 2 million subscribers. He spoke about creativity and resilience, explaining to pupils that they need to be able to overcome obstacles and believe in their own ability. He shared some of his experiences with pupils, telling them that he was turned down for jobs but he kept on going because he knew he could do it.

Hannah Brookes spoke about digital marketing and the importance of UX content for businesses. Her current role with Jellyfish involves helping clients understand what content they need to create for digital marketing. Jellyfish client include a

host of well known brands such as Toyota, Channel 5 and Lacoste.

Simon Harmer, founder of Marmelade on Toast, a creative studio, he has worked with clients such as Harrods, Samsung and Imperial college London. Simon focould need to work very hard to succeed and it is easier to work hard at something you are passionate about.

Pupils found the day interesting and inspiring. Some comments from pupils:

Dishita: "It showed me that it is ok to make mistakes as long as you learn from your mistakes and don't give up."

Carlos: "I really liked how Hannah Brookes started off by working in a small work place which enabled her to try lots of thing and learn many skills."

Jude: "It made me think about the importance of hard work."

Laurence: "Even successful people have had and do have low points in their career but they don't give up."

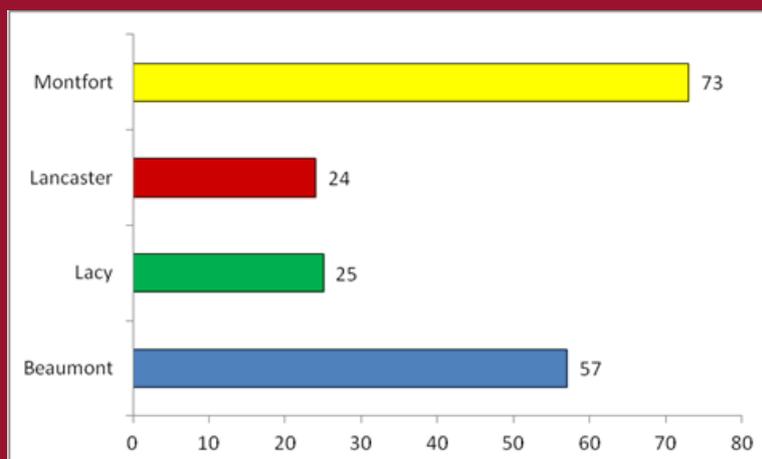
CYBER SECURITY CHALLENGE

On Tuesday 25 September 30 Year 9 pupils from TBS were invited to Blandford Camp to take part in a Cyber Security Challenge. Pupils were working in teams to solve problems and challenges in gathering data, cryptography, digital forensics and deciphering code. Teams from a wide variety of schools competed against each other in a jeopardy-style "Capture the Flag" competition.

Each team was helped by an Army mentor from the Royal Signals Cyber Protection Team. This was a great opportunity for pupils to learn about technical opportunities and about how cyber technology relates to the modern British Army. Pupils were also fortunate to hear the Head of Army Cyber Security, Ms Krishna Dhanak, explain the importance of cyber security to our nation and serving members of the armed forces. Our pupils did very well, competing against pupils who were a couple of years older than them in certain circumstances. We would like to congratulate four of our students who were on the winning team. They are Chloe Smith, Rosema Hossain, Corin Langford, Ella Wren.

Reading House Competition

Students have been writing reviews or reporting to Books and Biscuits Club about books they have recently read. Every book review is logged, each one earning the student and their house a house point. At the end of each term (Christmas and Easter), there will be a prize for the student in each year group who has read the most books with a grand winner at the end of the school year. The competition is open to students of all year groups. Currently, the totals and top of the league students are as follows:



Year 7 - Darcy Bagg (4)

Year 8 - Tahiya Payne(4)

Year 9 - Robin Clarke (6)

Year 10 - Libby Cairns (1)

Year 12 - James Hush (21)

Drama and Film Careers Event @ Bryanston School

On Tuesday 16th October 12 A level Drama and Theatre students were invited to join students at Bryanston School for their annual Drama and Film careers day.

The day began with a 2 hour intensive workshop with Fourth Monkey Theatre Company. Based in North London, Fourth Monkey offers innovative, relevant and inspiring actor training and productions for the contemporary world of performance. The company place an emphasis on repertory performance, ensemble and working with regarded and practicing, working practitioners. The workshop gave our A Level students a challenging, and somewhat sweaty, insight into physical, ensemble and devising skills. Further information on the company can be found at <https://www.fourthmonkey.co.uk/about-us/>. Following the workshop students had the chance to meet with the artistic director of Fourth Monkey Steven Green and one of their graduates Darcy Willison for a focused discussion on devising and working as an ensemble.

Students also had the chance to hear from actor Tim Bartholomew about the experience of working as an actor in commercials. Tim regaled us with many interesting anecdotes and vividly brought to life the day to day life of an actor travelling around the world on the whim of a commercial producer.

Following this students were able to take part in a Musical Theatre masterclass with British tenor opera singer, composer and lyricist Hal Cazelet. As a singer and actor, Hal is one of the world's most sought-after versatile performers, having premiered and created many leading roles for new opera and musical theatre productions in both London and in the USA. He is also a Composer and Lyricist, and his latest musical of Oscar Wilde's *The Happy Prince* will be touring the UK in 2018. Hal worked with students on a Musical Theatre number. TBS student Emma Wright was able to explore the emotion and character of Peron's Mistress in her performance of *Another Suitcase in Another Hall*. Hal also offered students advice about future auditions and how to select appropriate songs and to capture the attention of an audition panel.

In addition students were able to experience a design workshop, an acting for camera workshop and finally meet Jamie Ballard, the actor currently starring as Harry Potter in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* at the Palace Theatre, London. Jamie finished the day by encouraging our budding young actors that a career in the arts is rewarding yet incredibly challenging. He quoted Derek Jacobi stating "if you want to be an actor...don't, if you need to be an actor...do."

"I thoroughly enjoyed the careers event that took place at Bryanston School, on Tuesday 16th October. The Fourth Monkey Workshop was not only good fun but enabled me to look at different ways of incorporating their techniques into A Level Drama and Theatre Studies. As a group we also got to work with people we've never met before, which made it interesting for all of us."

Ellen Wyldes, Y13 Drama and Theatre

THE GREAT MFL BAKE-OFF

The "Great MFL bake-off" is now a yearly tradition in the Languages Faculty and a very popular with students and staff (who get to taste and judge all the cakes!).

Students are given a cake recipe in French or Spanish and have to follow the instructions carefully in order to produce an outstanding bake. This year we had over 30 amazing entries and after much cake-eating and deliberating, the following students were awarded "star baker" status:

Erin Lowe

Hannah Osborne

Luisa Wainiqolo



SIXTH FORM UPDATE

Year 12 students have made a great impression on sixth form tutors and teachers with their focused approach to learning. Preparations for their work experience placements have begun. If any parents have the opportunity of offering one of our sixth formers work experience for a week please do get in touch with our work experience coordinator Mrs Norris on norris@blandfordschool.org.uk.

Students have also been applying for places on the Exeter University Scholarship programme. Applications are open until Friday 2nd November and further information is available on: <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/>. There is also a strand available for year 10 students – this will open for applications in December.

Year 13 students have been thinking hard about their progression plans and university applications are now well underway. Offers from universities have started to come in already for some students. We aim for all applications to have been completed by 30th November.

Students have also attended an Apprenticeship Fair at Bournemouth University to learn more about the opportunities available to them after A levels.