



Dear Parents

This has been a term in which our students have continued to show off their many talents.

Next week will see two performances of the Arts Spectacular, combining the talents of the Art, Dance, Drama and Music teams. I am sure that all involved will build on the success of last year. We will share some of the highlights (hard to choose!) with the whole school in our final assembly on Friday.

Last weekend, 83 students from Years 9 and 10 successfully completed their practice Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition. Camping, tent erecting and cooking all took place in the spirit of team work!

We seem to be spending significant time at present reminding students about the details of our uniform rules. Apart from wasting time, this can lead to conflict when students do not quickly do as asked. I should like to draw two items in particular to your attention.

Jewellery: No jewellery apart from a maximum of two small stud earrings, one in the lobe of each ear.

We have seen an increase in multiple piercings in the ears and in nose piercings. We do allow students to wear discreet clear or flesh-coloured plastic retainers, but nothing else. Please ensure that if your child has a new piercing, a retainer is inserted from the start. We also do not allow any bracelets or charity bands.

A lightweight gold or silver chain with a small religious symbol is permissible.

Nail varnish is not permitted.

Please could I also remind parents of the importance of students being properly equipped for school? However well organised they were in September, a number of students are now arriving without the basics – pens, pencils, rubber, ruler, calculator, coloured pencils, glue – which slows down the start of lessons and hence progress. Getting the basics sorted for the start of the new term is essential!

I hope that you and your families will be able to enjoy some relaxation over the holidays, and that the spring weather will continue during the break! But, Year 11, remember to stick to those revision timetables! We are recommending 4-5 hours per day, 6 days per week, as a minimum.



Catharine Darnton
Headteacher

Parent View

Parent View is an online questionnaire for parents and carers to feed back to Ofsted on their child's school. It is now the main mechanism that Ofsted use to gather parents' views at the time of an inspection. There are just 12 questions to answer. The questions look at the key areas such as happiness, safety, progress, quality of teaching, behaviour and school leadership. The final question asks if you would recommend the school to another parent. Everyone's responses are put together and are available to view on the Parent View website. In order to minimise the risk of abuse, you are required to register and create a password.

We would be very pleased to have your ongoing feedback of what you think of the school – please visit <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Year 11 2017-18 Presentation Evening

On Thursday 28 March, we were delighted to welcome back our prize winners from Year 11 2017-18. There were two prizes in each subject, one for overall achievement and the other for personal commitment and outstanding hard work. It was great to hear of all their experiences and successes since they left us and of their developing plans for university and employment.

It was also wonderful to welcome back Will Manson, a former student of Gillotts who left in 2012. He really is a product of 'Education Henley', having attended Shiplake Church of England Primary School and The Henley College. Since he left us, Will has also added a triple first in mathematics at Cambridge to his list of achievements! Following work experience with Google and IBM, he now works for Jump Trading, doing a mixture of maths and programming. Will gave a very entertaining talk, interleaving advice to students with an artificial intelligence programme designed to 'solve' Snake, the computer game from the 1970s. His advice ranged from 'Ask, ask, ask' to 'Make time for your family and friends'. To thank Will for his contribution, we presented him with Marcus du Sautoy's latest book - Marcus was also a Gillotts student and is now an eminent mathematician!

A complete list of prize-winners is attached.



Awards Year 11 2017-2018

Prizes are awarded to students who achieve excellent results in particular subjects and to students whose results reflect personal commitment and outstanding hard work.

Art & Design Results	Saffran Lockett	Exceptional diligence and hard work
Art & Design Achievement & Effort	Sasha Scott	Determination, hard work and always putting in maximum effort
Children's Play, Learning & Development BTEC	Erika Bell	For great effort and a well- deserved result
Children's Play, Learning & Development BTEC	India Darani	For personal determination and achievement
Computing Results	Seb Edwards	Hard work throughout the course to gain an excellent grade 8 in computing
Computing Achievement & Effort	Charles Washbourn	For exceptional commitment to the Computing course
Dance Results	Megan Powell	For always being brilliant in class and a fantastic Dance Captain too!
Dance Achievement & Effort	Neave Jordan	For hard work and dedication in Dance leading to a fantastic result, well done!
Drama Results	Kiri Cheesman	For always being totally committed and for hard work throughout the Drama
Drama Achievement & Effort	Dylan Coates	For his dedication to the subject and being a committed Drama Captain

English Lang Results	Sophie Print	For hard work to achieve an excellent result in English Language
English Lang Achievement & Effort	Syaleen Stokes	For hard work and perseverance throughout the course
English Lit Results	Amelia Scott	Diligence and perseverance to achieve an excellent result in English Literature
English Lit Achievement & Effort	Karolina Kaczorowska	Working hard and determination to achieve her best in English Literature
Food Technology Results	Izzy Buckner	For exceeding her target and achieving an excellent result in Food Technology
Food Technology Achievement & Effort	Jade Hall	For surpassing her expectations to achieve an excellent result in Food Technology
French Results	Kitty Horne	An exceptional performance in GCSE French, resulting in a Grade 8
French Achievement & Effort	Vanessa Sousa	For perseverance and acting on advice to achieve an excellent result in GCSE French
Geography Results	Ed Lawrence	For exceptional hard work and achieving a fantastic result in Geography – well done
Geography Achievement & Effort	Ethan Pearce	For perseverance and hard work in Geography to gain a result that surpassed expectations
German Results	Max Gaskin	A very able and enthusiastic Germanist, achieving an excellent result
German Achievement & Effort	Joe Day	For incredible hard work and enthusiasm in German, achieving a well deserved Grade 8!
History Results	Holly Graham	For achieving an excellent result in History – “in the midst of chaos there is also opportunity”

History Achievement & Effort	Alfie Hearn	For surpassing expectations in History – “nil sine labore” – nothing without labour
Maths Results	Annabella Joynes	For achieving an exceptional result in Maths – well done!
Maths Achievement & Effort	Jasper Mason	For making huge progress in Maths from the start of Year 10 to achieve a fantastic result. Well done!
Music Results	Ella Davies	For total commitment and dedication, resulting in a superb Grade 9 in Music
Music Achievement & Effort	Madeleine Bourne	For some outstanding performances and being a great asset to the Music Department
PE Results	Scarlett Colin	Always having a growth mindset to overcome challenges in PE – congratulations!
PE Achievement & Effort	Sol Wallis-Robinson	For determination and perseverance to overcome challenges and succeed in PE. Well done!
Religious Studies Results	Maya Lawton	For hard work throughout the course and achieving an excellent result in RS
Religious Studies Achievement & Effort	Gabriel Langford	For hard work and consistent effort to achieve a superb result in RS
Resistant Mats Results	Kyra Hannibal	For outstanding commitment and achieving an excellent result in Resistant Materials
Resistant Mats Achievement & Effort	Rosie Plumridge	For exceptional hard work and personal achievement in Resistant Materials
Sci Biology Results	Grace Hannibal	For hard work throughout the course and achieving an excellent result in Biology
Sci Biology Achievement & Effort	Livvy Coles	For personal determination and achievement in Biology

