

THE COTSWOLD SCHOOL

Issue 5 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to walk round school and observe the extra-curricular activity going on. One of the highlights this week was The Cotswold School Fashion Show, organised by Miss Springthorpe. I was really impressed by the creativity, it was special an evening which highlighted the high quality of creative talent that we have at school. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank students for their positive behaviour during the past couple of weeks. I am especially proud of our Year 11s who are working hard towards their GCSE mocks - their dedication and diligence towards their learning is to be admired. Please do remember to balance your revision with rest and exercise.

It was also great to see so many Year 11s and their families at our recent Sixth Form Open Evening, there was a real buzz around departments. Applications for September 2024 are now open on our website.

Finally, well done to everyone who has taken part in sports matches recently. There have been some excellent matches played, with great wins from our Year 7 and 10 Rugby teams and Year 7 Hockey. There are too many team and individual highlights to mention - you can read all of our Match Reports on our website.

As always, thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support.

Best wishes,

Will Morgan
Headteacher

News

Year 11 students visit Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University



Mrs Newby recently took a Year 11 Aspire trip to our link college at Oxford University, Lady Margaret Hall. Their Outreach Officer ran two fantastic sessions in the morning, providing key information about applying to Oxford and dispelling myths around the process and experience in general. Students were then able to take part in an academic taster session which gave them a flavour of the tutorial system with a philosophical debate.

During the afternoon, the group were delighted to welcome three Cotswold School alumni: George, Lucy and Tori, who are currently at various stages of their degrees in Oxford.

They spoke about their path from The Cotswold School to Oxford and gave invaluable advice to our current Year 11s. This was followed by an informal Q&A before heading back to school, where we heard, in the words of one of the students, "I feel inspired now."

Year 9 historians learn about life in the trenches

Last week the History department ran a video conferencing session with the National Archives called 'All Pals Together', sharing an hour in the life of a soldier from a Pals Battalion, Private Henry Fairhurst (played by a professional actor), as he spoke about his experience of life in the trenches. 'Was it really all mud and blood in the trenches, or did Private Fairhurst see some benefits in what he was doing?'

Sessions led up to Remembrance Day, enriching Year 9 learning of WW1 and considering why we remember.



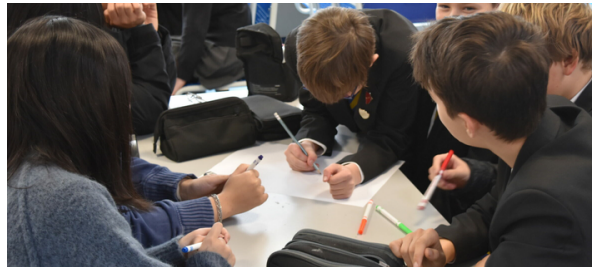
The Great Debate



Brandon (Y12) recently took part in the regional heat of the Historical Association Great Debate at Gloucester Heritage Hub. The debate question was 'Which historical place or person from your local area deserves greater recognition?' Brandon made a very convincing case for Belas Knap - the judges were highly impressed with his passion for his chosen site and his use of rhetorical flourishes in his speech. Well done.

News

Shukutoku Sugamo Senior High School, Tokyo



We were delighted to welcome students from Shukutoku Sugamo Senior High School, Tokyo, to The Cotswold School as part of their trip to the UK. During their visit, Shukutoku Sugamo students had the opportunity to take part in various lessons. Forty-two Cotswold School students volunteered to be 'buddies', showing our visitors around the school – they did a brilliant job! Over the course of the two days, students worked in groups, looking at the similarities and differences between the UK and Japan, as well as taking part in workshops including: origami, Karuta cards, and traditional Japanese games of Hanaichimonme and Fukuwarai.

It was a delight to host our visitors and we are extremely proud of how The Cotswold School students welcomed and embraced the experience.

First round of National Chess Competition

Last week, The Cotswold School hosted the first round of the English Schools National Chess Competition with five visiting schools: The Dorcan Academy, Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, Sir Thomas Rich's School, Chipping Campden and Burford School. Three hours of chess games were played to a very high standard. The Cotswold School A team came third overall, sending them through to the next round. Our B team came fourth, narrowly missing out on securing a place. Both teams played excellent games.

Well done to all students that took part.



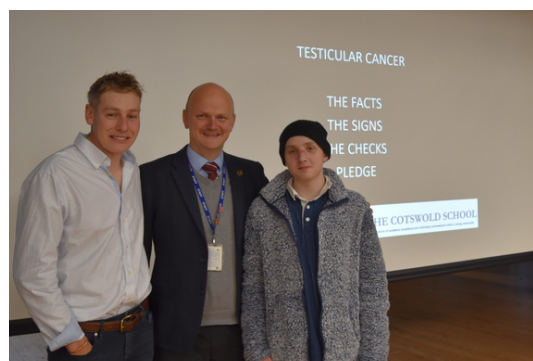
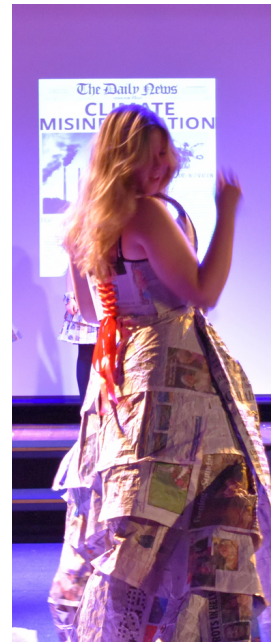
Visit our **Latest News** to read more.

