

Brightside

JULY 2024

Dear parents and carers,

What a year! The last twelve months have been so eventful and we have achieved so much. I think that last week, during our Achievement and Celebration Evening, I summed it up appropriately when I said that since I have been Head Teacher at the school, this has been most successful year we have had.

We have a great group of students, a great team of staff and incredibly supportive parents. There have been a lot of busy times this year with 'Oil Gate' and our friends from Ofsted visiting, but we have been exceptionally successful in triumphing through it all.

As we come to the end of the year, we inevitably say goodbye to some of our staff. Mr Brown leaves us to pursue a different career and I wish him the very best in his future. Miss Archdale is moving closer to home and continuing to teach Science. And finally, I struggle to say goodbye to my friend, Mr Linnegar who has been my Deputy for the past two years; he will be truly missed by all staff.

But with staff leaving, we welcome our new Pewsey Vale members. Mr Hayden is our new Deputy Head, Mrs Blackstock our new Science teacher and Mrs Jackson will join the History department.

So, have a great summer break and we will see you all in September. There will be a new start time of 8:30 and I expect everyone in full uniform on their first day back.

Have a great break.

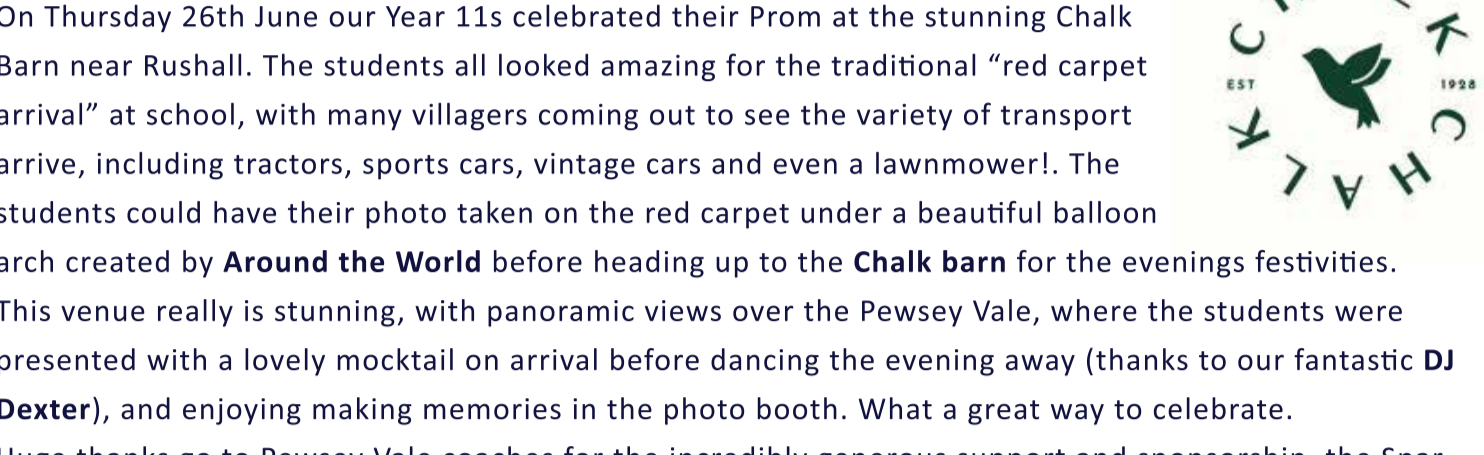
Neil Pritchard

HEAD TEACHER

ACE EVENING

The sun shone and so did our students on Thursday evening at our annual Award Celebration Evening. It was really lovely to see the students celebrating with their teachers, without whom, our students would not be able to achieve what they do. It is always lovely to round off the year with such a positive celebration, and this year's event did not disappoint. Our school hall was completely transformed for the evening, and a whole host of awards were presented across the subjects, along with a few special prizes. Students who compete in sports teams outside of school were also presented with their sports colours. The new Student Leadership team were announced and we look forward to working alongside them next year as they lead the student body.

The audience were entertained throughout the evening with many great performances from both staff and students. A huge thank you to everyone involved to make it a very special evening our favourite event of the school calendar.



YEAR 6 TRANSITION

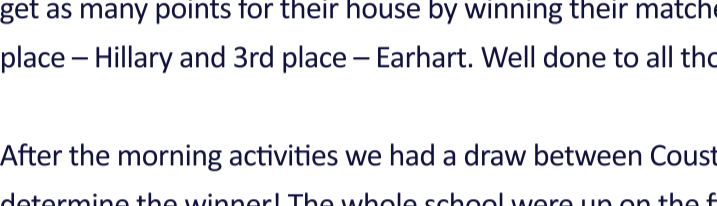
On the 3rd July we held our Transition Day, where we welcomed our new Year 7 students who will be starting with us in September. They met some of their new teachers and other tutes and joined in some ice-breaking games, including light writing. They also began to orientate themselves with the school campus. It was lovely to see them all enjoy themselves on their first visit to their new school. This was followed by our Transition Evening, where parents of the new Year 7s were invited into the school to meet with staff and other new parents and try on the new uniform. It was lovely to see the buzz of excitement from all the families as their children embark on this next big step on their education journey with us, and we look forward to greeting them all on their first day with us on Wednesday 4th September, when they will have the school to themselves for their first day.



