

Sixth Form Notes – Mon 23rd March – Sun 12th April 2026

W/B 23rd = Week 2 – No Yr13 assembly, Yr12 instead – Thurs – chairs VHM

Key messages (inc. community, wellbeing etc):

Well done on a great term and have a great break.

If you fancy earning some cash and like working with younger students you could £12 per hour from 9.45am -2.15pm (with a free lunch) from Mon 30th March – Thurs 2nd April. You will be doing activities like crafts, dance, music and drama and some outdoor activities. If you are interested email or see Miss Spalding asap.

Thursday is a non-uniform day in aid of Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance. Sixth Formers can still donate via ParentPay or with cash on the day.

Varsity – the rematch is on! Weds 15th April at lunch time again Football and mixed rounders – start getting your teams sorted!

Yr13 – going to uni? Parents in receipt of benefits or universal credit?

You can apply for free grants to help with expenses:

<https://www.wscf.org.uk/grants-and-support/individuals/university-bursary-one-degree-more/>

Apply by April 30th

Yr13 – let us know about your experience of Sheldon Sixth Form: [Year 13 Exit Survey 2026 – Fill out form](#)

I know quite a few of you have been worried about the recent outbreak in Kent. Here is some info **but there is no reason to believe there will be an outbreak here too:**

We're sending information about meningitis home to parents, and there's more info and a leaflet on our website link here: <https://www.sheldonschool.co.uk/home/news-3/latest-news/meningitis-information/>

Main message: Meningococcal disease causes meningitis and/or septicaemia (blood poisoning) and can be very severe. If you are under 25 years of age and have not yet had the MenACWY vaccine, which is routinely offered in Years 9 and 10 at school, please ask your GP practice about this. It protects against 4 main forms of meningococcal disease but not all.

Make sure you know the main signs and symptoms of [Meningitis](#) and [septicaemia](#) and how to get help or advice if you or one of your friends feels very unwell, especially if you are getting worse.

UK Health Security Agency **NHS**

Don't ignore the signs

Meningitis and septicaemia

Severe headache

Dislike of bright light

Stiff neck

Confusion and/or irritability

Rapid breathing

Vomiting/diarrhoea

Seizures/fits

Stomach cramps

High temperature

Rash/bruising rash

Drowsy or difficult to wake

Pale blotchy skin

Cold hands and feet

Joint or muscle pain

Meningitis can kill in hours
These are just some of the warning signs. If you are worried for yourself or someone else get medical help immediately. Call NHS 111.

Find out more:
Find out about the MenACWY vaccine
www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/men-acwy-vaccine/

Signs and symptoms of meningitis and septicaemia
www.nhs.uk/conditions/meningitis/symptoms/

STEP Into It



15-16 April

Doors at 6pm Show at 6:30pm
Tickets from 19.95 Parent Pay £6 adult / £4 child



2026 Young Musician of the Year

Auditions begin 13 April

**Sign up outside A1
Any instrument. Any piece.**

Three Categories for entry: KS3, KS4, KS5
Finalists will perform at the concert on **Tues 28 April 2026**
See Mrs Hall for more details



Magic of maples haiku competition

Inspire creativity this term with Westonbirt Arboretums [Magic of maples haiku competition!](#)

A fantastic opportunity for young writers to craft a maple-inspired haiku, and compete in the under-18s category designed to celebrate emerging talent.

Perfect for literacy projects, creative writing clubs, and spring term activities.

Please find a poster attached to help us spread the word and encourage young people to take part. **Submissions from 1 to 31 March.**



The Young Songwriter 2026 competition - Time's Running Out! Deadline: Tuesday 31st March

The deadline (the 31st March) to enter the prestigious [Song Academy Young Songwriter 2026 competition](#) is fast approaching!

