



BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

Work Experience

Our Year 10 and Year 12 students headed out into the real world for their Work Experience weeks this term.

This is a great opportunity to try different industries and get a taste of various career paths.

Ethan in Year 10 spent his week at Air Salvage International at Cotswold Airport.

"I had a fantastic time. I've enjoyed seeing all the different planes...and getting a feel for what the world of work really feels like," reported Ethan.

[Read more here](#)



Hameln Cultural Exchange

Last month, a group of Year 8 students travelled to Hameln, Germany as part of our long running cultural exchange partnership with Schiller Gymnasium.

They had a wonderful time visiting the historic town and surrounding areas. They learned all about the famous Pied Piper of Hameln, experienced the thrill of a summer toboggan and spent the day at the Movie Park theme park.

Their final day was spent at Schiller Gymnasium where students were able to pair with German students to practice their language skills.

Thank you to the staff that travelled with our students on the trip and to UK-German Connection for providing a grant for this programme.

Thank you also to our students for being such great representatives for Sheldon!

[Read more here](#)



South West Young Chef of the Year

Congratulations to Ruby, Scarlett and Eva for representing Sheldon in the Wiltshire leg of the South West Young Chef of the Year Competition earlier this month.

During the final round, the students had 90 minutes to prepare and make their dishes.

Their dishes were then judged Master Chef style by illustrious professional chefs -- Hywel Jones, Executive Chef at Lucknam Park in Bath; Chris Cleghorn, Executive Chef at the Olive Tree in the Queensberry Hotel, Bath; Stephen Lloyd, Chef Lecturer at Wiltshire College.

While our students did not progress to the South West Final of the competition, we were incredibly proud of their work and their commitment to Sheldon values to 'be brave' and 'be the best you'. They made impressive, complex meals that tasted delicious as well!

[Read more here](#)



Exam Results Days

A Levels — Thursday 15 August from 8am

GCSEs — Thursday 22 August from 8:30am

Please come to the Sixth Form Study Area to collect your results. Staff will be on hand if you need advice on your next steps.

Head-itorial

As we reach the end of my first academic year here at Sheldon School, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your support and involvement in school life over the last 12 months.

When I took this role, I knew Sheldon was going to be a special place to work, but it has exceeded all my expectations. I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to building on our successes next year and beyond.

I want to thank all the staff at Sheldon School for their hard work and dedication in making the school the place it is. If you get the opportunity to email them and thank them at this very busy time of year, I am sure they would appreciate it.

[Read more](#)

Peter Lynch, Headteacher

Congratulations New Prefects

Earlier this term our new Prefects were appointed and they were quickly put to work welcoming visitors during our Open Evening and helping new Year 7 students during our Induction Days.

We are very pleased to announce our head students this year — Eve and Elod (Head Students), Ross and Anneka (Deputy Head Students). They all show a great commitment to Sheldon values and are very active in school clubs and events. We know they'll do a wonderful job as role models and leaders in the school!



Sixth Form Presidents

After a rigorous process involving a letter of application, a presentation to their year group, an interview with the Headteacher, Head of Year and Head of Sixth Form and a public vote — we announced yesterday that Rhys and Rufus will be co-Student Presidents.

The panel were unanimous that we could've appointed any of the students who applied this year. It was the strongest field in at least 6 years.

Congratulations to fellow candidates Louis, Patrick and Harriet for their excellent campaigning. They will all be involved in the Sixth Form Student Leadership team next year.

Sheldon Hustings

On Friday 14 June, Sheldon School hosted a General Election Hustings, allowing local candidates standing for MP in the Chippenham constituency to speak directly new and future voters.

The event was attended by Declan Basely (Green Party) Sarah Gibson (Liberal Democrats), Nic Puntis (Conservative) and Ravi Venkatesh (Labour).

It was moderated by A Level Politics students Rhys and Patrick to a packed audience of over 200 students from Sheldon and Hardenhuish, including Sixth Formers and

students from the lower school.

Independent candidate, Ed Deedigan, also visited our A Level Politics class later in the term.

Each candidate had an opportunity to introduce themselves and their party. They then answered questions on topics selected by Sheldon students as particularly relevant to their concerns. This included questions on the environment, national service, funding for education and the current government.

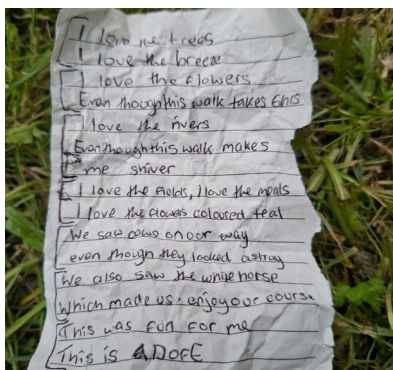
Thank you to our Miss Davis, Mrs Tillotson, Mrs Allen and our politics students for helping to arrange the event, along with all the candidates for

taking the time out of their busy schedule to speak with our students.

