



BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

Celebrating Sheldon Students

On 24 October, Sheldon School held its annual Awards Evening to celebrate student achievement from the previous year. This is the most prestigious event on the school calendar, rewarding high standards of work, commitment and citizenship.

Headteacher Peter Lynch emphasised the significance of the evening, stating, "This event not only celebrates our students' achievements but also fosters a sense of community pride."

He highlighted how such gatherings reinforce the school's core values of being kind, being brave and being the best you. "The Awards Evening serves as a reminder of the collaborative efforts that strengthen the local community and inspire the next generation."

This year's guest speaker was Simon Benton, a former Sheldon parent and current executive at the Pokémon company. Mr Benton has worked closely with the Sheldon Pokémon Club over the past year, sharing his insight into the corporation and generously donating prizes for club events.

Remarking on his involvement in the Sheldon Awards Evening, Mr Benton said, "It's a privilege to be involved in a community that values education and creativity."

He spoke to the audience of students and families about the importance of staying curious and always asking 'why'. He explained that his refusal to settle for the status quo led him on a unique career path that included working for leading trading card game companies like Pokémon, Panni and Topps, while also allowing him to work and travel all across the globe. As a proud Sheldon parent, he noted that the education his children received at the school allowed his daughters to pursue their dreams at university and beyond.

Sheldon awarded over 240 students with prizes, including the coveted Beale Trophy and Newsam Award for the students that showed the most outstanding contribution to the life of the school. This year saw the introduction of the [Jessica Baker Award](#), named after a former Head Girl who recently passed away. This award was presented to a student in Year 7 who exemplifies the Sheldon values to be kind, be brave and be the best you.

Other top prizes in the evening included the Twinning Association Award for the top Modern Foreign Language students, Octoprint Award for excellence in Design and Technology, the Richard Bull Physical Education Award for a student in Y7 who excels in sport, the Rotary Club's Community Award for service to the wider community, the Scholars Award and the Lydia Harding Award for courage and determination.

In addition, students in each year group received recognition for their efforts in each faculty area, as well as pastoral awards that recognised students for their excellent character, kindness and bravery.

The evening also included musical performances by the Sheldon flute group and soloists on piano and guitar.

Special guests at the Sheldon Awards Evening included Mayor Conor Melvin, Margaret Barrett of the Chippenham Twinning Association, Dr William Henry of the Rotary Association, as well as other sponsors of our awards.

Sheldon School would like to thank the Chippenham Floral Society, Innovate Impact Food Group and Sporting Gifts for their support of the Awards Evening.

[Read more here](#)



Introducing our Student Leadership Team

Playing an active role in student leadership is an important part of student life at Sheldon. Through our Student Leadership and Tutor Representative system, subject ambassador roles and Sixth Form mentoring programme, students have many different opportunities to contribute to the school.

Our Student Leadership Team includes the Sixth Form Presidents, Head and Deputy Head Prefects, as well as representatives from each year group. They meet regularly to discuss important issues in the school, as well as plan charity events. Last term, they also received a training in leadership from our Chair of Governors, Louise Carver.

Please join us in congratulating this group of impressive young people for becoming leaders in the school!

[Read more about Student Leadership at Sheldon here](#)



*Sixth Form Co-Presidents
Rhys & Rufus*



*Head Prefects & Deputy Head Prefects
Anneka, Ross, Elod, Eve*



*Year 10 Student Leaders
Phoebe & Luca*



*Year 9 Student Leaders
Bel, Joe, Isla-Mae*



*Year 8 Student Leaders
Rojus & Enya*



*Year 7 Student Leaders
Chloe, Bleamba, Henry*

New Science Ambassadors

Congratulations to our new group of Year 9 Science Ambassadors. They will support science lessons to primary students and will also help facilitate our science clubs.

These students have shown great enthusiasm and aptitude for science and we are confident they will make excellent representatives of the faculty!

[Read more here](#)



Sports Ambassadors

Our Sports Ambassadors have already been busy this term assisting with primary school sports events, including officiating the Primary Hockey

Festival and assisting with the Young Officials training held at Sheldon last term.

Thank you to our Sports Ambassadors for always demonstrating encouragement, respect and sportsmanship to younger students.





