

# NEWSLETTER



## YEAR 11 PROM

*Photos inside!*

### SPORTS DAY



### EVITA



### DELLA JONES MILE



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Mon 3rd Sept**

Staff Training Day

**Tues 4th Sept**

Year 7 and 12  
staggered start

**Weds 5th Sept**

All students in

**Thurs 20th Sept**

Open Evening

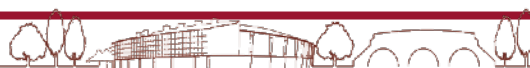
**Fri 21st Sept**

Staff Training Day

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# A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM MRS WILSON

Dear all,

As you read this newsletter we will be a couple of weeks into the summer holiday and I very much hope everyone is able to find some time to relax and enjoy the sun. Term ended on a very positive note with year 10 students receiving numerous congratulations from members of the community for their conduct during Work Related Learning Week; we were very proud of them. Sports Day was a triumph, with students breaking records, working as teams and always supporting each other to get 'across the line' regardless of ability or talent. The Art Exhibition was on a different scale to previous events and this was a delight in itself. The ability of students was showcased extremely well, students of all ages should be very pleased with such a wonderful public display of their work. The year ended, as it always does, at The Tivoli where four audiences were treated to a stupendous production of Evita. The Performing and Creative Arts team should be delighted with the professional quality of the performance and every single student involved should know how proud we are of you, there can't have been a dry eye in the house. I have loved the decade of musicals produced by TBS Productions but I think Evita may be my favourite! This newsletter includes some of the feedback students and staff have received since the curtain closed.

As regards staffing, I would like to inform you Mr Simon Gillett is standing down as Head of English this year but I am delighted he remains with us teaching English part-time. Other staff leaving who have been with us a while include Mrs Ruth Vellacott and Mrs Ruth Disbrow as well as our receptionist Mrs Shirley Dalzell.

A special goodbye to the wonderful Ken Reynolds who retires this year, Ken will remain in a consultant capacity and we are delighted his work is so respected both The Friends of Blandford Hospital and Williams Williams have provided significant funding for the project to remain

sustainable. Kirsty Radford takes over the reins from Ken, she has been working with us for a while and I know will do a fabulous job.

A big thank you to Ken for his support of so many young people, his professionalism and friendship. A real treasure.

Mrs Wilson  
Headteacher



# SPORTS WATCH

## The 40th Annual Della Jones Mile

The annual Della Jones Mile took place at The Blandford School on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July, this year was a special occasion as it was the 40<sup>th</sup> year that the race had been held, an amazing achievement for both the school and Della Jones herself! This year's race was once again started by Della, who set up the event to encourage competition within school sport. Della was able to cheer on a record number of 471 participants completing their mile, surpassing last year's record of 384.



Students and staff from all years took part in the 4 lap race to try and earn valuable points for their house in this year's house competition. The overall winners of the Della Jones Mile were Lacy House, clinched the victory as they had the highest number of competitors that managed to complete the race in under 8 minutes, securing the house 3 points as opposed to the 1 point for completing the mile.

The PE department would like to thank all of the competitors for making the event very special and for all of the hard work and effort shown by all of the staff and students who took part. It is never too early to start training for next year!

### This Years Della Jones winners:

Year Group	Male	Female
7	Josh Fazakerley	Mia Brennan
8	Jay Dunn	Lottie Cleal
9	Tom Fuller	Eve Masters
10	Cameron Pearce	Maisy Allen
Sixth Form	Michael Johnson	Georgia Bennetts
Staff	Mr Spry	Mrs Smith

# Going for Gold! Sports Day 2018 at The Blandford School

The Blandford School Sports Day took place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July, the whole school event concludes the House Competition each year. Lacy House, led by Mr Tovey were in the lead going into the event, after a tough two years Lacy had held their lead for the majority of the school year, but were in danger of being caught by Lancaster House, who historically have always performed well in the sporting events of the house competition.

The field events took place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July and a superb day of Athletics saw 4 school records broken and 1 equalled. Following the field events, Lacy's lead had shrunk with Lancaster students having an excellent first day, filling all events and breaking 2 school records.

The finale was the track events which began on Friday afternoon in the sunshine at The Blandford School, participation in each event was excellent and it was great to see such a high proportion of students stepping up to compete for their house. Although no records were broken, there were exceptional displays of performance throughout the afternoon, but most pleasing was the clear examples of sportsmanship, teamwork and resilience on display, all skills that we value very highly at TBS!

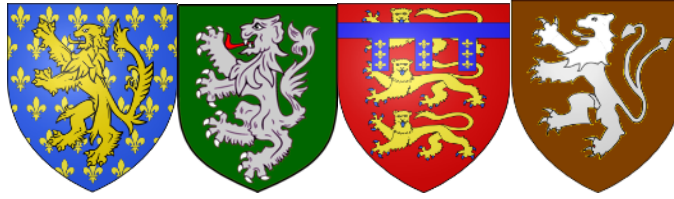
The results were announced for the last time by our new commentary team of Mr Tovey, Mr Gillett and Mrs Garner. After building tension, they revealed that Lancaster House had won Sports Day, for the second year in a row, but Lacy had won the overall House Competition! This meant that in the last four years, each House has managed to win the House Cup.

