



Winter Newsletter

2023

UCA Textiles, Art and DT trip

On Wednesday 8th November, Art, DT and Textiles students visited the University for Creative Arts open day to explore a range of different creative degree courses. Students learnt about careers in fashion design, tailoring, fine art, photography, film and digital art amongst others.

Year 14 Foundation Art student comments include:

Shai White: BA (Hons) Textiles

"The facilities were fantastic with opportunities to study print, knit or weave and I really liked the accommodation options. It is definitely number 1 for my UCAS choice now for a degree in Textiles."

Holly Berridge on Digital Art BA (Hons)

"It was great to learn about a degree type I had not previously considered. I was really impressed with the broad spectrum of art forms within the digital art programme which taught about film, illustration, sound and digital art forms for installation and immersive artworks such as Van Gogh Alive exhibition."

Emma Clarke on Animation BA (Hons)

"The careers and work placements opportunities were excellent with alumni spanning across the industry- work placement and year abroad offers were exciting. Visiting artists include the Aardman team and Guillermo de Toro. All graduates benefitted from being entered into competitions many of whom are now award winners."



Duvet Dresses- Fashion reimagined

A Level Textiles - Year 12 students

Upcycled duvets using subtraction cutting principles learning more about zero waste of materials and understanding sustainability.

Photoshoot inspired by historical periods in fashion and powerful female role models.

Makers: Ruby Clein, Phoebe Coombs, Poppy Finlay, Keita-Lee Jansone, Gemma Morrell, Ruby Morris, Ruby Southcombe, Abby Spicer.

Models: As above plus Josophine Dolman and Rebecca Mileham.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE AND T-LEVEL CHILDCARE AND EDUCATION

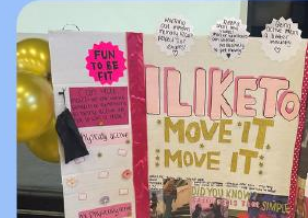
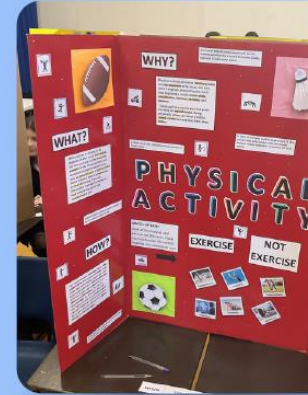
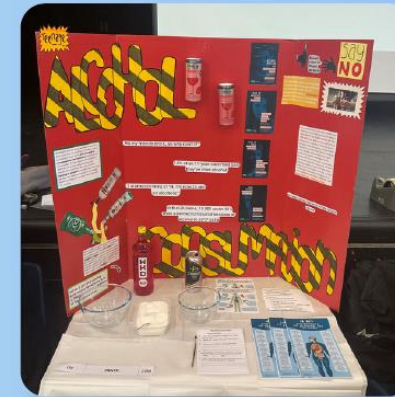
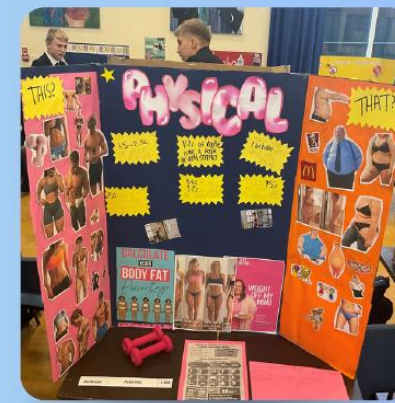
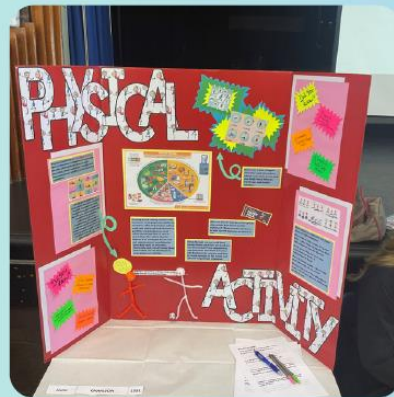
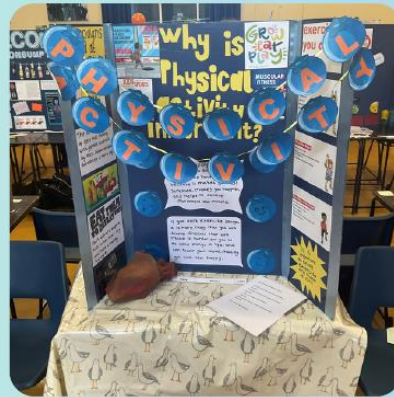
Took part in a first aid course where they gained certificates in level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work. They had a fantastic day and learnt essential skills for their future careers.