Follow @sheldonsixthform on Instagram – Be Kind, Be Brave, Be The Best You

Key dates: <https://sheldonschool.co.uk/assets/Documents/Sixth-Form/Key-Dates/Sixth-Form-Key-Dates-2025-26.pdf>

Tues 24th and Weds 25th – lessons 5+6 – Wiltshire Mental Health Team – exam wellbeing session – see email for when your session is

Thurs 26th March - Term 4 ends 3 pm

Fri 27th March - School Development Day (SDD) – no lessons all day

Mon 13th April - Term 5 starts 8.30am

Weds 15th and Thurs 16th – Dance show – volunteers for refreshments needed – email Mr Spiers

W/B 27th April - Yr 12 Mock Exams (Sports Hall etc) – study leave – no lessons + tutor time

Wed 29th April - Young Musician of the Year

Mon 4th May - May Day Bank Holiday

Tues 5th – Thurs 7th May - A Level Art & Photography

Fri 8th May - Yr 13 Leavers' Day

Mon 11th May – Yr13 exams start

Fri 22nd May - Term 5 ends

Mon 1st June - Term 6 starts

Mon 8th – Wed 17th June - Hardenhuish Yr 12 Mocks

Tues 9th June Yr12 - parent information evening – post-18 options 6pm – Study Room

Thurs 11th June – UCAS Discovery Day @ Winchester University

Mon 22nd & Tues 23rd June – Whole school open Mornings – volunteers required

Wed 24th June - Whole school Open Evening – volunteers required

Wed 24th June - Last exam contingency day - students should be available until this day

Fri 26th June - Olympic Fun Run Lessons 5+6

Tues 30th June - Yr13 Ball, Wellington Barn 6.00pm

W/B Mon 6th July - Yr 12 Work experience week – no lessons

Mon 6th + Tues 7th July - Yr 11 Sixth Form Induction

Tues 7th July - Summer Concert

Fri 17th July - Term 6 ends 12.30pm

Mon 20th July - School Development Day (SDD) – no lessons

Thurs 13th Aug - A Level Results Day

PDC: Post-18 + Personal skills + Wellbeing + SPMC

Year	Tuesday 24 th	Wednesday 25 th	Thursday 26 th
Register – DRESS CODE - LANYARDS – SF notes – https://formtimeideas.com/			
Yr12	YEAR 12 - MENTAL HEALTH PERFECTIONISM 2: PURSUING EXCELLENCE NOT PERFECTIONISM PERFECTIONISM 3: SOLUTIONS - IS A GROWTH MINDSET BETTER?	Thank yous – cards available in the office Thank You Cards Slide.pptx	Assembly – Rewards and celebration Chairs @ 0815 - VHM
Yr13	YEAR 13 – UNIVERSITY PREPARATION BUDGETING AT UNIVERSITY VIDEO <i>Optional support material in Teams</i>	17 Day Easter Challenge! – see ppt in Teams	Thank yous - cards available in the office Thank You Cards Slide.pptx

Work experience, employment and apprenticeship opportunities / information:

Katie Witchell– our Careers Adviser is available to you all. You can email her directly at kwitchell@sheldonschool.co.uk to make an appointment or you can drop-in to the Careers Hub near the hall on Thursday or Friday lunch times.

What is LMI? Why is it important and where can find it?

LMI is Labour Market Information. It is useful and important because it tells you what jobs are available, which are on the increase/decrease, what the pay is like etc. You can find LMI in the Careers Newsletter that comes out every week or so. You can also find it on every careers page in the Careers Library on Unifrog.

Search <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/>

Search and sign up for alerts at <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/>
<https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/>

Pathway CTM: <https://pathwayctm.com/student-register/>

Uptree: <https://uptree.co/a/signup/student/>

Springpod: <https://space.springpod.com/sign-up>

Zero Gravity: <https://app.zerogravity.co.uk/>

Check out the emails forwarded from **My Great First Job** for lots of great opportunities too!

