



***Toby Garbett, Olympic Triathlete with a group of Year 7 students during Specialism Fortnight***

## ***Dear All***

This year is nearly drawing to a close and, as usual, School is very busy and exciting. We are all looking forward to the Year 6's joining us for their Transition Days, at the same time we say goodbye to our Year 11 and 13 students. This is a milestone for all our students as they embark on the next stage of their life whether it be through Apprenticeships, College, University, Employment or indeed joining our Sixth Form.

The last term has had many interesting and challenging events. As a Specialist Sports College, we welcomed an Olympic Triathlete to work with our Year 7 students using a range of our sporting facilities. The students really relished their time with him. Our Modern Foreign Language Day gave students an opportunity to immerse themselves in a different language culture, with Year 10's demonstrating excellent Leadership skills as they facilitated the Day.

We are proud to share with you that three of our highly respected Teachers have now been appointed as Specialist Leaders in Education through the Aylesbury Vale Teaching Partnership. Congratulations to Anita Baxter, Rachel Caesar and Andrew Minns for this incredible achievement.

We look forward to the many celebration evenings taking place during the next couple of weeks; we hope to see you at these events, joining us in acknowledging and congratulating our talented, hard-working students and staff.

Yours sincerely

**Miss A Wells**  
Headteacher



Centre of Further Education



## Rugby and Athletics Success!

Rhys, pictured here, was one of three to be selected from his Buckingham Rugby squad to be part of the London Irish Community Under 12's team. The team played in a tournament in Lyon, France. They played six games, won four, drew one and lost one. Prior to the tournament, the boys hadn't played as a team, as they are from various clubs from across the Home Counties. Twenty-five boys were selected from five hundred over two tournaments. Rhys is part of a very successful Under 12's Buckingham team, having had a great season, winning several tournaments. Well done.

Rhys also competes in various athletics disciplines. He has taken part in a couple of open events, and a pentathlon. He has been selected to be part of the Marshall Milton Keynes squad to compete in the Youth Development League. He has most recently been to Rugby with the Youth Development League enjoying a second in Shot, throwing 8.92 metres and a first in 100 metres with a new time of 13.4 seconds. In Long Jump, after doing two no-jumps, he managed to win with his final jump gaining a new Personal Best of 5.03 metres!

**A great achievement, Rhys.**



### Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Marge!



Pictured here: Miss Wells, Headteacher, presenting Birthday gifts to Marge on her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

## 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](http://www.tkingassociates.com) for a price list.

**Creating a positive impression. The way you look matters.**

## 100% Attendance Record – A Truly Amazing Achievement!



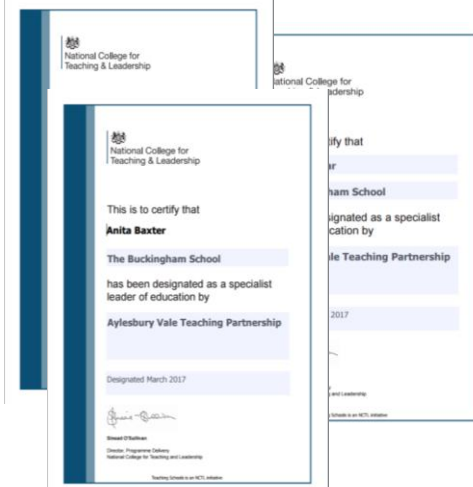
Congratulations, Ryan Brown on your outstanding attendance record whilst at The Buckingham School. To maintain a 100% attendance record from Year 7 to Year 11 is an amazing achievement and one you should be proud of – well done! I wish you all the best for the future - good luck!

**Mr Minns – Head of Year 11**

## Specialist Leaders of Education

Congratulations to Mr Minns, Mrs Baxter and Mrs Caesar for being recognised as Specialist Leaders of Education (in their specialist areas) by the Aylesbury Vale Teaching Partnership.

