

Brymore

experience to last a lifetime

Newsletter

December 2017
www.brymoreacademy.co.uk

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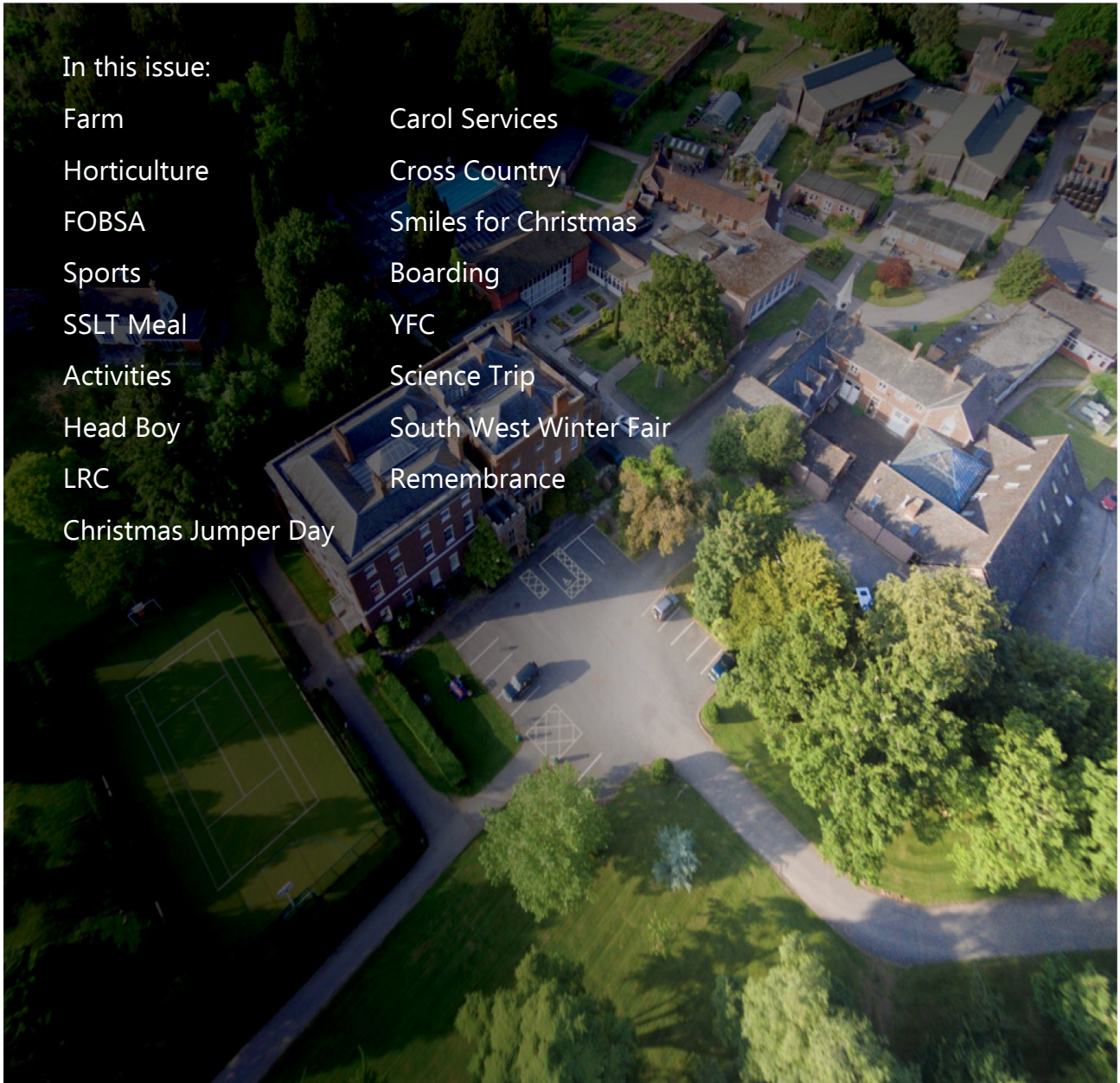
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Message from the Headteacher