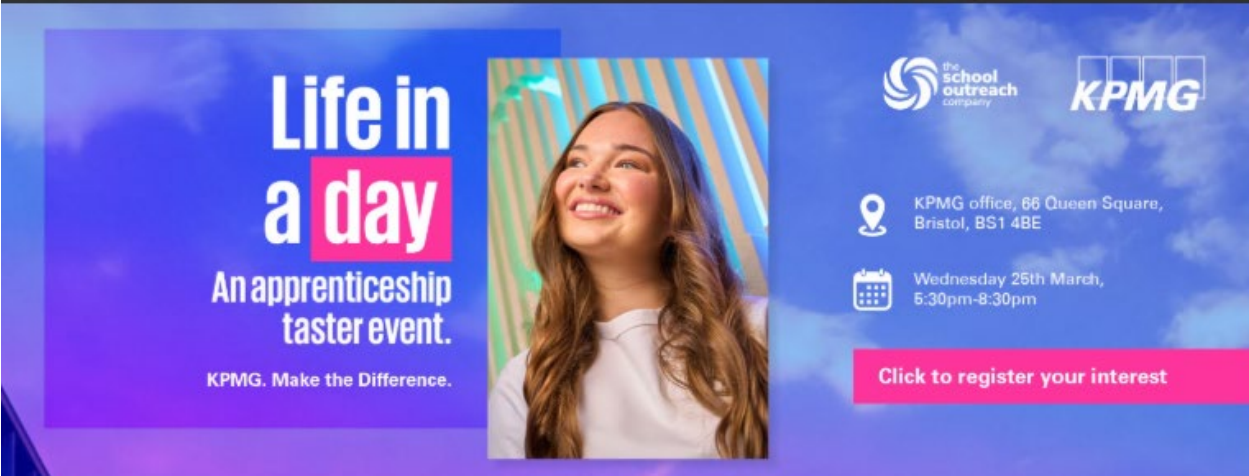
British Horseracing Authority: Free events for students and teachers

Explore Racing Days are free events at racecourses where students can meet industry professionals, try a racehorse simulator, and learn about potential training, work experience, and early career pathways. From working with horses to roles in science, media, business, and event management, there's more career options than you might expect. Teachers and careers leaders are also invited to a dedicated event at Ascot on 8 May. [Learn more](#)

Career Insight Days

- **Computer Science Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 28th March 2026
- **Medicine Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 4th April 2026
- **Law Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 11th April 2026
- **Midwifery Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 18th April 2026
- **Dentistry Work Experience & Careers Day** – Sunday 19th April 2026
- **Psychology Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 25th April 2026
- **Architect Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 2nd May 2026
- **Engineering Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 9th May 2026
- **Business Work Experience & Careers Day** – Saturday 16th May 2026
- **Performing Arts Work Experience & Careers Day** – Sunday 18th October 2026

Details, dates & registration: www.careerdays.co.uk



The poster features a young woman with long brown hair smiling against a blue background with vertical light streaks. On the left, the text reads 'Life in a day' in white and pink, followed by 'An apprenticeship taster event.' and 'KPMG. Make the Difference.' in white. On the right, there are logos for 'the school outreach company' and 'KPMG'. Below the logos, a location pin icon is next to the text 'KPMG office, 66 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4BE'. A calendar icon is next to the text 'Wednesday 25th March, 5:30pm-8:30pm'. At the bottom right, there is a pink button with the text 'Click to register your interest'.

<https://forms.rmp-connect.com/form/DHJf4wahTyNPBGGF3jnnc7ccJK/ainiNb8BKIVUPcz5I7iQ>

BBC 'Get in' Taster Experiences for 16-18

https://careers.bbc.co.uk/content/EC_Get-In/

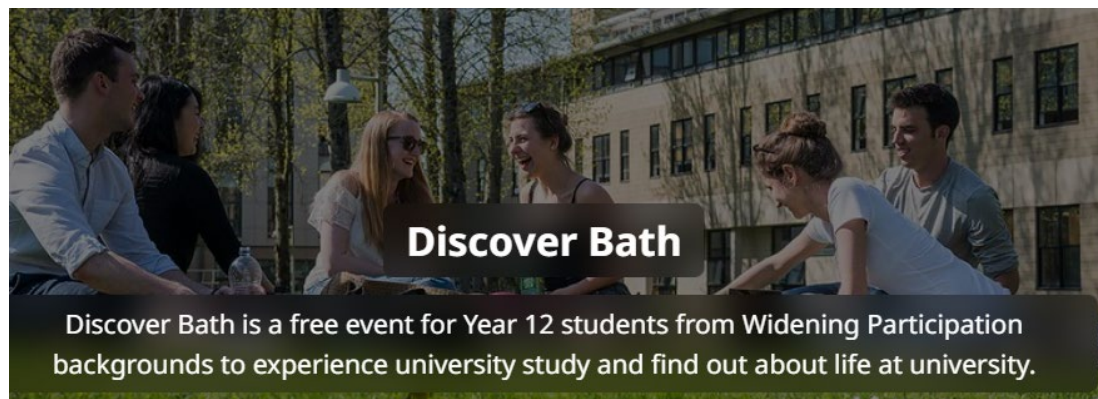
Throughout 2025 and 2026 we will be running 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCES across BBC bases the length and breadth of the UK.

