



# Sheldon Standard

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## Sheldon Year 11 Leavers' Ball!

Beautiful young ladies in elegant ball gowns and the smartest of young men arrived at Grittleton House as cameras clicked and the party began. The evening was a splendid and fitting end to a successful five years at Sheldon.

Mr Hobson set up his photographic studio and during the course of the evening worked tirelessly capturing the guests in hundreds of photographs. The climax of the evening was, much to the surprise of everyone, a wonderful firework display.

After a very late night, and very little sleep, if any, the year group assembled for an end of Year Review at 10 am the next morning. A staff play, music by students and teachers and an Awards presentation, entertained everyone. The group then left for a buffet lunch at the Rugby Club and a game of bowling at Swindon.

All in all, a splendid time was had by everyone over the two days, and the happy memories of the leavers' events will sustain the year group as they study and work through their GCSE examinations.

**Good Luck !!!!**

### Warhammer News - Step aside Sir Alan

Who needs a new episode of the apprentice when we have something just as exciting happening at Sheldon for REAL!!

Three Y11 students - Adjerdid 'I was nowhere near it when it exploded bruv' Youcef, Braydon 'Give me all your money' Wack and Ben 'Sir Alan who?' Nichols made it through to the regional finals of the UK Young Enterprise competition on Tuesday 24 March. The competition involved four teams of three business students coming up with a concept product or service that was environmentally friendly and that would educate young people. This concept was then presented to three 'dragons' from Bath University. The ideas ranged from an environmentally free leisure park, a student run 'green' marketing company to a coupon reward organisation. The team have now won a place in the National Finals and hopefully they will receive funding to enable them to actually bring their product to life! Let's wish them all the best of luck.

Trevor Sparrow

### Red Nose day Book Review

#### Hothouse Flower

Chloe's family have many secrets, as she finds out when she is tragically hit by a bus and ends up in hospital with a shattered femur.

But she is not an everyday girl you would expect to meet. Home schooled by her parents Chloe does not have any friends. But that doesn't get her down, with her different adventures she has at home whether it's doing maths with her mathematician Dad or just relaxing with her mum, she is always happy.

As she starts to find out the secret, you'll never want to put it down. Sad in places but funny at times, this book will make you want to read on to find out just really what is going on. Will Chloe's life ever go back to how it was?

**By Sophie Aldridge 10TRN**

The Library is having a sale of used books next week, both fiction and non-fiction with prices starting at 10p. Come along and pick up a bargain!

### Day Trip to France fast approaching!

All students going on the trip must have handed their passport and European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to Mr Kimber by Friday 22nd May. Any student on the school collective passport must still hand in their EHIC card. If you need either over the May holiday, see Mr Kimber as soon as possible to let him know.



Year 13 students - it's your final week in school! Farewell to you all - we hope you have a great time at the Leavers' Assembly, Thorpe Park and your Ball at Wellington Barn, Calstone.

Wishing you all the very best for your coming examinations.

**The Sixth Form Team**

# HEAD-ITORIAL

## Sheldon's Standards

We have been having a special focus on standards of uniform over the last week and it will continue this week. Pupils who are not correctly dressed have been getting automatic detentions with their head of year. The resulting transformation in standards has been dramatic.

The things that some boys and girls were getting wrong were mostly to do with ties and top buttons. At Sheldon, top buttons should be done up (we have spare buttons, needles and threads for those whose buttons have escaped) and ties should be fully done up, with the broad end at about belly button length. Shirts should be tucked in. There are also two recent fashions that some girls have experimented with: big belts and coloured undershirts appearing below shirts - neither are allowed. I think all the pupils know our expectations and we get very few arguments about interpretation of the rules.

I read a very interesting book called "The Tipping Point" a few years ago. The thesis was basically that apparently little things can have a disproportionately big impact on a cultural environment. One of the examples given was that keeping the New York subway clean and getting rid of graffiti immediately reduced vandalism, graffiti and crime considerably. I think good uniform standards can be seen as a tipping point in a school culture. If almost all the pupils are well dressed it is clear that they are committed to their community and "on side", it also removes a potential point of conflict with their teachers. As a result, lessons get off to a much more positive start.

I am sure that most pupils leave home beautifully dressed and any negative transformation takes place en route to Sheldon, but it would be very helpful if parents were able to reinforce our standards as children depart in the morning. It is natural for young people to try to push boundaries, but they are also very happy to keep within them when rules are clear and consistently enforced. Thanks to all of you (parents, teachers, other staff and pupils) who are doing your bit to keep Sheldon's standards high. **Gerard MacMahon, Headteacher**

On the weekend of 18 and 19 April a group of pupils completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition through the verdant countryside of Wiltshire. The experience was a great team building opportunity where many of them overcame new challenges and uncovered potentiality that they didn't know existed. Not only was it a beneficial experience but also an enjoyable one. We hope that others are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity in the future. Thanks go to staff who supported us and the time given by Miss Abel.

**Layli Foroudi and Alex Hutton**

It was well worth all the effort - **Chris Carter**

It was great! - **Valerie Vilorio**

It made me more tolerant of others' needs, and improved my ability to work in a team. I had a really good time and had lots of funny moments - **Alex Bower**

It was a rewarding experience where I made new friends and strengthened existing ones - **Jess Dabrowski**

### MONKTON PARK SCHOOL - SCARECROW TRAIL 2009

Due to the huge success of the scarecrow trail last year, Friends of Monkton Park School are once again organising a Scarecrow Trail around Monkton Park Estate.

The theme this year is 'Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes' and will take place during the weekend 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> June. The trail will start and finish at the MS2 store on Eastern Avenue.

Entry forms can be bought for £2 each from outside the store on the day.

All monies raised will go towards updating the school library. Please put this date in your diary and go along and support this fun event.

## SQUID

**Vouchers** - if your child has forgotten their sQuid card and is having to purchase a voucher from Reception, please ensure that they bring in the correct amount of £2.10. The vouchers are held in Reception and there is no change available.

If your child has forgotten their sQuid card and does not have any money on them, they may get a voucher from Reception but will need to reimburse the school on the following day by cash or by sQuid card. If they choose to pay by **cash** please ensure that they bring in the **correct amount of £2.10** as there is no change available in Reception. If your child is paying by **sQuid card** to reimburse the school for a voucher they have had, please make **payment in the Finance Office**.

From 1<sup>st</sup> June pupils will be able to purchase a voucher for limited snack items at break time. There will be a choice of two: A Bacon Roll for 75p or Pizza for 80p. If they don't have cash to pay on the day of purchase they may borrow, but will be expected to repay the following day. Pupils will not be allowed further vouchers until the loan has been repaid. Payment may be made using sQuidcard or cash.

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. Items for possible inclusion should be sent to c.wakefield@sheldonschool.co.uk