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Tuesday 9th November 2021

Newsletter - Week 10

Science at Buckswood

Message from the Headmaster

I was so encouraged to see so many read with such maturity and speak with such clarity in assembly this week. I am sure that at their age I could not do this – hats off to Sean, Marc, Asham, Daniel, Magommed and Henry. This is a skill we must all practice as we will all need to be able to stand up in front of a crowd at some point and speak.

We had a wonderful weekend, the weather was kind to us as on Saturday evening we had our annual bonfire and on Sunday there were trips out to the golf club and Bluewater. I also encouraged the students to turn right out of the school gates and venture off to Winchelsea and Rye (Naturally Buckswood students are programmed to turn left most of the time (especially when they get on a plane!).

Assessments went well last week but as I say to my class sitting the assessment is just 40% of the task, the other 60% is learning from the mistakes made so that improvements can also be made. I have asked Mr Shaw to explain in more detail how the assessment system works and what the grades mean. Have a great week!

Carol service invite

Click here to view your Carol Service invite

Pick up time change - Friday only

Please be aware, to ensure we are able to provide a full assembly for our students, and reduce congestion on the front drive we need to move our evening pick up to the following times

KS3 = 1700-1715
KS4 = 1715-1730

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, but we are hopeful in the long run this will ease the disruption of recent weeks.

Academic Notices - Mr Shaw

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware, from previous correspondence, our assessment policy has had a bit of a revamp over the past few months. Following recent requests, I have attempted to explain our new approach in a more concise fashion in the document below. Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Assessment Policy

Effort Tracker

News from the Sixth Form

I'm very pleased to say that it has been another productive week for the Sixth Form this week. The trip to Surrey University on Wednesday was a big success, with several lower 6th A level student and half of the UFC upper 6th students attending. Those interested in Business had a tour of the facilities, as did those interested in Chemistry and those in Criminology. The students were most impressed.

We will be running the annual Christmas Fair this December 2nd (Covid protocols allowing), so please encourage your sons and daughters to contribute. Every year we raise money for a worthy cause - so all donations welcome, as will be organisation and help before and on the day.

This week we will be observing Armistice Day, so please feel free to message your child or talk directly with him or her regarding this important date - the end of WW1 - and the fact that it serves as a springboard to discuss other conflicts and the idea of honouring and respecting those who paved the way to democracy. The sixth formers will be selling poppies to commemorate this event, the proceeds from which will go to help those soldiers who have suffered due to conflict.

Perhaps appropriately, it is Anti Bullying week from the 15th to the 19th - and sixth formers will be going out of their way to spread - One Kind Word - which is this week's motto. we are all unique -and with this in mind, we will all be wearing odd socks to celebrate and highlight this fact.

Perhaps most importantly, the whole school has been engaging in the Cop26 talks in Glasgow, with lessons and debates focussed on this all important summit. I personally have been trying to wake up the young people in the sixth form to the perils caused by this global issue - especially for their generation. My catch phrase this week has been: 'What's more important, a pain au chocolat in TJs, or a deal on forestry backed by more than 100 world leaders?'

Not the catchiest of catch phrases but pertinent nevertheless!

Congratulation are in order to the whole of the sixth form who continue to rise up the positive points chart and especially to Jakob and Szymon in the L6th and Marianna and Yara in the U6th.

CORRELATION
U6 A-level

Some of our Sixth Form students, taking part in the senior maths challenge.

News from the GCSE years

A message from Mrs Rodgers

Mock exams

GCSE Mocks will be during the week of the 24th January 2020 with additional days for Art and graphics outside this range.

It is imperative that students are prepared for this

Christmas stocking ideas: large clear pencil case, calculator, ruler, maths set, black biros (pack), pencils and a rubber

Resources to use:

Textbooks, revision guides and workbooks: it has been proven on clinical trials that writing notes bullet pointed and colourful will improve retention

Christmas stocking idea: index cards, coloured pencils for mind mapping

Apps and websites

Resources to use:

1) Seneca learning: https://www.senecalearning.com/

This app or website will aim to reach grade 9. Be careful to select the correct exam board when choosing the subject. It both teaches and tests - its free - its excellent and interactive

2) Save my exams: https://www.savemyexams.co.uk/ a fabulous free resource

3) BBC bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3

4) Maths physics tutor: https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/

This site is equally good for A level or GCSE and covers other subjects e.g. all the sciences and geography....very good site. It has revision notes, flash cards and unit tests

5)Free science lessons - excellent you tube videos clearly explained - a must see

6) Past papers these can be found on the exam board websites. Past paper practice, note writing/index cards and regular reviewing are the key to success (exam papers can be found also on https://papers.xtremepape.rs/

7) For Languages www.languagesonline.org.uk (better for GCSE) and www.linguascope.com

More Christmas stocking ideas by Tony Buzan: Buzan's Study Skills: Mind Maps, Memory Techniques, Speed Reading and More! Or his mindmap book - fabulous

Science with a bang!

