

Futura Learning Partnership

NEWSLETTER

FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY



IKB's Head of School Debbie Gibbs and students boldly spell out Ofsted's recent judgement



WELCOME

Dear Parent and Carer,

CONGRATULATIONS IKB ACADEMY!

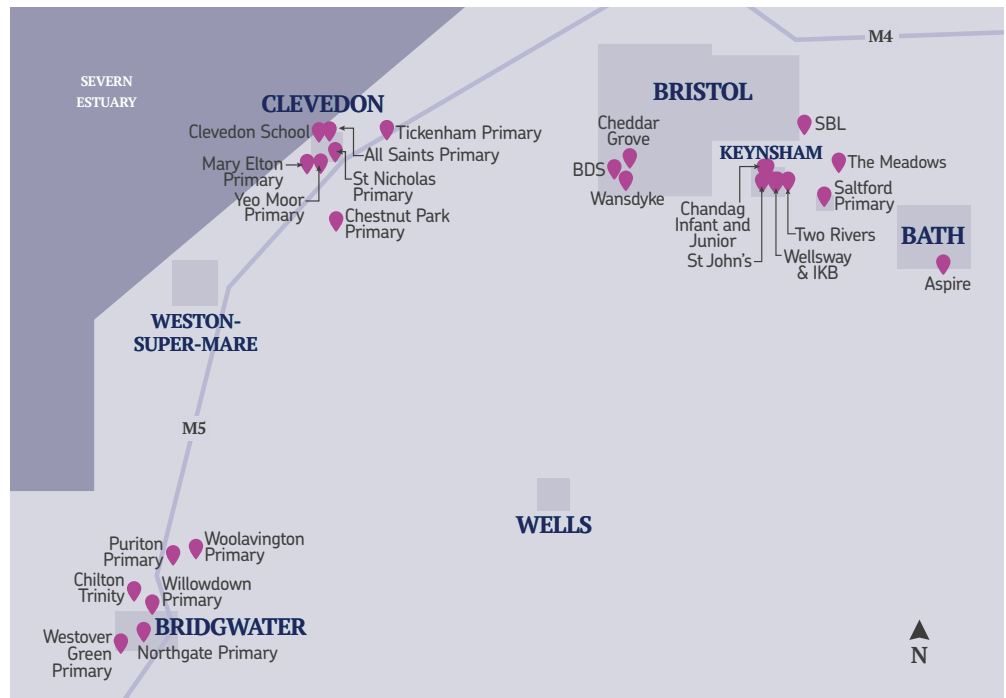
I am delighted to share the news that IKB Academy has been judged to be a good school by Ofsted. The full [Ofsted report is available to download](#). The report highlights the quality of the pupils' experience and says that pupils feel valued at IKB. They say staff know them very well and as a result they feel supported to do their best.

Our trust's Futura Curriculum was also singled out for praise and the inspection team felt the curriculum was well planned and sequenced, resulting in a curriculum that reflected the unique position of the school as a STEM specialist academy. I was also very pleased to hear that the support provided by Futura is well-received with staff welcoming the opportunities for professional development with their colleagues across the trust.

This is a great outcome, not just for IKB Academy but also for Wellsway School that has very close links with IKB. Well done to the students in IKB who really did impress the inspectors and to the staff and governors in both schools who have worked very hard to achieve this grading. It is a very proud moment for us when we get a judgement that affirms the work we are doing and shows what a great experience the children and young people are getting.

Since announcing our Trust Board’s intention to look to merge with Clevedon Learning Trust (CLT) we have started to explore the prospect with our colleagues in CLT and this work is now well underway. We are currently in the process of speaking to other trusts that have gone through a merger recently and learning from their experience. Our Director of Education, Gary Schlick, and I have also started to visit CLT schools and will be organising some opportunities for the heads and principals in both trusts to meet together in term 6. All this will help to inform the merger application, which will go to the Department for Education. All being well, the merger should go ahead by September 2023. We are planning to hold some information events next term to give parents and carers the opportunity to ask questions about our plans.

The joint work we are doing with CLT to prepare the application is certainly reinforcing what strong synergy there is between CLT and Futura and we are very excited about the potential. The merger will make us an even stronger trust with enhanced capacity to make a difference – for pupils, staff and the communities we serve.