**Sheldon Student
Opportunity Fund**

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

The Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund (SSOF) raises money to fund much-needed equipment and activities for all students at the school. It helps support enrichment programmes at Sheldon including trips, extracurricular activities and other learning opportunities.

Find out more about the SSOF on our [website](https://www.sheldonschool.co.uk/opportunityfund) or email opportunityfund@sheldonschool.co.uk

New Fundraising Committee

Thank you to everyone who came to our first Fundraising Committee meeting of the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund.

We have a lot of exciting fundraising events planned this year to help raise funds for student enrichment in our school.

Our next meeting will be in January where we will be planning our Spring Raffle and Summer Quiz Night. Everyone is welcome to come along! For more information about joining the SSOF, please email opportunityfund@sheldonschool.co.uk

This holiday season, use [easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.com) to support the SSOF. Each time you shop, brands donate to us! It costs you nothing and helps us continue to fund enrichment programmes for students! Over £3k has already been raised for the SSOF by parents using easyfundraising. [Sign up today!](https://www.easyfundraising.com)

More ways to support the SSOF

1. School Lottery

Join the School Lottery for just £1 per ticket per week. You'll be entered into the weekly school draw as well as the national draw! You'll have the chance to win cash and great prizes like a PS5 Pro bundle!

[Enter today!](#)

2. Direct Giving

Set up a monthly or annual donation to the fund to provide regular support for our the SSOF

[Click here to download the standing order form](#)

3. Justgiving

Donate through Justgiving to support our fundraising initiative to get new kits for our boys and girls sports teams.

[Click here to donate](#)

4. Employer or Benevity Programme

Does your employer have a Benevity Programme or do they match funds for charitable giving? As a registered charity, we can receive their donations.

Talk to your employer about how they can support local students by giving to the SSOF.

Year 11 Visit Berlin

Our Year 11 GCSE History students recently travelled to Berlin, Germany to see history in action.

The group spent four days touring the city and seeing sites from their history lessons brought to life as they visited the Reichstag, Sachsenhausen Memorial site, the Olympic Stadium, Berlin Wall and Stasi Prison.

They enjoyed experiencing the culture of a European capital city, including travelling on the U-Bahn.

The students were brilliantly behaved and excellent representatives of our school.

[Read more here](#)



German Exchange Visit

Last month students from Schiller-Gymnasium in Hameln, Germany visited Sheldon as part of our cultural exchange partnership that has existed for over 40 years. We last visited Schiller-Gymnasium in June and were very pleased to see familiar faces and make new friends during their day at Sheldon.

Our guests were met with typical British rainy weather, but that didn't stop everyone from having a wonderful time. Over 45 Sheldon students spent the day with their German partners so that they could get a chance to learn more about what life is like for British students.

[Read more here](#)



UK-German Connection
Deutsch-Britische Schul- und Jugendbegegnungen
bringing young people together

Theatre Trips

Last term, students in Year 8 saw *Wonderboy* at the Bristol Old Vic and all of Year 11 watched a performance of *An Inspector Calls* at the Bristol Hippodrome. These trips help enhance their understanding of drama, as well as text they'll find on the GCSE English exam.



The Sheldonian Newspaper Club



Read the latest issue here!

If you want to join the Newspaper Club, sign up on epraise or come to E6 on Thursdays after school.

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.](#)



Year 7 Camp

Our Year 7 Campers were incredibly lucky with bright blue skies and some of the best weather we've seen in years!

We had a wonderful time with lots of team building activities to help everyone bond with their tutor group.

Thank you to all of the staff, Prefects and Sixth Form volunteers that attended camp to help introduce our new students to this wonderful Sheldon tradition.



Sixth Form Open Evening

Thank you to all the families that attended the Sheldon Sixth Form Open Evening.

We had a packed house for our talks with Mr Spiers, Head of Sixth Form, and lots of activity in our subject presentations.

If you have any further

questions about studying at Sheldon Sixth Form, please get in touch.

[You can also review the Prospectus and Course Handbook online.](#)

Don't forget the deadline for applying is 20 December.

[Start your application here to join us in September 2025.](#)

Hello Yellow Day

Thank you to everyone who supported World Mental Health Day and Hello Yellow, an opportunity to show every young person they are not alone with their mental health.