Time. Time is something that as the Headteacher of Brymore I never seem to have. I am sure all the staff feel the same, as do the boys and indeed the parents of the Brymore boys. Whilst we all have the same amount of hours in a day, in term time so many of those hours are consumed by all that is Brymore. This is a good thing, as boys learn new skills, gain new experiences, make and cement new friends as well as get fitter and learn more in the classroom. I have heard life at Brymore described as 'famine or feast' which may be particularly relevant for many of us at Christmas time. It is during the festive season that despite it being busy, hectic and rushed we all hopefully can find some time to spend with our family and friends - to 'feast' on the luxury of time. For me the poem below sums it up nicely:

"Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days; that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth; that can transport the sailor and the traveller, thousands of miles away, back to his own fire-side and his quiet home!" Charles Dickens

The Brymore boy going home to spend some quiet time with his family making the old cliché so true that it is not about presents but spending time with loved ones.

Reading through this newsletter I am struck by the many references to boys doing things to help others which has become an increasingly common feature of life at Brymore. Events have included Christmas jumper day to raise money for Alzheimer's, a non-uniform day organised solely by the Senior Student Leadership Team to support Children in Need, the Smiles for Christmas campaign to support the Salvation Army, boys sponsoring Mrs Long to complete the Great South Run in aid of Cancer Research, 'stone painting' to support a charity for teenagers with mental health issues, a quiz night to raise money for 'Help the Heroes' with parents also joining in through collections after the Harvest festival and the Christmas Carol concert where we supported 'Send a cow' and the local foodbank in Taunton. Yet again I also have to mention the Old Brymorians who have now raised over £100,000 to support boys at Brymore and FOBSA who continue to do fantastic work providing funds for much needs resources and activities.

I hope you all have a peaceful and restful Christmas and that you do manage to find the time to be together as a family. I also hope you have a happy new year and I look forward to seeing the boys back fully refreshed and raring to go in 2018.

Merry Christmas,



Science Trip

On 28th November, the science department took some eager young minds to see the LabLive event at the McMillan Theatre as part of the Cheltenham Science Festival. This was the third year Brymore has attended this event and it has become a firm favourite amongst the students. Year 8 enjoyed two science shows on our outing to be remembered. The first by Jonathan Milton was about the 'Wonderful World of Robots' where we found out how robots are engineered and programmed, explored whether human biology or robot technology is best and discovered what the robots of the future might be able to do. We saw an incredible live robot demonstrations and experiments and the Brymore students volunteered the Head of Science to be part of the show where he showed off his 'robot' dance moves against his robotic opponent.

The second by Ginny Smith was titled 'Hack Your Brain' where we found out how our brain communicates with the rest of our body, got to know the inner workings of our brain and explored how nerve cells send messages through the brain and body. A number of our students went to the stage to help model a giant neuron and later we saw a student control a teacher through electrical impulses. Students at in Year 10 have since seen this demonstration in lessons. A great day out and we look forward to the next LabLive event.

(Mr Craig)

Remembrance

At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month we marked Armistice Day with a two minute silence as boys and staff lined the driveway. The signal of the Last Post rang out over the school then Mr Thomas read the exhortation followed by a two minutes silence. The 'Reveille' was then played before Zaid and his leadership team of Rhys, Dylan, Alfie and Tom led the boys and members of our Old Brymori-ans back up the drive to lay wreaths at the front of school.

(Ms Warren)



Horticulture

We have had a number of trips go out this half-term with the Year 7 boys going to Monkton Elm Garden Centre and the Year 9 boys taken to Knightshayes. Mr Mahon, an old boy, who now works at Monkton Coombe School, also came in to speak to the Year 7 and 8 boys about working as a groundsman. Year 10 boys had the opportunity to go with myself and Mr Adamson to the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester; we were given a tour, boys experienced a different outlook for where they may choose a career path and we met some of the key staff members.

Apple juicing has now finished and we are looking forward to cider next year! During lessons and after school duties, boys have been collecting leaves to make leaf mould and leaf mulch has been taken to the walled garden as a soil improver. Just a reminder that boys need extra layers of warm clothing as we go outside in all weathers. Pruning has also begun along with planting out of the broad beans and onion sets and boys have helped make wreaths. Many thanks to our Heads of Department who do a sterling job and we are now on the look out for the next group from the current Year 10 boys. Interviews will take place in the new year. Our department has produced, with the kind assistance of Mrs Stanley, 2018 calendars which are for sale for £3 each and contain photos taken by boys.