**An incredible achievement!**

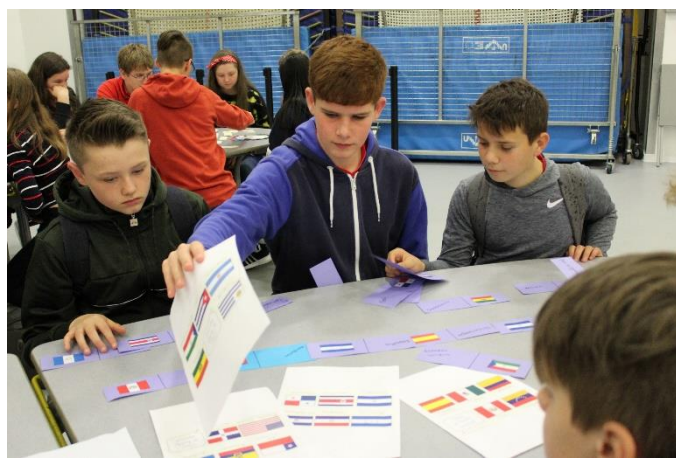




# Modern Foreign Language Day

Earlier in the Summer Term, we celebrated everything French and Spanish. We all went to school dressed up in the colours of our specific country. Houses Rutherford, Daley, and Ennis dressed in red and yellow for Spain and Button, Farah and Simmonds dressed in red, white and blue for France. The whole School were involved, with older students arranging activities for the younger students. Activities included splat and bingo. We really enjoyed the day – it was both fun and educational.

By Beau Davis, Rebecca Dady, James Galley, Will Green and Millie Porteous – Language Leaders



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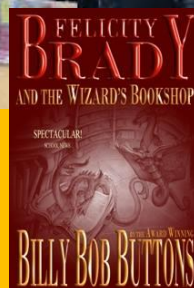
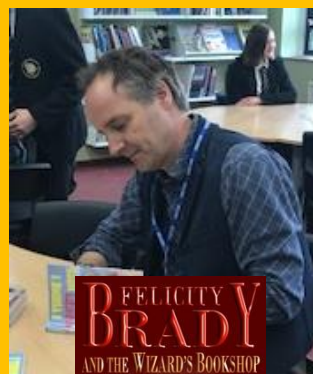
Please note: If you are not already registered, you will need to register online on the ParentMail website before trying to access the App. Please ask the school office to send you a registration message.

## Award Winning, Bestselling Author

The award-winning, bestselling children's author, Billy Bob Buttons visited our Year 7's on Tuesday 23 May. 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.

Find out more about Billy Bob Buttons and his books at [www.bbbbuttons.co.uk](http://www.bbbbuttons.co.uk)





# Specialism Fortnight – Monday 5 June to Friday 16 June

Our Specialism Fortnight kicked off with a very warm welcome to Toby Garbett, Olympian and two-time World Champion Rower.

Toby is an Athlete Mentor with the Youth Sports Trust Sky Sports Living for Sport Programme. He first represented Great Britain in 1997 aged 19 years, competed in five World Championships and attended two Olympic Games. He swapped Rowing for Triathlon, gaining his second GB vest and became National AG Champion in 2012 and 2013. Toby is also an experienced Pilates Instructor and Personal Trainer, one of very few Pilates instructors taking core stability and Pilates into schools to improve pupil posture as well as improving sporting prowess.

The start of Specialism Fortnight saw Toby addressing students in Assemblies focusing on Leadership, sharing his wealth of knowledge and understanding about what it takes to succeed. His in-depth understanding of focus, motivation and self-belief was inspirational and engaging.

The School's Specialism Fortnight theme this year was Self-Belief, Resilience, Confidence, Self-Esteem and Leadership. The fortnight focused on various student challenges, pursuits and activities, challenging students throughout their school day and across the curriculum.

**sky SPORTS**  
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## International Inspiration Day – Year 7s

All Year 7 students took part in International Inspiration Day on Friday 26 May 2017. This day is organised by our HSLA Sports Leaders (Year 13 students) who not only organise the event but ensure the running of the event. Our HSLA Sports Leaders are assessed throughout the day by the Rotary Club from Buckingham.

International Inspiration Day is broken into two parts. The morning sees Year 7 students competing practically in a number of sports including Tag Rugby, Hockey and Multi Skills. During the afternoon, students deliver presentations in their Form Groups to the rest of the Year. Each Form Group is given a country to research in advance of this event and the students must create a presentation to tell others all about the country they have been given.

The Rotary Club members assess our HSLA leaders and spend the day not only watching the leaders but interacting with them and our Year 7 students. The day is filled with activities and we were lucky enough to have a very sunny, hot day this year. It is an event that is tailored to allow everyone to compete and take part, with our winning Form this year being 7Ru (Rutherford), who represented the country of Canada. Congratulations to Mrs Hatton and all students in 7Ru.

The Rotary Club also identified two HSLA leaders whom they thought were outstanding on the day and one CSLA student. Our two HSLA leaders identified this year were Lauren Crofts and Ryan Weatherley. The CSLA leader (Year 12) who was identified was Katie Gilsenan. Well done, guys, what a fantastic achievement.

