

Brightside

NOVEMBER 2023



Dear all,
As we return after our first break, it is nice to reflect on what we have already achieved during the first half term of the academic year. The school has been very busy, 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.

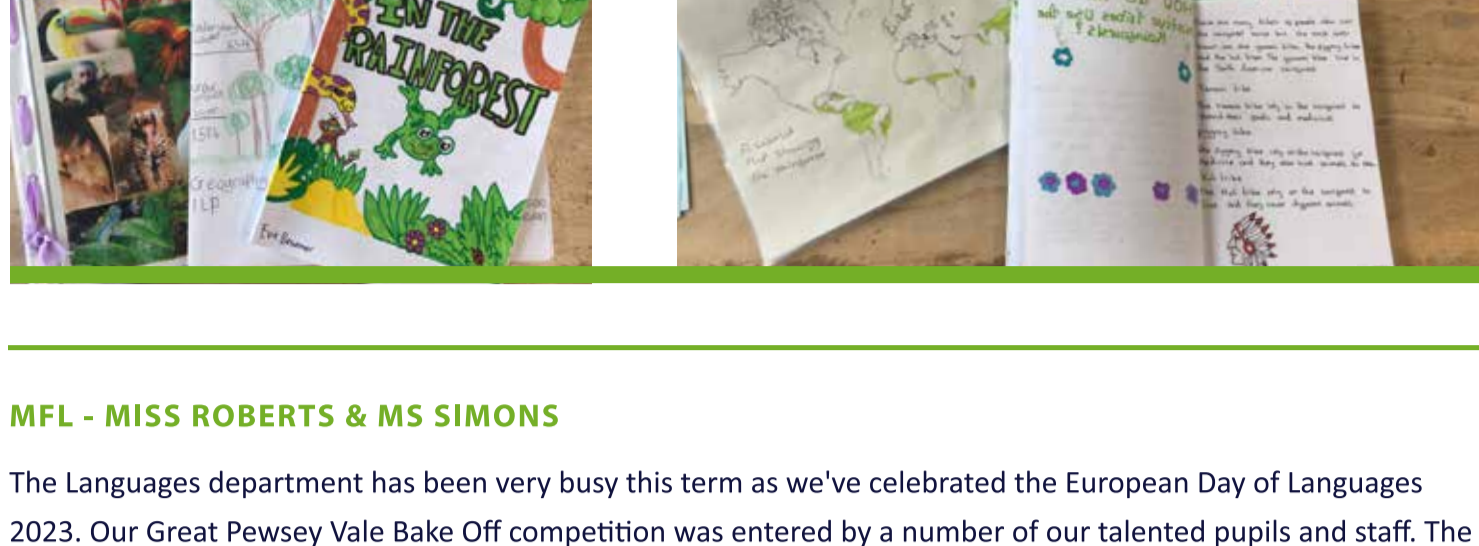
Within the Brightside you will read about the latest successes that our students and staff have had and I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of the school. Included in this issue is also information regarding opportunities the students and parents have open to them, including applying to become a Student Navigator and being a member of the Student Voice.

Enjoy reading
Neil Pritchard

HEAD TEACHER

GEOGRAPHY - MISS LYTHE

I have been very impressed with the high level of homework that the geography students have produced this term. Year 7 were studying various geographical skills, Year 8 were investigating the tropical rainforest and Year 9 were looking at geology. It is clear that a large proportion of students have invested a lot of time producing wonderful projects and exercising skills such as researching, organisation, presentation and stretching their vocabulary. A massive congratulations to all those that have done so well on this. Very proud of you.



