



## Working together

Welcome back after the half-term and I know it's not Friday but I would like Issue 28 to recognise the next phase of our schools development as we join the Magna Learning Partnership- MLP. You would have received a letter from myself and Sarah Busby yesterday, via your son/daughter, formally announcing our move into the partnership from 1<sup>st</sup> November and I would like to echo our delight at joining this strong partnership of schools. We have been working closely together for at least six months and are already enjoying the partnership with other schools for the benefit of Sarum Academy and all pupils in Salisbury. I look forward to seeing our collaboration build a stronger educational platform for Salisbury in recognition that together we are stronger. Many thanks to all parents who were part of the consultation process and for placing your trust in our organisation.

## OfSTED News

You will be waiting for news at this time of the outcomes of recent OfSTED inspection. The report should be available soon. Having had sight of the draft report I am sure your will not be disappointed. Thank you for the many positive comments you placed on the OfSTED website. The inspectors commented that the feedback from parents had been the "most positive he had ever seen". Watch this space for our announcement.

## Parents Evenings

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Year 12 and Year 13

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Year 11 Parents Evening

## YOUTH MATTERS



childrens chance

If you missed my article in the Salisbury Journal over half-term. Here it is in full. Childrens Chance is a Salisbury charity that aims to give children and young people whose families are going through hard times, or who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, the opportunity to do things that would otherwise be denied them, and which can so often be taken for granted. Check out the website.

[www.childrens-chance.co.uk](http://www.childrens-chance.co.uk)



## Local school bucking the national trend

"The question I ask myself as Headteacher all of the time is how we enable young people, especially those from the most disadvantaged backgrounds or from those families 'just about managing', to succeed. The South West of the UK has some of the highest underachievement for its most disadvantaged learners and how is it we are bucking that trend. This academic year pupils from the most disadvantaged backgrounds made progress well above the national average. In fact the school lies 6<sup>th</sup> in the league tables for Wiltshire for all pupils, and in the top quartile of

**schools nationally in terms of pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.** Their challenges are often compounded with high levels of special educational need and low self-esteem as locally they recognise that they failed to make the grade for the grammar schools or failed in attaining the highest levels at Key Stage 2. That however does not decry the fantastic work going on in local primary education or the valued support of parents.

For the Academy the answer is simple, provide pupils with highest standards of teaching, a breadth of opportunity beyond the curriculum, and in removing barriers to engagement. There is no such thing as a normal upbringing. Children's lives are no longer simple, they are expected to cope with greater rigour in an exam system, not always aligned to their aspirations or ambitions, greater contributions in the family home as we as adults work longer hours making 'ends meet'. Social pressures compounded by social media, challenging job markets and for pupils locally the stigma of not getting into the grammar school and how they perceive themselves in the 'pecking order'.

Sarum Academy recognises the implications for young people and in doing so has developed a curriculum that both addresses their academic issues and enriches their lives. We place as much emphasis on the support of the child alongside a clear expectation that how pupils respond in their lessons is crucial to their success. Pupil centred leadership is at the heart of a great educational experience. Leadership teaches pupils a whole range of skills including resilience, reliance on themselves and others and how their individual contributions affect those around them. When pupils feel in control, take pride in their 'best work', effect a change in others and take responsibility for themselves and others they grow both personally and academically. Giving them the confidence to achieve highly."

## Yr 7 - Maths Rock Stars



Well done to the following Year 7 pupils for topping the Maths times tables Rock Stars league table for speed. TJ tops the table answering a question every 2.54 seconds. Let's see if he's beaten! Pupils can log on at home and practice their maths fluency.

