

The Buckingham *Bulletin*

Success for All through Achievement, Challenge & Enjoyment

October 2017



Dear All

Girls Year 9 Netball Team

This has been an excellent start to the year. I am pleased to see the new Year 7s have settled in so well and are flourishing. We have had many positive comments from both parents and students about the start of this academic year.

I would like to share with you that our Year 6 Open Evening was as popular as ever and we are now an oversubscribed school at Key Stage 3. I expect this to continue due to the reputation of The Buckingham School and the quality of teaching delivered.

This is a busy term with so much going on as always. We look forward this week to the Macmillan Cancer Support cake sale, which is a whole school event, and I thank you for your continued support with the annual charity fundraising.

The extra-curricular activities are well underway for all years and I am so proud of all our sports teams with their recent wins and students who have excelled in their chosen fields with outstanding success. Last Friday, we had 42 primary school leaders training with us and it was fantastic to see them all on bikes in our playground at lunchtime!

May I take this opportunity to thank wholeheartedly, Helen Tyrrell, Lead Deputy Headteacher, for her six and a half years of loyalty, support and commitment to The Buckingham School. She has seen the school through many challenging times and shown real passion and leadership to ensure that our school was recognised with the well-deserved badge of Ofsted 'Good'. Helen will be leaving us at the October half term to take on a new challenge to enhance her professional development and prepare for Headship in the near future. She will be missed by students, staff and parents alike and I wish her every success for the future.

Yours sincerely

Miss A Wells
Headteacher



www.buckinghamschool.com

The Centre for Computing History

Fourteen Key Stage 3 students travelled to The Centre for Computing History in Cambridge on Thursday, 12 October 2017 to attend an IT event which was part of the Centre's festival 'Computing History: Where did all the Women Go?' The event aimed to encourage girls to engage with technology and STEM. This was an evening event starting with a live play of Ada Lovelace, followed by a STEM networking session; focusing on women from the past and women currently working in STEM fields. Ada Lovelace wrote the world's first complex algorithm in 1843 and was then written out of history. The performance told her story using an LED dress which was operated live on stage, using her wearable tech satin glove. Ada.Ada.Ada exists to help people, especially girls and women, engage with technology and stem as a career. The event explained why everyone should get involved with computers to help create our future!



Students visiting The Centre for Computing History

Key Stage 3 Computing Club Every Thursday after school

Computer Science Club has started again, every Thursday after school from 3.15pm until 4.30pm in IT2. The Club offers opportunities for leadership, building computing skills, working with Key Stage 2 students, leading on robotics, chances to compete in national competitions and loads more to get ahead in this exciting changing world of technology! Computer Science results at GCSE were particularly good this year with an excellent 86% of students achieving A*-C grades and 22% achieving A*-A grades. A fantastic result for a fantastic department providing a high quality computing education to its students.



Primary School Computer Science Festival

Late in the Summer term, 20 children from Buckingham Primary School took part in a Computer Science Day at The Buckingham School. Working alongside children from other primary schools, the children took part in a range of fun-filled activities that explained the world of Computer Science. The children were split into two groups and given the name of a famous person from the world of computing. Children had the opportunity to program robots then took part in a race which tested the speed and accuracy of following instructions. The competitive nature of the children shone through! At the same time, the other group were participating in a series of activities which helped them understand how computers and the internet works. Using magic tricks they explored the use of algorithms and they became "packets" of information that were sent across the internet and were "corrupted" or destroyed and had to be resent – just like in the real world. A great day out with brilliantly behaved and engaged children.

(Article by Buckingham Primary School)

STEM Ambassador Certificate

Miss Townes has been presented with a STEM Ambassador certificate for encouraging and inspiring young people in STEM subjects. This is in recognition of her work and commitment to increase students' awareness of the range of possibilities opened up by studying STEM subjects.

Evidence shows that engaging with STEM Ambassadors can help young people to achieve their full potential in STEM subjects as well as inspiring them to explore STEM careers.

Well done, Miss Townes!





A message from Helen Tyrrell, Lead Deputy Headteacher

As I leave at the end of this half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank students, staff, parents/carers and the whole Buckingham School community for their support whilst I've been here. I have loved this school from the minute I joined. The vibrant, exciting Student Voice and their commitment to the school has never ceased to impress me. I have seen The Buckingham School go from strength to strength and I know this is due to the teamwork and commitment from all.

