

February 2020, Issue 85

Newsletter

A Message from the Headteacher

I am writing this piece as term 3 draws to a close. For our Year 11 students their mock exams are complete. This is a very intense period of exams, far more so than during the real exam season in the summer. The students' attitude, application and conduct has been first class. Obviously, it is too early to know results, but the effort and application seen should see many students perform well.

The mock exams will have given the students a valuable learning experience and in many ways mark the beginning of the final run-in to the summer exams. This year's Year 11 have benefitted from excellent guidance on how to prepare for their exams including direct instruction on what the latest research tells us about how to revise and prepare for exams. They are also benefitting from the introduction of "Prep" which sees all Key Stage 4 students beginning each day with 30 minutes quality study time.

Year 9 have started the GCSE Options Process with a newly introduced set of taster sessions in all of the "new" subjects offered. This will continue after half-term and will provide the students with an invaluable insight to these subjects which in turn will help them make more informed choices.

There has been lots of talk about increased levels of funding for schools by the new Government. As yet, this talk has not manifested itself into any additional funding seen by the school. We are still dealing with a funding scenario that according to the highly respected Institute for Fiscal will have fallen by in excess of 5% in real terms.

Given the level of challenge, I am enormously grateful to the parents who donate to our school fund and to the Friends of Severn Vale. The FOSV work tirelessly to raise funds to support the school. Most recently, they held their annual quiz. This saw nearly 30 teams do battle for the top spot, raising over £1500 in the process. Details of the quiz can be found in this newsletter.

The last term may have been quite short but there have been a wide range of activities for our students to enjoy. Trips to Poetry Live, to the National Space Agency, to gigs in Bristol; activities with GCHQ, a Lego Challenge as well as numerous sporting activities. You can read about many of these as well as getting an update from our departments in this newsletter.

All that is left for me to do is to wish you and your family a restful break. We look forward to welcoming back the students on Monday 24th February. This will be an "A week".

Richard Johnson
Headteacher

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 25 th February 2020	Year 11 whole Year group School Photograph
Friday 28 th February 2020	Year 11 Politics trip to Crown Court
Monday 2 nd March 2020	Year 7 Progress Tests (Maths and Science)
Tuesday 3 rd March 2020	Year 8 Progress Tests (Maths and Science)
Tuesday 3 rd March 2020	Art Trip to Cirencester College (Year 9)
Wednesday 4 th March 2020	Year 9 Progress Tests (Maths and Science)
Thursday 5 th March 2020	World Book Day
Thursday 5 th March 2020	Year 9 Options Evening 6.00-8.00pm
Tuesday 10 th March 2020	Poland Trip Parents Meeting 6pm
Wednesday 11 th March 2020	MFL Speaking Exams
Thursday 12 th March 2020	Spoken English Exams all day (Year 11)
Friday 13 th March 2020	MFL Speaking Exams
Wednesday 18 th March 2020	MFL Speaking Exams
Thursday 19 th March 2020	Spoken English Exams all day (Year 11)
Thursday 26 th March 2020	Year 11 Parents' Evening + Gradecards distributed
Saturday 28 th March 2020	DofE Practice Expectation 28 th -30 th March
Monday 30 th March 2020	Year 7-10 Gradecards Home
Thursday 2 nd April 2020	New York trip departs – returns 7 th April
Friday 3 rd April 2020	End of Term 4

SAFEGUARDING

Parents more concerned about their children online

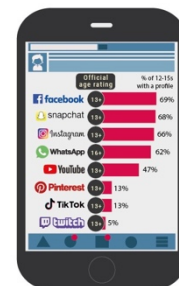
More parents than ever feel children's online use now carries more risks than benefits, according to Ofcom's latest research into children's media and online lives. Parents and carers are becoming more likely to trust their children with greater digital independence at a younger age. But far fewer believe the benefits of their child being online outweigh the risks than five years ago. And around two million parents now feel the internet does their children more harm than good. This comes as children are now more likely to see hateful content online. Half of 12-15s who go online had seen hateful content in the last year, up from a third in 2016. Parents are increasingly concerned about their child seeing something online which might encourage them to harm themselves.

However, parents are now more likely than in 2018 to speak to their children about staying safe online, and are nearly twice as likely to go online themselves for support and information about keeping their children safe.

Influencers, online activism and girl gamers

Looking at what today's children are doing online, we uncovered three big trends over the past year. 18% of 12-15 year olds use social media to support causes and organisations by sharing or commenting on posts, up from 12% in 2018.

- The 'Greta effect'. There is increased online social activism among children. Almost a fifth of 12-15s use social media to express support for causes and organisations by sharing or commenting on posts. One in 10 signed petitions on social media.
- Rise of the 'vlogger next door'. While high-profile YouTube stars remain popular, children are now increasingly drawn to so-called 'micro' or 'nano' influencers. These often have fewer followers, but might be local to a child's area or share a niche interest.
- Girl gamers on the increase. Almost half of girls aged five to 15 now play games online – up from 39% in 2018. The proportion of boy gamers is unchanged at 71%, but boys spend twice as long playing online each week as girls.



Social media use more fragmented

The proportion of 12-15 year olds who have a social media profile on Facebook (69%), Snapchat (68%), Instagram (66%), WhatsApp (62%), YouTube (47%), Pinterest (13%), TikTok (13%) and Twitch (5%). Older children are using a wider range of social media platforms than ever before. WhatsApp in particular has grown in popularity among 12-15 year-olds since last year, despite having a minimum age limit of 16. WhatsApp is now used by almost two thirds of older children – up from 43% in 2018. For the first time, it rivals Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram as one of the top social media platforms for older children.

Newer platforms are also becoming more popular. Around one in seven older children use TikTok, which enables users to create and upload lip-sync, comedy and talent videos, while one in 20 older children uses Twitch, a live streaming platform for gamers. Children's viewing habits are changing radically too. Almost twice as many children watch streaming content than they did five years ago. In 2019, fewer children watched traditional broadcast TV than streaming content, with a quarter not watching it at all. But YouTube is as popular as ever, remaining children's firm favourite for video ahead of Netflix, Amazon Prime, the BBC and ITV.

The age of digital independence

50% of 10 year-olds own a smartphone in 2019, up from 30% in 2015. When it comes to going online, children are most likely to use a tablet but mobiles are becoming increasingly popular and children are now as likely to use a mobile as they are a laptop. Between age nine and 10, the proportion of children who own a smartphone doubles to 50% – giving them greater digital freedom as they prepare to move to secondary school. By the time they are 15, almost all children have one. Today's children have never known life without the internet, but two million parents now feel the internet causes them more harm than good. So it's encouraging that parents, carers and teachers are now having more conversations than ever before with children about online safety. Education and stronger regulation will also help children to embrace their digital independence, while protecting them from the risks.

Source: www.ofcom.org.uk

ATTENDANCE

Every Day Matters

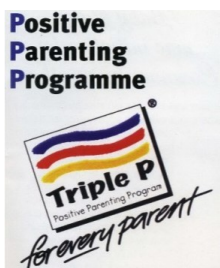


There are 190 days in a school year which leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, medical appointment etc. There is a link between good school attendance and high level attainment. Regardless of the reason, if your child is absent from school it will impact on their learning. Parents/carers are legally responsible for ensuring their child attends school on time every day - please ensure your child makes the most of school by ensuring they come to school a full 190 days a year.

When is your child 'too ill to attend school'?

Students can attend school with minor ailments e.g toothache, headache, stomach ache, cold, sore throats etc. Over the counter medicines can be given before school and if they become too ill to remain in school their Head of Year will contact you. Unlike primary schools there is no need for students to be off school for 48 hours after they have suffered with vomiting. If you are unsure of how long your child should be absent with an illness speak to your child's Head of Year, doctor or pharmacist for advice.

