



Buckler's Mead Academy

An Inspiring Education for All

Welcome to our Buckler's Mead Academy

Spring Term 2 Newsletter.



Last night (Tuesday 26th March) I had the pleasure of watching our Easter Concert - 'Buckler's Goes to The Movies'. Talk about finishing the term on a high! I was completely blown away by the performances of all the students involved. The musical talent we

have at Buckler's is amazing and it's great that we are now unleashing it on full house performances with all the music performed live, barely any need for backing tracks and most importantly happy young people enjoying themselves! Phenomenal!!! I continue to be chased around with students so proud of their purple cards for exceptional effort and tomorrow we will be enjoying Celebration assemblies. So yet more reasons to be excited. Our Year 11s are going strong with plenty of revision sessions scheduled for over Easter, Period 6 in full flow and lots of support to make sure they do their very best in the Summer exams. (they have just broken last year's record for number of students attending revision sessions!) Again due to our continued growth we are lucky to welcome new staff arriving after Easter, with Mr Lyall, a highly experienced Science teacher joining the team. This newsletter is full of yet more positivity, so I hope you enjoy it! Best wishes for a wonderful couple of weeks.

Mr. Lawrence

The NEW Library - reviews are in

Samuel Potten, Year 10:

During this term I and my peers have had the pleasure of being able to use our new library. It was exciting to enter and have hundreds of books at our fingertips! Myself and a few other Year 10s have been lucky enough to be library monitors as part of our Duke of Edinburgh Service Section. It has been a nice experience to work alongside Mrs Walls to keep the library a better

place for everyone. I could only recommend the library to other students.

Calvin Curwen, Year 9:

This Library is the best library in the world! My favourite books are Doctor Who - a big series. I have borrowed The Monsters Inside and The Feast of the Drowned so far.

Crystal Lye-Bagg, Year 9:

5 star review ***** for Buckler's Mead Academy library - they have all types of books. They have comics (graphic novels) and lots of other books. My favourite book is Diary of a Wimpy Kid. The best part about the library is the teacher Mrs Walls. Since I have begun at Buckler's I have enjoyed being able to come into the library and read a book.

World Book Day - Thursday 7th March

For World Book Day we had two activities in the new library - a quiz and a competition to design the best bookmark. The winner of the quiz was Crystal Lye-Bagg and the runner up was Roxeanne Jackson.

The winner of the bookmark competition was Ruby Mudd and the runners up were Jack Tinsley, Olivia Salmon, Macy Vine and Maddie Pearce. They all received chocolate eggs and their bookmarks will be laminated so they can keep them.

Mrs Walls





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Creative Writing Club

I joined this club and brought my friends along with me. Right away, we were greeted by Miss Mulvey's cheerful smile and took our seats.

In the creative writing club, you are given an opportunity to create a captivating story of your own. We let our imaginations run wild in a calm and quiet environment. For inspiration, Miss Mulvey lets us use her story cards and they are really quite fascinating. The designs really help you to rearrange and organise a story of your own.

I look forward to coming to the club at the end of the day. It's a place where you can go to sit and enjoy yourself without any unwanted interruptions. After a stressful day, it really helps to clear your head and take your mind off things.

If you ask anyone here, they'll recommend that you join. If you want to start writing, bring a pen and we'll provide the paper. I love it here!

Emily - Year 8



Sports News

Under 12 Football - Away v Huish Episcopi

The Under 12 team travelled to Huish Episcopi Academy. The weather played a huge factor in the game. The first half was dominated by Buckler's with two long distance goals from Lincoln Allen. Huish pulled a goal back just before the break which gave them the momentum starting the second half. Huish equalised early on but then Buckler's battled creating some excellent chances only stopped by some superb goalkeeping from the opposition. The game looked like it was going to end in a draw, however a long range shot was deflected, wrong footing the keeper and hitting the back of the net. An unfortunate end to what was a very tight game.

Somerset Cricket Club - Girls' Participating Initiative

Somerset Cricket Club have set up a girls' participating initiative and have asked Buckler's Mead to pilot the scheme. The scheme is running all this half term with the girls receiving weekly coaching with an added extra curricula club on a Monday. The girls were introduced to fielding this week and will be experiencing all the other key skills needed for the game. The girls were very positive after their first session and we are hoping that many may take up the sport in the summer.





