



BIWEEKLY BULLETIN

The official news bulletin of Holyrood Academy



DEAR PARENT/CARER,

Here we are at the end of 2023 at Holyrood! It has been another successful year and my acid test of 'are we a better school at the end of this year than at the start?' has well and truly been met. Wherever I look around the school, there has been improvement and we are certainly in a stronger position at the end of the year.

Although a school's Ofsted rating is important, it is not the only important thing. What is more important to me is that our exam results at GCSE and A-Level continue to improve so that our children have no doors closed to them, that they are kind and respectful people and that they have access to a great range of extra-curricular activities: work hard, be kind and join in. I have been particularly pleased by the relationships and links we have been able to develop within our community, beyond the school gates, with organisations like Culturally Chard, Chard Community Hub, CARG, Chard Town Council and many more. Holyrood is a great school and it is even better when it works in partnership with the other fantastic organisations within our town.

CONTINUED.....

HOLYROOD
ACADEMY

FEATURED THIS WEEK:

- **Careers at Holyrood**
- **Wise Up Workshops**
- **Holyrood Happy Hour**
- **Request for Toys**
- **Town Treasure Hunt**



CONTINUED.....

I would like to thank our local Tesco store for continuing to provide porridge and bread for our free breakfast each morning, served in the Bennett Building Dining Hall. If your child would like to have breakfast, they can do so every single day for free. They don't need to register, just arrive between 08:00 and 08:30 and help themselves. I am so pleased that Rev Georgina Vye has offered to provide free Breakfast Bags during the school holidays for anyone who would like them. Please see the details in this bulletin to find out where and when to collect them. Similarly, our friends at Chard Community Hub are available for food support over the holidays and the Community Fridge opening times are also included here.

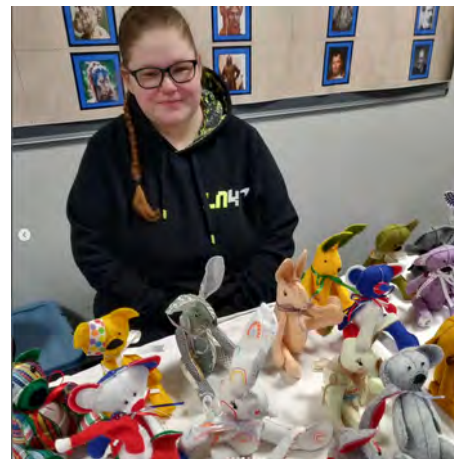
I would also like to thank Mrs Davison, Mrs Coles and the wonderful PTFA for such a fabulous Community Breakfast and Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 2nd December, and for the Christmas Bingo on Friday 1st December. Both events were great fun and raised valuable money to support the students here as well as local businesses in Chard.

Finally, I wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and I look forward to working alongside you in 2024 and beyond.

Best Wishes

MR. DAVE MACCORMICK

Headteacher





Community Fridge Christmas Hours

Monday 25th	Closed
Tuesday 26th	Closed
Wednesday 27th	10am-12pm
Thursday 28th	10am-12pm
Friday 29th	10am-12pm
Saturday 30th	10am-12pm
Sunday 31st	Closed
Monday 1st	Closed



Holiday Breakfast Scheme

Holiday Breakfast Bags are arriving this Christmas Holiday.

Do you think it may help you and your family to start the day with a good solid breakfast?

We will give you a free, no questions asked bag/s, to last a week, which will contain everything that is needed, regardless of your family size.

Just turn up at the St Mary's Centre.

Monday 18th Dec between 8.00 & 10.00

Saturday 23rd 8.00 & 10.00

Saturday 30th 8.00 & 10.00

Anyone from the family can come to pick them up.



#CAREERS@HOLYROOD #CAREERS@HOLYROOD #CAREERS@HOLYROOD

HOLYROOD
ACADEMY

CAREERS

We have launched a Careers Instagram account to provide parents and carers with more information and support regarding next steps and careers options for their children. Our Instagram is [Careersatholyrood](#) and there is a helpful LinkTree on the profile that includes links to apply for Post 16 & 18 options as well as the Work Experience database and apprenticeship search tools.