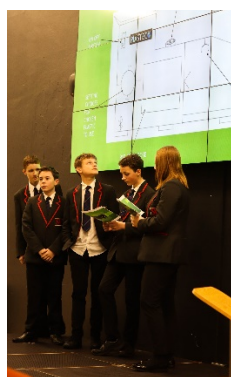
Parenting Workshops – March 2020



I am really pleased with the take up of parents signing up to our third series of parenting workshops to be run by Triple P at Severn Vale school in March. I currently have five spaces available on this course and therefore if you would like to sign up for the March workshops (6-8pm on Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March at Severn Vale School) please do let me know ymartin@severnvaeschool.com

CAREERS

Severn Vale Year 9s show how innovative they are in a GCHQ sponsored Young Enterprise competition



WHY PLASTECO ?

PLASTECO is the easier, greener way of recycling.

FACT: A milk carton takes 1 million years to decompose whereas PLASTECO can have it turn into a useful product in less than 3 hours.

With Plasteco you can recycle all types of plastic into useful objects like plates / water bottles

Did you know 150 plastic bottles litter each mile of the UK's beaches, we at PLASTECO, wish to change this factor within the next few years. To help us meet this challenge we are paired up with the University of Bristol and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

On the 16th January ninety Year 9s took part in a GCHQ, in partnerships with GFutures, Young Enterprise Event. The Dragon's Den style competition required the Year 9s to come up with new and imaginative business idea around ways to look after our planet or using space to benefit mankind. During the day the teams of 5-7 students were supported by business mentors who helped them focus and develop their ideas. The event finished with each of the fifteen teams pitching their ideals to a panel of GCHQ and G Futures judges. The judges were very impressed with the variety and creativity of the pitches presented and the winning team (company name Plasteco) are worthy winners with their idea focusing on a home-based recycling unit that uses plastic household waste and turns it into usable items such as mugs or plates.

Charlotte Bodenham, Ryan Green, Ryan Marshall, Austin O'Farrell, Adele Smith, Alex Walker will go to GCHQ on the 1st May to take part in the second round of the competition which is an inter-school competition where they will face stiff competition from nine other schools in Gloucestershire. We wish them the best of luck.

Calling all Severn Vale Alumni

expertise solutions
sustainability goals

spirax/sarco

Matt Gibson-Wain
Severn Vale School student
2005 - 2010

GCSEs: Matt achieved 12 A-C grades in his GCSEs at Severn Vale, including an A* in Art.

Post 16: Matt moved on to St Peter's Sixth form to do A Levels in Art, Media and Sociology.

Post 18: After his A Levels Matt chose to go to University of Gloucestershire to study Media Production.

Work: He now works at Spirax Sarco Engineering PLC as an Instructional Designer.

"I never knew what I wanted to do whilst at any of these points in my life. I've learnt that it's all about the opportunities you make and take for yourself."

SV
Severn Vale School
An Academy

The careers department at Severn Vale are putting together a collection of posters featuring past Severn Vale students with a focus of what they have got up to since school. By highlight what our Alumni have done since Year 11 I am hoping to show current student the vast range of careers that are open to them. I am very keen to hear from any past Severn Vale Students who are happy to share what they are doing now and what further education they received.

Therefore, if you or any of your older children have been educated at Severn Vale School and are happy to feature on our Alumni Wall please do get in touch with me: vmartin@severnvaleschool.com

GOVERNING BODY

Having very briefly outlined the work of both the Children, Families and Community Committee (CFC) and the Curriculum and Achievement Committee (C&A) I would now like to share with you information about the work and role of the Resources Committee. The Resources Committee, as the name suggests focuses on all the resources the School requires to fulfil its role of providing the best education possible for your children.

The main resource, that has a huge impact on everything else, is the budget the School are given, the amount we receive is based on a number of things but the majority of it comes from the amount we receive for each individual student who is on roll. In addition to this, the other resources that this committee monitors are all the necessary staffing, both teaching and support staff, who jointly support the School achieving its aim, the actual buildings which the School uses and the IT network that enables the school to operate. As you can imagine this Committee requires some Governors with specialist skills so that we can effectively support and monitor the School in its use of resources. We are fortunate in having Governors with expertise in finance, IT and Health and Safety who are members of this Committee.

Terms one and two of the academic year are the time when the Resources Committee work with the School Business Manager and the Auditors to submit the end of year accounts to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). During these two terms our Audit Governor spends time with the Business Manager to support the School with the process of preparing the final accounts. The Resources meeting in term two is attended by the Auditor who presents the draft accounts to the Governors, any questions are answered and final accounts are then prepared. These final accounts are then presented to the Full Governing Body at the term two meeting, providing all Governors are in agreement with the accounts they are signed off. I am pleased to say the process was extremely smooth and efficient.

I would like to wish both students and staff a relaxing break and as the nights get lighter look forward to term 4.

Jane Ireland
Chair of Governors

MEMBERS

Mrs J Ireland
(*Chair of Governors*)

PARENT GOVERNORS

Dr S Cockin
(Joint Vice Chair)
Mr R Rankin
Mrs V Seymour
Mrs L Adams
Rev P Millward

ORDINARY GOVERNORS

Mrs S Hawkins
Mr A Ayland
Mr I Pogue
(Joint Vice Chair)
Mr S Wilson
Mr D Clark

LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

Mrs L Berry

STAFF GOVERNORS

Mr R Johnson
(*Headteacher*)
Ms Bagworth

To contact the Chair of Governors, please telephone the Clerk to Governors, Mrs Lyn Woodrow at the school, on 01452 720458 ext 256

ART DEPARTMENT

On Saturday 18th January, the Art Department took our Year 11 Fine Art & Photography students to London to visit Tate Modern. We were met with a stunning day in the capital, which enabled students to photograph aspects of architecture and public spaces as we walked along Thames side to the Tate modern. Once inside the Tate the students were in awe of the Gallery spaces, the scale of the building and the architecture. We were able to focus our visit with the exam question starting points. Students selected pieces they initially engaged with and were able to record their observations through media & annotation to inspire their ideas and exploration back in the classroom. Students were impressed to see artworks they have previously seen and now understand the scale, techniques of a piece or how art expresses emotions through marks & colour.



Photography students were able to reflect on a wide range of lens media, including Abstract, issue and society photography & film. It also gave us all the opportunity to discuss 'What is Art' and for students to experience the diverse media, materials and objects and installations which often became an immersive experience. We were also lucky enough to be able to visit the viewing platform with a challenging 10-story walk up to meet it. The light was excellent and provided another photographic opportunity to record the London skyline.

What Have We Been Learning

Year 7 have been focusing on Key Skills: Knowledge & Explore & Generate through their Colour Theory work. The students have extended their understanding of colour theory and practice of wet media using watercolour. Next term we will move next to analysis of the artist Monet & Derain and their use of colour in Landscape Painting.