The PE Department would like to congratulate everybody that took part in Sports Day this year, it was an excellent event and we are already looking forward to next year to see who will be triumphant in 2019!

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# House Sports Day Records

Event	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
<b>100m</b>	Aaron Roberts 13.82 (2015) Lily McCarthy 14.28 (2015)	James Guyler 12.84 (2014) Emma Burroughs 14.27 (2007)	James Guyler 11.64 (2015) Alice McNab 13.80 (2015)	Jack Newland 11.94 (2009) Emma Burroughs 13.84 (2009)
<b>200m</b>	Ollie Taylor 28.00 (2009) Tamsin Strawn 31.00 (2009)	O Taylor 27.55 (2010) T Strawn 30.50 (2010)	James Guyler 25.81 (2015) Charlie Newell 30.19 (2006)	James Guyler 25.06 (2016) Emma Burroughs 30.28 (2009)
<b>3/400m</b>	Lewis Revell 69.52 (2016) Donna Rowlands 51.08 (2006)	Aaron Kendrick 60.03 (2006) Maisy Lang 49.7 (2016)	Lewis Wilson 59.0 (2009) Maisy Lang 51.50(2017)	Josh Robinson 55.51 (2006) Chloe Luckham 50.29 (2014)
<b>Della Jones</b>				
<b>Shot</b>	Rob Fuller 9.00m (2006) Maisy Allen 7.96m (2015)	Rob Fuller 11.06m (2007) Naomi Whale 9.56m (2009)	Josh Pitman 10.80m (2016) Maisy Allen 9.68m (2017)	Robert Fuller 12.40m (2009) Maisy Allen 8.79m (2018)
<b>Discus</b>	Fred Johnson 18.06m (2017) Lauren Green 20.01m (2014)	Todd Penny 25.33m (2014) Ellie Keats 19.46m (2014)	Ed Neale 22.31m (2006) Maisy Allen 21.20m (2017)	Charlie Sawyer 23.90m (2006) Maisy Allen 23.93m (2018)
<b>Javelin</b>	Sam O'Haire 22.70m (2015) Ella Duke 19.08m (2015)	Aaron Fookes 26.80m (2007) Maisy Allan 22.93m (2016)	Jasper Newman 31.40m (2009) Megan Davies 27.10m (2015)	Jasper Newman 41.10m (2010) Megan Davies 27.68m (2016)
<b>High Jump</b>	George Wife (2014) Lucy Shafford/Beth Wilson 1.30m (2006/2014)	John Seager 1.45m (2009) Grace Townsend 1.40m (2006)	Harrison Foot 1.55m (2015) Charlotte Legg 1.45m (2014)	Harrison Foot 1.65m (2016) Hannah Bissett/Sadie Boardwell/ Charlotte Legg/Jess Storey/Issy Bye/Tilly Crook 1.30m (2007/2014/2015/2017/2018)

<b>Long Jump</b>	Olly Dyke 4.20m (2006) Hannah Winton 4.35m (2007)	James Guyler 4.68m (2014) Camille Druon 4.10m (2016)	Sam Williams 5.20m (2006) Ella Henderson 4.32m (2014)	Rory Shafford 5.87m (2015) Maisy Lang 4.17m (2018)
<b>Triple Jump</b>	Sam Smith 8.70m (2007)/ Max Stone (2015) Lily Risborough 6.84m (2017)	Sam Filkins 8.91m (2006) Leah Crabbe 7.70m (2017)	James Waggott 10.91m (2007) Aislinn Lewis-Smith 7.77m (2017)	Josh Robinson 12.09m (2006) Maisy Lang 8.29m (2018)
<b>Relay</b>	Lacy 59.38 (2006) Montfort 60.06 (2007)	Lacy 54.31 (2014) Lacy 61.18 (2007)	Lacy 53.37 (2015) Lacy 59.22 (2007)	Beaumont 49.89 (2006) Beaumont 58.19 (2006)

<b>Event</b>	<b>Sixth Form</b>	<b>Staff</b>
<b>Wheelbarrow</b>	Lacy (Fraser Minchella & Adam Ryall)– 19.64s	Lancaster (Mr Spry & Mr Vairy) – 24.86s
<b>Three Legged Race</b>	Beaumont (Jack Cooper-Tallant & Billy Hitchcock) – 12.22s	Lacy (Mr & Mrs Smith) – 12.34s
<b>Egg &amp; Spoon</b>	Lancaster 26.72s	Lancaster (Spry, Vairy, Moore & Wilson) 30.34s
<b>Della Jones</b>	Michael Johnson & Georgia Bennetts	Mr Spry & Mrs Smith
<b>Shot</b>	Ben Knight – 10.80m & Jayne Wilkinson – 5.90m	Mr Vairy – 10.75m & Mrs Claxton – 7.30m
<b>Discus</b>	Ben Knight – 18.88m	Miss Bewsey – 14.80m & Mr Gillett – 13.45m
<b>Javelin</b>	Billy Hitchcock – 23.93m & Meg Davies – 26.90m	Miss Bewsey – 21.03m & Mr Spry – 25.33m
<b>High Jump</b>	Sophie Campbell – Smith – 1.10m	Mr Tovey – 1.20m
<b>Long Jump</b>		Mr Spry – 4.57m & Mrs Minchella – 1.30m
<b>Triple Jump</b>	Fraser Minchella – 4.29m	Mr Spry – 9.64m & Mrs Wilson – 2.80m
<b>Relay</b>		

