

Brightside

February 2024

Dear parent / carers,

I hope that this edition of 'Brightside' finds you all well. This first part of the term has, yet again, flown by and we find ourselves about to start the holidays.

As you are all aware, we are refining various systems over the coming months and we start the next part of the term with changes to our behaviour and homework procedures; separate emails have been sent regarding this.

You will be able to read all about the various things our different year groups have been involved in and it really has been a term of celebration.

I hope that all families have a good break and we will see everyone back with us on Monday 24th February.

Neil Pritchard

Head Teacher

SCIENCE – MRS BLACKSTOCK

Our year 9s spent the lesson learning how to extract the cherry flavouring from Cherry coke using a distillation process they've been learning about this term.



Our Year 11 students have been building wave models in their physics lesson. This was a great demonstration of how to make longitudinal waves. The model helped them understand the transfer of energy through surface water waves.

PE – MISS BAWCUTT

On January 15th our Year 7 and 8 Netballers were both taken to Avon Valley to play their teams. We came away with two wins and some very happy girls! Year 7 player of the match was Sylvia, with coach's player of the match both Lily and Ella. Year 8 player of the match was Florence, with coach's player of the match Megan. Thank you also to Laila for helping to umpire the matches.



On January 23rd we had 21 leaders from Yr7&8 who helped at the primary dodgeball festival. Sixteen teams entered from 7 primary schools with over 150 pupils taking part. The leaders had the toughest morning out of all primary sports events as dodgeball is a tricky one to umpire! All the leaders were brilliant; with no break and showing real resilience and professionalism, they were a total credit to the school. At the end of the festival over half the pupils taking part put their hand up to show they would like the opportunity to be like their role models one day, as a sports leader at a similar event, this is lovely feedback to receive.

On January 28th Miss Bawcutt and Mr Waters took the Year 9 football team to Wellington to play in the second round of the cup. A promising first half with a result of 2-1, unfortunately though, we lost 6-2 after a tougher second half. Congratulations to Ethan F and Finley T for Players of the Match.



On January 29th our Year 8 had a dodgeball tournament against Avon Valley and Wellington. Two teams competed and one of our teams won the whole day and were awarded with medals and certificates. Well done to all of them.

On February 6th 19 Year 7 pupils were sports leaders assisting local Y3/4 pupils at a physical activity festival. Helping groups of pupils around various physical activities and challenges they all proved to be brilliant role models and leaders.

All staff highly commended the sports leaders for their unfailing enthusiasm, motivation and professionalism.



Also on February 6th our KS4 Boys Badminton attended the Badminton county finals championship. First up the boys played Trafalgar School. The team won both their single games, however overall lost 3-2. After that they played Hardenhuish and had a great match, we won 4-1. Moving on into the afternoon they played St Augustine's and won both singles unfortunately lost 3-2 overall. Finally, we played Royal Wootton Bassett and lost 4-1. We won one of our singles.



Overall, we came 3rd in Wiltshire Schools. Extra congratulations go to Harry Vigor, who did not lose one of his singles matches throughout the entire day, and was presented with a letter inviting him to attend trials for the county team!.



On February 10th Miss Bawcutt and Mr Clapton took the U16s Football team to Wellington to play a friendly match. The boys had a great match and displayed some excellent football. A fantastic final result of 11-0. Well done to all that played.



FOOD TECH – MR DRAPER

Our Year 11 Food Tech students have completed the first practice round of their final cook with some fantastic results. Huge well done to all the students, their hard work is really paying off, these dishes both looked and tasted amazing.





HISTORY – MRS DREW

Our Year 11 History students travelled to the E5 Conference centre in Bristol on Wednesday 5th February to see “The Doctors Show”. Students were able to take part in exam workshops and watch an interactive play about key events in the history of medicine. This helped them revise for Paper 1 of their GCSE.



GEOGRAPHY – MISS LYTHE

On 22nd January the Year 11 Geographers went on a rural fieldwork day to Pewsey. Their aim was to see how environmental quality changed throughout the village. They did this by collecting data: traffic counts, pedestrian counts, land use surveys and an environmental quality survey. After visiting the bakery, we returned to school to complete the write up of our investigation. The students are now fully equipped to answer the fieldwork section in Paper 3. They worked really well together and it was a pleasure to take them out of the classroom to study the theory we have been learning about in the classroom. Well done Year 11.



YEAR 7 – MISS DEAN

On Monday 10th February Year 7 had a fantastic opportunity to visit Salisbury Cathedral, a beautiful and significant building that is a key part of local History. The tour of the cathedral took in many architectural and engineering feats (4-foot foundations and the reputed oldest working clock), modern sculptures, the font and altar and many other fascinating stories.

As part of the visit students had an opportunity to take part in workshops and visit the Magna Carta. This document has huge significance and has inspired and encouraged freedom movements around the world. Salisbury Cathedral's Magna Carta is one of only four surviving original documents for 1215. Not only does this bring to life the fundamental British freedoms (democracy, rule of law, individual liberty) it is also part of the year 7 History curriculum, to be studied after Easter.

Students also had an opportunity to make their own clay gargoyles (these will be collected from the Cathedral in the near future). Their efforts were fantastic and truly represented the original architectural and spiritual purposes.





