

MUSIC MARK PARTNERSHIP AWARD



Mr Galbraith, Mrs Lodder and four of our wonderful music ambassadors had a lovely trip to Bedford School to receive our award from Henry Vann (Portfolio Holder for Education) in recognition of Goldington Academy's high quality music provision and partnership work.

Find out about other activities that have taken place within the Creative Arts Department over the last half term on pages 13 — 17.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

PRINCIPAL'S INTRODUCTION

Dear parents and carers

Our newsletter once again showcases just how much is going on at Goldington Academy. This only makes it more difficult to select a front page, but it feels appropriate to acknowledge Mrs Lodder and her fabulous creative arts team on the acquisition of yet another award: the prestigious Music Mark Partnership Award that we were recently delighted to receive at Bedford School.



Creativity remains key to our students' success and you will enjoy seeing the castles Year Seven have recently made and the picture of our watercolour frogs. The dance pupils continue to become involved in high quality and exciting initiatives under Mrs Mahoney. I have also been particularly impressed recently with both the mixed media buildings' work that has gone on in Art as well as the ceramic workshop that the Year Ten students recently undertook. This was a fabulous day for the forty students.

We have had some excellent football results and I am really proud to see how a number of our youngsters are developing their rowing careers. The rugby and netball teams have also enjoyed success as have the sports leaders.

We were delighted to welcome the Anne Frank exhibition again and train twenty Year Eight students as ambassadors. Add to that the work our students are doing with The Brilliant Club, Maths Team Challenge, Strings in Spring and Battle of the Bands and you can see we have been busy.

One area I am delighted to see developing is careers. You will see a number of articles in the newsletter with regard to this. I am committed to ensuring that all Key Stage 4 students have a careers interview with a specialist careers adviser and these interviews have now begun.

It remains for me to wish you a happy and safe Easter period. We look forward to seeing your child return to us on Tuesday 23 April.

Ax. Galt



GOVERNING BODY

There are currently vacancies for parent governors and we are interested in appointing enthusiastic, committed individuals to take up these roles.

Becoming a governor provides an excellent opportunity to learn more about the detailed workings of the school. As a result, the governing body can effectively provide the necessary levels of support and challenge, thus ensuring our children receive the best experiences possible. It is an interesting, stimulating and rewarding role and we hope that parents will feel encouraged to put themselves forward.

Being a school governor means being committed to giving time and energy to the role. Governors are asked to take part in regular meetings, read papers in advance of meetings and find out about the issues being discussed. As well as full governing board meetings, held twice a term, you may well attend committee meetings to look at issues like pupil performance, the curriculum, staffing, finance and premises. Meetings are usually held on a Thursday at 6:30pm. There is the expectation that governors will attend training to help them understand and develop in their role.

Your child has brought home a letter regarding the above vacancies. If you would like an informal chat about what being a governor means, please contact Paul Hymers (Interim Chair of Governors) hymersp@goldington.beds.sch.uk

ANNE FRANK EXHIBITION



We were delighted to have the Anne Frank Exhibition in school again this year. This is the second time that Goldington Academy has hosted the exhibition. Selected Year Eight students were given the opportunity to train as guides and become the next wave of Anne Frank Ambassadors. The guides did an excellent job of telling the tragic story of Anne and her family and spreading the messages of tolerance and peace. We would like to thank the Anne Frank Trust for providing us with this opportunity and for their continued work with Goldington Academy.

TRIP TO MOUNTFITCHET CASTLE



On 14 March forty-nine Year Seven pupils plus four members of staff visited Stanstead Mountfitchet Castle in Essex. The visit was linked to our study of the Norman Conquest of England, from 1066. The site was set up as a recreation of a Norman motte and bailey castle, and contained artefacts such as a huge millstone, Norman battle helmets and various instruments of torture used in the pursuit of justice. The inner bailey also contained a series of buildings that were designed to allow you to have a close look at village life. These buildings, such as a blacksmith's forge, contained mannequins that told you about their lives in and

around the castle. The castle site also had several towers to climb. One of the most popular parts of the visit was the opportunity to get (relatively!) close to the free-roaming animals (selected because they would have been present in Norman villages) such as chickens, goats, deer and guinea fowl. As an addition at the end of the day, we had the opportunity to briefly visit Britain's largest toy museum which had various exhibits linked to the history of toys. The day was very enjoyable and informative and the site is to be recommended to anyone with an interest in history.