## ROUNDERS TOURNAMENT AT BRYANSTON SCHOOL

On the last day of term a group of year 7 and year 9 students went to play a friendly rounders/netball tournament at Bryanston against girls from a summer camp group 'All Stars'. We mixed our age groups up and were split into two pools for the netball. Both netball teams did brilliantly, winning their first two games. In the third and final round of matches, our 'Hulks' team lost 3-2 whilst our 'Blandford Beauties' won 3-2 finishing first overall.

The girls were an absolute credit to the school and had a great finish to a great year in PE. Well done to all the players.

## SPORTING SUCCESS

- A huge congratulations to Year 11 student Ollie Cleal, who recently competed at Ponds Forge in the British National Summer Championships. A fantastic achievement Ollie, well done!
- Well done to Lucy Denton-Smith for successfully gaining a place in the Dorset County Netball Academy for the second year running!
- Congratulations to Ethan Drewett, who recently represented AFC Bournemouth Community Trust in the BT Football Festival, held at Manchester City's Etihad Campus on Tuesday 17th July.

## SIXTH FORM PROGRESSION DAY

We had a successful Progression Day for students in year 12 this July. Students were given information about successful applications for university delivered by Exeter University. They were also advised on apprenticeships and other progression opportunities such as degree apprenticeships and gap years. There were visits from last year's successful Sixth form students who are studying at a range of universities from Bristol to Oxford. They came in to share their experiences of the past year and to give advice and answer questions about what they had been doing. It was lovely to see them all.

**A BIG thank you to Mrs. Hennicker for the books she kindly donated to the school library. They were added to our catalogue straight away and several students will be enjoying a new book over the summer holidays.**

**Mrs Norris  
Careers Advisor & LIBRARY**

**Could we please ask visitors to the site to be particularly careful when driving onsite, especially near the zebra crossings where there are many students and visitors trying to cross the roads.**

**Please note that for the 2018/2019 school year newsletters will now be released half-termly, rather than monthly. The next newsletter will be released in September 2018.**

# TBS IN THE COMMUNITY

## JAZZERCISE at The Blandford School

Mon 6.30pm (not Aug)  
Thurs 7pm - coming soon!  
Sat 9.30am (not 25th Aug)

Dance fitness fun for everyone - all shapes, sizes & fitness levels welcome. Workouts are varied so people don't get bored, challenging but not too complicated and the music is great. Cardio, dance, fitness & strength for high calorie burn and body sculpting resistance workouts all in just under an hour & its great fun. First class & the next 7 days unlimited trial pass £7. For more information please call 07799 484042, email [jdww@jazzercise.net](mailto:jdww@jazzercise.net) or check out [www.jazzercise.net/uk/jdw](http://www.jazzercise.net/uk/jdw)

## WHAT'S ON AT TBS?

### **Mondays**

Starlight Dance Academy & Jazzercise

### **Tuesdays**

Starlight Dance Academy, KR Taekwondo, Tai-Chi and Men's Shed

### **Wednesdays**

Starlight Dance Academy

### **Thursdays**

Starlight Dance Academy and Men's Shed

### **Saturdays**

Men's Shed and Stagecoach Performing Arts School

*Are you interested in hosting your evening with us? Please contact [marketing@blandfordschool.org.uk](mailto:marketing@blandfordschool.org.uk) to receive a personalised quote.*

# THE ARTS

## THE BLANDFORD SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION

This exciting exhibition – the largest that the Blandford School has hosted for a number of years celebrated the extensive art work produced by students across the school, from year 7 to year 13. This exhibition was made possible by close collaboration with Arts University Bournemouth and Bryanston School who kindly lent display boards to enable us to accommodate the extensive collection of work. Also, Astral Couriers who provided transport to enable the movement of display boards between Bournemouth and the school. A number of parents gave of their time to support the setting up of the show including Mr Birtles, Miss Blunt and Mrs Opalka to whom the art department staff would like to thank for their support.



Highlights from Exhibition included work previously exhibited at the Poole Festival of Light produced by Seren Birtles, a year 13, A Level art student and paintings on wooden palettes, wooden cable reels, eco printing, papier mache, stitched drawings, paintings and sculptures. There was work displayed by students including submissions from A Level and GCSE students. The art moderator visited the school prior to the exhibition and commended the students' work noting the breadth of materials explored and the ambition of the collection of work. The students were pleased to welcome visits by Simon Hoare MP, local councillors and the Mayor of Blandford Mr Roger Carter to the



exhibition. They joined an audience of some two hundred and sixty parents and friends of the school.

