



Ski Trip 2017 – Ski School Pontedilegno in Tonale, Italy.

Dear All

It has been another busy half term! I am pleased to announce that Year 7 preferences for 2017-2018 are oversubscribed for the second year. The local community confidence in our journey to Outstanding shows the commitment and loyalty to the school. The Year 8 options process is underway and it is exciting seeing our younger students making their decisions towards their career and future aspirations. We look forward to the individual meetings with parents/carers and students to ensure their decisions give them the best opportunity for the future.

As always, there is a plethora of exciting opportunities, international visits, extra-curricular activities that give each and every student their chance to thrive and grow. We truly believe in developing the whole child. The curriculum extends beyond the classroom, our students are encouraged to extend their abilities and grow.

I would like to thank our staff for their continued dedication and commitment as we look forward to this Spring term. I wish your families well.

Yours sincerely

Miss A Wells
Headteacher

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



Centre of Further Education





Black Belt in Shotokan Karate

My name is Abbi O'Flanagan and I am 13 years old and in Year 9. I have recently passed my black belt in Shotokan Karate. With the help and dedication of my sensei (teacher) I have managed to use the skill to pass this examination. I have been doing karate for five years since I was 8 years old and always had a passion for it. I would definitely recommend Shotokan Karate for anyone for stress relief, knowledge or strength. Karate has given me so much, not just the physical strength but the emotional, being able to have self-discipline and I really think that anyone who has the right attitude and dedication can get to the same point that I am at.

Abbi O'Flanagan – Year 9

Year 10 girls Netball team successes

Great wins for our Year 10 girls netball team. They beat The Royal Latin School 14-8. The whole team played brilliantly!

The same team had another fantastic result beating Stowe School 14-13 at Stowe! Well done girls from your proud coach, Miss Vaill.

County Swimming



Isabelle Ford recently swam at a County swimming gala at AquaVale in Aylesbury.

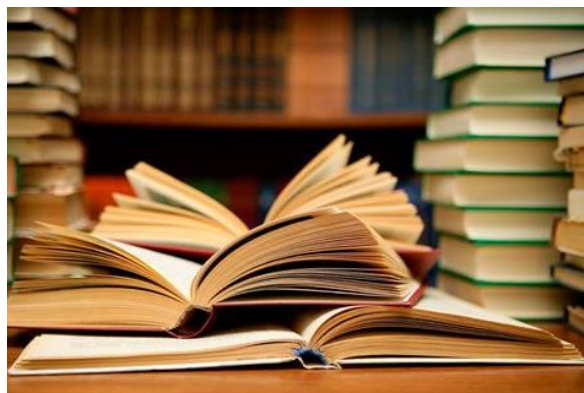
"I was in a relay team of four swimming IM (Individual Medley) and Front Crawl. We came first in both events.

We were classed as the fastest team for 11 and 12 year olds in the County. I swim for a club called Maxwell and train very hard – training every day and twice on Fridays. This month I will be swimming individual races for the County and I've been really looking forward to this opportunity for a long time and cannot wait for it to be here."

World Book Day Challenge

The challenge leading up to (and beyond) World Book Day (2 March 2017) is to increase our library resources. The Buckingham School needs your help!

Please donate any fiction or non-fiction books, magazines etc., in good condition which are suitable for children ages 9-15 years. Please deliver any donations to The Buckingham School Reception or let us know if you need them collecting. Thank you.



World Book Day

Thursday 2 March

Break Time & Lunch Time in the LRC...

3D key rings personalised with your name! 3 designs to choose from! (Order and pay on the day)

Green screen photo booth opportunity! Create memories with friends!

Bespoke bookmarks with different designs to choose from! Plain or can be laminated. (order and pay on the day)

Come and have your photo taken for the best dressed character prize!!!

BOOK SALE

CAKE SALE

Year 8 Options Choices

Earlier this month our Year 8s together with their parents and carers commenced their Key Stage 4 options choice process. It started with an information evening to understand the curriculum model giving parents and students the opportunity to talk with teachers from each subject department and meet students who presently study the subjects.

