

NEWSLETTER



DOWNLANDS CELEBRATE VICTORY IN SUCCESSFUL BSN TALENT SHOW

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 8th March
Year 8 Parents Evening

Thurs 15th March
A Level Music Recital
Evening

Weds 21st March
Year 11 & 13
Photographs (Whole
Year)

Tues 27th March
BSN Sing Concert

South West Cross Country



Hall & Woodhouse Visit



Dragons' Den Event



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The Blandford School



BLANDFORD SCHOOLS' NETWORK TALENT SHOW 2018



The Blandford Schools' Network gathered to celebrate the immense talent from each of the eight primary schools at a talent show hosted by The Blandford School on Thursday 1st February. Teachers, students and parents gathered in the school hall to enjoy a show filled with exceptionally talented young people. With seven of the eight primary schools entering two acts (and Dunbury Primary School providing one), the audience were treated to a vast variety of talents, from gymnastic displays to an accordion player. Judges Brian Winkle, Graham Haigh and Headteacher of The Blandford School, Sally Wilson had the near impossible job of choosing their 3rd, 2nd and 1st place acts. Whilst the judges were deliberating, the audience were treated to some of the exceptional talent within the lower years of The Blandford School. Jasmine Upward (Year 8) entertained the crowd with a performance featuring a variety of different styles of dance. Jasmine was followed by fellow Year 8 pupil Sasha Payne who performed a beautiful piano piece, and the final act to perform as the judges came to their conclusions was Robert Harding (Year 8) who treated the audience to a Harry Potter medley on the trumpet.

Mrs Sally Wilson described the decision of naming the winner as 'one of the toughest decisions in the history of the competition',

and she commended all the acts for their extraordinary talents. Milldown Primary School pupil Poppy was given a special award for her exceptional ballet performance, and fellow Milldown Pupil Jordan had finished in third place after his exceptionally well received song and dance to 'I Wanna Be Like You' from 'The Jungle Book'. Second place was awarded to Rosa of Archbishop Wake Primary School, who had wowed the audience with her skills on the accordion. It was discovered by the judges upon receiving the award that Rosa had only been playing for 2 years.

The time had come to announce the winner, and Mrs Wilson was delighted to award 9 girls from Downlands Primary School with the victory after an excellent 'Song & Sign' performance of 'Sing' by Gary Barlow. The judges were incredibly impressed with the girls' ability to multi-task, both singing the song and signing it in perfect harmony. Congratulations must go to Eachha, Alexis, Isla, Holly, Millie, Summer, Isabelle, Phoebe and Maia for an excellent performance.

The Blandford School are already excited to receive these incredibly talented students to the school in due course, and plans are already in place for the 2019 BSN Talent Show.

A full image gallery from the talent show is available to view at the following link: <http://www.blandfordschool.org.uk/information/image-gallery/>



We don't just rely on prayer!

On the Teaching and Learning Committee.

My name is John Tanner, a local, who attended The Blandford School when it first opened following the demise of the 11 plus. One thing I do remember from those years was being assured that my examination result in English had rekindled my teacher's belief in the power of prayer! He never did enlighten me whose! I want to reassure you times have moved on and though as in my case the odd miracle is welcome we at The Blandford School now employ systems that carefully monitor progress being made by our students, recently to aid this important work a data specialist has been employed.

Returning to school, especially as a governor and chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee is very much an honour and whose responsibilities I take very seriously as do all governors and every member of staff.

Our school's Teaching and Learning Committee is charged with ensuring all students are given every opportunity to excel during their time at the school.

Before we meet, an agenda is prepared and agreed. Papers are then written by senior members of staff and distributed so governors can act as a critical friend and challenge staff as thought necessary. These papers cover a range of topics, the progress of year 11 and projections made by teachers as to the likely G.C.S.E results, the same for year 12 & 13 regarding to As and A levels. Other papers might detail the attendance of students, of the comparative strengths and weaknesses of subjects and faculties, comparative data between the attainment of boys and girls. In short information, is supplied to the committee across the whole range different categories, subjects, years and abilities. We can also request additional data on areas considered not adequately explained. This information is analysed in order that the committee members can determine in the words of our remit 'there is outstanding achievement and enjoyment experienced by them' (students). In four words 'if not, why not.'

The school produces a Development Plan that is always a work in progress to ensure it is up to date and proactive. This plan lists all the actions recently undertaken or due to be undertaken to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the teaching in our school. We monitor the 'Outcomes' section as well as the 'Teaching, Learning and Assessment' elements. This work is undertaken to ensure what has been proposed, is being carried out on time, the results carefully evaluated and when necessary revision enacted.

Our school's leadership also writes every year a self-evaluation document, that attempts to designate the strengths and weaknesses. The committee is tasked to read, comment and evaluate the points made. This leads to priorities being identified, resources allocated, and the consequences evaluated.

There are many other jobs undertaken by the committee such as the ratification of policies such as those dealing with the Curriculum, Examinations and Attendance.