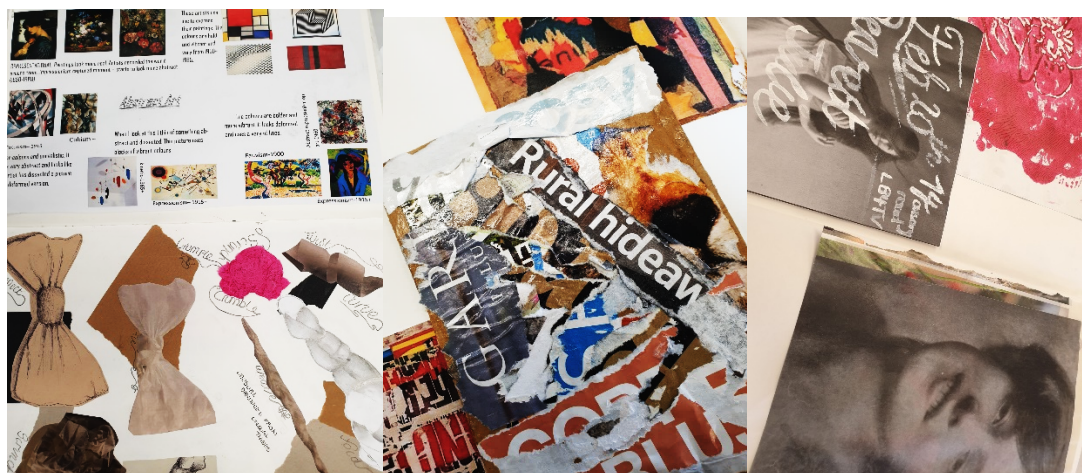
Year 8 have started their Recording project with Key Skill: Record explored through observational tonal drawing and photography. Students will also explore the work of Michael Craig-Martin and produce a piece making connections to this artist work.

Year 9 have finished their Advance Colour project after successfully recording Sunflowers with reflection on Van Gogh's work and are now focusing on Explore & Generate with Day of the Dead inspired graphics and clay sculpture.



Artwork: Cody Pugh, Sophie Massey, Charlotte Dickinson Yr 7, Yr 8 Brad Davies-Fisher Yr 9: Imogen Williams, Phoebe Ford

Year 10 Fine Art have started their Abstract Fine Art Project with a focus on recording & abstracting materials. Whilst year 10 Graphics-Photography have also been looking at Abstraction with artist exploration using collage, printmaking & digital manipulation of letterforms and gaining knowledge of the history typography.



Artwork: Yr 10, James Wood, Yr 11 Estherkaye Sherwood

Year 11 Fine Art & Photography have started their exam period and have been working well on individual project work with starting points from the exam paper. For extra advice, time planning, internet links to ideas & resources students can visit the Art SharePoint noted below: [sharepoint>art>Resources>ks4>Exams>2020>Parent & Student resources](#).

Get Creative at Home

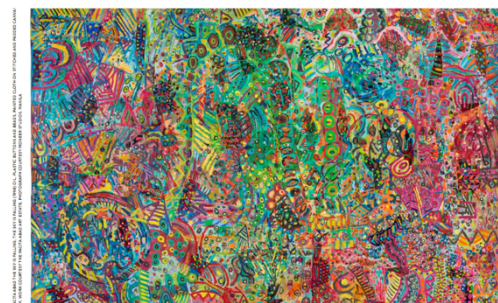
Fancy your chances in a competition? Young Artist & Young Photographer Competitions in conjunction with Hereford College of Art are open to young people in Gloucestershire.

Visit: www.hca.ac.uk/journal/young-photographer-competition-2020 for more information.

Visit an exhibition

Pacita Abad - *Life in the Margins* 18 January to 5 April 2020 Spike Island Bristol

The first exhibition in the UK by artist Pacita Abad (1946–2004). Curated in collaboration with artist Pio Abad, the exhibition includes over 20 large-scale 'trapunto' paintings and other works on fabric made between 1983 and 2002. Characterised by their vibrant colour and intricate construction, these works combine a broad range of styles, subjects and techniques, from social realist tableaus incorporating indigenous textiles to richly detailed abstractions inspired by Korean ink brush painting, Indonesian batik and Papua New Guinean macramé.



CURRENT EXHIBITION: PACITA ABAD *LIFE IN THE MARGINS*
18 January to 5 April 2020 [Read more](#)

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Food and Nutrition

GCSE students have been working hard to complete their NEA. We were visited by Matt from Gloscol to teach students how they could incorporate food styling into their exam dishes and give them ideas of how to fully showcase their ideas. This was also an ideal opportunity to ask questions about Catering and Hospitality Courses available. The students have worked well and trialled various dishes including millionaire shortbread, lemon meringue pie and valentine of Chicken. Students have also now all completed their 3 Hour Practical exam. The dishes they produced were restaurant standard and they should all be very proud of themselves. Well Done Year 11!



Year 9 Competition

Are you a budding Chef? Do you love being in the kitchen? Do you feel it is important to cook local produce? Enter our Year 9 South West Cooking competition. See Mrs Child for more information.

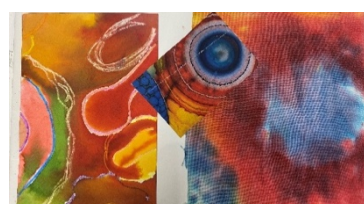
Product Design

Year 9 have been working at creating interesting shapes this term as they explore using a variety of materials within Product Design. Students have been looking at laminating flexi-ply to create curves and other interesting shapes. These have then been put together to create a lighting product. They have also investigated heating acrylic and how this can be shaped into twists to help in designing.



Textiles Design

Year 9 have been looking 'Under the Microscope' this term. They have focused on using dyeing techniques to add colour and texture to fabric and are learning to add embellishment to their materials through free machine embroidery and couching



Note from the DT Department

The DT Food department have managed to accumulate a vast amount of plastic tubs, lids, bottles, casserole dishes and plates etc. that have been left by students when cooking.

If your child has left any by mistake please can we ask that these be collected by Friday 28th February, end of school. Thank you

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

For any enquiries, please contact Miss Cooksley: scooksley@severnvaeschool.com

We are really pleased with this term in the English department. Students continue to work hard, make progress and engage with their learning. At Key Stage 3, we have been busily reading novels, exploring Romantic poetry, reading and writing about the natural world, expressing our viewpoint through speech and writing, learning to write Literature essays, studying villains in Literature and learning about real life heroes.

We are particularly proud of both of Miss Evans' Year 7 classes who learned and recited the challenging poem 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner' by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

In Year 10, we have been finishing our studies of the modern text and starting to study our 19th Century novel. Year 11 have been working hard towards their Language mock exams and we are very proud of how they have approached this stressful time.

The top Year 11 revisers for term 3 are:

Manahil Imran	Erin Saunders	Jake Wu
Emray Bozkurt	Taliah Patel	Amy Bryan
Kaila Roberts	Elliot Hurd	Eleanor Berry

A reminder that year 11 revision sessions are on every week after school.

Enrichment

Term 3 has been full of exciting enrichment opportunities:

We had our first Year 8 winner of our coveted Spelling Bee pin and had many students who fought valiantly, spelling some incredibly tricky words.

Our Bellatrix writing group met twice to gather ideas for an anthology we are putting together on the forgotten voices in literature; I'm excited to read stories from the perspective of Mrs Frankenstein and the old woman who cursed The Beast!



The students who have been working in conjunction with Amnesty International on their Words That Burn project have been given the task of writing poems in solidarity with families who are unable to live together due to British laws restricting refugees.

We had a group of 30 Year 8 students work with a performance poet on some topical poems which culminated in a very tense poetry slam. The winning group will go on to represent SVS at Cheltenham Town Hall later in the year.

Term 3 has been dominated by the launch of our Poetry By Heart competition which invites students to select, memorise and recite a well-loved poem. We have a group of 20 students working with a representative from the organisation on the last day of term. The final will be held in the first week back after half term.

Year 7 Debate Club

Each Thursday Year 7 students have been taking part in a debating club, organised by a Year 11 student and supported by staff. Students have relished the opportunity to express their opinions on issues such as: violence in video games, climate campaigns and mobile phone usage in schools. The students have shown a real passion for articulating their viewpoints and getting their voices heard. We anticipate we could see a career in politics for many of them in the future. Debate club takes place every Thursday in B1, with Miss Kirk and Miss Hayward. All Year 7 students are welcome to attend.