Plots have now been reallocated so many Year 7 boys have their own plots which they are busily working on and preparing for the Spring.

Thanks go to all the families and friends who buy plants and produce from our trolley every Saturday afternoon. The money raised is ploughed back into the department and helps us with purchasing items.

During Bee Club we managed to settle the bees in their hives at half-term and ensured they were fed then we took a break for a few weeks to allow them quiet during the Winter months. We hope to reconvene in the Springtime to continue learning and helping with the colony.

Thank you to Mrs Stanley especially for all she does for the department and the boys. Also to Mr Watts, Mr Williams and Ms Briggs for their assistance in lessons and other staff who help for Saturday afternoon activities.

I am also delighted to announce that we raised £312.64 for Send a Cow at the Harvest Festival services - a charity helping farmers in Africa.

We wish you all a happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

(Mr Willcocks)

Chads Hill Run

This half-term's Chads has carried on much as before with a number of boys pounding around the circuit on a regular basis. This half-term a Year 7 has now completed the fastest 50 runs by nearly two months! Seven boys have completed 30 or more runs with 12 having run between 20 and 25. A number of boys have yet to tie on their running shoes and give it a go.

As the numbers for the house add up Taylor (953) are 73 runs ahead of Walker (880) who are 50 ahead of Galsworthy (830).

Staff have run 121 times and guests 30.

Well done to those parents who a rerunning with their sons, this is much appreciated. If any other parent would like to join in, the run commences each Monday - Friday at 4.00 pm and 3.00 pm on a Sunday from the front of School House. Please let Mr Spridgens know prior to the start of the run.

Thanks to all the parents who took note of the last newsletter and pull over or slow right down; however there are still a few who continue to drive as the come down towards them.
Please take care.

(Mr Spridgens)

Christmas Jumper Day at Brymore



We took the opportunity to take part in Christmas Jumper Day but also to combine it with dress as an elf for the charity Alzheimer's Society. The whole school seemed to put on a show; including some amazing staff entries and even Mr Thomas dressed as an elf! Our Heads of Houses (Mr Ashton, Ms Rundle and Ms Carter) along with Mr Winter and Mrs Davis spent the assembly judging individual year group winners and Zaid from the School Council judged the staff entries.

We then went on to celebrate with our Christmas lunch, complete with festive music, turkey and cranberry sauce!

All the boys in one tutor group were awarded a 'golden ticket' as theirs was the winning one, with boys gaining more achievement points, high attendance and limited behaviour points and their reward was sitting at the top table during lunch. Once settled down to their meal they pulled their crackers, were served special drinks by members of SLT and enjoyed treats in the form of mini chocolates too. All the boys enjoyed their festive lunch but those 'top tablers' revelled in their hard work and sat back soaking up the special extras.

(Ms Warren)

Cross Country

We always hold our Cross Country on the same day as the Harvest Festival services but Storm Brian put the end to that this year! Fortunately we were able to rerun the event on Saturday 25th November and lots of parents and families turned up to support the boys as they made their way over hay bales in the traditional Brymore way!

The event started with Year 7 and was closed by the Year 11 boys racing their hearts out. As always, it really was a fabulous event and with everyone gaining points for their pastoral house everything was at stake! Taylor were victorious by only a few points and lifted the cup from Mr Thomas; however on undertaking a re-count it actually turned out that Walker had won! Mr Spridgens and Mr Austin stood up in assembly and admitted a mistake had been made and apologised before awarding the cup to the rightful owner! Thanks go to Mr Spridgens and Mr Williams for organising a really great event.

(Ms Warren)



Young Farmers Club



This half-term has been busy for Brymore YFC, we have had speakers an electronic game shoot and an evening for Years 7 & 8 to make Christmas cards and eat mince pies.

First of all **BASC - The British Association for Shooting and Conservation** visited with the screen game shoot, where boys were able to use rifles or shotguns to bring down various game animals, all virtual*. This proved very popular and as BASC are hoping to be awarded the funding to purchase their own set of equipment, we are looking forward to further visits. This was followed by Jason Hedaux speaking about budgerigars, he began by showing a video on flocks of budgies in the wilds of Australia containing millions of individual birds, all of them green. He went on to explain how over the years breeders, such as himself, have developed the many different colours now available. The boys learned that the same process was used as in breeding livestock, put the best male and females together to hopefully produce the offspring required. Mr Hedaux brought in several birds to show development from tiny eggs to full grown birds.