Sci Chemistry Results	Madison Sturgess	For consistently working hard throughout the course and achieving an excellent result in Chemistry
Sci Chemistry Achievement & Effort	Amber Weller	For always showing personal determination and consistency to achieve an excel-
Sci Physics Results	Mihailo Milenkovic	For hard work and achieving an exceptional grade in Physics
Sci Physics Achievement & Effort	Ben Harrison	For achieving an outstanding result in Physics and for commitment to the sub-
Combined Science Results	Harry Eagle	For hard work and achieving an exceptional result in Combined Science
Science Achievement & Effort	Antonio Dinita	For personal determination and commitment to achieve an excellent result in
Sociology Result	Bronte Pye	For achieving an excellent result “knowledge is potential, action is power”
Sociology Achievement & Effort	Elle Darani	For achieving an excellent result “action is the foundational key to all success”
Spanish Result	Beth Walker	Hard work and quiet determination to succeed leading to a fantastic result in
Spanish Achievement & Effort	Tom Bryant	Success in Spanish resulting from hard work, determination and focus. Well done!

Outstanding Achievement and Attitude.

For outstanding Achievement	Beth Walker	Outstanding GCSE results – congratulations!
Contribution to the school	Kiri Cheesman	Enhancing life at Gillotts in so many ways and for unfailing cheeriness and good humour

Darwin News

Tutee of the Term

DJAS Anna Wilbrink

DJLG Katie Rosier

DREW Edward Day

DGS Ewan Knight

DPJY Eva Harris

DROM / DGB Will Grant

DCHA Angus Fraser

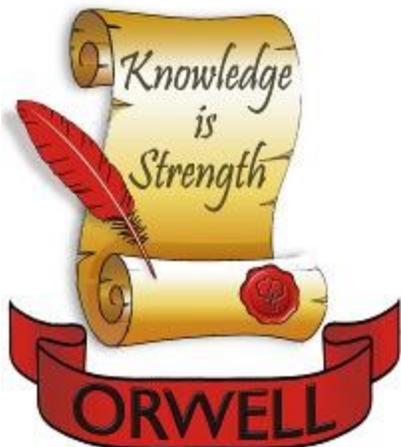
DGLW Francesca Whittle

DHJR / DSEL Joel Trinder

DABY Amber Harrison

DFMW Luc Tilley

DFD Amber Fane-Barrow



Orwell News

Tutee of the Term

OPCM / EJB Jessica

Cattanach

OBEG Ellicia Sheard

OLEP / OCLV Rosie Lock

OJDG Connor Mackenzie

OJSK Darcy Smith

OAB / CST Joe Williams

OCG Victoria McDonough

OTWN Evie Decardi-Nelson

OGMO Amelia Prince

OCH James Edwards

OACM Aidan Kaufman

OGDL / ELD Charlie Hughes

Pankhurst News

Tutee of the Term

PACF Lauren Field

PCAD / ND Mathilde

Williams

PCD / LS Kits Tanner

PCMR Layla Coulson

PFH / HJS Katie Langdon

PGDM Amy Bryant

PHJ / JJB Molly Leigh

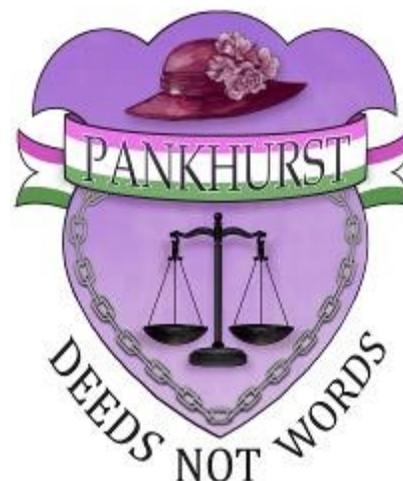
PKLO Izzie Young

PREA Amy Havers

PSJW Nell Collings

PSMS / HLM Daisy Piercey

PTAG Eva Simonetti



Twitter update

Please follow our Twitter page [@gillottshenley](https://twitter.com/gillottshenley) for regular updates on all the great things going on in school from week to week...here are some highlights below.



Gillotts School
@GillottsHenley

As part of PSHE day yesterday, Year 10s had the opportunity to practice their CV writing skills and interview technique. Each student was interviewed by local business people, giving an opportunity to promote their credentials! [#henley](#) [#donttheylooksmart](#) [#careers](#) [#future](#)



Gillotts School
@GillottsHenley

Awe inspiring assembly and workshop around [#resilience](#) for our Year 11s today from [@JoshBoggi9](#) as part of the [@Blesma](#) Generation R programme. A triple amputee war veteran showing how you can overcome anything... Thanks so much! [#couldhearapindrop](#) [#henley](#) [#hero](#) [#challengeyourself](#)



7:29 PM - 27 Mar 2019



Gillotts School
@GillottsHenley

Thanks to our [#antibullying](#) ambassadors who this week have been leading KS3 assemblies, and showcasing their [#aba](#) video about how they support students in school. Great work! [@DianaAward](#) [@AntiBullyingPro](#)



Anti Bullying Ambassadors Video (Gillotts School)
A short video about the ABA members at Gillotts School
Instagram [connor_4382](#) music [bensound](#)
[youtube.com](#)

9:18 AM - 22 Mar 2019

1 Retweet 7 Likes



Gillotts School
@GillottsHenley

Lots of great costumes by staff and students alike last week for [#WorldBookDay2019](#) ! Well done all, and thanks to all staff for their hard work in making it happen! See other retweets for more pics.



Gillotts Library @GillottsDLG

A few people spotted reading books last week in celebration of [@WorldBookDayUK](#) [#greatschoolibraries](#)

10:00 AM - 12 Mar 2019



As part of the Oxfordshire Public Health Directorate's campaign to improve young people's mental wellbeing, a performance of 'Under My Skin' by @Pegatweet was shown to Year 8s yesterday. Incredibly powerful. #Henley #MentalHealthAwareness #pegasustheatre



3:23 PM - 5 Mar 2019



It's PSHE day today, and among some of the really important opportunities for our students were an #antibullying talk from @Higgs_Rob for Year 7s, a @DrugFAM presentation to Year 9s on drug awareness, and a talk from CAMHS on managing stress for Year 11 #PSHE #henley #knowledge



3:36 PM - 26 Feb 2019

1 Retweet 8 Likes



Our last sporting success of the week is for Euan in Year 9 who is now a black belt in Tae Kwon Do! Well done! 🎉👏 #Henley #blackbelt #futurestars



Massive congratulations to the Gillotts students who were part of @HenleyRC crew, beating 45 other teams to Gold at Dorney Lake recently, pictured here with @SteveRedgrave5! #henley #futurestars #elite



9:32 AM - 22 Mar 2019

3 Retweets 16 Likes

Gillotts School Attendance update

We currently have 64 students with 100% attendance this year. Well done to all those students for this achievement.