### Quotes...

*'So much talent! Really impressed by the high quality of the work. A fantastic display!'*

*'Wonderful efforts of the talented students. We really enjoyed the different ideas and mediums of art.'*

*'As a visitor to the school I am in awe of the vibrant, varied and exceptional work. These students have obviously been given the skills, courage and confidence to explore their craft unrestrainedly and the results are astounding. Well done all.'*



# EVITA CAST AND CREW ACHIEVE DISTINCTION GRADE

We are very proud to announce that all students involved with this year's production of Evita have been awarded Grade 7

Musical Theatre in Production with a Distinction! The examiner has awarded the students 90 out of a possible 100 marks which is exceptional at such a high level. The breakdown of marks is – Group Dynamic 18/20, Performances 17/20, Staging 19/20, Engagement with the Audience 18/20 and Response to the Material 18/20. Some highlights from the examiner's feedback – "This was an impressive production



which successfully engaged the energy and commitment of its young cast." "This demanding production was fortunate in its solo performers capacity to anchor key roles with confidence and flair." "Throughout dance coordination was of exceptionally high quality, finely timed and drilled with impressive engagement by all dancers." Full report to follow in September. More pictures from the musical can be found in the later in the newsletter.



The beautiful paintings above, completed by year 7, are based on microscopic Biological structures. Students investigated colour mixing, complementary and analogous colours, tints and shades in order to create these paintings. They certainly brightened up Whitecliff Mill Street Doctors Surgery. Well done Year 7. The exhibition will be changed later on this year.

Compliments were given to the work Year 8 students had been exhibiting from their black and white architectural pieces from the previous year.

# THE MATHS FACULTY

In order for all students to make as much progress as possible over their years at our school we support them by offering dynamic, diagnostic teaching where we have very high expectations of our students to engage in their learning. We set students weekly homework and want them to become independent learners who aspire to achieve their potential. We offer various computer programmes for students to use to learn independently as well as lunch club on Wednesdays for students who would like support with homework or classwork. Additionally, we offer various intervention programmes that run to support students who need additional support.

We recognise the need to work as a team and value the support that parents give our students. Professor Jo Boaler, Stanford University, has this advice for parents:

1. Encourage your child to play maths puzzles and games. Puzzles and games – anything with a dice really – will help children enjoy maths, and develop number sense, which is critically important.
2. Always be encouraging and never tell your child they are wrong when they are working on maths problems. Instead find the logic in their thinking – there is always some logic to what they say. For example if your child multiplies 3 by 4 and gets 7, say – Oh I see what you are thinking, you are using what you know about addition to add 3 and 4, when we multiply we have 4 groups of 3...
3. Never associate maths with speed. It is not important to work quickly, and we now know that forcing children to work quickly on maths is the best way to start maths anxiety for children, especially girls.
4. Never share with your children the idea that you were bad at maths at school or you dislike it – especially if you are a mother. Researchers found that as soon as mothers shared that idea with their daughters, their daughter's achievement went down.
5. Perhaps most important of all – encourage a "growth mindset" let students know that they have unlimited maths potential and that being good at maths is all about working hard. When children have a growth mindset, they do well with challenges and do better in school overall. When children have a fixed mindset and they encounter difficult work, they often conclude that they are not "a math person". One way in which parents encourage a fixed mindset is by telling their children they are "smart" when they do something well. That seems like a nice thing to do, but it sets children up for difficulties later, as when kids fail at something they will inevitably conclude that they aren't smart after all. Instead use growth praise such as "it is great that you have learned that", "I really like your thinking about that". When they tell you something is hard for them, or they have made a mistake, tell them: "That's wonderful, your brain is growing!"

## Our amazing Year 11 Pupils

By the time you read this our fantastic year 11 pupils will have completed their GCSE exams. They have maintained a brilliant work ethic during an intensive period and as a department we would like to congratulate all those who have worked incredibly hard and we look forward to celebrating with them on results day.

## Student Progress

All students had formal end of year assessments and are to be congratulated for their hard work and focus. The whole of year 9 had formal assessments sat in the hall which allowed students and staff to assess how well they are settling into the new maths GCSE curriculum. Students were given a revision list and have access to mathswatch online to support them in being fully prepared. We were really impressed with how the year 9 conducted themselves.

Throughout the year students have worked hard doing their weekly homeworks and using mathswatch to support their learning. Some feedback from students are below:

*"I like how in week 1 you can write what to do and then over the other weeks you can learn and get better at doing it."*

Izzy Woodbridge

*"I have really enjoyed maths this year, especially the work on probability we did, and learning about algebra and Pythagoras' Theorem. Mathwatch has also been useful, especially to revise for my tests. I feel that I've been challenged this year."*

Catherine Solway

*"I think my maths has really developed since I have started using mathswatch and it is fun too."*

James Goodall

*"I learnt a lot of things this year: ratio, proportion, gradient and much more. I'd say I've learnt a lot and I hope to improve next year. We used mathswatch for online homework and to revise to the maximum."*

Sydney Thay

*"I love maths very much and when we go into the computer room to use mathswatch I find it fun and it helps me learn."*

James Clayton

To maintain students fluency with some basic key skills every student has been issued with a summer holiday homework task (also on the school website if it gets lost!). These questions have been carefully selected to reinforce some key maths skills which your child will need to master in order to be successful in maths next year and into their GCSE Mathematics. In order to keep skills fresh we would advise students to do a worksheet per week. If stuck, look on Mathswatch. If the work is lost it can be found on the school website.