Personally, the direct reporting to governors by the Heads of the Faculties is a vitally important event during the school year. Each Faculty Head addresses the governors with an overview of the past year, the current situation and future developments. We receive clear, concise and relevant knowledge of our school, helping us to be effective in our work for the school.

Bag2School Clothing Collection

The Blandford School is organising a "Bag2School" clothing collection on the 1st March which, hopefully, will raise some funds for our school. The company will be sending us some plastic bags for your use and we will distribute them amongst the students. Our last collection raised some valuable extra funds for the school so we would appreciate any donations of clean clothing, paired shoes, belts and handbags, (no bedding , household linen or towels) - we are paid by weight , their slogan being :-
- "the more you weigh the more we pay".

YOUNG ENTERPRISE TEAM ATTEND DRAGONS' DEN EVENT

On Tuesday 6th February our talented Young Enterprise team attended a Dragons' Den event held at Sherborne Girls' School. 8 teams entered the event and The Blandford School Young Enterprise team were one of four schools to receive a cash investment from the 'Dragons' which will be used to kickstart production of their product.

The team have decided to produce a series of books aimed at KS1 students. The books are based locally and are set to star some 'young fun animal characters.' The writing will centre around moral issues.



The Young enterprise team will be attending a Trade Fair in Shaftesbury on Saturday 24th February, where they hope to sell some books.

RSS COMPETITION

The Blandford School Right's Respecting School steering group have launched a competition to design the charter into a poster. The competition is open to students only, with house points available to the winners and runners up. Full information & rules are available to view on our website.

PUTTY CRAZE

We are, unfortunately, finding that students are bringing putty into school and using it in lessons. Though some are advertised as 'thinking putty' it is generally a distraction rather than an aid. Please can we ask that you do not provide this for your son/daughter as it is not allowed and will be confiscated.

A THANK YOU FROM TBS LIBRARY

A BIG thank you to Ros Foster for her kind donation of books to the school library, it is really appreciated and the new books are proving to be very popular. If any parents are having a sort out and have books that they feel might be useful to the library please do not hesitate to email me at rnorris@blandfordschool.org.uk

HUNDREDS OF POUNDS RAISED FOR CHARITY

Thank you to everyone who donated money for the non-uniform day held on Friday 9th February. We are delighted to announce that £607.70 was raised for BEAT Eating Disorders Charity.

SPORTS WATCH

TBS REPRESENTED AT SOUTH WEST CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

On the weekend of the 3rd February four of our very talented athletes travelled to Devon to compete in the South West Cross Country Championships. We are exceptionally proud that Year 12 student Michael Johnson and Year 9 student Tom Fuller were successful in qualifying for the English Schools' Championships being held in Leeds on the 17th March. A massive congratulations must also go to Year 11 student Sam Hughes and Year 7 student Josh Fazackerley who also competed. Sam has made it onto the reserve list.



YEAR 11 FOOTBALLERS UNFORTUNATE LOSS IN FINAL

Congratulations to our Year 11 footballers who attended the North Dorset Tournament yesterday afternoon. The students involved were an absolute credit to the school and were very unfortunate to lose in the final. A special well done must go to Alfie who was voted player of the tournament.

TBS STUDENTS OFFICIATE REGIONAL SOUTH WEST FINALS

A selection of our TBS Netballers recently gave up their Saturday afternoons to help officiate the Regional South West Schools Netball Finals. Kate, Katelynn, Rowan, Ellen, Maisy and Molly were complimented on their effectiveness in their jobs. Well done girls!

OTHER RESULTS

FOOTBALL - **TBS Year 9** 6 - 2 Shaftesbury School
NETBALL - **TBS Year 10** 44-4 Sturminster Newton School
NETBALL - **TBS Year 11** 24-10 Sturminster Newton School

Congratulations to our U15 Netballers who have qualified for the county tournament!

EX TBS STUDENT APPRENTICE WITH NATIONAL HUNT TRAINER

The Blandford School would like to send congratulations to former pupil Madelaine Hands, who has recently completed a 10 week course at the British Racing School Newmarket. Madelaine rode a variety of retired race horses and was taught all the necessary skills to become a work rider. Madelaine is now working an apprenticeship with National Hunt Trainer Harry Fry in Crewkerne. Congratulations Madelaine, we look forward to following your progress!



For our latest sporting news, follow us on Twitter! **@TBS_PE**

BUSINESS STUDENTS ATTEND TALK BY HALL & WOODHOUSE DIRECTOR

On Wednesday 10th January, some Year 10 and Sixth Form Business and Economics students were lucky enough to spend an hour with Anthony Woodhouse, the Managing Director of Hall and Woodhouse.

Anthony gave an extremely interesting and informative talk about the business and then answered questions from the students. Students were given a potted history of the business ranging from the potential perils of running a family business, to where the name 'Badger' beer came from. Unfortunately there wasn't an exciting story about how the master brewer got bitten by a badger. It was simply that back in the 1800's most of their customers were farm labourers and couldn't read. They simply wanted a sign that people would recognise and remember and so the badger was chosen. We also learnt that Hall and Woodhouse beer is now available in 25 different countries and that 80% of their sales come through supermarkets with only 20% through pubs. Our thanks from the Business department go to Anthony for giving up his morning to come and speak with our students.