Our next speaker was Andrew Burrows who spoke about the Tiyeni Fund a charity set up to help subsistence farmers in Malawi. Mr Burrows accompanied his talk with many interesting slides, many showing the difference between how farmers have been growing crops for generations and those using the Tiyeni approach which includes banking crops and damming the water to allow gradual seepage rather than flash watering during rain storms. www.tiyeni.org

We ended the term with an evening for the younger boys, making Christmas cards, playing a snowball game and eating mince pies, Christmas cakes and yule logs. I would like to thank the older boys who came in to help run the evening.

Mr Adamson took four boys to help at the Somerset YFC AGM in Westonzoyland, armed with torches and hi-viz jackets the boys did a sterling job organising the car parking.



YFC Bottle green polo shirts are available to order. They are £15 each and have Brymore, YFC and our sponsor the Towens Group logos embroidered on the front and sleeve.

* No animals were harmed during the course of the evening. (Miss Bradford)

Message from the Head Boy

This half-term has been very busy with boys and staff working hard to prepare for the Christmas Carol Service. Boys have been very successful achieving many sporting achievements across the board from rugby to hockey to cross country, the area cross country in fact being held at Brymore.

Boys in the SSLT organised a non-school uniform day for Children in Need where we raised £321.00. It was incredible to see an event which hasn't taken place for a very long time at Brymore be so successful and enjoyable for everyone, including staff. Year 11 have been working hard this half-term revising for and sitting their mock exams which turned out very well for some, with all breakfast sessions now in full swing. Year 10 boys have been interviewed and are currently on trial as HoD's down on the farm and in the gardens, which represents almost a year since the current Year 11's were in their place working hard to achieve our goals and showing us that our time at Brymore is almost nearing the end. Overall the half term has been successful across the board and boys are ready for a well-deserved Christmas break. (Zaid Elmrabti)

Boarding

Christmas time is always a busy time of year as we celebrate the season and make sure boys are making the most of the festivities whilst also thinking of others. The boys have really come into their own this term as there have been many opportunities to think of others. There has been the advent of house specific charities in addition to our annual charity campaign 'Smiles for Christmas', as well as a non-uniform day for Children in Need.

Mrs Webb oversees all charity aspects in boarding and is pleased to report huge success across the houses.

School House sponsored Mrs Long to run in 'The Great South Run' on behalf of their house Charity 'Cancer Research'. It is a charity very close to the hearts of many boys as so many of them know someone whose life has been affected by this disease. Mrs Long did extremely well with a time of 01.43:56 and together with sponsorship from boys, friends and family £200 was made in total for the charity.

Reid House have been painting stones this term to sell for their charity, The Project, a local charity in Axminster who offer emotional group work and mental wellbeing support to teenagers. The boys in Reid House really got on board and painted a whole host of designs. The stones were sold for £2-£3 each at the Saturday Horti Trolley, at the Harvest Festival and the Cross Country. Reid House had a fantastic response and made £170.84 from this.

Kemp House held an annual quiz night and managed to raise £122.61 for their house charity 'Help for Heroes' which supports soldiers and their families. Dorm 9 won the trophy on the night and all boys had a fantastic evening. It was nice to see some out-boarders attend and join in as well. I am aware many Kemp House boys are planning a sponsored 24 hour silence and/or a 24 hour tech ban over the holidays at home and have taken sponsorship forms ready to take home. Smiles for Christmas brought our community together and was a huge success, contributing many foodstuffs and toys to our local community. All in all our boys can be very proud of their efforts.

Year 7s are experiencing their first ever Brymore festive season and Year 11s are enjoying their last ever Brymore Christmas meal, Carol Service and banging of the tables! This is a special time of year that always holds fond memories for me as a Brymore boy with all the festive fun leading up to the holiday period. The cold, dark nights and mornings have not been deterring or preventing the vast array of activities, duties and general busyness of boarding at Brymore this term. The past two half-terms have been busy and eventful, with added energy levels as always coming from the junior boarding house and a wide range of equipment and activities available to all. Senior boys have taken on the responsibility of guiding and settling all new Brymore boys in Year 7 with mentoring going from strength to strength, whilst senior boys in Reid and School House continued to work hard and overcome the ever mounting pressures of academic studies plus all the added extras associated with being a Brymore boy.