## **HOMEWORK CLUB**

**Every Lunchtime in Room 314**

Feel free to drop in to get help with your homework or to complete your homework early!

## Challenges and Opportunities for Students in Maths

Over 70 students from year 7 through to year 13 took part in the UK Maths Trust Junior, Intermediate and Senior maths challenges over the last year.

The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges are lively, intriguing multiple choice question papers, which are designed to stimulate interest in maths in large numbers of pupils. The three levels cover the secondary school range 11-18 and together they attract over 700,000 entries from over 4,000 schools and colleges.

We are extremely proud of all our competitors in any of these events and many of our students were awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates. George Knight (year 9) and Matt Hancock (year 10) achieved such a high score that they qualified to take part in the second round, the Kangaroo stage.

George Knight in Year 9 scored 71/135 in the Intermediate Challenge which placed him in the top 5% of his year group. He thus qualified to compete in the 'Grey Kangaroo' (for up to Y9 students only) where he gained a certificate of qualification by scoring 68/135 in this problem-solving maths test.

Year 10 student Matthew Hancock scored 87/135 in the same challenge which placed him in the top 1.5% of his year group (and in the top 2.5% of all Year 10 and Y11 students that took part), allowing him to compete in the 'Pink Kangaroo' (open to Y10 and Y11 students only). Matthew's high score of 76/135 in the Kangaroo round saw him placed in the top 20% of all students who sat the challenge, an extremely impressive achievement!

We are planning to give even more students the opportunity to enter these competitions over the next academic year. We run a Challenge Club on Tuesday lunchtimes for students who are interested to work together to practice answering this style of question (an example below).

If you want to challenge yourself by trying some of the questions log on to [www.ukmt.org.uk/](http://www.ukmt.org.uk/)

Following their success in the Maths Challenge Matt Hancock and Nathan Scott were invited to the Yr 10 Maths Circle, a two-day event (sponsored by the London Mathematical Society) at Sherborne School.

This event is designed to give participants a flavour of Mathematics beyond what they study day-to-day, with a view to encouraging them all to take seriously the possibility of taking their mathematics further, for example considering Maths and Further Maths at A level, and studying something closely related at university.

Although this was probably the first time Matt and Nathan have spent two solid days doing maths, they appeared to have very much enjoyed the event.

George Knight was invited to a Y9 Master Class Celebration Day at Bath University to celebrate his success in achieving the highest score in The Blandford School in Y9 in the intermediate maths challenge. George spent the day in workshops and talks exploring exciting areas and applications of mathematics as well as competing in a lunchtime challenge around the university campus.

Every Tuesday lunchtime students have gathered in the Challenge Club where they initially practised and prepared for their forthcoming individual maths challenges. This quickly expanded to include students who did not plan to enter the competition at all but enjoy discussing maths, sharing strategies and solving problems.

We continued to meet even after the challenges and have begun solving different maths problems and puzzles.

After a few weeks of successful test running this summer term and the ensuing approval by two of the club's regulars, we will invite Year 7s and 8s to participate in the Parallel Maths Project from September 18. The project consists of a set of weekly maths challenges – roughly 30 minutes of interesting, fun and challenging material that goes beyond school maths: mystery and history, activities and oddities, puzzles and problems. Students taking part in this little inter-school competition will be completing the material online and we are hoping this will be rolled out to older students soon too. (Continued...)

The Blandford School hosted the **Yr 10 Maths Feast** for the second time this spring. This event, which was attended by 8 other schools from the across the south and two 'home' teams, is designed to enrich, challenge and extend Y10 mathematicians. It encourages mathematical problem solving and tests team working and communication skills. Each year the format of the feast changes slightly so that the competitions remain interesting and exciting. We are very glad to say we have been asked to host this exciting event again in spring 2019.

Four of our Y12 and Y13 A-level and Further Maths students, Georgia Bennetts, Darcy Emmet, Kathryn Stanley and Dylan Williams competed in the **Senior Team Challenge** in the autumn term. The afternoon spent at Poole High School has become a firm annual favourite amongst our students; the competition against almost 30 other teams from the south is studiously practised for, entered with a lot of enthusiasm and taken suitably serious.

There have been various STEM activities over the course of the year for students to get involved in. One involved students meeting weekly to prepare for a lego robot competition ...

*"I took part in STEM club earlier this year, and I had a great time. It was really fun learning how to code and use the robots, and then we had the opportunity to compete with other schools. It was a great experience."*

Catherine Solway Yr8

## Pi day

This year as a department, we felt very strongly about creating awareness of the number Pi ( $\pi$ ) by including activities in lessons and running Pi related house competitions. Pi day is celebrated all around the world on 14<sup>th</sup> March as the American date format reads 3/14 which are the first three digits of Pi. Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point and as an irrational number, it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern.

One of the main activities that the students took part in during Pi week was seeing if we could display the first 500 decimal places of Pi around the maths department. Each digit was allocated a different colour and the students designed their own pattern for each digit they created. With the help of all of our students, we did manage to get to 500 decimal places of Pi!