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Term 5 has seen the return of testing and exams and the once familiar routines. The children and young people have risen to the challenge admirably and are to be congratulated. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank staff across our schools for the careful and considered way our children and young people have been prepared for their KS1 assessments, Y6 SATS, GCSEs, BTECs and A Levels. The return of testing and exams really does signal a return to normality in education after the uncertainty and disruption of the pandemic. I wish all the children and young people well and hope they achieve the success they deserve. I am looking forward to seeing the KS2 SATS results in July and the GCSE, A Level and BTEC results in August. Always a nail biting time but also, we hope, a time for celebration.

NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

This year’s [National Thank a Teacher Day](http://www.thankateacher.co.uk) is taking place this year on 26th May. It is run by the Teaching Awards Trust – the charity that runs the national Thank a Teacher campaign www.thankateacher.co.uk. This provides a good opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of the teachers and staff who work in our schools and trusts, who will really appreciate this recognition.

I am sure the next week will come as a welcome relief for those of us having a break from work. For everyone though, there is the additional bank holiday to look forward to as the country celebrates Her Majesty’s Platinum Jubilee. Whatever you are doing, be it having a street party or just simply switching off, I hope you have an enjoyable break and enjoy and very well deserved rest.



With thanks and appreciation for your continued support.

With best wishes,

Andrea Arlidge

Chief Executive

IKB - A SCHOOL WHERE STUDENTS FEEL VALUED

IKB Academy is celebrating after being rated Good in all areas by Ofsted.

Inspectors said pupils, staff and leaders were enthusiastic about the 'unique' school and its specialism in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

"Pupils feel valued at IKB. They say staff know them very well and as a result they feel supported to do their best. Some pupils told us their experience at IKB has renewed their enthusiasm for learning," the report said.

Three inspectors from the education watchdog visited IKB on April 5 and 6.

Their very positive findings included:

- Leaders have an ambitious vision for the school
- Teachers have high expectations in all curriculum areas
- Teachers have strong subject knowledge and use it well to plan learning
- Pupils feel safe in school and say bullying is not an issue
- Pupils value the guidance they receive about careers
- Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities are supported well

Inspectors noted the school's intention to give young people experiences of the world of work to enhance their learning of the STEM-focused curriculum and to develop their interests. While this 'important aspect of the school's offer' had been affected by the pandemic, school leaders were beginning to rebuild it. Year 10 students were out on work experience at the time of the visit.

Ofsted praised the support given to the personal development of the 162 students, who are aged 14-19. This included a comprehensive personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum and leadership opportunities for sixth-formers. Inspectors said children felt safe in school and knew they could talk to someone if they had concerns.

The report also highlighted the contribution of Futura Learning Partnership to the school's success. "Leaders are well supported by the trust. Staff welcome opportunities for professional development with their colleagues across the trust. Teachers say leaders are considerate of staff workload and wellbeing," it said.

Head of school Debbie Gibbs said she was delighted



at the inspectors' findings, which rated IKB as Good for quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management and sixth-form provision.

"This is an important milestone for IKB Academy and is a tribute to the hard work of our staff team and our students with the support of families, the community, and the trust," she said.

"I am so pleased that our students were able to talk with enthusiasm about their learning and experiences at IKB and that the strengths of our provision were recognised by the inspectors.

"We are ambitious for all our students and do all we can to ensure they have the knowledge, skills and experience to succeed."

TOR-RIFIC EFFORT! BDS TEAM SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE 35-MILE DARTMOOR CHALLENGE

Six Year 10 pupils from Bedminster Down School successfully completed the 35-mile Ten Tors Challenge on Dartmoor.

The team – George, Harley, Zade, Reggie, Tyler and Archie – finished with plenty of time to spare and without anyone dropping out through injury or fatigue.

This was an excellent effort by all those who took part. We also should say a big well done and thank you to all of the many other Year 10 pupils who started out on training as far back as October last year – your drive and passion was instrumental in sustaining a competitive training programme and ensuring that we absolutely had the right six young people form our team.

The challenge did not take place in 2020 or 2021 because of Covid. The event on May 7 and 8 was the 60th Ten Tors and saw thousands of teenagers from across the South West trekking across Dartmoor on a myriad of routes and distances.

Teams walk up to 55 miles over some of the toughest terrain, using their own navigation and survival skills to get them through.

