

Brightside

FEBRUARY 2024



Dear parents and carers,

As another busy term ends, I have been very impressed by the attitude and effort that the vast majority of our students have shown. As we enter the second half of the Spring term, I need all of the students to engage in their studies and immerse themselves into school life; as this will then enable them to fully succeed.

I would like to thank the parents and carers for attending the recent Parent's Evenings and events. It is great to have an opportunity for the teachers to meet our students' parents and help them in moving forward.

Year 11 students and their parents came to a Study Skills Presentation last night; it was great to see so many of you there. During the evening, we were able to help the students develop study and revision skills, as well as providing revision guides and resources. Any Year 11 student who was unable to attend can have a catch up session next term. Our revision classes will be starting after the holiday, Mr Linnegar has provided information on this later on in Brightside.

Finally, please can I request that all students are in the correct uniform on the first day back. We will be having a push on this next term. Any families that need support on this, should contact the school.

Have a great break and see you on Monday 19th February.
Neil

HEAD TEACHER

GEOGRAPHY - CHILD TUSK FORCE - MISS LYTHER

We were really pleased to invite a lady from the Kids Tusk Force into Pewsey on Friday 2nd February. All students were involved in a talk outlining the current environmental situation in Kenya both for wildlife and the natural environment. There were some good questions asked and it was a poignant way to finish our topic of Kenya that we have been learning about this term. Some students opted to do a bead painting workshop which was very successful. Each bead represented a type of Kenyan fauna and each student decided on which elephant they were going to adopt. This was really positive to see and the beads are a wonderful memento of the day. All money raised will go towards the Sheldrick Trust in Kenya to help support the orphaned elephant population and contribute to afforestation. A big thank you for all your donations.



GEOGRAPHY - YEAR 10 RIVER TRIP - MISS LYTHER

We had a really good fieldtrip down to the river behind the Co-Op in Pewsey. Rain the previous night meant that the Avon River in the Scotchell Reserve was too deep for us to measure and so we resorted to Plan B. We had a lovely group of 16 students who all measured the river successfully for their Paper 3 GCSE field-work. We were even kept company by some ducks. We finished the trip off at the bakery and a good time was had by all. Well done to all those involved



MFL - MISS SIMONS

On 12th January our languages ambassadors were treated to a galette des rois from Ms. Simons.

This traditional French cake is given to celebrate Epiphany. It is made with almonds and a fève (a little trinket) is hidden inside. Whoever finds the fève gets to be king or queen for the day. This year's queen (la reine) is Darcy M who got to wear the crown and keep the fève as a souvenir.



MFL Film Club have now watched their second film - their first film was Coco which linked to el día de los muertos - the Day of the Dead which is celebrated in November in Mexico. This term they have watched a film in Spanish - Zipe y Zape y el club de canica (Zipe and Zipe and the Marble Club) - an action packed Spanish adventure story which is popular with Spanish children. At MFL film club, the aim is to share with our students films that explain cultural elements in the countries where the languages studied at PVS are spoken, and to broaden their knowledge of world cinema. The club members are looking forward to finding out what next term's film will be! The club takes place in Room 20 on a Monday lunchtime.

ART - MRS SLATER

I am pleased to announce we had our recent cohort of students being awarded the Bronze Trinity College Arts Award. Isla H, Charlotte C, Jessica E and Molly H in Year 8 spent a few terms producing a portfolio of work to show their passion and skills in the arts.

They produced an exciting showcase of work from rice island drawings to a ceramic mice ensemble!



THE STUDENT VOICE

The student leadership voted to hold a non-uniform day on the last day of term to raise funds for new competition sports team kit. The students and staff were asked to bring in £1, which raised £175.25. An anonymous donor has also very kindly gifted £100. So we are now able to purchase some much-needed new kit.

Many thanks to all of those who gave money.

£275.25

YEAR 11 PHOTOS

Fraser portraits will be in school on Wednesday 28th February.

Students will have a Tutor Group photo and a whole year group photo taken.

These can then be purchased through Fraser portraits once the proofs have been delivered to school.



SCHOOL IMMUNISATION TEAM - HCRG

All children in school year 9 (aged 13/14 years) are routinely offered their Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP or Td/IPV) and MenACWY vaccinations in line with the national vaccination schedule.