Health & Social Care

HEALTH PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS

Students from year 10 and 11 made display boards to promote a health care campaign, this year the topics were alcohol consumption and physical activity.



T-LEVELS

Our first cohort of year 13 Digital T Level students have successfully completed a 9 week Industry Placement with JP Morgan and Telesoft.

We are incredibly proud of the success that our students have had whilst on placement. Our students have had an opportunity to learn new skills and apply the classroom learning into practice in a real-life work environment.

Feedback from both placements has been excellent; student behaviours and technical understanding have exceeded the expectations of employers.

Taking part in a T Level Industry Placement provides our students with a chance to build a relationship early on with a local employer and offers a career pathway for our students.

Both JP Morgan and Telesoft offer Digital and Technology Degree Apprenticeships, for which many of our T Level students have already applied.



U14 County Netball Tournament



Well done to our amazing Year 9 netball team who played some fantastic competitive netball at the County round of the U14 competition on Thursday 23rd November. In the first round, earlier in the month, the girls came 3rd in the PEDSSA tournament, thereby securing their place in the county finals.

The matches at Canford School were tough, they were fast paced and exciting to watch. Our girls managed to keep their cool and play some superb netball. They showed determination and perseverance but above all, a strong sense of teamwork. Despite coming 8th overall out of 12 teams from across the Dorset area, they never gave up or dropped their enthusiasm. Well done to our captain, Amy for leading the team brilliantly and to Emma, Annabel, Grace, Layla, Belle, Kim and Evie for playing. And finally, Mrs Pemberton for coaching.



6th Form Sailing Course

- PE Students embarked on a sailing trip on the 4th of October. Two Y13 students, Charlotte Andrews and Abi Middleton, who took part on the trip, account the events that took place and share their experiences:
- *"On day 1, we learnt the basic components within the structure of the boat. We then learnt some processes of how to rig the boat, how to sail at beam reach (across the wind) and how to tack. Due to a lack of experience in the group, there was a lot of capsizing when tacking which meant we were able to laugh at ourselves and accept our failures whilst also learning along the way. It was important that we worked in a team, since one person was in charge of the speed of the boat, whilst the other had the important job of steering. Communication was also vital as there was a large metal pole, the boom, which swung at head height every time you changed direction. This meant that it was imperative to communicate in our pairs to ensure everyone was safe and reduce the risk of injury."*
- *"On day 2, we recapped what we did the day before, and were then taught how to sail up and down wind. This proved to be a challenge to most of the group as we kept turning to face the wind and going into the 'no go zone', meaning we stopped moving. It was difficult to get out of this situation without help from the staff. In order to pass the course, we had to complete a circuit which involved sailing upwind at beam reach and then down wind. Not many of us were able to complete this in the morning but in the afternoon, everyone was able to do it after some valuable input from Andy Straw."*
- *"This course allowed us all to learn and improve skills such as communication, teamwork, perseverance, and determination. It also allowed us to get better at prioritising tasks with a higher importance, ensuring we completed the task at hand successfully."*



We are delighted that 51 students from year 10 are signed up to complete the bronze Duke of Edinburgh award this academic year. The students are busy starting their three sections for skills, physical and volunteering.

After school sessions have started to help the student to gain all the skills they need to be successful in the expedition section. They are currently studying map reading skills and will be starting their first aid course on Monday 4th December 2023.

Important dates for your diary:

- Group 1 First Aid Course- Tuesday 2nd January 2024
- Group 2 First Aid Course- Wednesday 3rd January 2024
- Practice expedition- Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May 2024
- Assessed expedition – Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June 2024

Good luck to all our participants this year.