The sun was barely up when participants gathered on the hillside before the 7am starting cannon. Over the next 36 hours our team walked over tor, down valleys, across rivers and through bogs to meet their objectives. Their pace and resolve did not let up and they were rewarded in their endeavours by successfully completing the challenge at Anthony Stile, Okehampton Camp at 1543hrs in front of many of their families, friends and well-wishers who had made the journey down from Bristol.



Following medal presentation and some well-earned pasties it was time to go home with their families, rest their weary bodies and start dreaming of tackling the 45 mile challenge next year.

Well done team – we're all very proud of you.

WELLSWAY STUDENTS TACKLE SILVER DOFE EXPEDITION



More than 30 Year 10 students from Wellsway School successfully completed their three-day silver award qualifying expedition on Dartmoor, travelling more than 30 miles on difficult terrain, sometimes across wild country, which required good navigation skills. All six teams performed consistently well, and showed excellent camp craft skills at the

campsite, especially on the first night, where the facilities were a field, two portaloos and three containers of water. Each participant was a credit to themselves, their teams, the school and their families. Congratulations silvers! Only two years to wait for the gold award expedition ...

ARMY VISITORS PUT ASPIRE TEENS THROUGH THEIR PACES



Aspire Academy welcomed the British Army into their school where Years 9-12 took part in an elite skills academy day.

The students were put through their paces in a series of challenges which included map reading, obstacle courses, teambuilding and problem solving tasks.

The students were also given a presentation about 'Life in the Army' and were involved in a live Q and A with the soldiers.

The students demonstrated great enthusiasm and resilience during the day, embracing every challenge with a positive mind-set.

One Year 9 student stated 'it was good fun and I definitely now feel more confident in problem solving and working as a team'.

GET A TASTE OF SIXTH FORM LIFE

The Futura Sixth induction days are Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th July. All students who have applied to join Futura Sixth in September will receive an invitation to come along. These days are designed to give the students a Sixth Form experience: they get the opportunity to have lessons in their chosen Sixth Form subjects, experience some transition sessions from Year 11 into Year 12 and collect their summer subject preparation work.

Our induction days go further than just providing lesson experiences. The students will be able to engage in some

fun activities, as well as travel between our campuses and enjoy some independent time in our Sixth Form common spaces.

This year we have again seen large numbers of applications and our Sixth Form provision continues to go from strength to strength. We are confident that our Year 11 students will do well in their exams and we are looking forward to the examination results day on August 25th. This will also be the time to enrol formally on to their Sixth Form courses. We will communicate



to all our students during Term 6 the process for collecting their exam results and the enrolment procedure.

Danny Wilkinson
Director of Post-16
Futura Sixth

SBL STUDENT CHARLIE SIGNS FOR ROVERS

SBL Academy is pleased to announce that Charlie Perkins in Year 11 has been awarded a two year Youth Professional Scholarship contract at Bristol Rovers and will be training with the first team in the pre-season.



WELLSWAY LOSE OUT IN B&NES FINAL



Wellsway School under 16 boys, winners of the Somerset Cup, narrowly missed achieving a trophy double.

The team were defeated 2-1 by Norton Hill School in the B&NES final after a close match in which Wellsway were missing three key players.

The students in the squad include: Freddie Buckland, Jake Hicks, Rhys Morgan, Aaron Davies, Jarrel Harbord, Joel McGregor, Kyan Ozuzu, Keegan Morgan, Jake Simpkins, Isaac Stevens-Wong, Alex Hodges, Joe Hiscox, Sam Smith, James Underwood, Theo Lyndon and Will Jansen.

GOLFER DYLAN WINS SOMERSET UNDER 18 CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

Congratulations to Wellsway student Dylan J, who recently won the Somerset County under 18 Golf Championships, which also means he qualifies for the National finals to represent Somerset. Well done on your success Dylan and good luck for the National finals!