I am sad to leave but excited to take up a new opportunity. I will continue to watch the developments of The Buckingham School as it goes from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'.

**We are proud to be an Ofsted Good
School in ALL aspects of Inspection.**

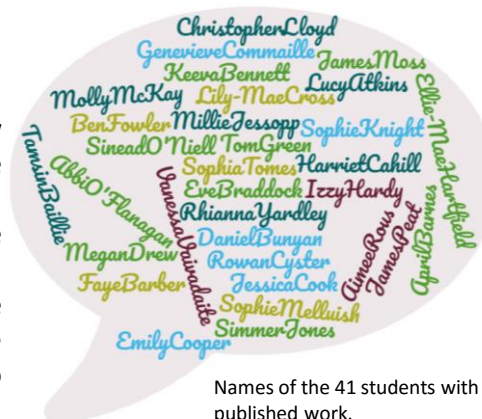


English Department - Young Writer's Competition

Last year, Miss Barten organised for a group of students to enter a nationwide Young Writer's competition 'Welcome to Wonderland'. Students had the challenge of writing a 100 word story focused on a new world. All the students who entered rose to the challenge to write some interesting pieces.

Of all the entries submitted, 41 of our students were selected to have their work published alongside students from other schools.

Miss Barten and the rest of the English team are extremely proud of the students - there is a display in the English corridor of some of the published entries and a copy of the published book is also available to read in the department.



Centre of Further Education

Centre of Further Education Open Evening
Sixth Form at The Buckingham School
Thursday 25 January 2018, 6-8pm

Award Winning and Bestselling Author

The award-winning, bestselling children's author, Billy Bob Buttons visited our Year 7's on Wednesday 4 October. He is the author of sixteen very popular children's books including the bestseller, 'I think I Murdered Miss'. Last year, this book sold over 100,000 copies in the UK alone and won the 2014 UK People's Book Prize.

He delivered his popular literacy workshop to our Year 7's focusing on planning a story and developing characters. Afterwards, there was an opportunity to buy a signed book. This was the second time Billy Bob Buttons has visited the school to work with our Year 7s.

Find out more about Billy Bob Buttons and his books at www.bbbuttons.co.uk



Hot Chocolate Fridays

Pictured below are some of our Year 7 and 8 students enjoying their hot chocolate reward as part of the school's positive behaviour incentive. It's fantastic to see students from all Year Groups selected to be part of 'Hot Chocolate Friday'.

One student from each Form Group is nominated for excellence for the week and nominated students enjoy a relaxed, comfortable break time with a luxury hot chocolate topped with marshmallows. Well done to all students nominated so far this term.

Keep up the good work!

The Head of Year Team.



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 at www.buckinghamschool.com.

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

Creating a positive impression. The way you look matters.

Moving Up to Secondary School

Applications – 31 October, 3pm is the deadline for Secondary School Applications. This is the latest date for you to make and submit an online application – see www.buckscc.gov.uk



Playing at
The Buckingham School

Performances Start on Monday 4 December through to Thursday 7 December 2017

This year's All School Production is Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR. The 60-minute musical, designed for school aged performers, is based on the 1994 Broadway production and Disney's 1991 animated feature film. The school cast contains approximately 50 students led by the Performing Arts team at The Buckingham School.

Students are currently rehearsing hard...look out for ticket and performance information, coming out very soon!



The School's Foodzone Retains its 5 Star Food Hygiene Rating



The School's Foodzone has retained its 5 Star Food Hygiene Award for ten years – an amazing achievement! Well done, Linda Golding, Canteen Manager and her dedicated catering team!

Year 11 Mock Timetables will be coming out soon! Keep checking the school website for details.

Welcome to the Student Voice!

Below you will find all the latest news and updates in regards to Student Voice, and as you will see, we have had a very busy start to the year!

Firstly, a massive THANK YOU to the many **Student Voice Ambassadors** (and those in the different departments as well) who have helped out during Open Evening and Open Morning. A special thanks to the **Prefects Leaders** who have been exceptionally helpful in organising students and making sure everyone knows what to do! The excellent feedback from visitors on our students, mentioning how friendly and helpful they were, was lovely to hear. WELL DONE!