On election day, we held our own mock elections in which all students were invited to vote. Our students bucked the local trend and voted to elect Green Party candidate, Declan Basely.

[Read more here](#)





Bronze

Bronze participants completed their practice and qualifying expeditions in May and June.

With a few wrong turns in the practice, they soon learnt and developed their navigation skills for the qualifying expedition. We were impressed with the group work over this weekend and the groups' ability to review their weekend.

The students were a delight to spend time with. They are now busy getting their skill, volunteering and physical sections signed off by an assessor. Those wanting to do Silver next year should aim to get these sections signed off by September.

Silver

The five silver groups had an enjoyable three days in the Quantocks on their qualifying expedition. Navigation skills were excellent, and the good weather helped.

On return to school each group gave a presentation on their chosen topic, one of these also included a dance and a song. Highlights of their trip included seeing wild horses running across the moor.

Gold

Last weekend the three Gold groups travelled to the Western Side of the Brecon Beacons to complete their practice expedition.

Day one was about fine tuning their navigation skills with the support of staff. Then days two and three they made their own way travelling east to finish in Pencelli. There was a great basic campsite stop, with groups camping near a stream and coping well with no facilities. Threats of thunderstorms kept day three on lower ground.

The groups now have two months before their qualifying expedition where they will be walking for four days and 3 nights camping.

A big thank you to all the staff who have helped out this year, walking, camping, driving mini buses and giving up their free time to help give the students these great opportunities.

Pride Month

Thank you to Chippenham Pride for sharing resources for our students.

It was wonderful to see our students working together to make banners and support each other during the Chippenham Pride march.



D-Day Anniversary

Our students in cadets wore their uniform with pride on the 80th Anniversary of D-Day.



Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who visited us during our Open Evening, we hope you had a great night.

We'd particularly like to thank Josh and Eloise from Sixth Form and Rojus and Enya from Year 7 for speaking to parents and to all the students who helped show off why Sheldon is such a great place to learn!



Year 11 Prom

On Thursday 20 June, we welcomed Year 11 students to Grittleton House to celebrate their Leavers' Prom.

In glorious sunshine, students put on an impressive show with their arrivals, which included camper vans, tractors, motorbikes, vintage cars and even a horse!

Students looked fabulous in their finery, and it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying the evening and one final time together. It was a great way to mark the end of their Sheldon era!

Through ticket sales for the evening, we raised £110 for Dorothy House, which will be presented in memory of the parents who are no longer with us and able to celebrate their child's milestone. Thank you to Year 11 parents and carers for supporting this fundraising.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Mr Burfoot, who kindly offered his photography services for the evening, and Mrs Jeffries, who created a beautiful flower arrangement as a decorative feature inside the venue.

In addition, I would like to thank Mrs Rahn and Mrs Sturge for their fantastic balloon arch creating skills!

Lastly, thank you to Miss Owen, Mrs Avent and Mrs Crouch for their invaluable help and support with organising the event. It was certainly an evening that everyone will remember.

Sheldon Class of 2024 – we will miss you!



Year 13 Ball

We said goodbye to our Sheldon Sixth Form class of 2024 at the beautiful Wellington Barn for our annual Year 13 Ball.

All of our students looked very dapper as they danced the night away and enjoyed the beautiful surroundings of the Wiltshire countryside.

Thank you to all the students and staff that attended to make one last memory of their time in Sheldon Sixth Form.

Many thanks to Ms Humphreys for organising the evening. She is leaving Sheldon Sixth Form this term and will be missed. We'd also like to thank our outgoing Sixth Form Presidents, Josh and Eloise for their excellent stewardship of the Sixth Form over the last year.

We hope all of our Year 13 students are enjoying their summer before moving on to the next stage of their educational career. You have all been an unforgettable class and we expect to see great things from you in the future.

Best of luck to you all in your upcoming exam results. We'll see you Thursday 15 August from 8am in the Study Room to give out your results.



Tanzania Expedition

Our Sixth Form Expedition team are on a three week adventure in Tanzania. Every year a group of intrepid students complete their time in the Sixth Form with a 'mini-gap' expedition

involving community project work, a challenge and some time to relax in a distant location.

Thank you to everyone for their donations and support of our expedition team and to the Sheldon staff accompanying them on the trip.