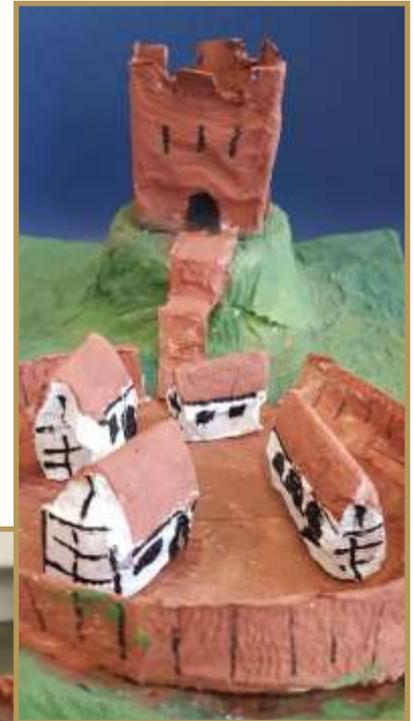
**Tristan,
Humanities Ambassador**



CASTLES

On a similar theme, Year Seven history classes have been enjoying a series of lessons covering the Normans and life in the medieval era. The pupils were asked to produce a creative homework showing their understanding of the Battle of Hastings and how William the Conqueror took control of England. Individuals have worked hard to produce poetry, paintings, shields, and motte and bailey castle models and cakes. The work was of an outstanding quality and a number of students received Head Teacher's Awards.

Mrs Geoghegan



GCSE GEOGRAPHY

On Tuesday the 19 March a group of Year 9 and 10 GCSE geography students went along to Bedford School to attend a lecture on climate feedbacks in Polar environments that was led by Richard Hodgkins, a senior lecturer in Physical Geography at Loughborough University. The students enjoyed the dynamic and interactive nature of the lecture. They also engaged in the high-level discussion about positive and negative climate feedbacks and their impact on the Arctic. The students all agreed it was an enjoyable experience and are very much looking forward to the next one.

GOLDINGTON GAZETTE ONLINE

The launch of Journalism Club this year has allowed pupils to take their reporting, reviewing and researching into the digital age with its own section on the Goldington Academy website. <http://www.goldingtonacademy.org.uk/Journalism-Club>

Pupils from all year groups have been demonstrating their journalistic prowess through the writing of articles for the Goldington Gazette Online. Club members, who have attended since September, have worked closely together to choose the name of the publication and the types of topics that will be covered. Pupils are completely responsible for researching, writing and laying out their own articles, which they submit regularly to be uploaded to the website. Pupils report on school events, current topics that they feel are important to them such as mental health, as well as writing book and music reviews.

In order to get feedback on the publications so far, Journalism Club held a launch party in the Autumn Term. Pupils and staff were greeted with snacks and iPads, giving them a chance to read the articles and give their opinions. In responding to this feedback, sports, technology and fashion sections have been introduced to the website. A further review party is planned for April to get responses to the latest improvements.

Most recently, the Spring Term has seen pupils take on the new challenge of conducting interviews - collecting quotations from the primary source, in order to add further professionalism and depth to their articles. In addition, an 'Ask Us' section was launched, which enables pupils to submit questions or worries anonymously to the Goldington Gazette team and members of journalism club are using their own experience of school to write responses to these questions, supporting their peers with sound advice.

THE BRILLIANT CLUB

The Brilliant Club is a UK non-profit organisation that aims to widen access to top universities for students from under-represented groups. They do this by encouraging the PhD community to share its academic expertise with state schools. The Brilliant Club runs two core programmes: The Scholars Programme and Researchers in School. As a participant in The Scholars Programme, I recently attended the 'Launch Trip' for the programme in which we attended Trinity Hall College at Cambridge University. The Brilliant Club is described as 'inspirational' and 'transformative' by past participants of the programme and it aims to widen the horizons of pupils.



The Brilliant Club recruits, trains and places PhD researchers in state schools to work with and enrich a small group of pupils. Pupils learn about the subject the researcher is studying through a combination of university trips, in-school tutorials and online resources. During the programme's launch trip, selected pupils from year nine and ten visited Cambridge University and were given a tour of Trinity College. We were given a lecture introducing us to the programme and then we had our first tutorial.

During the tutorial we met with our mentor and familiarized ourselves with the topic we will be investigating: The Relative Age Effect in boys' academy football. The tutorials demonstrate basic concepts relating to physiology within elite youth male football, including biological growth and maturation processes, anthropometry, physiological performance and how these associate with selection and talent identification. At the end of the programme, students will be asked to write an essay-based assignment based on what they have learnt throughout the course.