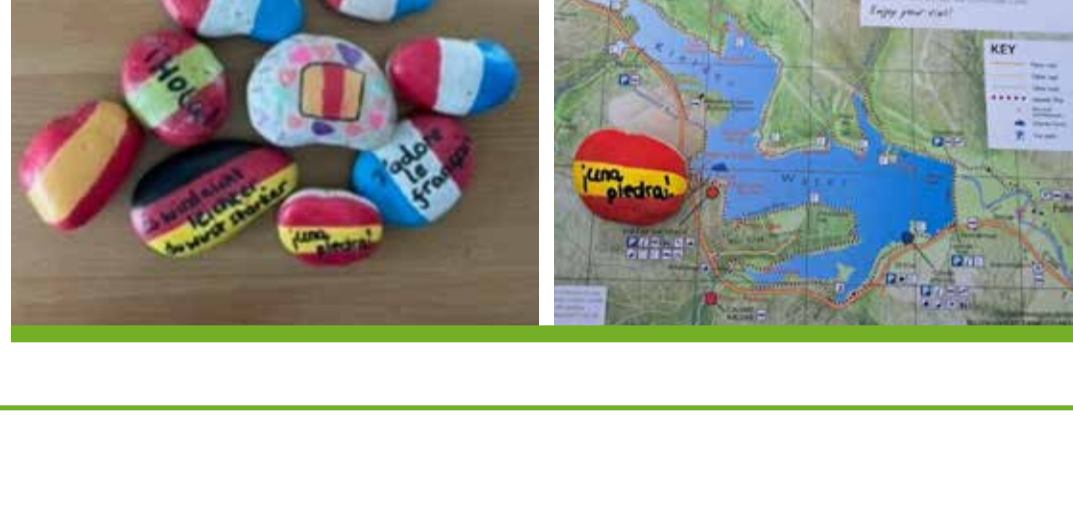
MFL - MISS ROBERTS & MS SIMONS

The Languages department has been very busy this term as we've celebrated the European Day of Languages 2023. Our Great Pewsey Vale Bake Off competition was entered by a number of our talented pupils and staff. The first prize was won by Angel S y7, 2nd prize was Courtney W y7, 3rd prize was Abigail H and prizes for Technical Excellence were awarded to Theo M y7 and Amelia R y7. As you will see, the entries were a fantastic variety of cakes with recipes and decoration that celebrates languages and culture. As a staff, we raised just over £60 for Macmillan Cancer Support; thank you to all staff who made cakes or made donations to such an important cause.



Our languages ambassadors have also been busy this term and last term. As well as being our VIP judges for the Bake Off, they have spent time designing languages stones, with messages in French, German and Spanish, and took their languages stones with them over the summer to leave them as our mfl from Pewsey Vale as they could (one has gone to America)! Whoever finds them is encouraged to send us our away from Pewsey Vale Instagram @pvsmlf - our first one to be spotted was found in Northumberland and has been re-hidden - we are excited to see where they travel to!

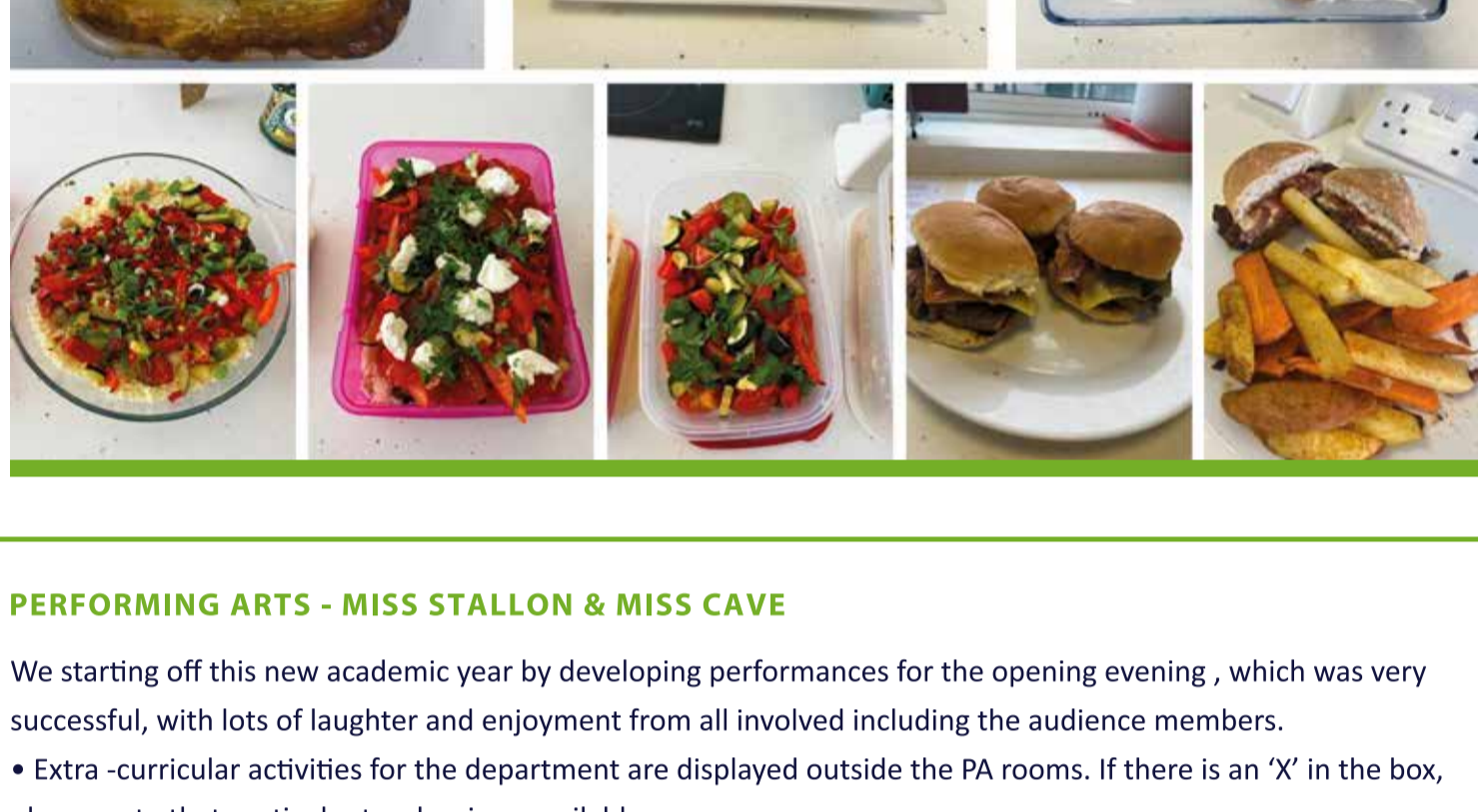
We are looking forward to lots more exciting things next term, including learning about el día de los muertos in a Spanish taster session!



