

# SECONDARY PARENT / STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 21st April 2023

#### **UCAS DISCOVERY EXHIBITION**

On Wednesday 19th April, students from the year group S6 had the opportunity to visit the UCAS Discovery exhibition at Winchester University. This event brought together over 100 universities, colleges, and apprenticeship employers, providing students with the chance to explore different options and pathways for their future.

The UCAS Discovery exhibition was an excellent opportunity for students to meet with representatives from different universities and colleges. Students were able to ask questions and learn more about the courses and programs offered by each institution. This allowed them to gain a better understanding of the different options available to them and make more informed decisions about their future.

The event also included live talks by experts in various subjects, allowing students to gain valuable insights into specific career paths and participate in Q&A sessions related to different aspects of the UCAS application process.

Overall, the UCAS Discovery exhibition was a fantastic event for students. It provided them with a wealth of information and advice on different career choices and pathways. The opportunity to meet with experts face-to-face and ask questions was invaluable, and we hope that many of our students will be able to use the information they gained to make more informed decisions about their future.

#### GET INTO MEDICINE CONFERENCE SATURDAY 23rd APRIL 2023

Your students in years 10-12 / S3-S5 / NI11-13 are invited to the next FREE, virtual Get into Medicine and Get into Dentistry conferences. These conferences are an excellent opportunity for students to hear from doctors, dentists, and students about the UCAS application process and what they need to make their application as strong as it can be.

All attendees will be awarded a certificate to show that they've gone one step further than most applicants. I'd be very grateful if you forwarded this email to them.

### <u>GET INTO MEDICINE CONFERENCE (FREE, VIRTUAL)</u> Sunday 23rd April (2:30pm -7:30pm https://medicmentor.co.uk/medicine-national-healthcare-weekend/

Dr Mlke and Dr Siva will guide your students in years 10-12 / S3-S5 / NI11-13 through the UCAS application process to medicine. This includes personal statements and white space questions, UCAT, interview skills, and scholarships.)

Registration link: https://airtable.com/shr66li3bqG3ZpkPM

## APPRENTICESHIP FAIR DIDCOT MONDAY 24th APRIL 2023 DIDCOT CIVIC HALL

https://www.david-johnston.org.uk/news/david-host-apprenticeship-fair-didcot

#### NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEBINARS THURSDAY 27th APRIL 2023

Just a quick reminder to book your place for the first event in our National Webinar Series for career leads, parents & carers and students. This month we welcome guest speaker Siobhan Williams from UCAS to talk about apprenticeships and the application process, and Nerisa Anwar from our employer partner KPMG. Please share with your parents, carers and students and book your place <a href="here">here</a>



#### **GET INTO DENTISTRY CONFERENCE SATURDAY 29th APRIL 2023**

Your students in years 10-12 / S3-S5 / NI11-13 are invited to the next FREE, virtual Get into Medicine and Get into Dentistry conferences. These conferences are an excellent opportunity for students to hear from doctors, dentists, and students about the UCAS application process and what they need to make their application as strong as it can be.

All attendees will be awarded a certificate to show that they've gone one step further than most applicants. I'd be very grateful if you forwarded this email to them.

#### GET INTO DENTISTRY CONFERENCE (FREE, VIRTUAL) Saturday 29th April (9:30am - 1:30pm)

https://medicmentor.co.uk/online-get-into-dentistry-conference/

Dentist Dr Fiona Andrews will provide bespoke advice to dental applicants, including how to access work experience, UCAT, interview training, extracurricular activities, and more.

Registration link: https://airtable.com/shr7JL0vaCAzEYUo1

#### ABINGDON'S FUTURES FAIR - THURSDAY 4th MAY 2023

We hope that you can join us for the Futures Fair on Thursday 4th May 2023 between 4pm and 6pm. We have over 40 universities confirmed including UK Russell Group, leading modern universities and a range of international universities. There will also be information on apprenticeships and alternatives to university.

The Futures Fair is perfect for Year 12's who are currently exploring degree courses and university study and the event is also open to students in Years 11 and 13. We invite students and parents to book their space via the event page.

Parents and guardians are welcome to attend with their students, but please note that there will not be parking available on our school grounds for this event.



https://www.abingdon.org.uk/futures-fair-2/

#### TRINITY BEYOND THE CLASSROOM (Online)

Trinity College's academics and doctoral researchers have been part of a brilliant series of talks, *Trinity Beyond the Classroom*, offering super-curricular enrichment to secondary and sixth-form students at state schools since 2021 and we'd like *you* to be part of the third series in 2023.