News

The Cotswold School Fashion Show

What a fantastic show! Many thanks to Miss Springthorpe for organising The Cotswold School Fashion Show and congratulations and thank you to all of the students who have spent many hours creating such wonderful and thought-provoking designs, and to those who modelled the collections. Many thanks to the sound and lighting team, Jamie and Mia, our presenters Flora and Hamish, our fantastic site team, and to the wonderful PTA who kindly provided refreshments during the event.

Below are just a few photographs of the evening, we will update our website with more soon.



Awareness assembly

A massive thank you to Mr Smith, Ben and Jakob who held an assembly this week to raise awareness of testicular cancer.

For more information visit **It's in the Bag**, a charity providing hands-on support for men with testicular cancer in the South-West, as well as raising awareness of the disease across the region and beyond. It's in the Bag has three simple aims: Support, Awareness, Survival.



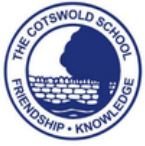
Please consider donating to **The Big Give** (cobalthhealth.co.uk/big-give-2023), the Christmas Challenge from **Cobalt**.

House Bake Off

Aspiring bakers have been busy crafting a range of delicious treats as their entries for this year's House Bake Off. The theme was Autumn and the standard of entries was high! Check out a selection of the entries below. Details of finalists will be available soon.

Thank you to all of our contestants - next stop The Great British Bake Off!





The Cotswold
Teacher Training
Partnership

Would you like to find out more about a career in teaching? Is teaching for you?

The Cotswold School offers secondary teacher training placements working in collaboration with the **Gloucestershire Initial Teacher Education Programme (GITEP)** and the University of Bristol.

We are delighted to be able to offer teacher training taster visits. If you would like to see a school in action and get to know more about the day-to-day job, this is a great opportunity. You will be able to observe lessons, speak to current trainees and teachers and get answers to your questions about training, the career, and anything else. If you would like further information or would like to book onto a taster day, please contact Ben Edwards at **bedwards@thecotswoldschool.co.uk**



We are currently collecting donations for the **North Cotswold Foodbank**. If you are able to donate, students can bring items to tutor and we will deliver to North Cotswold Foodbank. Many thanks for your support.

Click here to find out which items the foodbank are currently short of.



spacehive

Cotswold District Council confirmed its pledge of £10,000, via Cotswold Community Fund, towards the replacement of our Astroturf carpet with a new 2G sand-filled turf. In order to unlock the Cotswold Community Fund pledge, fundraising will continue until 31 March 2024 . Please visit **Spacehive** to support our campaign.

Match Reports

Year 7 Rugby Match Report - 14-1 win against Chipping Campden

Well done to the Y7 Rugby team who won their match against Chipping Campden, with a great whole team effort. After the first five minutes the team were 4-0 up. The ball was in our possession for 80% of the match and the team used the possession really effectively. Every player came on and off the pitch in different positions and showed willingness and commitment to win the game. A good foundation for the new team to build on - well done!

Year 7 and 8 Hockey Match Report - 2-1 to Kitebrook

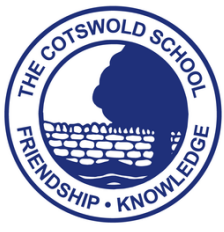
Well done to the Y7 and Y8 Hockey who played against Kitebrook. The girls played very well as a mixed year group team, working well together whilst playing against an all Year 8 Kitebrook team. Lottie was a superstar goalkeeper and Chloe received POM for her excellent ball control and goal. Well played!

There were also wins for our Year 10 Rugby team against Chipping Campden (38-5) and Year 7s against Sibford (9-2).

To view all Match Reports, [click here](#).

Well done to everyone has taken part in matches so far this term.





THE
COTSWOLD
SCHOOL

Reminders

Parents Evenings

Year 9X Parents Evening

30 November

Year 9Y/ 9Z Parents Evening

6 December

Inset Day

24 November

Christmas Carol Concert, Christ Church, Cheltenham

7 December

Christmas Macrame Evening

14 December

Christmas Concert, The Cotswold School

20 December

What we are learning

This term's 'what we are learning' in Key Stage 3 can be found on the website, [click here](#); these documents give an overview on the topics being covered in school this term.

Recruitment

We are also seeking to appoint reliable and confident people to join our team of Examination Invigilators.

To find out more visit our [website](#).

PTA Chair

Our school PTA is still recruiting for a Chairperson to join their fantastic team. If you are interested in the position, either individually or as a shared role, please do get in touch with outgoing Chair, Chris, who is very happy to discuss the role with anyone who is interested in taking the Chair role on. Please contact Chris on Bowen-c@sky.com