



# oldwyn Folkestone



## Featuring:

Subjects

Christmas Events

Challenger Troop

Activity Days

Wildlife Project

Charity Days



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the school year draws to a close, I am pleased to share with you our second annual newsletter, showcasing some of our pupils achievements and highlights over the last academic year.

This year has been busy with lots of new and exciting events. We held our first ever Careers Conference, hosted a research project and were able to welcome our first Student Social Worker, Eki, who's placement will finish at the end of this term.

At the end of this year we say goodbye to our Year 11 pupils, after completing their exams they have secured placements at Goldwyn, East Kent and Broadstairs College, and one has secured an apprenticeship.

We have also said goodbye to two more of our pupils, Alisha Sykes, who has successfully transitioned to Hartsdown Academy, and David Readman who is moving to Goldwyn Ashford in September. We wish them every success for the future.

This year has also been a busy one in terms of new staffing. We have been pleased to welcome Heather Gott to teach English, Barry McGinn to teach Science, Stacey Arnold and Linda Dennis, (Teaching Assistants), Martin Hills (Site Manager), and Olwyn Jones to teach Humanities in September.

Following Fiona's retirement at Christmas Gemma Morris has taken over instructing Cookery, working with the students to produce excellent results at all levels, including Year 10 BTEC.

We're looking forward to our end of term Celebration Assembly and Prizegiving, where we hope to see everyone join us in celebrating our pupils' achievements this year.

As always we would like to thank the staff for their hard work this year and parents and carers for your continued support. The staff join me in wishing all our pupils and their families a good summer break.

Best wishes

Sarah Miller, Centre Manager

# English

## Group 2

This year Group 2 have read and studied two novels – Holes by Louis Sachar in the Autumn term and Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick in the Summer term.

During the Spring Term, Group 2 explored a variety of other types of text including non-fiction, poetry, short stories, comic books and play scripts. They both read and discussed the work of real life writers and used these examples as inspiration to create their own. Some favourites including a play script based around the movie The Hobbit, free verse poems about polar adventure and some highly creative exploration of graffiti.

## Group 3T

This year Group 3T have read and studied two novels – Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne in the Autumn term and Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick in the Summer term.

Throughout the year, Group 3T have been taking part in a Read Theory Challenge, a website dedicated to improving reading comprehension skills. Students are asked to read short texts on a variety of non-fiction and fiction topics and then complete short quizzes based on what they have read. This has proved very popular amongst the group and they are all continue to battle for top spot on the leader board and have all seen improvements to their reading skills.

## Group 3

This year Group 3 have read and studied two novels – The Woman in Black by Susan Hill in the Autumn term and A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness in the Summer term.

In the Spring term, Group 3 started to develop some of the specific skills needed for the AQA English GCSE including persuasive writing, comparison and non-fiction reading. We covered topics including nursing, the NHS, parenting and advertising in the media. Using knowledge gathered from these topics the group produced some creative pieces of work.

Some favourites included designing and marketing their own brand of cereal, a letter to Katie Hopkins and a speech about improving conditions for NHS workers.

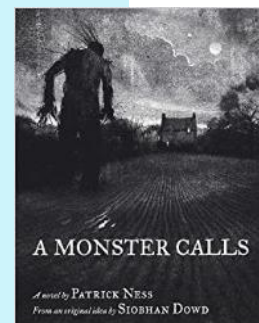
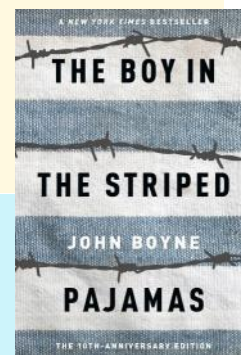
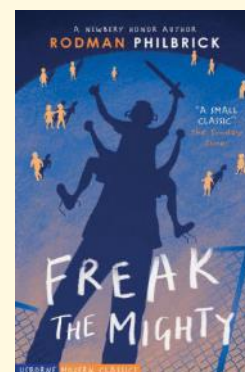
## Group 4

This year Group 4 have focused on practising and embedding skills needed for AQA English Language GCSE and Edexcel Functional Skills English exams.

In the Autumn term, Group 4 focused on non-fiction styles of writing including letters, speeches and newspaper articles covering a range of topics and using persuasive writing techniques. We also spent some time working on comparative and summative reading skills across texts both from the 19th and 20th century which developed their knowledge of Victorian England.