We are always very happy to hear from local business people, so if anyone reading this is happy to come in and talk to our students, or even host a visit, we would love to hear from you!

THE ARTS

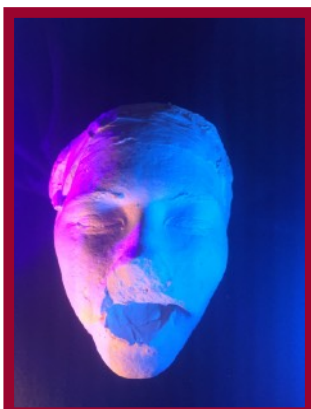
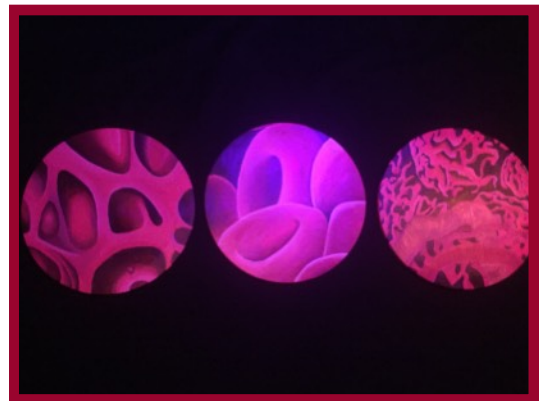
A THANK YOU FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

"Clear It" in Pimperne very kindly gave the Art Department free driftwood that they had collected over a period of time. This driftwood will be used with the year 11 exam starting point 'Materials'. Thank you very much.

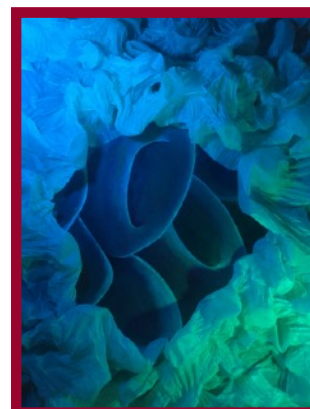
We are open to receiving other materials that can be used and developed with a variety of projects in different age groups. Please contact gamey@blandfordschool.org.uk or abibby@blandfordschool.org.uk

The Art Department would like to thank the Blandford Fire Station for giving Year 11 GCSE Art student Ben the opportunity to photograph the fire equipment for his final externally set project, "In The News." Steve Garbutt, one of the Station Officers at Blandford Depot gave an in-depth look at equipment and history of fire equipment and what symbols mean.

Ben was shocked and moved by what happened with Grenfell Towers last year and wanted to explore the role of the firefighter in saving lives and the way they are viewed by the public and Government.



A selection of photographs taken by our Year 13 Art students during a photography session in January.



SCIENCE SPECIAL

Which Bleach is the Best Buy?

Year 12 chemistry students carried out an investigation to find the best bleach to buy. They chose these bleaches; Tesco Value (29p for 2 litres), Tesco Own Brand (50p for 0.75 litres) and Domestos (£1.20 for 0.75 litres).

The active ingredient in bleach is Sodium chlorate (I), chemical formula of NaClO. This consists of Na⁺ ions and ClO⁻ ions. It is the ClO⁻ ions that kill bacteria; hence the students investigated the price per mole of ClO⁻ to see which bleach was cheapest in comparison to how many ClO⁻ ions were present. (A mole is an ionic mass in grams.)

They began by titrating a mixture of 25 cm³ of bleach, 20cm³ sulfuric acid, 15 cm³ potassium iodide, and a few drops of starch solution (to indicate the presence of iodine; it turns from a dark blue-black to colourless when the iodine is reduced). This mixture was titrated against the sodium thiosulfate, which was in a burette. From this the students obtained three sets of concordant results for each bleach; they used these results to calculate the value for the price per mole of bleach (ClO⁻).

For each bleach they started by calculating the number of moles of sodium thiosulfate it took to reduce the iodine in potassium iodide. This gave the number of moles of ClO⁻ in 25 cm³. From this they worked out the number of moles of ClO⁻ per litre.

The results were that the Tesco Value was 70p per mole of ClO⁻, Tesco Own Brand was £1.00 per mole, and Domestos was £2.10 per mole. Therefore the cheapest option was Tesco Value; however this bleach is very thin and runs off surfaces too easily. So overall they would recommend the Tesco Own Brand due to its higher viscosity; this allows it to stick to surfaces in order to kill microbes as it does not just run off, unlike the Tesco Value. The Domestos was more than double the price per mole of ClO⁻ of Tesco Own bleach, though it was a little more viscous.



By Lauren Stephenson and Darcy Emmet.

VICTIM SUPPORT SESSION WITH SIXTH FORM STUDENTS



In January our sixth form students were given an important session by the charity Victim Support about keeping safe from being a victim of crime. During the session, a volunteer with the Dorset branch of the charity was honoured and presented with an award for his dedication to the cause. The award was presented by Kerry, the manager from the Dorset Branch and Simon Hoare, our local MP.