GOLDINGTON GAZETTE ONLINE

The Brilliant Club works with more than 500 schools and colleges across Britain and in 2016/17 had employed over 581 PhD researchers to reach over 11,000 pupils. According to the UCAS Multiple Equality Measure, 1 in 4 of the most advantaged quintile of 18-year-olds progress to a highly selective university, whereas only 1 in 50 of the most disadvantaged quintile of 18-year-olds progress to a highly selective university. By cause of this unjust issue, The Brilliant Club is an incredibly beneficial organisation to ensure everyone has the opportunity to get into a top university.

Georgia

THE SHY MANIFESTO

The Place Theatre, Bedford 8th February 2019 Introduction

I attended a free theatre writing workshop with The Place Theatre. From doing this, I was able to write a theatre review which gave me the confidence to enter The Place Theatre's review writing competition, which I won in January this year. I'm currently the resident reviewer for the spring season (review writer 13-16 age bracket). The review below has been published on The Place Theatre website as well as The Bedford Clanger.

The Shy Manifesto theatre review

Starring: Theo Ancient, Harry Potter star (Albus Potter in Harry Potter and the Cursed Child)

Joe C. Brown and Anthony Hollis Productions have brought their tour of this monologue by Michael Ross, directed by Cat Robey, to Bedford's The Place Theatre. The solo play is performed by Theo Ancient (Harry Potter star) who plays the character Callum.

Walking in as an audience member, I found the set and light music playing in the background calming. The blue/orange strobe lighting was used to create atmosphere and highlighted encouragement and peace. The slow, rising, white smoke effects also helped piece together the setting that was about to unfold and made me wonder about what was to come.

As the audience got themselves comfortable, I observed that the character, Callum, was sitting down reading a book (his main passion) and making notes. The simple but effective set stood out and helped tell the monologue. The many different characters he played included: Libby, his parents, Gilby, Naomi, Miss Cherry, Tyrone and the attendees of Gilby's party.

The audience were able to identify the intensity of the character's feelings through the use of balloons, music and the lighting effects. This served to create a gripping, eerie and edgy mood throughout. Props such as a petite bag, multi-coloured scarf, headphones, black sunglasses, small figurines including superheroes and soft toys were used to convey and illustrate each character's personality. It was both imaginative and entertaining, as it really made each character stand out for me.

Callum involves the audience throughout by using puns, emotive language and questions for reassurance.

Isma

NATIONAL INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

Goldington students gained good results in the National Intermediate Mathematics Challenge. This term, sixty-one students from Years Nine and Ten took the challenge. Forty-one students gained gold, silver or bronze certificates, which is an excellent achievement, and congratulations go to all of them.

Particular mention goes to Tiba and Alex who achieved the highest scores in their year group.

Year : Nine

Gold: Alex

Silver: Caitlin, Elana, Thomas, James, Jake, Georgia, Freya, Henry

Bronze: Oliver, Lena, Holly, Amrit, James, Kerion, Luke, Szymon, Eliz, Aliya, James, Samiha

Year : Ten

Gold: Tiba

Silver: Matilda, Ahnaf, Otto, Tilly, Alex, Sam, Alisha, Holly, Ewan

Bronze: William, Louis, Tasnim, Daniel, Eleanor, Nihaal, Ivan, Ayman, Jasmin, Rowan

UK MATHS TEAM CHALLENGE

On Tuesday 19 March four of our most talented pupils from Year Eight, Tahmid, Silvio, Siawaash and Leo were selected to represent the school in the Regional Final of the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Team competition. We went to the Centre of Mathematical Sciences at the University of Cambridge for the day to compete against 30 other schools.

The competition had 4 rounds each lasting 45 minutes, a group challenge, a cross number puzzle, a shuttle round and then a relay race. To compete, the team required good problem solving skills, high standards of numeracy and the ability to work as a team and communicate.

Overall, we finished 12th which was an excellent result amongst very tough competition. The Perse School from Cambridge won on the day. The team worked well together and achieved one of the highest scores in the cross number round of 51/56. A big well done to the team and to those who have attended Maths Club where we work on similar problems.

Example quick question – Answers to Mrs Jackson please!

When seven is subtracted from a certain three-digit number the result is divisible by seven.
 When eight is subtracted from the same three-digit number the result is divisible by eight.
 When nine is subtracted from the same three-digit number the result is divisible by nine.
 What is the three-digit number?

MATHS FEAST

2ND PLACE FOR GOLDINGTON AT MATHS FEAST!

This month, 8 students from Year Ten were selected for 'Maths Feast' at Milton Keynes Academy, a competition between some of the most able young mathematicians from 20 state and private schools across Beds, Bucks & Cambs. It involved a series of activities that required extremely high level problem solving skills; some requiring independent work, as well as group tasks.

