



SBL Academy

On the Radar



sblacademy.org.uk | t: 0117 456 5900

April 2023

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers

We reach the end of another term and look forward to the end of the Easter break when our Year 11 and Year 13 students begin their exam season in earnest!

I would like to take the opportunity to wish them all the best of luck and reassure them—and yourselves—that we will do all we can to support them during this stressful period. You will be aware from the press that it appears, as I write, that there is currently no resolution to the pay and conditions dispute between teaching unions and the Government. We have taken the decision to continue to prioritise the support for our Year 11 and Year 13 students in order to help prepare them for exams. No-one in school wants there to be any disruption to the exams and preparation time students need in order to perform at their best, so we will do all we can to minimise this. I know that the disruption this action has caused families has not been easy to deal with, but thank you for your understanding and support.

We have had a very busy term, there have been plenty of activities and events for students to get involved in. Students have raised £844 for Save the Children: Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal through a cake sale and non-uniform day, we have had a visit from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, hosted a sports inclusion leadership course and sat through the high-tension of our chess tournament. Congratulations to all our students who have been involved in such events: there are more to come in Term 5 and 6 including our Science Speaks competition.

As you will be aware from my recent letter, with the expansion of our Trust, I will be taking on a new role as Director of Secondary from September. We are currently recruiting for a new Headteacher for SBL and hope to conclude this process after Easter. I will keep you informed regarding our progress.

Recently, we have been visited by a number of colleagues from our new schools who have been very impressed by our students and the great practice we have in our school.



KEY DATES

- **Friday 31 March:** last day of term 4
- **Monday 17 April:** first day of term 5
- **Tuesday 24 April:** Friday 5 May - Year 10 Languages Speaking Exams
- **Tuesday 2 May - Friday 5 May:** Year 9 internal exams
- **Wednesday 10 May:** School Community Forum
- **Friday 26 May:** last day of term 5

Part of my role will be to share our best practice and ensure that students in all our schools get the best possible opportunities and great qualifications. I am looking forward to working with a new Headteacher at SBL to ensure that the school continues to be a beacon of excellence within our locality.

We are looking forward to our upcoming transition events and welcoming our new Year 7 students for September. Our intake has grown steadily over the last four years and this year has been no different. We are currently looking to move to a nine form entry in the new intake as we have seen such a significant increase in those families choosing SBL. Following this first round of offers, we are processing a large number of appeals, many of which we are hoping to be able to offer places to. This increase demonstrates how our community view the school and our students - your children - who have been so instrumental in our improvements.

To finish, I just want to bring your attention to the Easter Revision sessions that are advertised for our Year 11 and Year 13 students: please encourage students to attend!

Have a great break and thanks for all your support.

D Anderson

Social Science at SBL

This term in Social Science students have been completing final assessments in three out of our five subject areas. Students have sat controlled assessments for Criminology in Years 12 and 13, and Health & Social Care in Year 10. Our Business Studies students have also delivered pitches, which contribute to their final grade.

Year 11 Business Students take on Dragon's Den!

This term, Year 11 Business students have been completing their business pitch presentations as part of their Enterprise and Marketing qualification. Over the year, students have been conducting extensive market research, designing a product to achieve a business brief, calculating finances and developing an eye-catching brand for promotional activities. For their final assessment, students were tasked with presenting their pitch to two business specialists to convince them of an investment for their business. Over the three days, more than 50 students presented demonstrating the range of skills they have developed over the past two years in Business including communication skills, developed confidence and business terminology.

Two students have given us an insight into their experience:

As a business student Ms Webb has taught me many new skills. One of which was how to present to a crowd of people. As part of our course we must present our pitch about our hat designs.



My pitch consisted of how we gathered market research, what we did to generate ideas about our hat, the finance behind our brand and how we are promoting our product. Once we went through this the business specialists asked us two questions to do with our pitch. Although this sounded scary at first it is an important life skill I have learnt and allowed me to grow in confidence. Now I feel that I have the ability to become a business owner or entrepreneur when I'm older and I will feel very comfortable presenting pitches in the future.

