

# Summer Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As always, the last weeks of term have been busy with trips, activities and end of year exams. This week, staff and students have enjoyed enrichment week, with fantastic trips to; the battlefields of Belgium and France, Playbox Theatre in Warwick, Silverstone, Cheddar Gorge, University of Gloucestershire, Oxford and the Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions. School has also been a hive of activity with creative, cookery and sporting activities - something for everyone!



It has been wonderful to see so many local and global companies, including those in Bourton, who have made it possible for students in Year 10 and 12 to gain work experience this week too.

After their examinations, Year 13 and Year 11 enjoyed their leavers' dinners. We are proud of you all and wish you every success. Looking ahead, a reminder to parents, carers and students in Years 11 and 13 that examinations results will be published on 17 August (A level) and 24 August (GCSE).

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who have worked tirelessly throughout the year raising money for the school. I am extremely grateful to all of the volunteers that have given their time to help, and to the whole school and local community who have supported school events throughout the year.

I am looking forward to welcoming new staff in September. The end of term is also when we say 'Thank You' and 'Best Wishes' to departing staff.

As a school, we have so much to be proud of as you will read over the next few pages.

Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing you in September.

**Will Morgan, Headteacher**

# Students visit the House of Lords

The Bishop of Gloucester, the Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, has worked with The Cotswold School over several years to discuss a range of issues with students as part of the project 'Liedentity', which is led by Bishop Rachel. The project helps people discuss the issues around social media and self-esteem.

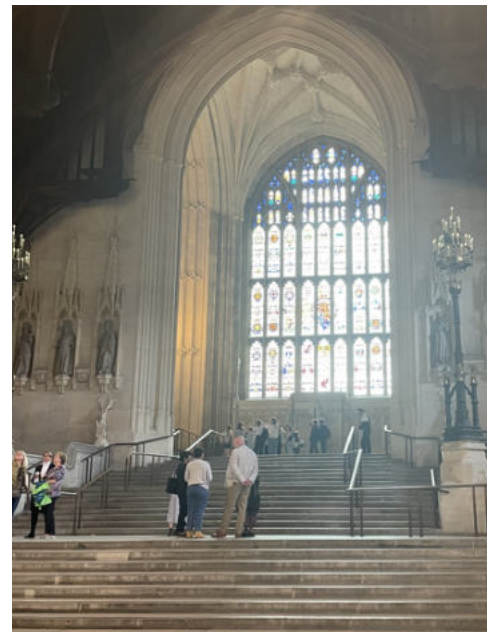
We were therefore delighted and privileged to be invited by Bishop Rachel to attend the House of Lords for an event to raise awareness of body image anxiety in young people.

Mr Morgan and Mrs Carter, accompanied, Oliver (Y7), Arthur (Y8), Deeo (Y9), Florence (Y10) and Orla (Y12) to Westminster.

**Pupils** from The Cotswold School and All Saints Academy joined Bishop Rachel in the River Room at the House of Lords, where they heard from Phillipa Dietrichs who delivered the latest data and information about body image and mental health, how social media impacts these and the key issues that people face today. Bishop Rachel also interviewed Baroness Kidron who wants to see the voices of young people coming through the Online Safety Bill, and Dr Luke Evans who advocates honesty online and asked companies to continue to pledge not to digitally alter images.

**Students** were given the opportunity to speak to Bishop Rachel about their views and experiences of social media and how changes can be made for the better. They spoke about their support for backing stronger online regulations ahead of scrutiny of the Online Safety Bill which was heard in the House of Lords. Bishop Rachel is calling for stronger age verifications online.

Speaking about their day at Westminster Mrs Carter said, *"What an experience for our students – they all spoke with such openness and maturity. It's clear from listening to them that they want us to do more to keep them safe from online harm. We are grateful to Bishop Rachel for the opportunity, enabling students to have their voices heard directly with policy makers and parliament."*



# Language Leaders

In June, The Cotswold School welcomed 110 Year 4s, their teachers and support staff, for a Languages Day. Over the course of the morning, pupils took part in a carousel of activities linked to European languages and their culture. Activities were run and taught by our Year 9 Language Leaders and Year 11 and 12 linguists.

