

# Futura Learning Partnership

# NEWSLETTER

## FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



*Salford School celebrated a traditional harvest festival in which children wrote and read harvest prayers and performed songs and poems to an audience of family members*



## WELCOME

Dear parents and carers,

Last month I told you we were facing October with enthusiasm – and that hope certainly was not misplaced. Your children and our staff have been making the most of opportunities for learning and personal development every single day and I am so proud of them all. It is wonderful to visit classrooms and see such a high level of dedication and commitment to our trust values.

Our teams work in partnership with you as families to support children and young people to be the best that they can be. I am very grateful for all you do to reinforce the efforts of our teachers and support staff – and I acknowledge that at times it can be hard work for you too! This first term always seems long, though immensely rewarding, so I hope parents and carers as well as children enjoy a really relaxing break over half term.

I have, as usual, been out and about in schools to see our Futura curriculum in action, as well as viewing some amazing after-school and lunchtime activities. It is fantastic to see the children who joined our reception classes settling in so well to their learning. So far this year, we seem to be having a more ‘normal’ experience with sports fixtures, residential trips,

author visits, dance, drama and musical performances all taking place and giving children experiences they will remember for life. I know you will want to join me in thanking staff who go the extra mile to make sure these opportunities continue.

Our pupils benefit greatly from being part of a larger family of schools, not only because it gives them access to a broader range of facilities, skills and expertise across our trust, but through the economies of scale we can achieve. We are therefore thrilled that our plans to merge with Clevedon Learning Trust (CLT) have now been approved by the Department for Education's Advisory Board. As you know, we consulted stakeholders last year about this idea, which we believe will create a strong and resilient trust, increasing our capacity to support schools to improve. You will have further chances to have your questions answered before a final decision is taken on the merger, which it is hoped will happen in February 2023.

The new trust will comprise the 14 Futura schools, plus Four Acres Academy, which is joining us in December, and the two secondary and 11 primary

schools in CLT. It will be called Futura Learning Partnership and will adopt the CLT strapline 'Children, Choice and Collaboration'. Please be assured that each of the 27 schools in the new trust will retain its individual identity, reflective of the community it serves, and will continue to have local, school-based governance, which will sit beneath a newly-formed board that will ensure financial sustainability. The partnership with the Diocese of Bath & Wells will continue too, with foundation representation among the trustees. Our schools will remain rooted in their communities.

We are proud to be at the heart of neighbourhoods and to see our schools and sports centres opening up to local people in the evenings and weekends. We are fortunate to have an excellent team of support staff and I am thankful for their efforts in keeping our buildings and facilities up to scratch. Your children and our staff deserve the best environments for learning and working. Recent improvements have included a new staffroom at IKB, a staff patio at Chandag

Infants and new bike racks for staff at the majority of our schools. We have been proud to showcase our surroundings at the autumn open events for prospective Reception, Year 7 and Year 12 entrants next year. More primary open events will take place next term – do tell your friends to take a look!

But for now, thanks once again to you all, and best wishes for a happy half-term break.

*Andrea Arlidge*

Chief Executive



# SALTFORD SCHOOL HOLDS TRADITIONAL HARVEST FESTIVAL



Saltford celebrated a traditional harvest festival this year, with a West Country theme for KS2, thinking about farming and the countryside. The children were able to perform their songs, actions

and poems to audiences full of their family members. They also wrote and read harvest prayers and had time for reflection, to be thankful for all that is provided for us. This year, all food

donations went to the local Leonard Cheshire home which provides invaluable support for people with disabilities.

## PLAYGROUP JOINS CIS ASSEMBLY

The children at Chandag Infant school enjoyed sharing a Harvest assembly together. It was wonderful to have our first assembly with 3-2-4 playgroup. The children in Reception retold the story of the Little Red Hen and the children in years 1 and 2 had learnt songs to share. The school community came together to donate lots of food items which were gratefully accepted by Sunnymede Nursing Home and Temple Street Canteen.