Science Club – Could you survive an asteroid impact?!

This term at science club, students carried out mini investigations to see what life would be like after an asteroid impact.

Students studied the effect of acid rain on living materials and what types of materials would protect them. They also looked at the impact crater from different sized asteroids and hunted for water bears which are extremophiles.

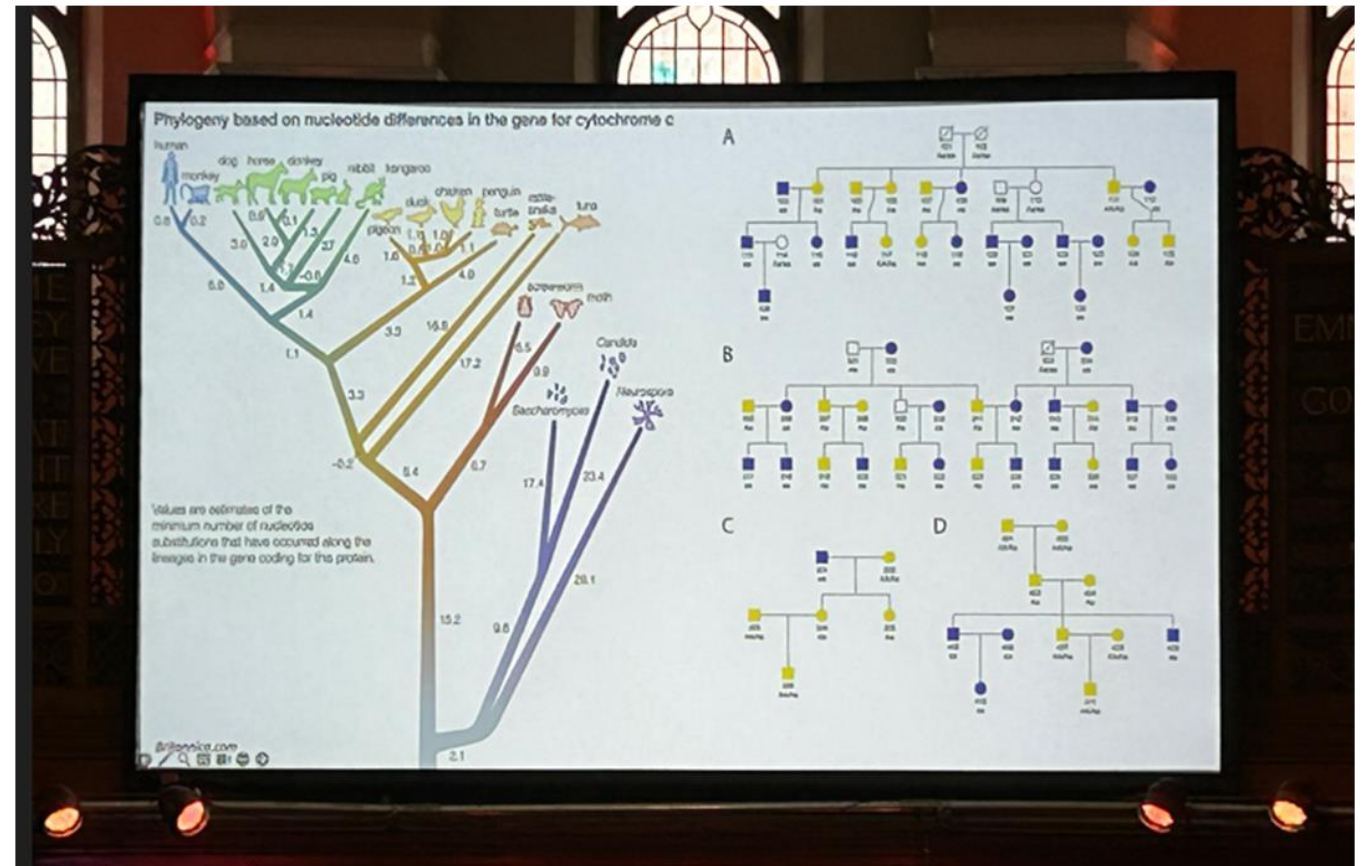
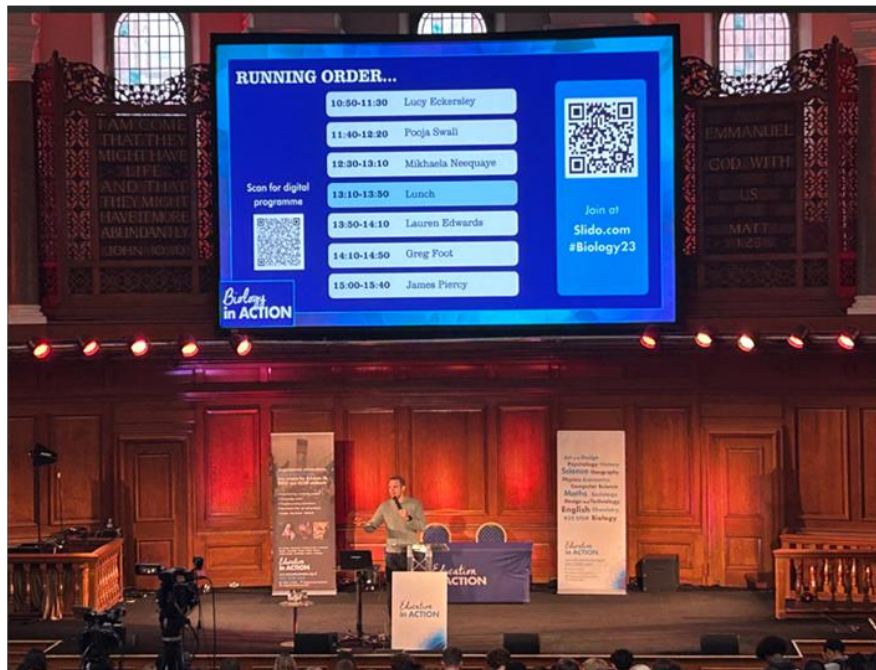


