

# NEWSLETTER

School Closure Information can be found at:

<http://blandfordschool.org.uk/school-closure-information/>



	
<b>Top Tips for Home Learning</b>	
<b>Have a good breakfast</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It kick-starts the metabolism and has been shown to help concentration and memory</li> </ul>	
<b>Get dressed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Getting out of your pyjamas has a psychological effect on attitude and approach despite the temptation to stay in them all day!</li> </ul>	
<b>Agree a plan for the day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use your child's normal school timetable to help you, but if this isn't practical still agree what is going to be completed and when.</li> <li>- This is also important where electronic devices need to be shared. Be clear on who has use of what and when.</li> </ul>	
<b>Start early</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The longer you leave it, the harder it is to get going!</li> <li>- Use the line, 'The earlier you start, the earlier you finish.'</li> </ul>	
<b>Reduce distractions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Phones should be off and put away. Even a phone turned off but in sight can cause major distractions.</li> <li>- Turn off the radio, music and TV whilst your child is working.</li> </ul>	
<b>45-minute working time</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working alone can be tough so be clear on the length of time for each piece of work. It gives them a clear endpoint.</li> <li>- Use 5 or 10 minutes at the end for them to show you what they have done.</li> </ul>	
<b>Ensure they have regular breaks and lunchtime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This includes a rest and eating well to maintain focus later.</li> <li>- Use agreed times to give them opportunity to contact their friends through WhatsApp groups or FaceTime. This is important in times of social distancing.</li> </ul>	
<b>Reading time</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure they read for at least 30 minutes a day.</li> <li>- This alone could have a huge effect on learning by improving vocabulary and widening access to more advanced writing.</li> </ul>	

## International Chemistry Olympiad

Huge congratulations to the Year 13 Chemists who took part in the first round of the International Chemistry Olympiad earlier this term. This 2-hour written competition is designed to test the most able of students, and our fantastic students, below, rose to the challenge with Max, Amy, Ben, Sam and Connor achieving a bronze award, and Olivia achieving a silver award. We are extremely proud of them all.



## Reading at Home

While we're all social distancing, don't forget that ebooks and audio books can be downloaded from your local library website for free:

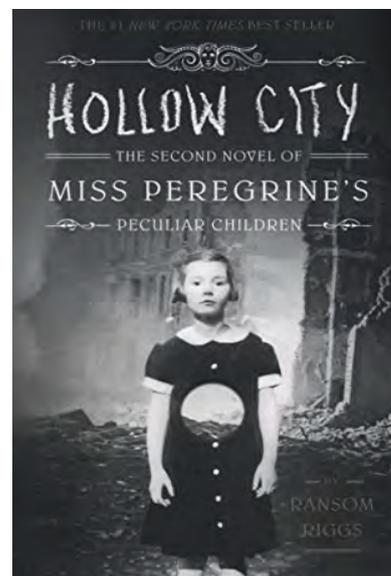
<https://www.librarieswest.org.uk>

If you're not yet a member, you can join online at the same website.

And, as Audible are making children's books available for free while schools are closed, it's worth checking out their 'Tween' and 'Teen' collections while you can:

<https://stories.audible.com>

Our students love being read to. You might like to make audio books part of their new, temporary routine.



## Sixth Form Business Studies Trip to Top London Design Agency

In January our vocational sixth form Business Studies students went on a joint trip to a top London design agency with students from Bryanston School. We visited M-integrated solutions. They are a global business who work across 5 continents, producing content for a range of multi-national companies and governments. Our students were given an in-depth view of the type of work the business does and were challenged to come up with their own creative ideas for various projects such as the British Expo stand in China 2019, a project that M-integrated solutions designed. The students really enjoyed the day and learnt a great deal about this innovative line of work.