The Td/IPV vaccine for Year 9 students will be held on 12th March, for those of you who would like their child immunised and have not already signed the consent form, please follow the link below

<https://schoolimmms.hrcaregroup.com/dtp/2023/wilts>



CHESS - MRS SHEPPY

Mrs Sheppy will be organising the chess tournament, this will be starting up after half term. The sign-up sheets will be put up in the library for students to add their name.

Please ask Mrs Sheppy in the library for more information.



LIBRARY - MRS SHEPPY

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

Yr7

Paige
Lily R
Isabelle R
Lola

Y8

Janey
Darcy M
Rosemary
Olyvia J

Well done all of you.

THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Please could we ask parents and carers that if they would like to have an **appointment with a member of staff**, that they book this in advance through the school office. Our staff are exceedingly busy during the school day and may not have the capacity to meet without an appointment. Many thanks for your understanding.

Please can we also ask that students are sent in to school with a suitable **drinks bottle**. We are getting an increasing number of students coming out of lessons to the office to ask for a cup. This is resulting in students missing out on vital learning time.

THE PTFA

The PTFA are organising another **Bags2School** on Wednesday 20th March, this is always a fantastic way to get rid of any of your unwanted items and raise money for the school at the same time. The items that are donated head to Eastern Europe, South America, or East/West Africa, providing valuable employment. They are sent across the world to help people in worn-torn areas such as Gaza and Ukraine.



THE SCHOOL OFFICE

We have a number of lost property items held in the school office. Please follow the link below to see if you recognise any of the items. Please contact the office via email admin@pewsey-vale.wilts.sch.uk to claim any item.

<https://pewseyvale.org/about/news/lost-property-feb-2024/>

Wiltshire Council have a series of online "helping my child" courses coming round again very soon, as well as new teens courses, with spaces filling up very quickly. They have asked us to share their material with you in order to reach those who can benefit most from their courses.

Feel confident to help your child learn

Online Family Courses 2024

- Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry
Thursday 22 February 10am - 12 noon
- Helping My Child Build Concentration and Resilience
Thursday 29 February 10am - 12 noon
- Helping My Child Prepare Positively for Change
Thursday 7 March 10am - 12 noon

Course registration closes 7 days before start of each course

Our courses are free if you are 19+ and have been a resident in the UK/EU for 3+ years (some immigration status are exempt from the 3-year residency requirement) and have a Wiltshire postcode, and if you can tick any of these criteria:

- have less than 5 GCSEs grades C/4
- are in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit)
- are a military family
- are a family with a child/children needing additional support
- are unemployed and looking for work

If you are unsure about eligibility, we are always happy to talk things through. Please get in touch with us via email at familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk or call the team on 01225 770478.

Feel confident to help your child learn

Supporting My Teen With Wellbeing

Online Course
Tuesday 20 February
10am - 12pm

Booking closes Tuesday 13 February

- Understand the changes in a teenage brain
- Learn techniques to promote wellbeing
- Explore positive psychology

Our courses are free, if you are 19+ years old, and a resident in the UK/EU for over three years (some immigration status exempt), and have a Wiltshire postcode and meet any of the following criteria:

- less than 5 GCSEs grades C/4
- in receipt of benefits
- a military family
- have a child with additional needs (no diagnosis necessary)
- are unemployed and looking for work

To find out more and to book a place email: familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk or call the team on 01225 770478.

Feel confident to help your child learn

Supporting My Teen With Transitions To Adult With

Online Course
5 x sessions 10am - 12pm

Tuesday 27 February
Tuesday 5 March
Tuesday 12 March
Tuesday 19 March
Tuesday 26 March

Book your place by Tuesday 20 February

- Promote your teen's emotional wellbeing
- Explore post 16 opportunities
- Support life skills, online safety and decision making

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Feel confident to help your child learn

Supporting Myself to Support My Child

3 x online sessions starting on Thursday 14 March 10am - 12pm

Remember the importance of our own wellbeing as carers. Recognise the different needs of children and build resilience. Know how to get further support.

Booking closes Thursday 7 March

Our courses are free if you are 19+ and have been a resident in the UK/EU for 3+ years (some immigration status are exempt from the 3-year residency requirement) and have a Wiltshire postcode, and if you can tick any of these criteria:

- have less than 5 GCSEs grades C/4
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