Y7 Challenge Walk

This week our Year 7 students took part in a 8.5 mile walk to Corsham. It was a beautiful day out and a wonderful way to spend time together as a year group.

Thank you to the Corsham Rugby Club for kindly allowing us to use their site so that our students could have a delightful picnic mid way through their walk.

[Read more here](#)





Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund

Join the Sheldon 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 now!

[Click here to get your tickets](#)



Quiz Night

The Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund hosted a Quiz Night to raise funds for student activities at Sheldon. It was a great event, full of fun and good cheer as staff and parents came together to raise over £1250 for our children.

Mr Humphreys, PE teacher and Quizmaster Extraordinaire, devised a brilliant quiz based on the school week at Sheldon. The quiz began with a 'Do Now' task, something each student sees when they enter a classroom. Every round was based on a different subject taught at Sheldon -- English, art, music, drama, science, etc. Mr Humphreys even set homework and organised a Sports Day (sports trivia round). The SSOF would like to thank

him for creating such a fun and challenging quiz.

During the evening the SSOF organised a heads/tails competition and a raffle, so that everyone had a chance to come home a winner. Thank you to everyone that donated prizes, including Donnignton Valley Hotel & Spa, Bargammon's Tavern, The Westbrook Inn, Adventure Point Swindon and The Pewsham.

Thank you to all the teams that participated and made the evening so enjoyable. Congratulations to the winning team, Wine Not!

[Read more here](#)



Help us raise £1,000 to buy replacement kits for Sheldon sports teams!

Our current football team kits have been well used through many football tournaments and need to be replaced. We also think it is time that our girls teams have their own kits, rather than share with the boys. This will allow all of our teams to have equal representation and an opportunity to wear the Sheldon colours with pride!

We're very proud of our boys and girls teams and hope that new team kits show our students how much we appreciate their commitment to sport and to our school values to be kind, be brave and be the best you!

[Donate here](#)



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. With your support, we can give students opportunities to learn and grow outside the classroom.

Science

Cambridge Chemistry Award

Congratulations to our Year 12 Chemistry students for their recent success in the Cambridge University chemistry competition. Four of our students achieved a bronze award--Tilly, Michael, Josh and Lucas.

The competition aims to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry. It provides students considering taking their studies further with an excellent experience in answering thought-provoking questions that takes them significantly beyond the syllabus and encourages them to think about science the way they would at university.



Dissection Club

This year we have been delighted to once again run Dissection Club for KS3 and KS4 students, with support from the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund.

KS3 students were comparing musculoskeletal systems in mammals and birds, through pigs' trotters and chicken legs. Much fun was had manipulating toes by pulling tendons.

An equally enthusiastic group of KS4 students were able to complete a full dissection of preserved rats over the course of two sessions. Students encountered the full gamut of

their rat's anatomy, viewing and discussing the external structures: the rat's eye with its extra membrane, whiskers, teeth and layers of skin. They then explored the chest cavity, focussing on the cardiovascular and respiratory systems by dissecting the heart and lungs.

In the second session they explored the anatomy of the digestive, reproductive and urinary systems by dissecting the intestines, reproductive organs, kidneys and bladder.

The students were expertly guided by Ms Caley and Mrs Dunn who were impressed by the skills, knowledge and engagement.

Thank you to the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund for their ongoing support with this venture. Next year we are planning to incorporate brains into our programme!



Year 10 Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park

Earlier this term, a group of 150 Year 10 students visited the Cotswold Wildlife Park. Upon entering the park, they were greeted with enclosures housing a diverse array of animals from around the globe. From lions to lemurs, every creature seemed to thrive in its carefully designed habitat, allowing us to observe them up-close.

One of the highlights was undoubtedly the Madagascar exhibit, where lemurs leapt from tree to tree, captivating attention with their acrobatic feats and walking around students' ankles giving them an up close and personal view to the curious animal.

The park's commitment to conservation and animal

welfare was evident in the thoughtful design of each enclosure, mimicking the animals' natural habitats and ensuring their well-being.

As students wandered through the park, they encountered a variety of species, each more fascinating than the last. The giraffes gracefully towered above us, while the colourful inhabitants of the reptile house mesmerised us with their unique features.

The trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park helped to deepen students' appreciation for the wonders of the animal kingdom and also reinforced the importance of conservation and environmental stewardship.

Photos provided by Year 10 science and photography student, Ella-Mai.



Performing & Expressive Arts

Summer Concert

Our Summer Concert filled the School Hall with melody as our talented musicians took the stage. The Sheldon Orchestra, Flute Group, Brass Group, Clarinet Group and Sheldon Singers performed along with a number of soloists and duos and bands. The pieces they chose ranged from classical composers to classic rock, movie themes to musicals and everything in between.