We were split into 2 teams of 4, and we are delighted to say that one of our teams came 2nd overall (pipped to the post by Buckingham's Royal Latin)! The students were an absolute credit to the school, with the Head of Maths at Milton Keynes

Academy saying that they were a lovely, friendly group of students who worked exceptionally hard together. Congratulations to all! **Miss Lambe**



DAN FREEDMAN — AUTHOR VISIT

On Tuesday 26 March, Dan Freedman, author of the popular Jamie Johnson football book series, came to visit Year Six and Seven students at Goldington. He spoke for over an hour on his journey to writing success and his experiences in the thrilling world of football. Students were inspired by his story of being a reluctant reader and writer at school himself, and an avid footballer, but realising that he needed to devote himself to improving his writing in order to achieve his goal of working at a World Cup. Our students were able to ask a variety of questions which Dan answered with humour and also a variety of video clips and sporting props. He also read to us from his latest children's novel, 'Unstoppable'.



Students won a premier league football for asking the best questions and other students were able to buy books from Dan which he kindly signed after the event.

Well done to the students for their excellent behaviour at the event – Dan was very impressed – and thanks to the English Department for organising. **Mrs Bennett-Fowlds**

PE DEPARTMENT

NETBALL

Year Six

The Year Six netball club have been mostly playing for fun with netball club being well attended.

Two teams took part in the Bedford District Tournament. The A team played some good netball to reach the semi-finals. Unfortunately, they lost this to Bedford Girls' School A, so were then in a play-off game with Bedford Girls School B for a bronze medal. With some excellent shooting and defending, they won this match so eventually finished in 3rd place.

Years Seven and Eight

The Year Seven and Eight netball teams have been playing league matches throughout this term. The Year Seven A and B teams have had some good wins. The Year Eight team are as yet unbeaten in the league, with 2 matches left to play.

Well done to everyone who has played netball for the school this year – I am looking forward to seeing everyone transfer their skills onto the rounders pitch in the Summer Term. Many thanks to Miss Hankins and Miss Moyster for all their coaching and umpiring this year.

Mrs Chapman

SPORTS LEADERS

This half term Goldington Academy hosted a lower school sports festival for over 200 children. The form of 8L acted as leaders on the day, running activities in sportshall athletics, score ball and football. All the leaders did really well.

We have also supplied sports leaders for festivals at The Hills and Hazeldene; again the leaders were a credit to Goldington.

ROWING



This year we have continued our partnership with Star Rowing Club with dry land sessions being run at lunchtimes by two coaches for pupils from Years Eight and Nine. Pupils have the opportunity to transfer their skills to the water on a Saturday morning. We have a number of pupils who have already begun their rowing careers on the water and this has culminated in a group of Year Nine and Ten



pupils regularly competing for Star Club under the boat name of Goldington. The rowers are competing in prestigious courses such as the Olympic Course at Eton Dorney Lake and can often be seen training on a Sunday morning along the River Ouse.

PE DEPARTMENT

RUGBY

The Year Nine boys rugby team competed at the Year Nine County Festival finishing a very credible third out of 14 sides. Well done!

FOOTBALL

It has been a very busy half term with football fixtures. The District Leagues for Years Seven & Eight have been running weekly and results from the teams have been very impressive. The results so far are:

Year Seven				Year Eight			
Goldington	10	Westfield	0	Goldington	6	Mark Rutherford	4
Sharnbrook	0	Goldington	4	Westfield	0	Goldington	5
Bedford Modern	2	Goldington	5	Castle Newnham	1	Goldington	4
Castle Newnham	2	Goldington	5	Bedford Modern	0	Goldington	0
Rushmoor	1	Goldington	8				
Goals for 33		Goals against 5		Goals for 15		Goals against 5	

We are currently waiting to see who they play against in the County Finals.

The Year Ten football team have had a number of fixtures too. They beat Lincroft 2-1 and then followed this up by winning the District Tournament beating Bedford Academy 3-0 in the final. Like the football, the celebrations were very extravagant!

The Year Nine team is also unbeaten so far this season. The scores as we go to print are:

Scores			
Goldington	5	KCA	0
Goldington	5	Castle Newnham	1

MARATHON CLUB

Marathon Club has seen 25 students rise to the challenge of completing the distance of a half or full marathon (that's 36 laps of the school field or a staggering 72 laps for the full distance) over a period of 7 weeks. It has been so encouraging to see children of varied abilities taking part. Each finisher received a well-deserved medal and a certificate. Congratulations to all who took part.

Next term - Tennis club on a Thursday with Mr Llewellyn until 4.40pm.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

Did you know ... just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money?