We'd love to hear from you if a job in the media industry is something you think you might like, but just don't know how or where to start looking!

Our 'GET IN' TASTER EXPERIENCES are designed to show you what opportunities are on offer and to support you with the next steps you need to take to GET IN to the BBC.

University and other opportunities:

Check out <https://www.unitasterdays.com/event-incentives/> and UCAS and www.opendays.com for lots of open day information and opportunities including:



<https://www.bath.ac.uk/campaigns/discover-bath/>

Newcastle University -

Get Ahead – Virtual Event Series

Bookings are now open to sign up for our series of online virtual events, Get Ahead.

We will be running three events for Year 12 students on the following dates:

- 14 April: Course, Employability and Enterprise
- 15 April: Parents and Supporters
- 21 April: Student Life and Study Skills

Students will have the opportunity to increase their study skills, meet current students, take part in a subject taster session, and much more!

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/schools/visit-us-on-campus/other-on-campus-events/get-ahead/>

Bangor University: College of Medicine and Health Webinar Series

Are your students interested in Medicine, Psychology, Nursing, Midwifery, Sport Science, or another health career? Bangor University's College of Medicine and Health is hosting free online taster webinars giving students a real feel for university study, with a live Q&A. [Invite your students to sign up](#)

LSE Explore is a series of academic taster events, designed to give students in Year 12 the chance to experience university-level study first-hand. Students can explore a range of subjects, hear from LSE academics and undergraduates, and gain a deeper understanding of the higher education application process.

What can students expect?

- Six online subject tasters – delivered via Zoom and taking place from Monday 27 April to Thursday 7 May 2026
- The opportunity to attend one of two online admissions information sessions on Saturday 9 May - led by an LSE Undergraduate Admissions Specialist
- **New for 2026** - An opportunity to engage in *Explore Extra*, three in-person academic subject tasters occurring on **3, 10 and 17 June**, each showcasing one department across LSE



Applications for **LSE Explore** open on **Monday 23 February**, and close on **Sunday 29 March at 11:59pm**.

[Share this opportunity with your students](#)

LSE Empower

LSE Empower (formerly The Black Achievement Conference) is a **one-day online conference supporting students of Black heritage**. Taking place on **Saturday 16 May 2026** via Zoom, students will hear the authentic experiences of LSE's Black students, staff and alumni. They'll gain practical advice and build the confidence needed to pursue their ambitions in higher education and beyond.

What can students expect?

- The opportunity to attend a Law or Economics taster lecture delivered by leading LSE academics
- Gain advice from the LSE Admissions Team on university applications and the LSE admissions process
- Receive guidance from the Widening Participation Team on student finance and financial support at university
- Hear directly from LSE students and alumni about their LSE journey, societies and their overall experience being part of the Black student community



Applications for **LSE Empower** open on **Monday 2 March**, and close on **Sunday 26 April at 11:59pm**.

[Share this opportunity with your students](#)

University of Portsmouth

a range of **online webinars** including:

- Beyond the Buzzwords: What studying business really looks like (26 March, 5pm)

<https://www.port.ac.uk/collaborate/schools-and-colleges/subject-specific-events>

University of Gloucestershire.

UoG Summer Residentials - applications are now open!