Many thanks to all the HSLA leaders who made this day possible, all students in Year 7 for their hard work on the sports field and also in preparing the presentations, and, of course, the Rotary Club members for coming in to The Buckingham School for the day to assess our leaders and be part of our International Inspiration Day Event.



Miss C Collie, Head of Year 7



## Barcelona Trip 2017

Years 8, 9 and 10 Modern Foreign Language students spent the half term break in Barcelona, Spain on a 7-day residential trip. A fantastic time was had by all. Miss Hare commended all students on their exemplary behaviour throughout the trip. The staff team were amazing and the trip wouldn't have run so smoothly without them all. What a fantastic opportunity and great way to spend the holidays! Here's a few photos from their adventure.





## School Equestrian Team News

Well, what a fantastic day out for The Buckingham School Equestrian Team at Keysoe, at the Wellingborough NSEA show. Our girls managed to pull off two (team) qualifying rounds and an individual placing too. Well done to all who competed and to the parents for getting them there. It was a long and very hot day!

Our team in the 75cm, qualified for the Plate Finals for coming home with a Team 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well done to Izzy Ford, Charlotte Louise Smith and Katie Robinson - great riding from you all.

Our 85cm team came 2<sup>nd</sup> from eleven teams starting, qualifying the team for the Championships in October at Addington Manor – **a fabulous outcome!** Great riding and team effort from Charlotte Louise Smith, Katie Robinson, Hollie Anne Heir and Lauren Smith.

Katie Gilsenan was also placed 4<sup>th</sup> (individual) in a full up 110cm class - she has also qualified as an individual for the Plate Final. Well done, Katie, great riding over a big course. 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](mailto:info@ajscontracting.net) or Jen on [jennyheir@aol.com](mailto:jennyheir@aol.com) for more information on how to join.



The Equestrian team would like to say a big thank you to The Buckingham School for funding the team's branded Numnahs - they look very smart!



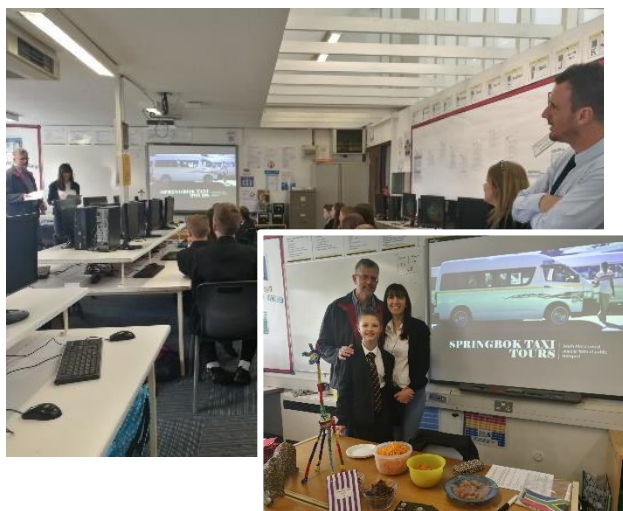
## Computer Science Department

The Buckingham School celebrated International Women's Day by taking a group of twenty-two girls to The Winchester Science Centre. The day was filled with Robotics, Science of Sport and various problem solving activities including an engineering challenge pictured below. Before the day ended, every student was treated to a show at the UK's largest standalone planetarium.



## Inspiration Day via Skype!

To help celebrate and learn about South African Culture for our Inspiration Day, Year 7's were lucky enough to get involved with two sets of guest speakers (one through Skype), and a live presentation that toured them through the country, including a pit stop for food.



## Second-hand School Uniform

Whilst you're having a clear out of any of your child's uniform which either no longer fits or is no longer required, if you have any items which you think could be of use to us, they would be very gratefully received. If you could bag any suitable items of unwanted uniform and leave them in the Main Reception, it would be much appreciated.

Thank you very much indeed for your support.

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

  
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## Inaugural Sales Challenge at the Coca Cola Plant, Milton Keynes.

Sixth Form students from our Centre of Further Education (CFE) recently competed in an inaugural sales challenge which was held at the Coca Cola plant in Milton Keynes.

The event started with a tour of the site, witnessing the vast conveyor belt capable of filling 150 cans every 10 seconds and then seeing the cans being boxed for the warehouse and subsequent distribution.

Then came the serious part when the students had to present a sales pitch recommending Buckinghamshire as a place to live for college and university leavers. This was in front of a judging panel and a large audience.