Maddie Wade, 11D Business

In the business presentation I had to present a pitch to two potential investors. To do my pitch, I had to create presentation slides with presentation notes. In addition I also had to complete two practice pitches to other people in order to help me make my presentation as best as possible. I found the experience of creating and pitching my presentation daunting but it was worth it in the end. Ms Webb was really helpful in ensuring that my pitch had all the correct aspects, by pitching her own hat design presentation to our class first to demonstrate how to be successful in the pitches. I have developed many skills whilst studying business from product research and development, to how to speak to an audience of possible investors. I have developed massively in Business, making me confident and aspiring to be a good businessman.



Ms Webb, 11B Business

The students' presentations were very professional and displayed outstanding entrepreneurship. We were all very impressed with the level of detail which was displayed and how many students overcame their nerves of presenting. I am so proud of all of these students as we come to the end of the GCSE Business course.

Ms Webb, Leader of Business and Health and Social Care

Year 13 Criminology students knuckle down to another eight hour exam

In Year 13, the Criminology controlled assessment is a minimum of eight hours long and takes place over two days. Students prepare a folder of supporting notes to take into their assessment which they use to answer long written tasks.



Continued...

Year 13 Criminology students knuckle down to another eight hour exam (cont)

Ms O'Shaughnessy asked the students about their assessments:

How did you prepare for your assessment?

"We worked our way through each assessment criteria with our teacher, creating notes on each topic in depth, as our exam allows us to take notes in."

"We researched case studies which we linked each question back to."

How did it go on the day?

"We didn't feel too nervous as we had plenty of time to create our notes and we had sat a similar exam in Year 12."

How did you feel afterwards?

"We felt relieved afterwards as the eight hours were finished and now we only have one exam left."

"We were tired afterwards though, as eight hours with no talking and only a 15 minute break is tough."

Students are now preparing for their exams as they await the results of their controlled assessments.

Ms O'Shaughnessy,
Leader of Psychology, Sociology and Criminology

Fundraising for Save the Children Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

On Friday 17th March students at SBL had a non-uniform day and cake sale to raise money for the Save The Children Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal. Non-uniform money was collected at tutor time and the cake sale at break time was a complete sell-out. In total £844 was raised for the charity. If anyone missed that chance to donate but would still like to, here is the link to the [Just Giving Page](#).



× Sir Bernard Lov...
justgiving.com

Save the Children Menu JustGiving

Sir Bernard Lovell
Academy Academy
DEC Save the Children
UK: Turkey-Syria
Earthquake Appeal

422% **£844**
raised of £200 target
by 3 supporters

Food and Nutrition Examinations

Five years of hard work has paid off for our Year 11 students this week. Some staff were lucky enough to sample some of these delicious dishes.



SBL Host Sports Inclusion Leadership Course

Last week, members of our Sports Council welcomed students from Kings Oak Academy, Warmley Park School and Claremont Special School to SBL Academy for the first of an exciting series of inclusion leadership sessions. The day was led by Tom Hadfield (Olympic Swimmer) and Kris Tavender (Warmley Park School). The session involved all of the students meeting each other for the first time, learning what inclusion means and how they can work together to lead sports activities that are fully inclusive of everyone's needs.

It was such an inspiring day and I am very proud of not only our own students but all the students who were involved. What started off as an apprehensive morning, ended in student led sports activities in mixed school groups. We are all very much looking forward to developing this course and our links with all schools who are taking part.

Well done everyone.

Mr Shiells, CTL for PE



South Glos HAF

South Glos have changed the way families can search for clubs and activities running during the school holiday. You are now able to search a [directory of HAF schemes running locally](#) by entering your postcode or location. To refine results by location, simply browse the available activities and select 'read more' for individual activity booking details.

For full information on the HAF programme and further support available to families, please visit www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF

It should be emphasised that this provision is free for those children and young people that are eligible for

benefits-related free school meals. If you have any queries that can not go directly to providers, please use the HAF@southglos.gov.uk mailbox.

For any families wishing to book onto the programmes at the leisure centres with Junior Adventures Group they will need to use the following codes:

Bradley Stoke – HAFBRADET23

Thornbury – HAFHORET23

Kingswood – HAFKINGET23

Checkmate!

It was a tense final between Cameron and Aaron, both from Year 11. Aaron was the winner! If any students are interested in the Chess Club, it runs every Monday lunchtime in the Library.