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Under 15 Football - Away v Preston

The Under 15 boys went with a bare 11 due to injuries as well as non availability. The weather played a big factor in this game due to the slippery surface and wet pitch. The team created a number of good chances and set pieces which were narrowly missed or saved. Preston had a purple patch midway through the first half where they scored three quick goals, leading 3-0 at half time. The boys showed real resilience in the second half due to an early injury leaving them with 10 men for the majority of the half. The score remained 3-0 at full time which is credit to the fantastic effort the boys made in the second half.

Primary School Cross Country

Once again Buckler's Mead hosted the primary school cross country event. Over 700 students from local primary schools participated and were supported by our Year 9 Sports Leaders who showed maturity in their marshalling and provided much enthusiastic support for the runners.

Under 12 Football - Home v Westfield

A really close game with some excellent performances up and down the pitch.

We hit the bar in the first three minutes and started strongly, putting a lot of pressure on them.

The game switched and we then had to defend stoically for 10 minutes with some brilliant tackles from Roman and Tyler at the back.

In the second half we started to control the game a bit better but ended up losing a goal to a very good shot. Unfortunately they then scored a lucky second goal in some awful weather conditions.

We fought back and narrowly missed twice before they scored a header to put us 3-0 down. We fought back again and Riley scored a good goal from the edge of the

box to make it 3-1. We had a couple more good opportunities but didn't convert unfortunately.



Under 15 Football - Home v Sexey's

The Under 15 team played Sexey's School. The team dominated from the outset scoring within the first few minutes of the game. Although with some injuries, the boys played some quality football and were 8-0 eventual winners. Congratulations boys, a great result!

Under 14 Football - Away v Preston

The Under 14 team played a very strong Preston team. In the first half Preston dominated and managed to gain the lead. At half time Buckler's started to press the ball quicker and made the Preston team make quick decisions which lead to many mistakes. Although Buckler's played a much better half they were unable to come back after the first half.

Good effort boys, you never gave up!





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Under 16 Netball - Final Tournament

The Under16 girls took part in their final tournament on Thursday 29th February. There were some exciting games played in a great spirit with much enthusiasm and energy. The girls, as always, did Buckler's Mead proud with their resilience and support but were unsuccessful in qualifying for the final. Good effort girls.

Under 16 Football - Away v Preston

The Under 16 team took on Preston in the area league. Both teams at this point were unbeaten. After a shaky start Buckler's conceded a clumsy goal, however this was the boost they needed and the team equalised with a well worked move down the right and a little magic from Ollie Hughes to set up Harvey Wroe.

The second half was like a game of chess with both teams trying to outwit the other. Finally a diagonal ball reached Will Edwards who slotted home the winner making the Under 16s still unbeaten in the league.

Great game Buckler's!

Table Cricket

The Year 7 boys who have been working with Somerset Cricket Club over the last six weeks, entered the county festival at Yeovil College. They were against other schools who have also had the same initiative and were eventual county runners up after beating Westfield in the final league game.

Congratulations boys, fantastic result



Under 13 Netball - Away v Stanchester

The girls travelled to Stanchester for their first match of the season! They lost 7-4. A close game and each quarter the girls acted on feedback and progressed throughout the game, improving upon their performance. Well done Year 8s!

Under 12 Football - Home v Wadham

The Year 7 football team took on Wadham on Wednesday 6th March at Buckler's Mead. From the outset it was clear that Wadham were going to be a tough team to beat; they had clearly got players who play regularly together in the same team outside of school, plus they had a 6ft 4inch centre back! The first half went well but our boys had their backs against the wall with some strong attacks from Wadham and eventually, just before half time Wadham scored. The second half improved as the formation of the team changed, giving us a little more dominance in midfield and some goal scoring chances being created. Unfortunately this opened the door for Wadham to score two more goals with the result at the end being Buckler's Mead 0-3 Wadham. Despite being incredibly disappointed this was a great effort from the boys, well done.