Looking back with fond memories since September there has been much to celebrate and enjoy, from large school events such as bonfire/fireworks night and Halloween, to listening to the boys talk with joy of the numerous external trips that have taken place this half term including, Clay pigeon shooting, Bubble Football, Ice-skating at Cribbs, Super Splash assault course, Bowling and the cinema.

As ever at Brymore, the festive build up to the Christmas holidays stretches over a few weeks (largely involving food!), with both boys and staff enjoying a number of events including the prefect Christmas meal, house parties, Smiles for Christmas assembly, Christmas lunch and tea finished with the Christmas Carol Service. This will be the last Brymore Christmas for our current Year 11 so please enjoy the holiday period. Before you know it, the run up to exams will soon be with us!

This Christmas boarding has said goodbye to Mrs Jordan and we are very thankful for her efforts and dedication. So, as the winter sun sets slowly to the west on our last day of term on the 16th we bid all a fond farewell and wish you the very best at this special time of year.

(Mr Watts)

Sports Report

As we near the mid way point of the season, we can take great pride in the number of boys doing rugby. Saturday activities have had around 120-150 most week and KS3 squads have close to 30 players. Number are still low in Year 7 and 8 squads, but those who have been representing the school have done well. A huge number of playing ties are being worn with pride by boys fully up to date with training. Please remember that ties are on loan, boys must remain up to date or they will be returned.

We have had a real push on the RFU TREDs values, with weekly TREDs laces being given to worthy winners. We have been tweeting the winners and other rugby based events on the Old Mutual Wealth Kids First page and have been mentioned by OMW and the RFU. We have progressed through to the Sedgemoor Area Finals in all three competitions with Years 9, 10 and 11 and the finals are booked for the first week before the Spring half-term. The Year 10 team have progressed well in the National Bowl competition and could have a fixture in the first few weeks back, so we'd love to see a big audience for that game! We have added Taunton School to our list of opposition this season and are keen to get them into the diary for next season. After Christmas, rugby continues, mainly with friendly fixtures building towards House matches at the end of next term.

We truly welcome supporters to our matches and welcome them cheering the boys on. We have moved towards a silent sideline approach as staff to ensure the players learn to make decisions for themselves rather than constantly being instructed. www.silentsideline.org. Please feel free to see how supporters can support this scheme that is spreading rapidly through the rugby family.

Rugby supports behaviour at Brymore, boys must remember this, players will not be able to represent the school if their behaviour is not up to the expectations of a Brymore boy. Those who are committed to all aspects of their training and demonstrated positive behaviour will be rewarded. There is a large number of staff across the school who take practices, cover lessons, drive minibuses and allow boys to miss lesson for matches, players must remember this at all times of school life.

Hockey has been going great guns, with numbers getting to over 30 on a Saturday activity with Miss Marks and again good numbers for practice on Thursday afternoon with Mr Weldon. There will be more matches after the festive break.

We, yet again, hosted the Sedgemoor Area Cross Country Trials and had the large proportion of runners in all the male races. We also have a very good number of our boys who have now qualified for the country trial in late January 2018. Those who have qualified must register on the SSAA website or see Miss Bradford. There will be other Cross Country events after the break, those who have done more chads than expected will be rewarded with attending these events.

(Mr Williams)



Activities

What another fantastic half term it's been for activities.

We kicked off the half-term with a cultural evening in the dining hall with Mexican food and activities to mark the festival Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). We have managed to keep costs very reasonable by organising some on site activities like the cultural evening but also Bubble Football which was a roaring success and much enjoyed by the boys and they also had the opportunity to go to Blackmore by Candlelight.

The cinema and bowling trips are especially popular with the younger boys and filled up quickly but especially encouraging is that more out-boarders are using this as great opportunities to mix with their peers.

The Cribbs Causeway shopping and ice skating trip was another huge success, with boys heading out to buy Christmas presents for their families (and sweets for themselves!) and some of them choosing to take part in the ice skating. Our trip to the local pool in Bridgwater for boys to take part in the super splash assault course created lots of laughs and good memories for those that went.