As always, our Year 10 band was a huge hit and our individual performers impressed us with the musical abilities and confidence to perform their pieces as a solo

or duo. Our Sheldon Singers choir has grown in popularity with over 30 students joining this year. Their voices sounded beautiful and let us get a little taste of the recent Glastonbury headliner as they sang Coldplay's 'Viva la Vida'

We'd like to thank all of our musicians for working so hard to perfect their craft, for their courage to perform and their commitment to practicing during lunches and after school. We'd also like to thank the families of our musicians for supporting them along the way.

Sheldon is very lucky to have a team of extraordinarily talented music teachers at our school, headed by Mr Goldsworthy. He

is joined by Mrs Hall and Mrs John as well as our peripatetic music teachers including Mr Sanders, Mr Fosker, Mr Pike and Mr Warner who accompanied students during the concert. Our multi-talented math teacher, Mr Foo, also joined the Brass Group.

Sadly, we have to say good bye to two of our music teachers this year. Mrs John is leaving us to become Head of Music at a school in Bath and Mr Pike is retiring after 30 years of teaching music. Both will be greatly missed and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

[Read more here](#)



Retirement Home Concert

A group of music students recently visited Fairways Retirement Village to entertain a crowd of over 50 residents, including some from the neighbouring care home. A number of people in the audience approached the students afterwards to show their gratitude for their performance.



Musical Awards

Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding musical achievements this term.

Alyssa T
Grade 2 Flute (Distinction)

Lara M
Grade 5 Violin (Distinction)

Freya S
Grade 1 Piano (Distinction)



Huge congratulations to Year 10 flautist Lara M, who has auditioned and successfully gained a place at the South West Music School. This will give her extra musical opportunities in addition to her flute lessons in school.

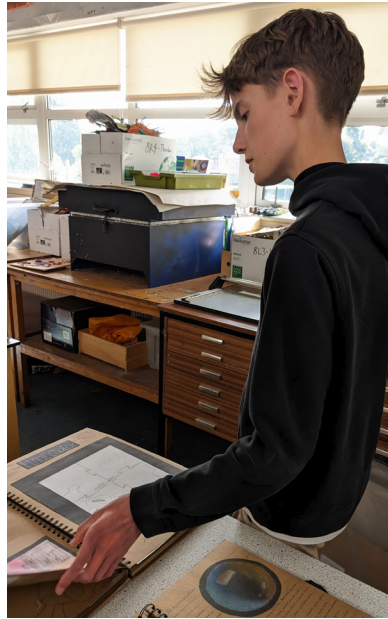
SWMS is part of a national network of Centres of Advanced Training supported by the Department for Education Music and Dance Scheme for exceptionally talented young musician.

Performing & Expressive Arts

Art Exhibition

Thank you to everyone who attended our GCSE and A Level art exhibition. It was wonderful to share our students' work with their families and peers. We certainly have some talented artists in our school and were very impressed by the quality and variety of work on display.

We can't share images of their works until exam results come in, but many of the pieces will be proudly displayed in the corridors and art rooms. Thank you to all of our students for their hard work and creativity throughout their courses. We'd also like to thank all of our art faculty for their guidance and encouragement of our young artists.



Great Big Dance Success

Congratulations to the members of the Sheldon Dance Company who competed in the national final of the Great Big Dance Off.

Our dancers finished 8th overall and were the highest scoring school from the Southwest region. This is a huge achievement for our dancers and we are very proud.

[Read more here](#)



NYDC Workshop

Our GCSE and A Level dancers were invited to attend a workshop by the National Youth Dance Company led by NYDC alumni and former Sheldon staff member, Dan Baines.

[Read more here](#)



Swindon Dance Performance

Our Y10 Dancers were invited to perform at the Wiltshire Schools Dance Festival at the Wyvern Theatre in Swindon.

They did an awesome job and represented Sheldon School with pride!

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.

We let out our facilities year round. This summer Sheldon will be busy with clubs, workshops, the FUEL summer programme and more!

If you're interested in hosting an event at Sheldon, please get in touch.

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

Student Celebrations

This term we had a special celebration for students that received the most PraisePoints in their year group.

We hope they all enjoyed the morning and keep demonstrating our Sheldon values next year!



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.

Sports

Olympic Day Run

We kicked off the Sheldon Olympiad with our annual Olympic Day Run.

Special guest Louise Hunt opened the event with a motivational speech about her journey to represent Team GB in wheelchair tennis.

This is one of the largest Olympic Day events with over 1000 young people running 1.5km to encourage participation in sport, regardless of athletic ability.



