

# Sheldon Standard

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## A Visit to the National Army Museum

On Tuesday 3rd October, Year 12 and 13 went to the National Army Museum in London to do some further investigation on their upcoming coursework module. It was a useful, productive and interesting visit for all; it featured attending a workshop about conscription, taking a tour of the museum, and viewing exhibits and collections such as the museum's impressive and extremely valuable art gallery. A student in Year 12 said that he found the trip "quite intriguing" and would definitely go again.

All in all, it was a very worthwhile experience that provided valuable insight for the coming coursework for A Level history students.

*Jacob Joad, Year 12*

## Sheldon Sport Hall and Letting News

Want to play badminton? We have several slots on Wednesdays from 7.00 to 10.00 pm, also 6.00 to 9.00 pm on Thursdays cost £8.40 an hour.



Need to hire a room for your club, a gym for your yoga/pilates group, indoor training for your football club? Look no further than here at Sheldon school where we offer very reasonable rates for all our hired facilities.

Contact Lynne on 01249 651056

or [lettings@sheldonschool.co.uk](mailto:lettings@sheldonschool.co.uk)

## South West Biathlon Championships

Sheldon recently sent 16 athletes to the SW Modern Biathlon Championships held at the Bath University Sports Training Village in mid-October. The Under 12 age group swim 50m and run 800m, under 13 and 14 entrants swim 100m and run 1600m while all older competitors swim 200m and run 1600m. Scoring is based on a conversion of run and swim times into points, with a target time to achieve 1000 points for each event. Times faster or slower result in an increase or decrease in points, with the standings then based on overall combined point scores. Pupils compete individually but if there are three or more entries in the same age group, they are also counted as a team and are included in the team competition.

Sheldon can be very proud of our biathletes with a first place for the under 15 Boys team of Adam Graham, Leon Perry and Charlie Hall as well as a second place for the Under 13 Boys team of Louis Perry, Josh Edwards and Ben Harris. Natalie Pidgeon held the highest overall point score for the school with 2133. All athletes are then ranked against other competitors across the country who have taken part in other qualifying trials over the past two months. Five Sheldon pupils—Natalie Pidgeon, Adam Graham, Leon Perry, Charlie Hall and Erica Dunstone — have qualified for the National British Modern Biathlon Championships to be held the last weekend of November in Solihull.

Well done to all and best of luck to those who now go on to the next stage!

## Year 10 Enjoy a Day of Art in London

Fine Art, Art, Craft and Design and Art Textiles students in Year 10 enjoyed a trip to London galleries on Tuesday 31st October. Fine Art students travelled to The National Portrait Gallery where they visited the well-reviewed portrait exhibition by Paul Cezanne and attended an illustrated talk about the artist's work. Of particular interest were paintings of the artist's friends and family that showed their occupation and character. Portraits in a variety of media such as photography and collage, in addition to some hyper-real paintings were admired in the gallery's permanent collection, and students sketched, photographed and made notes for their coursework projects.

Students of Art Textiles and Art, Craft and Design all visited the Victoria and Albert Museum, which houses one of the world's largest collections of artefacts from different cultures and genres. Art Textiles students looked closely at the historic and contemporary garment collection, charting the development of fashion through some fantastic pieces including court dresses from 1750s. They were then able to visit the special display of imaginative fashion garments designed by artist / designer Balenciaga, where many excellent sketches were completed by Sheldon students as inspiration and research for their coursework.

Art, Craft and Design students were able to appreciate a variety of inspirational art objects as they visited many displays at the Victoria and Albert. Among the favourites were ceramics and armour from Japan and China, posters and paintings from different eras and some contemporary artwork involving running water and unfired clay. Students' sketches and photographs will form a valuable part of their coursework projects.

We all had a great day in London, seeing some memorable and iconic examples of art and design. Students' drawings, photographs and notes will contribute to their GCSE coursework and by appreciating the work at first hand, students should be full of ideas to inspire some great art of their own! Well done to all who came on the trip, for their enthusiasm and involvement.

**Many thanks to the Sheldon School Enrichment Fund which helped with funding towards this trip.**

*Mrs P Taylor, Head of Art*

# HEAD-ITORIAL

I know that a number of you attend the three scheduled parent forums for each year group in which various aspects concerning your children in their particular year group are discussed. This week saw the turn of Year 9, at which I was pleased to be in attendance. The school's focus on homework (when is a school not focusing on homework?) suggests good levels of appropriate and quality pieces being set for the Year 9 students, which is vital in the build-up to their selection of GCSE courses – but this should be the practice in all year groups and we will be continually looking at this to make sure this is the case. The parents gathered also fed back very warmly on the LLD system and the positive effect that it is having on lessons – another focus for us this year as we look to make our practices even stronger. We also considered the charities that would be at the centre of fundraising over the year – each group of students decides who they will be supporting – and of course with Children in Need coming up next week, this topic is very timely.

