



BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

Sheldon Student Appointed Referee for Wiltshire FA

Congratulations to Chelsea in Year 11 who was selected by Wiltshire FA to officiate the 2024 U14 Minor Cup Final.

Chelsea was appointed after completing her football referee course. She was awarded her official Wiltshire FA badge at a ceremony at Melksham Town FC earlier this month where she also met Premier League referee, Sam Allison.

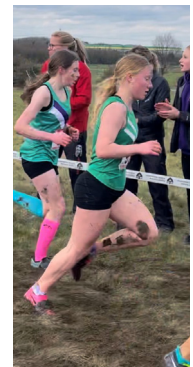
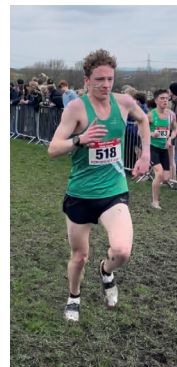
Congratulations Chelsea, we're all very proud of your achievement and commitment to football!



Sheldon Cross Country Success at Nationals

Congratulations to our amazing Sheldon Cross Country runners who represented Wiltshire at the ESSA National Cross Country Championship.

They all put in amazing performances with Harry coming in 9th place in the Senior boys race. [Read more here!](#)



Year 12 students Harry, Josh and Ned performed well in the Senior Boys Race while Year 9 student Sophie was the Wiltshire team's first finisher in the Junior Girls Race.

Duke of Edinburgh's Awards in Action

Bronze participants have completed their training day with H5, learning some valuable skills ready for their first expedition in May.

Participants are also working hard completing their skill, physical and volunteering sections. Many students have got at least one of these sections signed off by their assessor. Remember the assessor must complete the assessor form from your welcome pack or online.

The Silver participants have just completed a successful practice weekend in the Marlborough Downs. The groups camped two nights and walked for two days. Their navigation skills were excellent and they worked well

in their teams. They are off to the Quantocks in April for their qualifying expedition.

[Visit our website](#) to keep up to date with DofE info or to request equipment rental for expeditions.

Thanks to the [Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund](#) for providing new tents for us to use this year!



Head-itorial

It has been another extremely busy and productive 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 students are doing, please ensure you are following our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages.

Term 4 has been a fantastic action-packed term, where the days have got longer, and the flowers, like our students, have started to blossom. We've enjoyed fancy dress fun for World Book Day and outdoor adventures on the Duke of Edinburgh and Ten Tors practice events. Lots of opportunities for students to be Brave, by supporting the multiple primary school events as Sports Ambassadors and taking part in the Step into it Dance showcase. We've celebrated National Women's Day, National Careers Week, Ramadan, Technognition Day and World Thinking Day.

We have loved welcoming various guests to the school, such as the Army Cadets, Chippenham Local Youth Network and Stagecoach Performing Arts club. Finally, we have also enjoyed success through the UK Maths Challenge, Flying Start Challenge, National cross-country championships and lots of other sporting fixtures and achievements in between.



Peter Lynch, Headteacher

Step Into It

Our annual dance show, Step Into It, was held Monday night to a sold out audience. Over 70 students participated in the show from all year groups, highlighting a wide range of dance styles including student choreographed work, competition pieces and A Level & GCSE pieces.

Thank you to Miss Spalding for organising a wonderful show and even dancing with the Year 13 Quartet!

We have a very talented group of students here at Sheldon and are proud to give them a night to shine and dance the night away!

Many of our dancers will be headed to the Great Big Dance Off competition next month. Judging by the performance we saw, we're sure they will do Sheldon proud!

[Read more about the dance show and view our photo gallery here.](#)



Ski Trip

During the February break, Sheldon students and staff hit the slopes of La Molina, Spain. They had a great adventure and were praised by their ski instructors for their 'polite, helpful and hardworking' attitude.

[Click here to see more photos from the trip.](#)



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.



Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund

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

We need your support!

The Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund needs your support to help us continue to fund enrichment activities, clubs and trips.

This year we're fundraising to improve our break and lunch spaces for our children. We've already purchased new basketball nets and would like to get more fun activities for them to use – dart boards, table tennis, games, more benches and spaces to relax, etc. This is a huge endeavour, so we need everyone's support to help us create spaces that are truly special!

[Click here to donate to our Justgiving campaign to improve our break and lunch spaces.](#)

Along with this initiative, the SSOF also continues to fund activities and trips. Recently we purchased new tents that our intrepid students will use during their DofE expeditions in the next few months. The students are thankful for your support when they have dry tent to sleep in after a long trek!