The Buckingham School offers a three year GCSE/BTEC pathway from Year 9. It is our belief in preparing each and every child for an aspirational pathway and giving them choice based on what suits their academic ability and potential. The curriculum offer is broad and balanced and allows for many opportunities Post 16 and at University. All Key Stage Four curriculum information can be found on the school website.

Parent/carers and student individual meetings are now taking place to ensure that the choices made give each and every student the best opportunity.

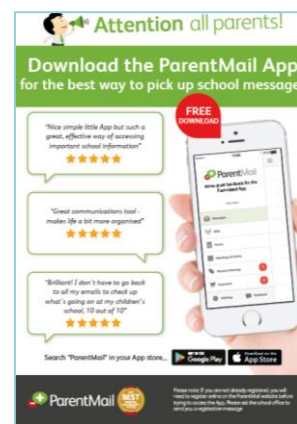


Have you registered yet?

Earlier this term you should have received a communication regarding how we will be improving the way we communicate with you by introducing ParentMail.

ParentMail will be beneficial to you because:- messages will get to you reliably and on time; we can send messages directly to mums, dads and other carers at the same time; you will be able to read and respond to school messages at work, home or on the go; emergency or important information can be sent by text message; iPhone and Android Apps available (free to download), all messages will be in one place. You will be able to use features such as ParentMail's online booking system for Parents Evenings and at a later date we will be using +Pay on ParentMail which allows you to pay for school items.

To download the App for free from either the Apple APP store or the Google Play Store simply search Buckingham School ParentMail. Please note, you will need to be registered on ParentMail in order to access the App.



Success for All through Achievement, Challenge & Enjoyment

Computer Science Students at Cisco's Little Big Awards

After in-school heats from the Computer Science Department, The Buckingham School's winning team travelled to Winchester Science Centre for The Cisco Little Big Awards regional heats. Cisco invited schools to take part in their Little Big Awards asking teams to demonstrate how life could be made better by connecting the unconnected to the internet. The Awards help students meet the requirements of the curriculum for Computer Science in Key Stage 3 and 4.



We are very proud of our team – whilst not progressing to the finals, with the help of our STEM ambassador, Andy Hickman we were placed third in two categories. Well done to all involved.

Performing Arts Workshop with Actor Ayden Callaghan

Ayden Callaghan (Joseph) is an ex-student and English actor of both stage and screen. He is best known for playing the part of Joe Roscoe on Channel Four's Hollyoaks and Miles De Souza on ITV's Emmerdale. Ayden (Joseph) spent a day here with our Year 11 GCSE drama students; running practical workshops in the morning focusing on their exam text followed by a Question and Answer session with GCSE and Sixth Form Performing Arts students. Thank you Ayden to coming back to school!



The Buckingham School *now* has the ability to provide an Equestrian Team.

Exciting News. The National Schools' Equestrian Association (NSEA) gives children in full time education the opportunity to compete and represent their school. If you are currently out competing in either dressage, showjumping or Arena XC, then this may be of interest to you.

Would you like to join? Are you a committed rider with your own horse and can jump a min 60cm? If you are interested in representing The Buckingham School in the Equestrian sport team please have a look on the NSEA website www.nsea.org.uk and/or contact - jennyheir@aol.com

Pony Club Triathlon

Congratulations to Lauren Smith (9MU) and Charlotte Louise Smith (7BU) of their achievements on Saturday 4 February. They both competed in a Pony Club Triathlon.

Charlotte was in the mini's team (under 12's) and their team finished 2nd, Charlotte had personal bests in swimming and shooting.

Lauren was in the junior team (under 15's) and their team finished 6th, Lauren also had a personal bests in swimming and shooting.

Well done girls and very well deserved.



Under 15's Girls Football County Cup Final

The Buckingham School are absolutely delighted that their U15 girls' football team are in the County Cup final! We could not be more proud of our team. In girls' football, the County Cup in Buckinghamshire is run as a league. The girls beat Chesham Grammar School 5:1 in the semi-final. The County Cup Final will be held at Thame United on Friday 17 March. **Good Luck Girls!**



The Buckingham School and United World Schools

An update on The Buckingham School's Partnership with Mae Yay School in Myanmar



Since becoming a partner school with UWS (in 2015) we have raised around £2000 through various fundraising and have been in regular contact with the UWS team. United World Schools communicate with us on a regular basis providing updates and to tell us about future ideas and plans we have.

