

The Buckingham *Bulletin*

Success for All through Achievement, Challenge & Enjoyment

March 2018



Ski Trip 2018 – La Molina, Spanish Pyrenees

Dear All,

It was with great pleasure that I recently wrote to parents for the first time as permanent Headteacher of The Buckingham School.

I would like to thank the students, staff, parents and governors for the warm welcome I have received since joining the school in January 2018, and for making me feel at home, so quickly. I made no secret that I felt an immediate connection with The Buckingham School and made it clear to the governors from day one that I would welcome the opportunity to lead the school for years to come.

The Buckingham School has many great things in place, and so much potential to build further. I have plans for driving the school forward, making The Buckingham School outward looking and in the centre of a community that cherishes us. With the vision of Success for All, I want us to ensure our outcomes are to be proud of, preparing all our students for a successful future. I am sure I can speak for the whole school community in saying that we are excited by the future, shaping our young people to become resilient students, who feel inspired by our school and the opportunities ahead of them.

Turning my attention now to the March issue of the School Bulletin, it is great to be able to share with you the fantastic achievements and activities which take place in and around school. This also includes the exciting opportunities, overseas visits, extra-curricular activities that give each and every student their chance to thrive and grow.

I hope you enjoy reading the Bulletin and thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes,
Andy McGinnes
Headteacher



Centre of Further Education



www.buckinghamschool.com

Think Maths – Interactive Sessions

A professional speaker from Think Maths visited the school to work with our Year 8 students.

Zoe from Think Maths delivered an engaging and interactive session on the theme of Shapes and Smoke Rings. A later session for our Year 9 and 10 students focused on the topic of "Numbers in the Media". In the presenter's own words:

"Numbers in the Media is all about using mathematics skills to think critically when looking at interpreting statistics and figures in the media, and includes lots of games/fun audience participation elements."

Thank you, Think Maths for delivering such amazing interactive sessions.



Speaker, Zoe, (pictured left) from the Think Maths Team



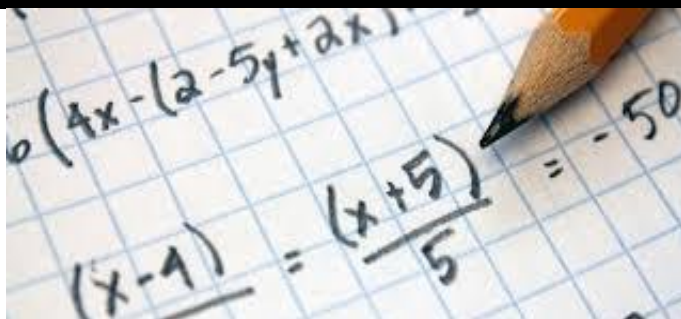
Think Maths Year 8 session. (Pictured left) is Mr McGinnes, Headteacher and Mr Beaumont, Curriculum Leader for Maths



As mentioned in our last Bulletin, the school has recently been working with the Royal Institution.

Pictured right are Maths students who were selected, against a very competitive field, to attend a series of mathematics master-classes at Bletchley Park. We are delighted to announce that further work with the Royal Institution is planned for the year ahead....so, watch this space!

Mr B Waine
Assistant Curriculum Leader, Maths



Information Evening – Algebra for Parents

We held a successful 'Algebra for Parents Information Evening'. The event was aimed at providing parents with an insight into teaching methods and to give confidence in supporting children with their independent study at home.

The evening covered the following areas; representing algebra visually, finding the value of given expressions, solving linear equations and expanding and factorising up to and including Grade 5.

We will be looking for organise further parental support events in the future. If you have would like to make any suggestions as to subjects/topics you would like covered, please contact the Maths Department.

Sixth Form Applications

If you wish to apply for a Sixth Form place for September 2018, we are still taking Applications.

Year 7 School Places for September 2018

Bucks County Council are still accepting applications for Year 7 for September 2018. Any such Applications must be made between 10th and 18th April, through Bucks County.

If you know anyone who would be interested in a place at The Buckingham School for September 2018, we will be holding the following welcome events:-

Monday 26 March (6pm-7.30pm)

Tuesday 27 March (9.15am-11am)

Please contact Kate Bones, Admissions Officer on 01280 812206 or email kbones@buckinghamschool.org



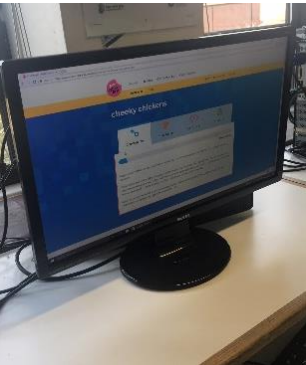
TBS Maths Team at a Bletchley Park Masterclass