The team delivered an extremely professional presentation and confidently answered the panel's questions. The panel complimented our students on their presentation skills, their research and their use of unique selling strategies throughout the presentation. Very well done, to all involved.



## Year 12 & 13 Biology Field Trip to Whipsnade Zoo

Students carried out random sampling and compared the plant biodiversity in two grassland areas. They also carried out a transect study on the Zoo's Site of Special Scientific Interest.



## Duke of Edinburgh Award

Well done Year 9 and 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award students. They did fantastically well, completing a two-day expedition, walking, carrying their backpacks, demonstrating camp craft skills by cooking their evening meal, and breakfast, with a cold overnight stay in their tents.



As we go to print with the Bulletin, Year 10's have completed their qualifying Bronze Expedition. All students passed the Expedition and were brilliant, an absolute credit to the School. Celebration Evening to follow in October when students will be presented with their Awards.



## The Royal Society of Biology's 'Biology Challenge'

The Buckingham School did extremely well in a National online competition organised by the Society of Biology called the 'Biology Challenge'. Twenty Year 9 and 10 students were selected to participate in the Challenge. Seventeen students achieved awards ranging from Commended to Silver. The Silver Award is only awarded to the top 15% of participants, and with 40,000 entries nationally, our students should feel extremely proud of their achievements.

The challenge covered general Biology questions and also rewarded students whose knowledge had been increased by reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes and taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest. Well done to all involved.





## GCSE Set Phrase Dance Workshop Day

On one of the hottest days of the year, our GCSE dance students spent a day working with Mel Simpson from Juka Dance on two set phrases and choreography. Twenty-eight dance students from Years 8-10 spent an intense day working through 'Breathe' and 'Shift' – two of the solo pieces required for their final exam. Mel was very impressed with the way our students tackled learning the two sequences, especially due to the challenging aspects of the work, particularly the floor

sequences. Mel is looking forward to revisiting next year to see how our dance students have developed and rehearsed the performances in preparation for the final assessment day.

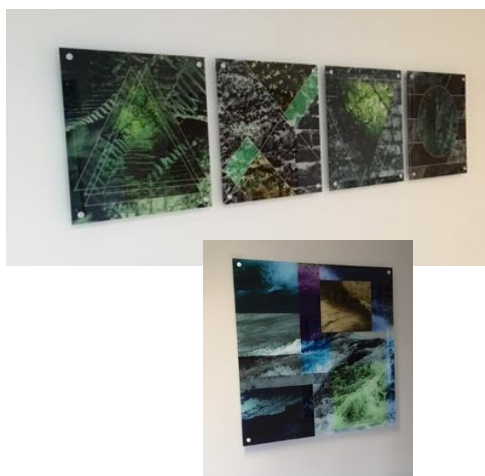
Thank you, Mel for working all day with our students and also to our wonderful students for their hard work, perseverance and commitment throughout the day.

**Ms Hunt, Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts**



## 'New Look' Reception

Have you seen the transformation in our main Reception? The Reception has been refurbished and now displaying fantastic photography, courtesy of one of our talented Year 13 students, Erin O'Reilly. Her work displayed is entitled 'WanderLust'.



## Water Fountains in School

The School has applied for grants to various organisations for the provision of new water fountains in school. One of the associations approached, The Drinking Fountain Association, which is designed to assist in making grant applications for schools has provided us with one fountain already. We are awaiting news on the other 'pipeline' applications.



Suzy Smith (Bittersweet Music) has been providing unique and fabulous music tuition at The Buckingham School for several years.

There will be some available places for singing/acoustic guitar lessons in September on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

Parents deal directly with Suzy and she can advise on all aspects of your child's progress, plus offer advice regarding all aspects of lessons and musical instruments.

Performance opportunities are offered throughout the year and many students will be taking part in the next showcase on Sunday 9th July in Buckingham.

To find out more about Suzy's singing and guitar lessons, plus performance opportunities, contact Suzy 07814367187, email [suzyasmith@aol.com](mailto:suzyasmith@aol.com), [www.bittersweetmusic.co.uk](http://www.bittersweetmusic.co.uk) - or check out the Facebook page ... Bittersweet Music (Buckingham)

## Diary Dates

Last Day of Term	Thurs 20 July
INSET Day	Fri 21 July
Results Day (AS/A Level)	Thurs 17 August
Results Day (GCSE)	Thurs 24 August
INSET Day	Mon 4 September
INSET Day	Tues 5 September
First Day of Autumn Term	Wed 6 September

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