Our partnership with UWS



Transform Lives Through Education



United World Schools have partnered with The Buckingham School to provide an education to children living in the village of Mae Yay, Myanmar



An UWS Update:

We wanted to send you a quick update from Mae Yay village where the school continues to thrive. The photo (above right) which our school Manager sent through shows a typical house which is raised off the ground to stop everything getting wet in the monsoon and is open to allow the flow of air during the peak of summer.

As you'll have heard in the news, there have been huge ethnic conflicts across the Shan State and some appalling persecutions, particularly of the Rohingya people in the nearby Rakhine State. In Mae Yay, the whole village are the same tribe so ethnic divisions are not an issue. However, it has meant travelling in the region is much harder and our team have even seen government tanks at the bottom of the valley. Christianity is the second biggest religion in Myanmar and all schools must close for two weeks to allow those children who choose to, to celebrate Christmas. This is very different to our Christmas celebrations. For those who celebrate Christmas, the fortnight will be a chance for families to get together and eat speciality foods.

It goes without saying that the school's progress would not be possible without the continued support of schools like The Buckingham School. It's fantastic to see how many children are now attending the school each day and we look forward to keeping you updated on the school's progress in the new year.

The Great TBS Duplo Donation



It was this photo above that gave us an idea about how we can support the children of Mae Yay this year.

Noticing that the children are playing with Duplo we thought that perhaps this is something we can send. The people of UWS also agreed as they wrote to us:

"We struggle to take physical donations into the village as it often means that someone else local loses out i.e when we bring in clothes it means that a local provider is out of a job. The only exception is Duplo. This is really expensive in Myanmar and unattainable in the village, it is also indestructible. If you were able to do a Duplo collection that would be much appreciated."

So, we are looking for any possible Duplo donations that you will be willing to part ways with.

If you have Duplo at home and it is not being used and you and your family are willing to give it to us so we can send it to Mae Yay that would be fantastic! Perhaps you can donate some of your collection and not all of it.. Thank you to those of you who have already given us some Duplo!

For more information speak to Mrs Sangherra or Mr Mandel.



Centre of Further Education



Time is moving swiftly on and although the deadline for CFE applications has passed we are still getting internal/external applicants applying. Places are still available so if you want to have the option of coming to The Buckingham School Centre of Further Education you can download the application on the school website or email cfe_admissions@buckinghamschool.org for more information.

University Offers

University offers for our Year 13 students are now being received. Most students have received offers from all five universities applied for. They now need to decide which is their final choice together with a reserve. We have 8 students who already have received offers from the prestigious Russell Group (a group of the country's top universities), 9 students have received unconditional offers, which means they want those students regardless of results.

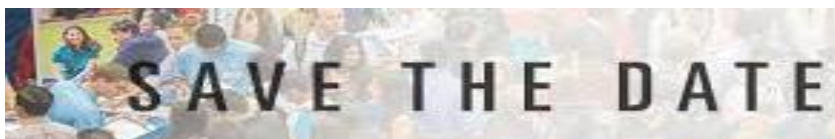
It is amazing how quickly time flies, the UCAS window opens on 1 June for our current Year 12s to apply for University places!!

In early June Year 12s will be offered the opportunity to attend a UCAS conference at the University of Bedfordshire, a fantastic trip, more details coming soon!

Nine of our Year 13 students are currently applying for various apprenticeships in very different fields such as Business, Quantity Surveying, Photography, Carer, Primary School, BBC, Mercedes-Benz, Sports Journalism and BMW.

One of our Year 13 students, Taran Conlan, following a 3-day interview has secured an unconditional offer to the prestigious **Oxford University** and we could not be prouder of Taran for his efforts and achievements!

Year 12 and 13 Parents Evening is on Thursday 16 March. Full details regarding the evening including ParentMail online booking system have been sent out. Please note you will need to register on ParentMail before you can make your appointment. You should have received a letter regarding ParentMail earlier in the term. A copy can be found on the Latest News section of the school website.