For our final Christmas treat the students made a 'chemistree' a Christmas tree made from multi-coloured solutions.



Biology in Action

On 10th November 40 students from sixth form and Year 11 attended Biology in Action to learn about different aspects of biology.

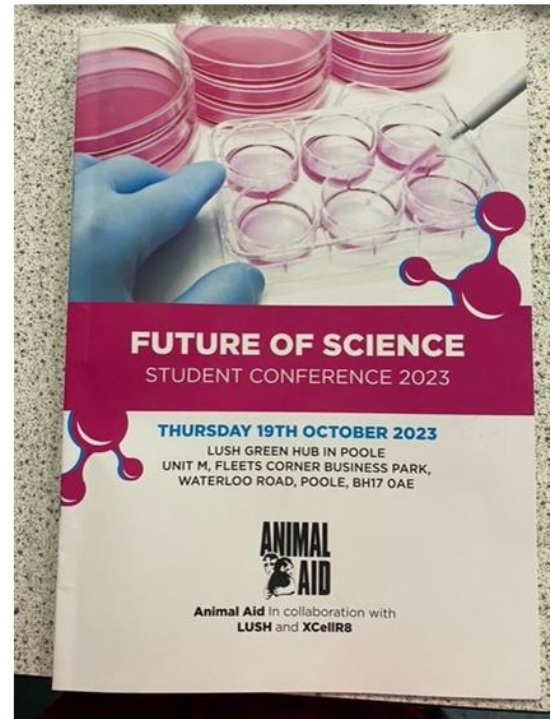


Future of Science Conference

In October some of our year 12 and 13 Biology students attended the Future of Science Conference at The LUSH Green Hub in Poole.

The event was to raise awareness of alternatives to animal testing, the students got to hear from professionals in the industry and attend sessions in the afternoon from bath bomb making to determining if a product is safe for human use!

The students found the event very informative and really enjoyed learning about these methods and technologies.



MUSIC

- Year 11s are preparing for their first GCSE performance recording
- All years have been practicing for our Christmas celebration at St Mary's Church
- Charlotte Geary is leading the singing group "Vocal Jam" which will debut at the Christmas concert
- The FUS ensemble have been playing some challenging music this term
- A Level students went to see a breathtaking performance of Stravinsky's 'Rite of Spring' with the BSO and Seeta Patel's Dance
- Students have been busy with 1:1 lessons, rehearsals, recordings and auditions, with much more to come in 2024.





