



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

A Message from the
Principal

Mr Goodman

Dear Parents

Was it just me, or was this winter particularly long and dark?

I am pleased to say that the days are just starting to grow longer, and someone told me they had seen some snowdrops the other day, so spring is finally on the way.

Frewen has kept going throughout. We had a few isolated covid cases last year, but this was the first time whole groups of students started to be absent, and had to go home and self-isolate, at the same time. A number of staff have also been affected. Thankfully, the majority of cases were mild, or even symptom-free, but it made all of us realise that covid is real, and not just something we hear about on the news.

Just when cases at covid were at their peak, the requirement to wear masks in schools, and in public places, was removed in England. For the first time in two years, and in common with many other schools, we decided to deviate from the official guidance and insist on masks in the lunch queue and on public transport. We continued to allow students to continue to wear them wherever they thought it sensible to do so. I was surprised to see how much they did this – realising that other students in school were testing positive, and deciding to take their own sensible precautions.

So – has Frewen been through the worst of covid? Can we finally forget about it altogether, and go back to “normal”? Of course, nobody knows. In the meantime, we keep calm and carry on. We have plenty of testing kits. Sincere thanks go to all of you who have ensured that your child tests twice a week – or every day if they have been in contact with a case – and kept them at home, or come to get them, when the dreaded second red line has appeared. Please continue to do this – I am sure, without those tests, things would have been a lot worse.

Oh, no – I am nearly out of space, and it’s all been about covid. But on the following pages you will be able to read about all the other exciting things that have been going on at Frewen in January and February.

I will find a nice picture of some snowdrops and put them on the left, to cheer things up a bit.

Have a great half-term holiday!



Rewards at Frewen Prep

Pupils have been working very hard and earning lots of House points. Last week Isaac, Raydan, Freya, Tabby and Finn all reached 300 house points and have been completing their Golden Days in school this week. They will get the chance to wear mufti all day, comfy slippers and sit in the teacher's chair. Pictured is Tabby enjoying her Golden Day.

Today we have further achievements to share. Seren, Raphael, Joseph and Oscar all reached 300 HP and will soon be getting their Golden Days. Remy reached 200 and will be getting his Silver Days and Isla, Scarlett and Lily have all moved up on the chart and are well on their way to achieving their first 100 HP which will earn them their Bronze award



Lunchtime Clubs

Pupils are offered a variety of lunchtime clubs throughout the year. The bird feeders were topped up this week and we enjoyed watching a very cheeky robin feasting on the seeds just a couple of meters from where we sat. Our head gardener Daniel has been kind enough to volunteer to run gardening club and pupils enjoyed creating a composter this week. Pictured are Scarlett and Ethan.

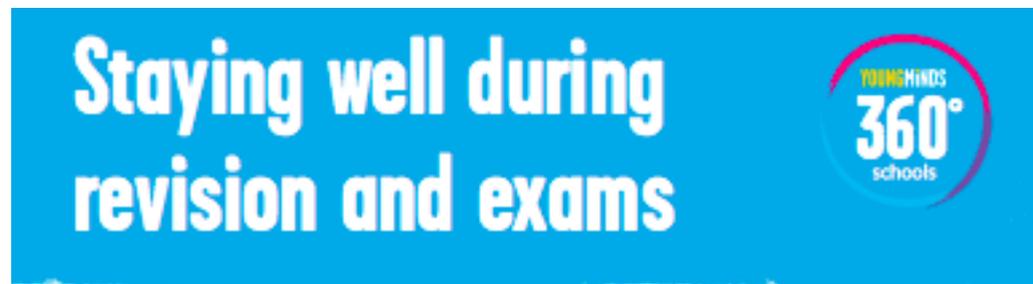
Science

Pupils have started their new science topics this term. Red class are looking at different materials in a topic called 'keeping warm and dry'. They have carried out some fair tests on a variety of materials to find out what will be the most effective way of keeping warm and dry. Pictured is Freya who has selected to make her coat out of foil (waterproof) and fabric (insulation). Blue and Green classes have been looking at forces and they enjoyed their friction investigation to test how much force was needed to move a trainer across different surfaces.