Speaking about the Language Leaders Award, Mrs Adams, EAL Coordinator said,

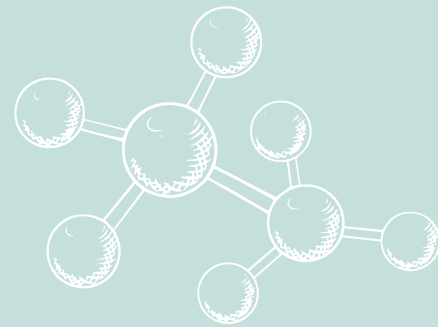
"The Language Leader Award is a fantastic opportunity for those pupils who have a love of languages and are interested in working with younger children. After attending weekly sessions to understand the basics of teaching languages, they work collaboratively to plan and prepare short lessons in the language of their choice which they deliver at our local primary school. In addition, they host over 100 local primary aged pupils here at The Cotswold School at the Year 4 Language Day, delivering language lessons they've planned and leading them in a range of other cultural activities. As well as improving their language skills and learning how to teach; taking part in the Language Leaders Award allows the pupils to develop their communication, confidence, time management, initiative, IT skills and resilience. They're taken out of their comfort zone and given the skills and confidence to learn how to cope and thrive. The growth I've seen in all of the pupils involved has been inspirational. It's been a privilege to work with them!"



"I took the language leaders course since it gave the opportunity to teach rather than be taught for once, which is something rarely covered in school. Furthermore, I enjoyed the social aspects with the children, and how it encouraged speaking in a way that at first felt out of my comfort zone, but that I soon began understanding. I learned various things about how children learn, and can now relate this to my teachers, and notice the ways in which they structure lessons." Gilly (Y9)

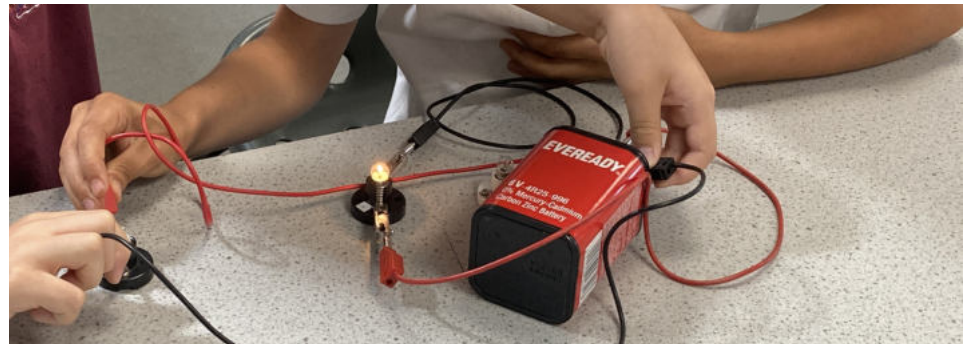
"I did language leaders because I wanted to push myself and build my confidence. I chose it as a DoJE activity so I wouldn't give up on it and have a reward at the end. I enjoyed how I was doing something productive and good for the world - teaching a new generation! I am also getting much more confident in myself and in speaking to lots of people - which can be nerve wracking and embarrassing. I also learnt the French that I was teaching off by heart - and I don't think I will easily forget it. It was a lot of work but, in the end, it was a really fun and exciting experience." Max (Y9)

# STEM



## Primary STEM Day

40 Year 5 pupils from Bourton-on-the-Water Primary and Northleach CoFE Primary took part in a fun STEM day at The Cotswold School, with pupils tasked with making a model house that used solar power! The children built series and parallel electric circuits and playdoh circuits; made a solar powered house; and worked out areas and the amount of paint needed to paint a house! With thanks to The Ogden Trust for supporting our Cotswold partnership to promote physics and science across all key stages.