I was also asked about the latest position on the funding situation, given our campaign over the last year or so – and I can report that I am cautiously optimistic that some redress will be seen in each of years 2018/19 and 19/20, but will not know the final details for a few months. Even in these financially straightened times, we have looked carefully at what we can and cannot do – and I would like to think that we have managed the situation carefully with minimal impact on the students; we have also been looking forward to new projects and developments, with a major refurbishment of the library on the agenda. This looks likely to happen and will be a very positive change in the centre of the school that will benefit all of our young people – and perhaps community users too – but we will need your support in helping us get there. From the large parent body we have, I hope that there will be plenty of suggestions for events and ways to raise money towards this facility and as such I would encourage you to get in touch with me. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Neil Spurdell, Headteacher**

## Help - Raise free donations for Sheldon School Enrichment Fund

Christmas is coming and a lot of us will be shopping more online. Whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be raising a free donation for Sheldon School Enrichment Fund.

There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

Head over to the Sheldon School website / Latest News / Easy Fund Raising for all the information and how in 3 easy steps you could be helping raise funds for Sheldon School Enrichment Fund.



integrating health and care

Established in 2004 by two local GPs to provide Doctors Out of Hours cover to the residents of Wiltshire, the company has grown from strength to strength and today also provides monitoring of telecare alarms, a mobile care response service and operates the single point of access for referral management across Wiltshire. The main office is in Chippenham with services being operated from bases across the whole of Wiltshire as well as a telecare monitoring centre in Dorchester and a team of mobile care responders in Bexley. Services run 24/7, 365 days a year and Medvivo currently employs over 340 staff.

## Sheldon Associates

Our featured Associate this week is Medvivo whose profile is below. If you would like to know more about Sheldon Associates, please visit the webpage which can be found under information on the school website or e-mail [associates@sheldonschool.co.uk](mailto:associates@sheldonschool.co.uk)

## Sheldon Students Visit the 'Eternal City'



With a very early start at the beginning of the half term break, 28 Sheldon Art and Photography students from years 11-13 and accompanying PX staff departed for a four-day adventure to the impressive 'Eternal City' of Rome. We arrived to clear blue skies and mild sunshine and set off on foot to begin with a tour of some of the city's most famous sights. We visited Bernini's Trevi Fountain and the Spanish Steps, along with thousands of other tourists enjoying the elegant, beautiful architecture in the warm, late autumn sun!

Day two comprised a visit to the breathtaking ruins of Colosseum followed by a lunch (pizza and gelato!) a stop at the picturesque Piazza Navona and the Pantheon - perhaps the most impressive and powerful location we saw. The historical tours of the morning were contrasted by an afternoon trip to the National Gallery of Modern Art set in the idyllic Borghese Park.

Day three entailed a return to the Roman Forum to draw and photograph the incredible ruins and learn about the former heart of the Roman Empire. Crisp, clear skies provided an ideal backdrop for some lovely studies and well-composed images by the students. The remainder of the day focused on a metro trip to the Vatican City. Our charismatic local tour guide, Gracia, delivered a fascinating art history lecture, talking us through Michaelangelo's most revered works, before guiding us through the world's largest gallery complex, the Vatican Museum, to the climax of the visit; the Cistine Chapel. To end, we took in the beauty of St Peter's Square in the late afternoon sun before heading back to our local restaurant for more tasty and authentic, hearty pasta - we were very well fed!

Making an early start to get the most from our final day, we set off to view and experience some of the most iconic churches in Rome. The rich and highly decorated interiors and grand exterior architecture did not disappoint and provided further opportunities for drawing and photography.

A big thank-you to the staff, Mrs Taylor, Mr Anderton and Mr Goldsworthy and our excellent in-country guides for their support throughout. Well done to all - a huge achievement with some beautiful work produced and many lifelong memories. The students were all excellent, a real credit to themselves and the school.

**Miss Moss - Lead Teacher**

Get your Standard by email. Contact Terry Fediw at [tfediw@sheldonschool.co.uk](mailto:tfediw@sheldonschool.co.uk) and a copy will be sent to you each time the Standard is issued. Items for possible inclusion should also be sent to the same email address