



BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

Sheldon is a 'Good' School!

It's official, our Ofsted results are in and Sheldon School and Sixth Form was declared 'Good' in all categories during our inspection in March.

Headteacher, Peter Lynch, said: "We are delighted with the 'Good' rating across all categories. It reflects the hard work and dedication of our students, staff and the entire school community. Everyone should be incredibly proud of this school. The next step is to build upon this strong foundation and develop a truly exceptional school for Chippenham and its community."

The report praised the behaviour of our students and the "purposeful ethos" of pupils in lessons. Students reported that they felt part of the "Sheldon community".

[Read more on our website](#)



Congratulations, Ten Tors Teams!

This annual event organised by the British Army challenges 2,400 young people to navigate through Dartmoor on a 35, 45 or 55 mile route in teams of 6 over 2 days with only a map and a compass. Sheldon has always been a strong competitor and has sent teams to Ten Tors since 2013.

We received wonderful coverage before and after the event with our students and Ten Tors manager, Mr Page, appearing on BBC Wiltshire to talk about the event.

Despite the record heat during the event, our teams completed the challenge in great time and with high spirits.

This was a special year because both Mr Page and Mrs Goldsmith received

recognition for their 15+ years of volunteering with Ten Tors.

Thank you to all our volunteers, including former students for assisting teams on training walks and cheering them on at the finish.

Ten Tors was supported by the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund.

[Read more about the event and view photos on our website.](#)

Head-itorial

It has been a fantastic term here at Sheldon School with so many events and achievements to be proud of. If you would like to see regular updates on what our students are doing, please ensure you are following our [Facebook page](#).

In term six we are going to move the timings of the school day slightly. Parents will not notice any difference as the start and end of the school day will remain the same. However, the change will align with our neighbours at Hardenhuish. This will help Sixth Form students to access lessons in both schools more easily, as the timings of lessons will match. The new changes will also allow us to move the assembly and extended tutor slot to the morning and, in doing so, will free up an indoor space at lunchtime for students to use. If you need reminder of the school day timings, **you can always find it on our website**.

[Read more](#)

Peter Lynch, Headteacher

Young Musician of the Year 2024

The School Hall was filled with music earlier this term as our students took the stage for the Young Musician of the Year Awards and Concert.

Our students showed their incredible musical ability and diversity with performances including everything from Chopin to Iron Maiden.

Congratulations to Liam in Year 7, George in Year 11 and Harriet in Year 12 for taking home the top prizes of the night, as well as Luca in Year 9, Ethan in Year 10 and Mia in Year 12 for being selected runners up.

Of the evening, Headteacher Peter Lynch said, "It is an incredible honour to lead the school on a night like this. All the performers are exceptional and have shown commitment to our values to be brave and be the best you."

Our awards evening was adjudicated by special guest Tim



Our 2024 Young Musician of the Year Awards winners, Liam (Y7), George (Y11) and Harriet (Y12).

Harrison, former Sheldon music teacher and current Assistant Director of Music at QEH School. He is also the conductor of Bristol Youth Orchestra and Bristol Metropolitan Orchestra.

We couldn't hold events like this without a team of talented individuals behind the scenes. Thank you to our music teacher, Laura Hall, for organising the event and for sharing her passion for music with our students.

We'd also like to thank all of our music teachers for encouraging our students to take the stage. Thank you to Clare Hodgkin for providing piano accompaniment and to Sixth Form music technology student, Anna, for running flawless sound on the night.

[Read more and view pictures from the concert on our website](#)

Sheldon Receives Grant for Mental Health Provision

Sheldon School recently received an award from Chippenham Borough Lands Charity for £8,000 to support mental health provision in the school. This funding is being used to provide external counselling support in addition to our full-time school counsellor.

Thank you to Chippenham Borough Lands Charity for their support and for championing mental health for the young people of Chippenham.



CHIPPENHAM
Borough Lands
SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1554

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.

Supporting Active Girls in Schools

Our Y9 Girls Sports Ambassadors had the opportunity to meet with Paralympians Kate Grey and Louise Hunt.

They talked to the group about how to keep girls active in school and life. They came up with great ideas to share with our PE Faculty.

Our Sports Ambassadors were also busy this term sharing their love of sports with local primary students. They taught football skills during our Euros event and umpired the Primary Schools Cricket Festival.



Geography Trip to Netherlands

Our geography GCSE and A Level students had an amazing time exploring the Netherlands over the Easter Break.

Our enrichment trips help bring the concepts they are learning in the classroom to life and also give students an opportunity to see the world.