SEB'S AN INSPIRATION TO WELLSWAY YEAR 8 FOOTBALLERS



Wellsway School's Year 8 footballers, accompanied by Mr Knowles, visited Bristol City's High Performance Centre on Monday to take part in a Celebration of Sport event. The girls - Heidi, Millie, Lily, Emmie, Freya, Daisy, Maggie, Amelie and Bex - had the opportunity not only to take part in a number of games, but also to play alongside two member of the Bristol City Women's 1st XI squad Maddie Wild and Brooke Aspin. Furthermore, it was great to to meet our alumnus Seb Palmer-Houlden, who has just signed a two-year professional contract with Bristol City FC. It's great to stay in touch with our ex-students; they're superb role models for our current students. Many congratulations to Seb on his recent signing - hard work pays off.

NET GAINS FOR ST JOHN'S NETBALL ACES

Congratulations to our superb St John's netball team, who won the B&NES netball tournament and qualified for the Wesport School Games final. Each week they, and a number of other players, are coached by Mrs Yeoman and Mrs Rhys-Jones.



BEAR IN MIND PROJECT BUILDS GIRLS' CONFIDENCE



Year 8 girls from SBL have taken part in Bristol Bears community team's Bear in Mind project.

It's a health and wellbeing programme aimed at providing the tools to build self-confidence and to cope with issues faced by young women today.

The girls were apprehensive at the beginning; however, as the sessions went on they began to open up to the positive aspects of the course.

Alongside the classroom activities the girls also took part in some tag rugby sessions.

The group went on two trips. The first trip was to Ashton Gate, where they had a stadium tour and found out about all of the jobs and roles that are needed to run a professional sports club. The second trip was to Shaftesbury park, where the girls took part in a number of session with players from Bristol Bears women's

team and then played matches against some of the other schools on the project.

It was lovely to see the students get fully into the games at the end of this programme and enjoy themselves. Well done to you all for completing the programme.

Mr Shiells

SBL YEAR 7 FOOTBALLERS TAKE THE TRIPLE CROWN

SBL Year 7 boys are the Gloucestershire County Champions after beating Cheltenham Bournside 4-1 in the final.

The victory, following their wins in the South Glos District and the City of Bristol finals, mean that the team, in their first year, have won every piece of silverware they have competed for.

PE staff are excited for the future. Teacher Adam Laverick said: "The sky really is the limit for this group. What an exciting four years we have ahead of us!"

Meanwhile, the school's Year 11s just missed out in their Gloucestershire County Cup Final. An extremely talented opposition in St. Peters RCHS proved too much for them on the afternoon and despite a spirited performance the boys suffered a 5-2 defeat in their final ever school game. This team have achieved so much over the years, growing as both players and young men and SBL are very proud of them.



CAMPS PROVE A BRILLIANT BONDING EXPERIENCE

The whole Year 4 class from Wansdyke took part in camp at Kilve Court. The children (and the adults who accompanied them) had a great time! The days were filled with activities that required working together, and there were smiles on the children's faces all week. It was a real bonding experience for them all. Year 2 also had a fun-packed couple of days for their residential camp at Folly Farm. The children (and staff) returned tired but full of stories about their adventures. They had some fantastic weather to enjoy the outdoors and learn about nature.



WELL DONE TO UNDONE! £295 FOR MENTAL HEALTH AID



Wellsway School band Undone's performance in Saltford raised £295 for the youth mental health charity Off The Record and the band have been awarded the Principal's Personal Achievement Award for their endeavours.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS AT SALTFFORD

Saltford School has been celebrating the 60th anniversary of its relocation to its current site. The school's history goes much further back, to the first Saltford school that was founded in the middle of the 19th century.

As the school expanded, more space was needed, and so the current main school building was opened in 1962. Pupils enjoyed a presentation from the School Council which showed how much has changed through the decades. Children particularly relished trying to spot which children in the old photos are now teachers at Saltford!

A commemorative photo of the entire school has been taken to mark the anniversary; what will future generations make of the 2022 style when they, too, look back?

Staff and pupils were delighted to welcome John Pine, a former Headteacher of Saltford School, for an anniversary visit. He shared his memories with the children and brought along the memory book that the children of the time had made for him as a retirement gift. He was impressed with recent developments on the school site, and the warmth of his welcome from our current children.

The PTA sold commemorative teddy bears with a T-shirt bearing the school logo and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee logo. "Buckingham" was chosen as the bear's winning name in a competition.

On the last day of term, the celebrations will continue with a special teddy bears' picnic lunch on the school field, to which children can bring their teddies. Saltford is proud to remember its roots and to celebrate the school that it has become.