LinkTree: <https://linktr.ee/careersatholyrood>

Instagram: [Careersatholyrood](#)



@HOLYROOD #CAREERS@HOLYROOD #CAREERS@HOLYROOD #CAREERS@HOLYROOD



We would like to remind all Year 11 parents and carers that applications for Sixth Form are now open. Application forms can be found on the website under the Sixth Form section, interviews will start in January.

#WHY
STUDY
ANYWHERE
ELSE

December
2023

WISE UP WORKSHOPS

Empowering Parent
Carers to succeed

Helping your child with sleep difficulties

We are pleased to share our WISE WORKSHOPS for November. These are open to all parent carers in Somerset who have a child with additional needs and/or a disability.

A child who does not sleep well can affect the whole family. Disabled children and those with certain medical conditions are more likely to experience problems with sleeping.

These session will discuss some of the common issues and strategies that can be used to support your child or young person. There will be an opportunity to discuss your personal challenges around sleep and come up with an action plan.

The workshop will have 2 main parts.

Part 1 will provide information and ideas of things you can try (strategies).

Part 2 will give you time to discuss your own circumstances and form a plan of what you can try to help.

Dates and locations

1st December	Minehead	12:30 - 14:30
5th December	Yeovil	10:00 - 12:00
7th Decemeber	Taunton	10:00 - 12:00
8th December	South Petherton	10:00 - 12:00
11th December	Glastonbury	12:30 - 14:30
12th December	Shepton Mallet	10:00 - 12:00

These workshops are free to attend to book your place please go to:
<https://somerseparentcarerforum.org.uk> or call 01458 259384

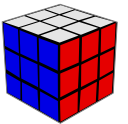
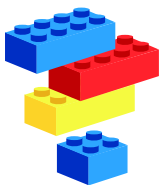


INSTRUMENT DONATION



REQUEST FOR TOYS

The Community Hub is keen to receive any new and good condition toys to be shared with members of the community at Christmas. If you have any you are happy to donate, please take them directly to the Hub.



NO BLAZER DAY



Friday 15th December

Spread the holiday cheer and join us for a comfy joyful day!!

Next Friday, 15th December, swap your school blazer for a cozy Christmas jumper or a stylish warm hoodie and support Crisis UK.

Please donate to those in need this holiday season.

HOLYROOD HAPPY HOUR

The Holyrood Youth Council would like to invite you all to our free coffee afternoons at the Guildhall.

These will run from **3.30 – 4.30.**

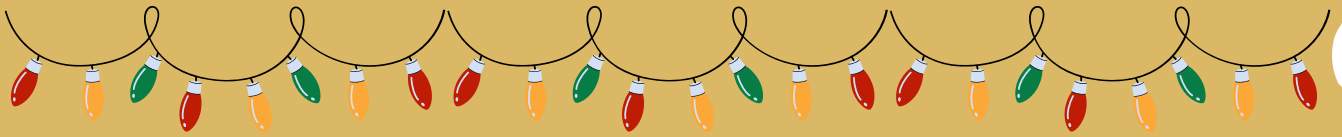
All members of the community are invited on:



DECEMBER 14th
JANUARY 11th 25th
FEBRUARY 8th



This café will be run by our D of E volunteers, financed by the prefect's fundraising and is with kind permission of the mayor to use the hall.



TOWN TREASURE HUNT



The Holyrood Youth Council will be running a treasure hunt in the shop windows of Chard, over the Christmas period.

Treasure hunt sheets will be available from the Guildhall, Barrons, or Holyrood LRC for free.

Follow the instructions on the Treasurer hunt sheets submit it.
There will be a prize for the winning entry pulled out of a hat.



