



BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

## Children in Need

We had an extraordinary turn out for our Children in Need fundraising days. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise £1789.13!

Thank you to all the staff and students for organising so many great events. We loved seeing the creative fancy dress outfits in our Sixth Form and Sponge the Teacher certainly created a splash!

[Read all about it here.](#)



SHELDON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## PraisePoint Celebrations

What a great term for PraisePoints! In November, we celebrated the 230 students who earned over 100+ PraisePoints with hot chocolate and giant cookies.

[Read more about it here.](#)



Year 7 took the lead again this term with the most PraisePoints overall.

Well done to everyone who worked hard this term to keep up with our Sheldon values to be kind, be brave and be the best you! We are proud of everyone!

## Crazy Crunch Christmas Cross Country

Last week we had over 550 primary students from 11 local schools participate in our annual Cross-Country event organised along with Chippenham Sports Partnership.

Our Sports Leaders and Sports Ambassadors were on hand to provide support to the young runners.

Thanks to Tesco Chippenham for providing mince pies and juice for all the participants after the run.

[Read more about it here.](#)





## Head-itorial

It has been a fantastic Term 2 at Sheldon School with so many amazing events and activities, from sponge the teacher (including myself) for Children in Need, Reverse Advent, Hot Chocolate and Cookie celebration, Christmas Concert, *A Christmas Carol* production, sporting fixtures, Sixth Form Varsity and the Year 7 Christmas market trip to name just a few. I am thoroughly proud to be leading this school and I am realising what a special place it is to work.

This week marked my 100th day as Headteacher and therefore I thought it would be good to reflect on the things that we have achieved in that time and what we are looking to do in Term 3 and 4 to continue to make the school the best it can be. [Read more here](#)



Peter Lynch, Headteacher

## Sheldon Students Take the Stage

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in our Christmas Concert and whole school production of *A Christmas Carol*. We certainly have some talented students in our school!

The winter productions are a highlight of the school calendar and an extraordinary effort of people both on stage and behind the scenes.

We'd like to thank all of the students for their hard work and dedication to their craft, as well as our phenomenal Performing and Expressive Arts faculty that help our students find their voice creatively and give up so much of their time to support their endeavours. We'd also like to say thank you to all the parents that support our students during rehearsals and by attending our productions

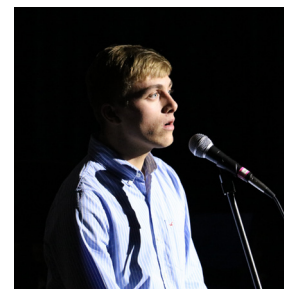
**View more photos and read about our productions on our website.**

[Christmas Concert](#)

[A Christmas Carol](#)

If you'd like to take the stage too, please consider joining one of our performing arts clubs: Sheldon Voices, Orchestra, Ukulele Club, Music Tech Club, Flute Group, Brass Group or Drama Club.

More information about clubs can be found on our website and epraise.



## Musical Spotlight

Many congratulations to all my students on their fantastic exam results.

**Susie S - Year 11**  
Grade 5 Flute

**Sophie H - Year 10**  
Grade 5 Flute

**Lara M - Year 10**  
Grade 5 Theory (Distinction) &  
Grade 6 Flute (Distinction)

**Poppy C - Year 8**  
Grade 3 Flute (Merit)

**Harriet T - Year 12**  
Grade 8 Flute

**Charlie B - Year 9**  
Grade 3 Piano (Merit)

There are still spaces available if you would like to take up individual music lessons from one of our visiting music teachers. Please get in touch for more details. If cost is a concern, we can help you find opportunities for funding lessons and instruments for those on reduced incomes.

Don't miss the latest issue of **The Sheldonian**, our student run newspaper

**Now available online!**

Want to be a reporter?  
Join the Newspaper Club  
Thursdays at 3pm in E8!

## Our Christmas Traditions

From Christmas Markets to German Baking, Christmas Jumper Day to Carolling, we've enjoyed many seasonal activities at Sheldon to welcome the festive season!



*Perfect trip to Bath Christmas Market.*



*Year 7 Carolling at Fairways Care home*



*A-Level German Baking Day*



*Christmas Lunch in the Refectory*

## Coming Up in Term 3

**2-3 January**  
SDD Day (open for staff only)

**4 January**  
First Day of Term 3

**4 January**  
Sixth Form Reunion  
Class of 2023

**w/c 15 January**  
Year 11 Mock Exam Week

**16 January**  
Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening

**17 January**  
Year 13 Parent Info Evening

**w/c 22 January**  
Sixth Form Study Leave Week

**25 January**  
Year 8/9 Parent Info Evening

**26 January**  
Deadline for Sixth Form  
Applications (Sept 2024 intake)

**1 February**  
Year 9 Options Evening

**w/c 5 February**  
Children's Mental Health Week

**9 February**  
Last Day of Term

**12-17 February**  
Ski Trip

**Please Note:** from next term, lunch will be extended. The bell now will ring at 1pm to begin PM Tutor time at 1:05pm.



## Tennis Club Supports Deaf Students

Our deaf and hard of hearing students have had a fantastic start to their tennis lessons provided by the Chippenham Tennis Club and the Lawn Tennis Association.

Thank you to Mrs Freeman for helping arrange this opportunity to play together and build a positive deaf identity.

[Read more about it here.](#)





## Reverse Advent Donation Day a Huge Success

Thank you to everyone for donating generously to our Reverse Advent. We had so many wonderful items donated that we were able to prepare hampers for families in our community as well as donate to local food banks including Spero Food-bank and St Peter's Church FoodBox.