YEAR 11 PROM

On Thursday 26th June our Year 11s celebrated their Prom at the stunning Chalk Barn near Rushall. The students all looked amazing for the traditional "red carpet arrival" at school, with many villagers coming out to see the variety of transport arrive, including tractors, sports cars, vintage cars and even a lawnmower! The students could have their photo taken on the red carpet under a beautiful balloon arch created by **Around the World** before heading up to the **Chalk barn** for the evenings festivities. This venue really is stunning, with panoramic views over the Pewsey Vale, where the students were presented with a lovely mocktail on arrival before dancing the evening away (thanks to our fantastic DJ **Dexter**), and enjoying making memories in the photo booth. What a great way to celebrate.

Huge thanks go to Pewsey Vale coaches for the incredibly generous support and sponsorship, the Spar shop for donating the funds to pay for the photo booth and the amazing red cowboy hats enjoyed by all the students and **Around the World** for donating their time and effort to create the beautiful balloon arches. Many thanks must also go to Miss Hall for cooking all the food to take up to the event and Miss Simons for photographing the event. (Photos are available to download to year 11 students, if you have not been sent the link please contact the school office).



SPORTS DAY 2024 - PE DEPARTMENT

The sun finally made an appearance for the afternoon, after a cold start. We had a wide range of activities taking place today, including, football, rounders, badminton, athletics and chess, to involve and motivate all pupils.

Taking place up the field we had rounders and athletics. Within rounders, pupils played in the tutor group against the other houses in their year, we had participants from all year groups. The winners were Hillary, Earhart and then Cousteau. In regards to athletics, we had pupils from all year groups participating in the 800m, 100m, javelin, shot and standing long jump. Overall, the winners were Cousteau, 2nd place was Earhart and 3rd place was Hillary. Well done to all of those who participated! Down on the courts we had football taking place, we had 7s and 8s playing on the courts. The pupils played 5 a side games to try and win points for their house, we had one for all playing so well. Overall the winners for football were Earhart in 1st place, Cousteau in 2nd place and Hillary in 3rd. In the library, we had several chess games taking place. We had pupils from all year groups playing against different houses to try and gain points for their team. Once the results were in overall, we had Earhart win in 1st place, Hillary in 2nd place and Cousteau in 3rd place. In the sports hall we had single badminton games happening. Pupils played against the own year group to try and get as many points for their house by winning their matches. In the end, the results were 1st place – Cousteau, 2nd place – Hillary and 3rd place – Earhart. Well done to all those who played really well in badminton.

After the morning activities we had a draw between Cousteau and the Earhart, so it was down to them to determine the winner! The whole school were up on the field with the sun shining, a very popular ice-lolly sale and the music playing. These pupils raced against each other in the houses to try and boost up their points for the overall result at the end of the day.

The winners for the sprint races were as followed:

- Year 7 Boys – Cousteau
- Year 7 Girls – Cousteau
- Year 8 Boys – Cousteau
- Year 8 Girls – Earhart
- Year 9 Boys – Cousteau
- Year 9 Girls – Cousteau
- Year 10 Boys – Hillary
- Year 10 Girls – Cousteau

Well done to every who nominated themselves to run, a great effort!!

The two mornings of sport were a great success!!

With the final winners, by only 10 points, were Cousteau, in 2nd place was Earhart and in 3rd place was Hillary.

Thank you to all the pupils who participated and all the staff for helping out, couldn't have done it without you all.

GREATWOOD - MR ROBINSON

On Thursday the 18th of July, Mr Robinson and Miss Scott took a selection of students to Greatwood to receive their awards for completing the ten week Developing Confidence Working With Animals course.

Students completing this course will be receiving their confidence whilst building on their confidence with Thoroughbred horses and a variety of small animals. They cover topics ranging from following health and safety rules, to understanding the natural behaviour of animals and how to recognise them. An Individual Learning Plan is also created for each learner in order to monitor the development of key transferable skills, such as communication, working with others and managing emotions over the length of the programme.

We are so proud of the students.