## RUNNERS JOIN SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION



A team of 18 hopeful runners from Year 5 and Year 6 represented Saltford School at the B&NES schools cross country competition at the Odd Down Sports Park at the end of September. With over 500 pupils competing, the event was fiercely

competitive and the whole Saltford team reached consistently high standards, with some individual brilliance on display too. We are proud of the team's achievements and enormously proud of their sporting behaviour. Thanks to the staff from the

schools and the School Sports Partnership who organised and hosted the event, and all the parents who helped with transport and cheered the team on.



# HELLO YELLOW DAY

The children at **Two Rivers** really enjoyed their Hello Yellow Day, raising £41.15 for the charity Young Minds. They had a workshop on 'finding their superpower' (thanks to Holley, one of the parents) and took part in other activities such as creating positive affirmations, yoga and mindfulness activities. If you would like to find out more information about supporting children's mental health please see: [Young Minds' website](#).

**St John's** also took part in Hello Yellow and raised £152 while **Wellsway School** participated and raised £365.



Two Rivers CofE Primary



St John's (left and right)



Wellsway (left and right)



## WHAT'S ON AT OUR SPORTS CENTRES

There's something for everyone in the autumn offer from our sports centres.

Take your pick from team sports on our fabulous new 3G pitch at SBL, through classes and gym sessions at both centres, and roller disco at Wellsway.

Our health and wellbeing experts, as well as our fitness coaches, are on hand to advise.

You can join as a member or sample a whole range of sports on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Find out more in our [What's on this Autumn newsletter](#) (Pdf).





# BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT BEDMINSTER DOWN SCHOOL

October is Black History Month in the UK, an event that has been celebrated nationwide for more than 30 years. The month was originally founded to recognise the contributions that people of African and Caribbean backgrounds have made to the UK over many generations. Now, Black History Month has expanded to include the history of not just African and Caribbean people but black people in general.

This year's Black History Month in October is more important than ever. It's not just a month to celebrate the continued achievements and contributions of Black people to the UK and around the world. It's also a time for continued action to tackle racism, reclaim Black history, and ensure Black history is represented and celebrated all year round.

Students in Year 9 have been learning about non-white soldiers of WWI. For example, Walter Tull. He had a successful career as a footballer in the early 1900s, playing for Tottenham Hotspur. He fought in the British Army during the First World War, and was killed in action in 1918. Tull was one of thousands of non-white soldiers who fought for Britain in the First World War. The British West Indian Regiment alone was made up of around 15,000 black volunteers from the West Indies. Around 130,000 Indians fought alongside the British Army in the trenches.

Students have been shocked and saddened to learn about the decision not to allow any black troops to take part in London's victory celebrations: the much-trumpeted Peace March on 19th July 1919.

As part of their lesson, Year 9s explore why non-white soldiers were ignored after WWI and our students are now able to discuss the contribution made by troops across the world who fought for Britain.

## Assemblies

- Miss West has shared some of her favourite images for Black History month including celebrating the work of Rosa Parks.
- Students have been shown where they can expect Black History woven into their History curriculum.
- Students have been set an inter-house competition to create a Google-doodle for October and Black History month.



## STUDENTS DRAW UP GOOGLE DOODLES

Students at Bedminster Down were tasked by the History department to design a Google Doodle for Black History month.

A Google Doodle is a special, temporary alteration of the logo on Google's homepages (you might see it when you do a Google search) and they are intended to commemorate holidays, events, achievements, and notable historical figures of particular countries.

After choosing 15 finalists, the following Google Doodles placed 1st by Jess and Ruby in Year 7.



## TRYING OUT CAVE ART

The children in Reception at Chandag Infants have been working as artists in the style of the British artist Chris Ofili as part of Black History Month. They have enjoyed creating artwork of people who are important to them and they have been looking at cave paintings as this was an interest of his. They used paint mixed with sand to change the texture and created collaborative cave art.