Register now to make sure we don't miss out!

The government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a '**Pupil Premium**'. Your child will receive pupil premium for **SIX** years after registering (even if you no longer qualify for free school meals.)

For every child registered, Goldington Academy gets £1,320 a year to spend!

With this money we could offer your child 1:1 tuition, or small group support in school. If you are registered for free school meals you could also get help with costs of school events, trips or music tuition. The money also supports the cost of the additional learning support staff in your child's class.

Please register as soon as possible to make sure your child and others in his or her class don't miss out.

How does it work?

1. First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list at the bottom of this page.
2. Registering is really quick and easy – if you think you qualify, contact our office staff who will help you.
3. If you want your child to have a free school meal at lunchtime, then he or she will get the free school meal (saving you more than £300 a year), and extra benefits; and the school will receive £1,320 extra a year for 6 years whilst your child is in our school.
4. If you don't want your child to have the free school meal they do not have to have one; as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets the £1,320 extra.

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

Please talk to us about registering your child today.

Do you qualify?

You can register your child for pupil premium and a free school meal if you get any of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

CREATIVE ARTS

On Saturday 9 March, Goldington Academy's Dance Academy performed in a regional competition, U:Dance at the University of Bedfordshire with nine other youth groups from across the region. We were the youngest group to be involved, and the standard of some of the groups was exceptional. We took part in a range of workshops including one by the highly acclaimed choreographer, Jasmine Vardimon. It was a full and tiring day, but an amazing experience. Although we did not make it to the short list to perform in London, we received some excellent feedback and have been told we should definitely apply again next year.

The judges said:

- Great composition- bringing together different media was impressive and novel
- Great to see how they had connected to the community - really stood out as a piece
- Some really nice choreography- duets and contact work very strong
- Strong technical dancers which was impressive at such a young age

The students have worked so hard over the past few months and it ended in an exhilarating day. They represented the school beautifully with their professionalism and hard work; I am so very proud of them! We better get our creative thinking caps on for next year!

Mrs Mahoney



CREATIVE ARTS

KS3 BEDS BAND FACTORY

Our Year Seven band represented the school in the Regional KS3 Beds Band Factory. The students had a fantastic time performing with other schools from Bedfordshire. They did an amazing job and produced a very impressive performance, which earned them some extremely positive feedback. We are already looking forward to the event next year.



STRINGS IN SPRING



We invited some young string players from The Hills to join us for our annual Strings in Spring event this year. It was wonderful to see musicians of all ages sharing and celebrating their musical achievements. A huge thank you to Mrs Frost from The Hills for bringing some of her young musicians down and to Mrs Waters for working so hard preparing her students for their performances.

BEDFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH & DRAMA

A number of our students took part in the festival this year and were very successful. A special mention to Alex who not only won his class but was awarded Best Speech & Drama Performance in the Festival (under 15s).



CREATIVE ARTS

ARTS LEADERSHIP SKILLS

In collaboration with the University of Bedfordshire, we have been offering an Arts Award Silver course to some of our Year Ten students who are interested in pursuing a career in the arts. As part of the course, students are expected to plan and organise an arts event. The students have been working hard, taking on different roles and managing the huge demands of putting on an event. It has been such a pleasure to observe their progress, the challenges along the way, and then the final result. Well done to all involved in such a successful venture.



THE STABLES



Some of our students had the great privilege of performing at The Stables as part of the Bedfordshire Battle of the Bands. This is an annual event that has been running for a number of years, but this is the first year we have taken part as it is open to students from Years 10 to 13.

Our band were the youngest group there but they put on an amazing performance and received incredibly positive feedback.

CREATIVE ARTS

MIXED MEDIA BUILDINGS

Year Eight have been working incredibly hard on their first final piece of the Buildings Project. Students decided which materials they were going to use and how to combine media to represent the formal elements of buildings. We are really pleased with the amazing results.



Next year we will be looking to **recruit a pool of Exam Invigilators** to form a team who will be responsible for supervising students sitting examinations throughout the school year. The hours are flexible, ad hoc and subject to requirement. This position would ideally suit a person living locally and looking to work occasional hours as and when required. If you think this is for you, or you know anyone looking for this sort of position, please register your interest at

examoffice@goldington.beds.sch.uk

CREATIVE ARTS**WATERCOLOUR FROGS**

Year Seven have worked very hard to produce watercolour frogs as part of the Animal Project. They have developed their use of colour mixing and application of watercolour paints to produce very creative and illustrative results.

