



BEDSTONE Bulletin

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In this Issue:

- Back to the Bard - Shakespeare
- Top maths team
- News on trips and visits
- What's on next term



Autumn 2017
Issue 2



Check us out on Facebook!

We are very proud to announce that we now have more than 1,000 likes on FB.

We are also on Twitter and Instagram to help keep you updated with all the very latest news and events.



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A room in Hopewell became shrouded in mystery as a group of Harry Potter fans met up for some Hogwarts fun. What happened there must remain the secret of the true fan, but there was a lot of discussion of our favourite Harry Potter moments, the writing of our own Quibbler and an awful lot of eating involved, just like in the book. The highlight? Fans tried their best to eat a Bertie Bott's every flavour bean without being sick, sadly this was not achieved in all cases; the rotten egg flavour brought tears to the eyes of the unfortunate fan but it was still good fun....well, for the rest of us!

The wizarding world will have to wait until next year now when the activity might magically reappear and will definitely include a chocolate frog or two.....



What's cooking?

Our international students enjoyed a flavour of British culture when they were invited for a warming meal of hot soup and chilli this autumn. The meal comes as part of our British cultural experience which includes visits to English castles, courtrooms and of course, tearooms to test out the tea and cake!

Eye of newt, and toe of frog...

Junior two have been enjoying reading 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl in their English lessons.

On 31st October (Halloween), The Grand High Witch ... Oops!...

Mrs Crabtree, held a gathering

of witches and wizards to take part in some fun related literacy tasks.

Teachers beware!

The children now know how to turn you into a wriggly wiggly worm!



A day of water and velocity

Our younger students have been learning all about rivers and the water cycle in their geography lessons this term.

And during their geography field trip to Carding Mill Valley they got to see some water courses in action.

The children visited the waterfall and measured the velocity and channel of the stream and looked at some 'bed load' of the stream bed.

Despite the wet weather the children thoroughly enjoyed their day out in the hills.

Back to the Bard

by Annika K

In March 2018, Bedstone will be putting on its first Shakespeare play in many years. With the annual plays usually being musicals, Mr Downing and Ms Newman have been brave and opted for a change, choosing the infamous Macbeth.

With the cast members made up of students from the first form to the sixth form, so far this production has been full of fun. Our very own head girl will be starring as the corruptible Macbeth. Leah B is extremely talented and brings the role to life by adding her own style to his character. Lady Macbeth, deviant, cunning wife of Macbeth will be played by Annika K. Macbeth's dearest friend Banquo will be portrayed by Caroline R. Caroline is usually full of life and laughing... very different to the murdered Banquo, but she is also very talented and we look forward to seeing her in his shoes. Alex J will play the beloved King Duncan, and I think we're all looking forward to what Hugh O-B will bring to the table when playing a witch! The rest of the cast is equally as spectacular!

The best thing about doing something like this, is that everyone is getting involved and working together as a team to produce something we're all proud of, but it's not just all fun and games; Macbeth is an intense play, featuring some very shocking scenes which have been hard for some of the cast members to fully grasp. And not just the plot, but the old Shakespearian language is quite difficult. Imagine being required to know what, 'stones have been known to move and trees speak. Augurs and understood relations have by maggot pies and coughs and rooks brought forth,' means at the age of 11! However, the fact that they're learning this at a pretty young age will very much help them in the future when battling GCSEs and A Levels.

Pictured is the formidable Annika K getting into character as Lady Macbeth while creeping up on an unsuspecting Lord Duncan AKA Alex J.



For English Literature GCSE at Bedstone College, you'll be required to study multiple texts, one of which is the Merchant of Venice, and Lady Macbeth in Macbeth would have challenged the contemporary social hierarchy, as a female would not usually be in a position of power. This theme reoccurs in A Level English. We are currently studying King Lear with Mr Downing, and I find myself finding parallels between the two tragedies. They both include some of Aristotle's tragic conventions, and follow Seneca's five act structure, but the most obvious similarity is that in both plays, the main characters tragically die. It's clear that Shakespeare plays an important role at Bedstone, and we're excited to welcome you to our production of Macbeth on 9 and 10 March.



Welcome to Wacky Sunday





Duke of Edinburgh Awards



Top maths team



Our sixth formers were victorious after securing a win at the Regional Championships of the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. The United Kingdom Mathematics Trust runs an annual national competition which sees the top A-level mathematicians from schools across the country pit their wits against each other in a series of fiendishly difficult Mathematical Challenges.

Thirteen of the region's top performing schools were in attendance, including teams from Dean Close, RGS Worcester, Malvern College, Malvern St James and Lucton School.

The Bedstone College team consisted of Alan G and Charlie L (U6), and Anna M and Rebecca W (L6). They were in the top six after every round and were announced as winners at the end of the afternoon. They will now represent the region at the national finals which are to be held in London in the spring.