HOUSE HOCKEY 2023

Dates:

Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th & Wednesday 13th December (Week B)

Match Format:

1 Boy's Team and 1 Girl's Team from each House
 Half astro each Tournament, Team of 8 a side plus up to 2 Subs (10 Players)
 Teams to play without a Goalie

Student Information:

Select up to 10 Players for each House Team (10 Boys & 10 Girls)
 Bring completed Team Sheet to PE office.

Participants go to normal lesson to get registered before going to the ATP

Players come to school in PE kit, and trainers for the ATP.
 Students that are in PE but not in the Team go to their normal PE lesson
 No spectating Students - go to your normal lessons

Year 7				
Day	Date	Period	Lessons	Event
Monday	11.12.23	3	X band in PE lessons Y band to join from other lessons	QUALIFIERS
Tuesday	12.12.23	3	Y band in PE lessons X band to join from other lessons	FINALS

Year 8				
Day	Date	Period	Lessons	Event
Tuesday	12.12.23	5	Y band in PE lessons X band to join from other lessons	QUALIFIERS
Wednesday	13.12.23	4	X band in PE lessons Y band to join from other lessons	FINALS

Year 9				
Day	Date	Period	Lessons	Event
Tuesday	12.12.23	1	Y band in PE lessons X band to join from other lessons	QUALIFIERS
Wednesday	13.12.23	3	X band in PE lessons Y band to join from other lessons	FINALS



CULTURALLY CHARD

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER THROUGH HERITAGE, ARTS AND MUSIC

Over the past 3 years Culturally Chard has supported, developed and delivered multiple events, projects and partnerships in the town. With more to come!

HERE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS WE'VE BEEN DOING TOGETHER...

SPRING FESTIVAL

The Festival celebrates the past, present & future culture of this vibrant, diverse town.



THE BANNERS OF CHARD

Five striking banners for the Guildhall with imagery created by many different people and groups.



CHARDCAST CHARD REVEALED

A serialised podcast, co-created with residents of Chard, fusing drama, history and sound-art.

WINDOW WANDERLAND 2022

The town centre was illuminated in the darker months with window displays and an outdoor projection event. The theme was Belonging: people of Chard past, present, future.



WATER HISTORIES

Lead artist Anna Chrystal Stephens worked with the community to create work responding to the 'spirit of water' in Chard.

CHARD CARNIVAL

Supported by Culturally Chard, this popular event brings 10,000 people to the town centre.

HOLYROOD ACADEMY

Involvement in Culturally Chard projects has helped the school achieve Gold Artsmark status.

CHARD TOGETHER

Three events in 2023 with 1,300 people attending. Celebrating some of the diverse communities of Chard, to encourage inclusion and cross-community understanding.

AND MUCH MORE!
culturallychard.org



Historic England



HERITAGE FUND



Chard Town Council



Somerset Council

SCHOOL CALENDAR

For a direct link to our school calendar and all that is happening please click here:

[CLICK HERE](#)

STUDENT BULLETIN

For a direct link to our student bulletin please click here:

[CLICK HERE](#)

UP AND COMING TRIPS

Please note these are subject to change and cancellation. Some trips are in the process of having details confirmed. Specific details will come from trip leaders when they are ready.

March 6th	Year 8	Geography Trip - Plymouth Aquarium
March 7th	Year 8	Geography Trip - Plymouth Aquarium

Enviro Prefects need your help!

We are looking for donations for Ferne Animal Sanctuary! We are looking for many items including:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Kitten food● Cat food● Dog food● Cat toys● Dog toys | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Blankets● Old towels● Food/water bowls● Leads● Collars |
|--|--|

Bring donations
to
Mrs Davison's
Office anytime



FERNE
ANIMAL SANCTUARY

*Poetry Club
with
Mr. Webber
Monday lunchtimes in A11*

POETRY
IS THE
RHYTHMICAL
CREATION OF
BEAUTY IN
WORDS

*Discover the 'spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected
in tranquility'.*

Tap into your inner Romantic poet.

Write original poems, then read them to others.