Talks cover a wide range of subjects – for instance, Medicine, Social Sciences, Media, Chemistry, Biology, Physics and Engineering – and more talks will be announced once the series is underway on Tuesday 14 February. They are great examples of accessible super-curricular engagement, with the opportunity for students to engage, take part in polls, and ask questions live.

The talks will take place online on Teams, at 4.00-5.30pm on Tuesdays from 14 February through to 11 July 2023.

Attendees in the 2022 and 2021 series were from a wide range of school year groups, clustering most around Year 12.

#### Talks in the 2023 series:

- 25 April The ethics of US intervention in South Africa's HIV/AIDS crisis (Medicine, Social Sciences, Public Policy)
- **9 May** Batteries and their potential (Physics, Materials Science, Engineering)
- **23 May** Catalysis in Chemistry: Metal-organic frameworks and their application on photocatalysis (Chemistry)
- **6 June** Conversion to Islam in the Medieval Near East (Theology, History, Politics)
- **20 June** to be finalised (by mid-February)
- 11 July Does Immorality make Artworks worse as Art? (Art, History of Art, English, Humanities, MFL)

**Students can register at** Trinity Beyond the Classroom 2023 registration and will receive a Teams link in the 24 hours before each talk.

#### **THE BIG ESSAY COMPETITION 2023**

Submit entries by 12th May 2023



# The Big Oxplore Essay Competition is back and bigger than ever!

Open to all non-selective state secondary school students, now across the UK! Across two age categories (years 7-9 and years 10-13), we have an expert judging panel and prizes for winners and runners-up. Submit entries by 12th May 2023.

FOUND OUT HOW TO ENTER HERE

#### LIVING AND LEARNING IN TWO LANGUAGES MONDAY 15th MAY 2023 - 13h00

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/living-and-learning-in-two-languages-tickets-616391211707

In the first part of this free, not to be missed workshop for parents, Dr Vally Lytra (Goldsmiths) and Dr Effrosyni (Froso) Argyri (UCL) will share their experiences of raising multilingual children in Switzerland and England respectively highlighting different forms of bilingual education provision.

They will spotlight state of the art research on theories of language and language learning and factors that support language and literacy development in bilingual/multilingual children. They will also examine language learning outcomes associated with different types of bilingual education - immersion education and CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning).

#### Q & A Session

In the second part of the workshop, parents will have the opportunity to reflect on their own language learning journeys, share experiences and ask questions.

This is an online talk. All registrants will receive an invitation with the Zoom link prior to the talk.

This event is organised by the Bilingual Education Alliance (BEA). For further information on similar events, please join our mailing list via our website www.beaschools.com

# Help your children to read and succeed in Science and Maths

## 370,000 secondary school students tested

# The link between maths, science and reading

is higher than in English literature and history

#### Reading skills & science achievement

have a relationship closer than the one between interest and enjoyment of science x science achievement

#### ¼ of all 15-year-olds

have a reading age of 12 or below.

#### Only 47% of boys aged 15

against 53% of girls in the same age have a reading age of 15 and higher.

#### **Being literate**

is the most essential factor for disadvantaged students studying science.

Data from GL Assessment, research from 2018-2019, report found at <a href="http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/whyreading">http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/whyreading</a>



#### Have you 5 minutes?

Ask your child to read the headlines on their mobile phone and tell you which one seems more interesting or intriguing, and why.



# Science & Environment

Have we found the 'animal origin' of Covid?

ienetic data released by China three years after it was gathered has rowided 'the best evidence' of how the pandemic started, scientists sa 0.13h | Science & Environment

#### If you have 10 minutes

Ask them to read a short article and summarise it. Then you could ask: do you agree with what the article said? Why or why not?



Climate change ploneer
Claude Lorius dies at 91 spect
Pla expeditions to Antarctica helped prove that humans seen responsible missiling specifies and provening.





#### When you have 30 minutes

Choose an article and read together. Ask each other why you prefer this or that subject. Discuss what the author really meant and if your children had seen the topic in school already.

. plastic pollution

Named Feed the Fish, th
then taken away to be re

Read more >

Pet dogs a threat to nesting birds in South Walney - warning





Deg walkers, beach-goers and drose users are disturbling neeting birds at a safere reserve, conservation chiefs have warned.

Combria Milbillife Trust said it had received multiple reports of "alarming" inclidents at South Walney Nature Reserve man Barrow. It is urging visitors to stick to clearly-marked paths away from beaches which

are out of bounds.

Dogs are not all owed on the site unless they are assistance animals.

Not are response officer that Waterforces will below such as Artist term.

vulnerable between Month and April.