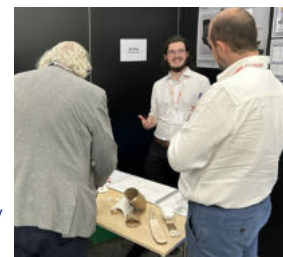
## RIAT on the Road 2023 Space Engineering Challenge

Following their 'RIAT on the Road 2023 Space Engineering Challenge' in April, Year 9 students Jemima, Malin, Noah S, Noah H and Tommy travelled to the finals at RIAT 2023. The Challenge kept students busy all day, with everyone involved and contributing in different ways. Although the team did not win, it was a great experience for everyone and great to see them work together on the challenge.



## Joel reaches finals of TDI Challenge

Well done to Joel Wood, one of our outgoing Year 13 Product Design students, who reached the finals of the Technology, Design and Innovation (TDI) Challenge 2023. From an initial field of 50 entries, Joel made it to the final 10, with the finals held at Yamazaki Mazak European Head Offices, Worcester. Joel was up against a range of very imaginative and clever designs, his own project was a medical aid for 'drop foot'. Although Joel didn't win overall, he can be very proud of his achievements. It was a great experience and will bode well for his future.



*"Joel congratulations on a really good project. You have shown good research and approach to the problem. This is a very real problem that you have given a potential solution. It was good to see that you have considered improvements to your work." Judges comment.*

To read more, visit our **Latest News** section on the website.

# History



## Dominic Sandbrook visit

We were privileged to welcome local historian, author, columnist and TV presenter Dominic Sandbrook into school today to talk to our Year 8s about his 'Adventures in Time' series.

## Guiting Power archaeological dig

On 13 July, 90 Year 7 and 8 students were given the opportunity to visit an archaeological dig in Guiting Power. Students took part in an investigation into the site of a medieval manor house, where they spent time digging in trenches and sorting finds. The visit was great opportunity to experience some local history in a 'hands on' way, outside of the classroom. Thanks go to the Guiting Manor Amenity Trust and Historic England for enabling this trip.



## Holocaust Educational Trust Programme and Historical Association Great Debate

Maya and Amelia (Y12) visited the Holocaust Educational Trust Programme, exploring the historical sites of Auschwitz.

Maya, alongside Orla (Y12), took to the stage at the Historical Association Great Debate in Bristol, arguing the question "Why does history matter?"

Both fabulous experiences for our Year 12 historians.

"It was quite a broad question that allowed me to use complete creative freedom and expression to talk passionately about politics and discrimination along with technological and medical advancements throughout human history. Speaking in front of academics, teachers and students was a nerve-racking experience, however, I simultaneously enjoyed it due to the questions that scholars asked me after the speech. It forced me to analyse my own viewpoint on the history I discussed. I relished in hearing many different perspectives of the question being answered by many different students, which was fascinating to witness how other students approached the question. Overall, my time participating in the Historical Great Debate was extremely useful for me, as someone who desires to go into a degree of history and politics at university. The debate threw me out of my comfort zone academically and challenged me to think like a historian." Maya (Y12)

# Drama



The Drama Department took their fabulous play, 'Strangers Like Me' by Ed Harris, to the festival in April, receiving amazing comments about our incredible talented cast and crew. Jamie Mather and David Kirk had two hours to programme all our cues for the production while the cast had minimal time on a smaller stage to rehearse. As always, we were super proud of their achievements as a company. The students also participated in several workshops from professional artists such as Beat Box,

physical theatre, stage combat, as well as having the opportunity to watch other companies and schools perform in the festival. The weekend was truly a wonderful exploration of what students can do and how talented and super our students are.

We finished off this year with a production party with a chance to watch a recording of the play and celebrate with Jamie Mathers 80's disco.

Our next production is High School Musical, coming to you in February 2024 - look out for tickets pre-Christmas.

Have a wonderful summer!