News from the Junior School

Form 3 Parents Evening

Dear all,

I hope this email finds everyone well.

We will be holding a parents' evening for **form 3** on Wednesday 17th November.

This will be held in the Great Hall, from 5:15pm until 6:45pm. We hope to see all day parents and any international parents that may be in town!

For **international parents only** – those who cannot attend and would like to know how their child is getting on in a specific subject, please find the email addresses below.

You can arrange an appointment online via teams if you wish to do so. There will also be full reports available during the Christmas holidays.

Teachers of form 3a

History: wdavies@buckswood.co.uk

Maths: jparnham@buckswood.co.uk

English: clappin@buckswood.co.uk

P.E.: girlsgames@buckswood.co.uk

Spanish: ocayuela@buckswood.co.uk

French: tseymour@buckswood.co.uk

Geography: cbarnnett@buckswood.co.uk

Science: ldepmster@buckswood.co.uk

Chinese yxu@buckswood.co.uk

Computing RFoster@buckswood.co.uk

ESOL KClaughton@buckswood.co.uk

Art: GSawers@buckswood.co.uk

Teachers of form 3b

History: JRogers@buckswood.co.uk

Maths: AUnlusan@buckswood.co.uk

English: ehusher@buckswood.co.uk

P.E.: girlsgames@buckswood.co.uk

Spanish: ocayuela@buckswood.co.uk

French: tseymour@buckswood.co.uk

Geography: rjoy@buckswood.co.uk

Science: jbreeds@buckswood.co.uk

Chinese yxu@buckswood.co.uk

Computing RFoster@buckswood.co.uk

ESOL KClaughton@buckswood.co.uk

Art: GSawers@buckswood.co.uk

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

Kind regards,

Everyone here in the Junior school has felt the week absolutely fly by! It has been filled with activities, achievements and reflection. It has been very satisfying this week to hear the children share their passions and knowledge as they chat in and around the different areas of the school. This week saw a celebration of Guy Fawkes - Bonfire Night - well done to those juniors who had a go at making one. Form 2 students had a chance to make their own fireworks in science, experimenting with magnesium iron filling, lithium, and copper salts, producing some magnificent displays!

Form 3 students had the opportunity to participate in the owl academy this week. What a fantastic workshop allowing the students to get up close and personal with nocturnal animals. They learnt about habitats, adaptions and lifestyles.

The junior boys played an away match in Dover and the girls played a netball match here at Buckswood. Well done to all involved. It is great to see so many of the students getting involved with the sporting activities and learning the importance of maintaining a healthy body and mind! All students participated in the bleep test, demonstrating fitness and endurance - in particular, well done to MInka who went past level 14! Phenomenal.

Performing arts club on a Wednesday was a big hit this week amongst the students who all had lots of fun whilst developing key skills so that one day they may be budding actors or actresses. Form 1 students have been making banana, chocolate and marshmallow treats.

As we focus on friendships and kindness, concentrating on how we can be united against bullying, students are encouraged to wear odd socks, demonstrating how we are all different and all unique! This will be celebrated on the 16th November.

Form 3 students will be visiting the science observatory on the 17th of November.

Stars of this week🌠
Minka
Sonny
Oscar
Bo
Catalina
Lauren
Isabelle

FRI, 5TH NOV
9:00 AM GMT
The Great Big Lesson
for Climate & Nature
LIVE FROM COP26!
LIVE ON YouTube
AIMHI EARTH
WORLD'S LARGEST LESSON
YOUTHTOPIA
Nature 4Climate
eden project
CAMBRIDGE ZERO

On Monday our Juniors viewed a talk on climate change, recorded live from COP26

News from the English Dept - looking back on national poetry day

'National Poetry Day 2021 was a great success and highlighted the willingness in our community to get involved and make the difference. We had a group of Form 3 students visit several classes to give their rendition of The Tyger by William Blake and we were delighted by the response of many students who were interested in developing a discussion in response. We also had readings at lunchtime from Mr Lappin, Ms Husher and Mr Field of a range of poems which delighted the assembled audience. All groups in English explored poems on the day from Shakespeare Sonnets to war poetry and on to the words of protest from Bob Dylan. We also had other subjects, notably Spanish, engage in poetry work as well. Poetry has helped us to spread the word of community and friendship and given us the ability to find our voices.