Two house competitions were run during the week: memorising as many decimal places of Pi as possible and writing a story in Pilish or writing a poem about Pi. We were particularly impressed with Elowen Harley (Year 7) who managed to remember 66 decimal places! She was closely followed by Sidney Jenkinson (Year 10) who remembered 54 and Matthew Hancock (Year 10) and Ishita Naik (Year 7) who both remembered 40 decimal places.

Asking students and teachers to write a story using Pilish or writing a poem about Pi was probably the harder of the two house competitions but we received some great entries including Finlee Barnes' (Year 7) story and Howard Vincent's (Year 9) and Louis Meaden's (Year 9) poems.

Pilish is a style of writing where the length of each word matches the digits of the number Pi. The following Poem written by Joseph Shipley uses the first 31 digits of Pi:

'But a time I spent wandering in bloomy night;  
Yon tower, tinkling chimewise, loftily opportune.  
Out, up, and together came sudden to Sunday rite,  
The one solemnly off to correct plenilune.'

A full length novel has been published using Pilish which currently hold the record of the longest Pilish text using 10,000 digits of Pi.

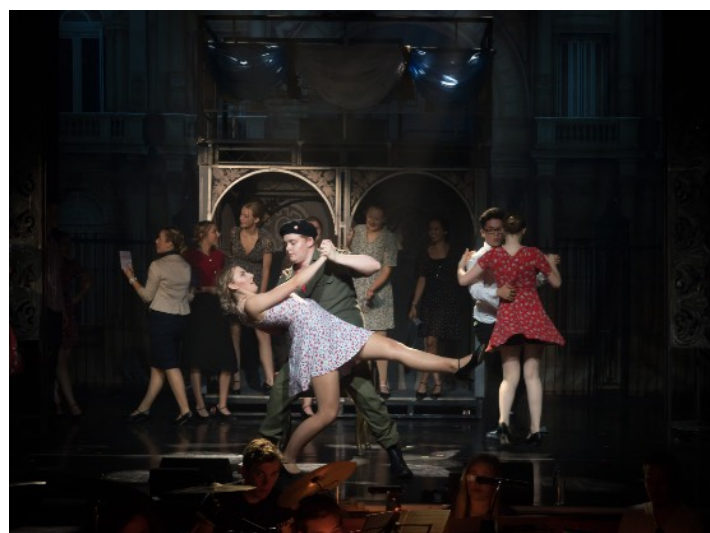
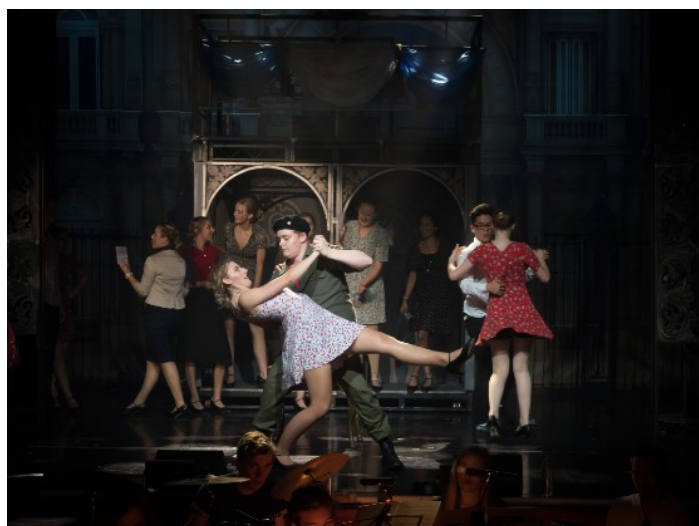
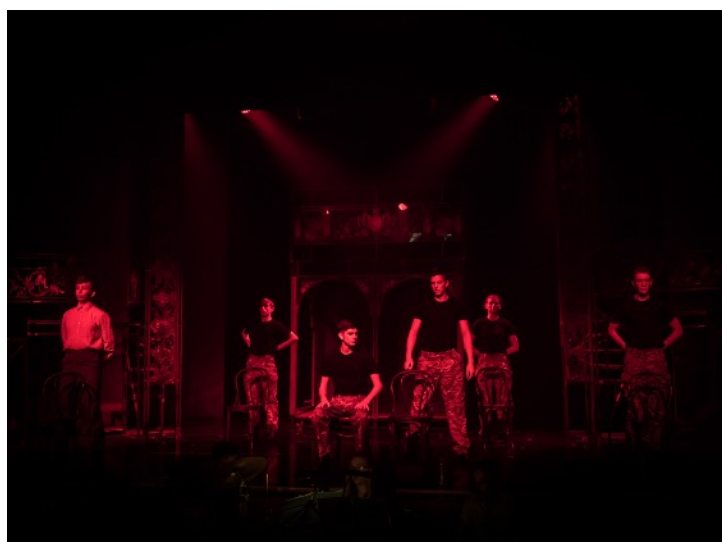
# YEAR 11 PROM 2018





# EVITA

A huge thank you to Ash Mills for taking these fantastic photographs of our production of Evita. To view the full album please visit the following link:  
<http://ashmills.zenfolio.com/evita2018>







# I and Me

I used to watch the wide world spin by  
Each hour day by day;  
I used to see it rapidly regrow  
As newborns bleep and mothers keep,  
I used to play with the soothing waves  
As they dispersed into the soft sand,  
I used to catch the warm-coloured leaves  
As they floated down from above,  
I used to sit by the roaring flames  
As warmth destroyed the frozen wall within  
I used to, I used to do that.