The Ramadan Lectures

Esma Cretin (Year 9), Emir Sen (Year 9) and Hafeez Udin (Year 7) delivered whole-school assemblies this week to each year group, and gave their peers a theological deep dive into the Islamic holy celebration of Ramadan. Staff and students agreed it was an intellectually brilliant exploration of the cultural origins and spiritual significance of this fundamental pillar of the Muslim faith. It was a privilege to hear our young students speak so confidently, fluently and passionately.

Mr Yeates

Deputy Head



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MET Reports – The MNSP Mathematics Enhancement Tower

What does this report mean?

Current MET: 57	KS4 Target MET: 56	Top third in 11R2 [RA]	
34 MET skills secure above 52			
Number & Ratio	Algebra & Graphs	Geometry & Measure	Probability & Statistics
52 Putting fractions, decimals and percentages in order	Expand and simplify pairs of brackets	Reflect a shape on a coordinate grid and, describe a reflection using the equation of the mirror.	Identify possible outliers from a list of data, and omit them in calculating range
51 Increase or decrease an amount by a percentage and calculate simple interest	Expand and simplify expressions with multiple single brackets	Use Pythagoras' theorem to find hypotenuse or short side or check if a triangle is right-angled	Draw a scatter graph, comment on correlation and use a line of best fit to make estimates
50 Divide Fractions	Use graphs of direct or inverse proportion or solve inverse proportion problems	Calculating the area or circumference of a circle giving answers approximately or in terms of π	Define mutually exclusive and calculate the probability of either event happening
49 Add or Subtract Fractions	Write algebraic formulae from a written description	Calculate the volume of a prism or the surface area of a cuboid	Draw and read from tables and line graphs for three variable data

The Maths Team have been sending out MET reports this week to parents and students. If you have not received a report, please firstly check your spam folder and your child's Buckler's Mead Academy email account, before contacting your child's Maths teacher. The reports are generated by collecting information from recent assessments and are a great resource showing your child's strengths (highlighted in green) and weaknesses (highlighted in red).

The red links will take you to a webpage specifically designed to help your child develop their Mathematics by working on the topic they have found challenging. All pages have notes about the topic and links to CorbettMaths Videos and worksheets (scroll down to the bottom of the page). Most have a video from the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership. If your child's report has a grey coloured tile that signifies a topic that has not been assessed recently.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Maths Team.

Support for Parents from the Mental Health Support Team

As a school we are supported by the Mental Health Support Team working with students and teachers to improve everyone's mental health. As part of this provision the team also run online sessions for parents and carers.

See our Facebook page for links to how to register for the events below taking place during April and May.

M H S T
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM
In partnership with Young Somerset & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S BIG FEELINGS

Would you like to know about supporting your child's or teen's emotions?

M H S T
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM
In partnership with Young Somerset & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

SUPPORTING EXAM/TEST WELLBEING

Would you like to know about supporting your child's wellbeing through exams and tests?

M H S T
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM
In partnership with Young Somerset & Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH CHANGE & TRANSITIONS

School transitions can be challenging for children (and parents!) as they adjust to new environments, routines, and expectations.



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Year 10 Visit to Bath University

This term students of Year 10 were given the big and exciting opportunity to go to Bath University! We began our day by splitting up into groups led by student ambassadors. We were lucky enough to receive a tour as well as the opportunity to ask the ambassadors any questions that we may have had. Then we were given a presentation which explained why to go to university as well as a chance to anonymously ask questions to the group of ambassadors. My personal highlight had to be the tour around the giant and endless sporting facilities the university had to offer.

Samuel Potten

Year 10 Work Experience - Monday 13th - Friday 17th May 2024

Well done to the majority of Year 10 students who have already secured work experience placements at local employers. We are looking forward to sharing what you learn in the workplace.

If you are a local employer who could accommodate a Year 10 student for five days during this week, we are still looking for a few more placements. Please contact our Careers Coordinator, Kate Kitchen, kkitchen@bucklersmeadacademy.com for more details.

Somerset Anne Frank Youth Awards - Winner!