More from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Live

As reported in the March edition of On the Radar, Year 8 and Year 9 students had the opportunity to attend a live performance by members of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. The pieces performed were of music that students study at GCSE. These ranged from Mozart's Clarinet Concerto to the show-stopping, 'Defying Gravity'.

Students from attending schools had sent in small ideas which were then pieced together to create a new piece of music. Students were also given the opportunity to question the professional musicians taking part.

SBL is committed to growing music provision, both in school and through external events such as this. With an expanding range of extra-curricular musical activities on offer in school, we are keen to nurture the musical interests of our students.

If your child is interested in taking instrumental lessons, or would like to study Music at GCSE, but has not signed up for this yet, please contact Ms Harland in the Creative & Media team for further details:

fharland@sblacademy.org.uk
Miss Bennett, Music Teacher



SBL Celebration Assemblies term 4

In Term 4, the last week's assemblies were based on celebrating the successes of SBL students. Certificates and prizes were awarded to the following:

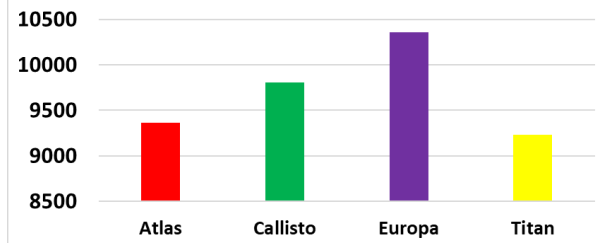
- Top tutor for Praise Points in term 4 – 7 Ca2
- 100% attendance since September 2022
- Top 5 Praise Points winner in each year group
- Top Praise Point winner in term 3 and term 4

Prizes that were awarded:

- Wireless headphones
- Wireless ear buds
- Funderworld Golden Tickets (Unlimited rides)
- SBL magnets and keyrings
- Slices of pizza for the winning tutor group

The Houses are currently battling it out in the House Winner category. Europa are in 1st place but closely followed by Callisto. Inter-House Competitions in PE in the last week of term may change the leader board. All House Praise Points are uploaded on the SBL website every Monday.

House Praise Points September to 24th March 2023



Plea for help: If any of our parents/carers feel they could offer a reward to our students from their business/company or have a contact that they think could help towards the funding of the new Praise Point Reward Scheme please contact Mrs Stephens via School Reception.

EXAM STRESS WORKSHOP



ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT EXAMS? WOULD YOU LIKE HELP MANAGING YOUR STRESS?

A 2-session exam stress workshop is being held at SBL with your Education Mental Health Practitioner, Cerri. This will be held on Monday 17th April and Monday 24th April after school in Room G22. You will learn all about stress and how to manage it. Including...

What is stress?
How stress affects us
Stress and exam performance
Relaxation techniques
Unhelpful thinking styles
Problem-solving

3:15pm -
4:30pm

Room
G22

We will also do some fun games and activities, such as creating our own 'coping cards'

Speak to Cerri, Mr Lyle or your Head of House to find out more...

BITTON CRICKET CLUB



NEW PLAYERS WANTED



Bitton CC are looking for new junior and senior players for the 2023 season. All abilities are welcome. Please contact the club on 07775774244 for more information or message us on social media.



@bittoncc



bitton cricket club

Bitton Cricket Club are also running Allstars and Dynamo programmes in May and June. Parents/carers can [sign up their children using the online form.](#)

FREE Tong Piano Duo

Join us for a piano masterclass and performance with the exciting Tong Piano Duo

Come along and watch the performance and masterclass.

OPTIONAL: Take part in the masterclass - an opportunity for your young pianist to play a short extract from a piece of music they are working on and have expert help and feedback from the Tong brothers
****This is available to pianists playing at grade 5 and above.****

To join us (and possibly take part), simply sign up here: bit.ly/tongduoapr23. Parents are encouraged to join us too.

N.B. Spaces are limited for the masterclass so sign up soon for this option.

When: **Saturday 22nd April 2023 : 10am-12noon**
at Backwell School, Station Road, North Somerset BS48 3BZ

The Tong Piano Duo will also be performing a concert on the evening of Saturday 22nd April, at St. John the Baptist Church, Church Lane, Churchill, Somerset BS26 5QW, 7:30 pm-9:30 pm.

