



Newsletter No 13 – 4th November 2019

Welcome to the second edition of the MLP newsletter for this academic year. I hope half term was a pleasant Autumn break for families, staff and governors alike.

We've just completed an exceptionally busy and quite lengthy Term 1 in which it's been a delight for me to see children and young people settled into their learning across our academies. I feel remarkably privileged to be able to visit each school and College in the Trust on a regular basis, to talk to pupils and students in lessons and witness the great learning that is happening across Salisbury and Downton. Highlights for me from last term range from observing the very youngest and newest children filing confidently out of the hall at Bemerton as though they had been at school for a year to listening to Year 12s at S6C giving me some very enthusiastic feedback about the teaching they are receiving at the College. I've also witnessed some extraordinary Spanish lessons for Year 7 at Trafalgar, new students at Wyvern St Edmund's working well in fully mixed English classes and Year 7s at Sarum developing great Mathematical skills.

All academies are focussed very particularly on the development of the curriculum; it was a focus for our recent MLP annual conference and will continue to be a priority as we move through the year. I am very confident that the children and young people we serve in MLP will benefit hugely from the work in progress. We can look forward to seeing the impact it will make on their progress.

Finally, huge thanks to everyone involved in our MLP charity day at the start of October. We supported the STARS appeal through Spire FM's 'bring a pound to work day' and for the second year running have been the event's single largest contributor. Thanks to students, parents, staff and a very generous donation from an MLP Trustee, we raised a total of £3,400 which is absolutely

excellent. We know that all of us who have reason to make use of our local hospital will see evidence of that money being put to very good use.

Sarah Busby, CEO

Bemerton St John Primary

Football Success!

Some of our Year 5 and 6 footballers took part in a tournament at Shrewton Primary School on Friday, 18th October. Our fabulous team won 3 of their 4 matches, scored 21 goals and only conceded 4. They came away the champions feeling very proud and with a trophy to add to our cabinet. Many congratulations to you all.



Harvest Festival

Nightingales class (Year 5) at Bemerton St John put on a rip roaring Harvest Festival show this year. They had the audience singing along with energetic songs (such as 'Crazy Little Thing Called Wheat' and 'We Will Eat It') and entertained all with beautiful dancing and fantastic props. The children worked incredibly hard to write the songs and to choreograph this performance and Mr Price and Mrs Lever were very proud.

The performance also highlighted the work of the Trussel Trust for which Bemerton collects food each year. This charity runs over 420 food banks and these provide a minimum of three days' emergency food for people in crisis. Last year they gave out a record 1.6 million food bank parcels and the children of Year 5 spoke about this issue with passion. The children were so excited with the reaction that they got on the day and instantly saw the link between the huge effort that they made and the successful end product. Well done Nightingales!

Salisbury 6th Form College

EGX Video Games Expo at the ExCel

35 students from the S6C Video Games Society recently visited the annual EGX Video Games Expo at the ExCel Centre in London where they experienced triple A games that won't be released for some time. In addition, the event hosted an Indie and Leftfield area where they showcased the more experimental and independent games.

The day also featured a visit to the EGX Careers Fair where students talked to universities about computer game and coding degrees. Abertay University in Scotland specialise in video game degrees known as the best in Europe and many graduates move on to careers with companies such as Rockstar, Blitz and Sony Studios UK.



Many students also took part in the cosplay competition and attended some of the eSports and Nintendo Switch tournaments with two students getting to the top stage!

Sarum Academy

Sarum Academy Senior Prefects 2019-20

We are incredibly pleased to confirm our Senior Prefect team this year, after a series of tough interviews (tough to make a choice that was!) we are very pleased to appoint the following as senior prefects. Each prefect has been assigned a year to support and will be working with the Head of Year to mentor specific pupils along with the rest of their responsibilities:

Stina Emplassary Sony	Year 7
Chloe Yates	Year 7
Abbi Perry	Year 8
Will Thompson	Year 9
Chloe Bradley	Year 10
Sophie McIntosh	Year 11



For our Head Boys and Girls, the decision was harder again, but having demonstrated themselves as outstanding candidates and with their contributions over the last few years we are proud to announce the following appointments;

Deputy Head Girl – Millie Stanley
Deputy Head Boy – Louis Austin
Head Girl – Rebecca Wyatt
Head Boy – George Carthy

Congratulations to all!

Mr Jones – Head of Sixth Form

Stonehenge Night Photography

On Thursday, 26th September Sarum Academy photography pupils were invited to take part in a once in a lifetime opportunity of a night photography session at Stonehenge. This is a rare opportunity and not something that is normally given to pupils or the public without a high cost attached.

Working with the education officer at Stonehenge and Photographer Josh Dury, students were taught how to use cameras to capture the night sky, stars and the monument in the dark. Some incredibly detailed shots were taken and, at one point, the Milky Way was even visible.

An exhibition of the work produced will be held during Term 2.



The Trafalgar School

(IET) Faraday Challenge

This term The Trafalgar School hosted the Institution of Engineering & Technology (IET) Faraday Challenge, an all-day STEM event involving Year 8 students from Trafalgar, Wyvern, St Edmund's and Bishop Wordsworth's.