TJ Kitchener	7M2	2.54
Matthew Scott	7M2	2.94
Reece Bailey	7M2	3.14
Ayesha Ridout	7M2	3.17
Hollie Viola	7M2	3.31

Tiffany Taylor	7M2	3.73
Millie Keel	7M2	3.9
Leah Trebilcock	7M2	4.2
Oliwia Terlecka	7M2	4.26
Jamie Cooper	7M2	4.58
Josh Coward	7M2	4.65

## STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

Mr Randall – Teacher of Science

Just before the Summer Holiday (better late than never) five intrepid electrical engineers from Year 9 (now Year 10); Chloe Yates, Lance Smith, Aiden Jackson-Deverill, William Holt and Kieron James took part in the Interschool Robotics Challenge at Boscombe Down. This is an event sponsored by both Lego UK and Quinetic to encourage pupils to consider the various forms of engineering available. Ms Rickeard took the team over to Boscombe and once they had passed the intensive security checks they were taken for a trip round the base and shown various ongoing projects. Some were shrouded in secrecy still so were skipped past.

The competition itself involved designing, building and programming a Lego robot to navigate a path laid out on the floor and to pick up a bottle of water at the end and carry it on.

Our highly accomplished team won the event. The organizers were especially impressed with the programming skills shown by our team.

Well done to those involved and thanks to Ms Rickeard for organizing and attending the event.

## Sports News

Mr Pearce – CTL PE

## Canterbury Kit Day

Four pupils from Year 9 were lucky enough recently to attend the Canterbury kit day in Bristol as part of the National RFU scheme that the Academy are involved in. As part of the scheme, that is designed to get more pupils interested in rugby, the pupils were taken through a workshop on rugby kit designs and the different design

stages. Once this had been achieved the pupils were then allowed to go through each stage and design their own rugby kit for the Academy, starting at the thumb print stage to actually designing it on the computer. All four pupils were motivated and enthusiastic in making sure that Sarum had a fantastic rugby shirt to show off by the end of the day. 3.00pm came and designs were shown to the other schools. Jess Shergold was elected our lead speaker and did a fantastic job explaining the shirt and the key points within it. The pupils were then informed as a surprise that Canterbury would now take away the design and produce 20 copies for the Academy. Canterbury will be ready to release this by January 2018. Well done to all those that were involved (Dylan Antunovic-Fry, Daisy Gardener, Jess Shergold and Bradley Cave). We look forward to presenting the shirt to the Academy in assembly after Christmas.



## Wiltshire Cup win for Sixth Form

Sarum Sixth Form Southampton Satellite programme produced a gritty and determined performance in the Wiltshire Cup to beat John Bentley School 3-2 to reach the Quarter finals of the competition. With an injury hit squad Sarum started brightly and makeshift striker Connor Dawkins went close on a few occasions. It looked like it might be a frustrating afternoon when both the post and the bar were rattled until on the half hour Jack Stokes poked home from 3 yards out. Sarum were in complete control and looked to extend their lead but more wasteful finishing was punished on the brink of half time when a corner was not dealt with and the game was all square again at 1-1. Sarum came out second half and

performed much better, winning the second ball and 50-50 tackles. They took the lead again and then looked like putting the game to bed when they added a 3rd. However John Bentley pulled a goal back again to make it a tense last 15 minutes. The team however held firm and move on to the next round.

## Saints Foundation holds training ground day



Our first class of Sixth Form Saints Foundation pupils were recently lucky enough to be invited to Southampton FC first team training ground in Staplewood for a tour and Q&A session with Saints first team player James Ward-Prowse. The group spent the morning exploring the training ground discovering where the first team train, the excellent facilities for rehabilitation work and the endless amount of pitches on offer for the different Saints teams to train on. After this they were kitted out and took part in a training session with the two other Satellite program schools (Fleet and Isle of Wight Pupils). The pupils were put through their paces by the Saints coaching staff before heading to an afternoon with James Ward-Prowse. The pupils listened as James, the ex-England U21 Captain, spoke about his route in to football and his rise from youth football to captaining his national side. It was a great experience for the pupils and just one of lots of opportunities designed by the Saints Foundation as part of our fantastic partnership with the football club. We would like to thank Southampton FC for their fabulous hospitality and look forward to future events.