We were pleased to see so many lovely yellow bows and ribbons on our younger students, as well as full yellow outfits on our Sixth Form students.

The star of the day was definitely seeing Big Bird attending classes! We had a full

house for our Sixth Form v Year 11 Quiz, organised by Harriet, Rhys and Rufus from the Sixth Form Leadership Team. Our younger students also enjoyed a Five Aside Football match in the Sports Hall.

[Read more here](#)



Tanzania Expedition

In July, a group of Year 13 Leavers travelled to Tanzania for two weeks of exploring, volunteering and adventure.

Their trip, organised by [True Adventure](#), included a trek through the wild and rugged landscape of the Uluguru Mountains and the bustling markets of Dar es Salaam.

They had the opportunity to view Africa's unforgettable natural beauty during a safari and were introduced to the traditions and customs of the Maasai warriors.

Thank you to all of the Sheldon Students who participated in the trip for being wonderful ambassadors for the school, as well as to our staff that joined them on the adventure.

[Read more here](#)

New Year 12 students will find out more about their expedition to Greece this month.



Freshers Fair

Our Year 13 students held a Freshers Fair at the beginning of the term to introduce our new Year 12 students to all the activities they can get involved in at Sheldon Sixth Form.

This includes EPQ, volunteering, mentoring, EAL, Ten Tors, DofE, BSL, Core Maths and the Sixth Form Production.

Thanks to our Year 13 Leadership Team for organising a great event and to all our students for getting involved in enrichment activities at our school!



Great Start for Sheldon Sports

We had a great term for sports at Sheldon with lots of success from our rugby, netball and football teams!

Thanks to all the students who have participated in our teams and clubs this term.



Sixth Form Rugby



Year 8 Netball



Year 9 Netball



Year 7 Netball



Year 10-11 Football



Year 9 Rugby



Year 8 Rugby

Gold DofE Expedition

Well done to all of our amazing Year 13 students who completed their Gold DofE Qualifying Expedition during a 4 day trek through Wales.

[Read more here](#)



Cross Country Challenge

Well done to all of our students in Year 7, 8 and 9 for completing our annual Cross Country Challenge.

The 2K route takes students out of our school grounds to run along the Hardenhuish Brook in the Donkey Fields.

For many, this was their first time to try trail running. The challenge was made easier by the cheers of encouragement

from their peers as they crossed the finish line.

We hope you all enjoyed the run and will keep running as it is a great way to keep fit and have fun!



Taekwondo Champion

Congratulations to Ellie-Mae in Year 9 for her outstanding performance at a recent Taekwondo competition, earning two medals!



Student Activities on our Website

If you're looking for more information about student activities and clubs at Sheldon, look for the '[Activities](#)' tab to find out more about clubs, music lessons, Ten Tors, DofE, student leadership and enrichment. It is still a work in progress with more sections about clubs and enrichment added regularly.

[Click here to find out more](#)

Music Lessons

Places now available



[Click here to find out more](#)

Yo-Yo Kid

Thanks to George in Y7 for making the last lunch break of Term 1 so fun with his spontaneous yo-yo demonstration. He's a natural showman who wowed the entire school with his skills!



Bike Marking

Wiltshire Police visited our bike shed last month to provide free bike marking for students.

[To find out more about how to keep your bike secure, click here.](#)

Viva Mexico Day in the Refectory

Thanks to our catering team for making an amazing spread for our special themed day last term. They do an amazing job keeping us well fed every day!



Coming up in Term 2

11 November

Remembrance Day

13 November

Y12 Parent Meeting
True Adventure Expedition 2026

15 November

Children in Need

w/c 18 November

Y11 & Y13 Mocks

19 November

Sparx Reader Parent Workshop

w/c 25 November

Y11 & Y13 Mocks

2 December

SDD Day
(School Closed)

5 December

Christmas Concert

9-11 December

School Production

20 December

End of term
(12:35pm release)

6-7 January

SDD Day
(School Open for staff only)

8 January

Term 3 Begins

Join us as our new Chair of Governors



We are looking for a new Chair of Governors. If you would like to know more about the role and how to apply, [visit our website](#).

Keep up-to-date with Sheldon News!

Follow us on [Facebook](#) or visit the [News](#) section of our website for all the latest news about our school!