Careers Fayre for Year 10 and Year 12 students – 14 July 2017

We are holding a Careers Fair on 14 July 2017 aimed at our Year 10 and Year 12 students (and also our younger years at lunchtime) to start them thinking about what they want to do in the future and what is needed to get to that point.

If you are a business and you would like to take part in our careers fair please do drop us a line by emailing pcunningham@buckinghamschool.org or, aswiftclarke@buckinghamschool.org and we will be happy to send you more information about the day.

CAREERS FAIR

The Buckingham Bulletin is a regular news round up – if you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Claire Sherwood at csherwood@buckinghamschool.org

Ski Trip 2017 – Ski School Pontedilegno in Tonale, Italy.

Forty-five Year 10 and 11 students set off on Friday 10 February for a week's skiing adventure to Tonale in Italy. After travelling by coach throughout the day and overnight, they arrived on Saturday 11th February tired but full of excitement. Four members of staff accompanied the students, Mr Churchward, Mr McElroy, Ms Bristow and Mrs Aldersley. 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!



Do you want to be part of the 2018 ski trip adventure? Look out for information coming out soon.

Upcoming Events!

Mock Trial Competition

As in years past, The Buckingham School will participate in the annual Mock Trial Competition. Students from Years 8 and 9 will assume different roles and compete against others school in MK Magistrate Court. The competition this year is on Saturday March 11. The students in the team have worked extremely hard over the past few weeks, meeting during lunch times and at times after school as well. They all deserve a huge well done! Ahead of the competition, on March 7, will visit the court to watch real cases being discusses as well as practice in a court room where the competition will take place. We will update you on how the team did in the competition in the next issue of the bulletin.

Please wish the following students good luck:

Ebony Bone, Ewan Barnard, Calista Fox, Erin Talbot, Millie Holme, Molly Mackay, Chris Lloyd, Maya Wood, Tom Green, Ellie Kirsop, Daisy Kensett and Dan Pelper.

Mr J Mandel

Parent Forum

The next Parent Forum will take place on Tuesday 25 April, 5:50 - 7pm. All parents and carers are welcome to attend - your views really do count and do have an impact on what happens within the school.

Follow TBS_Humanities on Twitter for updates, notices and useful resources in the Humanities Department.

Attention! All Students Moving Up to Secondary School in September 2017 – this year's Transition (Induction) Days will be on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th July.

Geography Revision Sessions for Yr 11 students. Every Tuesday after school in H5. Come and sign up to sessions. Pizza provided.

Extra curricular activities

The school has a wide range of extra curricular activities such as IT, Performing Arts (dance, music, drama) homework, Science, Graphics, English, Maths Club, Modern Foreign Languages and so many more. Have a look at the school website for more information:

Fairtrade Fortnight 2017

Fairtrade Fortnight this year is between 27 February and 10 March.

As we have done over the past few years, we will show The Buckingham School's support not only for the work the Fairtrade organisation does but also for what Fairtrade stands for. Human Rights and Equality are areas we are proud to support; one way to show this is to support Fairtrade. Since 2015 we are recognised by the Fairtrade organisation as a 'FairActive School' for the work we have done and the work we are going to do. Buckingham Town has just celebrated its 10th anniversary since becoming a Fairtrade Town.

This year, to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight in school, we are very excited about welcoming and hosting Patrick Kaberia, a Kenyan tea producer who will give two talks in assemblies about what he does and how he works with Fairtrade. This is a fantastic opportunity to bring Fairtrade closer to students. In addition, we will hold our annual Fairtrade stalls which the Buckingham Fairtrade Steering Group will facilitate and students will be able to purchase a variety of Fairtrade products. In the next issue we will report on this event with photos!

Mr J Mandel



Diary Dates

National Careers Week – Mon 6 – Fri 10 March

Year 10 Parents Evening – Thursday 9 March

Year 12/13 Parents Evening – Thursday 16 March

MK Magistrates Court Trip – 7 March

Girls' Engineering Trip - 8 March 2017

Buddhist Temple, Birmingham Trip - 14 March

The Big Bang Science Fair (Trip) – 17 March

Aylesbury Crown Court Trip - 20 March

A Level Biology Whipsnade Zoo Trip – 30 March

Last Day of Spring Term – 31 March

First Day of Summer Term – Tuesday 18 April