## Mrs Roberts, Head of Drama



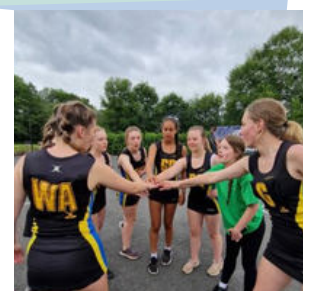
# A year of sporting achievements



Our teams and individuals have had some fantastic sporting achievements this year. To keep up to date with the latest sports news visit our **website** or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Proud of something you've achieved?  
Got an interest or hobby to share?  
Email:  
[marketing@thecotswoldschool.co.uk](mailto:marketing@thecotswoldschool.co.uk)



# Sports Day 2023



Well done to all of the students that participated in Sports Day, and to Poseidon who were the overall winners. A big thank you to staff and the students who helped run the events.



## Sports Day House league table

- 1st Poseidon 263
- 2nd Apollo 245
- 3rd Artemis 225
- 4th Zeus 179

## Well done to our new record holders

- Y8 Girls Javelin - Lotte Wahlen
- Y10 Boys Javelin - Harry Walker
- Y8 Boys 100m Relay - Poseidon - Red Fletcher, Freddie Fleet, Harry Fleet and Josh Prout

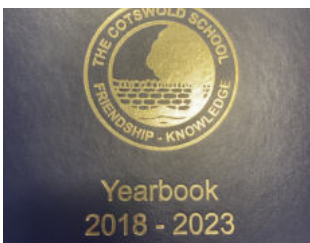
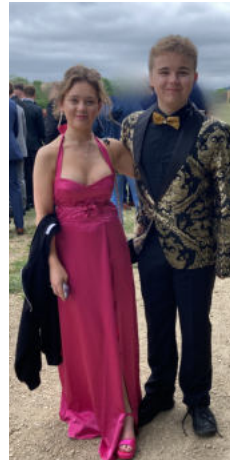




# Year 11 Leavers



Celebrating five years of friendship and knowledge at The Cotswold School, we said goodbye to our Year 11s with year books, tutor 'tug of war' and a fantastic Year 11 leavers' dinner at the Doubletree Hilton in Cheltenham.



Mr White, Head of Sixth Form, is looking forward to seeing many of you again the Sixth Form. Along with other members of staff, he will be at school to support you on Thursday 24 August - we look forward to seeing you then.

# Year 13 Leavers

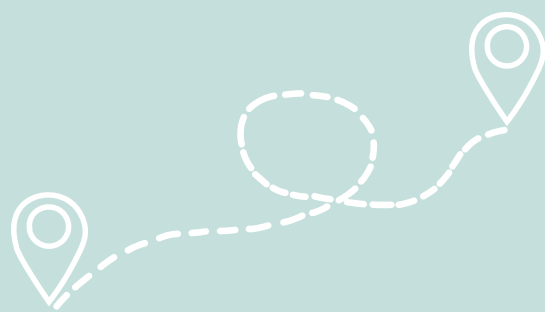


Breakfast, speeches, entertainment, fancy dress, year books and Leavers Dinner - Year 13 Leavers 2023! We wish you all every success for your futures. Thank you to you all for being brilliant members of The Cotswold School.



We look forward to seeing you all on results day, 17 August. We would love you to join our Alumni Network so that we can stay in touch with you.  
[marketing@thecotswoldschool.co.uk](mailto:marketing@thecotswoldschool.co.uk)

# Trips and Activities



We have been very fortunate to welcome a variety of visitors to school and to have enjoyed many external trips and activities. To view our upcoming trips, please view our **Trips Overview**.



