

Tuesday 14th September 2021

## Newsletter



### Message from the Headmaster

First assembly of the term



On Friday, we hosted our first assembly in 18 months in our Great Hall

### News from the Junior School

What an amazing start to the term for the Junior School... it has been joyful and heartwarming to see all of the students returning to school and mixing with their friends once again. I am amazed how well all of the juniors have come together. Those who are new to the school have already adapted so well to the Buckswood family and those who are returning, have done such an impressive job of making everyone feel welcome. The children have been very busy getting used to the new routines... I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing about their learning adventures: microscopes and bunsen burners in science, historical events and creating timelines in History. The form 1 students have been learning to count to 10 in Spanish, French and Chinese with the form 2 students writing creative stories in English, allowing their imaginations to run wild. Miss Johnson has been very impressed with the Junior girls who started off their PE lesson this term with lots of icebreakers and fun games. The juniors all worked extremely well together and the teamwork during the lesson was excellent. The boys took part in Rugby, revising skills learned last year and to Finley's delight, 'we even did some contact'!

Next week we look forward to some mindfulness sessions during prep, adding a moment of calm to the end of the day. With this in mind, please can you send your child in with a book to read during our Dear (Drop everything and read) sessions. Perhaps consider a Roald Dahl book as this Monday is the writer's national awareness day. 'Dear' is for when the pupils have completed their prep.

#### Special mentions this week:

Top of the leaderboard for positive points this week is the junior school, well done! Star pupil form 1 is Zion with 6 points. In form 2, special mentions go to Spike for positive points and Arystan for reading beautifully in assembly. In form 3, Pauline and Axelle stand out. And finally, a big well done to all of Form 3 for achieving the most positive points overall.

#### Design a logo:

A challenge for all the budding artists in the juniors. Have a go at designing a logo for the Junior School, henceforth to be known as 'The Grange'. Think fun, think fabulous, think Buckswood!



A beautiful start to term on Tuesday, was followed by a BBQ on Wednesday

### News from the GCSE years

My name is Mrs Rodgers and I am Head of Key Stage 4 (forms 4 and 5, the GCSE years). We have very talented teachers and form teachers at Buckswood who have been assisting the students whilst they settle into this new academic year. The form 4 and 5 have worked hard and have been enjoying the beautiful campus in the sunshine.

Please contact me at [rodgers@buckswood.co.uk](mailto:rodgers@buckswood.co.uk) regarding any Key Stage 4 issues and concerns.

This academic year will pass quickly and it's vital that they start to revise and continue to revise for their exams. Form 5 mocks will start late January 2022/early February and it is imperative that the students revise hard to achieve high grades in these

For any support in this they can contact me on teams for hints and tips to achieve exam success.

Students can attend access time. They can contact their teachers on teams to arrange this.

Buckswood offer numerous subjects in IB and A Level and we continue to have an extremely high success rate on these courses leading them to successful outcomes in University.



The sun shone this weekend, there was huge amounts of activity on site

### News from the Sixth Form

Welcome to our weekly newsletter! I can say, hand on heart, that this year's *first week back* has been my favourite in the 7 years I've been part of the Buckswood family. Everyone, teachers and students alike, seem so happy to be back mixing with friends and colleagues and finally regaining some semblance of normality.

Everyone in the sixth form has settled in well and it's great to see the students working so hard in the Library. It is a bit of adjustment getting used to the independence of sixth form and balancing the responsibility and the reward of your extra privileges. The workload can be a bit of a shock but if you A level scholars manage your time and use your frees well, you shouldn't have too much to do at the end of the day. I advise at least 5 hours independent study, per subject, per week. As for our IB scholars, my advice is for you to look at every thing at a time. Focus on one of your IAs or pieces of prep and then, when your energy and inspiration peters out on that project, shift your attention to another. This has been proven to be a more effective use of time.

Year 13 have settled back into lessons and are working hard on their university applications. They are enjoying the privileges and the responsibility that comes with being able to use TJs outside of break time. It's great to see you all revising hard and focusing on your work in and out of lessons. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact myself or Mr Shaw via Teams or email.

Finally, another reason I've been excited to be back this week is to see all the positive changes around the campus. No more bubbles – fantastic news for all – and lots of exciting P7 activities for you to try. So please get stuck in. A special mention goes out to Jakob and Genevieve in the lower sixth for getting the most positive points and to Danill and Richrd in the upper sixth for the same. I was particularly chuffed to see so many sixth formers helping the first years on Friday with their bowties. You know who you are ladies and gentlemen! Finally, the attitude of all the sixth formers in Friday's assembly was, as usual, exemplary. What a wonderful bunch of young men and women you are.



Team sports are back

#### Contacts

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### Sports news

View the latest sports news here



A huge well done to former Buckswood student Stash, who represented Poland at the weekend in a 42-9 victory over Hungary. Here is he scoring a try!

### Residential Staff Information

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