Extra-curricular activities continue to deliver lovely results. This term the boys have tried really hard to be creative in tool-making and coppersmithing and the blacksmithing, welding and woodwork are still producing some outstanding items. If your son would like to join one of these activities, please ask them to speak to the teacher that runs each activity. Please ensure they have the funds in their activities account so they can be signed up. There is no guarantee of a place as some activities are nearly fully booked for the year.

After school activities are still well attended. Please remember that your son is expected to attend his Garden Duties every week (Year 8), feeding duties (Years 9-11), his year group's fitness session(s) and should run Chads once per week. It is very important that your son is up-to-date with all activities at Brymore so please help him to keep on top of these. (Ms Warren)



TERM 2A WEEKEND ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Activities with limited spaces are

There will be maximum numbers for some activities, each boarding house will have 5 allocated spaces and then there will be a waiting list if people drop out.

- Cinema
- 10 Pin Bowling
- Clarks shopping trip
- Go Karting

<u>Saturday Evening</u>		<u>Week 1 - 13th & 14th January</u>		<u>Sunday</u>	
<u>What</u>	No Bake...No Cake!	<u>What</u>	Cinema - TBC	<u>What</u>	Cinema - TBC
<u>Where</u>	School House	<u>Where</u>	Scott Cinemas, Bridgwater	<u>Where</u>	Scott Cinemas, Bridgwater
<u>When</u>	7pm	<u>When</u>	TBC	<u>When</u>	TBC
<u>Cost</u>	Free	<u>Cost</u>	£6.50	<u>Cost</u>	£6.50
<u>MOS</u>	Mrs Long	<u>MOS</u>	Ms Greenhill	<u>MOS</u>	Ms Greenhill
					
<u>Saturday Evening</u>		<u>Week 2 - 20th & 21st January</u>		<u>Sunday</u>	
<u>What</u>	FOBSA Bingo (All parents invited too!)	<u>What</u>	Clarks Village Shopping Trip	<u>What</u>	Clarks Village Shopping Trip
<u>Where</u>	School Hall	<u>Where</u>	Street	<u>Where</u>	Street
<u>When</u>	6:30pm Eyes Down	<u>When</u>	10am -2pm	<u>When</u>	10am -2pm
<u>Cost</u>	£1.00	<u>Cost</u>	£3.00	<u>Cost</u>	£3.00
<u>MOS</u>	All staff	<u>MOS</u>	Mr Fewtrell	<u>MOS</u>	Mr Fewtrell
					
<u>Saturday Evening</u>		<u>Week 3 - 27th & 28th January</u>		<u>Sunday</u>	
<u>What</u>	10 pin bowling	<u>What</u>	Paintball	<u>What</u>	Paintball
<u>Where</u>	Taunton	<u>Where</u>	Cannington	<u>Where</u>	Cannington
<u>When</u>	leave at 6.30pm	<u>When</u>	10am - 1pm	<u>When</u>	10am - 1pm
<u>Cost</u>	£7	<u>Cost</u>	£13.50 per game	<u>Cost</u>	£13.50 per game
<u>MOS</u>	Mr Simons	<u>MOS</u>	Mr Blake	<u>MOS</u>	Mr Blake
					
	+cash for Mcdonalds (optional)		£6 per extra 100 paintballs (take your own cash for extra paintballs)		
<u>Saturday Evening</u>		<u>Week 4 - 3rd & 4th February</u>		<u>Sunday</u>	
<u>What</u>	Go Karting	<u>What</u>	Keep Britain Tidy - The Big Tidy Up!	<u>What</u>	Keep Britain Tidy - The Big Tidy Up!
<u>Where</u>	Southwest Karting, Cheddar	<u>Where</u>	Local Area	<u>Where</u>	Local Area
<u>When</u>	Leave 6.30pm + Race at 7.30pm	<u>When</u>	Mid-morning	<u>When</u>	Mid-morning
<u>Cost</u>	£27	<u>Cost</u>	FREE!	<u>Cost</u>	FREE!
<u>MOS</u>	Mr-Simons	<u>MOS</u>	Mr Weldon + Mr Collier	<u>MOS</u>	Mr Weldon + Mr Collier
					

Any questions about the activities, please speak to your House Parent

FOBSA

I will start by introducing myself. I am Kate and have been re-elected as Chair of the FoBSA committee. It's been a great year with thousands raised that gets pumped straight back into the school including £500 for each boarding house, £1,000 to the LRC for books, £1,400 for forest school, £300 for tents and £1,000 for the music department. We held the AGM for FoBSA straight after the Cross Country and the other three officers remain in situ and are happy to continue for another year in their roles.