Year 12: Tuesday 7 - Friday 10 July 2026

Application forms are now live for the University of Gloucestershire's free Summer Residentials. Your students can experience university life for themselves by spending four days and three nights living on campus. They'll get to meet other students from across the country, live in halls of residence, try interactive subject tasters led by our lecturers in industry-standard facilities, speak to current students and find out more about university life.



Year 12 students can choose from 3 projects based around creative, business or health-related subjects.



The event is totally free, with all food, accommodation, travel and entertainment included. There is also up to £50 travel funding to help you get to campus.

Find out more and apply: glos.ac.uk/summer26

WRITE IN RESPONSE TO THE THEME:

TRUTH

THE ORWELL YOUTH PRIZE 2026

You can write in any form. Journalism, essays, stories, poems, speeches and plays are all welcome.

FINAL DEADLINE: 29TH APRIL 2026
FEEDBACK DEADLINE: 25TH FEBRUARY 2026

Head to our website to find out more:
www.orwellyouthprize.co.uk
 @orwellyouthprize

There was truth and there was untruth, and if you clung to the truth even against the whole world, you were not mad.

— George Orwell, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*

ORWELL YOUTH PRIZE

With generous support from George Orwell's son, Richard Blair and The Orwell Charitable

The Orwell Youth Prize is now open for entries. Introducing our new theme: TRUTH.

“There was truth and there was untruth, and if you clung to the truth even against the whole world, you were not mad.”- George Orwell

You can write in any form--fiction, non fiction, poetry...even game design!

The competition deadline is 29 April, but you can submit a draft entry by 25 February for feedback from the judges. Three winners will receive a £100 cash prize. All winners and runners up will be published and invited to become part of the Orwell Youth Fellows programme.

Find out more and enter the competition
 at <https://www.orwellfoundation.com/the-orwell-youth-prize/>

Gresham College lectures are a great way to learn beyond the curriculum and give you things to write about in university applications - <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/whats-on?see-all>

[The Dictionary City: Londoners and the Oxford English Dictionary](#)

Professor Sarah Ogilvie • Thu, 16 Apr 2026

[A World Without Work](#)

Professor Daniel Susskind • Mon, 20 Apr 2026

[Taming AI](#)

Professor Matt Jones • Tue, 21 Apr 2026

[Why Do We Love?](#)

Professor Robin May • Wed, 22 Apr 2026

[The Science of Puppetry – How Real Can They Be?](#)

Professor Robin May & Steve Allen • Thu, 23 Apr 2026

[The Shape of Tiles: Regular and Irregular, Hard and Soft](#)

Professor Alain Goriely FRS • Tue, 28 Apr 2026

[The Sky at Night, Tonight: A New View of the Changing Sky](#)

Professor Chris Lintott • Wed, 29 Apr 2026

- **March 26 @ 12:45 - 13:30** Geography: Who Makes a Place? - Tutorial - Glasgow (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
- **April 21 @ 13:35 - 14:20** Religious Studies/Philosophy: The Existence of God - UEA (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
- **April 23 @ 16:30 - 17:15** HE Guidance: How Do I Manage My Money At University? - UEA (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
- **April 23 @ 09:10 - 09:55** English Literature: The Handmaid's Tale - The Power of Language & Communication - UEA (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
- **April 28 @ 15:45 - 16:40** French Film: University Film Society – La Haine by Mathieu Kassovitz - UEA (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
- **April 29 @ 16:30 - 17:15** Pharmacy or Pharmacology: Helping You Choose The University Course for You - UEA (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
- **April 30 @ 09:10 - 09:55** Politics: Ideology in Contemporary UK Politics - Goldsmiths (16+) [Find out more »](#) **[NEW]**
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Other free lectures / seminars (good for uni applications, supporting studies etc):

Birthdays recently or coming up – Happy Birthday to...



This week: Pippa W; Alfie V; Melisa M; Kyra P; Ben H; Sam M; Claudia Mc and Josh W

Easter hols: Libby B; Noku N; Tabitha W; Olivia O; Elod J-B; Chloe S; Sayma A; Jasmin R; Harry G and Shazia H

Pet of the week: Thanks Cody, meet Sonic and Shadow