Y11 Trip to Poetry Live

On Monday 20th January the English Department took 50 Year 11 students to Poetry Live at Birmingham's Symphony Hall. The students had the unique and privileged experience of hearing the poems from their GCSE anthology being read aloud by some of Britain's most renowned poets including: Carol Ann Duffy, John Agard and the country's current Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage. The students also partook in two examiner sessions, led by a chief examiner from AQA, where they gained an invaluable insight into how to gain marks in the poetry section of the exam. Overall, it was a fantastic experience for the students and allowed them to be fully immersed in the richness and power of some of the nation's most iconic poems.

What's happening next term?

Term 4's enrichment activities will include the Poetry By Heart final, the Spelling Bee, Bellatrix Writing Club and the launch of a new and exciting writing project- more details will be revealed soon!

As always, SVS English enrichment activities can be viewed using this QR code.



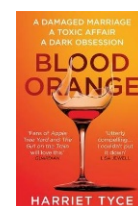
Book Clubs

Our student book clubs remain popular and students across all year groups are benefitting from reading and discussing a range of books. Term 3 and Term 4 choices are below:

Year group	Term 3	Term 4
7	Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell	A Pinch of Magic by Michelle Harrison
8	Inchtinn by Danny Weston	Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell
9	Between Shades of Grey by Ruta Sepetys	The Twisted Tree by Rachel Burge
10	Siege by Sarah Mussi	The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris
11	The Boxer by Nikesh Shukla	The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

Our **parent book club** have been reading 'Blood Orange' by Harriet Tyce.

If you are interested in joining our friendly parent book club, please contact Val Box:
vbox@severnvaleschool.com



What SVS English teachers have been reading this term:

'Before the Coffee Gets Cold' by Toshikazu Kawaguchi - the staff book club read for Term 2 - a Japanese translation that explores the concept of time travel and whether returning to the past is a valuable exercise if you cannot change the present.

'The Binding' by Bridget Collins - set in an alternative 19th century London, this book explores the power of books and love in a society of corruption and discrimination.

'We Need New Names' by NoViolet Bulawayo - A story about immigrant displacement and their struggles to fit into the new realities they face. Bulawayo's style is refreshingly unique. Offering a narration that does not romanticise the process of immigration.

A Stranger on The Beach by Michele Campbell - A fast paced, easy-read suspense thriller that keeps you entertained from page one.

FUTURES DEPARTMENT

Term 3 in Futures

Year 7

This term students have been looking at how to live a healthy life. We've examined the importance of a balanced diet and why it's important to remain active. We also looked at how our bodies metabolise sugar as fat so eating processed 'low fat' food (often high in sugar) will make us fatter!



Year 8

Year 8 have been studying a topic called 'Me and My World' where we look at how we see ourselves through the filter of comparison, discussing how unreliable and unhelpful this can be. We also talked about being brave and taking more risks in our learning. The topic finished with us looking at how capable we all are and how we have more experience than we think.

Year 9

Our focus in Year 9 this term has been on how we can be more successful learners. We learnt that talent is no substitute for hard work and students completed projects on people they admire. The key message that came from these was that our character and future successes are a choice. We have the power and potential to choose our path in life, if we're willing to make purposeful decisions.

Year 10

Year 10 have been exploring the thorny (yes, the T is supposed to be there!) world of relationships. We looked at everything from the balance of power in relationships through to parenting, STIs and sexting through to self-esteem and consent. All through the context of education for our future, rather than something for the here and now.

Year 11

Year 11 have been looking at Rights and Responsibilities. We looked at equality and human rights, considered the role of democracy over the years and examined the plight of refugees. The topic culminated in a visit from Amnesty International to explain their role in tackling injustice across the globe.

**Don't forget to
watch our weekly
2 minute videos
on YouTube!**

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Term 4 Geography knowledge tests

We have introduced knowledge tests this year for all our students to help them secure technical vocabulary to so they can sound like Geographers in their speech and writing. Core knowledge is 'the basics', some really common words used by Geographers when describing the world and what happens.

KS3 Knowledge test dates for Term 4:

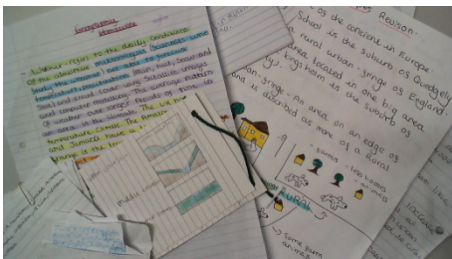
Core Geography knowledge test: Week 3 beginning 9th March 'Earth'

Topic keywords knowledge test: Week 4 beginning 16th March*

Core Geography knowledge test: Week 6 beginning 30th March 'Economics'

The **core knowledge booklet** (A4 sized) is available to download from the Show my Homework website or from any Geography teacher. **Topic keywords** are 20 words we have identified as a team for the topic currently studied in lessons. This is on an A4 sheet stuck into exercise books and also on Show my Homework. *Year 7 are currently studying 'urban environments', Year 8 'extreme weather' and Year 9 'coasts'.

See your homework task from your Geography teacher on Show my Homework to confirm which lesson the test will be in and which topic. We ask for proof of revision and are being shown some amazing resources which our students have made and are organising into folder or notebooks. Students who achieve 100% receive a praise postcard home to say well done!



Proof of revision from 7XG5

Year 7 Contour models.

As part of the 'Geography Detectives' topic, Mr Howard set his Year 7 classes the challenge of making a contour model. Contours on a map show the height of land above sea level and the aim of a model is to show these layers in height using cardboard. 'We had to show the different contour lines, we used cardboard to show the height. We liked making it as it was fun to do. It was a bit of a challenge as the glue was very sticky and we got our hands stuck to the table! The cardboard came from moving boxes and amazon boxes.' by Gabriel and Tyler 7X1.



Photo of the contour model display in G2

Where are they now?

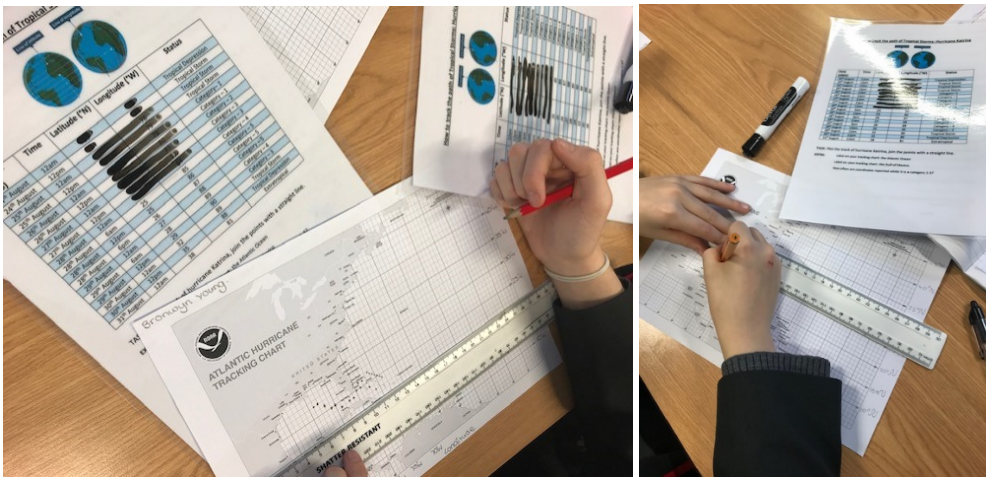
We love catching up with our ex Geographers and we are delighted to hear from two of our recent GCSE Geographers. Alex Bye was recently awarded the Royal Agricultural University Award for Countryside, Heritage and the Environment at Cirencester College's recent Awards Ceremony. Bailey Warren another one of our ex GCSE Geographer is currently on work experience in school for his Hartpury course and looking forward to starting at Cardiff University in September.