Our talented musicians gave an afternoon performance to all our year 9 students in St Mary's church. It really got us in the Christmas spirit.

We had a 'No Put Down' Week in November

Students and staff were encouraged to spread happiness via kindness and sweet gestures



JON EGGING

- This academic year has started well for the Jon Egging Trust at Ferndown Upper School. There are two cohorts – Blue Skies 3 group, now in their 3rd year. They are focusing on employability skills this year and have enjoyed three sessions since September. Firstly, a refresher at school and then a visit by apprentices from QinetiQ. Three apprentices came to chat with the group about how apprenticeships work.
- They have recently had a visit to NATS at Swanwick and learnt that all the aircraft flying over the UK are controlled by Air Traffic Controllers working at Swanwick. It was a brilliant day – really good fun and educational. Students learnt lots of life skills and chatted to Degree Entry Graduates who told them about their career paths.
- The second JET cohort are on the Blue Skies 2 programme. They are learning what it takes to be a leader and they have looked at different styles of leadership. They have had a visit to Draken at Bournemouth Airport. They interviewed the Vice President of the company and were able to get into a Falcon aircraft which was very exciting.





Highlights included 'Re/ Sisters: Ecology and Gender' at the Barbican, the Graffiti trail down Brick Lane, Nicole Eisenman first UK retrospective at the Whitechapel, Christo and Jeanne-Claude at the Saatchi and the Cult of Beauty exhibition at the Wellcome Collection.

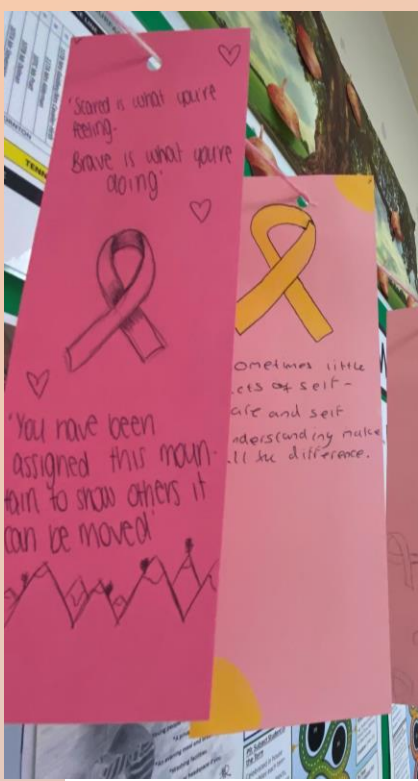
Foundation Residential to London

The last week in November saw our Level 4 Foundation Art & Design students, visit London on our annual residential. The trip acts as the starting point for their fifth project, 'Serendipity'. Over four days they walked between 10 galleries and collections and experienced 18 exhibitions. They certainly found the streets pathed with creative gold and just a few blisters!



