Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure you will join me in wishing our next cohort of Year 11 students and Year 13 students who will be taking their exams the best of luck. They have been working very hard in and out of lessons and staff feel they are well placed to achieve some excellent results. For those parents/carers who have children who will be sitting their exams this year, please be assured that we have a good support network in school which includes plenty of revision opportunities and additional lessons to help ensure your child feels supported over the coming weeks.

We will soon be notified by the Local Authority as to our new students for September 2020 and we have a full programme in place to ensure that the transition from Primary to Secondary goes smoothly and we are looking forward to welcoming them to SBL.

Over the next few months we can also expect a visit from OFSTED who will inspect the standards within the Academy. Our last inspection was February 2018, where you may remember that we came out of Special Measures and it was recognised that we were significantly improving the Academy and our standard of education. We know that this improvement has continued and we are looking forward to their visit so that we are able to demonstrate the quality of education in this school and how brilliant our students are. There have been significant strides forward in terms of behaviour, standards and examination results and in the attendance of our students which now sits consistently above 95.5%; well above the national average.

In order to help us secure a GOOD grading, you as parents/carers of our students can support us in a variety of ways. This will include continuing to ensure your children attend punctually and come fully prepared for school with correct equipment and in the right uniform. We will notify you as to the date of inspection as we only get a call in the afternoon of the day before they attend. At that point I will also ask you to contribute to the parent view online in order to demonstrate your support for the school.

I would like to wish all at the Academy a successful term and again the best of luck to our Year 11 and Year 13 students.

D Anderson
Principal

Key dates

5 March: Year 8 Parents’ Evening
6th March: Years 9 and 10 Girls’ visit to Wiltshire College
10th March: Year 12 visit to UCAS Fair, UWE
10th March: SEN Parents’ Evening
10th March: Year 11 visit to Cardiff New Theatre
11th March: Year 11 GCSE PE Athletics to Yate
12th March: Year 10 Parents’ Evening
13th March: Years 7, 8 and 9 Author Event
13th—15th March: Year 12 A Level Geography visit to Devon
18th March: Year 9 visit to Cricket Pavilion, Bristol
24th March: School Community forum meeting
26th March: Years 12 and 13 Parents’ Evening
27th March: Year 10 visit to Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, Bristol
27th March: Years 8 and 9 vaccinations
3rd April: Last day of term 4
20th April: First day of term 5

Student Absence

If you need to request an absence for your child other than for a medical appointment, please complete the Absence Request Form on the school website and return it to us.
The Public Services Parliament Trip

On 28 January 2020, a group of shivering Year 12 students from SBL and Wellsway gathered in the freezing dark at 5.45am for our Public Services trip to Parliament. Armed with pillows, blankets and snacks, we embarked on an epic coach journey to Westminster. The sun rose as we headed up the M4 and we arrived in London to find it gleaming off the skyscrapers in the City and the murky waters of the Thames. With minutes to spare, we passed the MI5 building, made famous by the Bond films, and pulled up a few yards from Westminster Abbey, where the royal family are baptised, wed and buried.

The weather was bright and beautiful but very chilly as we made our way to the Education Centre in Victoria Gardens and waited to pass through the layers of security that protect the Palace of Westminster. Inside, we met our guides and split into two groups for our grand tour of Parliament – a very grand tour which started at the Sovereign’s Entrance, walking in the footsteps of the Queen. We followed the route she takes on the Opening of Parliament, through the Robing Room to the House of Lords, a small, highly ornate chamber with red velvet benches and a vast gold throne.

Beyond the Lords, in the towering Central Lobby, lined with statues of kings, queens and famous prime ministers, we watched the House of Commons being swept for bombs and threats before it opened for the first session at midday. We were not able to go in due to the security sweep, which was conducted by officials in traditional uniforms and modern armed police, but we saw the green benches where the MPs sit and the Speaker’s Chair at the far end. We also saw a number of MPs, Lords, journalists and guests passing to and fro on the business of Parliament.