'Send us a postcard'

We love to hear where our students, staff and parents travel too. If you would like to share a place you have visited, whether local or international, please send us a postcard or photograph by email which we can share with our students. Email to smckinley@severnvaleschool.com

Tracking tropical Storms.

As well as knowledge and applying knowledge there are lots of skills in Geography. A new challenge has been set to Year 8 and 10 students to use secondary data from the National Hurricane Center in the USA to plot the track of a tropical storm. 'We are plotting points using latitude and longitude and we join the dots to show the path. It is important to see where the storm is heading so a warning can be given.' Shane & Bronwyn from 8X5



Tracking a tropical storm in the Atlantic Ocean.

Follow us on twitter @SVS_Geography

MATHS DEPARTMENT

Maths Challenge

The dates for this year's maths challenge are:

- Thursday 6th February for the Intermediate Maths challenge (years 9 and 10)
- Thursday 30th April for the Junior Maths challenge (years 7 and 8)



Students will be invited to take part in the Junior challenge in due course. This is a national competition run by The United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) for able maths students in Years 9 and 10. The UKMT maths challenge is a lively, intriguing multiple-choice question paper, which is designed to stimulate interest in maths. It is aimed at the top third of mathematics students in schools across the UK.

For Year 11 students, the second set of Maths mocks will begin in the week commencing 23rd March. All papers are 1 hour 30 minutes long. Each paper is worth 80 marks. Students will need a pen, pencil, ruler, protractor and compass for all three papers. They will need a calculator for papers 2 and 3. Useful revision materials for students include:

Mathswatch <https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/>
Mathsgenie <https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html>
Corbettmaths <https://corbettmaths.com/>

Maths trip to Bletchley Park June 2020

We are planning to take a small group of Year 9 students to Bletchley Park in June to explore the way in which maths was used to solve problems and crack codes at this site. More details to follow.



Student of the term – Term 2

These students have been chosen by their teachers for their consistent high efforts in class:

Year 7	Oscar Symons
Year 8	Priscilla Adeniyi
Year 9	Finn Holland
Year 10	Dylan Tyack
Year 11	Ella Ingram

Well done to all!

MEDIA STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Greetings from Mr Smart, subject leader for Media Studies!

Year 10 have been ploughing on brilliantly through the course having studied use of Media Language and Representation in advertisements (This Girl Can and Quality Street) and magazines covers (GQ and Pride). We have now moved onto studying the incredibly popular crime drama Luther, comparing it to The Sweeney and considering industry behind television productions.

Year 11 on the other hand are working through the final unit of work for Component 1 analysing the use of Media Language and construction of Representation newspaper front pages (The Sun/ The Guardian) and industry background. They have already sat a Component 2 mock paper and will be sitting a Component 1 mock shortly after February half-term.

Drop-in revision sessions will be beginning after half-term on a Tuesday from 3.15-4.15 in GR6. The point of these sessions will be to provide a place for pupils to revise with my support, practise exam style questions or clarify any issues or concerns. It is important that pupils are actively revising at home and in prep: Show My Homework and SharePoint have a plethora of resources to use.

Mr Smart's recommended viewings: Film fans

1. Spirited Away
2. City of God
3. The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou
4. Kes
5. 20th Century Women
6. District 9 (15)
7. Pan's Labyrinth
8. Amelie
9. No Country for Old Men (15)
10. Alien (15)

Did you know?

Toy Story 2 was almost deleted. After 80% of the film's production was complete, it was accidentally deleted and surprisingly there was no backup copy on the Pixar servers.

Fortunately, the film's technical director had a copy she had been working on from home, and it was restored.

Not to miss in cinemas:

1917 – Sam Mendes award-winning First World War epic really lives up to the hype. Brilliant acting, incredible set design and an enthralling narrative make the 2 hours fly by. The cinematography and editing gives the impression of the whole film being one single take, as if following the two protagonists on their epic journey– powerful.

Little Women – Greta Gerwig's recent adaptation of Alcott's classic hasn't received much attention in the awards season (except for numerous costume accolades) however if you are after a brilliantly acted and beautiful cinematographed film, this is a must see.

For any enquiries, please contact Mr Smart: ssmart@severnvaeschool.com

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Bonjour! ¡Hola! What a busy and exciting time we have had in Languages! We are pleased to announce that Miss Siracusa has set up a penpal project with one of her Y7 classes with Le Collège Beauregard in La Rochelle. Year 7 students have thoroughly enjoyed creating and receiving letters from their penpals and we look forward to friendships being formed.

At KS4, we encourage all students to use a website called ThisisLanguage.com. This is a fantastic website to develop listening skills and vocabulary knowledge. This website is used across schools around the world and keeps track of students' progress and time spent on the website. Students are awarded points on a weekly basis according to their exercises results and how much time they spent on the website. As a school, we were extremely proud when we received notification from ThisisLanguage that Year 11X/F1 had ranked 3rd place in the world with an average of 397.7 points per student! Félicitations 11X/F1!



In Year 9, we have been busy writing up film reviews about our favourite film and the French film *Les Choristes* which we watched recently in class. Here are some *Critiques de Film* from 9G2 students Ellie Faulkner and Keira Penrith.

Year 9- written assessment

Une critique de film

Recemment, j'ai vu Mary Poppins. C'est une comédie musicale et c'était génial! J'adore ce film parce que c'est émouvant. J'aime regarder les films joyeux parce que je me sens heureuse. Dans le film, il s'agit d'une nounou qui est convoquée pour prendre soin de deux enfants. Les enfants ne veulent pas la nounou mais à la fin, ils l'aiment. Malheureusement, la nounou doit abandonner les enfants donc la famille est très triste. Les enfants sont très tristes mais sont heureux avec leur famille. Mon film préféré est Last Christmas parce que c'est triste mais aussi très marrant! Ce que j'adore, c'est l'actrice et l'acteur car ils sont très travailleurs! Selon moi, c'est fantastique et c'est intéressant! Dans le futur, je voudrais regarder Playing with Fire parce que c'est une comédie et j'adore rire! A mon avis, ce sera génial!



Une critique de film

Hier soir, j'ai vu un film qui s'appelle Home Alone. C'est un film de Noël que j'aime. Home Alone est mon film préféré parce que c'est divertissant et amusant. Les personnages principaux sont Marv, Harry et Kevin. Kevin est un garçon intelligent, Marv est un homme très stupide et Harry est un homme méchant. Au début, Kevin reste à la maison à Noël et il essaie de protéger la maison. Puis, Marv et Harry tentent de voler la maison. A la fin, la famille rentre à la maison. Je recommanderais Home Alone parce que c'est drôle car c'est violent. Mon personnage préféré est Kevin parce qu'il est intéressant. Bientôt, je vais voir Home Alone 2 et j'ai très hâte. J'adore Home Alone parce que c'est une comédie, cependant je déteste les films d'amour car je les trouve barbant. Un film français que j'ai regardé récemment s'appelle Les Choristes. J'ai aimé les choristes parce que c'est divertissant et drôle. Je recommanderais Les Choristes car c'est génial! Je trouve que Home Alone et les choristes sont des films amusants et géniaux. Aujourd'hui, je vais regarder Harry Potter. Ce sera vraiment intéressant.