A large focus this term has been exams, both mock exams for those on A-Level course and 'real' exams for those on BTEC course, as well practical assessments for many students. Well done to all those students who have taken part in these, and I look forward to hearing your results next term!

Thinking about exams, the following advice from Young Minds will help all students preparing for exams:



We asked young people to give us some wellbeing advice for exam time and this is what they told us:

- 1.** Always take a moment just to breathe, whether in the exam, before or after.
- 2.** Remember that school does offer support, just reach out and ask!
- 3.** Keep your work balanced. Spend time revising, but socialise and relax too.
- 4.** Keep a self-care routine so that your revision is the most productive it can be whilst you feel as good as possible.
- 5.** Break up revision with food and exercise to make sure you stay energised.
- 6.** Remember that results do not define you.
- 7.** Find a revision space and style that works for you: silence, background chatter, music with or without lyrics.
- 8.** Work to your own pace – everyone is different in how they work.
- 9.** If you feel nervous about the time pressure of an exam, practice timing yourself when you revise, or try some test papers.
- 10.** Plan in some treats to reward yourself, and celebrate when it's all over!

In the last newsletter, we started to introduce you to some of the courses Sixth Form students following. This term I want to speak to you about our two most popular course this year – Catering and Health & Social Care.

Catering:

We have three students studying catering this year, all hoping to go on to work in the catering and hospitality industry in the future. So far this year they have made and decorated Christmas Cakes, made profiteroles, learnt how to cook poultry in a range of different dishes.



Health & Social Care:

We, also, have three students studying towards their Level 2 Health & Social Care. Again, all three hope to find employment working in the Health & Social Care sector, one of Britain's largest employment sectors.



English

Mrs Lowe

Since Christmas, our Key Stage 3 students have been working hard preparing for their LAMDA public speaking assessments which take place this week. LAMDA stands for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts and are an internationally recognised qualification.

The year 7 students have been preparing their speeches on a book that they particularly like with some interesting choices including, 'The Tool Book' by Nick Offerman, 'Alex Rider' by Anthony Horowitz and 'The Magic Faraway Tree' by Enid Blyton. The Year 8 focus has been to discuss a memorable holiday or trip. This means we have been exploring some exciting destinations including Mauritius, Florida and The Maldives. Whilst in Year 9 the students have had to prepare their speech on an object of their choosing. These have included a scuba diving log book, a water polo medal and a Charlton Athletic ticket. Frewen College has a strong record of achievement in the LAMDA exams and we wish them all every success. At the time of writing this, the changes to this year's summer exams have just been announced therefore, I will be in touch with all our GCSE students and their families with a breakdown of these in due course.



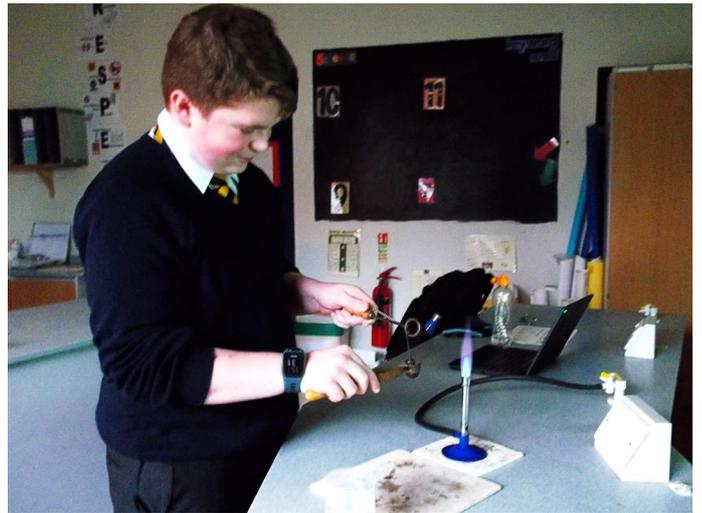
Science

Mr Wassell

The new year has brought some new additions to the Science department. We welcome Mrs Scott who has arrived to take over from Miss Cardinale who now has a baby boy to occupy her time.

We start with the year 7's who have been working on the basics of chemistry with the particle model of matter. This involves the simple but effective demonstration of the ball and ring. This is a ball which fits through a metal ring, but after heating the ball no longer fits through. A nice demonstration to show link between particles vibrating more and expansion.

The year 9's has reached a landmark in their Science education at Frewen College. They have completed the KS3 curriculum and moved on to the start of the GCSE combined Science content. So far, the transition has been smooth as we run through some separation techniques, they were familiar with from KS3.

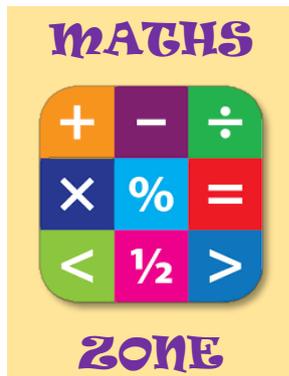


Bushcraft

Mrs Hurford-Jones

This term the Y10 Bushcraft students have been tasked with redesigning an area of the Frewen garden. It is currently an unassuming patch of grass, with a small box hedge. The students have measured the space, worked out where the light will be, and thought about what sort of features they want to include. The students have put their creative hats on and have discussed themes such as a nature garden, a relaxation garden or a mindfulness garden etc and have finished their draft and final designs ready to be judged by Mr Goodman, Mr Le Cornu (Head Gardener) and Mrs Hopkins (Business Manager). The students have also been tasked with pricing up all of the materials they will need for the project. Once the winning design has been chosen, the students will work as a team to install the new garden - watch out Chelsea Flower Show...





Which MATHS CLUB is for YOU?

Tuesday Functional Skills
with Mr Torres

Wednesday

Clinic with Mrs Claasen

GCSE with Mr Rawlings

The world of playing cards

I was brought up in a world of playing cards and board games and I am sure that it was these activities which developed my reasoning skills and interest in mathematics. Below is a “menu” of resources which I hope you can use.

Playing cards are cheap and so versatile, they can be used in games, naturally, maths skills, magic tricks and “construction” .

Ideally investing in two packs of cards will cover most projects and activities. For younger children the mini (patience) cards are ideal.



Each year on March 14 (3.14 / Pi Day) all countries will be invited to participate through activities for both students and the general public in schools, museums, libraries...

Visit <https://www.idm314.org/>

[20 Fun Zoom games for kids](#)

[Solitaire card games](#)

[10 Amazing Card Tricks for Kids](#)

[Building a Card House](#)

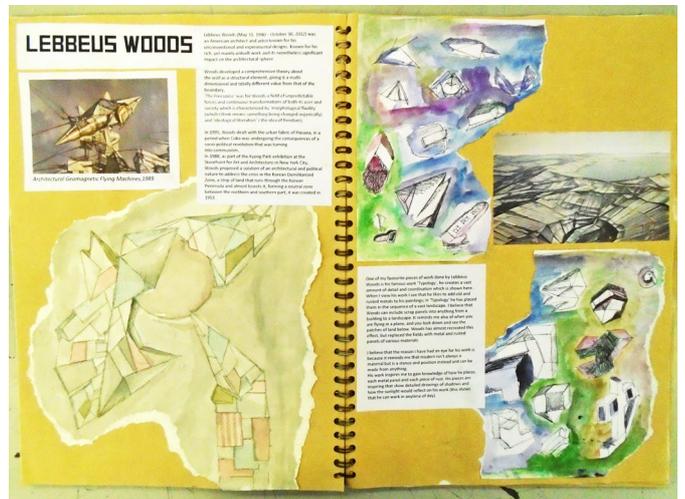
Maths at Home

Here is a series of appropriate resources / activities to help support the learning of maths at home.

at <https://www.mathsweek.ie/2020/mathsactivities/>

Art
Mr Sangster

Year 11's are currently working in earnest towards developing their final piece for their coursework. The range of ideas and areas of focus continue to be fascinating and inspiring. Currently we have work including developing characters from a dystopian world, large scale responses to the horrors of war, architectural designs for the future, observational paintings based on the seaside environment and finally work inspired by a recent trip to an art gallery. From looking at the photographs see if you can tell which work is which?