On 21st March, I was fortunate enough to be able to go to Wells Cathedral for the Somerset Anne Frank Youth Awards for creative writing. The organisation is a huge charity that uses Anne Frank as an inspiration to stop discrimination, prejudice and bullying through young individuals' creative writing. I had known about this organisation for a while and thought of some ideas that I would put forward, but I finally mustered up the courage and submitted an entry when Mrs Vella posted an announcement on Google Classroom stating all of the benefits that submitting an entry would have on many people. My entry was enlisted, meaning that I was going to Wells. There were 3 groups in the competition - KS2, KS3 AND KS4/5 (the 2 were put together). Every enlisted entry was given a certificate of participation and a copy of Anne's diary, and all the winners were chosen by the guest author Wafa' Tarnowska. I came first overall out of the roughly 180 entries of the competition from KS2 - KS5, winning a trophy, certificate





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and £50. This experience really taught me just how much of an impact words and literature can have on people, regardless of where you are and what you do. I am really glad with the outcome of the evening, and overall just really glad that I had at a go and did something I wouldn't have done years ago.

Ashleigh Niescierowicz, Year 8



The winning poem:

In the realm of fate, we often find dismay,
For destiny's path may lead us astray.
Yet in the depths of our soul, a glimmer of light,
We hold the power to shape our own flight.

Like a captain steering through tempestuous seas,
We navigate the currents, with courage and ease.
Though storms may arise, and waves crash upon,
We choose who we become, when all is said and done.

In the face of adversity, we stand tall
For within us resides a strength that won't fall.
With every trial, we forge a spirit anew,
Transforming our essence, like a phoenix that flew.

For life's tapestry is woven with threads of strife,
But it's in these moments we discover our life.
The choices we make, the paths we pursue,
Define who we are, and what we can do.

In the darkest of nights, when shadows surround,
We kindle a fire, a beacon profound.
With determination, we banish the gloom,
Creating a spark that will never consume.

For destiny's hand may deal us a blow,
But our character, our essence, we have control.
Through valleys of sorrow, we rise from the ground,
Embracing the challenge, with strength we have found.

In the realm of dreams, where aspirations reside,
We dare to reach higher, to let our souls glide.
With passion as our compass, we set sail,
Unleashing our talents, like a triumphant gale.

For destiny's path may be winding and long,
But our will and resolve, they make us strong.
We sculpt our own future, with hands firm and secure,
Creating a legacy that will forever endure.

So let us embrace the power we possess,
To shape our own destiny, to rise above the rest.
With hearts ablaze, and minds set alight,
We'll conquer the world, with our spirits so bright.

For in the end, it's not fate that defines,
But the choices we make, the love that combines.
We cannot control our destiny, it's true,
But who we become? Well, that's up to me and you.



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Year 9 Geography Trip to Glastonbury

On Monday 4th March the Humanities Team took Year 9 students to visit Glastonbury. They visited the Abbey and learnt about its history and also climbed the Tor to learn about grid references and to view the various areas of flooding in our locality.

The walk up the hill was very exhausting and when we got uphill it was very windy but when we got to the top of the Tor it was worth it and we looked at the grid references of the hill and then we looked at the views and at all the flooding across Somerset. Then we had lunch and did a tour of the Glastonbury Abbey where a woman dressed up told us about the history behind the buildings and kings and queens of those times, overall it was a very fun experience to enjoy.

Olivia Butcher, Year 9





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News from the Music Department

It's been a busy few months in the music department after the Winter Wonderland concert at the end of last year. Here are some of the musical activities students have participated in this term:

- The school choir performed in The Festival of a Song concert at Westlands back in February. They were the only secondary school performing, with choir ages ranging from 6-60 years old. They represented Buckler's Mead brilliantly, and Layton has written a summary of the day.
- Our Year 10 GCSE students enjoyed an interactive workshop from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at Westlands.
- Students from the GCSE cohort also played in the celebration assemblies in February, with a last minute, stunning addition by Boss in Year 7, singing Viva La Vida!
- Our Year 11 students have been finishing their compositions and performances in music, practising at break times and lunch times to ensure work is at the highest standard possible. I hope to share some of their work in a school newsletter once the work has been submitted.

If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please email me at cpowell@bucklersmeadacademy.com so that I can explain what we can offer here.