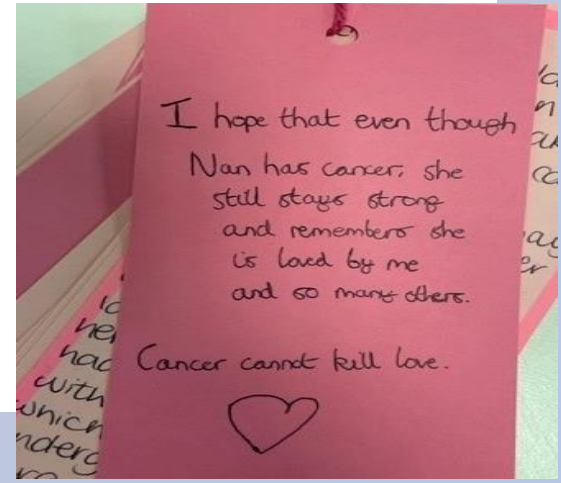
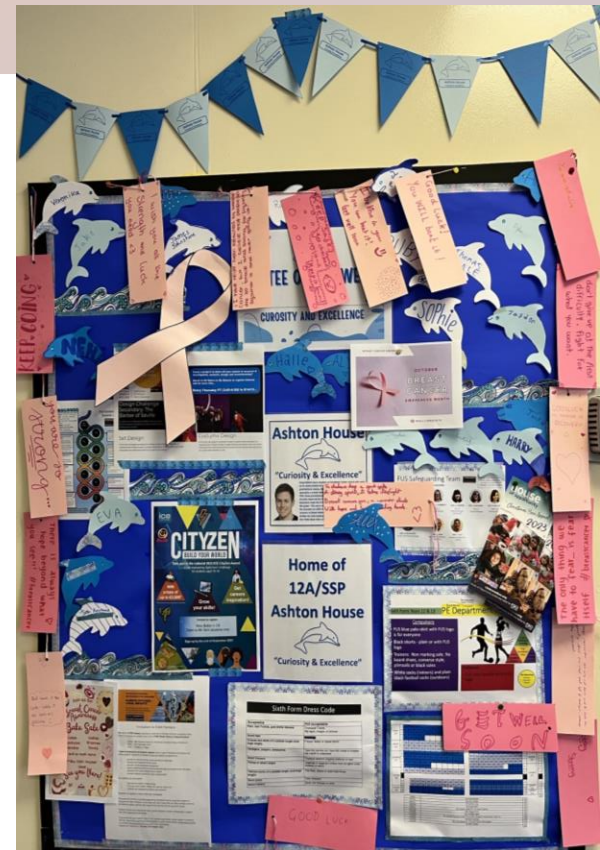
The students also had a once in a life time chance to see the retrospective exhibition of Marina Abramovic's powerful performance art, both shocking and poetic in equal measure.





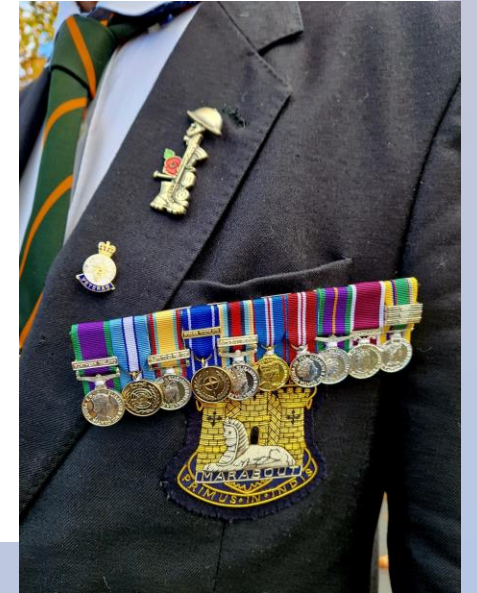
Breast Cancer Awareness

We raised over £400,
thank you to everyone
who took part.



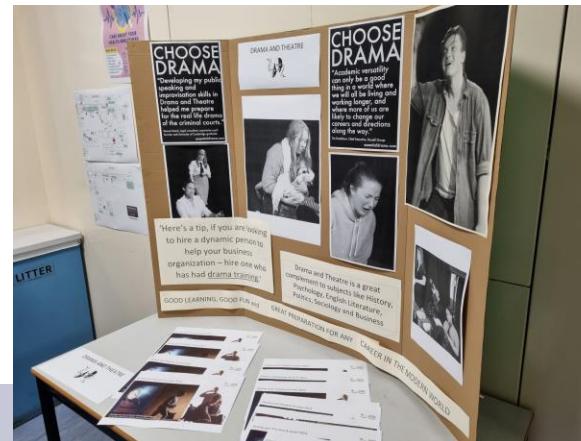
Remembrance

We commemorated remembrance day with a 2 minute silence and made crosses in tutor time to pay our respects.



Sixth Form Open Evening

- Over 500 people visited the school and spoke to students and staff about the Level 3 courses we offer.
- Applications close on 15th December.