We are very grateful to Miss Owen and Mr Wolff for organising the Reverse Advent, as well as our Prefect Charity Committee for helping to sort out the items!

Congratulations to our 500 Club Winners for our first draw of the year!

1st Place - £50  
Family of Evie F - Year 7

2nd Place - £30  
Family of George C - Year 8

3rd Place - £15  
Family of Isaac D - Year 8

Joining the 500 Club helps raise funds for our Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund—supporting enrichment activities, clubs and trips that benefit all students.

[Learn more about the SSOF on our website.](#)



## Sixth Form Varsity

Congratulations to Year 12 for winning the Sixth Form Varsity! It was a hard fought battle across many sports including dodge ball, badminton, volleyball, football and hockey.

[Read more here](#)



## Pokemon Club Featured in Bath & Wiltshire Parent Magazine

We recently welcomed Pokemon VP of Sales, Simon Benton to our Pokemon Club. He very generously donated items to the club and to our students.

[Read all about it in the most recent edition of the Bath & Wiltshire Parent Magazine!](#)



## Sheldon Remembers

Thank you to everyone who helped mark Remembrance Day at Sheldon. We held a lovely ceremony at the flagpole attended by our Leadership Team, Senior Prefects, Sixth Form Presidents and students.

Mr Goldsworthy and Alice P in Year 7 lead a beautiful rendition of The Last Post while Josh and Eloise from Sixth Form did a reading.

We'd also like to thank Mrs Rahn in DT for organising the beautiful display poppies made by our students during tutor time.

[Read more about it here.](#)

## Clubs at Sheldon

We have some great clubs starting up at Sheldon next term including the new Fitness Club and Drama Club!

Whatever your interest we have a club for you! Check out epraise to sign up, or speak to the staff member in charge.



## Educational Enrichment

This term we had many of great enrichment opportunities for our students including trips to London to visit Parliament and the V&A, Birmingham for the Christmas Market, Lacock to learn about photography, the [Christmas Lectures at the Oxford Museum of Natural History](#) and to view artist studios at Pound Arts Centre in Corsham.

We also welcomed visitors from the Solomon Theatre Company, [Zakon Consultancy](#) and the [Flying Start Challenge](#).



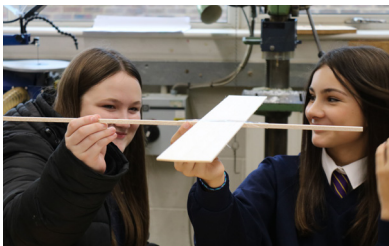
Criminology students get expert training during Crime Scene Day



Art students visiting the Pound Arts Centre, Corsham



Year 7 take a MFL trip to the Birmingham Christmas Market



Y9 learn engineering during the Flying Start challenge

## Sheldon Sports

We've had an excellent term for sports at Sheldon with plenty of great results and a lot of fun for our sports teams and PE classes!



## Update from Sheldon Board of Governors

In November, nominations were sought from the parent body to fill the parent governor vacancies on the school's Full Governing Board. During the nomination period, an existing parent governor resigned from the Board, taking the total of vacancies up to 3.

Three nominations were received and the three nominees were therefore elected unopposed.

I am pleased to welcome our new parent governors—Rebecca Adams, Enoch Agyepong and Maria Fuente—to the Board and look forward to working with them.

Louise Carver,  
Chair of Governors

## Lettings at Sheldon

Once the school day is over, our facilities are available to let out. We have a wide variety of spaces available for sporting clubs, meetings and other group activities.

[Find out more about our lettings programme on our website.](#)

One of our long-standing letting partners, [Chippenham Flower Club](#) is currently recruiting new members. If you are interested in learning more about flower arranging, please get in touch!



Best of luck to all our students preparing for mock exams next term.

We hope you enjoy your break and that you use the time to rest up while you prepare for revision.

You're going to smash it!

## Thank You Parents!

We'd like to thank everyone for attending our parent information evenings, workshops and virtual parent evenings last term.

Your support is vital to creating the best outcomes for our students. We appreciate your participation in all of our events.

## Have a wonderful holiday break!

We can't wait to see everyone in new year for the start of Term 3 on Thursday 4 January 2024!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Photo by Harry T. Year 10

From Everyone at Sheldon School 

### Christmas Gifts

by Alyx F - Year 13

What did you get?  
A phone  
And You  
A Prada perfume

Me? A teddy bear.  
A teddy bear I'll cherish forever, a teddy bear.  
Is that all? I'm asked.  
All? People have more than one?

I lie and say no like I should be ashamed.  
But I'm not the only one.

That man you walk passed in the shops.  
He smiled to say Hi.  
You ignored him and walked by.

Yet you didn't know:  
His wife died,  
His children gone,  
He is alone.

The Kid in your class?  
He got a warm meal,  
Been living off the food bank,  
But it doesn't help him heal.

Your best friend?  
They finally got heating in their house,  
Shivering under blankets for warmth.  
Yet we take it for granted.

Christmas is not just for gifts and cards.  
It's about each other and how we treat them.  
It's about knowing what we have and others don't.

So remember someone at this time of year.  
And Merry Christmas to you and your gifts.

### What is the true meaning of Christmas?

by Students of 7ISP

What is the true meaning of Christmas?

Is it children playing,  
Or Santa slaying?

The gingerbread making,  
Or the outside ice skating?

Is it the reindeer that are grunting,  
Or the best present hunting?

The mince pies I'll be eating,  
Or the friends to be meeting?

Is it the snow on the ground,  
Or the laughter all around?

The true meaning of Christmas is not for  
the gifts,  
Or walks near the cliffs.

So I hope this reminds us,  
That Christmas is for kindness.



Illustration by Libby T, Year 10