Overall, our Year group and House attendances for the year are:

Year 7 - 96.2%

Year 8 - 94.2%

Year 9 - 94.1%

Year 10 - 95.4%

Year 11 - 93.9%

Darwin - 95.9%

Orwell - 95.0%

Pankhurst - 93.4%

Our minimum expectation for all students is 96% attendance. Please can all parents do their utmost to promote positive attendance at home and ensure students are in school. If there are difficulties in getting your child to school, please do call us at the earliest opportunity so that we can support.

Please see the following OCC web pages for attendance guidance:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/school/absence-due-sickness>

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/school/lateness-and-absence>

Furthermore, it is important to know the impact of non-attendance on the amount of learning lost. We are always keen to point out that a day missed means a student will never experience the lessons missed from that day again!

Attendance %	Short term impact	Days missed per year	Learning hours missed per year	Learning lost in a school career
100	Full attendance	0	0	0
95	Half a day off per fortnight	10	50	10 weeks
90	A day off a fortnight	19	100	Half a year
85	A day and a half off per fortnight	29	150	Equivalent to missing most of Year 11
80	A day off per week	38	200	A full year

Leaving the school site during the day due to illness

Please can we remind all parents that students should not be making contact with home to arrange being picked up from school if they are feeling unwell. Students being collected due to illness must first have permission from the school. We will always seek to provide appropriate support and make an informed decision on whether a student is well enough to be in school if they present themselves to student services or housebase feeling ill. If your child contacts you to ask to be collected, please speak to the school first for further information. Without an agreement from the school that a child needs to be picked up, any absence for the remainder of that school day will be unauthorised.

Medical Appointments

Guidance from the OCC Attendance team states:

Schools request that parents make all but emergency appointments for medical and dental check ups outside of the school day. If this is not possible please give as much notice to the school of the appointment. If you need to collect your child from school for an appointment, you will need to sign them out of the building and back in again when you return. This is a legal requirement for Health and Safety purposes. Your child must attend school before and after the appointment where appropriate so that as little of the school day is missed as possible.

We do understand that this can be difficult in some circumstances to make appointments outside of the school day, but where possible, please ensure this has minimal impact on a student's school day. For routine check ups etc. please ensure these are booked outside of school hours, or during school holidays.

Supporting your child at home

There are many different reasons and points during your child's education where they may need some additional help and support, whether that is from school staff, friends or from family. Below are a few leaflets that have been produced by PiXL (a non-profit membership of around half secondary schools nationwide) that help to give advice and guidance to parents on a range of topics. For more leaflets on further topics, please go our website, and look under the 'Pastoral' section for further guidance. Furthermore, the NHS offer useful website pages with links to mental health specialists:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/mental-health-services/camhs-information-for-parents-and-carers/>

Self-care for teenagers

Information for parents and carers

PiXL
partners in excellence

Did you know?



Self-care is anything you enjoy doing that helps make you happy and maintains your physical, mental or emotional health. Self-care helps parents and teens deal with life's everyday pressures in a more positive and rewarding way. Recent research has revealed that teaching teenagers how to balance their own needs now will help them in the future, while reducing some of the strain on their lives right now. Self-care can lead to healthier, happier, more adjusted young people.

Studies have demonstrated that when parents practice self-care, it's been shown that teens are encouraged to do the same, and take this positive habit into later life. So, your self-care helps teach your child how to look after themselves better.

Research shows that we need to build self-care habits from an early age so that when your child hits difficulties and roadblocks, they are able to navigate them skilfully and stay strong and steady. Self-care for teenagers is crucial with all the hormone changes, mood swings, struggles with self-image, self-esteem and building independence.



What can you do?

Helping your child learn self-care can help them get through tough times such as exams, challenges or adversities. Suggest ideas to them about how to take care of their physical health, mental health and to be creative. Ideas include exercising, walking, having a manicure, going for a haircut, seeing friends, having a bath, reading books, listening to podcasts or drawing.

Self-care works best as a routine to help your child feel energised and deal with pressures well. Talk to your child about the importance of doing things they enjoy and that make them feel happy. Bounce ideas around with them, put them in the calendar and support them as they do them.

Encourage your child to make self-care a priority, remind them about it every so often and help them with what you can do together. Doing self-care activities together not only helps your child to cultivate good habits, it also helps your mind and body be at its best. Ideas don't need to be time consuming or elaborate, and sometimes they might be indulging! Get started by cooking healthy meals together, pursuing hobbies, taking pride in each other's appearance, having fun, getting outdoors, volunteering, or by watching a feel-good film.



e: enquiries@pixl.org.uk www.pixl.org.uk

Sleep

Information for parents and carers

PiXL
partners in excellence

Did you know?



The Sleep Council highlights how quality sleep is essential for growth and development and that your child needs between 8-10 hours sleep every night. Teen's body clocks naturally shift to make them feel tired later in the evening, but early school starts do not enable them to sleep in the mornings. Chronic sleep deprivation can have a huge effect on a teenager's life and mental wellbeing.

Further research shows that there is a link between getting enough sleep, sleep awareness and student performance. Numerous studies have shown that not getting enough sleep can negatively affect school performance and impair cognitive function.

Teens need more sleep than adults. Research shows that the brain's ability to process information declines with lack of sleep. Our emotional responses, empathy towards others and tendency to do silly things all goes up with lack of sleep. Long term sleep deprivation can suppress the immune system, lead to forms of cancer, heart disease and metabolic abnormalities.

What can you do?



Help your child establish a good sleep routine. Encourage them to limit screen time before bed and to read a book or magazine instead. Get them to keep a sleep diary over a two-week period to see how much sleep they are getting and how they can improve it. Have a conversation with your child about their sleep.

Eating late at night is not good for digestion or aiding a better night's sleep. Make sure your child avoids sugary and heavy foods late at night and doesn't drink caffeine or energy drinks from lunchtime onwards. Healthy habits such as warm milk or camomile tea, daily exercise, relaxing in the evening and having a calming bedroom environment, can all help your child get a better night's sleep.

Try to get your child to go to bed at the same time each night and wake up at the same time each morning – even on a weekend. A consistent sleep-wake cycle is really important for them to function well. Know the signs of sleep deprivation and work with your child to find a routine that works for them.



e: enquiries@pixl.org.uk www.pixl.org.uk

Handling the pressure of external exams

PiXL
partners in excellence

Information for parents and carers

Did you know?



Exam stress can be really challenging, not only for children but for those that live with them. Research shows that having someone to talk to about their work can help. Support from a parent, teacher or friend can help young people share their worries and keep things in perspective.

Survey research has identified that exams are a significant source of stress and worry for pupils in secondary school. In particular, failing important examinations, and the consequences of failing these examinations, are rated as more important than a range of other personal and social worries. (Optimus education)

The NHS highlight that Children and young people who experience stress may:

- worry a lot
- feel tense
- get lots of headaches and stomach pains
- not sleep well
- be irritable
- lose interest in food, or eat more than normal
- not enjoy activities they previously enjoyed
- seem negative and low in their mood
- seem hopeless about the future

What can you do?