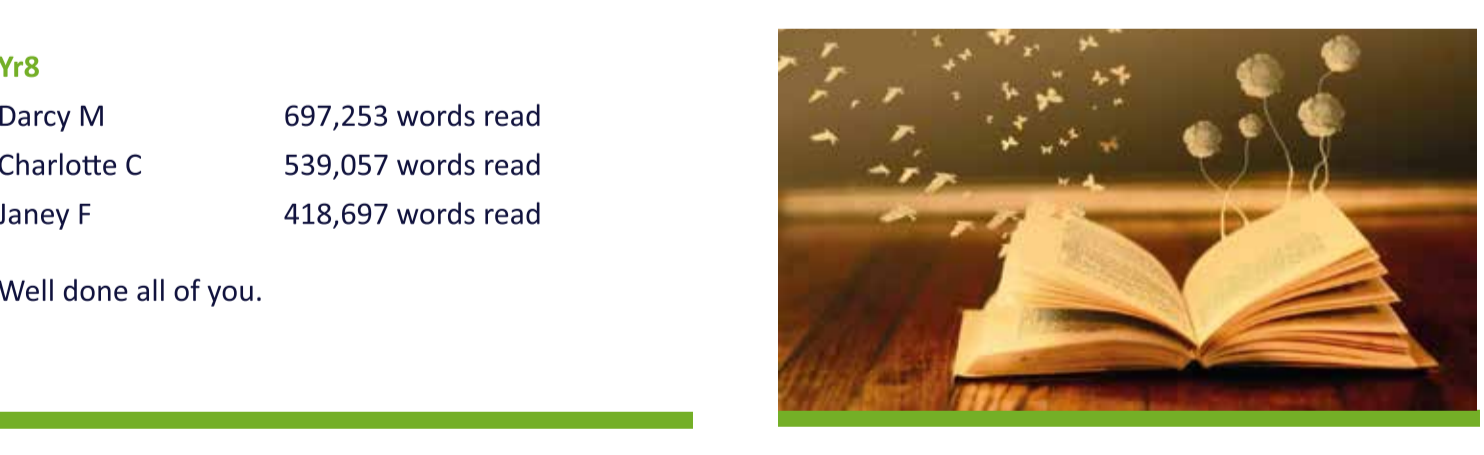
LONGLEAT - MRS HARRIS

On a fairly cool (but dry) June day, 12 SEN students were treated to a fabulous day out by Marlborough Rotary Club. The event is totally funded by Rotary and we are very grateful to them.

The morning was spent going around the safari park (minus the monkeys!) and we were lucky enough to see most of the animals in the park. After that, we had a quick stop for lunch as we had quite a lot of hungry children and adults by then! The afternoon was spent going on the safari boat to see the gorillas and feed the sea lions. Then off on the walking safari where the students were able to walk amongst the meerkats and the rainbow lorikeets. The lorikeets seem to have photo-bombing down to a fine art!

All in all, we had a fabulous day at Longleat and we didn't manage to lose anyone in the maze..... this time! Well done Sean, who mastered the maze and managed to rescue numerous students.

Once again, many thanks to the Rotary Club for a fabulous day out.



FIRST AID COURSE- MISS DEAN

On Tuesday 16th July our year 7 students participated in the Wiltshire Air Ambulance's (WAA) Emergency Awareness Training programme. This programme aims to teach children a wide range of lifesaving skills such as making a 999 call, managing an unconscious patient, how to perform CPR, assisting someone who's choking, and burn treatment. The programme cost £2 per person as was highly rated by our students, many of whom have already requested to participate again next year. Huge thanks to members of the Wiltshire Air Ambulance for presenting this course, and we look forward to running it again next year.



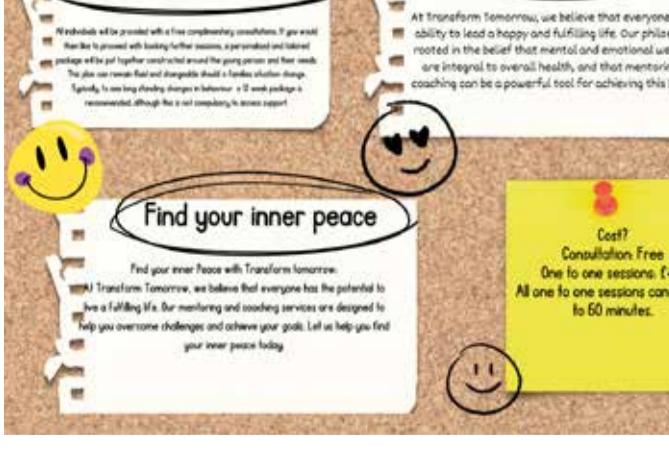
MULTI-SKILLS FESTIVAL - MISS BAWCUTT

On Wednesday 3rd July our School Games coordinator took a number of pupils to Dauntsey School to take part in a variety of activities at the Multi-skills festival and had a lot of fun. Thank you to Charlie our school games coordinator for organising and taking the pupils, they loved it!



SCULPTURE INSTALLATION - MR JONES

This 5 Ft high Stainless steel sculpture called "In Bloom" was made by Mr Jones to commemorate 60 years of Bath In Bloom (part of the national "Britain In Bloom" competition) and was unveiled in The Parade Gardens by the Mayor of Bath. This will be its permanent location.



LIBRARY - MRS SHEPPY

Congratulations to the following students who have read the most words this year.

Yr7		
Florence F	461,389 words read	
Ellie R	388,542 words read	
Walter B	364,891 words read	

Yr8		
Darcy M	697,253 words read	
Charlotte C	539,057 words read	
Janey F	418,697 words read	

Well done all of you.

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

Yr7		Yr8
Cameron W		Shane E
Paige Q		Darcy M
Ellie R		Charlotte C
		Joe H