History - Field Trip write up - click below

History Trip write up

Access time

Click here to view the access time schedule

Safeguarding

It has come to our attention in the Junior school- that a number of students are watching the currently popular show, entitled "Squid Games" Please can we remind you that this is not suitable viewing material due to its violent nature. This series is rated **15+** therefore we would much appreciate your support on this.
With this in mind - could we also ask that you refer to the below link which offers great, up to date advice and information regarding age appropriate technology, video games and apps.

Thank you

Parental advice: The use of social media

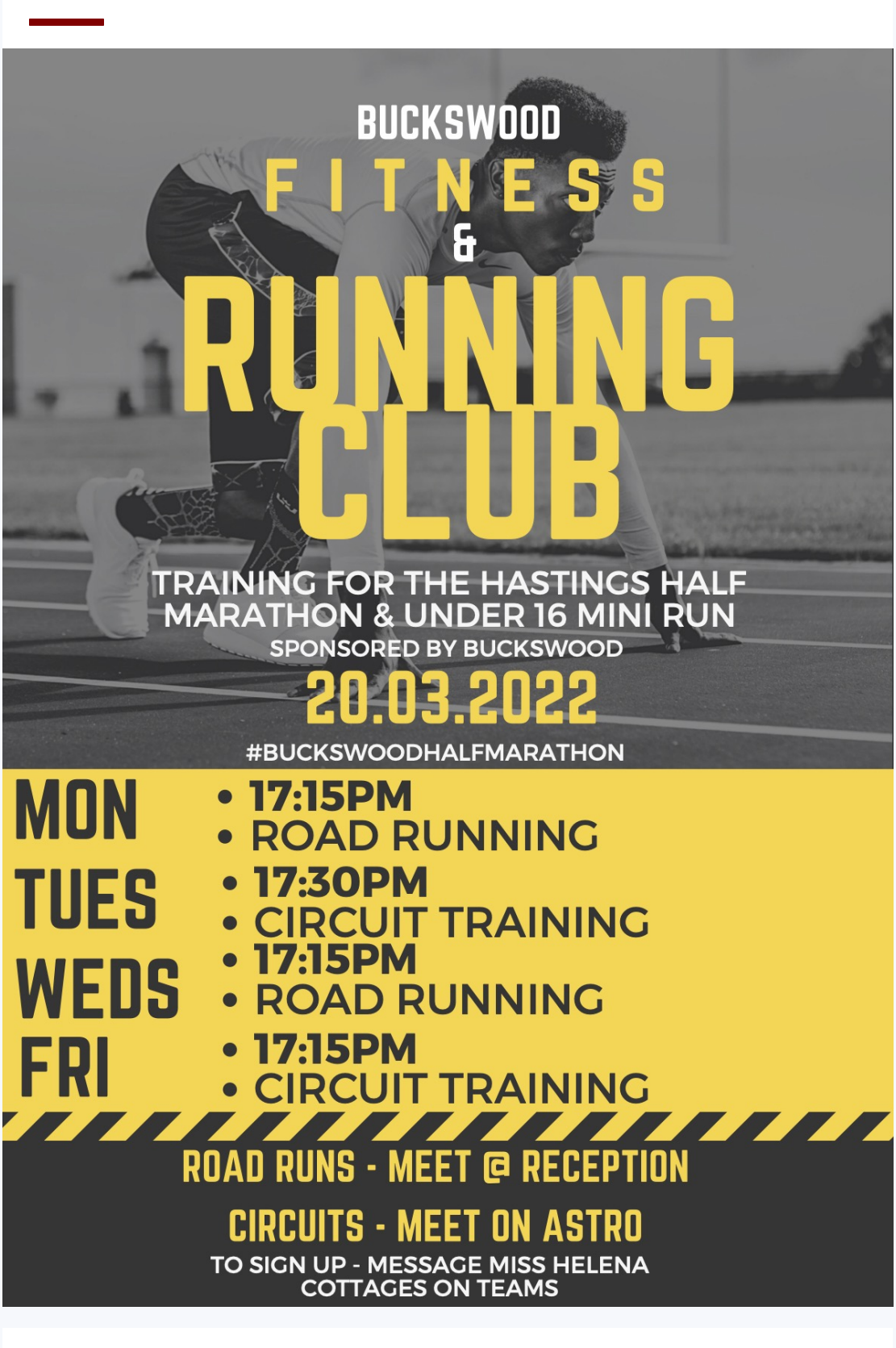
Buckswood School now has the services of a school counsellor, Anna Honeysett BAHons Msc, she is a Child and Adolescent Psychodynamic Counsellor and Psychotherapist who is available every Friday after half term at the school and will see students by appointment only. There will be a cost for this service. If you would like to make an appointment for your child to see Ms Honeysett please contact the Safeguarding Team (admin2@buckswood.co.uk) who will be happy to set this up for you. For more information on Ms Honeysett please see her website