"Sadly we're getting lots of reports of recreational disturbance of wildlife by people and their pets, which is particularly alarming an residing season is now.

cate may with carront agod too, and almost inguisible to spot arrow got the shingle that's found all around the shortline of South Manny.

"And I even a very well-behaved dog on a lead will scare birds away from the cents."

#### **UPCOMING PTA EVENTS**

#### International Day - Friday 28th April 2023

Primary children have fun visiting parent-run country stalls to learn about a region and stamp their passports. See more https://app.classlist.com/parent/#/events/view/958150643?s=113151119

#### Plant sale - end of May 2023

Donate and/or buy house or garden plants.

#### Fun run - Monday 5th June 2023

The children run in their stream colours. Can you help coordinate the t-shirt printing before half-term?

Get in touch asap! committee@europa-pta.org

#### Europa School 10th Anniversary Summer Fête - Saturday 17th June 2023

Get involved and make this extra memorable and fun for all the family (Primary AND Secondary).

https://forms.gle/HwiZ4qYpcq4xrMJB6

Save the date! https://app.classlist.com/parent/#/events/view/954460670?s=113151119

PTA email committee@europa-pta.org



#### RAISING MONEY FOR THE BLUE CROSS

For our MYP group project we have chosen to fundraise by cycling a certain distance and then to donate the money that we raise to the Blue Cross. We have chosen this charity because we all have pets and care about the welfare of animals. Blue cross helps support animals with no homes, ill pets, and grieving pet owners.

If you would like to support us please follow this link <a href="https://gofund.me/d22f720e">https://gofund.me/d22f720e</a> to donate.

Thank you. Daria, Uma and Edith - S3D

#### WIND IN THE WILLOWS



Over 30 Primary and Secondary pupils are going to perform Wind in the Willows on 30 June and 1 July, to celebrate the 10 th anniversary of Europa School.

We hope you will save the date and come along with friends and family?

We are looking to offer any of your businesses advertising space in the programme, should you be interested?

Please let Susi or Leon in Reception know if you can help in any way. Reception@europaschool.uk

Save the dates: Wind in the Willows 10th Anniversary Celebration Friday 30th June and Saturday 1st July in the Schuman Hall.

#### **LIBRARY**

#### **NEW LEGO CLUB**





Every Monday lunch time in the study room.



#### **MUSIC**

#### **SINGING GROUP**

S1, S2 and S3 singing club meets on Fridays at lunch time in Brahms (music block). Open to all abilities. If you are interested please contact Mrs Scaber.

#### **MUSIC THEORY CLUB**

S3 - S7 Music Theory club on Tuesday's 12h40 - 13h15 For more information, please email <a href="mailto:tognjenovic@europaschool.uk">tognjenovic@europaschool.uk</a>

#### STRING CHAMBER GROUP



#### **PARENTS UCAS WEBINAR SERIES**

We are once again offering a series of webinars for the parents and carers of students looking to start university in 2023. We will also hold a parents' webinar on student finance in March 2023 and on accommodation in **May 2023**.

Register for Webinars via the link below

https://www.bath.ac.uk/topics/information-for-parents/

#### Summer Career Experiences in London



Our Summer Experiences offer the ultimate, 360-degree experience of professional life for ages 12-18. Whilst weekend programmes are classroom-based, our Summer Experiences take place at top industry sites across London - including immersions in hospitals, courtrooms, skyscrapers, film sets and much more.

Students can register for these now at a 15% discount.

SUMMER EXPERIENCES: AGES 15-18

SUMMER EXPERIENCES: AGES 12-14

12-14 Summer Career Experience in London

15-18 Young Summer Experiences 2023

<sup>\*</sup>Students can receive a 10% discount by inserting the code EUROPASCHOOL10 at the registration page.

#### **ATTENTION ALL BUS USERS**

For serious or urgent welfare issues that occur on the buses please report them directly to the school at <a href="mailto:principal@europaschool.uk">principal@europaschool.uk</a>

For other behavioural problems, queries and issues please continue to contact bloc (info@blocbus.org). We will involve the school when appropriate for issues reported to us directly.

#### THAME LANE GATE

Please do not push the red button on the post to open the Thame Lane gate to let people into school during the day. The incoming person must push the buzzer on the Intercom, so Reception can assess who can come on site. Thank you for your understanding.

#### **REMINDER**

Thame Lane gate is locked at 08.45 each day. Any arrivals after that time must drive to the front of the school and sign in at Reception. The Thame Lane gate opens again at 3pm each day.