Watch out for signs of stress and encourage your child to talk to a member of school staff or someone who they feel is supportive. If you feel your child isn't coping, it may also be helpful for you to talk to their teachers at school.

Encourage and support your child to build and maintain healthy habits before and during the exam period, such as eating a healthy balanced diet, staying hydrated, getting enough sleep, doing exercise, having time to relax and to socialise with friends.

Remind your child that feeling nervous and anxious is

normal. Support them to be organised, have a routine and build a revision timetable. Try not to add to their pressure by being flexible with them. Talk to them about how they feel, remind them of their goals in life and motivate them to stay focused. Staying calm will help them remain calm - and exams don't last forever.



e: enquiries@pixl.org.uk www.pixl.org.uk

Mental health

Information for parents and carers



Did you know?



Research states that mental health issues affect about 1 in 10 children. The emotional wellbeing of children is just as important as their physical health. Good mental health allows young people to develop resilience, cope with the ups and downs in life and grow into healthy adults.

Surveys suggest that most young people are mentally healthy but more children are having problems due to life changes, traumatic events, feeling vulnerable or not coping with difficult situations. The Guardian has recently published that tens of thousands of young people in Britain are struggling with their mental health and are seeking help online for problems.

Research indicates that common mental health problems for young people include depression, self-harm, eating disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and panic attacks. Poor mental health in childhood affects educational attainment, increases the likelihood of smoking, alcohol and drug use, and has consequences for poorer physical health in later life.



What can you do?

Take time to do some research about mental health issues and symptoms with young people. Point your child towards websites or helplines that can give them information as well. Here are some useful websites to get you started:

www.mind.org.uk www.youngminds.org.uk

Seek further advice from a professional if you are worried or concerned about your child.

Talk to your child about any worries they have, be supportive and show empathy and understanding. Try to avoid persistent questioning but encourage them to open up to you and reassure them that you are there to help them. Try to make your child feel loved, trusted and safe.

Don't blame yourself for any problems your child is having as this will not help the situation. Be honest and explain that you are worried and help them access the right kind of help. Encourage your child to take up healthy habits to help them to maintain a positive state of mental health. Examples are:

- Healthy eating
- Good sleep routine
- Seeing friends and connecting with others
- Taking time out to relax
- Exercising
- Doing hobbies
- Spend time outdoors

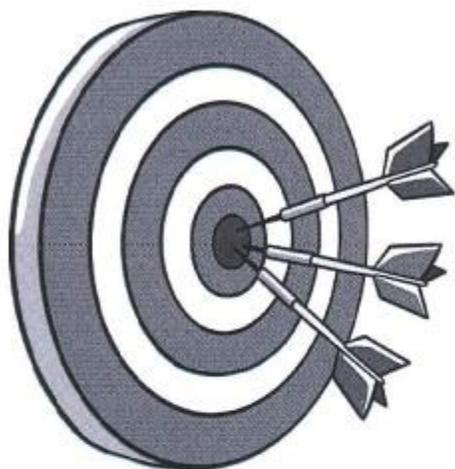
e: enquiries@pixl.org.uk www.pixl.org.uk

Relaxation

Information for parents and carers



Did you know?



Research shows that young people face many different kinds of stress, worry, anxiety and can feel overwhelmed for various reasons. Relaxation has been defined as a 'state of being free from tension and anxiety'. We often forget to switch off as adults but it is important that we do that in order to help children learn important skills.

Many studies highlight the benefits of relaxation and here are a few:

- Slows the heart and breathing rate
- Improves concentration and mood
- Reduces anger and frustration
- Reduces the activity of stress hormones
- Improves digestion
- Increases blood flow to the muscles
- Relaxes the muscles
- Improves sleep quality

An important part of teenage life should be relaxation. It is an essential part of maintaining health and wellbeing and being able to calmly deal with stress and pressure which, as we know, can be quite intense during the school years and especially being an adolescent.



What can you do?

One of the simplest relaxation techniques is to practice breathing. Teach your child to take deep slow breaths when they are feeling anxious. Just a few deep breaths can provide an instant calming effect that can help reduce stress. Look out for mindfulness apps or video resources on YouTube that offer example breathing exercises, such as Headspace or Calm.

Learning to relax is something that you can do together as a family. Try having a go at a Yoga or a relaxing activity together. Yoga will improve flexibility, posture and give you and your child a sense of inner calm. Encourage your child to go to a local class or

follow a simple Yoga session on YouTube. Other things could be having quiet time to read, going for a walk, listening to music or watching a feel-good film.

Another technique for your child to try is 'imagery', having a vision about a happy place so their brains can take a break. Ask them to write down a description of their happy place which includes how it looks, feels, smells and sounds. When they are stressed out, ask them to close their eyes and to think about it. Just like new skills, relaxation techniques require practice so keep prompting them to find out what works for them.

e: enquiries@pixl.org.uk www.pixl.org.uk

Writing for Teenagers Trip for Year 9

On Friday 8th March Miss Cindy and I took a small group of Year 9 students to a conference which is held annually at Leighton Park School. The conference is an opportunity for enthusiastic young writers to extend their opportunities. On the day students from a selection of local schools meet up and coming authors and have the opportunity to hear them talk about their writing and attend a workshop with one of the authors.

This year the authors included Julian Sedgwick, who is the Patron of Reading at Leighton Park School. The other authors were: Alexis Deacon, Alice Broadway, Penny Joelson and Mel Darbon. Alice, Penny and Mel also took part in a 'Rising Stars' panel discussion led by Chris Routh, the librarian at Leighton Park. These authors are all relatively new. Mel for instance has just had one book published, 'Rosie Loves Jack' which is set in Henley; Mel used to live in Henley and her children used to come to Gillotts School. Her heroine Rosie runs away from Henley College. Mel has another book to be published soon. The day was very well organized with a good lunch and refreshment breaks, time to visit the bookshop and have books signed by the authors.

The students involved were: Katie Langdon, Felix Wilson, Vicky McDonagh, Lucy Tucker, Trilby Keegan, Rufus Tubb, Evie Warner-Starr, Hannah Leach-Scrivens and Georgia Eggleton. Hannah said about the day:

"I thought it was a great experience and I learnt about what it's actually like to be a writer. I loved the workshop, although I feel as though it would have been good for all the students to be able to have a workshop with each of the writers. The bit at the end was also very good; being able to ask the authors questions about their jobs.

Although the beginning was good, I feel as though it went on for too long, it is hard for anyone to sit for two hours straight listening to people talk, and I think it could have been shortened and swapped for more workshops.

I had a lot of fun and it was a great event to go on."

Needless to say the students were a delight to take out for the day and it was as much of an enjoyable experience for the staff as it was for the students. Claire Knight, the librarian at Reading Blue Coat School, said of our students: "A few of your girls were in my workshop during the afternoon – they were so lovely! They were well-behaved, polite and personable young women, an asset to the school."



