



24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a fantastic term here at Sheldon School with so many events and achievements to be proud of. If you would like to see regular updates on what our students are doing, please ensure you are following our [Facebook page](#). For those of you who don't access social media, please read the Sheldon Standard that comes out at the same time as this newsletter, which also shares all of these amazing achievements and events.

### Changes to the timings of the School Day

In term six we are going to move the timings of the school day slightly. Parents will not notice any difference as the start and end of the school day will remain the same. However, the change will align with our neighbours at Hardenhuish. This will help Sixth Form students to access lessons in both schools more easily, as the timings of lessons will match. The new changes will also allow us to move the assembly and extended tutor slot to the morning and, in doing so, will free up an indoor space at lunchtime for students to use.

Period	Timings
Registration	8.30-8.55am (The bell will go at 8.28am)
Period 1	8.55-9.45am
Period 2	9.45-10.35am
Break	10.35-10.55am (The bell will go at 10.53am)
Period 3	10.55-11.45am
Period 4	11.45-12.35pm
Lunchtime	12.35-1.15pm (The bell will go at 1.10pm)
Period 5	1.20-2.10pm
Period 6	2.10-3.00pm

### Safeguarding

As you might be aware, there have been several news reports over recent weeks around lockdowns in schools. I continue to take student and staff safety seriously and therefore we have talked to students this term about performing a practice lockdown, that will be done in a similar way to the fire drill each year. Students have been shown a presentation in tutor time this week and we will carry out a live practice in term 6, so that students and staff are aware of what to do in an emergency. We will obviously be sensitive about how we do this, and we will support our vulnerable students through the process. To further improve school safety, we have started a programme of installing new magnetic locks on our buildings, that will shut down and secure the building at various times of the day, to keep staff and students safe.

### Supporting Primary School Events - Be Kind

This term the **Year 10 Sports Ambassadors** have been busy supporting our primary schools with cricket and football festivals. They have really valued giving back to the Sheldon community by visiting primary schools and catching up with old teachers and TAs. I am really looking forward to meeting all of the primary school students next term during the Chippenham Games and during our Year 6 Transition Days on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

July. The end of the summer term also allows us to showcase the School during our Open Evening on 26<sup>th</sup> June and Open Day tours during the school day on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June. If you have younger children and would like to attend these events, please look out for more information coming in the next few weeks.

### **Supporting each other - Be Kind**

The 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> May represented **Deaf Awareness Week** here at Sheldon, and with a Deaf Resource base of 25+ students, they took the opportunity to teach students, teachers and parents some basic sign language and have some fun along the way with a cake sale. A huge thank you to all those helped bake cakes or bought cakes to raise money for the National Deaf Children's Society.

**Supporting others and giving back to Sheldon - Be Kind** In a cost-of-living crisis we are asking for students who intend to leave us in Year 11 and Year 13 if they would be happy to donate their PE kit and calculators to the school after their final exams or PE lesson. We would like to donate these items to future students of the school.

### **Trips, visits and Work Experience - Be Brave**

The school continues to be a huge advocate of trips and visits to provide all student with cultural capital opportunities outside of the classroom. These trips and events help develop the whole child and allows them to experience situations outside of the normal realms of school. This term students have visited Dartmoor for the Ten Tors event, Year 12 Cardiff University, Year 10 Maths and Shakespeare talk, Silver DofE expedition to the Quantocks, The Great Big Dance Off in Bath, Yr10-12 Textiles trip to Warner Bros Studio (Harry Potter), Year 10 Trip to Bristol Harbourside (Geography), Graphics trip to Campak for all of Year 8 students (DT), Year 8 Bletchley Park (IT & computing) trip and Year 9 Digital Empowerment Programme for online safety talk. We plan to release a list and provisional costs of trips for next year in term 6, so that parents can plan their finances accordingly. Finally, I am going to wish our Year 10 students' good luck as they start their week-long work experience next term. I know they will be Brave and represent the school in a positive way.

### **Preparation for the summer exams - Be the Best you**

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have now started their formal examinations and are still in school up until half term finishing off their courses, whilst also revising intensely for their exams. Both year groups have made a fantastic start to their exams and their behaviour, conduct and dedication is clearly evident from invigilators and staff supporting them. I would like to reiterate that Booster sessions, and teachers, are available after the half term and all Year 11 students are expected in for their Booster sessions below to maximise their chances of doing well in their exams.

