



The Weekly Word

No. 56 Friday 16 March 2018

A note from the Principal

Last night was Year 7 parents' evening and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all those families who took the opportunity to come up to school to meet their children's teachers and support them with education. There was a lovely buzz around the buttery and library. We believe that a positive relationship between school and home is just as important at secondary school as it is at the primary stage and therefore it was great to see such a high percentage of students attending with their parents/carers.



We have had a fantastic week with drop down day on Tuesday where we covered a range of topics from sex education through British Values. Drop down days are part of our PSHCEE (personal, social, health, citizenship and economic education) and SMSC (Social, moral, spiritual and cultural) programme when we cover some of the most important non-examined learning in our curriculum. Student engagement was really high all day and discussion about Brexit and British Values particularly high level. Our community is so diverse and we celebrate all of the wonderful opportunities this diversity provides.

We were also very lucky to be joined by the well renowned author Bali Rai who met Year 7 and Year 8 students to talk about his work. It certainly inspired many of our young people to think of reading in a more positive way. Immediately afterwards one young man came up to see me with one of Bali's books to say that he had been so taken with meeting him that he had gone to the library immediately to borrow a novel.

[Link to calendar](#)

I received a very welcome letter from Morrisons last week which informed me that the company has introduced a new policy about the sales of high-caffeine energy drinks to children under 16 years of age. We support the measures that Morrisons have bought in as it is becoming much clearer from recent research that children who consume high levels of caffeine are at risk of a number of serious side effects. As schools we also know that behaviour is negatively impacted after a child has consumed fizzy drinks or high energy drinks and we will continue to monitor the use of these by students on our campus. We look forward to support from you on educating our young people about the impact that these drinks can have on their health and wellbeing.

Flying Start Day

Our fabulous business students had the pleasure of attending a business conference day in Birmingham. This Flying start day is to develop key skills students need to develop in order to progress well in business studies.

It covered both key topics content and the exam paper skills which students should be using to ensure higher level answers when looking at exam paper questions.

The students had a great activity filled day and we even had comments such as:

'It is all starting to make sense as we can see real life examples in the conference to help us understand content in lessons'
another student beamed ***'this really helps me understand how to answer the long questions'***.



World Book Day author visit



"I learnt new tips to create great stories - I would love to do it again." **India**



"I really enjoyed listening to ways of making stories better."
Tirza

Award winning author Bali Rai visited school on Wednesday as part of our World Book Day celebrations. Bali says his aim has always been to write the sort of books that he and his friends (many of whom didn't read) would have loved at school.

It was a fabulous and thought provoking experience for our students, and emphasized the link between reading and success, as well as attitudes to school in general.

***"Feed your brain - read!"* Bali Rai**



"It was so interesting to see an author, and to have him teach us was even better." **Max**

"The writing session improved my writing and all our questions were answered!" **Clara**





ENGLANDGOLF

GIRLS, LEARN TO PLAY GOLF IN A FUN WAY THAT... **ROCKS!**



GIRLS GOLF **ROCKS**

FREE!
GIRLS TASTER SESSIONS

FROM: **SATURDAY 21ST APRIL**
TO SATURDAY 12TH MAY

AT THESE PLACES IN: **OXFORDSHIRE** >

- > Perfect for girls aged 5-18 years
- > No experience necessary!
- > No equipment needed, just wear comfy clothes, trainers & join in the fun

CONTACT YOUR NEAREST CLUB TO BOOK
YOUR **FREE** PLACE OR YOU CAN BOOK AT
girlsgolfrocks.org

TADMARTON HEATH GOLF CLUB

Saturday 21st April @ 2-4pm
(followed by hot chocolate and the opportunity to book onto follow on coaching)
Contact John on 01608 730047 johnstubbbs26@hotmail.co.uk

BURFORD GOLF CLUB

Sunday 29th April @ 9.30-11.30am
(followed by hot chocolate and the opportunity to book onto follow on coaching)
Contact Duncan on 01993 822683 Dpt.2
p.m.burford@gmail.com

GOTSWOLDS GOLF CLUB

Sunday 29th April @ 1-3pm
(followed by hot chocolate and the opportunity to book onto follow on coaching)
Contact Danny on 07581 097746 ongo@academy@gmail.com

KIRTLINGTON GOLF CLUB

Saturday 12th May @ 2-5pm
(followed by family fun day activity)
Contact Andy on 0800 687 2489 andy@andytaylorgolf.com

#GIRLSGOLFROCKS



sQuidShop

sQuid

We are pleased to announce that our online sQuidShop will be launching on 16th March 18.

Here, you will be able to purchase a range of items including revision guides and school ties and stationery so there's no need to bring cash or cheques into school - simply select the items you want to buy and then pay securely online with sQuid.

<http://banbury.squid-shop.co.uk>

To request another copy of your child's unique reference number email squid@banbury-aspirations.org giving your child's name and mentor group.

Drink bottles

A reminder that we are confiscating and disposing of any bottles of drink where students have pierced the lid with a compass to drink them. There is one simple reason for this: too many students use this as an opportunity to squirt the drink at others. We encourage students to drink water in lessons but they are not allowed to drink pop etc.

Keep up to date with the latest information about what's going on in school. Please follow us on [twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit the [academy website](#)

