



### News from The John of Gaunt School

The John of Gaunt Sixth Form continues to be a place where students of all abilities are developing both academically and personally.

Currently we are involved in several projects within our local community. Trowbridge has been selected as the trial town for a new form of identification for over 18s; this employs similar technology to the Oyster Card used on the London Underground and means you don't have to carry around ID with your address on it. The new technology is being launched by a company called Touch2id who have sought input from our Year 13 students in order to develop their product. If successful in this area, it will go nationwide.

Our students are also helping out in Trowbridge Library, helping borrowers to develop their computer skills and some are about to help out at The Capernaum Club.

Two of our current Year 13 students, Aiden Trethewey and Jacob Stainer, have just passed their scholarship exams for university which means they hold an unconditional offer for Aberystwyth University and have also received a bursary. This is brilliant news.

Our January exam results have just arrived and we have six students (Alice Parker, Jacob Stainer, Harriet Mead, Lauren Stansfield, Josie Carter and Rory Sturrock) who achieved a fantastic 100% in some of their exams. What an amazing achievement!

We are now in the process of preparing our Year 12 students for their university applications. Two students, Catherine Watts and Eleri Simpson, have been to Oxford to shadow students there. Elijah Reid, Nathan Watts, Hannah Le Masurier and Naomi Scott have attended courses at Villiers Park, these courses are excellent masterclasses in your chosen subjects. On 19<sup>th</sup> March we are off to UWE for the annual Higher Education conference where we will be able to gather information from all of the different universities and courses available. On 25<sup>th</sup> March our gifted and talented students are attending an Oxbridge conference in Cardiff. We are lucky enough to have a long tradition of sending students to Oxbridge.

Whilst 75% of our current Year 13 students have applied to university, that is not the only route out of our Sixth Form. The school has an excellent Connexions PA, Martin Sandford, who works with our Sixth Form students who are seeking employment. He has a weekly drop-in session for Sixth Formers that is very well used.

Our Sixth Form isn't just about your academic development though. In March we have had cooking sessions with our Year 13 students in order to prepare for independent living and avoid setting off university hall fire-alarms! We've had self-defence sessions which were great fun. We had a school play that many of our Sixth Form were involved in and we are in the midst of organising our Easter party, Year Book and Ball at Cumberwell in July.

The next time I write our Year 13s will have completed their exams, we wish them all the best with both their exams and their futures. They have been a pleasure to work with. Our Year 12s will have sat their AS exams. Our new applicants will be having their induction. We always welcome applications from outside of our school and if you would like to make an application please do get in contact.

Finally, good luck to all Year 11s, 12s and 13s taking their exams. We hope your hard work is recognised.

Linda Brunt  
Head of Sixth Form

### News from The Clarendon College

The Spring terms are always a busy and demanding time of year, made all the more exciting this year by the snow. Luckily we only missed a few days of lessons and our students were able to take their January modular exams without any problems. We are eagerly awaiting the results of the modular exams and wish all our students the best of luck with this.

#### **Headline News !**

We are extremely proud to announce that last year's Head Boy, Matthew Wood who is currently studying engineering at Imperial College, London has been awarded a Quest Scholarship from The Institute of Civil Engineering. This includes a bursary of £12,000 towards University fees and 8 weeks of work placement with top companies for every year of the 4 year course. This is a fantastic piece of news. Congratulations Matt ! I hope that our current Year 13 realise that there are opportunities for bursaries out there.

In addition :

The Sixth Form committee are preparing a whole host of events for the coming months. We are only a few weeks away from our annual Charity Stay Awake, when the Sixth Form take over the common room with a vast array of games, DVDs and other activities to keep them occupied and awake over the course of the night. Some even manage to catch up on assignments and coursework. This year all proceeds will go to the Haiti fund. In addition they have organised another Sixth Form party at the Courthouse in Trowbridge and plans are well under way for the Year Book and Sixth Form Summer Ball. This year we return to a popular venue, the Old Mill Hotel in Batheaston.

There are many opportunities for our students to develop personal skills and we continue to run schemes such as the Community Sports Leaders Award and Life Guard training. An exciting bi annual event is the whole school production; many Sixth Form students are involved in "We will Rock You" either performing or assisting backstage. We wish them every success.

This year we have a strong team of mentors working with students lower down the school and Year 10 students from other schools through the Aim Higher Programme. This organisation provides an opportunity for Yr 12 students to attend a residential course at Bournemouth University in preparation for applying to Higher Education. We usually send several students and our current Yr 12s are in the process of applying. This is a fantastic chance to experience University life and meet other students from all over the South West. We are also getting ready for the Higher Education Conference in Bristol, hosted by UWE. This is an opportunity to collect information from all Universities and to ask specific questions about courses and the application process.

As we move towards Easter, our Year 13 students will be contemplating their final few weeks of school; 13 or, for some, 14 years of school based education. It is a time of mixed emotions but for most there is the excitement of moving on to a new phase in their lives. The majority of our Sixth Form will progress to University with a few opting for courses in Further Education at Wiltshire College or local employment. They will be passing on the reigns to Year 12 and we will shortly be inviting applications for the new Senior Student Team and the Sixth Form Committee, roles which will enrich and enhance the Sixth Form experience.

Whilst we prepare to say goodbye to those completing their A levels, we are busy interviewing the next cohort. The Year 11 interviews are well under way but if you are considering making an application to The Trowbridge Sixth Form Centre, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Julie Thomas  
Head of Sixth Form