WHAT WOULD YOU CALL A CHEDDAR GROVE DUCKLING?



Cheddar Grove welcomed some very special visitors into their Early Years. They took delivery of 18 duck eggs which have since hatched into ducklings, who are causing lots of excitement. The pupils have had a great deal of fun and top-quality learning opportunities in looking after them. A competition to name each of the ducklings has brought forward some very creative suggestions

PERFECT HARMONY AS SCHOOLS HOST PHILHARMONIA



Our schools played host to a holiday workshop run by Bath Philharmonia for B&NES Young Carers.

Participants worked with the musicians, creating music and rehearsing in IKB Academy and then performing for family and friends in Mendip Hall at Wellsway School.

Bath Philharmonia is a professional orchestra that performs concerts and delivers creative learning projects. It was lovely to see our joint site in Keynsham coming alive for such a rewarding cause.

Here are some of the online comments on the event:

"We had such a fun time making music with these incredible

young people and are looking forward to performing them again with B&NES Young Carers as part of The Bath Festival's Party in the City on 13 May. So save the date. You won't want to miss it!"

All our schools' halls, rooms and grounds can be hired for any number of uses. From birthday parties, community groups, corporate days, large events, fitness classes, social events, training, the list goes on. If you want more information please call 0117 916 1035 or email schoolhire@futuralearning.co.uk Visit @furaschoollets Facebook page for an insight into what you can hire.

BDS DANCERS TAKE AMERICA BY STORM

Dancers from Bedminster Down school recently represented England and their dance school Angels Dance Academy at the World Championships in America. These talented dancers had to face incredibly tough auditions and worked so hard in training leading up to the event.

Firstly, Gracie Cranch and Gracie Elvins, in Year 11, and Lashanna Henry, in Year 10, were part of the Team England Junior Hip Hop group who came 2nd in the International Cheer Union (ICU) Worlds.

Gracie Cranch, Gracie Elvins and Lashanna Henry also competed representing their dance school in the hip hop group Dominion Premier. They placed first in their division at Dance Worlds and have therefore become Dance Champions.

Skye Brice competed for Angels in the Lyrical and Jazz sections with her team called Virtues which is a relatively new



section for these dancers where they were the highest scoring group from the UK placing 4th behind only groups from America. Their emotional lyrical piece amazed the judges by performing to spoken word instead of music.

Well done to Gracie, Gracie, Skye and Lashanna for their incredible achievements. There will be a documentary featuring the Angels Dance Academy Worlds teams training coming out soon on E4.

ADVENTURE ALL THE WAY FOR CJS PUPILS

Children and staff from Chandag Juniors had a fantastic residential week at Barton Hall. The resilience, the fun and the adventure every child has experienced has given them memories for life. Pupils visited Paignton Zoo and Go Ape and conquered their fears as all the children went down the zip wire.



SCOOTERS AND STRIDES ARE SMILES BETTER

Chandag Infants took part in the national Walk to School initiative. Families and staff were urged to leave the car at home and walk or scoot to school during the week. Children were reminded in an assembly about the scooter rack available at CIS. Families have been sharing their walk, scoot or bike ride to school photos.



GLORIOUS GOWNS

Here are some of the final pieces created by Year 13 art textiles students at Wellsway School.

Hannah made the beautiful fairytale blue and white ball gown

Grace made the purple decay corset and skirt

Chiana made the blue Victorian dress complete with shawl

Kathryn made the green drop dress with open sleeves

We could not be prouder of the students. They have worked really hard, and the results speak for themselves.

Miss Davies and Mrs Wilton



CELEBRATING THE MIRACLE OF LIFE

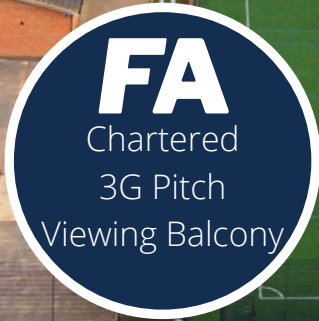


Lots of amazing learning at Two Rivers recently with the arrival of eggs and chicks, planting activities, fruit salad and miniature gardens. Great effort everybody!

A NEW STRING TO THEIR BOW



The Year 4 children at The Meadows have started cello lessons with Miss Shepherd as part of their music curriculum.



3 G PITCH

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