

The Seagull



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Next Week is Week 2

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HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

Gold Seagull Winners

Congratulations to this week's Gold Seagull winners:



Catarina, Alisha and Jessica Year 7 and Nazmin and Sabrina Year 9.

This week we launched our new behaviour points system. When your child receives a positive behaviour point, you will now be notified by MCAS or email. The system will also automatically inform you if your child receives a detention. We hope that this communication will further strengthen the partnership between school and home and enable parents to support us. If your child receives a positive behaviour point, please do discuss it with them and congratulate them!

It was great to see so many parents/carers at our Year 11 Progress Evening. I hope you found it useful and now know what your child needs to do in the run up to their GCSEs. Morning and afternoon intervention and revision

sessions are now in full swing. Please do encourage your child to attend these and be on time. They really do make a difference! We also met with students to ensure they have a pathway for when they finish Year 11. Any student who didn't have an interview with SLT on the evening will be picked up by the year team in the next few weeks.

Students have been working hard on the school show, Shrek the Musical. Tickets have now gone on sale. We hope to see many of you at one of the performances that run from Tuesday 30th January to Thursday 1st February, doors opening at 5.30pm.

Year 9 Options Evening will be taking place on Wednesday 24th January. This will give parents/carers and students the opportunity to find out more about the range of subjects at Key Stage 4 before making their final choices shortly.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

Class of 2023

As your child has started the next stage of their education, we hope that they have made a really positive start, and they are enjoying their new courses; whether they decided to stay at Jo Richardson or go to a new college or Sixth Form.

We would like to invite your son/daughter to collect their GCSE certificates on Monday 29th January 2024 between 5.00pm - 5:30pm in the Castle Green foyer.

Please be aware that students only receive one copy of their original certificates, so we can only release these to the student themselves on this

evening. If your son/daughter cannot make this, please let them know they need to come to the school office later to collect these in person; we cannot send them by post due to the importance of these.

Furthermore, there are still a few students who have not yet collected their yearbook and thus, they can collect it during this time.

We look forward to seeing your child then.

Ms Draisey
Head of Year 11 – Class of 2023

First Give Project – The Ben Kinsella Trust

12B are raising awareness about knife crime for their Year 12 First Give project and one way they want to raise awareness is by writing a Seagull article:

The influence of Ben Kinsella and the younger generation

Ben Kinsella was unfortunately a knife crime victim, one who may have had things he wanted to achieve and accomplish, but his life was cut short at the age of 16 on 29th June 2008. This is due to a mistake made by an older group of teenagers who had mistaken him for someone else. The mother of Ben Kinsella has stated that “they just cruelly took his life away with knives for no apparent reason”. This is one of the many crimes that have been carried out by young people.

In 2023, a staggering 50,000 knife-related incidents darkened the UK landscape. More distressing is the revelation that a third of these attacks are motivated by gang and street violence, each statistic representing a personal story of despair and societal neglect.

Recognising the pressing need to combat knife crime, communities, policymakers, and individuals in the UK have joined forces. Crimestoppers' Fearless initiative provides young people with a secure platform to report crimes without fearing retaliation, fostering a culture of collaboration and trust. In a significant move, policymakers have implemented the Offensive Weapons Act 2019, introducing harsher penalties for carrying knives. This legislative step aims to deter potential offenders, sending a clear message that the consequences for engaging in knife-related activities will be severe.

To prevent any further tragic crimes like this, these crimes need to be reduced because if this does not change then our future is at risk. Although crime rates have decreased by 15% by the end of 2022, this does not mean that crimes like stabbings to young people will not occur again. We need to make a change to this and show that we can give young people, a safe place to be and allow them to feel comfortable in their own environment. Taking part in workshops, walking home with other people to feel safe, showing the world how serious knife crime is in social media are all examples of people trying to make a change to eradicate events like these from ever occurring again.

Make a change today!

By Joel, Sahil, Adam & Manuel – Year 12

Shrek the Musical-TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Tickets for Shrek the Musical will be on sale every break and lunch on Buck Bridge starting from Wednesday 17th January. Seats can be chosen at purchase, so be quick before we sell out.