**CERAMIC WORKSHOP WITH AMANDA SILK**

Year Ten art students were given the opportunity to work with local ceramicist Amanda Silk as part of their GCSE studies. Students have been designing and developing ideas for a ceramic vessel since January and it was delightful to see their hard work and enthusiasm result in outstanding results. Well done to all those involved and to Amanda for all her support with the students' projects. Exam board rules mean that we are unable to publish images of GCSE coursework, but all work will be displayed in their final exhibition so lots to look forward to! In the meantime, here are some examples of Amanda's work that students were inspired by.



COMMUNITY NEWS

GROW@GOLDINGTON

Over the past few months, when the children have been working outside in the garden, there has been no shortage of jobs to do. They have been extremely busy weeding, pruning, planting and even on some occasions watering! There have only been a few sessions held indoors due to bad weather, and the children took part in activities which included making bird feeders and chitting potatoes.

Before half term the children made bird feeders by using a combination of melted lard and bird seed which they moulded into pots. When this was set they were able to release the moulds which had been attached to string ready for hanging; they also used pine cones. They took their feeders home to hang in their own gardens, encouraging birds to visit as part of the "Big Garden Bird Watch". The children were asked to watch birds in their gardens or local parks for one hour and count how many they saw. Even if they saw nothing, it was still useful information. They were also asked to record any other wildlife too, to enter online as part of a national survey of British wildlife for the RSPB.



Crops of potatoes were very successful last year, so the children were keen to start chitting some to start the growing process off before planting again this year. The potatoes arrived from the 'Grow Your Own Potato' scheme, a national competition for schools, and were placed in a windowsill in Mrs Sacre's Science room (a light, frost free place) to encourage the seed potatoes to sprout. The potatoes were then planted into large black plastic bags outside and will be monitored and nurtured until harvest time in June when they will be collected and weighed before entering the values into the national competition. The potatoes will then be cooked and eaten by the gardening club!

We believe in re-cycling whenever we can. Some spring onions were planted recently that were left over from a science lesson and garlic was planted which was found in Mrs Brewer's cupboard. It is also good to see last year's plants coming up again this year such as rhubarb, hyacinths, primroses, violas, raspberries, blueberries and a selection of winter greens.

Buds have started to grow on our young trees from the Woodland Trust, and there are still more trees to be planted. It would be great if we could have more help with this and numerous other jobs that we need to do. Our gardening club is open to all years and all abilities. Equipment is provided, so all you need to do is come along to room 6 during Wednesday lunchtimes.

Mrs Oates

CAREERS ADVISER FAYE GADSBY

We have a few dates coming up when Faye Gadsby will be in school to provide impartial one-to-one careers advice to a small number of Year Ten students. Students involved in the first day of appointments found her advice invaluable and have received detailed records of the advice for their reference. Information has also been uploaded to students' Grofar accounts, so they can refer to them when they need to. Feedback has been very positive from those students who were involved, and we have three more days of appointments for additional students before Easter.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW



On 13 March, fifteen Year Ten students visited the National Apprenticeship Show to explore post-16 apprenticeship routes and meet potential employers.

We really enjoyed our visit to the MK Apprenticeship Show. There were so many stalls from different potential apprenticeships, each one with lots of information and helpful people to talk to. There were many fun activities to take part in, like decorating biscuits and army assault courses. Overall it was a very informative and fun day – and well worth going to if you are set on an apprenticeship, or are unsure if you are going to take an apprenticeship or go on to further education.

Esma, Emma and Bella



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK & NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

The 4 – 9 March saw National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship Week. All year groups received a lesson via PSHE exploring employability skills and their own careers interests, and there were various form time activities all week. An apprentice quiz started off the activities, where students found out about famous people who began their working lives as apprentices, such as Elvis Presley, Gordon Ramsey, Eric Clapton and Sir Alex Ferguson. On Tuesday, students were asked to consider the skills involved in some specific careers and as part of our regular ‘World of Work Wednesday’ slot, students explored the role of a journalist. On Thursday students further explored employability skills using the NCW booklets they had been issued in PSHE lessons, and were encouraged to think about which skills they had used during their lessons so far. Finally, on Friday, as part of International Women’s Day, students watched a series of short films that highlighted the different roles women can be involved in internationally, including sports, charities and Camp America.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HSBC GOLDINGTON ACADEMY SCHOOL BANK

In late February, universal bankers Chloe Grix and Syed Uddin from HSBC presented assemblies to students in all year groups about their role in HSBC and our newly-launched School Bank. Students were invited not only to open current and savings accounts with HSBC, but also to apply to be involved in running the Goldington Academy branch within school.