Keira Penrith - 9G2

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Term 3 has been a very busy and productive term with lots going on. In January the Year 10 and 11 BTEC Music students sat their Unit 1 exam, which assesses their knowledge and understanding of the Music Industry, job roles, organisations, and how these work together to give the products and outcomes we consume through Radio, Television, Internet, tangible media (CD & Vinyl), and live music. For the Year 10s, it was one of their first formal exam experiences and they were a credit to themselves in terms of preparation and conduct. Year 11 feedback on the exam was very positive, and we will find out the results of this Unit in mid-March.

Our instrumental students have been working extremely hard in preparation for external exams during the Spring sitting and we have a high number of students who will be taking piano, guitar, and singing examinations in March. It is very positive to see such a high number of our instrumental learners taking these exams and we wish them every success.

Choir is taking place on Thursday lunchtimes and is being taken by our singing teacher, Sophie Kirk-Harris. They are covering a range of music ranging from Karl Jenkins' 'Adiemus', to well-known musical theatre pieces. They are working well in rehearsals and it is great to hear them rising to the challenge of some of the more contemporary choral pieces, which would stretch even well-established choirs.

We have arranged for auditions for aces in the **Gloucestershire Youth Choir**. These will take place on Thursday 5th March. Nick Steel (Music Service School's Manager), from Gloucestershire Music, has been visiting schools across the county listening to students audition for various county groups. The County Youth Choir is an amazing opportunity for young singers to be involved in high calibre performances with students from other schools, with opportunities to perform at national venues such as the Albert Hall and Birmingham Symphony Hall, in addition to working with leading musicians and composers. I would encourage ALL students who have singing lessons (as well as any who don't and are interested!) to apply for an audition. Simply come and see Mr. Khokher to register your interest by Monday 2nd March. The audition will last around 10 minutes and involves performing a piece of your choice in addition to some short sight singing. One of the key factors in supporting music development is 'getting out there' and performing with others and working towards large scale performances. This is a great opportunity. For further information about Gloucestershire Youth Choir, please visit: www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk/youth-groups/county-music-groups/gloucestershire-youth-choir-gyc/

Over the next few weeks, you might find your child talking about 'Bandlab' and disappearing into their room to create beats, loop-based compositions, and even record themselves. Bandlab is a cloud-based DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) which allows for musicians to access their compositions and productions on any computer, anywhere, any time. And it is free! Students have their own accounts as part of a class and can share their work with their teachers and peers through the class forum. Cloud based music creation is a very much on the increase in the music industry and allows for global collaboration on projects, often in real time. This is an exciting step for our students to begin to explore.



Finally, we are looking forward to the **Performance Platform Lunchtime Concert Series** during the last week of term, which will involve a range of performances from soloists and groups across the school. We will be updating on this in the next newsletter.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

We have had a superb year in the PE department so far with team success, individual success and excellent progress in lessons across all year groups. In Year 7 and 8, students have been taught double blocks of rugby and football for the boys and netball and hockey for the girls. We are already seeing the benefits from this in the number of students progressing in these activities and taking part in these sports outside of lessons and for local clubs (Gloucester Ladies Netball, Hucclecote Netball, Gordon League Rugby, Widden Rugby, Quedgeley Wanderers, Hardwicke Rangers and Gloucester Ladies Hockey). This year has also seen a fantastic uptake in extra-curricular clubs with over 250 students making use of the huge range of activities we provide at lunchtime and after school.



Highlights:

- Cheerleading club had 50 girls trying out for the squad that competes at the Gloucestershire Cheer competition where Severn Vale are hoping to win their 5th title in a row.
- The netball teams have got off to a very strong start with wins over Gloucester Academy, Churchdown and Newent and losses to Holmleigh Park, with plenty more fixtures to come after half-term.
- The football teams have had convincing wins over Holmleigh Park and lost to some very strong St Peter's sides, with plenty more fixtures to come after half-term.
- The U13 and U15 girls rugby teams will be taking part in the Gloucestershire Festival of Girls Rugby, thanks to coaching from Gloucester Rugby players Ceri Large and Bianca Blackburn
- Jasmine Fern in Year 11 came 11th at the County Cross Country Championships
- The Year 7 girls football team are through to the County Finals which are being held at Rednock in March

Student sporting success

- Simona Kefileva – competed in Bulgaria for her ski club and came 5th out of 130 children in her age group.
- Callum Woodham – Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu World and European Champion & Judo Commonwealth Bronze Medallist
- Zane Hunt – South West Tumbling Champion
- Katie Irvine – Selected for the Gloucestershire County Hockey team, part of the England pathway system.
- Ryan Hunt – U18 County Table Tennis
- Duarte Fialho and Flynn Clark selected for the Gloucester Rugby Academy

Keep us in the loop with your child's sporting success by either emailing the department or messaging us through the department Instagram – @severnvalepe

Trips

The department is looking forward to the upcoming trips planned for 2020. The Year 7 – 10 Netball teams are returning to Barton Hall in Devon for a PGL Netball weekend in May. This trip was an enormous success last

year for the Year 9s and 10s and we are hoping it will be the same for this year! The Year 7 boys' rugby will be heading off to Belfast for their tour in November where they will see the sights of Belfast, play against a local club and get some training from Brian McLaughlin, the ex-Ulster coach. Miss Hammond is also taking a selection of students to see the Harlem Globetrotters at the Arena Birmingham which will be an amazing experience!

PE Results Term 3

Boys - Football

Year 7	vs	Holmleigh Park	Won 9-0
Year 7	vs	St Peters	Lost 3-1
Year 8	vs	Holmleigh Park	Won 11-2
Year 8	vs	St Peters	Lost 5-0
Year 9	vs	Holmleigh Park	Lost 2-1
Year 9	vs	St Peters	Lost 7-0
Year 10	vs	St Peters	Lost 2-0
Year 11	vs	St Peters	Lost 2-1

Boys - Handball

Year 8	vs	Crypt	Lost 1-0
Year 8	vs	Wynstones	Lost 2-1

Netball - Girls

Year 7	vs	Gloucester Academy	Won 12-0
Year 7	vs	Newent	Lost 6-3
Year 7	vs	Churchdown	Won 24-8
Year 8	vs	Gloucester Academy	Won 8-0
Year 8	vs	Churchdown	Won 13-11
Year 9	vs	Holmleigh Park	Lost 13-3
Year 9	vs	Churchdown	Won 20-8
Year 10	vs	Holmleigh Park	Lost 8-6
Year 10	vs	Newent	Won 19-0
Year 10	vs	Churchdown	Lost 19-13