Vice Chair - Benedicte Bagg

Treasurer- Justine Comer

Secretary - Lisa Hill

We have two huge events in 2018, namely Lambing Sunday on 4th March and Open Day on 30th June - all hands to the deck are required so any help you can give would be hugely appreciated.

Our first meeting is on 13th January 2018 at 2.30 pm in the meeting room, in readiness for our grand bingo on 20th January. Doors open at 6.00 pm for eyes down at 6.30 pm. We would love to see as many people as possible. Please contact me via:

FOBSACHAIR@hotmail.com



Our first event of the year is bingo on 20th January 2018. We are looking for donations and happy to receive any unwanted gifts from Christmas or those leftover chocolates! Please leave in reception when you return to school and come along at 6.00pm for fun on the night.

LRC

This term the Library has been very lucky to receive seven boxes of books from a local independent school, who are clearing their shelves. These books will enable me to weed out books no longer of interest from my shelves. We have also been awarded a sum of money from FoBSA to spend on 'books the boys want' - so far I seem to be buying books on Land rovers and 3 stroke engines. If your son has any ideas please ask him to put the title or subject of interest on the sheet pinned to the wall.



Boys are borrowing an increased number of books, unfortunately this is resulting in an increased number of late returns. The Library policy is as follows: each book is issued for 21 days from the date of issue, the return date is written on the issue slip inside the front cover of the book. If the book is not returned after this date there is a 10 pence per day fine that is activated until the cost of the book is reached. If the book is returned before this, the fine is cancelled. Most fiction books cost £6.99 but reference books can cost up to £200.

The library will be holding a raffle next half term on behalf of Cancer Research. The prize is a family of knitted Hedgehogs. Tickets will be 10 pence each and the prize winner announced in the Spring newsletter. (Miss Bradford)

Farm News

These reports come around far too often and I hope that I don't end up repeating myself.

The autumn has treated us well with the weather. It has allowed us to re-seed two of the grazing fields around the school. They both came up well and have now been grazed by the store lambs. We decided to re-seed after using the plate-meter over the spring and summer, which revealed that the pastures were well past their use-by-date. This should result in better grazing and hopefully more milk from grass.

In September we started a pig growth experiment. Two groups of four, one group on ad-lib concentrate and the other on a weighed amount plus free access to fodder beet. Both groups housed indoors. The other two groups were on ad-lib concentrate and fodder beet with one group housed and the other outdoors. The pigs are now getting to a weight of 75-80kg and being sold as they get there. The outdoor group look as if they are going to be the last to get there.

We must thank Tim Rowe at the local bio-digester for donating the beet.

The ewes have all been synchronized and have been put to the various selected rams. They will now be scanned in January to confirm pregnancies and exactly how many lambs to expect.

The final beef cattle were brought in to be housed in December. The ground has held up extremely well with the grass still growing although they were being buffer fed with silage.

We had to sell four store cattle leading up to housing as space was an issue, but they sold really well at Sedgemoor Auction Centre.

The dairy shorthorn cows have now all calved (both cows and heifers) and milking really well. As a bonus we now have two dairy Shorthorn calves. We have also purchased another heifer with 100% dairy shorthorn genetics, bringing the total now to three. We have used A.I. on the first one using a 100% bull. The plan is to continue to still replace the rest of the Holstein/Friesians with Dairy Shorthorns.

The turkeys have now been prepared for the season ahead. The killing was observed by some Year 10's who then went on to pluck them. I was very impressed with the care that they took over the job. This allowed the boys to follow the enterprise from beginning to end.

We have recently picked up an older beef shorthorn cow and are working with the Rare Breed Survival Trust to hopefully harvest some embryos from her to use on future occasions. This is a very rare cow with genetics going back to the 1940's. Interesting times ahead!

Lambs have been sorted, and finished sold through either SAC or to our loyal customers as halves or wholes. This leaves us a few stores and the ewe lambs to take us through the winter.