Along with visiting windmills, traditional Dutch farms and exploring cities like The Hague,

Amsterdam and Rotterdam our students also got to visit Zandmotor beach, a coastal maintenance project that allowed them to see principles of sustainability and innovation in action.

[Read more](#)

Sheldon Mathematicians Go for Gold

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the UK Junior Maths Challenge in April.

We had over 130 students in Y7 and Y8 take the exam with an extraordinary 68 students taking home certificates for

Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

Five students brought home Gold certificates and will be moving on to the next level of the competition, including twins Max and Jack in Y7.

We'd like to encourage all students who participated but didn't receive a certificate to try again next year – especially if you were close to the Bronze cut-off. It's worth remembering that 15 marks off is only 3 questions!

Thank you to the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund for providing a grant for the entry fee for the challenge.

[Read more](#)



We've been very proud of all of our students sitting exams this term. Keep up the excellent work next month. You're going to smash it!



***Are you starting secondary school in 2025?
Come visit us to find out all about Sheldon!***

Open Mornings

Monday 24 & Tuesday 25 June 2024
9:15am & 11:15am

Open Evening

Wednesday 26 June 2024
6:30pm-8:15pm

[Find out more here](#)



Quiz Night

Hosted by Mr Lynch

Friday 28 June 2024 @ 6:30pm

BYOB — snacks and soft drinks also available

Register your team on ParentPay — £5 per person

Help raise money for the **Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund** so that our children can get the most out of school with engaging enrichment activities, clubs and trips.

Is your team registered for our Quiz Night yet? Book your team today as spaces are filling up fast! It's going to be a great night all for a great cause—the Sheldon students!

Along with the Quiz, we'll also have a raffle during the night with prizes including a Sheldon teddy bear, luxury gift hampers and vouchers from [Roz Chandler Fitness](#), [Soil & Stem](#), [Bargammon's Tavern](#) and more!

If you have any prizes for the raffle that you would like to donate, please drop them off at reception.

The Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund (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. We are also working on a new initiative to better equip the school's lunchtime spaces so that all students can find an activity to enjoy during breaks. With your support, we can give students opportunities to learn and grow outside the classroom.

Here are some of the activities you've helped to fund through the SSOF this term:



Entry fees, mess tent, and equipment for our 2024 Ten Tors teams.



Trip to Bletchly Park for mathematics students in Year 8 and Year 9.



Entry fee for the Great Big Dance Off competition.

We've launched a new school lottery! Play now to help raise funds for the SSOF!

It's simple—choose 6 numbers between 0-9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25K jackpot!

Tickets cost just £1 per week!

Our first Sheldon draw will be on 20 July, so get your tickets today!

[Click here to get your tickets](#)



Young Scientists Recognised by Royal Society of Chemists

Congratulations to the four Y13 chemists who competed in the RSC Chemistry Olympiad.

This is a prestigious competition for chemists across the British Isles. It is designed to challenge and inspire students to push themselves further and excel in the field.

Well done to Elliot and Molly who both gained a bronze medal. Hats off to Georgie and Emma who were awarded silver! Emma was 2 marks shy of gold!!

Three of the four have applied to study chemistry at university and would be an asset to any chemistry department.

Well done to you all — and good luck!

Sheldon Dance Company Head to National Finals

Congratulations to the Sheldon Dance Company for their success in the South West regional heat of the Great Big Dance Off.

They came in second in regionals and will now compete in the national finals in July.

Thank you to the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund for providing funding for the competition.

[Read more here](#)



Fashion & Textile Students Visit the Hogwarts of Costumes Design

Fashion and Textiles students from Y10-Y13 recently had the opportunity to visit Warner Bros studios to see the making of the Harry Potter films.

[Read more here](#)



Homework Survey Results

Thank you to all the parents and carers that participated in our recent homework survey. Our staff are working to improve consistency in logging homework as complete or incomplete. We will respond to parent queries from the survey in the coming weeks.

[Read more here](#)

Homework Survey Results



New epraise homework add on is easy to navigate



Deadlines and what has been set are clear for their child



Homework is now set more regularly



Children are more engaged with homework



Knowing more facts is beneficial to their child's progress

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.

Sheldon hosts many community clubs that brings in much needed funding for the school. If you have sporty 3 to 5 year, take them along to Rugby Tots or First Steps Soccer. If you want polish up on those line dancing skills, we have just the class for you!

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

Student Celebration

This term we had a special celebration for students that received zero demerits in Terms 3 and 4. Every student with this achievement was invited to have cookies and hot chocolate during PM tutor time. An amazing 170 students received this reward — 25 from Year 11, 40 from Year 10, 19 from Year 9, 34 from Year 8 and 52 from Year 7!

