Melksham Oak Community School

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

Listen to this newsletter

OPPORTUNITIES

National Writing Day will take place on Wednesday 24 June. National Writing Day is an annual celebration of the power of writing creatively, inspiring people of all ages and abilities to try writing for fun and self-expression. To celebrate the day, we are going to share some information on where a love of writing could take your career!

Writing is a lifelong skill empowering communication and self-expression. It enhances self-confidence and critical thinking skills, but also encourages creativity. Writing is also part of everyday life, from making plans with friends over text or WhatsApp, writing emails in the workplace, or even making a shopping list. However, 1 in 3 children currently leave primary school without the writing skills they need to succeed in life.

Rap, hip-hop or Shakespeare – it's all poetry and here's a chance for young poets aged 16-22 to show off their word skills. Enter up to three poems in the Young Poets Competition for a fee of £3 per poem. There is a top prize of £200, with second and third prizes of £150 and £100. Young Poets Competition closes on 31 July 2026.

We hear about climate change, inequality, and injustice every day, and it's easy to feel overwhelmed. But the future isn't fixed. It's shaped by what we do next. That's where you come in. We're inviting young people around the world to imagine new stories about the future – and share them in a creative challenge. Learn more about the challenge on this page and submit your entry by 19 July 2026!

Ever wondered how journalists always find stories to cover? In this video, Phil Wilkinson shares how to spot strong story ideas, source original journalism, and decide which stories are worth telling. A must-watch for anyone thinking about a career in news and reporting.

The Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award is one of the most prestigious poetry competitions for 11-17 year olds in the world. If you're aged 11-17, submit your poems for the chance to be among the 100 winners and kick-start your writing career.

JOB OF THE WEEK

Editorial Assistant

Editorial assistants provide support at all stages of the publication process for books, journals, magazines and online content. As an editorial assistant, you'll need an impeccable eye for detail and the ability to spot mistakes. It's also important to possess commercial awareness of trends in the publishing industry and have excellent time management skills so you always hit strict deadlines.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

In higher education, courses related to health and medicine have the highest proportions of employed recent education leavers in priority occupations. Courses in architecture, building and planning; engineering; and computing also have over two thirds of employed recent education leavers working in priority occupations.
Source

For further information advice and guidance, or to book a personal guidance appointment please contact careers@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

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In this video, Cameron Watson shares how he broke into publishing and built a career in marketing at #Merky Books (Penguin Random House). Now a Marketing and Audience Executive, he explains what marketing roles really involve, the skills that helped him stand out, and gives honest advice on getting into publishing—no connections needed.

The skills you gain through studying English are marketable in most job sectors. Read this guide for inspiration on what job roles an English degree could lead to.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming sectors from healthcare to education, with its impact on journalism being particularly profound. As the media landscape evolves, AI presents both powerful tools and significant threats to press freedom, integrity, and public trust. Read this blog to explore how AI is reshaping journalism, examining both the risks it poses and the opportunities it creates.

Forbes also published an interesting piece on "Will AI Replace Writers? Here's Why It's Not Happening Anytime Soon". "Yes, robots can do a lot of amazing things, but one thing they will never be able to do is write like a person. AI writing tends to be mechanical and formulaic—which is fine for technical writing, but problematic when you need to convey warmth and authenticity in order to engage readers and build trust."

Drive Your Future is an engaging schools programme from Toyota & Lexus UK, designed to introduce students to the exciting world of automotive careers and apprenticeships. Each session explores different areas of the industry; from cutting-edge vehicle technology and sustainability, to career pathways, apprenticeships, and real-life employee journeys within the Toyota and Lexus networks.

Cinemagic is looking for imaginative and original films made by young people to be screened as part of CINEMAGIC YOUNG FILMMAKER 2026. The films can be about anything at all! Fact or fiction, comedy or drama, news programme, music video or documentary. Competition deadline is 3rd August 2026.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Our mission is to create enduring work that creates value for our clients. Work that's world-renowned, that sparks conversation and populates culture. Memorable work. Different-shaped work. Work that translates to every market. Work that connects brands and people across the globe in ways marketing rarely does. " Find out more about VCCP here - they run work experience and a paid entry level programme!

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Go further with Bath Spa University. Explore ideas. Expand specialist knowledge. Build career prospects and follow your passion.
There are so many reasons to embark on further study. Whatever your ambition, we're here to champion it – through academic guidance and career-focused support within an inspiring setting."

You can learn more about Bath Spa University here.

For further information advice and guidance, or to book a personal guidance appointment please contact careers@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk