



*Almighty and ever living God,
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.
May this time be one of outward focus;
seeking you in those we often ignore.
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter.
Give us hearts hungry to serve you
and those who need what we have to give.
Amen*

Key Stage 5 Weekly Bulletin: Week beginning: Monday 22nd February 2021

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

- We hope you have all had a restful break and welcome you back to this term. We are following the news and will be in touch as soon as we have further information on how we will return to school. We are also awaiting the guidance from Ofqual as to how the A levels/BTECs will be assessed this year, and again will let you know as soon as we are able. As ever, please check your emails regularly and read this bulletin each week. We appreciate that it is sometimes a very long and detailed affair, but this remains our main form of communication with students and parents while we are not in tutor time each day and there is a lot to tell you! Year 12 please focus on the items which will help you to prepare for your decisions at the end of next year, you should be thinking about your further education and / or employment plans now. Universities are reaching out to talk to you and when they do, we put it in the bulletin. Year 13, Mrs Ellul keeps the bulletin up to date each week and there is a lot in it right now about student finance and accommodation.
- **Sixth Form Canteen:** The Sixth Form Canteen is OPEN for business! Please don't forget that every Tuesday and Thursday between 12-1pm you can drop in to the Sixth Form drop-in room on MLTV to catch up with us and each other over a bite to eat. You can chat, type, listen or book a slot to perform. Nothing formal, just a space to hang out and break down the barriers of lock down. Looking forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

WEEKLY WELLNESS TIPS AND IDEAS

In the survey many of you did before half term, a number of you told us that you were anxious and that you weren't sleeping well; some of you said you were not eating healthily and that you were struggling to make time for exercise. Hopefully a break has made you feel a little better.

This website has some really good and brief articles which you may find useful to help support you as we start the new term: <https://studentspace.org.uk/wellbeing/mental-health-and-wellbeing>

Please remember, we are also here to listen and help if you need us.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

- This term we are looking at the Unifrog tools for exploring pathways, and this week we start with the Interests Profile. Year 12s can think about their own preferences and then explore careers, and the ideas will start to flow. For Year 13s, whose career paths are now clearer, there is always choice and opportunities for branching out from the initial choices.
- John Holland's Theory of Career Choice maintains that in choosing a career, people prefer jobs where they can be around others who are like them. They search for environments that will let them use their skills and abilities, and express their attitudes and values, while taking on enjoyable problems and roles. Holland's theory assumes that career choice is an expression of personality and that most people can be classified as one of six primary personality types: Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising, Conventional.
- For this week: Do the Quiz!

YEAR 12

- **News from Bristol University:** Our summer schools are free experiences which offer places across different subject streams, designed to provide an insight into undergraduate courses at the University. Participants will be eligible for a guaranteed contextual offer (up to 2 grades below the typical offer) or interview should they then apply to University of Bristol. **Applications are open now and close 2 March.** <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/outreach/post-16/insight/>
 - **The Sutton Trust: Sutton Trust Summer School**
Week of 19 July and an optional 2 days during week commencing 2 August, exact dates tbc. Sutton Trust Summer School offers students the opportunity to experience student life in one of the UK's most exciting cities. To apply follow this link: <https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>
 - **UNIQ Programme:** This online programme has an excellent reputation and can open doors to many Russell Group universities through writing about it in your personal statement in the autumn. If you are interested, you can apply at <http://www.uniq.ox.ac.uk/> **Please be aware that the deadline is 15th March.**
 - **Is Oxbridge for me?** Year 12 students and their parents can virtually attend this event. Representatives from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge will help you to understand the application procedure, demystify the process and answer your questions on Feb 26, 2021 05:00 pm. Please register at: [Is Oxbridge for me?](#)
 - **Supporting Parents and Carers in Education:** 5 virtual events from Study Higher (please see the flyer attached):
TUESDAY 23 MARCH 7-8pm All About University & How to Apply
TUESDAY 30 MARCH 7-8pm Vocational Routes & Apprenticeships
TUESDAY 20 APRIL 7-8pm Student Finance
TUESDAY 4 MAY 7-8pm Wellbeing & Resilience
TUESDAY 18 MAY 7-8pm Exam & Revision Tip
- MOOCs:** MOOCs are online courses that help people to continue professional development at many stages of their career. By doing a MOOC, you show the admissions teams at universities that you are very interested in your subject area and can do research and independent learning. Some topics from FutureLearn are shown below:


FUTURELEARN
Data Analytics Using
Python: Statistics and
Analytics Fundamentals


MONASH UNIVERSITY
Introduction to Psychology:
Sensation and Perception



The Role of Vaccines in
Preventing Infectious Diseases
and Antimicrobial Resistance

- **Podcasts:** For your information, and good to refer to in your personal statement in the Autumn. <https://www.sciencefriday.com/>
- **University guidance videos:** Watch them here! We've created a university guidance video hub, where students and school groups can watch webinars ranging from an introduction to university courses in Accounting through to Veterinary Science. As well as many subjects in between. We have recorded over 80 videos to date, featuring over 100 university speakers! <https://www.unitasterdays.com/ondemand.aspx>