Me is different now;  
Me restricts  
Me confines  
Me stays and hangs by,  
Me reduces  
Me hides  
Me sits at the window as the droplets fall  
And watches the world spin by from behind.

*(Lauren Mooney: Year 10)*

\*ME- Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (Chronic Fatigue Syndrome)

# 2018 Trip to France - Year 8

After a long 13hr coach trip the intrepid Year 8 adventurers arrived at Château du Tertre far south in Normandy.



We received a friendly and warm welcome from Jordan, our PGL guide, before being shown to our rooms and then sitting down to a wonderful meal.

A short period of letting off steam on the volley ball and basket ball courts followed before bedding down for the night.

Saturday dawned hot and sunny and we were off on the first full day of activities.

A short journey took us to Fougères where we were able to wander around the market before visiting the Château.

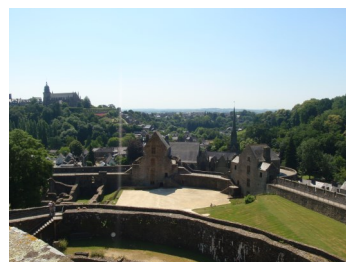
French markets never disappoint and this one certainly did not. The variety and range of foods available is always astounding.



The well preserved Château at Fougères was interesting and a delight to wander around. Also very hot!



There were some fantastic views of Fougères from the towers -



There was just time for a group photo before lunch then a visit to a Crêperie and farm.



The farm was a big hit with its chickens, rabbits, cows, goat and finished with home made cake and a sing song.

Then it was back to PGL for supper followed by mini Olympics, with games comprising highest shoe tower, egg & spoon, slow legs / fast arms and longest line to name a few.

Much fun and amusement!



# 2018 Trip to France - Year 8

Day two, Sunday, started slightly overcast. We were off to Mont St Michel followed by a visit to a goat farm.

The rain that came during the walk from the car park to Mont St Michel did not dampen the spirits and was soon followed by glorious sunshine once again.



The narrow streets of Mont St Michel were interesting and full of shops, which gave plenty of opportunity to try out some French. Some streets were much more of a squeeze!



Mont St Michel was a joy and as glorious as ever.



Then it was time for lunch then off to the goat farm where we were able to get up close with the goats and sample some of the cheese.



The evening meal called for much bravery when the cooked snails were brought out for sampling.



The evening finished with a disco and many new friendships with - 'the boys from Birmingham'!

All in all a fantastic few days which was a pleasure from start to finish



## Are you a Parent, Grandparent or someone who has worked with families closely?

Home-Start North Dorset is a local voluntary organisation which matches volunteers with families who are generally finding life a struggle. Our volunteers are able to offer support, friendship and practical help. Would you like to use your experiences to help parents and young children?

### **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED — Do you have 2/3 hours a week to spare?**

We are holding a volunteer preparation course for one day a week for 10 weeks starting Thursday 6th September 2018 (exc Oct half term week).

What one volunteer says

"I love being able to help people get back on their feet and to watch the families grow with just a little bit of my time every week"



### **INTERESTED?**

Please Call 01258 473038 or email  
[office@home-start-northdorset.co.uk](mailto:office@home-start-northdorset.co.uk)  
[www.home-start-northdorset.co.uk](http://www.home-start-northdorset.co.uk)

Registered charity no: 1138382



### **Volunteer Community Mentors required for Autumn 2018**

We are looking for adults with the skills and experience to mentor identified students to help them to raise and realise their aspirations.

**THE BLANDFORD  
SCHOOL**

Do you have an hour or two spare to join our small team of dedicated volunteer community mentors?

The project was set up by the Dorset Community Foundation in September 2016 and we are now looking to expand this successful aspect of our work.

*Full training, including detailed guidance about students' safeguarding, will be provided.*

Please contact Penny White, (Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead) by emailing [pwhite@blandfordschool.org.uk](mailto:pwhite@blandfordschool.org.uk) or by telephoning the school on 01258 451121. Closing date 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**FULL DBS CLEARANCE AND TWO WRITTEN REFERENCES WILL BE REQUIRED**

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND FOR OUR SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES AND POLICIES.

# Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day.

3600 minutes in a school year.

1,800,000 Words



Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day.

900 minutes in a school year.

282,000 Words



Student "C" reads 1 minute each day.

180 minutes in a school year.

8,000 Words



Between Year 7 and 11, student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, student B 3 school days and student C only 1/2 a school day. Which student will have the better vocabulary? Which student do you think will achieve better GCSE grades? And in future life....? Please support progress by ensuring your child always has a reading book in school and that they read regularly at home.....

For details of suitable books for children of different ages please see our website.