We also fully funded a trip for Mrs Radford and Mr Curtis-Nye's students to watch a Spanish Theatre performance written using only language from the GCSE specification. Mathias in Y8 even got pulled up on stage to perform along with the actors!

This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to see language in action and will certainly support their success in exams. We couldn't have funded this trip without your continued contributions to the SSOF.



You can support us by joining the 500 Club or making a donation through ParentPay, setting up an Easyfundraising account or donating through Justgiving. [Read more about the SSOF on our website.](#)

Save the Date

Mr Lynch is hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 28 June.

We'd love to see you there. It is a great chance to meet other parents, have a laugh and raise money for our kids!

SSOF Raffle

Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket for our first ever SSOF Raffle. It was a huge success, raising over £750 for the fund and giving Sheldon families and staff a chance to win some fabulous prizes – including a camping and family pass to the WOMAD festival this summer.

We'd also like to thank the members of the SSOF who organised the raffle and donations of prizes.

If you were a winner, you can pick up your prize from the Sheldon Reception.

[A full list of winners can be found here.](#)

500 Club Winners Spring Draw

Madeline C (Y11)
£40

George C (Y8)
£20

Libby T (Y10)
£15

There's still one more draw this year. Get your numbers on ParentPay to be in with a chance to win!

Sixth Form Varsity

Congratulations to Y13 for winning the Sixth Form Varsity.

It was a hard fought battle to reclaim the title from Y12 who won it during the Winter competition.

The Sixth Form students competed across 5 different sports including badminton, volleyball, football, rugby and hockey.

[Click here to see more photos from the event.](#)



Red Nose Day

We had a wonderful Red Nose Day with plenty of cakes, sweets and new teddies going home with our tombola winners!

Our Sixth Form event, Sheldon Takes Family Fortunes, was a close one but the staff team won in the end thanks to their many, many years of experience.

Together, we raised over £1200 for Comic Relief! Thank you to everyone for their generous donations and delicious cakes!

[Read more and view photos from the day here.](#)



Techognition Day

On 8 March we celebrated Techognition Day—a chance to recognise the highly skilled community of professionals that keep our school running smoothly.

From preparing materials for science, art and DT lessons to installing IT equipment, there's no limit to the skills our technicians bring to our school.

We certainly couldn't run Sheldon without them!



[Learn more about our technicians and Techognition Day on our website.](#)



World Book Day

We love reading at Sheldon and had a great time sharing our favourite books during World Book Day 2024.

Our faculty and staff really outdid themselves with amazing outfits representing each department's favourite books.

[The student Library Assistants also shared their favourite books. If you are looking for your next great read, have a look at their recommendations on our website.](#)

Reading is a wonderful way to spend time together as a family. We encourage all our students to read regularly and our library is a great place to meet some new characters!



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.](#)

Now that the days are getting longer and the weather is (hopefully) getting nicer, you might be looking for a fun way to get fit outdoors. Bootcamp UK trains in the Sheldon fields on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. It is a great way to get fit and meet new people.

[Find out more about Chippenham BCUK here](#)

Welcome New School Business Manager



We'd like to extend a warm welcome to Simon Williams, our new School Business Manager. Mr Williams joins Sheldon after a long career in the charity sector. He has a particular interest in supporting SEN students and inclusion, which will be an asset to our school.

As SBM, he plays an integral role in the operations and day-to-day management of Sheldon. Mr Williams will oversee all of our support staff, finances, premises, catering, health and safety and will also be an integral member of our Leadership Team.

We hope you'll join us in welcoming Mr Williams to the Sheldon community as well as thanking our outgoing SBM, Julia Finch for her dedication to Sheldon School. We wish her all the best in her new role.

German Osterbaum

The Modern Foreign Languages Faculty would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter, Frohe Ostern, Joyeuse Pâque and Feliz Pascua.

Mrs Williams' Y9 German Class decorated the tree outside our Refectory with beautiful marbled and hand painted eggs to celebrate Easter.

The Osterbaum, or Easter Tree, is a very popular German tradition. People decorate a tree outside in the front garden or even bring birch or cherry twigs inside to hang eggs on them.



Deaf Students Train with Tennis Champion

Our Deaf and Hearing Impaired students continued their tennis training this term at the Chippenham Tennis Club.

