



BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

SHELDON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Mock Exams Success

We'd like to congratulate our Year 11 and 13 students for their excellent efforts during our Mocks in January. Over 2 weeks, 447 students sat 90 different exams in 16 different venues across the school - that's 3467 exam papers overall!

It's never easy getting into exam mode after the holiday break,

but all of our students showed great maturity and dedication.

Year 11 will find out the results of their exams when we return in Term 4 and will soon have a new revision schedule to help them prepare for their summer exams.

We would like to thank our invigilators and site team for helping keep the exams running smoothly, PE faculty for letting exams take over the Sports Hall and to all of our students for their patience as classrooms

shifted during the Mocks period.

We would not have successful Mocks without the efforts of our Exams Department who keep everything organised and make sure that all students needs are met during the process.

Note: If you were a Y11 or Y13 Leaver in 2023 and have not collected your exam certificates, they have all been sent by registered post. Please let us know if you have any questions or don't receive your certificate.

Donation for Deaf Students

We would like to extend a special thank you to the family of Tony Cleverly for their generous donation in memory of their father to benefit deaf and hard of hearing children at Sheldon.

We were able to use it to fund a special event for deaf students in Years 7 - 11 at the Chippenham Sports Club. Events like this help our students to foster a positive deaf identity and allow them to have fun and socialise with other young people outside of the classroom setting.



[Read more here](#)

Duke of Edinburgh Awards Evening

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Presentation Evening took place last month with 43 Y10 students and 6 Y11 students who receiving their Bronze and Silver Awards.

Mr Lynch and Miss Langdon spoke to students and parents about their DofE year and the links they make with Sheldon's values to be kind, be brave and be the best you. We also had a guest speaker Jackie Gent, the Operations Officer of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The evening was a great opportunity to celebrate the hard work, commitment and physical challenge required to complete the award. Many of the Year 10 students are working on their Silver Awards and we look forward to seeing them back next year along with all the students beginning their DofE journey.

Congratulations to all students involved!

[Read more about how you can join the Duke of Edinburgh Awards on our website.](#)

Current DofE participants lookout for details about the first training session in March!



Head-itorial

This term has been a busy one at Sheldon with our Year 11 and Year 13 students sitting their mock exams, a trip to Pencelli for our Year 9 and Year 10 students and plenty of successes for our sports teams. We had a very successful Year 9 Options Evening for parents and students to learn more about their options for KS4 and our Duke of Edinburgh Presentation Evening for the students who completed their Bronze and Silver Awards last year.

What strikes me through each of these events is how wonderfully our Sheldon students show their commitment to our school values. Whether it's being kind as students support each other through exam revision, being brave as they face new challenges and try new activities or their commitment to 'being the best you' as our Year 9 students consider what they study in the future – I am constantly impressed by, and proud of, the young people in our school.



Peter Lynch, Headteacher

Adventure in the Great Outdoors at Plas Pencelli

Forty-eight students from Year 9 and 10 travelled to the Brecon Beacons last month for a week of outdoor education and adventure.

They participated in activities including caving, canoeing, climbing, mountain walking and gorge walking at the Plas Pencelli outdoor education centre in South Wales.

The trip was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the young participants to develop their personal and social skills, as well as gain a better appreciation of the natural world through outdoor adventure activities.

Rob Humphreys, Head of PE at Sheldon said: "The trip was a resounding success. Every single student was a credit to the school. They threw themselves into every activity in challenging environments and conducted themselves superbly all week."

During the cold, windy week the students split into four groups exploring different areas of the region. Each group completed a 13.5k walk across the Brecon Beacons to the highest peak, Pen y Fan. They also canoed 6k along the River Usk and explored the Porth yr Ogor cave.

Other activities included climbing, gorge walking and orienteering. At night the students had a Fun Olympics and an egg drop challenge.

They also participated in the infamous Dingle Ascent, a team building exercise in which each group has to navigate a through

a stream bed in the dark. This event requires excellent teamwork and communication – and inevitably leaves everyone a bit wet.

"We are very proud of our students that attended the trip and showed great Sheldon spirit as they engaged in activities many had never tried before," said Sheldon Headteacher, Peter Lynch. "They expertly demonstrated our school values to 'Be Kind' as they worked together as a team, to 'Be Brave' as they took on new challenges and to 'Be the Best You' as they showed resilience during difficult activities."

Plas Pencelli is an outdoor education centre owned by Swindon Borough Council that has been operating for over 40 years and has strong connections with Wiltshire schools.

Students from Sheldon have been visiting Plas Pencelli for many years and it continues to be one of the highlights of the Sheldon experience. Will you be up for the challenge next year?





Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund

The Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund is a Registered Charity in England and Wales (number 1116688)

Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund Updates

The SSOF raises money to fund much needed equipment and activities for all students at the school. It helps support the extensive enrichment programmes at Sheldon – including subsidising trips and providing materials for clubs and activities like DofE and Ten Tors. Without your support, student activities would be much more expensive!

This year, we are focusing on investment around the school. We want our students to enjoy the outside areas and have fun activities during breaks and lunchtime.

The SSOF has already donated £1,000 from the fund for the new basketball hoops in the playgrounds for use during break and lunch. We want to raise more funds for further games equipment, seating areas and activities for all students to enjoy.

The more money we can raise, the more we can provide!