Computer Science

Cyber First - Girls Competition 2018



Year 8 girls at The Buckingham School competed in a brand new competition launched by England's National Cyber Security Centre (NCS), in which students showcased their independence and problem solving in four key cyber areas: Logics and Coding, Cryptography, Networking and Cybersecurity. The content for each category of the competition is consistent with subjects within the Computer Science syllabus from the National Curriculum. However, the competition contained some advanced cyber topics that are not covered in traditional education but with the purpose of stretching the lateral thinking and cyber knowledge of the teams. The girls organised themselves into teams (most choosing to compete with their Forms) and attended the competition sessions every lunchtime from January 29th to February 2nd. Congratulations to the winning team DivinWithDaley (Rhiannon Price and Olivia Underwood) who impressed the rest of the competition with their knowledge of networking!



Ranking*	Team Name (members)	Logic & Coding	Cryptography	Networking	Cyber Security	Manage
1	DivinWithDaley (2)	4%	9%	67%	5%	Edit team
2	RU logic (4)	15%	19%	8%	5%	Edit team
3	The Creative Coders (4)	11%	9%	17%	8%	Edit team
4	Chocolate Buttons (4)	11%	16%	19%	5%	Edit team
5	The awesome coders (3)	4%	9%	8%	8%	Edit team
6	cheeky chickens (4)	4%	6%	6%	5%	Edit team
7	ET (2)	0%	9%	0%	0%	Edit team

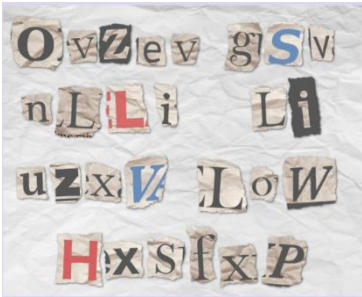


Computer Club

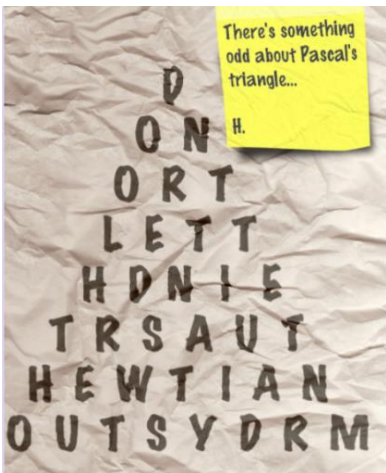
Alan Turing Cryptography Competition

Do you like breaking codes and solving ciphers?
Can you, and your friends, unravel the Morphogenesis Mystery?
Would you like the chance to use your mathematical skills to win some great prizes?
 Then, the Alan Turing Cryptography Competition is for you!

Now in its seventh year, the Alan Turing Cryptography Competition is aimed at secondary school children up to Year 11. You don't need to be a computer whizz or a mathematical genius - you just need to keep your wits about you and be good at solving problems!
 The competition is organised by the School of Mathematics at the University of Manchester and The Buckingham School Computing Club has been investigating key cryptographic techniques to decipher the mysterious clues the competition has been providing each week. So far, we've been able to keep on top of the clues and have broken the first two clues, using a variety of methods from context clues to online tools and research. Have a go - can you keep up the Computing Club?



Week 1 Clue:
 What is the seventh word?



Week 2 Clue: What is the fifth word?

Attention all parents!
Download the ParentMail App
 for the best way to pick up school messages

FREE DOWNLOAD

"Great App to compliment the web! It's so convenient to have all the ParentMail services in my pocket!" ★★★★★

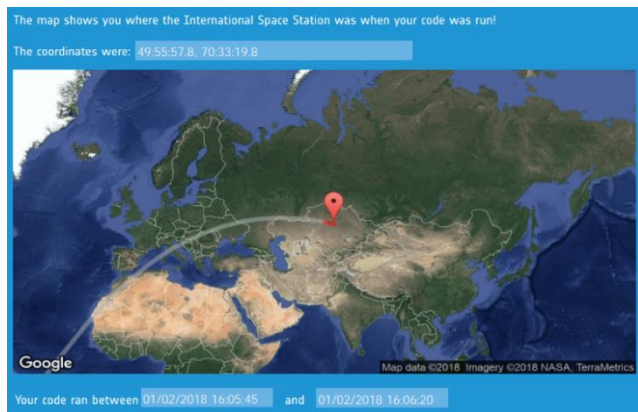
"Works perfectly! Texts, emails & newsletters all come through. I can even make appointments for parents' evening. Fantastic!" ★★★★★

Please note: If you are not already registered, you will need to register online on the ParentMail website before trying to access the App. Please ask the school office to send you a registration message

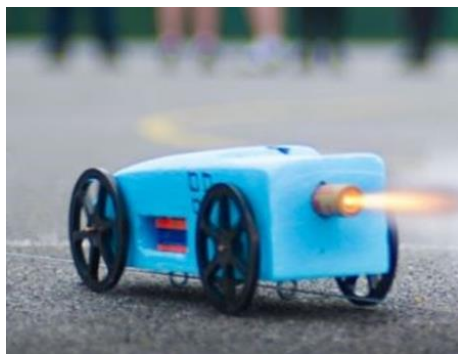
Astro Pi

It's official - The Buckingham School has messaged the International Space Station!