World Book Day 2019

Gillotts School celebrated World Book Day in a big way this year. Students and staff were invited and encouraged to plan ahead for the big day, and also to extend the celebrations. It is difficult to fit everything into one day, therefore a lot was happening throughout January and February, with Year 7 lessons focusing on World Book Day starting after half-term. One initiative this year was to get students more involved in the planning. A team of helpers from Year 7 spent tutor times making posters and promoting the event to tutor groups. They recruited volunteers to help with our fund-raising cake sale and asked tutors to display posters and put a sheet on a noticeboard in their classroom telling us what they are reading. The Year 7 team also planned and delivered special assembly sessions to Years 7, 8 and 9, even down to demonstrating costume ideas for dressing up on the day.

After the half-term break, many of the Year 7 classes spent part of their library lesson making dream jars and story boxes. These are all on display in the library. A special mention must go to Charlie Hughes in Miss Beer's class for his peep-show style version of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory!



Years 7 and 8



The Star-Spun Web Sinead O'Hart

With a fabulous heroine at its heart and propelled by a fast-paced adventure in not just one world but others too, *The Star-Spun Web* is a spell-binding fantasy adventure. As a little baby, Tass-de Sousa is left on a doorstep by her father in an effort to keep her safe. To be safe, he knows he has to get her out of one world and into another. Apparently orphaned, Tess, with her pet tarantula for company, grows up in Ackerbee's Home for Lost and Foundlings where she is encouraged to use her brain to do difficult scientific research and is very much loved by all. (Review by Julia Eccleshare from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



Midnight at Moonstone Laura Hucker

Kit's father is away AGAIN, and although she's supposed to be staying with her brother and sister, Kit steals away to visit her grandfather at Moonstone Manor. The costume museum once filled with extravagant wonders, is now an aging house with creaking floorboards and damp walls. The decadent fashion designs seem dull and lifeless. The fabrics worn and dusty. But there is still magic within Moonstone's walls, and Kit will soon discover that the old costumes hold their own secret splendour... because on the

stroke of midnight, the costumes come to life. And they've got a lot to say. (Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



Our Castle by the Sea Lucy Strange

from the bestselling author of *THE SECRET OF NIGHTINGALE WOOD* comes an exciting wartime mystery entwined with magic and myth... 'A beautiful story.' KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE, author of *The Girl on the Train* & *Stars* '[A] mesmerising second novel' *THE TELEGRAPH* 'A poignant and uplifting tale packed with adventure, atmosphere and intriguing characters.' *MAIL ON SUNDAY* England is at war. Growing up in a lighthouse, Pet's world has been one of storms, secret tunnels and stories about sea monsters. But now the cliffs are a terrifying battleground, and her family is torn apart. This is the story of a girl who is small, afraid and unnoticed. A girl who freezes with fear at the enemy planes ripping through the skies overhead. A girl who is somehow destined to become part of the strange, ancient legend of the Daughters of Stone... (Review from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



The Turnaway Girls Hayley Chivins

On the strange, stormy island of Blytheend, twelve-year-old Delphemia Undersea has spent her whole life in the cloister of turnaway girls, hidden from sea and sky by a dome of stone and the laws of the island. Outside, the Masters play their music. Inside, the turnaway girls silently make their music into gold. Making shimmer. Mother Mine calls it. But Delphemia can't make shimmer. She would rather sing than stay silent.

When a Master who doesn't act like a Master comes to the skydoor, it's a chance for Delphemia to leave the cloister. Outside the stone dome, the sea breathes like a wild beast, the sky watches with stars like eyes, and even the gardeners have claws. (Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



Scavengers Darren Simpson

Landfill has lived his whole life as a scavenger, running with wolfers, swimming with turtles and feasting on beach gull. Old Babago has always looked after him, on one condition - follow his rules. NEVER COME LOOKING OUTSIDE. NEVER RISE ABOVE THE WALL. But despite the dangers, Landfill longs to see Outside. And some rules are made to be broken. (Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



The Whispers Greg Howard

A coming-of-age tale that will make you laugh and cry, perfect for fans of *Time Travelling With a Hamster* and *The Goldfish Boy*. Before she disappeared, Riley's mum used to tell him stories about the Whispers, mysterious creatures with the power to grant wishes. Riley wishes for lots of things. He wishes his secret crush Dylan liked him back. He wishes the bumbling detective would stop asking awkward questions. But most of all he wishes his mother would come home... Four months later, the police are no closer to finding out the truth - and Riley decides to take matters into his own hands. But do the Whispers really exist? And what is Riley willing to do to find out? (Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



The Peculiar Pegs of Riddling Woods Samuel J Halpin

This is the story of a sleepy town called Suds. A place where stories fill the air of children who keep turning grey and disappearing without a trace... Poppy and Erasmus are certain there's something peculiar going on in Suds, and they're determined to unravel its secrets. But when they discover the answers might lie in the dark and twisting woods, can they find the courage to creep inside and solve this riddling mystery? (Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



The Dog who Saved the World Ross Welford

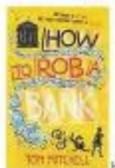
Ross Welford has a knack for combining science and philosophical questions in stories that stem from things we all understand - family, friendship, self-discovery and love. Georgie and her friend Ramy are fascinated by the eccentric Dr Pretorius and the amazing VR machine she's created in her secret hideout on the Whitley Bay seafront. She claims it can send them into the future, something Georgie is willing to try, despite the dangers, if the future holds a cure for the disease that is threatening all dogs - including her beloved Mister Mash - and even humanity itself. Welford cleverly balances tension with humour and sets readers thinking about

what's really important in our lives. (Recommended by students in 7B1. Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



Oh my Gods Alexandra Sheppard

Life as a half-mortal teenager should be epic. But, for Helen Thomas, it's tragic. She's just moved in with her donky dad and self-absorbed older siblings - who happen to be the ancient Greek gods, living incognito in London! Between keeping her family's true identities secret, trying to impress her new friends, and meeting an actually cute boy, Helen's stress levels are higher than Mount Olympus. She needs to rein in her chaotic family before they blow their cover AND her chances at a half-normal social life. Or is Helen fated for an embarrassment of mythical proportions? (Recommended by students in 7B1. Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



How to rob a Bank Tom Mitchell

A hilarious, witty and fast-paced crime-caper by 2019's funniest new voice in teen fiction. Some people rob banks because they're greedy. Others enjoy the adrenalin rush. Me? I robbed a bank because of guilt. Specifically: guilt and a Nepalese scented candle... When fifteen-year-old Dylan accidentally burns down the house of the girl he's trying to impress, he feels that only a bold gesture can make it up to her. A gesture like robbing a bank to pay for her new home. Only an unwanted Saturday job, a tyrannical bank manager, and his unfinished history homework lie between Dylan and the best of century. And really, what's the worst that could happen? A

funny, cinematic, ill-advised comedy-crime adventure perfect for gamers, heist movie fans, and anyone who loves a laugh. (Recommended by students in 7B1. Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



The Last Zoo Sam Gayton

Pia lives in a zoo in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with her parents (both ghosts), several old and cranky germs, a devil, and two young angels. She spends her days trimming germs' boards, trying to avoid being tricked into selling her soul, and waiting for the angels to make a miracle big enough to save the world. Then the angels go missing. Can she solve the riddles of the mysterious haloes the angels have left behind? Is the zoo's devil really trying to help her? And what does this all have to do with her best friends, the Rekkers? Pia needs to solve the mystery fast, because everything around her seems to be ending: her friendships, her childhood, and maybe even the world itself. (Recommended by students in 7B1. Synopsis from lovereading4kids.co.uk)



Happy Girl Lucky Holly Smale

Introducing The Valentines. Fame - It Runs in the Family! Sisters Hope, Faith and Merry have everything: fame, success, money and beauty. But what Hope wants most of all is love, and it doesn't matter how far she has to go to find it. Except real life isn't like the movies. Even if you're a Valentine...