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) have been working for many years to encourage more young people to engage in the STEM agenda and to consider engineering as a possible career path.

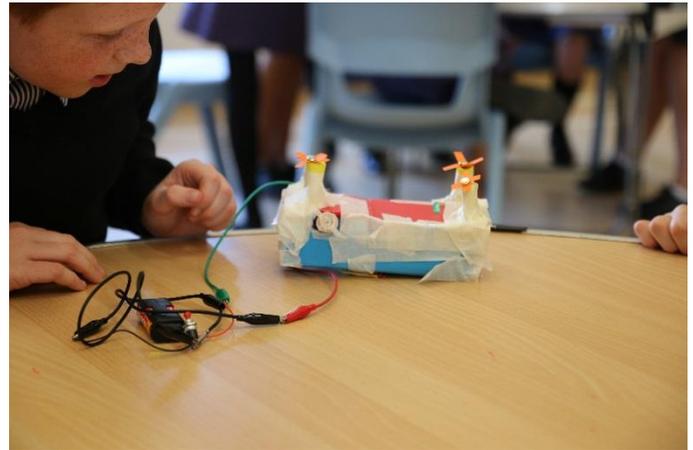
The IET Faraday Challenge Days are cross-curricular activity days covering Science, Design and Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). They are held at schools and colleges around the UK and have proved to be enormously popular with teachers and students alike.

The Faraday Challenge Days give students the opportunity to research, design and make solutions to genuinely tough engineering problems.

Three teams were entered from Trafalgar, including the winning team. Well done to Georgina, Connie, Evie, Lex, Caspar and Oliver.

The Trafalgar School currently sit top of the league table for the South West and South Wales region.

Congratulations to all that took part for trying their hardest and showing great teamwork!



Wyvern St Edmund's

The vision at Wyvern St Edmund's is that all students become the very best version of themselves possible. Of course, this means that academic success is important, but a big part of being a student at Wyvern St Edmund's is also about finding your identity and discovering your talents. As such, we place great importance on enrichment activities and making sure there is a vast range of clubs on offer.

During Term One alone, students have experienced a number of enrichment opportunities in addition to all the usual sporting and performing arts activities you would find in a good school. To name but a few: yoga, kickboxing, fencing and trampolining have been particularly popular, as have the knitting and craft clubs, and the eco group now has members from every tutor group across the school. The Ultimate Frisbee (UF) club has gone from strength to strength and Jon Usherwood (Science teacher and UF coach) has celebrated his own success competing for GB in the European Championship in Madrid and winning a Bronze medal! In addition, we have 4 girls who are currently trialing for the under 17 GB squad.

We have also had big sporting success for our students this term too:

- Year 7 boys' rugby team beat Henry Beaufort 45-5
- U14 girls' football team won their county cup match Monday 7-1 against Stonehenge
- U14's boys' football team beat Matravers School 8-1 in the Wiltshire cup
- Year 8 boys' football league fixture vs St Jo's – 7-0 win.
- Avon Valley Cross Country results: 1st places for minor boys, minor girls, and junior girls' teams.
- Year 7 boys' football team won 12-1 against St Jo's



In the performing arts enrichments, rehearsals for the big school musical, *Oliver*, have begun in earnest and Year 7 are working hard for their Performing Arts Showcases in November – every student in Year 7 will be performing as part of their tutor group choir. Preparations for the annual Carol Service at St Thomas' church are also underway, so it's a busy time for the music department! So a busy Term 1 at WSE as always, but we are all enjoying the fruits of the co-location labour and its lovely to feel like one school now with all students embracing the equal opportunities that come from being one big happy learning campus!

MLP Second Annual Conference

MLP's second annual conference brought staff, teaching and non-teaching alike together for the TD day on October 11th. One of the benefits of being a multi academy trust is that we can bring together our staff for training and are able to put on an event with the quality of keynote speakers that most staff would only access through an expensive national conference in London or somewhere similarly distant.

This year speakers David Weston and Christine Counsell, both educationalists of some national repute, provided an extremely stimulating and engaging opportunity to reflect on practice. Mike Thomas from Springfields Academy gave an excellent talk to non-teaching staff on the challenges of working with children and adults with autistic tendencies and there were opportunities for groups of staff to come together to build on good practice during the afternoon. The staff feedback from the conference was very positive and each academy has built in meeting time to allow for further development stemming from the day.

Thanks to all those involved in the planning and preparation for the conference; now the planning starts for next year!



Governance Conference

Governors' conferences take place twice a year within MLP. The past two conferences have allowed space for reflection, debate and development of the role of the Trustee or local governor. In October, we focussed on us as a Trust, coming together at S6C for an evening's session during which the Headteachers from all the academies presented a short exposition focussing on the strengths of their academy, goals for the future and a celebration of achievement. These presentations were welcomed by all those present; there was much comment afterwards about the passion, pride and commitment demonstrated by all the academy leaders in relation to the institutions they lead. Thank you to Nicola Bull, Jonathan Curtis, Louise Henderson, Alun Richards and Stewart Roderick for their contributions to a stimulating evening.