VIRTUAL TASTER DAYS AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

- **Supercurricular enrichment from the University of Oxford:** Topics and themes beyond the classroom for History, English, Chemistry, Theatre, MFL. You can sign up at: [Beyond the classroom](#)
- **University Guidance:** Unitaster have a library of On Demand Webinar Videos with one key aim: To support students who are considering university to make informed future decisions. They feature guest speakers from a range of different universities, who are always experts in the subject they are speaking about Please visit <https://www.unitasterdays.com/ondemand>
- **Year 12 Oxbridge: Oxford Physics Online Masterclass 2021**
When: Saturday 20th March 2021, 10am – 3pm

Where: Online – Zoom Webinar

What: The day will include advice on applying to study Physics at the University of Oxford, a lecture about an area of cutting-edge physics research, an interactive problem-solving workshop and more. Students will be encouraged to ask questions and engage with the speakers through the webinar platform. If you are interested but unable to attend the live event, you can also sign up to access recordings of the event afterwards.

Audience: Year 12 students

Booking and more information: This is a free event, students can register [here](#).

- **Maths Online Public Lecture:** Next week, celebrates Roger Penrose's Nobel Prize by exploring Black Holes. Watch at the time or any time after.
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLnGGRG_uGSPLBLzyhg8dQ
- **Virtual tours to UK universities are available at the press of a button:**
<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events/virtual-tours>
- **UniTasterDays:** There are lots of events listed in many different subject areas. Please visit this link <https://www.unitasterdays.com/Search.aspx?MILES=99999&PC=OX169HY>

UCAS AND FINANCE INFORMATION

- **The Student Loans Company:** The SLC will host its annual **Student Money Week** event from 1-5 March 2021, to support students with their applications. Throughout the week, students and their parents and partners will be able to take part in a series of online Q&A sessions and Facebook events. These will cover topics such as eligibility, how to provide supporting evidence for your application, and extra support available for disabled students and students who have an adult or child dependant. In the run up to Student Money Week new and continuing students can access SLC's dedicated [Funding Your Future](#) web page which provides tips to help with the application process and all the latest student finance information, including a short film.
- 4 student finance facts
 - Use the [student finance calculator](#) to find out how much you could be entitled to.
 - You do not start repaying your student loan until the April after you finish or leave your course and you are earning over the [repayment threshold](#).
 - [What you repay](#) is based on what you earn, not what you have borrowed.
 - You can get all the latest information about student finance by following Student Finance England on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- **Year 13 Student Finance:** The Student Loans Company (SLC) is urging students to register their interest by inviting them to sign up to our [Apply Now mailing list](#). Get ready to apply for student finance ahead of the application service launching in early March.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/student-loans-company-asks-students-to-get-ready-to-apply>
- **University Accommodation:** Availability will be found on the website of each university.
- **Student finance calculator:** The calculator will tell you the maximum amount you can get for a maintenance loan. Find out more on: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- **Portfolio for interview:** Get advice and information about putting together a portfolio ready for interview visit <https://www.unitasterdays.com/events/event/62341/portfolio-advice>

APPRENTICESHIPS

- **The Future of Work:** The Future of Work Guide (please see attachment) follows up on National Careers Week. The guide focuses on the changes to the world of work which are expected to happen due to the Fourth Industrial Revolution and resulting automation.
- **KPMG Audit and Software Engineering apprenticeships are currently open:** Further programme launches will follow later this month. Those interested can sign up to our [Talent Community](#) to be one of the first to hear when these become available.
Our places fill fast, so we'd encourage applications as soon as possible
- **International Women's Day:** To mark International Women's Day 2021, the Royal Air Force (RAF) in partnership with Amazing Apprenticeships, will be running an **exclusive free webinar for students in Years 10-13**, to explore the incredible apprenticeship and career opportunities available for them. Join us on **8th March at 2pm - 3.30pm**. Register at:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/raf-iwd/register/>

- **Yr 12 - Oxfordshire Advanced Skills:** They are holding a 'Meet the Employer' drop-in event on Wednesday 3rd March 2021 between 5pm and 7pm so you can explore the apprentice opportunities available with some of our fantastic employer partners. You can also speak to some of their current apprentices about their journeys so far to find out which opportunities might be best for you. Please visit <https://www.oas.ukaea.uk/meet-the-employer/>
- **Yr 12 - Sutton Trust:** Applications to both the Sutton Trust [Apprenticeship Summer School](#) and the [UK Summer Schools](#) have just over a week until applications close on the **2nd March**. If year 12 students are keen to find out whether a degree apprenticeship is for them or get a taste of life of university life then they can [apply here](#)
- While these descriptions are great, they can also help you in **choosing a university degree**. Click here [Subject descriptions for Apprenticeships](#)

VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Virtual work experience:** students, especially those in year 12, are encouraged to try to find an online work experience. Many online opportunities are opening up for **virtual work experience**. Please note that enrolment in this virtual work experience may involve a cost.

https://investin.org/pages/choose-your-career?mc_cid=be43c5ac23&mc_eid=9d55d9feb0

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions relating to anything Sixth Form, please contact:

Mrs O'Donnell – SODonnell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Mr Thornton – wtho0370@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Ellul – mell8376@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Peel – bpee4080@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

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