Happy Girl Lucky is the first hilarious, heart-warming book in The Valentines series. From the internationally bestselling author of *Book Girl*, *Italy Smile*. (Synopsis from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Lightning Mary Anthea Simmons

The inspiring story of Mary Anning who, born at the end of the eighteenth century, fought against all the odds to become a pioneering scientist and fossil hunter. Inspired by her father who took her out on fossil hunting expeditions on the cliffs and beaches around Lyme Regis, Mary was fascinated by the beauty of the finds and by what they said about the past. Her exceptional curiosity was matched by incredible courage which led her to take dare-devil risks as she searched for rare examples. She also knew their worth and was never shy in selling them well to the many visitors to the area who came to wonder. Anthea Simmons tells Mary's story as an exciting adventure and also as a rousing story of what an intelligent and brave woman can do. (Synopsis by Julia Eccleshare from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Blume Katie Watson and the Painter's Plot Mae Blume

This is the first of Mae Blume's stories about Katie. Visiting Otterly Manor, the young girl goes on an adventure and is transported back into the England of Shakespeare's day when she steps back in time through the medium of a painting. The author is a history enthusiast and aims to give children some

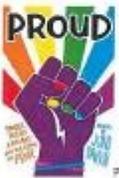
accurate information about the historical period in the context of an adventure. Katie has to solve the mystery of Otterly Manor and also get back home to the twenty first century before it is too late. (Synopsis by Mrs Seddon)

Years 9, 10 and 11



Whiteout Gabriel Dylan

A group of Brazilian sixth-formers experience a whole lot more than the thrills and chills of the ski-slopes they're expecting when one of their party discovers a trail of blood in their lodge. For outcast Charlie this trip was supposed to be a break from his troubled home life, but he and his peers are now up to their necks in a gruesome, gory nightmare. Matters take a monstrous, gory turn after ski instructor Harma tells the students a tale 'about things that lived in the woods. Things that only came out at night'... (Review by Joanne Owen from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Proud Juno Dawson (Compiler)

Compiled by YA author and broadcaster Juno Dawson, this inspiring anthology of illustrated short stories by LGBTQ+ writers shines a light on a kaleidoscopic array of experiences through an equally kaleidoscopic breadth of genres, themes and styles.

From Chinese lesbian fairy tale *The Phoenix's Fault* by Cynthia So, to Simon James Green's hilarious, heart-

warming *Penguins* (who would've thought a pair of penguins could steal a person's coming out thunder?), this is a powerfully diverse collection. (Review by Joanne Owen from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Nothing but the Truth Dick Lehr

Inspired by the true story of a young man's false imprisonment for murder, this is a gripping novel about a daughter's fight for justice against the odds. In his first book for teenagers, Dick Lehr, a former reporter for the Boston Globe's famous Spotlight Team, has re-imagined a case he investigated to create a compelling story about a daughter determined to prove her father's innocence. On a hot summer night in Boston, a thirteen-year-old African-American girl became the innocent victim of gang-related gunfire. Amid public outcry, an immediate manhunt was on to catch the murderer, and a young African-American man was quickly apprehended, charged, and - wrongly - convicted of the crime. (Synopsis from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Outside Sarah Ann Juckes

Here's the thing about being inside. Ain't no one believes that they are. Ele has never been Outside, but she knows it exists - she just has to prove it. Her whole world is Inside. Trapped with her books and the Others and Him. She has never seen a tree or felt the rain but that's about to change. Ele's getting out. For good. ____ In the spirit of Emma Donoghue's *Room*, *Outside* is a poignant story of strength, friendship and unconditional love, even in the most challenging of circumstances.



Courting Darkness Robie Lafayette

When Sybella accompanies the Duchess of Brittany to France, she expects trouble, but she isn't expecting a deadly trap. Surrounded by enemies both known and unknown, Sybella searches for the undercover assassin from the convent of St. Mortain who were placed in the French court years ago. Genevieve has been undercover for so many years, she no longer knows who she is or what she's supposed to be fighting for. When she discovers a hidden prisoner who may be of importance, she takes matters into her own hands. As these two worlds collide, the fate of the Duchess, Brittany, and everything Sybella and Genevieve have come to love hangs in the balance. (Synopsis from loveread4kids.co.uk)



On the Come Up Angie Thomas

Br! is a smart hip-hop writer from rough, tough Garden Heights, the same housing project that provided the setting for Thomas's remarkable debut, *The Hate U Give*. Her underground rap legend dad was murdered twelve years ago, leading to her (now clean) mom seeking solace in drugs. Br!'s dad's legacy means she has a hell of a lot of baggage when she performs at a big open mic event. While she shakes the first round after being goaded by her opponent in a scene that will have you desperately urging her on, Br!'s powerful lyrics and performance mark her out as something special. But as her hip-hop reputation is on the rise, so other aspects of her life take a downturn. (Review by Joanne Owen from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Monsters Sharon Dogar

An incredible take on the early turbulent years of a young Mary Shelley. Set in 1814 Mary Godwin, the sixteen-year-old daughter of radical socialist and feminist writers, runs away with a charming young poet Percy Bysshe Shelley.

1814. Mary Godwin, the sixteen-year-old daughter of radical socialist and feminist writers, runs away with a dangerously charming young poet - Percy Bysshe Shelley. From there, the two young lovers travel a Europe in the throes of revolutionary change, through high and low society, tragedy and passion, where they will be drawn into the orbit of the mad and bad Lord Byron. But Mary and Percy are not alone: they bring Jane, Mary's young step-sister. And she knows the biggest secrets of them all... Told from Mary and Jane's perspectives, *Monsters* is a novel about radical ideas, rule-breaking love, dangerous Romantics, and the creation of the greatest Gothic novel of them all: *Frankenstein*. (Synopsis from loveread4kids.co.uk)



Zentner Rayne and Deliah's Midnight Matinee Jeff

About to graduate from high school, best friends Josie and Delia host a humorous horror movie show on public access TV, with Delia channeling her estranged dad's love of low-budget fright fests and Josie working towards a career in TV. Experts in the art of witty back and forth tennis-rally banter, the girls are super close, but unsettling changes are on the horizon. Delia is desperately torn-up by being abandoned by her dad and, having tracked him down to Florida, has to decide whether she wants to contact him, just when it looks like Josie is about to

leave her to take up an internship in another city. (Review by Joanne Owen from loveread4kids.co.uk)