Earlier in the year the Computing Club took part in Mission Zero - which was being run by the European Space Agency, to write code that sent a greeting to Astronauts on the International Space Station. We had five successful groups and the European Space Agency emailed back, so, we knew exactly where the Space Station was in the world when our code was run!



Race for the Line Update



This year, all Year 7 students are competing in a cross-curricular project known as "Race for the Line", in which students are asked to design, build and test their own rocket car!

To help all students understand the key design concepts of the car, we had STEM Ambassador, Chris Herbert, in to provide some helpful tips.

Chris Herbert runs D2H Aero. The D2H group of companies specialise in aerodynamic research and development, engineering design and analysis combined with a highly developed skill base in race car engineering analysis and toolset development.

His past work includes Redbull Racing, Toyota Motorsport and with England's Olympic Cycling Team at Rio – all his work relates to the aspects of aerodynamics.

Ms L Townes
Computer Science Teacher

Innovate Bucks 2018

To encourage innovation, problem solving and invention skills, Buckinghamshire Skills Hub and STEM NOW have joined forces to bring you an exciting STEM challenge for Years 7 and 8 – which also includes a great opportunity to raise money the school. This STEM challenge is being mentored by Ms. Townes (Computing) and Mr Wise (Science).

Overview:

In teams of five to ten students from Year 7 and/or Year 8, need to work together to design a game or activity.

The game should:

Be based on a science-related theme, such as space or the environment, with students encouraged to think creatively around this;

Involve a basic electronics system (included in the Micro:bit Starter Kit Cost purchased with the small signup fee). Students can use any materials, but might include, for instance, off-cuts from the DT Lab.

The challenge is designed to run over the course of the Spring Term, culminating with the games being used in the Summer Term. The team which generates the most revenue wins, with prizes for the winning team of each school and also a Buckinghamshire county winner. There may also be additional prizes for creativity, innovation, design and execution.

Any interested Year 7 or 8 students, please contact Mr Wise or Ms Townes for more details.



'Fun with Flight' Education Show



We were lucky to have a visit from The Royal Air Force, bringing their interactive and engaging 'Fun with Flight' Education Show to our school. Students learned about the physics of flight - lift, drag, thrust and weight, with demonstrations of drones, balloons and jet engines. Students discovered how the physics they study in the classroom is an integral part of the work engineers undertake in the RAF and other engineering organisations. The Roadshow was fun and a brilliant illustration of exciting careers in STEM.

Swimming Successes

Maxwell swimmers had a great weekend swimming at the Oxfordshire & North Buckinghamshire County Championships held at Aqua Vale in Aylesbury. With Gracie Hudson becoming County Champion in the 13 years age group in 100m Breaststroke and 200m Individual Medley. Gracie also came third overall in the Junior age group (16 & under) Breaststroke.

Isabelle Ford came 3rd in the 13 years 100 Freestyle final and also achieved a Regional accepted qualifying time.

James Crawford achieved three more PBS, in the 1500 (46s PB), 50 free (0.2s PB) and 200 free (2sPB) and a split in the relay anchor leg of 26.2s. He was really pleased with his performance too. Great swims also from John Manser, Rowan Cyster and Emma Whincup.

Well done to all the Maxwell swimmers!



Rugby News

Owen Davies, Year 11, has been selected to represent the Welsh Exiles for Rugby Union. Congratulations, Owen, this is great news!

The WRU Exiles programme, sets out to identify, monitor and develop a network of young, Welsh-qualified boys and girls based outside Wales.

Young players can benefit from the expertise of some of the best coaching in Wales, and other events, providing not only a potential route to be part of the WRU international age grade pathway but a way of keeping Welsh families based outside Wales within the Welsh Rugby family.



School Equestrian Team

Earlier in the Spring Term, The Buckingham School Equestrian Team went to Bury Farm for the County Qualifier classes.

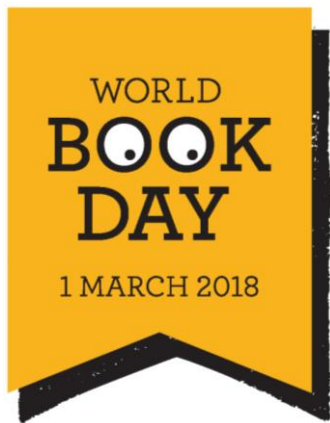
The team were jumping against different schools from Beds, Bucks, Northants and Herts.