The students are regularly coached by [Chippenham Tennis Club Head Coach, Peter Evans](#) and his team of volunteer coaches. They have done a wonderful job of developing our students' skills and confidence, as well as making their tennis lesson lots of fun.

Recently, our students were visited by [Catherine Fletcher, the Lawn Tennis Association National Deaf Tennis Coach and former Deaflympics champion](#). She represented the Great Britain Deaf Tennis team from 1997-2013 and even won Gold in the Mixed Doubles event at the 2009 Deaflympics in Taipei in 2009.

Our students were very excited to train with Catherine. She showed them great tips on how to improve their form and even played a set against Coach Peter to show how the pros do it!

Of the experience Catherine said: *Deaf tennis has been a huge part of my life, competing for many years as a GB player and achieving many medals was a highlight, but more importantly gaining many deaf friends along the way and the opportunity to represent my country playing a game I loved.*

Now in my coaching capacity I love being able to give back to the

sport that gave me so much over the years – and helping / coming along to sessions to see the kids with the enthusiasm and eagerness to improve their game is amazing to see.

Peter and his support team have done a fantastic job, have a great rapport with the players and the fun they were having was clear to see so huge credit to Peter and his team.

Our students clearly all enjoying their time on the court! Their skills are improving week by week, but one of the best outcomes of the lessons has been the friendships formed between our Deaf and Hearing Impaired Students across different year groups.

Thank you to our Teacher of the Deaf, Mrs Freeman, the Chippenham Tennis Club and the LTA for helping to arrange this wonderful enrichment opportunity for our students.

[View more photos here](#)



Ramadan Mubarak

Ramadan Mubarak to everyone in the Sheldon community that celebrates. We hope you had a peaceful, joyful and prosperous Ramadan.

We hope you all enjoy Eid al-Fitr over the break and that you have an opportunity to celebrate with family and friends.

We'd like to remind everyone that our multi-faith room (VI 7) is open during lunch and after school for all students of any faith (or none) looking for a quiet space to pray or meditate.

Sindy Celebration



If you're looking for something to do over the break, check out the Sindy 60th Anniversary Exhibition – curated by our own Sindy expert, Mrs Colley!

The exhibition is free and runs from 30 March - 11 May in the Chippenham Museum.

New Lunch Menus

We have new menus in our dining areas for Term 5 & 6

[See our website for more details](#)

Stagecoach

Stagecoach recently ran a free for workshop for students interested in musical theatre.

There's still places available in their Further Stages group held at Sheldon on Thursday nights or you can join the summer programme to perform a show in a week! [Find out more here](#)



Pokemon Club

Special thanks to Katie Budgen of Tree Frog Grading for visiting our club and teaching students how to grade their cards. She generously offered a free grading and a discount just for members of our club!



Sports Ambassadors

Thank you to our Sports Ambassadors for supporting events for local primary schools this term including rugby and netball tournaments and the very egg-citing Easter Egg Hunt.



World Thinking Day 2024

Thank you to all the Guides, Scouts and Leaders who wore their uniforms to school for World Thinking Day—a day celebrated by Girl Guides to encourage members to think about big issues in affecting them and their global community.



Jujitsu Champ

Congratulations to Sixth Form student, Filip, for winning gold at the Bristol Open Brazilian Jujitsu competition.



Term 5 Dates

Mon 15/04

Term 5 Begins

Thu 18/04

Y12 Parents' Evening

Tues 23/04

Y7 Parents' Evening (L side)

Wed 01/05

Young Musician of the Year Concert

Thu 02/05

Y7 Parents' Evening (R side)

Mon 06/05

Early May Bank Holiday

Thu 09/05

Exam Season Begins

Thu 09/05

Y8 Parents' Evening (L side)

Mon 13/05

Y8 Parents' Evening (R side)

Fri 24/05

Last Day of Term 5

UK Maths Trust Challenge

Congratulations to the students from Year 9, 10 & 11 for their outstanding results in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. They achieved 13 Bronze, 14 Silver & 3 Gold awards.

National Careers Week

Thank you to all the employers who visited Sheldon during National Careers Week to talk to students about what routes they can take into employment post 16 & 18.

[To find out more about Carers Education Information and Guidance at Sheldon, visit our website.](#)

Have a wonderful Easter break!

Don't forget that the clocks go forward on 31 Mar. We'll see you all for Term 5 on Mon 15 Apr 2024!