Music

Mrs Hurford-Jones

The Frewen Musicians have now recovered from a very busy Christmas period which saw the Y11 BTEC Students deliver two Christmas shows which they organised themselves; a massive achievement. They are now working hard to produce all of the evidence and final performances needed to complete their BTEC Music course.

The Y10 BTEC students are learning some valuable ensemble skills this term, and have worked exceptionally well together practicing a range of songs including Pumped Up Kicks and I'm a Believer.

KS3 have been making a lot of noise using samba drums (Y8's exploring rhythms), microphones and drumkits (Y9's exploring reggae) and singing a range of pop and rock songs (Y7's working together as a choir). It has been lovely to see students gaining confidence and taking up the mics to sing, especially Ed, Hayden and James who have embraced their inner BonJovi.

Well done all!

Mr Barnett

In prep school music lessons we are pleased to say the children have been learning to be a in a rock band.

They have been introduced to making music on drums, bass, guitar and keyboards.

This is proving to be a fun way in which students are learning to listen to and work together, be creative, have fun and make a lot of noise!
Expect to see them at Glastonbury 2032!



Humanities

Mrs Payne

Year 7 Humanities:

This term, Year 7 have been working on the topic of Africa and have been studying different topics within this, including the River Nile, the Congo Rainforest and the squatter settlement of Kibera, Kenya. Students have enjoyed drawing out the course of the River Nile and tracking its features. They have also identified the animals and species of the Congo Rainforest and designed plans of how to support the people of Kibera, into better living conditions.

Year 8 Geography:

This term, Year 8 have been learning about the topic of Rivers, to include world rivers and a case study of the UK's longest river- the River Severn. Year 8 have also been learning about the long and the cross profiles of the river and the three key courses of the river. They have enjoyed using playdoh to model the formation of a waterfall, in the upper course of the river.



Year 9 RE:

This term, Year 9 have been engaging with the topic of pain and suffering and have been learning about possible religious and spiritual reasons for pain and suffering. Topics have included the story of Adam and Eve, the biblical figure of Job and the Greek myth of Pandora's box. Year 9 have been able to identify the stories they think may be the best explanation for suffering and pain, taking place in the world. Year 9 have also completed a storyboard for Job's suffering and other activities, to include worksheets and clips.

PE

Mr Swinson

This half term has been a busy term in the PE department. We have seen the culmination of our Fencing delivery for the year – Many students have had the opportunity to experience a new sport at Frewen in both KS3 games lessons and in Enrichment.

Offsite activities have also included Horse Riding, Swimming and Hiking the latter has developed over the last year to include basic map reading and route planning. Mr Baxter has continued to deliver Football this half term in both KS3 and KS4 games and has also worked closely with new addition to the department Mr Hopkins. This has helped to introduce Mr Hopkins to the school and the students.

Next half term Mr Hopkins will be delivering Basketball / Netball in games and will deliver Sports as an after-school Enrichment activity on a Tuesday with the new Floodlights! Don't worry, Mr Baxter is still very much delivering football for the next half term.

Within KS3 PE this half term we have been focusing our efforts on some of the important components of fitness for a range of sports. From Speed, Agility and Acceleration to Cardiovascular endurance and recovery it has been delivered via both team sports such as football as well as endurance events such as Cross Country.

As the weather improves, we are looking forward to introducing some racquet sports and some striking and fielding sports into the sessions.

Finally, GCSE PE groups from Y10 and Y11 are continuing at speed towards their assessments this year – Course work for the Y11's is looking at the impact that Media has on sport whilst the Y10 have been looking at the Olympic Games and working on their practical assessment skills in Badminton.



News from the Gardens!

Daniel Le Cornu
Head Gardener

There's lots been happening in the gardens over the last few months. Even winter is a busy time!



Thanks to a generous donation to the school, we have received new labels for the trees in the arboretum and the grounds, to be used as a learning aid for tree identification. Look out for these! They are fixed to the trees using a system devised at Kew Gardens!

The restoration of the Bluebell walk is nearly completed, the garden team has spent the last few months clearing bramble, laurel and holly to open the space and let more light through, hopefully many new plants will grow. The trail is marked out with a woodchip path, when exploring the arboretum please follow this path to avoid treading on the emerging bulbs. The Bluebells will be in full bloom around mid-May