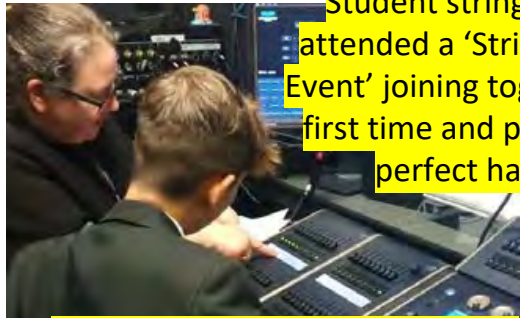
Become a performance poet!

GOLDSTANDARD ARTS PROVISION

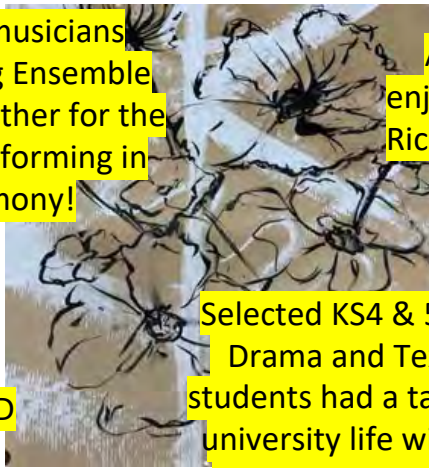


*The academic year has certainly started off well for the Creative Arts Faculty where we were incredibly proud to be awarded the prestigious Artsmark Gold Award. This is the only creative quality standard for schools and our Gold Award is the result of the both the work of our dedicated and passionate staff, alongside our talented and ambitious students – I am so proud to be part of this team. This term has also welcomed our new Year 7 students and it has been a joy to see the emerging musicians, performers and artists amongst them all, we can't wait to work with them throughout their Holyrood journey. Not one for a slow start, the term has been packed with getting not one but two shows up and running, two new courses on offer (GCSE Dance and A Level Music) and plenty of trips! Please enjoy reading a little more about them in this issue. As I write this we are excited for both The Actors Showcase, an evening of GCSE Drama and Performing Arts, and the annual Carol Service at St Marys Church – a particular highlight of my year! Wishing you all a lovely and safe break,
Mrs J Lowe (Head of Creative Arts)*

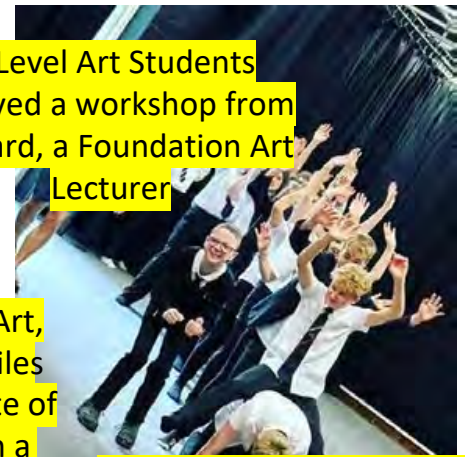




Student string musicians attended a 'String Ensemble Event' joining together for the first time and performing in perfect harmony!



A Level Art Students enjoyed a workshop from Richard, a Foundation Art Lecturer



Year 11 Drama enjoyed a superb 'Blood Brothers' workshop with StagED

Selected KS4 & 5 Art, Drama and Textiles students had a taste of university life with a design workshop at Plymouth

Our Christmas Carol Concert involved over 30 musicians across all age groups.



Over 100 students are now part of #teamshrek!



Year 8 students learnt all about careers in the industry at The Octagon Theatre's Creative Careers Event



Rehearsals for our Connections Production have begun!



We are proud to report that 1 in every 10 of our students now chooses to learn a musical instrument!