FOOD TECH - MRS KEY

Term has started very well in the Food Tech department with some fantastic dishes being created by all students. Below are some great pieces made by our year 7 and year 10 students.

Well done everyone, keep up the good work.



PERFORMING ARTS - MISS STALLON & MISS CAVE

We starting off this new academic year by developing performances for the opening evening, which was very successful, with lots of laughter and enjoyment from all involved including the audience members.

- Extra-curricular activities for the department are displayed outside the PA rooms. If there is an 'X' in the box, please note that particular activity is unavailable.

Week A - Miss Cave hosts choir club on a Monday and a Wednesday lunch time.

Week B - Miss Stallon hosts performance club Tuesdays and Thursdays lunch time.

Week B - Miss Stallon will be holding a dance club on Friday lunch time, offering a variety of different dance styles. A new club, called 'Boomwhackers', which involves creating music from percussion tubes and following play-along songs, will be on offer. Students will need to register with PA staff.

- The PA department have now developed their own theatre company. The students who have joined decided to call the company: 'PVS Stallions'. Students will have ample opportunities to create and perform their own plays. At present, the company is undergoing a competition on writing their own scripts to be performed at a later date.

- Christmas talent show. Students need to sign up before October half term if they would like to participate. (Late entries maybe considered.) Prizes to be won. Judges will be involved to decide on a 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. So far we have: comedians, singers, dancers, gymnasts, impressionists, musicians, poets, actors.

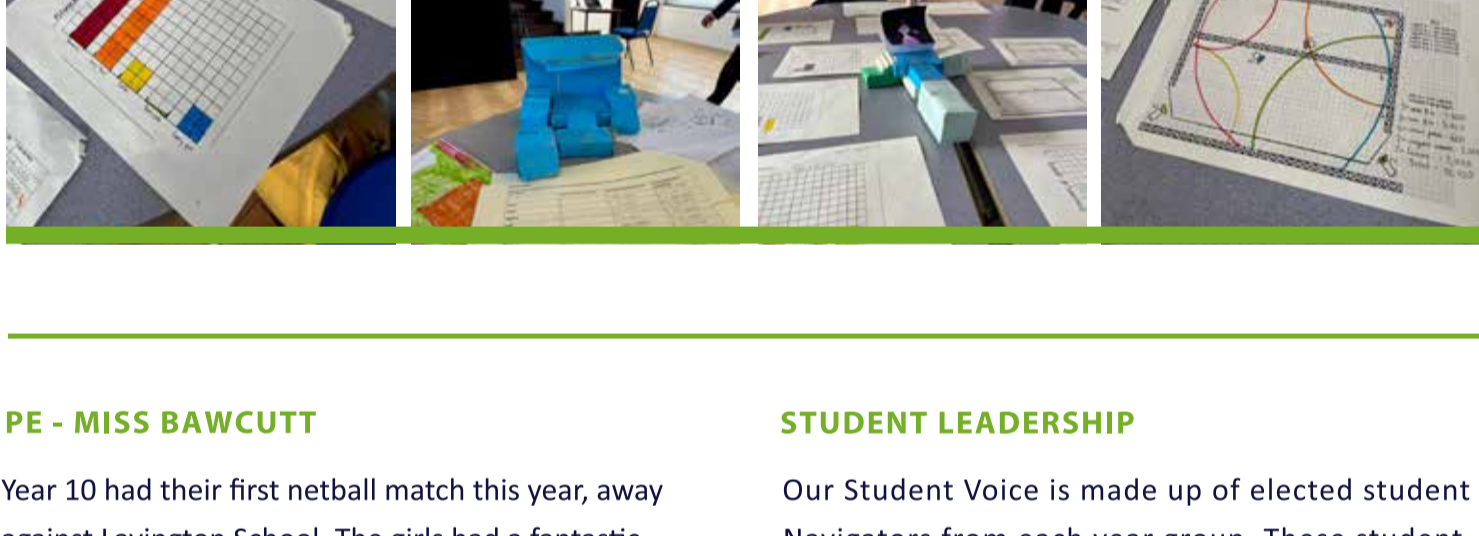
- On February 20th a theatre company will be joining us to host workshops with y8. Key Stage 3 students will be able to watch their performance of 'Metamorphosis'. This will enable students to work with outside practitioners that relate to the Arts Award.