Our tour ended in Westminster Hall, which is the oldest part of Parliament. It is a large and draughty stone space that was first used by the Norman kings over 900 years ago. Today, it is used as a public entrance to the Palace of Westminster, and a place to welcome distinguished visitors such as Nelson Mandela, whose visit is commemorated by a brass plaque. Our groups rejoined for photographs and the next stage of our tour – a debating workshop in our own mini-Commons, with a Speaker and two opposing political parties who put forward powerful arguments for and against the death penalty, accompanied by the traditional parliamentary boos and cheers from either side. Our students were fantastic throughout the trip and participated brilliantly in the workshop activities.
Extra-curricular school clubs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extra-curricular club</th>
<th>Who to see</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Year group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chess and Scrabble</td>
<td>Ms Deady and Ms Murray</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Years 7-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science of Sustainability (SoS)</td>
<td>Mr Davda</td>
<td>M13</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Years 7-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debating society / politics Club</td>
<td>Mr Hill</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Years 7-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookclub</td>
<td>Ms Murray</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Years 7-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chefs Club</td>
<td>Miss Munns</td>
<td>M35</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Years 8 &amp; 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles (additional support/)</td>
<td>Miss Shand</td>
<td>M51</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Years 10 &amp; 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musicals Club</td>
<td>Miss Lowes</td>
<td>G18</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>All Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Carers</td>
<td>Miss Connor</td>
<td>G30</td>
<td>Monday Tutor Time</td>
<td>All Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTQ</td>
<td>Mrs Morris and Miss Lowes</td>
<td>G18</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>All Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Attenborough Club</td>
<td>Mrs Myers and Mr Jones</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Thursdays week B</td>
<td>All Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>Mr Lyle and Miss Harland</td>
<td>M93</td>
<td>Wed and Fri Lunchtime</td>
<td>All years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyber discovery Club/Computer Club</td>
<td>Miss Way</td>
<td>M53</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>All years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Ms Thomson</td>
<td>M22</td>
<td>Monday Lunchtime</td>
<td>KS3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Club</td>
<td>Mrs Johnson</td>
<td>M37</td>
<td>Tues/Thurs week A</td>
<td>Years 8 and 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Nurse Information

The school health nurse for SBL is Alli Fry who runs a confidential drop-in clinic for young people every Wednesday lunchtime (no appointment is needed). These sessions can be useful for seeking advice and support around many issues including mental health, emotional wellbeing, healthy relationships, sexual health and healthy lifestyles. Parents are able to contact the school nursing service for advice and information on 01454 862202.
Year 7 Mid-Year Exams

There will be formal, whole year group exams for Year 7 as follows in the week commencing 11th May:

Maths:
The Year 7 test will cover all material taught since the beginning of Year 7, as per the Personalised Learning Checklists on our website.

English:
The Year 7 exam will consist of two sections:
Section A: A vocabulary test on words learned from September
Section B: A piece of narrative writing (the opening of a story)

The exam will take place over two lessons.

Football

Our football teams have all had promising starts to the season this school year with 3 of our 4 year groups expected to advance through to the quarter finals of their leagues.

The boys have all displayed a first class attitude in both their training and matches, showing great team spirit and commitment in everything they do!

A brilliant showcase for the footballing talent here at SBL Academy.

Mr Laverick
Dance

20 year 7-9 students performed at the FOYD show at Abbeywood School on 11th February 2020. The performances were a mix of dance, cheerleading and gymnastics. This consisted of a whole group dance which was performed to 4 minutes of music by Justin Timberlake and Madonna, followed by the year 9 dance that was performed to a remix of Seven Nation Army. The students performed amazingly in both dances and were superb ambassadors of Sir Bernard Lovell Academy. Well done!

Miss Bateman and Miss Way

Ski Trip

30 excited students (and staff) left for Artesina, Italy to ski over the February half term and what a fabulous trip this was. Once we got past a very rocky ferry journey, we arrived to sunshine and snowy pistes. It was great to see so many students push themselves outside of their comfort zones and brave levels of skiing that they had not previously, with some taking on black runs. We were lucky to experience night skiing at Prato Nevoso and had lots of fun bum-boarding, not to mention a little retail therapy. We would like to thank all of the students who attended the trip and all parents/carers - you all made this a wonderful week.

