

HEAD-ITORIAL

An afternoon with Gordon

ADVANCE NOTICE REGARDING THE GERMAN EXCHANGE

For all pupils taking part, and parents, there will be an important meeting on Monday 10 March in the main hall between 6.30 and 7.30 pm.

On Thursday and Friday last week I went to the national Youth Sports Trust conference at Telford with Mr Douglas and Mrs Baker. It was attended by hundreds of schools, most of whom are specialist Sports Colleges. One of the things I learnt at the conference is that Sheldon is one of only 26 schools in the country to have sport as a second specialism. This number will not be rising in the foreseeable future, because the option of sport is no longer offered to high performing specialist schools. So Sheldon's status will remain a rare one.

It was very clear from the conference that the government has a lot of belief in the importance of sport in schools. On Thursday we had speeches by the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families and by the Minister for Sport; and on Friday we heard from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sports and the Prime Minister, Gordon Brown. (Many of the audience were just as interested in hearing from Olympic Gold medallists David Hemery and Dame Kelly Holmes.) Mr Brown spoke very well and he was passionate about his belief in the benefits of school sport.

Much of the focus of the government's announcements on sport has been on the London Olympics in 2012. They will be exciting and they aren't far away - our current year 7s will have just finished their GCSEs, and our current year 9s their A levels, when the games begin on July 27th 2012. The government has also recognised the positive impact sport can have on the education of young people: standards have risen faster in Sports Colleges than in schools with other specialisms and any teacher will tell you how

pupils who are physically active will benefit academically. Our second specialism in sport is providing lots of additional sporting and artistic opportunities for pupils; just have a look at the clubs list on the website. I am sure it will also help them to succeed in other subjects.

Gerard MacMahon
Headteacher

DRAMA

Important note for Year 10 Drama students

On Thursday 14 February the Sixth Sense Theatre Company will be performing to Year 10 GCSE Drama students. They specialise in creating drama for teenagers and this year's performance is based on the skateboarding culture.

The students will be required to complete a piece of coursework based on the performance that they see, therefore it is essential that all students are in school to watch. Sixth Sense will perform to Mrs Alcock's and Miss Went's groups during periods 1 and 2, and Mrs Collins' group during periods 3 and 4.

- Arabic Drumming Club ●
- every Monday from 3 until 4 pm ●
- in A1. £20 for the term but ●
- come along to one session as a ●
- taster for free!! ●

Maths SATs - Preparation for Parents evening on Wednesday 6 February, 4-5 pm in M3/M5. Contact Mr Moules for more details

Herman Miller support Year 10 Careers Education and Guidance

As part of our PSRE careers programme, students have been finding out about their options after age 16. They have researched College and Sixth Form, and have also considered the importance of the application process. They have gone through the stages of finding a 'job', completing an application form, and being told who had the chance of being called for interview..

Ms Lucie Collins, HR Manager for Herman Miller, came in and reinforced the need for accuracy and presentation in applications and interviews, and then went through interview techniques with several members of the group. Whilst this was role play, it was taken very seriously and some of our students did very well. Ms Collins was very complimentary and said some of the interviews were better than real ones!

A very big thank you to Ms Collins for giving up her time to work with our Year 10 pupils, and we look forward to her continued help and support.

Well done Year 10!!

Year 9 English SATS 2008

What will I be asked to do? What do the papers consist of?

Reading Paper - 15 minutes to read a booklet, then 1 hour to answer the questions. Remember to annotate the extracts! (32 marks)

Shakespeare Paper - 45 minutes. There will be one question based on the key scenes. What are they? Act 4, Scene 1 (lines 196-325, + Act 5, Scene 4 (whole scene). Your teachers will issue you with a copy! (18 marks)

Writing Paper - 1 hour 15 minutes. There will be two questions, a longer task and a shorter task. Write with suitable and varied sentences and vocabulary, in well developed paragraphs. (50 marks)

For more information speak to your English teacher, check at the English SATs noticeboard or go to BBC Bitesize!

Enrichment Opportunities at Kilve Court

The following courses are available at Kilve Court residential centre in April. all courses cost £131 and provide students the opportunity to enhance particular writing skills:

Years 7 and 8	Short story writing
Years 7 to 11	Travel writing
Years 8 to 11	Documentary style media

See Miss Went for more details and a booking form.

Get your Standard by e mail. Contact Carolyn Wakefield at sheldonstandard@gmail.com and a copy will be sent to you each time the Standard is issued.

Sheldon Standard

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SHEL WE DANCE ??

Watch out Anton du Beke
and Erin Boag!!!!



At present a group of staff are learning to strut their stuff in the school hall on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.45 until 4.30pm under the watchful gaze and expert guidance of Marina and Sarah from Dance4Fun.

It's extremely good fun, good exercise and a wonderful new skill to learn!



..... now calling all Year 12 and 13 students

Due to the success of these classes we would now like to extend an invitation to join the group to all budding ballroom dancers in Years 12 and 13. Perhaps in a few months we could even hold a Strictly Sheldon Dancing competition!

Come along for a trial week and you're sure to get the bug! You'll soon be able to amaze your friends with your new-found ability to Cha Cha, Waltz and Quickstep, to name but a few of the dances which are currently being taught. See Mrs Porter or Mrs Wakefield (in the school office) if you are interested or for more details.

Look forward to seeing you there!

CLUBS

Approximately 100 pupils are participating in new clubs ranging from Badminton, Girls' Football, Tae Kwan Do to Cheerleading! With Government initiatives to get more girls involved in physical activity, Sheldon is definitely playing it's part!

SPORTS COUNCIL - now up and running!

Congratulations to the following pupils who were successful in their applications on to the Sports Council:

Beatrice Moore, Chelsea Chard, David Jenkins, Emma Buchan, Matt Stevens, Natasha Banks, Nick Parks, Rhys James, Sinead Deedigan, Sophie Collins, Tom Stratton, Tyrone Mings and Laura Kelly.

SPORTS AMBASSADORS

Thank you to the many who are helping at Sheldon after school clubs and local primary schools. You are a credit to the school.

COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

At Marlborough College, in atrocious weather conditions the following achieved outstanding results recently: **Minors (Year 7)** Katie Smith, Lois Petty Jenkins, Breanne Murzyn, Liam Sunderland; **Juniors (Years 8 and 9)** Rachel Sykes, Alex Stainthorpe, Georgina Tucker; **Inters (Years 10 and 11)** Sam Boyne, Josh Archer; **Seniors (Years 12 and 13)** Natasha Banks. Congratulations to all runners, particularly the Minor and Junior girls who were part of North Wilts teams who won the team event and are County Champions.

PHYSICS NEWS

Just before Christmas a group of Physics students took part in the British Physics Olympiad competition. The results have just come in and our students did very well. Dmitrii Zaporozhets has gained a Silver award, Chris Habgood, Bronze, and Eleanor Denham, Alex Elliott, Simon Roberts and Andrew Baillie received commendations.



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SHELDON SCHOOL'S NEWSLETTER