Ben Mercer Visit

- As part of our Boys' Programme, Ben Mercer (author and influencer) met with groups of our students to talk about the concept of the Scholar Athlete as well as literacy and recommended reads.
- It was a great opportunity for our students to ask any questions about Ben's sporting career prior to becoming an author as well as his own experiences studying as a young man.
- Ben Mercer enjoyed meeting our boys so much, he came back in December. Ben talked about role models and reading, giving each of our boys a book that we are going to read together, *The Old Man and the Sea*.



Proud to be a
**Taking Boys
Seriously** school



Nick Elston – Men's Health Awareness Month

As part of our Men's Mental Health Awareness Month, we had the privilege to welcome Nick Elston to speak to our boys about new perspectives on mental health and using different tools to help themselves and their peers. It was a thought provoking, inspiring and exciting session.





SITE UPDATES

Over the summer break, and through the autumn term we have had lots of building work taking place. Thank you to all the students for their tolerance during this time.

The result is some wonderful new facilities:

- A new reprographics room in B Block.
- A new maths classroom in D Block.
- A new mac suite for the photography department in E Block.
- A new photographic dark room suite in E Block - available from mid-December.
- A new science lab in D Block - available from February.
- A new Inclusion Base in D Block - available from February.
- A new LRC for 6th form study in C Block - available from March.

FIRST AID & MEDICAL

Staff recently updated their first aid skills by taking part in an emergency first aid course.



Sixth Form News- Next Steps

The logo for UniFrog, featuring the word "unifrog" in a lowercase, rounded, teal-colored font.

- UniFrog is a careers platform which aims to prepare students for careers and post 16 education. Students can use the platform to develop CVs, personal statements, create shortlists, complete aptitude tests and research careers, university courses and apprenticeships. Over the last term, students have been working hard to use UniFrog to the fullest.
- HUGE congratulations to our Y13 offer holders. Over 100 of our students plan to study at university next year, and many of our applicants have received lots of exciting offers already. Very well done – we are wishing you all the best of luck with your university journeys.

The logo for UCAS, featuring the letters "UCAS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "A" is replaced by a red triangle pointing upwards.



6th Form Winter Ball 2023

A great time was had by all at our 6th Form Winter ball on the 1st of December in aid of The Trussell Trust.

It's fair to say we didn't stop dancing all night and there were some great raffle prizes kindly donated by the local community.

We managed to raise a whopping £261 on the night and this was topped up by a generous donation to make £361!



The Big Sleep

- Towards the end of October, many of our lovely sixth formers raised £5484 to support homeless people in Dorset with the YMCA charity. This was during an annual event held here at Ferndown named 'The Big Sleep', in which students are sponsored to sleep rough in cold and wet conditions.
- Both students and staff who took part got a glimpse of what life on the streets can be like and were inspired to do more for those less fortunate in their local area.

Here is how one student, Y12 Phoebe Coombs, recounted the event:

"The big sleep involved students creating their own areas to sleep outside during the night, we were supplied with cardboard and tarpaulin from the YMCA to create these. Students helped each other create these shelters to sleep in overnight, most of us just having a sleeping bag for warmth. We were kindly given pizza and snacks to keep us going for the night and, although we had to sleep rough, we all enjoyed ourselves."





SUMMER 2024 EXAM SEASON

- Summer 2024 exam season for GCSE, AS-level and A-level students starts on Thursday 9th May and all students are expected to be available to sit exams up to **AND** including Wednesday 26th June.
- Statement of entries will be issued to all students entered in the summer season by the beginning of February.
- Timetabled exam dates are **FIXED** and **CANNOT** be changed.
- A Level Results Day- Thursday 15th August.
- GCSE Results Day- Thursday 22nd August.

Dates for your diary

- 3rd January- Start of term for all students
- 11th January- Year 9 options launch and information evening 6.30-8.30pm
- 18th January- Year 9 online parents evening
- 24th January- Post 16 Level 2 Pathway Evening 6.30pm
- 29th January- 2nd February- Year 12 Work Experience Week
- 19th February- 23rd February- Year 13 Mock Exams
- 4th March- 13th March- Year 11 Mock Exams
- 21st March- Year 13 online parents evening
- 26th March- Year 11 Parents Evening- invite only in school
- 23rd July- Break up for summer holiday



Seasons greetings to all our Ferndown students
and their families.

We look forward to seeing all students back in
school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.