CAREERS - MISS ARCHDALE

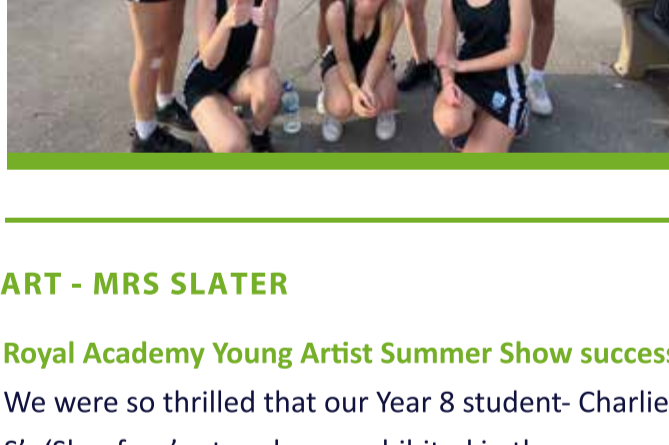
On Monday and Tuesday of the last week of term we welcomed a representative from the Talent Foundry hosting the M&G Enterprise Challenge. This maths-based workshop gives students the opportunity to act as large-scale event organisers in charge of arranging a concert for 10,000 young people.

Using maths 'by stealth', student analysed the information available to help them make informed decisions about which artists they can afford to hire for the concert and how to arrange the respective stage layouts. As well as the concert, students were also asked to consider the event's catering, staff costs, and much more!



PE - MISS BAWCUTT

Year 10 had their first netball match this year, away against Lavington School. The girls had a fantastic game, they were up in points in the 1st and 2nd quarters, then 3rd quarter Lavington caught up and we ended that quarter on 7-7, the girls tried their absolute best and were able to bring the game back last quarter to Win 10-7.!!! Well done to all the girls for working so well together and especially to Nyasha who got Player of the match.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our Student Voice is made up of elected student Navigators from each year group. These student Navigators represent the Voice of the student body and are the school's role models, working as a point of contact for students to approach with any specific issues, concerns or ideas relevant to their position ie;

- Curriculum Navigator
- Wellbeing & Enrichment Navigator
- Sports Navigator
- Creative Navigator

If your child is interested in the position of student Navigator, please request an application from The School Office.

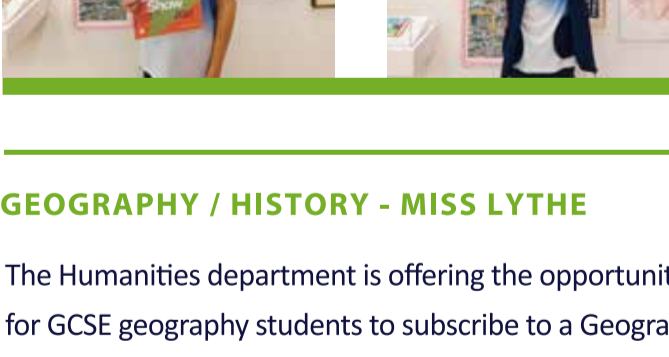
This form will outline the job description, personal qualities needed, and the application process.

You will then sit a formal interview with chosen members of the Senior Student Leadership Team.