SEND – BOCCIA TOURNAMENT

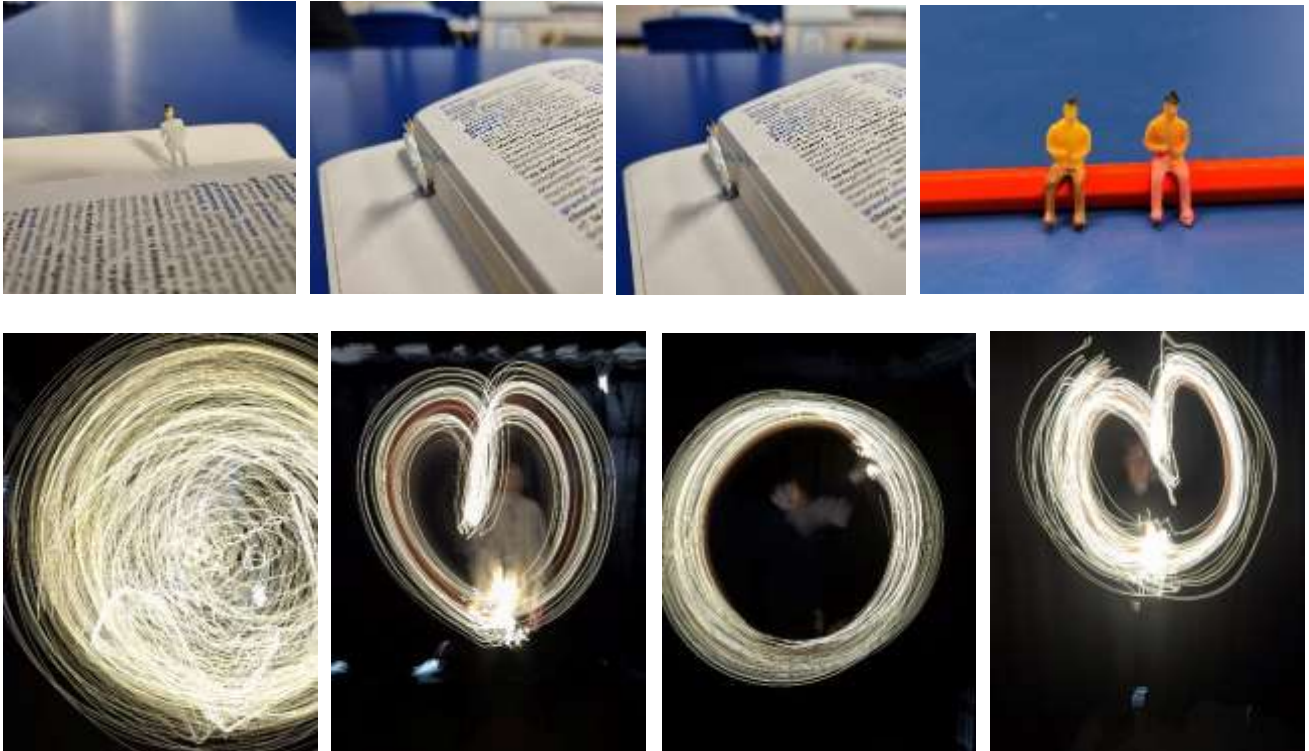
On Wednesday 12th February, 6 of our students travelled to Lavington School to play in the School Games SEND KS3 Boccia final. Boccia is a Paralympic sport with no Olympic equivalent. It is a target ball sport which tests both muscle control and accuracy. From a seated position, players propel balls to land close to a white marker ball (known as the jack). Boccia England's development of provision for inclusive competition sits at the heart of the School Games mission, providing more young people with the opportunity to compete and achieve their personal best.

Both teams of three played well and all the students came home with fantastic looking medals. We look forward to participating in this tournament again next year.



PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB – MISS SIMONS

Our new Photography lunchrichment club have been learning about long exposures and have done some experiments with light. We also did a project called "Little People" where our focus was on miniature subjects for our photographs. At the club's launch we looked at composition and framing. We are now in the middle of an alphabet project where the brief is to find letter shapes in our photographs without using signs or actual letters! This is all about being more creative and to look at subjects from a different perspective!



LIBRARY – MRS SHEPPY

Congratulations to the following students who have scored the most points in their quizzes for Accelerated Reader

Year 7

Isobel C
Arielle W
Abbie H

Yr 8

Isabelle R
Florence F
Cameron W

Isobel C and Isabelle R have both read over a million words this year!!
Well done all of you.



Pewsey Vale School

DEVIZES *Music* ACADEMY

"Oh my days, look at ya! You're amazing. You're fearless. You're Emmeline Pankhurst!"

EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT

JAMIE

THIS AMAZING
SHOW IS COMING
TO DEVIZES!
WAAAAH!



TEEN
EDITION

AUDITIONS!

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

1pm @ DEVIZES MUSIC ACADEMY

Show dates:

19th April and 25th July

Rehearsal dates:

13th - 18th April

24th July

To register email jemma@fto.org.uk

PEWSEY COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP

Climate & Nature Recovery Workshop Thursday 24th April 2025, 6.30 – 8.30 Bouverie Hall, Pewsey

Instead of the normal PCAP meeting in April, we have organised a workshop to help explore what your Parish can do to mitigate climate change and support your biodiversity strategy.

All 27 parishes in the Pewsey Community Area are being invited to **send up to 3 people each** to the workshop. Ideally Parishes will send their local climate change lead as well as the chair and/or clerk. One of these people may be a local enthusiast who may not be part of your Parish Council.

The aims of the workshop are for Parishes to:

- Understand the implications of Wiltshire's 2019 declaration of climate emergency
- Identify actions with the biggest impact for the smallest investment
- Identify their own climate mitigation priorities and champions
- Network and share ideas with other Parishes with similar interests

PCAP is working closely with the Great Green Bedwyn and Pewsey Green local climate action groups to run this workshop, which we intend will be entertaining, educational and fun!

Refreshments will be provided.

Please email greatgreenbedwyn@gmail.com by Friday 15th March with the names and contact details of people from your Parish who will be participating in this exciting event. Please note the slightly earlier start time of 6.30pm.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Sylvia Wyatt, greatgreenbedwyn@gmail.com



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