Condover Hall



Guiting Power archaeological dig



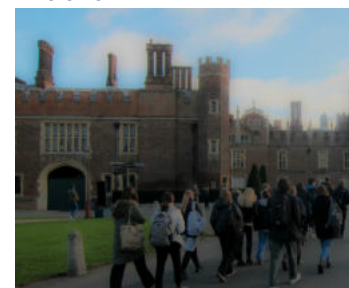
Birdland



Barcelona



STEMworks and Lockheed Martin



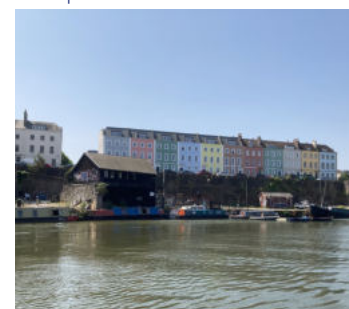
Hampton Court Palace



DofE expeditions



WW1 Battlefields



Geography field trip



Year 9 careers education talk



House of Lords

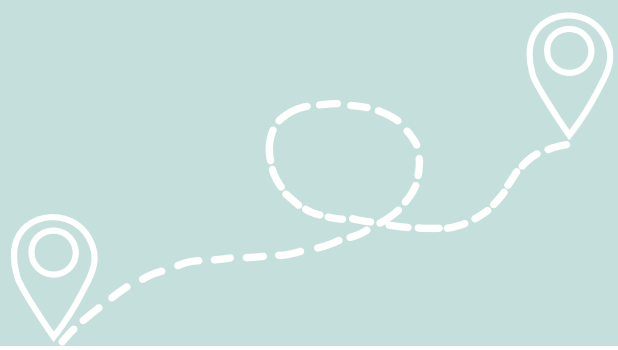


Rhineland

Thank you to all staff who accompanied these trips, enabling our students to have these valuable life and learning experiences.

To find out more, visit the **Latest News** section on our website.

# Trips and Activities



## Walking, fossil hunting, swimming.....

Pupils took part in a number of activities during their four night residential to Somerset; walking up to Dunkery Beacon on Exmoor, swimming in the sea and in Butlins swimming pool, taking a steam train journey on The West Somerset Railway, fossil hunting on the beach, watching live shows and taking part in team building exercises. The pupils were a credit to the school and were praised on numerous occasions for their outstanding behaviour by members of the public and Butlins staff.

Mr Powles said, *"the trip was one of the best he had ever been on, with pupils and staff making life memories."*

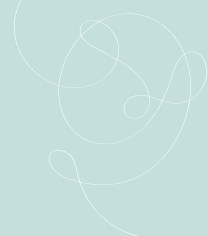
A huge thank you to all the staff who accompanied the trip and to Notgrove Trust and North Cotswold Rotary for supporting the trip.



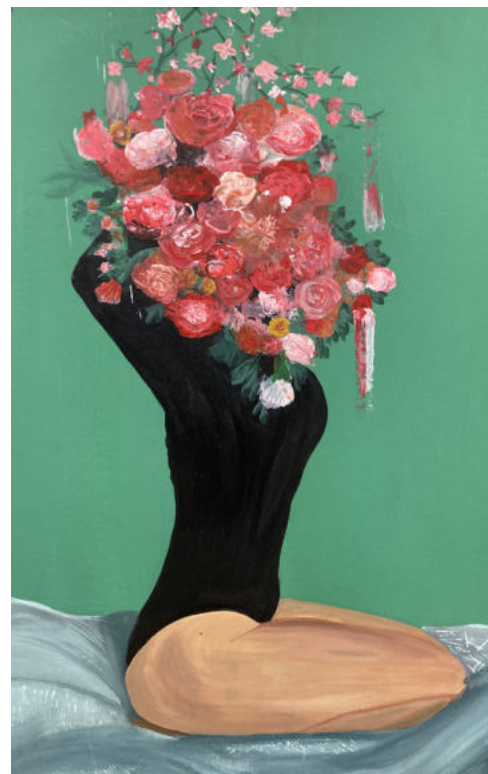
## Working with Nature

A group of students from The Cotswold School have been involved in a fantastic rural skills outreach programme, learning newfound skills. To learn more [click here](#).





A roundup of just a few of the amazing pieces produced by students across the school.



# Gardening Club



A massive thank you to Gardening Club for filling our school with colour!



# The Cotswold School PTA

There is a make of car that sums up the Car Boot Sale on Sunday - Triumph! The sun shone and we had a very friendly family day with bargains galore.