# TOILETS AVAILABLE ON SITE FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN AT PICK UP TIME

The Schuman Hall and Primary Library toilets are not for parents or children waiting to collect at the end of school. A toilet has been made available for drop off and end of school pick ups only, on the left of the small courtyard behind Reception. There is a red sign on the door.

#### **HELP FOR FAMILIES - HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND**

Due to this extremely high level of demand the Household Support Fund is now closed in South Oxfordshire

We are no longer accepting any new applications for this fund.

#### Other Help is still available

If residents are struggling due to cost-of-living pressures the Community Hub can help.

We offer a wide range of advice, including information on free or affordable food banks and council tax support. We can also signpost residents to debt advice, other cost-of-living support, information on housing support as well as guidance on how they can look after their mental health and wellbeing.

If residents need support they can contact our Community Hub Team during office hours on 01235 422600 or email <a href="mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk">communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk</a>

https://www.southandvale.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Cost-of-Living-eleaflet-for-websites.jpg

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**APRIL 2023** 

Saturday 22nd April DofE Bronze practice expedition (2nd and final day)

Tuesday 25th April S2 Human Library (Careers Event)

Wednesday 26th April Junior Maths Challenge

S6 IB GEO trip cake sale

From 12h35 DofE Silver practice expedition

Thursday 27th April DofE Silver practice expedition
Friday 28th April DofE Silver practice expedition

**MAY 2023** 

Friday 5th May

Monday 1st May BANK HOLIDAY

S7 IB External Exams (Until Friday 19th May)

Tuesday 2nd May S7 IB External Exams Wednesday 3rd May S7 IB External Exams Thursday 4th May S7 IB External Exams

S7 IB External Exams

S3 Cake sale for Cancer Research

17h00 - 20h00 - S3 Quiz show/entertainment evening - Leadership and

management programme - Interact club - Schuman Hall

Monday 8th May BANK HOLIDAY

S7 IB External Exams

Tuesday 9th May S7 IB External Exams
Wednesday 10th May S7 IB External Exams

S4 Exams

Thursday 11th May S7 IB External Exams

S4 Exams

S3 Cake sale for 'Medecins Sans Frontieres' S2 Carnegie Tea, Christchurch, Abingdon

Friday 12th May S7 IB External Exams

**DofE Bronze Final Expedition** 

S3 Young Minds charity - Movie night - Schuman Hall

Saturday 13th May DofE Bronze Final Expedition

Monday 15th May S7 IB External Exams

S6 Exams (Until 24th May 2023)

Tuesday 16th May S7 IB External Exams

S6 Exams S4 Exams

19h00 - 21h00 Online IB MYP Open evening

Wednesday 17th May S7 IB External Exams

S6 Exams S4 Exams

Thursday 18th May S7 IB External Exams

S6 Exams S4 Exams

S3 Cake sale for Be Free Young Carers

Friday 19th May S7 IB External Exams

S6 Exams

S5 GCSE Maths 1

S4 Exams

Goethe Kicker Tournament - Schuman Hall

#### S7 IB Diploma - Monday 1st May to Friday 19th May

#### **S5 GCSE Maths and English**

Friday 19th May - S5 GCSE Mathematics Paper 1 Monday 5th June - S5 GCSE English Language Paper 1 Wednesday 7th June - S5 GCSE Mathematics Paper 2 Monday 12th June - S5 GCSE English Language Paper 2 Wednesday 14th June - S5 GCSE Mathematics Paper 3

#### **CONTACT EMAILS**

If you have any questions regarding the IB Diploma Programme (S5, S6 and S7) please email Mrs Simpson at ibdiplomacoordinator@europaschool.uk

If you have any questions regarding the IB Middle Years Programme (S1, S2, S3 and S4) please email Mrs Butcher at ibmypcoordinator@europaschool.uk

If you are an external student and would like to apply to the school to do the IB Diploma please contact Mrs Fabulet at admissions@europaschool.uk

If you have any questions regarding UCAS and S4 Work Experience please contact Mrs Charalambous at i.charalambous@europaschool.uk

If you have any questions regarding Careers please contact Mrs Powell at <a href="mailto:l.powell@europsachool.uk">l.powell@europsachool.uk</a>

If you have any questions regarding public (GCSE/MYP and DP) or internal examinations (years S4-S7) please contact Mme Jouhandin at <a href="mailto:examsofficer@europaschool.uk">examsofficer@europaschool.uk</a>

If your child is absent please email <a href="mailto:absence@europaschool.uk">absence@europaschool.uk</a> before <a href="mailto:09h00">09h00</a>