Mr Opalka

Head of Business Faculty



# English Heroes

Each term the English teachers have been awarding a student in each of their classes as an English Hero. In the Autumn term there were over 70 English heroes, who are the students that:

- Consistently work hard in all of their lessons
- Produce work that is at or above their target level
- Put the maximum effort in to all their work
- Complete homework on time and to the best of their abilities
- Actively participate in all of their lessons

Congratulations to all the TBS English Heroes.



## Blandford School Investors Make Bumper Profits

### Student Investor

Last November, 35 teams of students from The Blandford School entered a national student investor competition. Each team was given a fictional £200,000 to invest in the stock market, with the task of trying to turn that £200,000 into as large a sum as possible by the end of January.

Nationally, over 7000 teams entered the competition, with the top 500 in the country qualifying for the semi-finals. This year we had an extremely pleasing 8 teams make it through to the semi-finals. The 500 semi-finalists are then given a further set of challenges over a four week period and the best performing 8 teams make it through to the national finals, with the top team winning an all-expenses paid trip to New York.

The winning team at the Blandford School was made up of 4 Year 13 Economists, ably captained by Archie. With a week to go they were in 5<sup>th</sup> place and set for the national finals, but sadly their final week predictions saw them slip to 38<sup>th</sup> place. However, this was still a fantastic performance and the best result we have had at the school so far. Hopefully a team can go one better next year.

The competition taught the students a great deal about the benefits and perils of investing in the stock market.

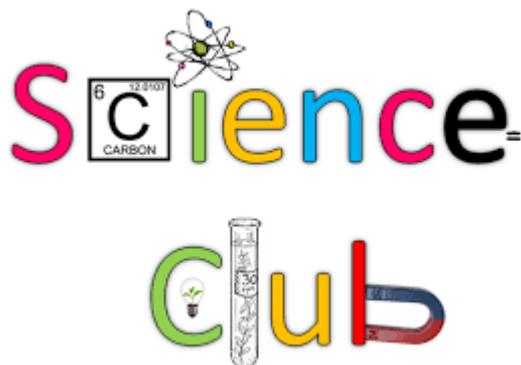


United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust

The recent Intermediate Maths Challenge run by UKMT was once again a fantastic happening this year. 35 students from Year 9 and Year 10 at The Blandford School were competing against others around the world, all scoring some very respectable results. Two of our Year 9 students that took part, Evie and Tahiya did so amazingly well that they qualified to go through to the second round, the Kangaroo Challenge. This was sat by others around the world who were still able to and our two last Thursday, the day before all schools in the UK closed to most students.

Results will therefore be somewhat delayed, of course, but massive congratulations to all who took part!

The Science Department have had between twenty and forty Y7 and Y8 students attending an after-school science club each week on Wednesdays. The students have been carrying out science experiments such as fire writing, making methane bubbles, bouncing custard balls, slime, rockets, parachutes, lava lamps, and testing different types of fizzy drinks for the amount of sugar, acid and fizziness. The students have been brilliant, showing great enthusiasm and initiative. We look forward to continuing science club when we return.



Ali Board, a local mixed media artist, worked with all of year 10,12 and 13 to explore the use of Brusho in their work. Students used a variety of layering techniques in creating art work relating to their chosen stimulus, water or their personal investigations in KS5.

The buzz of excitement in the art rooms was lovely to see and all students came out with some interesting experimental work, which they later embellished with other media to create finer details.

Students, since the workshop, have independently explored the media, using it on fabric and other materials.

We had a thoroughly great time and we are all very grateful to Ali in sharing her expertise in this media.

Dear Sports Leaders

Thank you so much for all you have done this year: the House Assemblies, Foodbank collections, sports events and tournaments. I know your passion for sport and volunteering will continue in the future.