### **Year 10 Mock Exams - Be the Best you**

Year 10 students will be sitting formal assessments for their other subjects, and these will take place in classrooms during lesson time, starting the week beginning 17th June. The non-core subject assessments will take place in students' double options lessons over a two-week period according to the block that they are in, and the timings are shown below.

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Lesson Timings</b>
<b>Block C Options</b>	Tuesday 18th June	5-6
<b>Block D Options</b>	Thursday 20th June	1-2
<b>Block A Options</b>	Wednesday 26th June	3-4
<b>Block B Options</b>	Thursday 27th June	3-4

To understand which subject is in which block for your child, simply look at their timetable on Epraise. The letter that comes after the number 10 tells you which block that subject is taught in. A very small number of subjects are completely coursework or portfolio based only and therefore there will not be formal classroom assessment for those non-core subjects in June. Subject teachers have provided students with a list of topics that are being assessed, along with revision resources and activities, for homework in the build-up to these assessments. Attached is a summary of the topics and links to helpful resources. We hope this will reduce students stress levels and ensure that they are revising the right information and in the correct way and enable parents to know how to support their child.

**Successes - Be the Best you** - This term has seen a plethora of students representing Sheldon school in local, regional and national competitions. Congratulations to the following students and teams, the three Ten Tors teams who covered 35 and 45 miles over a weekend in blistering heat. The Year 7 Boys Football team who won the County Cup competition, the KS3 Dance group who came runners up in the Great Big Dance Off and are through to National Grand Final. The Junior MasterChef winners who have made it through to the regional final, UK Maths Trust Junior Maths Challenge participants, the three winners of the Sheldon Young Musician of the Year- Liam, George and Harriet, Sixth Former Filip - our GB Jujitsu Champion, Tom in Year 7 who is the Wiltshire Cricket Captain, the U13 Boys cricket team for winning the local cricket festival. All of those mentioned have shown our value of Be the Best You, congratulations!

**Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund (SSOF) - Be the Best you** - Are you willing to pit your brains and knowledge against some of the sharpest minds in the Chippenham area? Or would you like to raise some much-needed funds to support your child's learning and extra-curricular activities. If so, please support the SSOF Quiz Night on Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm Please register your teams on Parent Pay.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful half term!

Best wishes



Pete Lynch  
Headteacher

After half term Year 11 Booster sessions

	Subject Booster	Period/s	Room and teacher
<b>Monday 3rd June</b>	Maths	8.15-8.45 before the exam starts	Maths department normal rooms
	PE	P3 & P4	KAA H3 and HJJ H4
<b>Tuesday 4th June</b>	History	P3 & P4	JJT and RTP in normal lessons
	Geography	P5 & P6	WAC and FRV normal lesson rooms
<b>Wednesday 5th June</b>	Business	P1 & P2	TBR VI2 and LMT VI1
<b>Thursday 6th June</b>	Maths	11-12.15	Maths block with normal teachers
<b>Friday 7th June</b>	Maths	After school in maths block following Biology exam	
<b>Monday 10th June</b>	Maths	8.15-8.45 in maths block	
	Chemistry	P5 & P6	Science classrooms
<b>Tuesday 11th June</b>	History	P3 & P4	ECD H7 and AMA H8
	Dance	P5 & P6	TJS H10
<b>Thursday 13th June</b>	Geography	P5 & P6	H3 FRV and HEW
<b>Monday 17th June</b>	Design Technology	P1 & P2	Normal DT rooms
	Music	P1 and P2	LMH A2
<b>Tuesday 18th June</b>	Food	P5 & P6	JHF D6 and MEO D7
<b>Wednesday 19th June</b>	End of Exams		

**Key Dates**

Half term break Summer term ends	Mon 27 May 2024 – Fri 31 May 2024	SDD DAYS School Closed Friday 12th July Year 6 Transition Day Mon/Tues 22-23 July
	Fri 19 July 2024 school finishes 12.30pm	
<b>Open Mornings</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	<b>Year 5 Open Evening</b> Weds 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	
<b>Year 10 Work Experience Weeks</b> Fortnight beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024  Year 12 Work Experience Week W/c 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 (tbc)	Year 10 Internal Assessment Exam week 18 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> June	