If you have any further questions about the show, pop down to the Drama department and see a member of staff.

We can't wait to see you all there!

Drama Department

Year 12 Skills Workshops

Year 12 have had a busy return to school since Christmas.

This week students were involved in two workshops to develop projects and personal skills.

Workshop 1 - First Give



Year 12 have been working as Tutor Groups on a project to develop a presentation on behalf of a charity. They have been creating social actions to raise awareness of both the charity and its cause. On Monday 22nd January a group from each form will present to Year 12 and a panel of judges their completed project. If

the judging panel is impressed enough and declares them as the winning team, then they will get £1,000 awarded to their charity. Later in the year there will be a non-uniform day where the proceeds will be divided between the six charities represented, and more information will be available about the work they do.

Watch out in next week's Seagull for news about the Final!

Workshop 2 – Mark Evison Foundation

Mark Evison Foundation came and gave a presentation to Year 12 before Christmas and since then a number of students have been working on project proposals that they will present in order to hopefully get funding to complete the project. Frieda from the foundation has been in a couple of times to help the proposal progress further and Wednesday this week was the “pre-judging meeting”. It is hoped that six projects will make the final meeting. They vary from Trekking to Computer Gaming, from Cultural Dress to Biking London to Paris.



Keep an eye out for future Seagull articles detailing their progression.

Miss Campbell
Deputy Director of Sixth Form
Head of Year 12

Are you a “Black Knight Tango” or “Sicilian Defence”?



JRCS Grand-Master Chess Tournament started in the first week back. The last six days have seen students battle in round 1 and 2. By the end of this week

there will be sixteen students' left to go through and battle it out next week.

The tournament entry was open to all year groups and an amazing forty-two students signed up to play!

Students have been playing others from different year groups during their break and lunchtimes in the hope of progressing to the final stages.

There have been some very different games in terms of pace and strategy. In a couple of games, it has been down to the last few pieces on the board. It has been a privilege to watch the students develop their play and see some of the amazing sportsmanship between them.

One or two of the games have been quite one-sided. However, in most cases the more confident player has taken the time to offer advice and guidance at the end of the game – great spirit.

Congratulations to all those who entered and played. Good luck to those who are still in the competition!

Updates in next newsletter as the tournament progresses to the Quarter-Final & Semi-Final stage.

Miss Campbell
Tournament Organiser

“To find out how we process your personal data, visit the following link: [Privacy Notice for Parents and Pupils](#)”



A poster for Shrek the Musical. At the top, a large, dark silhouette of Shrek's head and shoulders is set against a background of stylized, swirling green and yellow patterns. In the upper left, the text "BEWARE! OGRE" is written in a yellow, hand-drawn font with an arrow pointing towards the silhouette. Centered over the silhouette is a bright yellow rectangular box containing the text "TICKETS ON SALE NOW!" in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. Below the silhouette, the text "BASED ON THE DREAMWORKS ANIMATION MOTION PICTURE AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG" is written in a small, white, sans-serif font. The title "SHREK" is prominently displayed in large, bold, white, block letters with a slight 3D effect. Below "SHREK", the words "THE MUSICAL" are written in a smaller, white, blocky font. The bottom half of the poster has a solid dark green background with white text listing the performance dates and times. At the very bottom, there is a yellow rectangular box with black text for ticket prices.

**TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW!**

BASED ON THE DREAMWORKS ANIMATION MOTION PICTURE AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG

SHREK

THE MUSICAL

Tuesday 30th January 2024

Wednesday 31st January 2024

Thursday 1st February 2024

Doors open at 5pm - Show starts at 6pm

Tickets will be on sale every break and lunch on
Buck's Bridge starting from Wednesday 17th January

ADULT TICKET - £6

CONCESSIONS (UNDER 13) - £4

Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At my.account.sony.com, create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

WINDOWS 11 PCs

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

SMART TVs

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

Meet Our Expert

Benny Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of writing for titles such as the Sunday Times, What?!, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



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