For more book recommendations, please contact Mrs Seddon (term-time only) sseddon@g.lottis.org.uk and see also loveread4kids.co.uk

Gillotts STEM

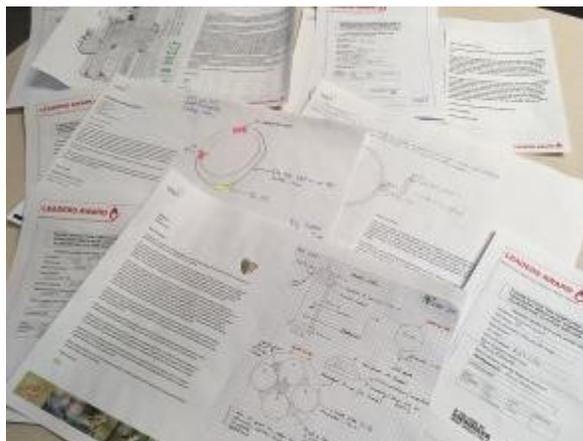
Robotics

The robotics team attended the CT First Lego League Robotics Tournament at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, Didcot on the 12th January 2019. They were up against tough competition from other schools in Oxfordshire. Although they didn't win, they worked together brilliantly as a team, displaying excellent core values. They are looking forward to competing again next year!



The Leaders Award - Engineering competition

Year 7-11 students watched an excellent live stream interview with Mechatronics Engineer Jenny Roberts for the Leaders Award Engineering competition. Well done to all students who took part and good luck to pupils who have sent off their entries!

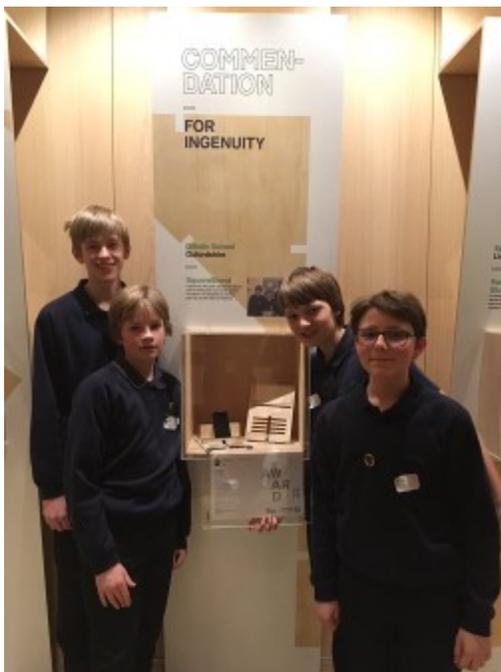


STEM Girl

Congratulations to Ella Wood who is attending Cybers First Girls Defenders at Nottingham University on 15th April and also an Exploring Engineering KS3 Event on 14th May 2019 at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, Didcot. This will be a great opportunity for her to see to see some big science projects!

Design Ventura

Creative Technologies students and their parents attended a special Celebration Event at the Design Museum recently to find out the winner of Design Ventura 2018-2019. They took part in workshops, a speed networking event where they met design professionals and attended the awards ceremony. The team 'SquareStand' (a wooden flat pack stand that allows you to prop up a book, phone or tablet) comprising of Angus Fraser, Desmond Malatt, Dan Loumont and Cameron Macdonald were successful in being awarded a commendation for 'ingenuity'. Their product is now on display in the Design Ventura exhibition which is free and open to the public until 28th April at the Design Museum.



Business

Congratulations to the Gillotts Business team Endeavour who took part in the Young Enterprise Oxfordshire competition! They did extremely well representing the school. Please see the details below for how you can continue to support them!



Who is Endeavour?

We may only be a small business but we have to start somewhere. Here at Endeavour we believe that a cleaner today is a brighter tomorrow so if we all join together as one big community WE CAN make a difference. We are a young enterprise company and as a team we focus on recycling crisp packets to turn them into useful pouches. Everything in the pouches we make is upcycled. We collect the crisp packets from around the school and get all the fabric lining, threads and zips from a local factory that would normally just throw them out.

Our Product is completely handmade. This ensures every product we make is high quality. Our future aspirations are to help raise awareness about litter and pollution in our oceans. We want to come up with new ways and products to help reduce waste going into landfill and the sea. We're here to make a difference and that difference starts with you!

Email for more details - gillottsendeavour@gmail.com

Instagram - [endeavour.ye](https://www.instagram.com/endeavour.ye)



Food

Fantastic work has taken place in Food Preparation and Nutrition this term. Well done to all our students!



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Congratulations to the 83 students who completed their Bronze award practice expedition in good weather on the weekend of 30-31 March. They hiked from Lane End near High Wycombe to Swiss Farm for the overnight camp and then on to Pinkneys Green the next day. A few students had to retire due to injury so some groups did well to soldier on with reduced numbers. Leaders were impressed by those who followed instructions carefully and navigated their own way and those who covered a few more miles than expected!

Thank you to parents for leaving quickly after drop off. In future can we ask that parents wait for the call to come to collect as parking is a real problem when there are so many waiting cars.

The weekend was good preparation for the assessed expedition on 11-12 May and we are looking forward to the Silver practice expedition coming up on 4 -6 May.



Gillotts students ski trip

Forty students from Gillotts enjoyed a week's skiing in Champoluc in February, in the beautiful Aosta valley in Italy. The students were lucky to have splendid sunshine every day with blue skies, great visibility and fantastic skiing on the uncrowded slopes. Evening entertainment included cross-country skiing, featuring individual and team races, followed by the local speciality hot chocolate (which is so thick that it is often easier to eat with a spoon) and a fun evening at a mountain restaurant high above Champoluc eating pizza and singing karaoke.

The photo shows the students relaxing after their evening cross-country skiing.



Parents Association Update

I am writing to you on behalf of the Gillotts Parents Association to ask if you would consider becoming an active member on the Committee.

We are a small, friendly group who meet every few months to help initiatives that raise money for the school. Last year we raised £7500 to be spent on resources that directly benefit our children - this year looks to be even more. We have recently funded an outdoor table tennis table, musical instruments, funding for the Arts Spectacular, a library for Learning Support, PE transport and outdoor benches. It goes without saying, the more of us there are, the more we can raise, the less time commitment is needed.

At a time when school budgets are increasingly under pressure any contribution that you can make towards fundraising, direct or indirect, can only enrich the education of the children at Gillotts. Help provide some of the extras that government funding no longer permits.

We have also found that being part of the Parents Association committee gives you a closer connection to the school, one which we value and can only benefit our own children.

As a registered charity we are required to have an elected Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Both our Treasurer and I will leave the Committee at the end of this school year as our children reach the end of their time at Gillotts. We are in urgent need of a few new committee members who can ensure the future of the PA and ideally shadow the elected roles. I know it certainly helped me to do so!