ART - MRS SLATER

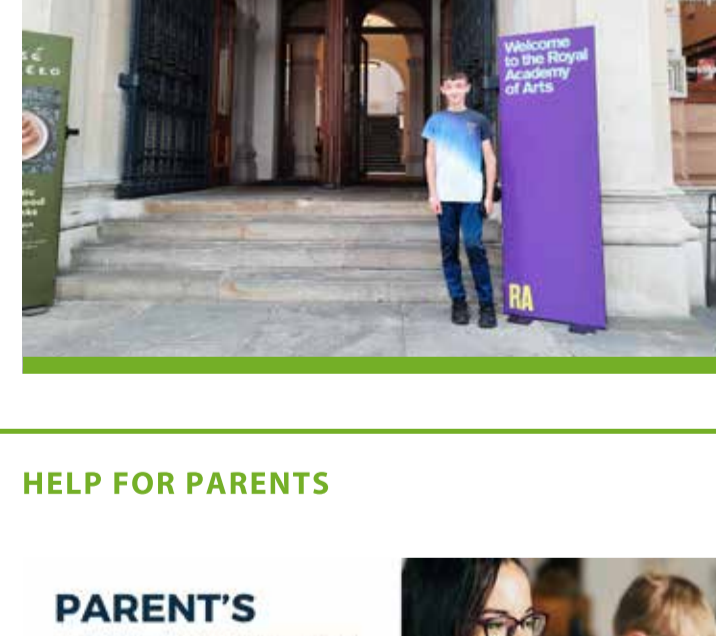
Royal Academy Young Artist Summer Show success

We were so thrilled that our Year 8 student- Charlie S's 'Shoeface' artwork was exhibited in the summer at the prestigious Royal Academy Young Artist Summer Show. With over 20,000 entries, his work was short-listed and displayed, alongside 30 other student artworks from all over the UK. Mrs Slater attended the Teacher's Private View and Charlie and his parents attended the Student Private View with the backdrop of a beautiful summer's day to also enjoy exploring the other galleries and the city.



Calne Music and Arts Festival - October 2023

Two of our Year 7 Artists- Skye-Sophia H and Ellie N chose to exhibit their work at the festival this year. Ellie N's work was bought by the gallery owner of Nova Art in Marlborough. Both artworks were admired by the public who visited the festival.



GEOGRAPHY / HISTORY - MISS LYTHE

The Humanities department is offering the opportunity for GCSE geography students to subscribe to a Geography and/or History magazine. The subscription includes 4 copies throughout the year in print - they will be delivered to the school and we will distribute them. The cost for the 4 copies is £10 per student.

This would greatly help your child with their knowledge and understanding of current affairs, their academic reading and consolidation of vocabulary. This is a snippet from the Hodder website for the geography magazine:

"Wideworld makes GCSE geography accessible for students, increasing their confidence with relevant case studies, exam advice and support to develop students' geographical skills.

Features to support students include a rich selection of case studies, topical content and articles to support independent research and the exam, helping students get to grips with fieldwork and improve their grades."

If you would like your son/daughter to receive these magazines then please bring in £10 cash/cheque/Scopay to the school office by Friday 10th November.

HELP FOR PARENTS

PARENT'S SPREADSHEET / EXCEL SKILLS

Are you a parent at a Wiltshire school? Then you can learn about Spreadsheets / Excel for free.

Fully Funded:
Cost: £0*

*Without a level 2 Maths (No GCSE C or above in Maths)

You Will Learn:

- Creating a Budget
- Calculations and Formulas
- Charts and Graphs
- Understand your Bills
- Design and Printing
- Ask the Trainer for Help

TRAINING WILL BE:

- 3 x 2 Hour Sessions
- Runs Every Month
- Online Zoom with a live tutor

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ask@skillsladder.co.uk
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Scan QR for WhatsApp
For more information call, email or WhatsApp

Department for Education | www.skillsladder.co.uk | Wiltshire Council

THE PTFA

The PTFA organised another Bags2School on Wednesday 18th October, this is always a fantastic way to get rid of any of your unwanted items and raise money for the school at the same time. This time we raised £241.50 for the school, so many thanks to all of you who brought in donations.

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.

MERCER'S LECTURES - DAUNTSEY'S SCHOOL

This year Dauntsey's School look forward to a diverse range of speakers covering; investigative journalism, broadcasting and meteorology.

Tomasz Schafernaker
Wednesday 15 November

Clare Balding
Wednesday 17 January 2024

Geoff White
Wednesday 6 March 2024

Please book online at www.dauntseys.org

All lectures are free to attend and start at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall at Dauntsey's.