## What to do when your child is absent from school

- Report the absence before 9am.
- Telephone the school on: 01258 451121, and select option 1 or email [attendance@blandfordschool.org.uk](mailto:attendance@blandfordschool.org.uk)
- Keep us informed if your child is absent for more than one day. If the absence will be prolonged, please provide as much information as possible to avoid the need to call us each day.

### Punctuality

It is very important that students arrive to registration and lessons on time. This is a discipline which will help them in later years, and which will ensure that they are properly prepared for the day's learning. A waning bell sounds at 8.40am, by which time students should be on site, and the register is taken at 8.45am.

Late arrival to registration and classes is disruptive to the learning of other students and is sanctioned in accordance with the school's normal policies.

### When will absence not be authorised?

The Blandford School will not authorise absence for: having a cold, being tired, going shopping, looking after members of the family, birthdays, being at home to wait for visitors, transport problems (unless this relates to DCC arranged transport). **It is extremely rare that holidays during term-time will be authorised and they will usually result in a financial penalty in line with Dorset policy.**

## What can parents and carers do to help?

- If you think your child is unhappy at school, please contact their Tutor or their Head of Year. Please do not keep them at home in this instance, bring them to reception and we will look after them.
- Ensure that your child comes to school regularly (unless they are genuinely too ill to come in), arrives on time and wears the correct school uniform.
- Make sure that your child knows that you do not approve of them missing school.
- Avoid making routine medical appointments during the school day. We will not authorise a full day for hospital appointments.
- Avoid taking your child on holiday during term-time.
- Make sure your child understands that students with low attendance may be prevented from taking part in some year group and other activities or required to make time up.
- Ask well in advance if your child needs to miss school for any special reason or for hospital/CAMHS appointments.
- **Make sure that we have your latest contact details, including mobile number and email address and details of whom we may contact if we cannot reach you.**

All students are electronically registered during tutor time and every lesson. If your child is not present, and we have not received a message explaining the absence, we will try to contact you by text message to let you know of the absence.

Milldown Road  
BLANDFORD FORUM  
Dorset DT11 7SQ

Tel: 01258 451121  
Email: [office@blandfordschool.org.uk](mailto:office@blandfordschool.org.uk)

The aim of this booklet is to outline the **importance of regular attendance** at school. Good attendance can **improve your child's academic and social progress**.

If young people do not attend school regularly, they will experience difficulty in keeping up with their studies. They will also miss out on the many activities and opportunities which are on offer at The Blandford School and may struggle with friendships.

### The School Day

8.40	Warning Bell/Tutor
8.45	Morning Register is taken
8.55	Period 1
9.55	Period 2
10.55	Morning Break
11.20	Period 3
12.20	Period 4
2.05	Assembly/Tutor
2.30	Period 5
3.30	Close of School



## Why good attendance is important

Educational research indicates that less than 40% of students in secondary schools with an average of 15 days or more absence per year get 5 good GCSE passes.

Please bear this in mind when agreeing to your child's absence from school, or when requesting holidays during term-time.

Setting good patterns of attendance is vital. An attendance record of 90% may sound impressive, but it actually means that a student only attends for 4.5 days out of every 5 school days. One day away from school each fortnight will have a major influence on your child's achievement at school.

### Children who do not attend school regularly often have the following problems

- They are not able to keep up with their work.
- Their teachers, in a busy school day, may have difficulty in finding the time to help your child catch up.
- Children who arrive late miss important parts of the lesson and disrupt the learning of other students in the class.
- They may experience friendship issues.
- They may experience increased anxiety.

By improving our attendance rates, we will improve the standards that our students achieve and provide them with better chances for life. **We can only do this with your full support.**

## Attendance explained

% Attendance	= days absent per year	= weeks
absent per year	= number of lessons missed	
95%	9.5	1.9
92%	15.2	3.04
85%	28.5	5.7
80%	38	7.6
75%	47.5	9.5
70%	57	11.4
65%	66.5	13.3

## Punctuality explained

Minutes late per day	= days of learning lost per year
5	3.2
10	6.5
15	9.5
20	12.5
30	19

### What does the school do to reward good attendance?

The rewards of a good attendance record are:

- Secure learning
- Strong peer relationships
- Less 'catch up' work
- Certificates for 100% attendance awarded termly, with a raffle prize for one student per term
- Students who complete the whole school year with full attendance will receive additional recognition for their achievements
- Participation in year group and other events

## What will happen if my child is often absent from school?

The Blandford School monitors the attendance of all students every fortnight.

If your child's absence begins to concern us, we will contact you to discuss the situation with the Head of Year.

If your child's absence continues to be of concern, we will discuss the situation with the County Attendance Officer, and you will be invited to a panel meeting in school to discuss the reasons for your child's absence.

**Failure to ensure that your child attends school could result in a prosecution and the possibility of a fine of up to £1,000.**

### What do I do if my child is ill?

There may be times when your child is genuinely unable to attend school due to illness. If so, you should contact the school on the first day of absence, and then each day of ongoing absence, to let us know that your child is unwell.

**It is important to let the school know if your child has ongoing health problems so that the right support can be put in place as early as possible.**