



UPDATE

07 JUNE

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FIGURE 1: THE ISLE OF PURBECK, DOE DESTINATION

## MR HUSSAIN'S NOTICE

Term 6 has started in earnest with exams flying past!

Our breakfast at 08.00 continues to be popular I am keen for Year 11 and 13 students to continue to take advantage of this as we come towards the final 2 weeks.

Booster classes are proving to make a real difference to students confidence in preparing for the exams and many students have commented how topics revisited have come up in the exams.

A parent has kindly passed on details of this opportunity for support from <https://www.groceryaid.org.uk/finances/school-essentials-grant/> please take time to see if you may be eligible for this first come basis available from the 18<sup>th</sup> June.

The picture above is of the Isle of Purbeck, from where Mr Williams, our DoE leader sends us this message:

*"As you read this thirty Year 10 Students are Trekking their way across the Isle of Purbeck for their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Assessment. They have camped overnight after falling in ditches, loosing their shoes to mud and having a pasta disaster but their spirits have not been higher with multiple students already asking to do Gold Duke of Edinburgh. Day two will test their determination as they tackle the giants grave ridgeline with its stunning views of the ocean from all sides before making their way to camp to feast on their stove cooked meals. Melksham Oak Community School proudly celebrates these students achievements and look forward to welcoming them home on Saturday."*

Housepoints have continued to be earned in record numbers with my welcome back assemblies emphasising the great work that students do and the MOCS values that they are demonstrating on a daily basis of Respect, Ambition and Pride. I am really proud of how our students continue to reflect and learn.

Wishing you all a restful weekend!

# MOCS Discovery Centre Book Fair!

The Discovery Centre's Scholastic Book Fair has been running since the 4<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June is the final day for students and parents to come and browse books and purchase.**

A book fair is a fantastic opportunity to get children and young adults excited about reading! Parents are welcome to visit between 3:15pm and 4pm. We are a cashless school so you can pay online at the Fair via card reader machines or



**Scan the QR code to pay for your books online  
or visit [bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay](https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay)**

If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List available from the school library and pay online. Simply visit the link and select Melksham Oak School from the drop down.

**Approximately 25% of the books are below £5 and over 50% of titles are diverse and inclusive.**

**By purchasing a book from the fair, you can help earn between 25% and 60% in free books for our school.**

Students can also take part in a competition for a chance to win a £10 book voucher to spend on books at the Fair.

# WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

# EXAMS UPDATE

Year 11 and Year 13 students have returned to school for the second half of their examinations. They are almost at the end of the exam season with most major exams for Y11 completed at the end of next week.

## CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

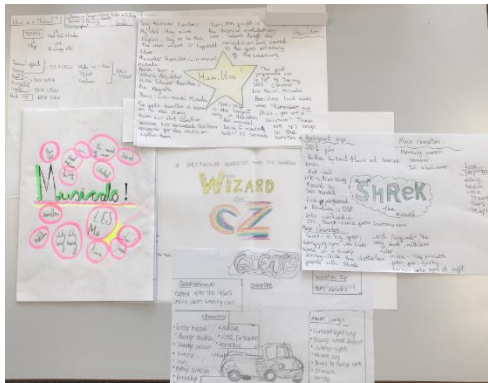


### DRAMA: YEAR 9

In term 5 Drama lessons the year students learnt what it is like to be a make up designer. They learnt and experimented with latex, bruise wheels and fake blood to create some realistic injuries to replicate soldiers in WW2. It was very clear to see the students took create pride in these creations.



### MUSIC: YEAR 7



Students have just completed a term looking at musicals. They have been watching excerpts that bring the storylines to life as well as appreciating how successful musicals use additional resources such as props, masks and even stilts! It has been really interesting to see how musicals are written – whether they are based on a book, a film or are a totally new concept.

### Year 8 and 9 - Battle of the Bands!

This term both years are taking on working as a band to learn and perform a song - who will succeed and smash the performance and who will do an Oasis...strop and fallout with each other? We'll have to wait and see!



# Y7 DISCO – BY SIXTH FORM

Yr 12 students are organising a Year 7 Disco on Thursday 13th June, 6-8pm at Melksham Oak Community School. There will be music, refreshments, photo booth, stocks and games. The event will be cash only but you can buy a ticket on parent pay or buy one on the door.