Chloe and Syed were so impressed with the calibre of students in Years Seven to Ten (applying for the job roles of Universal Banker, Branch Manager, Record Keeper, Cashier and Meet and Greet), that they appointed two teams of staff, including making a new role of Deputy Branch Manager because it was too difficult to choose between them all! The students have a fantastic opportunity to work alongside real-life universal bankers to experience the management of a financial situation, learning skills such as communication, confidentiality and numeracy. So far, both teams have been reliable and hardworking! Well done to Aran, Maram, Heraa, Mia, Rahul, Nihal, Aqib, Issabella, Emily, Scarlett, Raahimah, Luke, James, Mateja, Maisie and Evie.

The School Bank is open every Tuesday between 8.30–9.20am when any student can visit room 18 to deposit money into their accounts, or open new accounts. Chloe and Syed then take the transactions back to HSBC to ensure all accounts are kept up to date. Application forms for new accounts can be collected from Mrs Sacre and returned to the branch in school on a Tuesday morning.

Working at the HSBC School bank is amazing. You can gain experience and professionalism from the job as you get to meet customers and help out the school community. Thank you to the two HSBC employees who are amazing and helpful in every way.

Rahul, HSBC School Bank employee

NEW BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

We are very excited to have been introduced to our new Enterprise Adviser, Bryanna Harding who is HR Lead for the UK office of Caljan (<http://caljan.com>). Peter Rayner, Enterprise Coordinator for SEMLEP, has worked hard to match us with a suitable Enterprise Adviser who will be invaluable in assisting with our journey towards meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks.

In her current role, Bryanna is responsible for implementing global HR strategy in the UK and this year is focusing on wellbeing and diversity for the UK workforce. She reports to the MD. Her previous roles have given her experience in education and in the vehicle and motorsport industry.

Bryanna will be visiting school next term to present at a Careers Café with two colleagues: Service Operations Manager and Service Coordinator. Any students who may be interested in HR, females working in a male-dominated industry or logistics, are warmly invited to sign up to the Careers Café event.

As well as assisting with events such as these, Bryanna is keen to help us with the requirement for schools to embed careers education within all curriculum areas. She will be working with me over the next few terms and will be invaluable with connecting Goldington Academy with the workplace. **Mrs Sacre**

COMMUNITY NEWS

CAREERS CAFÉ EVENTS

We have had several visitors into school to talk with students about their own careers and related marketplace opportunities since Christmas.

In February, Jack Cassidy from The Football Education Academy spoke about the prospects for students to study post-16 courses while engaging with playing football or football management.

During British Science Week, Dr Michelle Cain from the University of Oxford, spoke about her career in climate change science and shared her experiences of sampling air from a specially-adapted aircraft and her role in modelling climate change and advising the Government.

Recently we were visited by Stephen Furber from the House of Commons, who shared his career pathway from aged 16 to present day, where he is responsible for Inclusion and Diversity at the House of Commons.

Dr Lucy Smith, Senior Assurance and Delivery Lead for NHS England, spoke about her role with overseeing the Clinical Commissioning Group and liaising with the Care Quality Commission and Healthwatch, amongst other interesting roles.

We have several other visits in the pipeline for the rest of the year, which will be advertised via the daily bulletin and the careers noticeboard, as well as on our new careers platform, Grofar. If students have any particular job sectors they are keen to find out more about, they can speak with Mrs Sacre about trying to arrange something – and by filling in their Grofar profiles, students' interests in specific career sectors will be flagged up and will help with the arrangement of bespoke visits within school and outside of school.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you a parent or carer with a career that you would not mind talking to our students about? Do you have a friend or relative that would be prepared to visit school? If so, I would love to hear from you!

We have a regular lunchtime 'Careers Café' where students can listen to a short presentation from people in different sectors, finding out about their career pathway and their day-to-day work with an opportunity to ask questions.

Please make contact via careers@goldington.beds.sch.uk to volunteer, either to present at a Careers Café, or to get involved with alternative careers activities, or simply to find out more about how you can help with this vital part of our students' personal development.

Mrs Sacre
Careers Leader

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**THE BIG BANG FAIR**

When we went to The Big Bang Fair, we left school at 8.30am and arrived at the NEC at about 10:30. When we first went inside, we went to see “The National Geographical Show”. At one point they made a huge fire come out of the top of a container! Then we headed over to the food court where we ate our lunch.

After lunch, we were allowed to go off in groups of 3-6 and explore the different stalls. My friends Abigail and Lily and I went looking at the stalls; there were so many to see! The RAF and the army were there as well as many engineering and science stalls. We made a buzzer bleep using an electrical circuit, found out what careers we would be good at (I got two in the medical side, which is great as I want to be a psychologist) and Abigail even had a talk with a careers adviser about what job she could do when she is older as she was unsure. We also got a lot of freebies from the stalls!