# MODESHIFT MEADOWS

The Meadows have been awarded a Modeshift Bronze level for active travel. Mrs Kershaw, the school's Personal Social and Health Education leader, submitted evidence for this award and the school reached Bronze level. It is hoping to go on to achieve Silver and Gold next year.



# EXCITING TIMES AT YEAR 6 CAMP



The Year 6 pupils at The Meadows enjoyed their Year 6 Camp last week. They took part in many exciting activities at PGL Beam House in Devon including high ropes, zip wire, campfire, orienteering and bodyboarding. The visit focused on developing team building skills and resilience.



# CHANDAG YEAR 5 TEAM WIN B&NES CROSS-COUNTRY

A number of children from Chandag Juniors took part in the B&NES cross country competition at Odd Down. The weather was really good and there was a lot of support from parents, who also kindly helped with transport. The school was delighted to find out afterwards that collectively the Year 5 pupils came first across all schools, as a team.



# A PIZZA THE ACTION ...



All year groups at Chandag Junior School have fully embraced the Futura Curriculum this term, from pizza making to waistcoats and circuits etc. It has been a lot of fun and certainly messy at times!

# SHAPE SHIFTING!



At Two Rivers the EYFS children enjoyed learning about repeating patterns, but enjoyed eating their repeating pattern fruit kebabs even more!

# BRIDGE FARM PUPILS VISIT HIPPODROME



As part of their unit of work on playscripts, Y4 from Bridge Farm visited the Bristol Hippodrome to watch Beauty and the Beast. This was followed by the Production Team providing a workshop on the workings of theatre.

## IT ALL ADDS UP TO A GREAT OUTCOME AT SBL

The Maths Department at SBL would like to congratulate 2022's Year 11 and Year 13 students for their amazing outcomes:

- Over 60% of students gained a Grade 5 or above
- A quarter of students gained a Grade 7 or above
- Nine students gained a Grade 9

We know that we help our students to achieve this not by 'teaching to the test' but by providing a challenging curriculum that both deepens and accelerates students maths learning, and brings together different areas of maths so that students' confidence in problem-solving becomes exceptional.

## LONGLEAT VISIT IS A ROARING SUCCESS

The History team and 92 Year 10 students from SBL very much enjoyed a study visit to Longleat House and gardens as part of its GCSE curriculum. This visit coincided with the UK's hottest day of the year.

A tour of Longleat House allowed the group to reflect on the wealth of Elizabethan families and the importance of symbols within Elizabethan architecture.

Later in the day, time was spent in the zoological gardens before a visit to the Safari, where in the monkey enclosure there were nearly some stowaways on the coach as some cheeky creatures were trying to get in through the top windows. But they failed – one look from the keeper and they scarpere!



## SURF'S UP FOR WANSDYKE Y6



Year 6 visited The Wave artificial surfing facility in North Bristol and loved learning the skill of surfing. This was also an opportunity for children to apply their water safety skills learnt in Year 5.

## MEDSOC STUDENTS LEARN LIFE-SAVING PROCEDURES

A club at SBL helps students who are considering a career in healthcare to find out more about the sector.

The SBL MedSoc took eight Year 11 and three Year 12 students to Royal United Hospital, Bath, to gain an insight into the causes, prevention and treatment of heart disease.

They enjoyed talks from consultant cardiologists on how the heart works, heart attacks, heart rhythm and valve problems and their treatments, as well as how to prevent heart disease.

The students also had a hands-on session with the resuscitation nurses, learning CPR and how to use an AED (automated external defibrillator) and a Q&A session with healthcare professionals including physiologists, senior nurses, consultants, radiographers and physiotherapists.

## A BIG THUMBS UP FOR ZEST

Zest Catering have a new Facebook page highlighting our catering services and staff, promotions/theme days and meals. Please take a look to see what we your children are eating at school.