Tickets cost £4 and all money made will go towards their trip to Ecuador next year. The money will go towards building schools so Ecuadorian children can have an education, also to help with environmental issues such as planting trees to avoid deforestation and help to preserve wildlife habitats. If you have any queries please email Mrs Jones on [jonesk@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:jonesk@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)



# YEAR 10 ART SHOWCASE



FIGURE 2: ALANA C



FIGURE 3: ANNIE H



FIGURE 4: DANIEL W



FIGURE 5: GRACIE V

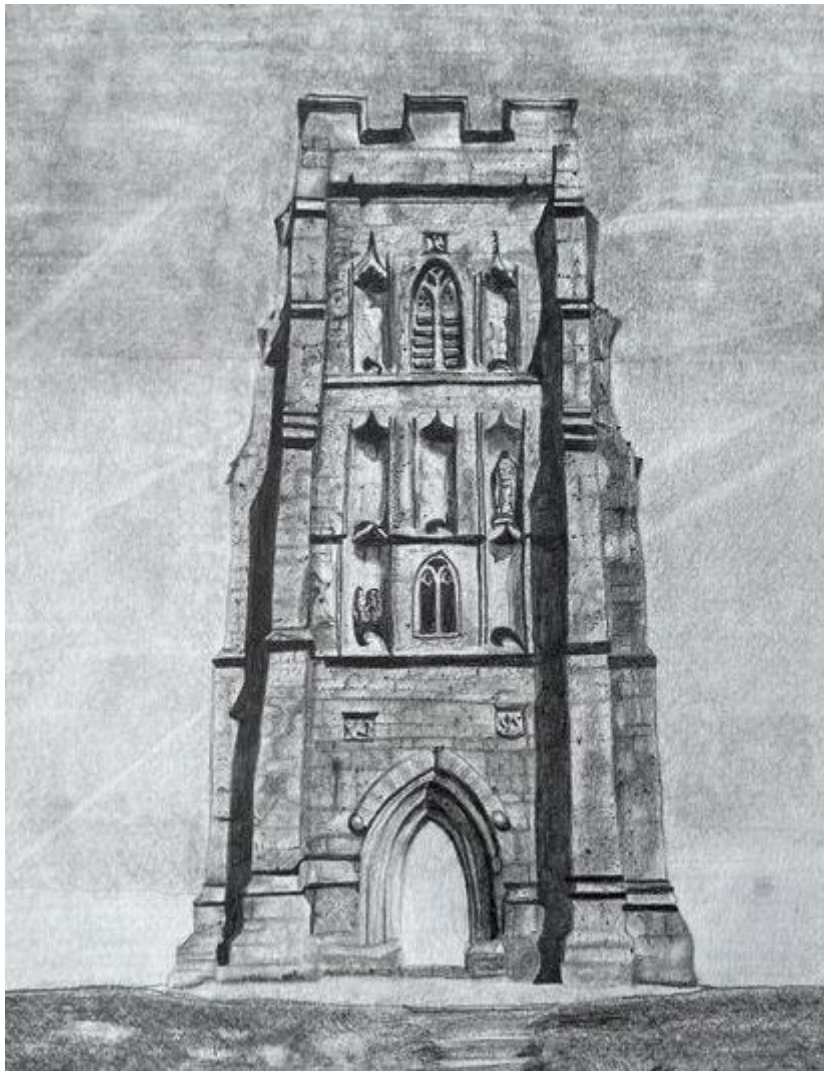


FIGURE 6: MAJA E



FIGURE 7: MOLLY B



FIGURE 8: ZUZANNA M

## **REMINDER for Friends of the Oak (PTA): Preloved Uniform call**

Mrs Hughes-Jones, [hughes-jonesv@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:hughes-jonesv@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk), Head of Year 8, is our key contact for our PTA and we are looking for new parents to join the PTA, please do reach out to make contact if you would like to get involved.

We would also like to ask for donations of items of preloved school uniform that is in good condition. Please separate these at home and we will publish arrangements on how to bring these to school in the next newsletter



# Wiltshire Police Visit to MOCS

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June Wiltshire Police will be visiting the school at the end of the day to continue to raise awareness of knife crime and to engage with students. You are welcome to park your car and come and ask questions too should you wish to do so!

## REMINDER: Staying Safe in the Community

With the summer months now here, and students outside later in the evening I wanted to reprint some earlier advice given by Wiltshire Police on how to stay safe. Please take the time to refresh this with your family!

Advice given to students to keep safe is:

- Where possible walk with friends- there is safety in numbers
- Let the people you live with know when you are leaving and what time you are expected to return- if you are taking a detour, let somebody know!
- Have your mobile phone charged and easy to access on your person
- Be aware of your surroundings; headphones can dampen the senses and you may not know somebody is behind you
- If a person is making you feel uncomfortable, stop off in a safe space like a shop and get some help.
- If you are assaulted shout and scream as loud as you can to get attention of others
- If something has happened to you which has made you feel scared, intimidated, confused or upset- speak out. You can contact Wiltshire Police 24/7 or report any concern anonymously through Fearless
- If there is an area which you do not like walking through because it is isolated, badly lit or just feels unsafe contact the Melksham Neighbourhoods Team. We will happily walk with you, look at your concerns and find solutions.