Mr Gajadharsingh said: "I am incredibly proud of what the team has achieved. I must say that a few eyebrows were raised when the final placings were announced. I don't think that many believed that such a small non-selective school would be able to produce a team capable of winning such a prestigious event and especially in the company of some of the largest and most illustrious schools in the region." "I am particularly pleased for Alan and Charlie. They are both holding excellent offers to study Physics (Alan) and Mathematics (Charlie) at a variety of Russell Group universities."

Lay down your pens!

Students got creative when it comes to learning as part of national No Pens day in early October.

Schools up and down the country put down their pens for the day, and took part in all of their lessons through speaking and listening only.

The day is designed to help boost students' communication skills, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by our Key Stage 3 students.

Children enjoyed a different way of learning from making medieval weapons in history, to woodwork in DT; ordering food in French, and playing word games in English.

Autumn harvest

Mrs Crabtree would like to thank all of the children and parents who made such generous donations to the Knighton Food Bank charity, as part of our Harvest Festival celebrations. She would like to give a particular mention to Madame Hunter's tutor group (3S) who kindly donated their pocket money to buy food items.

Four children from the Junior School were able to visit the Knighton Food Bank and make a delivery of the non-perishable goods and toiletries collected. The children were able to learn all about the charity and how it helps people in the local community.



Sophie and Emily are in the medals!

Two of our junior school pupils came home in the medals after competing in the Autumn Aquathlon at Lucton School. Congratulations to Sophie G and Emily G who both received silver medals while competing with some tough competition. Well done girls!

Meanwhile, we were proud to take part in Royal Shrewsbury School Hunt Prep Schools' Cross-Country Championships. There was some fantastic racing, really gritty running - all of the runners were absolutely brilliant.

Emily G came in fourth in the under 11 girls' race, Max W was 15th in the boys' under 11.



Girls footie and cricket on the agenda

Bedstone girls are delighted to have a range of different sports available to them this academic year.

This autumn, girls have been able to try out football and cricket as part of their games and activities.

The aim is to give the girls a much wider variety of sports to choose from in addition to hockey, netball and rounders. Meanwhile, our girls have had a great season of hockey and netball playing a variety of matches both home and away. They have been identifying some of the fitness and skills that are required to improve their performances in hockey and netball.

Fabulous Christmas treats for all ages

Children from our junior school enjoyed an afternoon getting their hands all squelchy when they each made a special Christmas pudding to take home for their families.

Also entering in to the festive spirit was our senior students who learned the art of icing as they decorated individual Christmas cakes with snowmen, robins and reindeer. They used marzipan and icing to get creative although a fair amount of the icing had to be sampled during the process to ensure it was of the correct consistency!



Boost for Bedstone's academics and sportmen

Bedstone students enjoyed a day of inspiration both in the classroom and on the rugby field after a visit from two Cambridge graduates, one a former professional rugby player in Japan and Italy.

Staff and students welcomed Daniel Orovomaa, a recent graduate of St Edmund's College (2017), Cambridge, who conducted a Q and A session with Bedstone's potential Oxbridge students.

Sixth formers were able to have a number of questions answered regarding the application process for Oxford and Cambridge universities including advice on what the institutions look for in potential recruits and how to tackle an interview.

Mr Orovomaa was accompanied by Stewart Eru, another Cambridge graduate who proved to be a big hit on the rugby field.

Mr Eru spent nearly an hour with Bedstone's team putting them through their paces by giving them a few pointers on contact, play and body position.

With a wealth of advice and experience to share, Mr Eru certainly impressed Bedstone's students.

Mr Eru was captain of Cambridge University Rugby in 2003, winning two Blues in 2002-03 Varsity Matches at Twickenham.

He also represented New Zealand in rugby at age grade, Maori and universities level. He then played professional rugby for Mitsubishi Motors in Japan for five years and Alghero, Sardinia in Italy for three seasons.



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Dates for your Diary

Boarders return	6.30pm	8 January
School starts		9 January
Scholarship Day		13 January
Sixth Form Dining Club	7pm - 9.30pm	2 February
GCSE Option Talks	Rees Hall 4pm - 4.45pm	9 February
Parent/teacher meeting - Fifth/Sixth Form	5.30pm	9 February
Fifth and Sixth form art exhibition		9 February
Half term starts		9 February
Boarders return	6.30pm	18 February
School starts		19 February
Geography trip to Borth - Lower Sixth	9am	22 - 24 February
GCSE Option Talks	Rees Hall 4pm - 4.45pm	23 February
GCSE Option Talks	Rees Hall 4pm - 4.45pm	2 March
D of E Gold Walk	8am	2 - 4 March
Learning Support Conference		7 March
Macbeth dress rehearsal	7pm	8 March
Macbeth performance	7pm	9 March
GCSE Option Talks	Rees Hall 4pm - 4.45pm	9 March
Macbeth performance	7pm	10 March
Easter Service	Rees Hall - 8.40am	16 March
Third and Fourth Form Art Exhibition	Old Hall - 5.15pm - 7.30pm	16 March
Term Ends		16 March



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