Prefects Leaders: Justin Lonergan, Scarlett Steer, Natasha Goodwin, Beth Dowden, Niamh Grant and Jacob Manders)

The Year 7 students have settled in extremely well to The Buckingham School, and we are very proud of the **Year 10 Peer Mentors** who have been truly outstanding in helping our youngest students during their transition and settling-in period.



Peer Mentors with Year 7 students: Rhianne Rush and Katie Robinson (Year 10) together with Kaitlyn Tyler and Jakub Jakubowicz (Year 7)

Student
Voice!

There are now many different **Student Voice opportunities** in school, and it was great to see so many students sign up for one or more of these opportunities. These include being part of the Student Council, Eco Team, Human Rights Team, RESPECT Team (previously known as the anti-bullying team) and many more. In the next addition of the Bulletin we will update on how these groups are getting on.

One team that is already up and running is the **ECO Team**. Zoe Roberts and Jodie Bowen (Year 8); together with Lucy Fox, Trinity Poole and Tegan Webb (Year 7) are leading a recycling project that will see every classroom with a recycling bin (thank you to Derek from Site Team who sourced 50 new bins). In the next addition we will update on the progress of this exciting project.



The Buckingham School ECO Team: Zoe Roberts, Jodie Bowen (Year 8); Trinity Poole, Lucy Fox and Tegan Webb (Year 7).

Nine Year 12 students have applied to be part of the new **Senior Student Leadership Team** and work with our Head Boy and Girl, Tom Downham and Charlotte Rawlings, respectively. Their applications were outstanding and we look forward to seeing them work with younger students as they lead change in school and develop their leadership skills.



Senior Student Leadership Team candidates: Lauren McPartlane, Emily Adamson and Henry Judge

The Bar Trial Team, consisting of 15 Year 10 students, have been working exceptionally hard since the beginning of term, as they prepare for the Bar Trial competition next month, in Birmingham. They all deserve a massive well done for their efforts, so far. We will update on how they did in the next Bulletin.

On Wednesday, 4th October, all Year 8 and 9 students watched the play '**Chelsea's Choice**', a hard-hitting and gripping play on the dangers of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Students conducted themselves superbly while watching the play and the follow-ups during PSHE lessons generated some insightful comments from students. **Shannon Gibbard** for example, said that, **"The play was well thought out and well executed. The message was clear and is firmly planted in our minds, growing in to a tree of awareness."** We hope the play has contributed to our students' ability to make smart and healthy choices.



We are extremely proud to join the fight against cancer by **raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support**. On Friday, October 20th, we will gather as a school community and raise as much money as we can through a whole school cake sale. All the money raised will be sent to MacMillan. It is heart-warming to see how many students want to be part of this fundraiser. We also hope that parents and carers will also help us in our efforts. In addition, on the same day, we will have an external speaker from the Teenage Cancer Trust who will deliver a talk to Year 9 and 10 students so they are more educated about this topic.

Student
Voice

If you want to know more about what we do in Student Voice, please contact Mrs Wallace at awallace@buckingshamschool.org or Mr Mandel at jmandel@buckingshamschool.org

On Friday, October 13th, five students represented The Buckingham School in the annual **Local Democracy Week** meeting which included, in addition to our students, students from the Royal Latin School, local councillors and the police.

The topics discussed in the meeting were entirely those important to the young people of Buckingham. Students from both The Buckingham School and Royal Latin did the community proud with the manner in which they raised the issues that are important to them. It was great to see local councillors take into account the views of the youths and it is hopeful that the meeting can drive positive change for young people in Buckingham.

A Huge well done to Lucy Wescombe, Amanda Keza and Henry Judge (Year 12); Luke Harwood (Year 10); and Evie Hencken (Year 9).



Local Democracy Meeting with students from The Buckingham School and the Royal Latin School.

Buckingham Children's Choir.