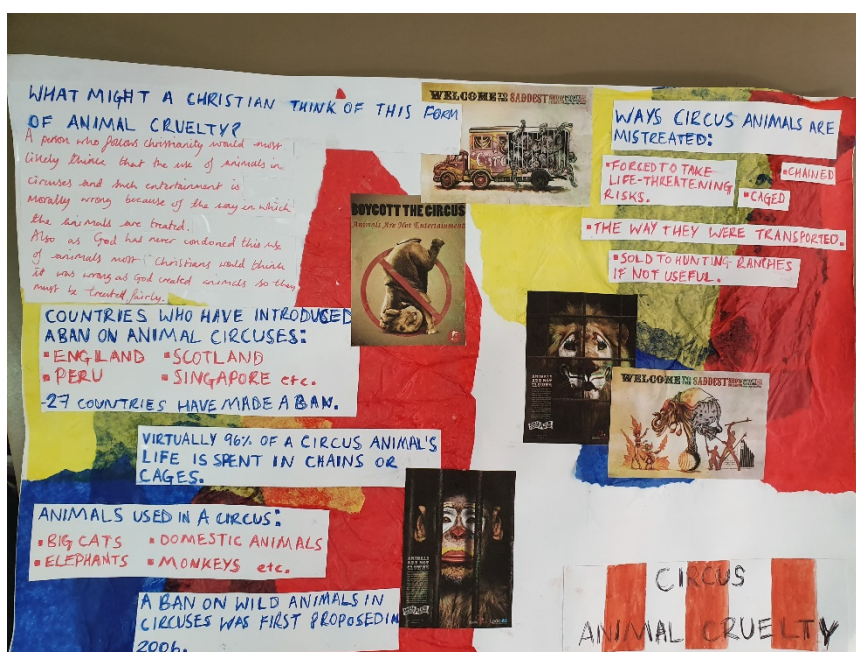
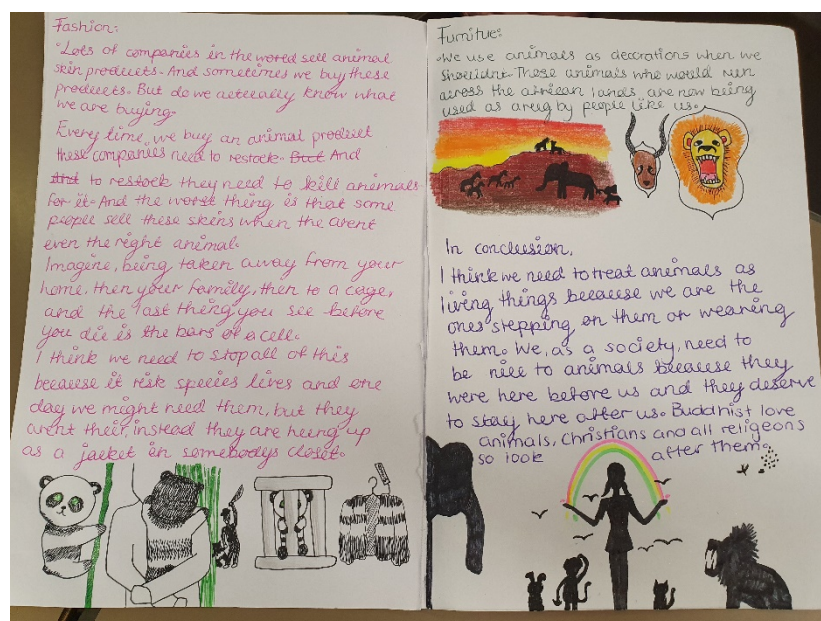
Football - Girls

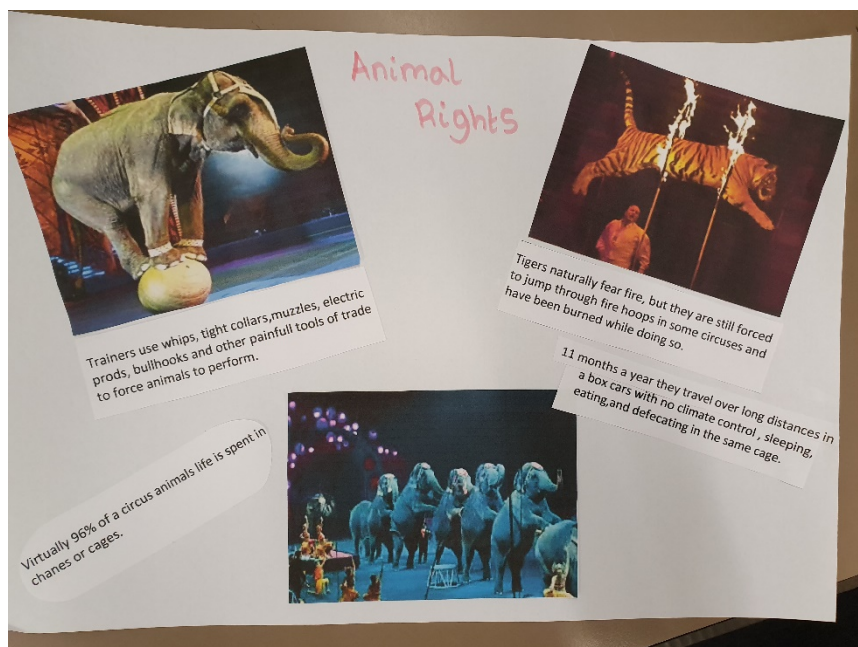
Year 7	vs	Crypt	Won 5-3
Year 7	vs	Tewkesbury	Won 12-1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Year 9 Animal Rights Work

Year 9 really impressed us this term with the animal rights projects they have undertaken as part of their GCSE Ethics module. After Miss Galpin and Mrs Dodd highlighted key issues faced by animals, and religious teachings on the treatment of animals were studied, students were tasked with producing a project on an area of animal rights that interested them. It was clear how much the students enjoyed this from the quality of the work they produced.





Year 8 Multi-Faith day

The RE Department is committed to celebrating the diversity of our school community, and society at large. Annually our Year 8 students take part in Multi-Faith Day. We are lucky enough to have visiting workshop leaders from the Muslim, Sikh and Hindu faith communities. We also run the highly popular “Breathe” Christian installation and an in-house Buddhism workshop. Students found the workshops engaging and informative. The workshop leaders were full of praise towards our students, especially those in groups 8X1-5. Their subject knowledge was praised and the respect they showed towards the faith communities they were learning about was also commented upon.

Topics of the term:

- Year 7 – An introduction to Sikhism
- Year 8 – An introduction to Buddhism
- Year 9 – GCSE Ethics taster course examining animal rights, saviour siblings and Euthansia.
- NB – Year 7-9 will all be completing skills practice this term in RE.
- Year 10 – Starting the Islam section of their GCSE examining Islamic beliefs and teachings. Students have just been fed back their Christian Practices tests so please ask them to share how they have done with you.
- Year 11 – Human Rights – the final topic of new content for the GCSE. Mock exams in Islam and Christianity have formed the main focus of this term though.

Recommended revision websites:

- www.senecalearning.com/ - use the AQA course but ensure that relevant topics are revised only!
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z68sjhv> - we do Christianity A and Islam

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Visit to the National Space Centre

On Monday 27th January, thirteen Year 8 students visited The National Space Centre in Leicester where we learnt about all the incredible science and people behind space exploration. We saw amazing feats of engineering, made our own comet and even saw part of the moon!



GCSE Revision Guides

Revision guides are now available to purchase for Year 10. Combined Science revision guides cost £9.00, for one book which covers the whole course. Triple science revision guides cost £11.97 for three separate books covering the three separate science disciplines. The revision guide includes a workbook so these are superb resources for effective exam preparation at home.

Simply select this item from your ParentPay account and the revision guide will be delivered to your child in their Science lesson.

*Revision guides may still be purchased by any Year 11 students who still require them.

Science Revision: Top Tip

Flashcards could be used to...

- Learn keywords and definitions
- Physics equations
- Structures of organs e.g. the heart
- Processes and cycles e.g. the Carbon cycle

Cheltenham Science Festival

We are hoping to offer several opportunities for Year 7 and 8 students to visit Cheltenham Science Festival.

Students need to listen out for more information in Term 4.

KS3 Science Progress Tests

Year 7 – Mon 2nd March
Year 8 – Tues 3rd March
Year 9 – Weds 4th March

*Revision materials are available via Show My Homework.

Did you know...

Students can set themselves questions on Educake to help them revise what they have been learning in Science.

British Science Week 2020

British Science Week takes place between the 6th and the 15th March. It is a 10 day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths.

The theme for 2020 is 'Our Diverse Planet'. There are lots of activity suggestions online, some which could be carried out at home.

Lego Robotics Challenge

On Monday 10th February, a team of ten Year 8 students are competing in the Lego Robotics Challenge at RAF Cosford. The theme this year is "How can engineers help future-proof the world?"