## Year 10 Revision Club

Miss Devlin, Miss Dann and Miss Moody are commencing our Year 10 revision club, available to all Year 10 students to prepare them for Year 11. This will take place every Thursday beginning 13/06/24 until the end of the year, 3pm-4pm. This will take place in L3.

## Reminder of How to Contact Us





We want to make things as simple as possible to raise a query with the school, so please find the information on our website at: <https://www.melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk/contact>

This includes how to log any concerns so the school can track it carefully to get you a response as fast as possible from the relevant team.

# PE Update

## West Wiltshire Schools Touch Rugby News

Melksham Oak hosted the Wiltshire School Games 2023-2024 Touch Rugby competition for Year 7 & 8 Girls. It was fantastic to welcome schools from the West Wilts Area to compete in a tournament full of competitiveness and smiles all-round. Every girl that represented the school and Team MOCS did so with excellent attitude, respect and team spirit and a performance which they should all be very proud of. It was great to see so many new faces and also a large number of girls playing rugby for the first time – hopefully we can take this excitement into the next academic year with the hope of MOCS fielding a girls rugby team for the first time in a number of years!!

Term 6 PE Enrichment		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p><b>Tennis Club 3pm - 4.00pm</b> Years 7, 8, 9 &amp; 10</p> 	<p><b>Rounders 3pm - 4.00pm</b> Years 7, 8, 9 &amp; 10</p>  <p><b>Cricket Club 3pm - 4.00pm</b> Years 7, 8, 9</p> 	<p><b>Athletics 3pm - 4.10pm</b> Years 7, 8, 9 &amp; 10</p> 

	<p><b>West Wiltshire Area Sports, our biggest school athletics event is being held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June at Bath Uni. Students wishing to make the athletics team can trial Thursday's at Athletics club as well in core PE lessons. Students are requested to speak to a member of the PE department if interested for further details and all are welcome at club to trial out. Just pop along!</b></p>
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# SAFEGUARDING: WHISPER

**REMINDER:** We want students to be able to raise any concerns remotely from the school environment. This is a key area we wish to enhance, and we want our students to be able to report issues anonymously as well.

For more information on this service please visit: <https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/twh1/>

SCAN ME



QR code to take you to the reporting page

## PRACTICE LOCKDOWN: WED 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

We will be conducting a practice on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June**. We will be briefing students on Tuesday and Wednesday during tutor time. We want our students to be fully understanding of the process so that they are never alarmed by this. The lockdown practice will take place at the end of the day.

# KEY EVENTS IN THE SUMMER TERMS

- Summer Term 6 begins on Monday 04<sup>th</sup> June
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June: Year 7 Parent's Evening
- Year 10 – Work Experience Week: 1<sup>st</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> July
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July: Y6 Transition Days
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July: Summer Concert & Launch of local book (more details TBC)
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July: Whole Next Steps Fair
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July: Sports Day
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July: Y9 and Y10 Awards Evening
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July: Y7 and Y8 Awards Evening
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July: Summer holidays: School closes at 12.40

# OUR CURRENT DAY ROUTINE

We have now completed 2 weeks with the new day pattern and continue to monitor its' implementation.

- Only students who arrive by 08:00 will be able to access the Breakfast Club, regardless of whether they eat in the Canteen.
- Those students who arrive after 08:00 will wait at the Main Gates as usual until 08.25 when they can access the school site.
- **Students can arrive up till 08:40 when the Main gate will close** to allow our morning routine to begin promptly at 08.45.
- From this time (08.40) students will access the site via Main Reception to be marked late.
- The end of the day remains the same at 15:00.

Start Time	Year 7,9,11	Year 8,10 & VI	Start Time
08.00	Breakfast club		08.00
08.25	Student Gate		08.25
<b>08.40</b>	<b>Student Gate closes at</b>		<b>08.40</b>
08.45	Roll Call & Tutor time		08.45
09.15	Period 1	Period 1	09.15
10.05	Period 2	Period 2	10.05
10.55	Break	Period 3	10.55
11.10	Period 3		11.45
12.00	Period 4	Period 4	12.00
12.50	30 mins Lunch	Period 5	12.50
13.20	Period 5		30 mins Lunch
14.10	Period 6	Period 6	14.10
15.00	Students depart		15.00

We will be seeking feedback from students and parents later in this term once we have had opportunity to see how this new pattern works for our students.