The afternoon began with a flag procession representing countries from every corner of the globe -- Norway, Ethiopia, Cuba, Brazil, Kenya, New Zealand, Mexico, Mongolia, Turkey, Greece and the Olympic Refugee team.

This year, our charity partner was Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Thank you to everyone for their generous donations. We raised over £1300 for the charity.

[Read more here](#)



Deaf Athletics

Ten students from our Hearing Resource Base attended the Bristol & Avon Deaf Schools Athletics Day at Yate Sports Complex.

They competed in a mixture of track and field events and showed great Sheldon Spirit as they cheered on all the other competitors.



Wimbledon

Eight lucky Sports Ambassadors travelled to Wimbledon to watch the men's double semi finals on Court 1.



Sports Day

We held several field events throughout July including high jump, long jump, javelin, discus and shot put.

The competition culminated on July 9 with our annual Sports Day. The entire school came out to the field to cheer on runners from their tutor group in 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 and 4x100 relay races.

Congratulations to all the students that participated in events and to our year group winners — 7BHD, 8JHF, 9JCN and 10 CMS.

[Read more here](#)



Sports

English Schools Athletics Championships

This month four students from Sheldon competed for Wiltshire at the English Schools Athletics Championships in Birmingham. They put in outstanding performances and each received incredible results.

Adam M, currently ranked 8th in the (UK) came 6th in the senior hammer.

Ciaran M achieved bronze in the junior boys hammer.

Otis P achieved bronze in the inter boys high jump.

Peter K-S won GOLD in the senior boys high jump with an incredible jump of 2.04m during a very competitive event!



Sports Awards

At the end of our Sports Day our PE faculty handed out their annual awards for the top performing students in the school.

Many of the students receiving awards play multiple sports and act as Sports Ambassadors for the school.

They are exemplary students and sports people that help inspire younger students to also achieve their very best.

Lower School Vitrix Ludorum
Girls PE Award
Beth D

Lower School Victor Ludorum
Boys PE award
Robert P

Upper School Victor Ludorum
Boys PE award
Otis P

Upper School Victor Ludorum
Boys PE award
Adam M

Upper School Vitrix Ludorum
Girls PE award
Savanah K-S

The Douglas Cup
For all round effort and enthusiasm in PE
Emilia H



Centurion Challenge

Congratulations to Ned in Year 12 for completing the Beechen Cliff Centurion Challenge over the weekend--a gruelling race covering 100 miles in 48 hours. Ned and two of his friends completed the course in record time, getting to the finish line at 09:17!

Ned is a keen athlete, but only joined a running club less than two years ago. "I'd say to anybody that if there's a slight interest in running, just to join a local club. It's the best thing I've ever done!"



Sports



Sporting Successes

We'd like to thank all of our students that participated in our sports clubs and teams this year. There have been many amazing results this year and you have made us very proud.

These are just some of the highlights of our very busy sporting fixtures.



Y7 Boys Football
County Cup Champions

Y7-10 Athletics
Area Champions

Y9 Boys Rugby
Area Champions



Y9 Boys Football
Area Champions

Y7 Athletics
Super 8s Champions

Y8 Girls Rounders
Area Champions



U13 Boys Cricket
Wiltshire Champions

Y10 Girls Rounders
3rd Place in Wiltshire Games



Best of luck to former student, Dan Bethell in the Paralympic games this summer as he represents Team GB in Badminton.

2024-2025 Term Dates

Term 1

4 Sept 2024 – 24 Oct 2024

Inset Days (school closed):

Mon 2 Sept 2024

Tues 3 Sept 2024

Fri 25 October 2024

Term 2

5 Nov 2024 – 20 Dec 2024

Inset Days (school closed):

Mon 4 Nov 2024

Mon 2 Dec 2024

Early Closure @ 12:30pm

Fri 20 Dec 2024

Term 3

8 Jan 2025 – 14 Feb 2025

Inset Days (school closed):

Mon 6 Jan 2025

Tues 7 Jan 2025

Term 4

24 Feb 2025 – 2 Apr 2025

Inset Day (school closed):

Fri 4 Apr 2025

Term 5

22 Apr 2025 – 23 May 2025

Bank Holiday:

Mon 5 May 2025

Term 6

2 June 2025 – 18 July 2025

New Student Induction Days

Thurs 10 July 2025
(school closed to current students)

Fri 11 July 2025
(school open to all students)

School Catering

Please be advised that some items will increase in price next year.

Full information about tariffs from September are on our website. We'll also publish our menus for the new term in September.

[Read more here](#)

Have a wonderful summer break!

Have a safe and restful summer. We look forward to seeing you all back on Wed 4 Sept 2024!