Mr Shiells, Miss Harriott and Miss Bateman.
### Zest SBL Menu Feb 2020 – May 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Course Choices</strong></td>
<td>Lamb and Mint Stew with dumpling (HM) Or Mac ‘n’ cheese (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Katsu Chicken Curry (HM) Or Veggie Mince Lasagne (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Farm Assured Roast Pork with apple sauce Or Vegetable Lentil Loaf (V)</td>
<td>Spanish Chicken (HM)(GF)(DF) Or Spinach and cheese Cannelloni (HM) (V)</td>
<td>Golden MSC Fish Fingers Or Cheesy Scotch Egg (V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Side Dishes</strong></td>
<td>Mashed Potatoes and Peas or Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Rice and Naan Bread or Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Cabbage and Allergen Free Gravy</td>
<td>Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn or Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Chipped Potatoes and Baked Beans or Peas or Seasonal Salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dessert of the Day</strong></td>
<td>Chocolate Sponge With Chocolate Sauce (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Cornflake Tart (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Toffee Pudding (HM)(V) with Ice Cream</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit Salad</td>
<td>Chocolate and Mandarin Mousse (V)(HM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Course Choices</strong></td>
<td>Creamy Ham Pasta Bake Or Mixed beans in a rich tomato sauce served on a homemade sourdough bread (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Savoury Mince Beef and Onion Pie Or Vegetable Fajita (V)</td>
<td>Farm Assured Roast Chicken with Stuffing Or Quorn Sausages x 2 (V)</td>
<td>Cider braised pork with apple Or Bombay Spiced Vegetable Bhaji with mint yoghurt (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Battered Cod Or Vegetable Burger (HM)(V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Side Dishes</strong></td>
<td>Herby Diced Potatoes and seasonal salad</td>
<td>Sauté potatoes, garden peas or seasonal salad</td>
<td>Roast Potatoes, Broccoli, Carrots and Allergen Free Gravy</td>
<td>Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans or Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Chipped Potatoes and Baked Beans or Sweetcorn or Seasonal Salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dessert of the Day</strong></td>
<td>Fruit Crumble with custard (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Fruit Jelly Pot (HM)</td>
<td>Chocolate Chip Shortbread</td>
<td>Lemon Sponge</td>
<td>Raspberry and White Chocolate Cookie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Course Choices</strong></td>
<td>Chicken Curry (HM) Or Fragrant Vegetable Tagine with Cous Cous (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Pork Meatballs and Pasta Or Vegetable Chilli Nachos (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Farm Assured Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding Or Roasted Quorn Fillet</td>
<td>Beef Chilli tortilla ‘lasagne’ Or Pitta Pizza Pocket (HM)(V)</td>
<td>Fish Cakes Or Sweet Potato Curry (HM)(V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Side Dishes</strong></td>
<td>Vegetable Pilau Rice Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Roast Potatoes, Carrots and Red Cabbage Allergen Free Gravy</td>
<td>Braised Rice and sweetcorn or Seasonal Salad</td>
<td>Chipped Potatoes and Baked Beans or Peas or Seasonal Salad</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Grab ‘n’ Go available daily**
- Street Heat Pots, Sandwiches, Baguettes, Jacket Potatoes and Salad pots
Accelerated Reader

SBL Academy is proud to now be an Accelerated Reader (AR) School. All Year 7 students and a number of Year 8 and 9s are enrolled on the program for this academic year. We believe that with our commitment to the scheme and your support at home we will see vast improvements in our students’ reading and academic achievement. Letters will be sent out to parents explaining the scheme in full.

Students were excited to learn their book levels and take a book of their choice for the half term holiday. We have also bought a range of fantastic new books for the library, to ensure that students at all reading levels have a good selection to choose from.

Chris Bradford Author Event for Years 7, 8 and 9

We’re delighted to welcome Chris Bradford, the Top Ten bestselling author of the BODYGUARD and YOUNG SAMURAI series, for an exciting event on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Chris Bradford is a trained martial artist and qualified bodyguard, has won over 30 book awards, and his book The Way of the Warrior was voted one of Puffin’s 70 Best Ever Books! To find out more about Chris, visit his website: [www.chrisbradford.co.uk](http://www.chrisbradford.co.uk)

Books will be available to buy on the day and Chris will sign them. Letters with pre-order forms will be sent out to parents later this week, but if you would like to order online, you can do so here: [https://chris-bradford.square.site/s/shop](https://chris-bradford.square.site/s/shop)
World Book Day: Thursday 5th March

There are activities to celebrate World Book Day today in the library including a character hunt and literary quiz. Students will also receive their World Book Day £1 token (years 7 to 11) which were distributed during tutor time. These can be used towards the cost of any book worth £2.99 and above or exchanged for one of the special World Book Day books in participating bookshops, and some supermarkets. Have a look at the list of books.

You can also get involved in World Book Day at home by signing up to Share a Million Stories. Research shows that sharing stories together has long-lasting effects on a child’s future and being read to is critical in igniting enthusiasm for reading. However sharing books at home drops drastically once children become independent readers. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator for success in life, more than family circumstances, educational background, or income. Therefore, as part of celebrations, the charity behind the biggest celebration of books and reading is calling on the nation to get involved in an unprecedented mass super-share – and SHARE A MILLION STORIES. This will take place between 27 February and 29 March and aims to spread the love of books and reading for pleasure.

To read more and/or register please go to the World Book Day website.

For more news and events from the library, follow @SBLLibrary on Twitter

Mrs Richards is currently reading Only Mostly Devastated by Sophie Gonzales
The Meadows Primary School, Bitton and Opera Boots Present Puss In Boots

Puss in Boots - a fairy tale opera - composed by César Cui

Monday 9th March 2020  6.30pm
The Space Keynsham
Tickets £7.50 and £5.00 plus booking fee
Online at: keynshamtickets.cloudvenue.co.uk