‘Carry on Leading’

Mrs Bailey



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Milldown Road  
Blandford Forum  
Dorset  
DT11 7SQ

Bunbury House  
Stour Park  
Blandford Forum  
DT11 9LQ

Tel: 01258 459361  
Fax: 01258 483610

30 January 2020

Dear Team Odyssey,

**Dragon's Den Feedback**

Last evening I acted as one of the panellists for your Young Enterprise Dragon's Den night and I wanted to congratulate your team on a fantastic presentation. I attended the evening on behalf of Blanchards Bailey and were pleased to award you some of our sponsorship fund. Due to limited time I do not think we were able to give you the full feedback you deserved on both your presentation, and your ingenious product.

I was impressed with your environmental awareness, and ingenuity. All the research you had conducted was well presented to the panel. You all spoke eloquently and passionately about the problem you had identified, and about your product as a solution. You considered mental health, recyclable materials, and ways to diversify your business; clearly you are thinking big and so you should be. You as individuals, as a business unit and your product all have a huge amount of potential.

Regarding your product, we were all impressed with your inventiveness and had little advice to offer as you had been so methodical in identifying what your market wants, and how you could modify your product to suit various groups. You have obviously been working hard on your product and it's development.

Your presentation was well thought out, easy to follow, and you all contributed to its delivery. I was impressed not only with your branding also with the way you chose to present your information. You managed to answer many questions pre-emptively and that is something indicative of a phenomenal pitch.

You are a credit to yourselves, your school and to the Young Enterprise programme. We wish you all the best with your project and your business.

Kind regards



Dixie Rowland  
on behalf of  
Blanchards Bailey LLP  
Email: [dixie.rowland@blanchardsbailey.co.uk](mailto:dixie.rowland@blanchardsbailey.co.uk)



## Work Experience

On the 9<sup>th</sup> March our Year 12 students undertook a variety of work experience placements. Many students were proactive in their efforts to secure work placements with several students finding their own that were directly relevant to their future career plans. Feedback from all employers was overwhelmingly positive with many employers commenting on how professional and hardworking our students were. Amongst the excellent reports from employers were two notable mentions for Todd Cummins and Erin Milburn who were asked to go back and keep in contact with a view to further employment.



Many thanks to all the employers below for their continued involvement in supporting our students. If any employers feel they are in a position to offer a placement next year, please contact Ruth Norris at school in the first instance.

Spetisbury Primary School

Dorset County Hospital

Riverside Travel

Blandford St Mary Primary School

3rd Div Signal Regt

Sandison Ltd

Pimperne Primary School

Boots Opticians

Blandford Town Museum

Dometik UK Ltd

Pilgrims Veterinary Practice

Abbey View Physiotherapy

Barclays Bank PLC

Telesoft Technologies

Wren Classics

Friars Moor Veterinary Clinic

Cassin Scott Associates

Gibbs Marsh Equine Veterinary

Starlight Dance Academy

Archbishop Wake Primary School

Welmar Hospice

Dorset Police

Blandford Forum Gymnastic Club

Gibson Games

Garden Centre Sherborne

Canford School

Scruples Coffee House

Overbury PLC

Whitecliffe House Nursing Home

Gorcombe Park

Poole High School

Wiltshire Creative

Wyke Regis and Lanehouse Medical Practice

Florabund

NHS Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy

## Equestrian News.

We haven't updated you on the TBS Equestrian Team since Lily, Jess and Courtney went to the National Championships at Addington last October. It's such a huge event over several days, and, although they missed out on any top placings, the girls definitely did The Blandford School proud. Highlights came from the 80cm show jumping where the team were placed 20th (out of over 40 teams). Individually, Lily was 17th and Courtney 16th (out of 80 competitors) both just under 1.5 seconds off of getting into the final eight - showing just how competitive it was. Courtney also came 28th in the 90cm Arena Eventing, again a very competitive class.