Festival of a Song - Layton Year 8

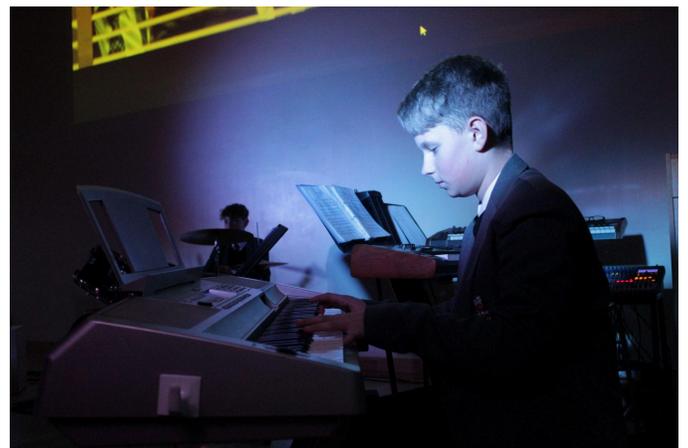
Last term, Buckler's Mead students of the choir came together, and with two laughter-filled journeys we arrived at Westlands to perform in the Festival Of A Song. It was harmony in the air as we practised our songs. Then we were escorted to our dressing room,

where we ate our food and had a laugh. In no time we were told the show would start, we were escorted to our seats as we could watch the first half. Once the first half was over, we were taken back to our dressing room and waited for our time to shine. Finally, we were escorted to the stage where we performed beautifully. The final part was to get all of the choirs on stage to perform the song 'Symphony' which created an amazing sound.



On Tuesday evening, we had our first 'themed' Spring concert, 'Buckler's Goes To The Movies'. Students from all year groups performed songs and pieces from films, and everyone performed superbly! To name a few... Our beginners band rocked a version of 'Ghostbusters', our wonderfully dedicated Riffs and Rockers band

played 'Danger Zone' from Top Gun. The school choir performed the energetic numbers 'Footloose' and 'Happy' as well as beautiful piano and vocal solos. A huge well done to all the performers, and thank you to everyone who attended to show their support. We hope you had a great time.





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What's been happening in Art this term?

Year 7 - Year 7 have been studying Aboriginal Art. They have been looking at techniques such as dot painting and how aboriginal art often contains warm and harmonious colours within their paintings. The sketchbook pages are by Raghed and Ruby Plumly.



Year 9 - Year 9 students have begun their new topic of portraits, studying the work of Chuck Close. This is an amazing artist study page by Jessica Northam:



Coming soon from the Drama Team - **Legally Blonde: The Musical Jr.**

Buckler's Mead Academy Presents...

LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical



Performance Dates:
10th & 11th July 2024

Year 8 - Year 8 are currently working on a project involving insects and repeat pattern. Year 8 have been learning colouring pencil techniques and about symmetry. To show this they have drawn the other half of a butterfly or beetle using coloured pencil and have tried to accurately copy the other side of the insect.

They have also developed their tonal drawing skills and drawn beetles.



Cast for Legally Blonde the musical Jr

- Elle Woods (Main Character)** - Lilly P and Olivia B
- Margot, Serena, and Pilar (Main signing role)** - Lacey S, Lena R, Grace H
- Kate** - Hapriya S
- Warner Huntington III** - ?
- Admission Officers** - Katie M / Ollie F
- Emmett Forrest** - Max P
- Law Students** - Glai C, Ola S, Lily-Rose A
- Vivienne Kensington** - Darcy T / Alexandra S
- Whitney** - Melissa K
- Professor Callahan** - Charlie - Ann M
- Paulette** - Tjov M
- Brooke Wyndam** - Holly R
- Dewey** - Hafeez U
- Chutney Wyndam** - Ashleigh N
- Kyle** - Jacob H
- Salon Employees** - Beth J, Maddie P, Maddie Mc, Destiny O, Emmanuella E, Ella S
- Grandmaster Chad** - Ollie F
- Featured Ensemble** - Savannah B, Maddie N, Katie M, Jasmine C, Leilanna B, James B, Lilly M, Olivia S, Emily S, Amber P