(Mr Kingston)



Smiles for Christmas

Boys, families and staff have really embraced our annual tradition of the Smiles for Christmas campaign and gone all out this year, once again. The boarding houses were tasked with bringing in gifts to create a large hamper for those in need locally at this time of year and the result was three houses full of essential foodstuffs, chocolates, biscuits and toiletries. All with the purpose of putting a smile on the faces of people who may be alone or who do not have the money to enjoy Christmas like many of the rest of the country. In addition, the houses had to design the actual hamper to be judged by external visitors. The boys worked really hard on the designs and the final judgement was that Kemp House were the winners with their igloo design! Sergeant Mark Godwin from the Bridgwater branch of the Salvation Army came into the school to judge the hampers and thank the boys.

They were extremely grateful for all the hard work and efforts and the hampers will be used to help those locally, through the Bridgwater Salvation Army branch, have a smile on their faces this Christmas.

(Ms Warren)



Carol Services

Our annual Christmas Carol Services took place in St Mary's Church in the village and were, as always, really well attended by families. The Friday night service was full of magic as the light faded outside and the Year 7 and 8 boys took centre stage with readings. The Saturday morning service was full of festive spirit, especially with the Year 11 1st XV singing their hearts out!

We hope all of the families, boys and staff felt full of Christmas cheer at the end and that everyone had safe journeys back home. The collection this year was in aid of the local foodbank in Taunton and we raised over £200 for a great charity.

(Ms Warren)



SSLT Christmas Meal

The Senior Student Leadership and Prefect Team were taken to Blackmore Farm by our own SLT for a festive meal in the run up to Christmas. This was a reward for the boys for the hard work and endeavour they show in performing their senior duties. The boys always enjoy this occasion and it has become a tradition now and something they look forward to.

(Ms Warren)



BRYMORE LOTTERY

The results of the lottery for this half term

1st prize £40 Mr Creese
2nd Prize £25 Mr Lockyer
3rd Prize £15 Mrs Lin Seward

Admission Arrangements 2019/20

Please note that the proposed updated admission arrangements for 2019/20 is now on our website for consultation until the end of January as per the local authority requirements.

Should you wish to make comments please email: LWarren2@educ.somerset.gov.uk

South West Winter Fair

Brymore's attendance at the South West Winter Fair has become an annual affair with members of the YFC helping out and some boys showing cattle. This year the farm bought a group of Year 7 boys along to visit and Cameron Kinch managed an interview with BBC Radio 4.



Over the past few years boys have really shown their worth in helping Greenslade Taylor Hunt on the day, from moving the sheep and pigs to helping with the turkey carcass judging and carrying the meat. The boys who represented the school this year were no exception in their dedication to show the school off in the best light and staff were rewarded with compliments on their behaviour.

(Ms Warren)



**Free
Entry**

Brymore
experience to last a lifetime

Brymore Lambing

Sunday March 4th // 10am - 3pm



Come and see our baby lambs and visit the ewes around their due dates!

We can't promise lambing live but the opportunity to bottle feed a lamb and cuddle one is just a step away with us at Brymore Academy.

Refreshments provided by Friends of Brymore Association.

No dogs permitted and pregnant women should not enter the livestock shed.

Brymore Academy, Cannington, TA5 2NB
01278 652369 www.brymoreacademy.co.uk



Upcoming Important Dates

2017/18 BRYMORE'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 8 January 2018

INSET DAY

3.30 pm - 5.00 pm Year 11 Parent Consultation

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 boarders return

Tuesday 9 January 2018

8.30 am All out-boarders return

Saturday 10 February 2018

12.00 pm Years 7, 9, 10 & 11 depart for
Spring half-term

1.00 pm - 3.30 pm Year 8 Parent Consultation

Monday 26 February 2018

INSET DAY

3.30 pm - 5.00 pm Year 10 Parent Consultation

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 11 boarders return

Tuesday 27 February 2018

8.30 am All out-boarders return

Saturday 24 March 2018

10.00 am Raising Achievement Session for
Year 11 Parents

11.30 am Parents Chads Run/Walk

2.00 pm Rugby & Hockey House Finals

4.00 pm All students depart for Easter
Holidays

CONTACT

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