With this in mind, we have a few new fundraising events coming up. If you would like to join the SSOF to help organise an event or have a business that could sponsor a raffle prize, please contact us at opportunityfund@sheldonschool.co.uk

Spring Raffle

Win big with our online raffle! Tickets are just £1 and we have lots of great prizes including:

- WOMAD 4-Day Family ticket and camping pass
- £50 Halfords Voucher
- Bosch 3.6v 1 x 2 Li-ion cordless screwdriver IXO7
- 2 tickets to Reel Cinema
- 2 Castle Combe race circuit passes for 2024 season
- £25 Laser Quest voucher
- Tickets to Badminton Gardens Open Day
- And much more!

Our raffle ends **Friday 22 March** so get your tickets quick! And don't forget to share the link to family and friends!

[Click here to get your tickets for the SSOF Online Raffle!](#)

Other ways to donate

There are so many ways you can help support the SSOF!

Justgiving

We've just launched a campaign for our new playground project. [Donate today and help make lunchtime more fun for our kids!](#)

Join the 500 Club

Get your numbers on ParentPay before the next draw on 26 March and you could win a cash prize!

Donate via ParentPay

You can make a donation at anytime for any amount via ParentPay. Don't forget type Gift Aid in the notes field if you are a UK taxpayer and we can earn an extra 25p for ever £1 donated!

Easy Fundraising

Sign up to help us earn money while you shop online. There's no catch or hidden charges. We've already raised over £3k for the SSOF through Easy Fundraising. [Click here to get started.](#)



Quiz Night

Save the date for our SSOF adult quiz night on **Friday 28 June at 7pm**

More details to come about how to register your teams. It will be a great night of fun to support Sheldon students!

[Click here to learn more about the SSOF](#)

Sheldon Footballer Heads to Lithuania

Harry C in Year 9 recently travelled to Lithuania to take part in the Ateitus Cup International Youth Football Tournament. Harry is a forward for BWB03 and was selected to represent Bath and West Wiltshire School's FA against other leading European teams, including Juventus.

His team did very well and even made it out of the group stages! This was an incredible opportunity for Harry to play high-level football with other young people across Europe.

[Read more here](#)



Term 3 Highlights

The Y9 football team won the Mid Wilts tournament and is heading to the final in April.



Our Y10 Netball team are area Champs after winning against St Mary's.



Sheldon Cross Country Success

Congratulations to all the students that performed incredibly well at the County Cross Country event hosted at Sheldon on 13 January.

Best of luck to the 4 runners competing in the National Schools Cross Country Championship in Leeds this March!

[Read more here](#)



High Jump Success for Sheldon Student

Year 11 student, Otis P recently jumped an astonishing 2m at a recent competition in Cardiff. This is not only a major milestone for Otis, but puts him in an elite group of athletes to achieve that height.

[Otis was featured in the Bath Chronicle for his success.](#)

He was also recently named the U17 Team Bath Athlete of the year and was invited by England Athletics to train at Loughborough University through their youth talent programme.



Sheldon Clubs

Over 20 students test their chess skills every Wednesday lunchtime in the library. We are hoping to arrange a match against Hardenhuish soon!



Its all laughs during at the Christian Union Club on Friday lunchtime in A11.



Y7 Wellbeing Club are working hard on making beautiful beaded keyrings. Join them in P4 on Fridays at lunch time.



National Apprenticeship Week

Thank you to everyone who visited our lunchtime pop-ups as part of the 17th annual National Apprenticeship Week.

We were very pleased to have representatives from Wiltshire Council, Wessex Water, BRB Engineering, BAE Systems, Bath College, Snapdragons Nursery, British Army, Royal Navy and



Specsavers join our programme to speak to students about apprenticeship opportunities after they leave school.

This year, the theme for NAW is Skills for Life. We aim to provide students at Sheldon with skills that will be useful throughout their lives. Our Careers Advisor helps students prepare for the working world through advice, guidance and interview preparation.

[Click here to read more about Careers Education Information and Guidance at Sheldon.](#)



The Sheldonian Student Newspaper

[Read the latest issue here!](#)

If you want to join the Newspaper Club, sign up on epraise or come to E8 on Thursdays after school.

Flying Start Challenge

Three teams progressed to the third round to test out their glider designs with hope of going on to the next level of the competition at UWE



Pokemon Tournament Champion

Congratulations to Joe, winner of our first Pokemon Club Tournament. He played a great game against Jack and walked away with a fantastic prize donated to the club by Pokemon VP, Simon Benton.

There will be more tournaments this year with even more prizes to be won. If you'd like to join the club, sign up on epraise or come to the Library on Mondays after school.



Term 4 Dates

Mon 19/2
Term 4 Begins

Tues 20/2
Y9 Mock Results Day

Wed 21/2
Y9 Parents Evening (L side)

Mon 26/2
Y9 Parents Evening (R side)

Tues 27/2
KS4 Options Form Opens

Wed 6/3
KS4 Options Form Due

Thurs 7/3
World Book Day

Fri 15/3
Red Nose Day

Tues 19/3
Y11 Parents Evening

Mon 25/3
Dance Show - Step Into It

Tues 26/3
Parent Info Evening

Wed 27/3
Y13 Parents Evening

Fri 29 March
Good Friday - School Closed

29 Mar - 13 Apr
Easter Holidays

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.](#)

Space to Balance Yoga has spaces available in upcoming evening and weekend classes held in our beautiful dance studio.

[Learn more here](#)

Have a wonderful midterm break!

Enjoy your pancakes and Valentines. We'll see you all for Term 4 on Monday 19 February 2024!