Several students from The Buckingham School have joined the Buckingham Children's Choir. The choir has been set up by tutor and musician Suzy Ann Smith who also provides music lessons at The Buckingham School. The choir is about learning a wide variety of rock, pop and traditional songs. Singers will get to sing solo if they wish and perform at local events and showcases. If your child is interested in a Free Taster Session please contact Suzy via suzyasmith@aol.com

The choir rehearse on Wednesdays 4:30pm at The Centre, Verney Close, Buckingham.
See 'Buckingham Children's Choir' on Facebook for more information.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to all 72 students across Year 10 and 11 who have passed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is a fantastic achievement which they have been working towards for twelve months. They have completed a variety of skills, physical activities and volunteering in the community. In the summer term, they completed their expedition which was a two-day walk covering up to 30 KM and a night camping. Congratulations to all students. We will be having a Celebration Evening on Wednesday 8 November from 6pm until 7pm to recognise and reward all students involved.

We have also had 71 Year 9 students sign up to the next cohort of Bronze Duke of Edinburgh, which is the most we have ever had in one year group. They had their first meeting and most students have already started their three sections. The DofE staff team are looking forward to the future training on navigation, first aid and cooking.

We are offering, for the first time, Silver DofE and letters have been distributed to Year 10's, including information regarding Gold DofE to Year 12 students.

Exciting times ahead!

Mrs V Cowley
Duke of Edinburgh
Co-ordinator

Rugby Success

We have seen fantastic team displays so far this year from the Year 8 Rugby team. Dominant performances from the start of the season and with games against The Royal Latin School and Akeley Wood, as well as Cup competitions coming up, it stands the team in good stead for another promising season.

Year 8 TBS v John Colet School 60 - 0

Year 8 TBS v Sir Thomas Fremantle School 65 - 0

The Year 7 Rugby team have been fantastic in training and games so far this year. Although we are yet to win, the students are improving and a win is not far away!

Keep up the good work.

Also, congratulations to brothers Owen Davies (Year 11) and Adam Davies (Year 9) who are both training with the London Wasps Rugby Development Squads. Well done boys!

Mr J Ribbans



Girls County Football

2 out of 2 wins for the Girls Under 13 County Cup Football team! The girls were on form securing a 4-1 win over Lord Grey. Kiera Ridley managed to score twice, with Chaniyah Barrett-Doyle and Honey Watts both grabbing one each. Players of the game were awarded to Chaniyah Barrett-Doyle and Josephine Weir by Lord Grey. Fantastic win girls. Keep it up.

Miss Collie

Have you downloaded the ParentMail App yet?

It really is the best way to pick up school messages. You can also make school payments online with the App. To download the App for free from either the [Apple APP store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#) simply search Buckingham School ParentMail.



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!" ★★★★★

ParentMail

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

Warhammer Club

Welcome to The Buckingham School Warhammer Club. The club was set up last year through kind donations and fundraising. We meet every Wednesday in DT7 from 3.10pm. You do not need to bring anything with you as we have got loads of models and scenery for you to paint and play with.

We are open to any students who are interested in painting, fighting battles and hanging out – we are currently looking for students from other schools to come and join us for our upcoming War Gaming tournament. It is a great way for you to make new friends, in a safe, fun environment.

We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped support and build our Warhammer Club over the last year.

If you are interested and would like to come along please contact Mr McElroy - mmcelroy@buckinghamschool.org If anyone has any old unused Warhammer, maybe in their lofts or stored under a bed we would welcome them - we are keen to accept all donations.

We look forward to meeting new members and hopefully see you soon.



Boys County Football



Congratulations to Kelvin Mupungu who has been selected for **U14 County Football squad** and played his first game this weekend. Well done, Kelvin, what a fantastic achievement.

Also, Congratulations go to Sam Hencken and Evan Walters - they have been selected for the Under 16 County Football Squad. Another great achievement!

Girls Netball

Year 8 and Year 9 Girls netball teams have had a great start to the new season with outstanding performances. Keep it up girls!



April Barnes (Year 9) swims for City MK Swimming Club. She is pictured here receiving an Endeavour Award at the annual Swim Club Presentation Evening. Congratulations, April.

Tang Soo Do Invitational Tournament

Amy Young (Year 8) and Mrs Le Tissier competed in the Tang Soo Do Invitational Tournament in Dublin, with competitors from America, Malta, Ireland and England. Amy won a Bronze medal for her weapons form; and a Silver medal for her sparring event, narrowly missing out on the Gold by only one point. Mrs Le Tissier won a Bronze medal for her forms and a Gold medal for her sparring. Amy also completed her belt grading achieving her 2nd Dan black belt.