The PTA collected entrance fees and parking fees and sold hot dogs and cold drinks, totalling £1,310.24 on the day. Prepaid bookings on ParentMail were £180, add to that £800 sponsorship from Harrison Hardie and we've made £2,290.24.

After conversation with Harrison Hardie I'm pleased to confirm that they will continue sponsorship of The Cotswold School Car Boot Sale next year (second Sunday in July). The advertising they provide makes a huge difference, as well as their cash contribution.

All of this means the PTA now pledges £20k to the Astro Turf fund. We have also given a further £5k this year to various departments; digital cameras for Media Studies, gardening, iMac for the Drama Dept, DofE licences and equipment. We still have reserves for further bids that might come in before next term.

In June 2022, the PTA gave £3.7K towards the new canopy. In 2022, we gave £10K to the Aird Library and £7.6K to various departmental bids including; mobile kitchen, art printing press, CPR manikins, robotics, Drama department drapes, OS Maps, and DofE expenses.

Since Covid, the PTA will have contributed £46.3K to The Cotswold School. None of it would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of all our volunteers. Our main fundraiser is carparking on the field, but all of our events and initiatives count: 500 Club, Chastleton Teas, Car Boot Sale, Quiz Night, Bingo Night, Xmas Wreath-making, Xmas Raffle. They are all really enjoyable, social occasions - and probably wouldn't work without the legendary PTA Bar!

Now we need an injection of new volunteers. The PTA is a registered Charity and requires the appointment of a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Melanie Darwent, our incredible and longstanding Treasurer, retires this term. Mrs Grant is standing down from bar duties and has already found replacements. A new Treasurer and Chairperson will need to be elected at the AGM, to be held in November. Quinn Craughwell remains as Secretary.

**If you feel you can help, please come to the next PTA meeting on September 12 at 7.00pm.**

With best wishes and heartfelt thanks to all our supporters and volunteers for helping to ensure The Cotswold School is the best.

**Chris Bowen (Chair)**

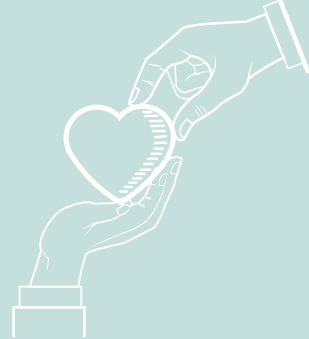


Can you bake and sell? Can you spare a couple of hours to help on car parking duties?

If you can spare an hour or two next year, please email the PTA.

**[PTA@thecotswoldschool.co.uk](mailto:PTA@thecotswoldschool.co.uk)**

# Astro Fundraising



The Cotswold School is often at the heart of village events - our sporting facilities benefit the local community and are used every day, seven days of the week, by many local clubs. As you will already be aware, we are raising money towards replacing the Astro turf, ensuring our pitch is fit for purpose and remains accessible to all. We have been overwhelmed with the initial response, with the purchase of 1m<sup>2</sup> Astro squares and money raised through activities and events. If you would like to help, please visit our [website](#), or contact Mrs Tye [mtye@thecotswoldschool.co.uk](mailto:mtye@thecotswoldschool.co.uk) for more information.

Thank you to everyone for your support so far, it is very much appreciated.

## Astro Fundraising

Now in its 18th year of a typical 10-12 year life-span, the Astro carpet is in need of replacing.

## Tender

We went out to tender for a contractor to undertake the replacement of the Astro. SIS Pitches appointed.

## On Target

Working together, we can meet our target of replacing the Astro over Summer 2024.



## Sponsorship Launch

- Grant supports
- Corporate sponsorship
- Astro squares
- Crowd funding

## Raising Funds

Over £100k raised or pledged so far, but we still have a way to go!