School counsellor - website - click here

Crossword

View the latest crossword here

NEW: Running club


BUCKSWOOD
FITNESS
&
RUNNING
CLUB
TRAINING FOR THE HASTINGS HALF MARATHON & UNDER 16 MINI RUN
SPONSORED BY BUCKSWOOD
20.03.2022
#BUCKSWOODHALFMARATHON
MON • 17:15PM • ROAD RUNNING
TUES • 17:30PM • CIRCUIT TRAINING
WEDS • 17:15PM • ROAD RUNNING
FRI • 17:15PM • CIRCUIT TRAINING
ROAD RUNS - MEET @ RECEPTION
CIRCUITS - MEET ON ASTRO
TO SIGN UP - MESSAGE MISS HELENA COTTAGES ON TEAMS

Bonfire night

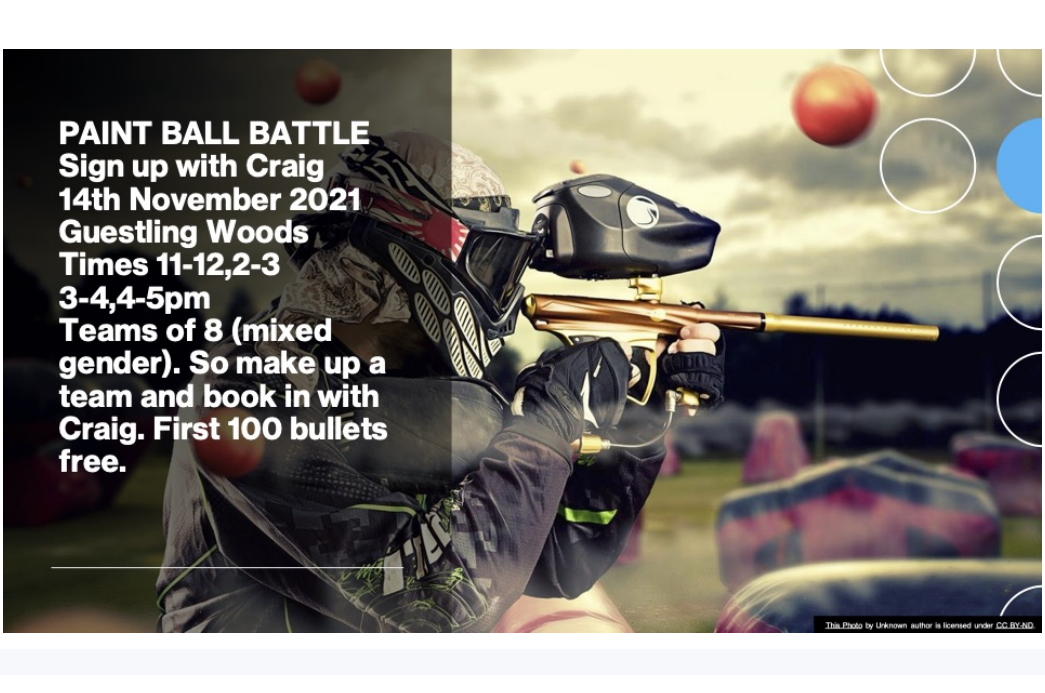
Bonfire/Guy Fawkes night

Boarding activities

Effigies for Bonfire night made by Day House
From left to right they were made by: 1)Luke 2) Ella M, Ellie H, Daisy 3) Joe 4) Ella M, Ellie H, Daisy Allison 5) Edie. Our winner was No.5 Edie by 5 points and in 2nd was Luke !

Weekend activity programme

Plan ahead: view the weekend activity programme here


PAINT BALL BATTLE
Sign up with Craig
14th November 2021
Guestling Woods
Times 11-12,2-3
3-4,4-5pm
Teams of 8 (mixed gender). So make up a team and book in with Craig. First 100 bullets free.

Continued success for Roberto

British F3 Championship - Roberto finished in 5th place with nine podium finishes.

Old Buckswoodian news

David and Edward meet up with Head of School Max in Miami.

The day to day school diary

Paintballing

The day to day digital calendar: what's happening?

Attendance

Our Attendance line is 01424 815915 if your child is going to be absence or email pa@buckswood.co.uk. Any pre-arranged absence should be requested via the absence form in the Forms Section on the school website https://www.buckswood.co.uk/permissions-forms/
If parents need to take their children out of school before the end of the school day, please sign out in Reception.

Contacts

Department contact information

Useful links

Permission forms

Curriculum plan and options - click here

Residential staff information - click here

Previous newsletters

Safeguarding & The Wellbeing Hub

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