Bikeability Level 2

Eight of our Year 7 students have taken part in Level 2 Bikeability training. Level 2 Bikeability takes place on local roads, giving students a real cycling experience.

The students started the first day by practicing some key skills on the MUGA before moving out onto local roads and dealing with traffic on short journeys. All of the students were trained on and experienced a variety of key skills, including how to do the following:

- Start and finish a journey by road, including passing parked or slower moving vehicles and side roads
- Identify and react to hazards in the road
- Signal their intentions to other road users when someone needs to know what they're doing
- Understand where to ride on the road
- Use junctions, including turning left and right into major and minor roads
- Use the Highway Code, particularly when it comes to understanding road signs

We are delighted to say that all eight students not only completed the course but passed too!

Keep a look out on ParentMail for details of our forthcoming Level 3 course, also, primarily, for Year 7 students. Level 3 equips trainees with skills for more challenging roads and traffic situations – busier streets, queuing traffic, complex junctions and roundabouts. It also includes planning routes for safe cycling. Places on the course are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Many congratulations once again to our eight fantastic cyclists!



School Equestrian Team News

Well done to Katie Robinson for going out solo in September to represent the School Equestrian team at Keysoe.

Katie took three of her ponies to compete - she had a couple of poles with her young horse, two double clears with Harry and 10th in the dressage with Merlin.

The Buckingham School Equestrian team is going from strength to strength, if you wish to join this friendly Equestrian team then please email Louise on info@ajscontracting.net or Jen, jennyheir@aol.com for more information on how to join.



DEANSHANGER
OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP

Ex Premier league & Welsh international returns with his Soccer School at Deanshanger!
3 days of footballing fun following the JCSS syllabus.

24th, 25th & 26th October @ Elizabeth Woodville School (Deanshanger) MK19 6HN
10am - 3pm each day
Open to all boys & girls aged 5-14
£49.50 for 3 days
1 or 2 days available upon request

BOOK TODAY ON: www.jackcollisonsoccerschool.com

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Enterprise at The Buckingham School



Mr Dean Drakard, will be working with Mr Cunningham, as an Enterprise Advisor to help assist with defining and delivering careers strategies and pathways for our Year 11 and Year 12 students.

To give you a little background information, Mr Drakard has been working for 30 years, having started his career at 16 years old on an Apprenticeship program. He works for a global IT company, Atos – a company employing 110,000 people across the world with revenues in excess of €12B per year. Mr Drakard is a Client Executive (Managing Director) whose aim is to focus on driving delivery of infrastructure and hosting services to a leading blue-chip transport sector business. He leads, manages and motivates 200+ staff, managing in excess of £35m of IT spend.

The objective of the collaboration is to bring students relevance to the industry today and in particular, the challenges on the future of the workplace such as Robotics, Automation and Cyber Security. Mr Drakard will bring career network and experience to students to help prepare them for the world outside school by hosting CV workshops and hosting interview workshops. The intention is also to bring key business leaders to The Buckingham School to talk about their industry.

After the half term break, we will be launching a speaking event where students present well-formed ideas in under 20 minutes on the subject of “Challenges of being a student in 2017”. This will include a 60 second vlog to introduce the student and topic. The vlog will be uploaded online ready for the school community to vote for their favourite. Each student will be allocated a mentor to help with the presentation creation and pitch. More details will follow regarding the launch of this exciting speaking event, after the half term.

**Success for All
through Achievement,
Challenge & Enjoyment**



The Buckingham School Head of Year Team held its first Quiz Night on Saturday 30 September to raise money to provide students with better end of term rewards. Thank you to everyone for your support with this fundraiser! **We raised over a £150 to put towards student rewards and trips – thank you!**

The Neurones were our first prize winners this time around. There will be a second Quiz Night held closer to Easter. **Will you be the next team to win?**



Diary Dates

Students Break for Half Term	Friday 20 October
Students Return	Monday 30 October
Year 7 Halloween Disco	Wednesday 1 November
Duke of Edinburgh Awards Eve	Wednesday 8 November
Children in Need – Non Uniform Day	Friday 17 November
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 30 November
All School Show Production	Monday 4 – 7 December
Christmas Jumper Day	Friday 15 December
Last Day of Autumn Term	Friday 15 December

