

# Brightside

JANUARY 2023



Dear all

As we are about to enter the weekend, I thought it would be lovely to see some fantastic things that have been happening within the school. This issue of Brightside is full of successes and articles. We have had another busy week with lots of events, visits and clubs occurring. Please make sure that you also look at our bulletin that regularly goes out, as this also contains a lot of useful information for you and the students. This week, we have had a lot of visitors from other schools who have come to talk to our staff, meet our students and observe our lessons. It is really pleasing to hear how positive their feedback was and how they view our school and the experiences that our students are having; especially as it isn't always easy to have a comparison of what is happening in other schools. This is all very reassuring for us when moving forward. I would like to thank the parents for their commitment and attendance at our different parents evenings. At the moment, we have an average of 84% attending; I hope that Year 9 parents can beat this next Thursday for their Year 9 Parents Evening!

Finally, please remember that there is a parent / carer survey that has been sent out for you to fill in. Please identify our strengths and any areas that you feel we need to focus on in the future.

Have a great weekend.

Neil Pritchard

**HEAD TEACHER**

## GEOGRAPHY - MISS LYTHER

The Year 7s have done a fantastic job with their Kenya homework this term. Here are a few examples of Maasai huts that was an activity they could choose as part of their Independent Learning Project. Well done to all KS3 students who have met their deadline successfully and for all parents who support them with this at home.



## PE - MISS BAWCUTT

Boys Table Tennis tournament at St Josephs School – Tuesday 31st January

On Tuesday 31st January we took eight pupils to a table tennis tournament at St Josephs school. The pupils who took part were Joel P, Tyler G, Luke W and Joshua P in Key Stage 3 and Charlie D, Oliver F, William S and Oliver K in Key Stage 4. All the pupils represented the school very well and were a privilege to take to the tournament. All the pupils played extremely well, with Joshua P not losing a single match in his pool. KS4 were up against some of the tougher games in their pool but demonstrated some excellent play. KS3 demonstrated good teamwork during the doubles matches and showed great resilience in their single matches. All of these pupils displayed fantastic sportsmanship and respect during the day.



## EXAMS - MRS BOTTOMS

Year 11 examinations have continued this week with our Health & Social Care cohort sitting a very long 2 hour paper on Monday afternoon. I wish them all the very best of luck with the outcome and I hope they feel as confident in this paper as they did in their trial.

## FOOD BANK - SCHOOL CHARITY REPRESENTATIVES

Before Christmas at Pewsey Vale we began the process of setting up a Foodbank to help support families in and around our local community. We were inundated with donations and were able to help multiple families over the Christmas break.

We are now looking to begin phase 2 of our plan. The foodbank is available for anyone who needs help and support and we can currently offer food, sanitary and hygiene products, baby supplies and pet food.

We decided to set up this organisation to help support our community and to reach out to those who may be struggling during these tough times.

For students to access the foodbank there will be students with green badges and lanyards on hand to help, and food can be collected at break and lunch and after the school day ends.

For parents and members of the local community seeking support, please email the school office at [admin@pewsey-vale.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@pewsey-vale.wilts.sch.uk) and we will co-ordinate with you to help in whatever way we can.

If you would like to help support the foodbank we ask for any donations for any long-lasting foods, hygiene and sanitary products and ways of transporting food such as crates, boxes or hard-wearing bags.

The foodbank will be officially up and running on the 6th of February.



## CHESS - MRS SHEPPY

Mrs Sheppy will be organising a chess tournament, to be held in the library during lunchtime. The sign-up sheets will be put up in the library for students to add their name.

Please ask Mrs Sheppy in the library for more information and dates.



## LIBRARY - MRS SHEPPY

Congratulations to the following students who have scored the most points in their quizzes for Accelerated Reader.

Yr7

- Scarlett
- Olyvia
- Ehren
- Florence

Y8

- Luke W
- Tyler G / Henry K
- Jasmine

Y9

- Xander
- Thomas B
- Connor R
- Kyman

Well done all of you.

## MUSIC - MRS DU TOIT

**Are you making, writing or creating your own music?**



Are you aged 18 or under?

Do you live in Wiltshire?

Making Beats, bands, songs, soundtracks, DJ-ing, producing, mixing or composition?

Send us one example of your music as recording, video, score or graphic representation, and tell us what would help you with your music.

Everyone who sends something in will get helpful feedback from experts in the music business.



## PTFA

Please save the date for our PTFA Quiz night being held on March 9th in the School Hall.

Doors open at 6pm, quiz will start at 6.30pm. Tickets available to buy on the door.

- Food and drink available.
- Raffle
- Competition prizes



## RADIO WILTSHIRE - AWARDS

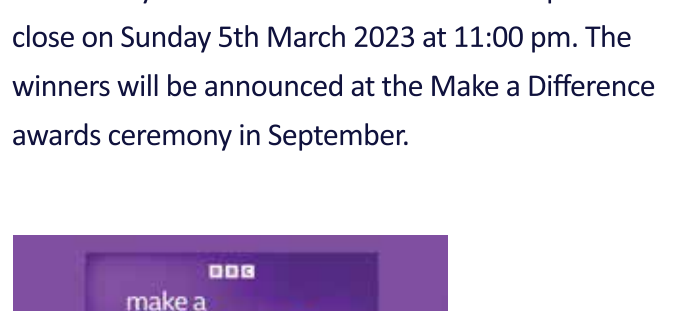
The BBC Radio Wiltshire Make a Difference Awards are back for 2023! Everyday we hear stories of people doing incredible things for each other and their communities.

These awards are a way to say "Thank You" to those who are going above and beyond. Whether it's caring for someone in need, being a brilliant neighbour, or taking on an incredible fundraising challenge – if you know someone who is making a difference in our lives then you can nominate them for an award.

Last year eight incredible winners were recognised at a ceremony at the Corn Exchange in Devizes. This year there are 8 categories you can nominate in:

- Volunteer
- Community Group
- Fundraiser
- Carer
- Great Neighbour
- Bravery
- Green Award
- Together

You can nominate someone you know at [bbc.co.uk/makeadifference](http://bbc.co.uk/makeadifference) where you can also see the full Terms and Privacy Notice. Nominations are now open and will close on Sunday 5th March 2023 at 11:00 pm. The winners will be announced at the Make a Difference awards ceremony in September.



## THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Please could we ask parents and carers that if they would like to have an appointment with a member of staff, that they book this in advance through the school office. Our staff are exceedingly busy during the school day and may not have the capacity to meet without an appointment. Many thanks for your understanding.

DECEMBER 2022



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