We met back at the food court at about 2.40pm, went to the coach and by 3.00pm, we had begun our journey home. Overall, it was an amazing trip and I’ve really enjoyed going.
Sofie

REMINDER — Please can all parents/carers periodically check their child’s hair for any “unwanted guests” and treat as appropriate.
Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

CHEMISTRY ALL AROUND US

Tuesday 5 March at Bedford School

Two students share their experience:

'The chemistry trip was really fun. When we were walking up, we had many fun talks. When we got there, we had some refreshments and then we took our seats on the balcony. One of my favourite parts of the trip was when the scientists put some methane bubbles on 3 teachers' hands and then lit the bubbles on fire. It swirled around and then went out. They didn't get hurt.



At the end we watched some students make ice cream with liquid nitrogen. We ate some ice cream (of course not the nitrogen one), which was really nice.'

'Firstly, I would like to say what an experience this was! We started off with refreshments. We took a seat in the balcony area. There were so many varieties of experiments, from lighting rocket fuel to popping a selection of balloons. In my opinion, my favourite practical was the dish soap and methane mixture. This is when people dipped their hands in the mixture and set their hands on fire. The water protects their hands from burning! We were taught a selection of things, yet it was still very humorous because there were many unexpected loud bangs! When the trip finished, we had soft ice cream. Overall it was an amazing trip and I would definitely revisit and recommend it to all my friends'.

The numbers below are for services which could help you should you have any worries or concerns at any time.

Bedfordshire Police HQ (non emergency) - 01234 841212

NSPCC - 0808 800 5000 (24 hour helpline)

MASH team (safeguarding) - 01234 718700 (office hours) or ring 0300 300 8123 (out of hours).

In an immediate emergency always dial 999.

HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

YEAR NINE

Students successfully completed their food and hygiene course and gained a Level 2 certificate.



YEAR TEN

Year 10 pupils were treated to a practical demonstration by our school chef Roger. They learnt how to portion a chicken so that they can utilise all aspects of the bird. The carcass was roasted to create stock and the joints were frozen to use in future lessons.



ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Our whole school attendance percentage is currently 96.4% for the year so far. Please help us to keep up this excellent attendance average by ensuring that pupils are organised for school the night before and are only taking time off school for genuine illnesses. Please also be aware that the school cannot authorise absences for family holidays.

Our attendance targets are: **KS2 – 97%** **KS3/4 – 96%** **Whole school – 96.5%.**

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

At different times through their education, lots of children can experience challenges, struggles and difficulties with aspects of their learning such as: communication and interaction; cognition and learning; social, emotional and mental health difficulties; sensory and/or physical needs. The reasons for these difficulties are wide and complex, and each pupil is an individual.

At Goldington Academy, we support children with their learning and their social and emotional development in a number of ways.

Each pupil identified as having additional needs has a profile, which all staff have copies of. The profile contains differentiation strategies to help the child make progress at school.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's learning, please contact me at school by email or by phone. Alternatively, there is a drop in session on Fridays between 2.45 - 4 .00 pm, when parents can come and see me without an appointment.

Mr Roopnarain, SENDCo roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk

SUMMER TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 23 April		Summer Term begins
Tuesday 23 April— Friday 26 April		Assemblies from local sixth forms
Saturday 27 April		Duke of Edinburgh event (selected students)
Wednesday 1 May	7.00 pm	Parents' Forum
Thursday 2 May	6.30 pm—8.00 pm	Year Eight GCSE Options Evening
Monday 6 May		Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 May	6.30 pm	Blue Peris Information Evening
Friday 10 May		Trip to LSO St Luke's for (selected Year Seven students)
Saturday 11 May		Jump 19, Regional youth dance platform performance
Monday 13 May - Thursday 16 May		Year Six SATs We would be grateful if you could avoid arranging medical appointments or holidays during the Key Stage Two SATs week
Thursday 16 May	4.15 pm—5.15 pm	Guitar Concert
Saturday 18 May		Duke of Edinburgh event (selected students)
Monday 20 May— Wednesday 5 June		Year Ten end of year internal exams (1)
Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May 2019- Half Term		

Year 9 & 10 End of year exams

Year 10

Start: Monday 20th May 2019

End: Wednesday 5th June 2019

Year 9

Start: Thursday 6th June 2019

End: Friday 14th June 2019

Please ensure your child does not have any appointments during this time— exams are vital practice for your child and catching up may result in them missing further valuable lessons.