The team have been working on their robot during their lunch break since November and are ready to take on the competition.

Find out how they get on in next term's newsletter.

SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Year 11 have been working hard in preparation for their Sociology GCSE. This term they have finished Crime and Deviance, and have now completed the content element of the course. Year 11 have been very diligent in the completion of a full series of mock exams in preparation for their upcoming GCSEs. After half-term lessons will focus on revision and practice in the lead up to May.

Paper 1 – Monday 18th May 2020 (Afternoon)

50% of final mark / grade

Topics

Core 1: Identity, Society and Culture

Depth 1: Family

Depth 2: Education

Research Methods

Paper 2 – Friday 22nd May 2020 (Afternoon)

50% of final mark / grade

Topics

Core 2: Inequality, Wealth and Power

Depth 3: Crime and Deviance

Research Methods

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their Sociology GCSE. They are currently studying Core 2, examining inequality in modern day Britain and the impact on groups such as women, the poor, ethnic minorities, and the disabled. They will continue to be given revision and GCSE practice questions for homework.

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 7th February saw the return of our annual FoSV quiz night, a very popular, competitive and fun evening which saw nearly 30 teams do battle for the top spot. Huge thanks go to our catering provider, Harrison's, who provided the food and Harrison's staff for generously giving their time during the evening; Ian and Abby Pogue for their time and hard work in setting and organising the quiz, which ran perfectly; and FoSV for their time and hard work in preparations for the event.

The amazing total of £1572.59 was raised, which will provide much-needed equipment and activities for our students. Congratulations to Odd Balls who celebrated first prize. The wooden spoon was awarded to the Maths department.

We look forward to an equally successful re-match in 2021!

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Silver Cohort 2018-2019

The 2018-2019 Silver Cohort have just become the second Silver cohort in a row to have a 100% completion rate. Well done to all those involved. We are looking forward to this year's cohort continuing the trend.

Bronze Cohort 2019-2020

We are now five months into this academic year and many of you have completed the required time for your 3-month activities. This means you need to be getting your assessor to write you a report. This can be done by using your logbook and uploading a copy or online via <https://edofe.org/Assessor>. Your assessor will just need the following information: ID number, level and section.

Well done to Joseph Kilminster-Perry and Emily Wadley, who were the first participants to have sections signed off.

eDofE

It is **vital** that students log on to eDofE regularly to upload evidence and track any messages from their leader. They **must** check that an activity has been approved, or it may not count towards their DofE award.

Loading evidence can be done by visiting www.edofe.org or if a student has a smart phone, they can do this all by downloading the DofE App. You will not achieve your DofE without providing relevant evidence of the activities you have been doing. It is your responsibility to ensure this is kept up to date and not wait until the last minute.

If a student doesn't have access to the internet at home, they can still complete their programme by using the Welcome Pack and log sheets:

- Use a log sheet, handed out (also accessed via SharePoint, these can be printed at school).
- Get your Assessor's comments in the Keeping Track Booklet.
- Get your Leader to approve your sections by signing and dating it.
- SVS Leaders will also be able to load any evidence students provide if they cannot access the internet.

Good evidence: can include many things, you may like to collect photographs, scans of certificates, letters etc. You can take audio files, photos or video footage with your phone or camera. You can use the pages in the Keeping Track booklet and scan it in/photograph it, you can also upload documents or just type a short-written update of your activity straight into eDofE.

Parents Information Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended the expedition information evening presented by Ocean Rock on Wednesday the 29th January. We had a 95% attendance rate at bronze, with those unable to attend letting us know before the event. Hopefully the information given was useful.

Expedition Training Day

The expedition training day on Saturday 1st February, was a very successful day, with both Bronze and Silver participants doing themselves proud. Participants learnt a lot of useful life skills throughout the day including how to map read, route plan, stay safe, pack a ruck sack, put up a tent and cook using a Trangia.



Important dates for your diary

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March – Practice expedition (including Monday 30th March for Silver)

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th June – Qualifying Expedition (including Monday 8th June for Silver)

- All expeditions will meet at SVS at 08:00 on the Saturday morning.
- Estimated time of return on the Sunday will be between 14:00-16:00 for Bronze participants and by the end of the school day on the Monday for Silver Participants, depending on student pace and progress.
- Updates will be provided on the day itself.

Please ensure you keep the school gates clear to allow the bus access to the school car park.

Completing your DofE Award

All sections should be fully complete on eDofE no later than **Wednesday 1st July**, in order for participants to receive their award at The Sports Presentation Evening on Friday 10th July. If students do not meet this deadline, they can still achieve their award, but it will be presented at a later date. All participants have until their 25th birthday to complete their DofE award.

Organisation and independence are some of the key skills developed through the DofE award. So it is vital deadlines are met and that students are proactive in getting sections completed and requesting assessor reports.

DofE Helper Door Plaques

Over the next few weeks, door plaques recognising the valuable contribution that our members of staff make towards the DofE within the school, will be appearing on their doors. This will also help future cohorts know who to speak to, who can help by assessing the various sections and hopefully raise the profile of the DofE award in school.

Currently, thirty-four plaques will be appearing based on the last two years and staff who have helped as the Licence Holder, Award Verifier, Group Leaders and Assessors.

A sneak peak of the plaques can be seen below:





Calling all current year 8 (going into Year 9 in September 2020)!

Are you interested in gaining a nationally recognised award that allows you to do things you enjoy as well as try new activities? **Then DofE is for you!**

The DofE award is the world's leading achievement award for young people and September 2019 will be our fourth year of running the programme. Students can achieve an Award by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections:

1. Volunteering: undertaking service to individuals or the community
2. Physical: improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities
3. Skills: developing practical and social skills and personal interests
4. Expedition: planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey

By participating in The Duke of Edinburgh's award students will experience new opportunities and gain several key attributes such as: leadership, teamwork, self-motivation, organisation, communication, confidence, consideration, and ability to learn in different way.

There will be a year 8 assembly all about The Duke of Edinburgh's award with information for parents to follow. There is a financial commitment to the award, the registration fee is £25 and in 2018-19 the Bronze award cost £185 for SVS participants. This included a DofE/ SVS fleece, a training day, a practice and qualifying expedition. Please be aware that prices may vary.

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Follow us on Twitter @SVSDofE for regular updates.

There is also some photos from the training day on Saturday 1st February

Don't forget The DofE Team, Mr Higgs and your group leader, are here for you! If you are unsure of anything, finding it difficult to organise a section, don't know what to do next, come and speak to one of us. We will help you!

WELL BEING



i am me

**it's time to feel comfortable
in your own skin**

www.iammeapp.com

The positive mental health app created by young people for young people

"As someone who has experienced mental health struggles, I strongly feel like having the **i am me** app could have been a big help to me. To have such a comprehensive database of information would have massively helped me to boost my own self confidence and get to the core of why I was feeling the way that I was. I believe that having a toolkit like this could really help young people make sense of the changes happening to the mind and body. For a generation dominated by technology, I think this app would be revolutionary, helping to relieve a huge amount of stress and confusion."

Erin age 17

"Many people find it difficult to truly understand the struggles that young people face in today's digital world. It is extremely refreshing to finally see the progress of a well thought out support system that can help to alleviate a wide variety of common adolescent issues. As someone who has constantly fought with the negative side effects of social media and, in turn, certain attitudes of the new generation, I could not be more excited for the production of **i am me** and only wish it had been readily available when I was of a younger age."

Natalia & Alex aged 19

📱 @iammeglobal

🌐 www.iammeapp.com

✉️ hello@iammeapp.com

Feel in control and ultimately enjoy being you