**Tickets for the concert can be purchased by emailing holly@churchillmusic.org.uk **

For more information about Tong Piano Duo, visit tongpianoduo.com

You can contact us at musicservice@southglos.gov.uk | 01454 863147



Piano Performance & Masterclass

FREE

Tong Piano Duo

• Performance & Masterclass

• Open to all pianists at grade 5+

• 22nd April 2023
10am-12noon

To sign up visit:

bit.ly/tongduoapr23



Supported using public funding by
 Department for Education ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



bit.ly/tongduoapr23

Thinking about becoming a teacher?

At [Bath Spa University](https://www.bathspa.ac.uk) we have over 75 years' experience of training teachers and are one of the largest providers in the region, working with over 670 schools, colleges and early years settings.

Studying for a [Postgraduate Certificate in Education](https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/postgraduate) (PGCE) with QTS at Bath Spa you'll receive the perfect mix of high quality education and training, in both the University and partnership schools.

Throughout your training you'll receive personal and professional support from your Bath Spa academic tutor and a school training mentor.

Whilst studying this course, you may be eligible for a Department for Education (DfE) training bursary of up to £27,000, or scholarship of up to £29,000.

Want to find out more? Join us at one of our upcoming [Teacher Education information events](#):

- Tuesday 28th March 2023 – Bath Spa University, Newton Park Campus, Bath
- Tuesday 28th March 2023 – Mountford Manor Primary School, Swindon
- Wednesday 10th May 2023 – Bath Spa University, Newton Park Campus, Bath
- Tuesday 20th June 2023 – Bath Spa University, Newton Park campus, Bath

Book your place [here](#).

For more information about funding and teaching, visit <http://www.bathspa.ac.uk/teach>

Train to Teach with Bath Spa University



Become a teacher and change the world every day – train to teach with Bath Spa University's Initial Teacher Education (ITE) Partnership.

We believe that all children deserve the best teachers and with Bath Spa University you can become an outstanding one. We're one of the largest providers of teacher training in the region, with over 75 years of experience in the field.

All our teacher training programmes (PGCE with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)) have been rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted – the highest possible grade – so we get top marks too!

Our network of over **670 partners across the region** – provides real-world classroom experience and training as part of your programme.

Reasons to train to be a teacher with us:

- **Potential Department for Education bursaries and industry scholarships: up to £27,000 bursaries and £29,000 scholarships available for some subjects**
- **Placement at schools/settings in your region**
- **The support of an assigned academic tutor and school training mentor throughout your programme**
- **An integrated ITE curriculum that offers a mix of high quality education and training in the University and our partnership schools**
- **Our commitment to social justice and our belief that all children deserve the very best teachers, underpinned by our four core principles of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and care.**



With a PGCE with QTS from Bath Spa University's ITE partnership, you can make a difference and change someone's world – every time you step into the classroom.

Routes into Teaching

With many options for both primary and secondary teaching, you can choose your own path to becoming an outstanding teacher.

PGCE Primary and Early Years

- Early Years Initial Teacher Training (0-5)
- Primary and Early Years (3-7)
- Primary and Early Years (5-11)*
- Primary and Early Years (7-11)*

PGCE Secondary

- Secondary Art and Design
- Secondary Biology
- Secondary Business Studies
- Secondary Chemistry
- Secondary Computing
- Secondary Design and Technology
- Secondary Drama
- Secondary English
- Secondary Geography
- Secondary History
- Secondary Mathematics
- Secondary Modern Languages
- Secondary Music
- Secondary Physical Education
- Secondary Physics
- Secondary Religious Education

*This programme offers the opportunity to take a specialism in Arts, Behaviour for Learning, English, English as an Additional Language, Maths, Modern Languages, Physical Education, Science, or Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Explore our courses and book your place at one of our teacher education events to find out more:

Tuesday 28 March 2023

(Newton Park campus, Bath)

Tuesday 28 March 2023

(Mountford Manor Primary School, Swindon)

Wednesday 10 May 2023

(Newton Park campus, Bath)

Tuesday 20 June 2023

(Newton Park campus, Bath)



www.bathspa.ac.uk/teach

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