We hope they enjoyed themselves and keep up the excellent behaviour!



Great Guests at Sheldon

We had incredible guest speakers this term including authors, adventurers, activists and more!

Rob Eastaway brought maths and Shakespeare together in his highly enjoyable Much Ado About Numbers presentation.

[Read more](#)



Roz Savage spoke to Sixth Form students about her record breaking attempts to row solo across the Atlantic & Pacific.

[Read more](#)



CLlr Liz Allstrom and Librarian Tracey Hager visited students to let them know about the Chippenham Teen Takeover Weekend.



Y7 and Y9 students received a Digital Empowerment Workshop from the Stay Safe Initiative. There will also be an online training for parents on 6 June.

[Read more](#)



Sheldon Sixth Form Y13 Leavers' Day

Our Year 13 Leavers' Day was full of sunshine and laughs as we celebrated their last day of school before exams begin. We couldn't have asked for better weather to send

off this wonderful group of students. Many of our Sixth Form students entered Sheldon in Year 7 and it has been a pleasure to watch them grow and develop over the years into talented young adults about to head off into further studies, gap years, apprenticeships and more!

[Read more here](#)



Deaf Awareness Week at Sheldon

Thank you to everyone who supported Deaf Awareness Week by watching the videos made by our deaf students, buying cakes to support the National Deaf Children's Society and using your BSL at the cake sale.

It was wonderful to have conversations throughout the week about how to communicate with deaf peers and to see the enthusiasm for BSL at Sheldon.

Thank you to Mrs Freeman, Teacher of the Deaf, for organising and to all of our students for taking part.

[Watch videos here](#)

[Learn about our Hearing Resource Base here](#)



DofE Updates

Well done to all of our DofE Silver Award participants that completed their qualifying expedition this term. They had a beautiful weekend camping in the Quantocks at the end of April.

Our Bronze Award students had their first practice expedition last weekend and had a great time exploring our local area as they walked from Chippenham to Marlborough.

Next term our Bronze group will complete their qualifying expedition and Gold will take on their practice expedition.

If you are working towards an award, please make sure you are completing all of the evidence for each section.

[Read more about DofE here](#)

[Read about the Silver Expedition and view photos here](#)



Sporting Superstars

There were plenty of sporting accomplishments this term from students and teachers alike. Humanities teacher, Mr Couzens, ran the London Marathon to raise funds for Crohn's and Colitis UK and Language Teacher, Mr Lister, did 100 push-ups every day in April for Cancer Research UK. Well done to you both!



Our Y7 Boys Football team won the County Cup Final, beating Hardinhuish 7-5!



Sixth Form student, Filip, has been invited to the Jujitsu GB Youth Team! .



Thomas in Y7 was just appointed Captain of the U13 Wiltshire team!



Heidi in Y9 recently won gold in the Taekwondo Long Kick competition!



Our U13 boys (Y7 & Y8) Cricketers were unbeaten at the Wiltshire State Schools tournament!

Show Jumper Heads to National Championships!

Congratulations to Archie in Year 8 who qualified for the National School's Equestrian Association Show Jumping Championships with his horse Royal Sylvia Express.

They finished in 3rd place in a very competitive class at the weekend, earning a place in

the 80cm class this October at Addington Equestrian Centre, Buckinghamshire.

We would also like to thank his family and the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund for their support of the school's equestrian team.

If you and your horse/pony would like to join our team, speak to Mrs Minors in the humanities department to find out more. There is the opportunity to represent the school in many disciplines and at all levels.

Term 5 Dates

Mon 03/06

Term 6 Begins

w/c 03/06

Y10 Work Experience

Thu 06/06

Parenting in Digital World
Zoom Workshop

Fri-Tue 07-11/06

German Exchange

w/c 10/06

Y10 Work Experience

Thu 20/06

Y11 Prom

Mon & Tue 24-25/06

Open Mornings

Wed 26/06

Open Evening

Thu 27/06

Second Hand Uniform Sale

Fri 28/06

Olympic Fun Run

Fri 28/06

Quiz Night

Mon 01/07

Summer Concert

Tue 02/07

Y13 Ball

w/c 08/07

Y12 Work Experience

w/c 11/07

Sixth Form Expedition

Fri 12/07

Transition Day - school open for current Y6 transitioning to Sheldon only, closed to all other students

Mon 15/07

Transition Day - school open for all

Mon & Tue 15-16/07

New Parents' Evening

Fri 19/07

Last Day of Term 6
12:30 Finish

Have a wonderful mid-term break!

We'll see you all for Term 6 on Mon 03 June 2024! It's the last term of the year, so let's make it great!