Since then, in between events being cancelled due to a horse virus and extreme weather conditions, all of the girls have been out competing with some really good results -

### **Dressage**

Zoe - 4th in prelim dressage

Lottie - 1st in novice dressage qualifying for the County Championships in April

### **Eventers Challenge - November**

Team (Jess, Lily, Courtney) 3rd in the 90-95cm

Courtney individually 2nd in the 90-95cm, qualifying for championships at Hickstead in May

Lottie individually 3rd in the 1m-1.05m

### **Eventers Challenge - February**

Team (Lily, Jess, Kate, Courtney) 3rd in the 90-95cm

Kate individually 5th in the 90-95cm

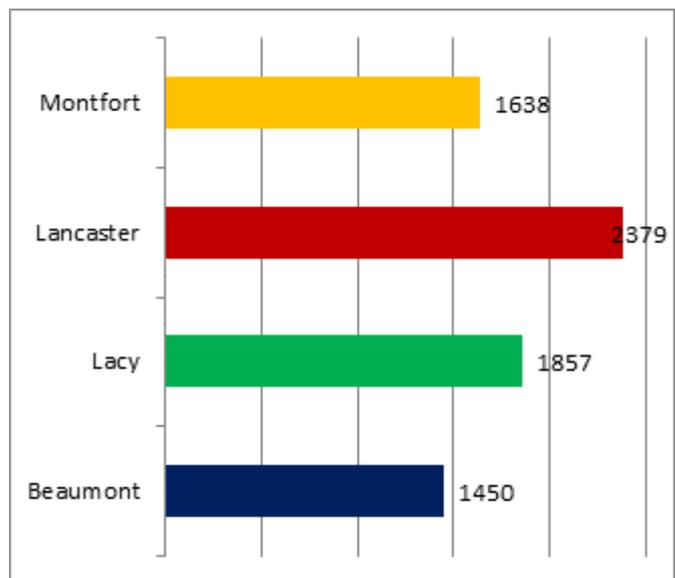
### **Arena eventing - March**

Lily 4th in the 90-95, and 2nd in the 1m-1.05m qualifying in both classes for the Championships at Addington in October.

We can't wait to see what the future hold for this talented team.



House Competition - results so far this year.



**Protect yourself and others from getting sick**

**Wash your hands**

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after touching cuts, blisters or any open sores
- you can use alcohol hand rub, if hands are not visibly dirty



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**RESIST** [www.hse.ie/handhygiene](http://www.hse.ie/handhygiene)



## **Coronavirus Useful Contact Details**



## **BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**

Here are some telephone numbers that may be of use to you:

### **Age UK (North, South and West Dorset)**

Age UK are coordinating requests for help with issues relating to loneliness and isolation, or support in accessing items such as food, cash or medication. To request help email: [enquiries@ageuknswd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageuknswd.org.uk) or call 01305 269444. Each request will be individually assessed and categorised according to the individual's level of need.

### **Blandford Forum Town Council**

Telephone: 01258 454500 or 01258 489490

Email: [admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk)

The Town Council has directly contacted vulnerable/elderly people that we are aware of, offering support and assistance. We have a small team of staff and Councillors, some of whom need to self-isolate or social distance, but we would like to help residents as much as we can. Along with the Dorset Council, there are various groups and organisations already supporting local communities on a daily basis. If you are, or you know of anyone, self-isolating it can be difficult breaking routines and losing regular contact with people. We appreciate that it can be lonely not having someone to talk to so please do not hesitate to call us, but please note that we are unable to give any medical advice.

### **Health Wellbeing Friend**

Telephone: 01258 451982 or 07968 334073

Tracey Revuelta-Ruffolo is kindly offering a daily phone call from a health team member, to offer a 'Health & Emotional Wellbeing check' - a quick chat just to check they're okay. Please note that this is not to offer health diagnosis or advice but is more of a community life-line designed to support those who are vulnerable and isolating.

### **Citizens Advice Central Dorset**

Telephone: 03444 111 444

Email: [advice-nd@centralca.org.uk](mailto:advice-nd@centralca.org.uk)

### **Blandford Parish Church**

Email: [help@bfpc.org.uk](mailto:help@bfpc.org.uk)