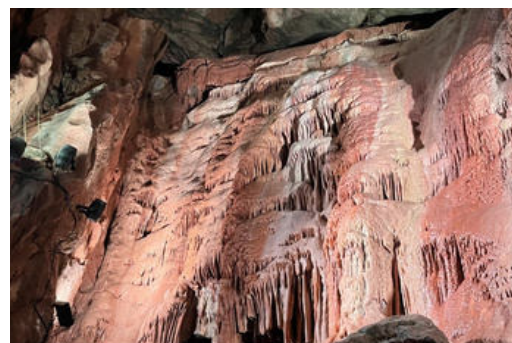




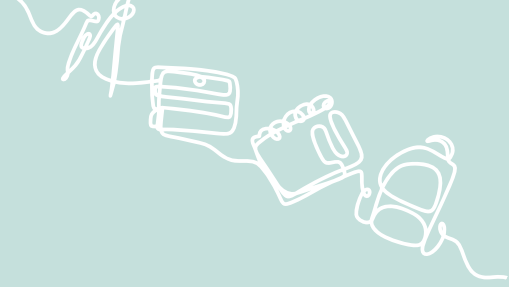
# Enrichment Week



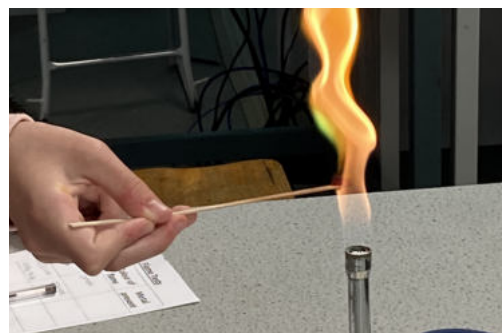
The final week of the summer term was packed with enrichment activities and work experience.



# Year 6 and Year 11 Induction



We were delighted to welcome Year 6 children who are starting with us in September. A busy and fun day, including; meeting tutors, drama, science, dance and making new friends. We hope you enjoyed your time with us too. See you on 5 September!



The two-day induction for Year 11 students who are going into Sixth Form was packed with learning, creativity and team work!

# Open Days and Evenings



## Open Mornings and Open Evening

Come and see what makes us outstanding, see our school in action, try out practical subjects and meet our staff and students.

If your child is moving up to secondary school in 2024 or 2025, or you know of someone who is, come along to one of our Open Mornings on 26/27 September/ 5 October and to our Open Evening 5 October.

Please visit our [website](#) to find out more and to register your attendance. We look forward to seeing you.

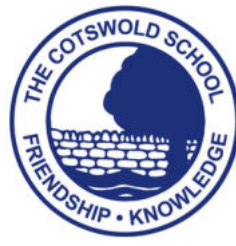


## Sixth Form Open Evening

For those in Year 11 and thinking ahead to post-16 study, look out for details of our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 9 November from 6.30 pm.

We are incredibly proud of the many roles and destinations that our students pursue and, each year, many Year 13 students head to prestigious universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, to study subjects such as medicine, languages, art, law, geography, history and criminology. An increasing number also opt for degree apprenticeships and apprenticeship qualifications, such as in engineering. Come along and find out more about what our Sixth Form has to offer, meet current students, the Sixth Form's leaders and subject teachers.





# See you in September

## Dates to Remember

17 August	A level results
24 August	GCSE results
4 September	Inset day, staff only
5 September	Inset day, staff and Year 7 and Year 12 (new starters to The Cotswold School) only
6 September	<b>All pupils return</b> Year 7 Welcome Evening
12 September	Year 12 Welcome Evening
13 September	Year 10 Launch Evening
21 September	The Cotswold School Awards evening
<b>26,27 September</b>	<b>Open Mornings, Year 5 and 6 families</b>
28 - 29 September	Year 7 Residential
5 October	<b>Open Morning and Evening, Year 5 and 6 families</b>
10 October	Year 7 virtual tutor evening
12 October	Year 11 Parents Evening
19 October	Year 13 Parents Evening
26/27 October	Inset day, staff only
30-3 November	Half term holiday
<b>9 November</b>	<b>Sixth Form Open Evening</b>

Click here for our [online calendar](#).

### The Cotswold School

The Avenue, Bourton on the Water, Gloucestershire, GL54 2BD

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