The time commitment is not perhaps as big as you fear! We are all working parents and take on roles and participate when we can. Many of the fundraising events are well established and when we tackle them as a team are not that time consuming - especially when supported by the wider group of PA members around bigger events.

I know the school is extremely grateful for all the support parents already give - from helping with homework, to supporting the staff, attending events and contributing towards the School Fund, but we would just like to ask if you could consider whether it's possible for you to contribute by joining the Parents Association committee?

I can be contacted via email at gillottspa@gmail.com and I would be very happy to arrange a chat to discuss further.

Denise Williams
Chairperson

Other News

SMILE!

A massive thank you to everyone who is using the AmazonSmile programme to make donations while you shop on AMAZON! The rate isn't massive, but we received a donation of £60 for the last quarter, so it all adds up! Details of how to nominate Gillotts can be found on the Parents Association page on the school website.

<http://gillotts.oxon.sch.uk/parents/parents-association/>

SUMMER BBQ: Friday 28th June

Keep the evening free for the PA's Annual Summer BBQ. The weather has been very kind to us over recent years and it has been a fun and relaxed opportunity for our community and a chance to welcome new Year 6 students at the end of their Pioneer visits.

If you are able to help in any way, with donations to a fundraising auction/raffle or can flip a few burgers, please drop us a line! gillottspa@gmail.com

Next Meeting:

Parents Association Summer Committee Meeting: Tuesday 7th May 2019, 6:30pm

Everyone is very welcome to attend our Committee Meetings.

Meetings are held in Room A1, The Arts Block at Gillotts. Other informal meetings are held for ideas, planning and socialising in between these Committee Meetings.

Best wishes,

The PA Team

gillottspa@gmail.com



Paid Internship Programme for Teaching

Are you in your **penultimate year** of study of a STEM degree? If yes then we have a paid work-experience programme that might be just right for you!

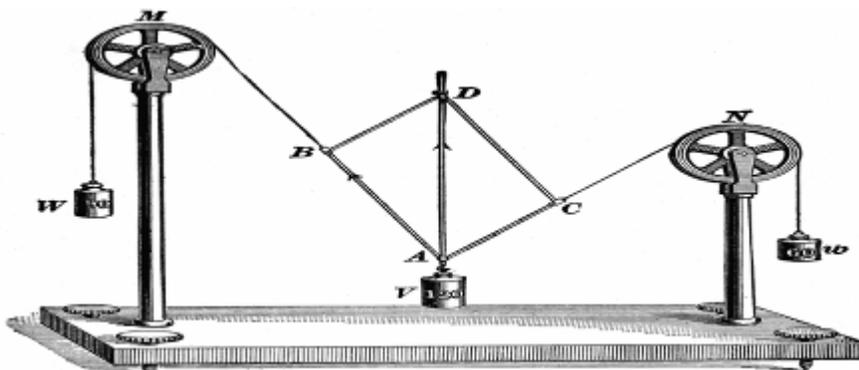
We have won a DFE grant to offer teaching internships running from the 24th June-19th July 2019 in state secondary schools across Oxfordshire. Interns will receive a bursary of £300/week.

The programme is designed to give you a realistic picture of what teaching maths or physics would be like and includes the chance to be involved in:

- structured training, shadowing and lesson observation, opportunities to jointly plan and deliver lessons
- running science projects, offering support for children who are struggling, and helping with experiments
- one to one mentoring sessions with experts in their field

Take a look at our website to find out more of what Gillotts as a Teaching School is offering:

<http://gillotts.oxon.sch.uk/teaching-school/teaching-school-overview/>





OTSA School Experience Programme (SEP)

Teaching is more than just a job; it is a vocation but it is not for everyone. The best way to decide whether or not teaching might be the right career for you is to get some classroom experience.

Sign up for the OTSA School Experience Programme [here](#).

We work with schools across Oxfordshire to offer interested applicants a chance to get into state schools and see what life in the classroom is really like. We run this programme because we want to make getting experience in schools as easy as possible. If you would like us to we'll guide you on every step on the journey from these early observation experiences, through preparing you for interview, onto a training course and throughout your career.

Placements are typically one or two days long with the majority of the time being spent in the classroom in lessons. On the first day, there will be some time to think about how to observe lessons effectively as well as some information on the different training routes. After that you will be able to watch a range of subject lessons taught to different age groups, observe tutor time (part of the pastoral programme) and talk to teachers about their experiences of day-to-day life in school. As well as giving you invaluable insight into whether or not teaching might be right for you these placements also provide you with relevant school experience to support an application for teacher training.

I have been teaching for fifteen years in Oxfordshire state schools and despite the undeniable pressures of the job, I know I wouldn't do anything else!

Sarah McHugh

Teaching School Director



Term dates for 2018 - 2019

The dates set out below are the confirmed school term and holiday dates from September 2018.

Term	Dates	Number of days
Autumn Term	04 September - 19 October	34
October half term	22 October - 26 October	
Autumn Term	29 October - 21 December	40
Christmas holiday	24 December - 04 January	
Spring Term	07 January - 15 February	30
Spring half term	18 February - 22 February	
Spring Term	25 February - 05 April	30
Easter Holiday	08 April - 22 April	
Summer Term	23 April - 24 May	23
Late Spring half term	27 May - 31 May	
Summer Term	03 June - 24 July	38
Total		195

INSET days

The school will be closed to students on:

Tuesday 4 September 2018

Friday 28 September 2018

Monday 22 July 2019

Tuesday 23 July 2019

Wednesday 24 July 2019

Note that only Year 7 and Year 10 (and Year 11 Leaders) are required to attend on Wednesday 5 September 2018. The remainder of the school returns on Thursday 6 September 2018.

6 May 2019 is the May Day bank holiday.

Early closures (12.30pm)

Thursday 27 September 2018

Staff and students preparation for Open Evening

Friday 21 December 2018

Friday 19 July 2019

Term dates for 2019 - 2020

The dates set out below are the confirmed school term and holiday dates from September 2019.

Term	Dates	Number of days
Autumn Term	02 September - 25 October	40
October half term	28 October - 01 November	
Autumn Term	4 November - 19 December	34
Christmas holiday	20 December - 03 January	
Spring Term	06 January - 14 February	30
Spring half term	17 February - 21 February	
Spring Term	24 February - 03 April	30
Easter Holiday	06 April - 17 April	
Summer Term	20 April - 22 May	24
Late Spring half term	25 May - 29 May	
Summer Term	01 June - 21 July	37
Total		195

INSET days

The school will be closed to students on:

Monday 2 September 2019

Friday 27 September 2019

Friday 3 July 2020

Monday 20 July 2020

Tuesday 21 July 2020

Note that only Year 7 and Year 10 (and Year 11 Leaders) are required to attend on Tuesday 3 September 2019. The remainder of the school returns on Wednesday 4 September 2019

4 May 2020 is the May Day bank holiday.

Early closures (12.30pm)

Thursday 26 September 2019

Staff and students preparation for Open Evening

Thursday 19 December 2019

Friday 17 July 2020