We had numerous teams out in various classes, competing in the rain, sleet and the cold weather conditions.

The girls had very good team spirit and we had lots of double clears individually in the 70cm, 80cm and the 1m class but unfortunately out of the qualification zones.

We are very proud of the 90cm team qualifying in 1st place and we also had Hollie Anne Heir qualifying individually in that class. The team will now compete at the County Champs in April, well done Girls. It was an amazing team effort from all!





What a fantastic WBD 2018 at The Buckingham School! Congratulations to everyone who came to school in character, especially with the Beast from the East weather conditions we all had to contend with! Lots of exciting activities happened around school; the sweet and cake sale in the LRC looked amazing! Here's a few pictures taken from the day. A massive, well done, to staff who spent time organising the event, and to everyone for making such an effort to have fun, and at the same time, raise money for our Learning Resource Centre.



Change Makers Update



The Change Makers have been working extra hard this past term to raise money to help the Education Pillar in Ecuador. The school has raised £500 so far with students and staff just bringing in unwanted change. Keep on bringing in the change and we can reach our goal of £600! And perhaps our ultimate goal of £1000! Thank you for all of your continued support.



Year 7 Change Maker Students

Actor and Ex Student Visit

Alex Shenton, Actor and ex-TBS student visited the school to work with two Year 12 Level 3 Acting students. Alex was interviewed, with questions such as how he became an actor, how hard it is as a profession and what is it like when auditioning. They were then joined by one of our Year 10 students, Ewan, to focus on analysing a Shakespearean monologue in preparation for auditioning. Thank you, Alex, for spending time with us.



Ed Cockerill,
Technology Technician,
for completing ten years
of service this month!

The Buckingham School Ski Trip 2018 – La Molina, Spanish Pyrenees: February Half Term, 2018

Forty-five students set off on Friday 9 February for a week’s skiing adventure to La Molina in the Spanish Pyrenees. After travelling by coach throughout the day and overnight, they arrived on Saturday tired but full of excitement. Four members of staff accompanied the students, Mr Churchward, Miss Collie, Mrs Goodger, Mrs Hatton and Mr Middleton. The staffing team kept in contact with the students’ families by a closed facebook group providing updates and wonderful photos throughout their time away from home. Here’s a handful of photos – what a fantastic trip and the pictures say a thousand words!



School Uniform Standards

All students should take pride in their appearance and understand the importance of looking smart and professional whilst in School and in the local community. Students are expected to adhere to the clear uniform expectations, set out to ensure that they look their best and are proud to represent The Buckingham School. Our uniform rules and expectations are detailed on the School Website; please take a minute to have a look.

No skirts or trousers made from stretch fabric, microfibre, lycra or denim are permitted. Skirts must be **worn appropriately** and be either a school approved straight/pencil skirt (available at T King) or pleated skirt worn no more than 8cm above or below the knee.

Please see www.tkingassociates.com for a price list.

Creating a positive impression. The way you look matters.

GIVE YOUR CHILD CREATIVE COURAGE FOR LIFE...

But what does this mean? ... It's our vision at Stagecoach Performing Arts and what sits at the heart of our weekly singing, dancing and acting classes. Alongside providing excellent training in performing arts, Stagecoach provides children with invaluable skills that they can draw upon beyond their Stagecoach journey on what we like to call 'The Stage Of Life!'

A place where talents are nurtured through the performing arts, Stagecoach allows children to thrive by giving them the confidence to be good at being themselves, whilst having fun. Many Stagecoach students continue to train and work professionally in the industry, whilst others pursue careers as doctors, lawyers, teachers and other walks of life.

Stagecoach Performing Arts has developed an incredible reputation over 30 years and now teaches over 40,000 children across the country. Now, for the first time, it is opening in Buckingham!

Principal Tilly James, a professional performer and former Stagecoach teacher, will lead Stagecoach classes at The Buckingham School from April 2018. Spaces are limited so whether your child is the next West End star or just wishes to sing, dance and act, whilst making life long friends, enquire now!



NEW SCHOOL

Stagecoach Buckingham

is delighted to be opening a new class near you

Our fun and engaging weekly classes are for 4 - 18 year olds. Children are given both structure and freedom as they learn how to sing, dance and act.

Age: 4 - 6 year olds **Time:** Saturdays 9.30pm - 11.00am
Age: 6 - 18 year olds **Time:** Saturdays 10.00am - 1.00pm

Venue: The Buckingham School, London Rd, Buckingham, MK18 1AT

ASK ABOUT OUR TWO WEEK TRIAL

STAGE COACH

W stagecoach.co.uk/buckingham
☎ 01280 811600

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