We enjoyed over 50 students

Our Music Department launched 'Truly, Melody, Deeply' our community choir -join us!

performing as part of our 'Actor Showcase 2023'



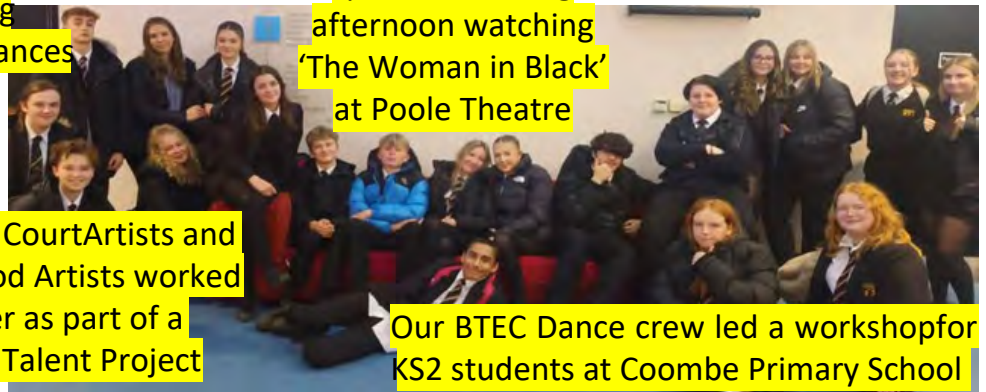
Our A Level Musicians spent a day at Wells Cathedral, enjoying workshops and live performances



GCSE Drama students spent a haunting afternoon watching 'The Woman in Black' at Poole Theatre



KS2 Manor Court Artists and KS5 Holyrood Artists worked together as part of a Gifted & Talent Project



Our BTEC Dance crew led a workshop for KS2 students at Coombe Primary School

Autumn Term Award Winners

Drama Oscar Winners



Katie Lentell (Year 13)

Progress in Drama

Art Turner Prize Winners



Laura Hayes (Year 9)

Going above and beyond in Art

Music Grammy Winners



Dylan Pope (Year 12)

Dedication to Music



Sam Rand (Year 11)

Excellent work ethic in Drama

Kane Brun (Year 13)
Art Improvement



Jasmine Giles-Headley (Year 9)

Excellent work ethic



Theo Hewitt (Year 9)

Drama Excellence



Sophie Bowditch (Year 10)

Commitment to Art



Toby Peacock (Year 11)

Superb effort at GCSE

Student's View

Georgia, in Year 7, tells us about her experience of Creative Arts since starting in September.



'I was excited to learn more about the range of art, music and drama opportunities available to me as a new pupil at Holyrood. I had always wanted to play the violin and improve my singing ability, so I was keen to engage and sign up for these lessons. Although a little nervous, I was absolutely delighted when I auditioned for this year's performance of Shrek. It feels like a family being part of Shrek. Everyone is so friendly and supportive. By participating in the show, I have made friends throughout the school in a number of different year groups. This has given me a sense of belonging and I have gained in confidence.'

The Creative Arts Team

- Mrs J Lowe – Head of Creative Arts & Drama Leader
- Mrs Shaun – Drama Teacher
- Mr Massey – Drama Teacher
- Mrs Munro – Head of Art
- Mrs Wilson – Art Teacher
- Mrs Taylor – Art Teacher
- Mrs Ward – Art Teacher
- Mrs Spiller – Head of Music
- Mrs Davies – Music Teacher
- Mrs Seib – Music Teacher
- Mr Shortland – Music Teacher
- Mrs Druce – Dance Teacher
- Mrs Cunningham – Creative Arts Technician
- Mr Hayden & Mr Lees – Creative Arts Governors
- Honorary Team – Mrs Davison, Mrs Wilsher, Mr Barge & Mrs Brownsey



Tickets on sale January!

Want to keep up to date on what's happening in Creative Arts at Holyrood? Follow us on social media!



Art@HolyroodAcademy
Holyrood Drama @ Holyrood Academy
Holyrood Music @ Holyrood Academy



creativearts_holyrood
drama_holyroodacademy
art_holyroodacademy
holyroodmusic

We are always looking for the next creative opportunity so if you have any comments, feedback or suggestions regarding the arts at Holyrood please do contact Mrs Lowe via jlowe@holyrood.bep.ac