Page name [Zest - Catering at Futura Learning Partnership](#). Please feel free to email with any feedback, comments or suggestions to [zest@futuralearning.co.uk](mailto:zest@futuralearning.co.uk)





# TEACHER COMPLETES MARATHON IN AMAZING TIME

Hannah Alderson, Year 6 teacher at Cheddar Grove, provided a moment of awe-inspiring brilliance by completing the London Marathon in a time of 2:35:56. Hannah was the first champion female runner home and the second female GB runner as well as the 11th female over the line. This incredible accomplishment was achieved through sheer dedication and hard work and has proved to be the catalyst for other staff members to strive to success. We would like to congratulate Hannah and wish her all the best when she enters again in April to break the 2hr 30 minute barrier.



## RADIO FEATURES GARDEN OF HOPE

Hits Radio came to visit Wansdyke to talk to children who have been part of the 'Garden of Hope' project. The interview is featured on the radio station's website. The school community is incredibly proud. Many children across the school have been supported by the project. Watching children learn to thrive during what can be such a very difficult time is heart-warming. This project has become an essential part of the Wansdyke community and is highly valued by all. For more information see [Gardens of Hope](#).



## STUDENTS HELP SHAPE KEYNSHAM'S NEW YOUTH CLUB

Wellsway School students took part in focus groups to gather opinions for the youth centre opening in Keynsham. They discussed and drew ideas based on:

What is a youth centre? What is a youth worker? What would your dream youth centre be like and why? What would make you go/ what would make you not

go? After half term youth worker Abigail Gray will give assemblies to talk through what happens at your local youth centre and the opportunities available there.

## YEAR 11 TRIUMPH IN TIGHT RUGBY CONTEST

### Wellsway 17 - 17 Frome College

Wellsway School's Year 11 rugby team played Frome College in the Somerset cup. It was a hard-fought match, with both sides playing a great brand of rugby. Frome took an early lead with a converted try, but Wellsway kept close behind in score and managed to match their score. Frome soon scored another

try which Wellsway again followed suit soon after. However, Wellsway were unable to convert the conversion. In the second half, Frome kicked for points from a penalty to push the score to a 5-point lead and Wellsway were in for a tough finish. Wellsway then finished the half with a fantastic kick-and-chase try

to draw the score even. An unconverted final conversion ended the game at 17 - 17, with Wellsway winning the match due to more tries scored. A brilliant performance all round!



# ANOTHER WIN FOR WELLSWAY HOCKEY

Wellsway welcomed Ralph Allen's U19 squad to play against our U16 mixed team. After two successive wins we were keen to make it three in a row! A very strong start saw two quick goals from Mindy and Freddie, and it wasn't long until a third came from Fin C, Jean, Michael, Fin B, and Matthew made lots of good clearances in defence to help Isaac keep a clean sheet for the first half. After a team-talk and sorting out rotations for the second half we took back to the pitch. Ralph Allen came back on stronger, determined to get a goal and managed to get past our line of defence and slip two past the keeper twice to bring the score to 3-2. With lots of encouragement from captain Matthew, Wellsway fought back. Some great passes from Jack, Toby and Johnny, and strong attacking play from Benny, Mark and Fin allowed two more brilliant goals for Mindy. The final score finished at 5-2, with hat-trick goal scorer Mindy claiming player of the match for the third week running. Well done Wellsway, another fantastic win!



# VICTORY IN FIRST CUP MATCH

The Year 9 football team travelled to Churchill in the first round of the Somerset Cup. The game started very close, before Will scored his first of the game. Just before half time, Jacob scored a fantastic free kick into the top right hand corner to give Wellsway a 2-0 lead into the break. Only 30 seconds in to the second half and Will scored his second, which was shortly followed by another to complete his hat trick. Jacob added a second of his own, with another long distance strike. Churchill did score a consolation goal just before half time. Final score Churchill 1 - 5 Wellsway. Man of the match: Will.



The Year 7 and 8 football teams went to Somervale for a friendly festival of football. It was a really nice afternoon where each of the teams played in a number of fixtures. All games for Wellsway finished in a draw, but it was great to get the team match ready for future tournaments and games.