In the Spring term, Group 4 moved onto looking at fiction writing to develop descriptive and narrative writing skills. Activities included writing stories based on real life experiences and working from picture stimuli to become familiar with the style of questions that would be found on the GCSE. We also spent some time recapping skills in technical accuracy including punctuation, sentence structures and spelling. This was linked with some lessons of PWL, where we worked on improving their CVs and how to write letters of application for jobs. Students also spent a good proportion of this term preparing and writing their Speaking and Listening Assessments on a topic of their choosing. This included independent research, writing a speech and recording it. This term also saw some students successfully taking Functional Skills English exams.

The beginning of the Summer term, was centred around revision and practise for the GCSE exams in June.



# Maths

This academic year Group 3 have had the opportunity to engage with the Lessons in Financial Education. This is a nationally recognised award administered by the London Institute of Banking and Finance. We all know as parents, carers and teachers that learning about money and managing money is a really important skill.

Students have completed whole class lessons on money and finance. It has prompted interesting debates about fairness. At other times students have worked independently to complete units online.

Unit 1 has been completed by all and 100% completion certificates have been awarded. The content is below and I would encourage families and carers to have a look. I know that I have learnt a few new things along the way and it encouraged me to review my finances.

Group 3 students will have the opportunity to take the online examination. If they pass they will achieve the Level 1 LiFE Award.

## Unit 1 - Your Personal Finances (T/508/5292)

- 1) Money
- 2) Sources of money
- 3) Storing money safely
- 4) Spending and budgeting
- 5) Saving and selling
- 6) Borrowing
- 7) What is insurance
- 8) How do we keep our money safe?

# Science

This year in Science we have completed a variety of topics including Cells, Acids & Alkalis, Metals and Outer Space. Through this students have been able to access some Biology, Chemistry and Physics which is all part of the National Curriculum.

At Key stage 3 level students have managed to attempt a variety of practicals including using microscopes, making crystals and looking at alkali metals reacting with water. They have also managed to do well in end of topic assessments which has been great to see.

At Key stage 4 level it has been great to see the effort put in from the students as they attempted the Combined Science GCSE. This has been a really encouraging part of the year and hopefully the students will be rewarded with the grades they deserve come August.

Throughout the year the level of Science which students have reached has grown and hopefully this can continue into the new school year.



# PSD

This year in PSD pupils have been covering a range of topics including The Environment with a focus on ocean plastics and its effect on marine life. They have also covered Youth crime where they have looked at topics such how a Law is passed through government and the rise in knife crime. They have learnt about Young offenders institutes and how being placed in one effects an individual. We have learnt about restorative justice and how our actions effect other people. Upper KS3 have been working towards their award in PSHE and have covered, Emotional Wellbeing, RSE and Drugs and Education.

Most notably pupils attended the Folkestone and Hythe Young Person's Community Safety Conference in May which focused on many of the topics that have been covered this year.

# Cookery

Pupils have continued to sharpen their skills in cookery, trying their hands at all sorts of dishes.

One of our Year 10s also completed a Level 2 in Food Hygiene and Safety for Catering, a certified and interactive online training course meeting the UK/EU standards for Food Hygiene and Safety.

Another Year 9 pupil has been peer mentoring Group 2 in cookery, supporting the teacher and other pupils,, which has been very successful.



Tiana Alldis



Beth Lyus



Connor Sanders



Callum Byner



Chloe Smith



Shaylea Toms

## PWL

Preparation for Working Life (PWL) is a subject designed to help pupils work on the skills they need for future career hunting. Key Stage 4 have been working on their CVs, interview technique and been part of careers events at the Leas Cliff Hall and our own Careers Conference.

Key Stage 3 have successfully completed a Level 3 Emergency First Aid Course.

## PE and Outdoor & Adventurous

In PE pupils have practised a range of sports including football, basketball, netball and other activities. Pupils were able to put their skills to the test at our Summer Sports Day.

Outdoor & Adventurous is a class dedicated to outdoor activities, survival skills, and new experiences.

This year has had a mix of fire lighting and fire safety, outdoor cooking, team games to improve communication skills, map reading, exploring new and exotic foods and how it relates to overall good health.

# Hairdressing

Some great work has been produced this year by our Hairdressing pupils. Several have achieved their Entry Level 3 Certificate with more working towards their Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications.

NCFE Creative Craft in Hair Design qualifications are portfolio based. It starts with an introduction to hairdressing techniques—the students research, plan, carry out and evaluate their practical styling using a wide range of products and equipment. They also cover Health and Safety issues linked to working in a salon. The qualifications start at Entry Level, all students have the opportunity to progress to Level 3 Certificate (A-level).



# Play Leaders

The Play Leaders scheme has continued very successfully into 2019!

Play Leaders runs every Tuesday and Wednesday. A group of pupils from Goldwyn Folkestone visit our neighbour Stella Maris Primary School to run activities for their pupils during break time.



# Vocational

Motorbike Project and Motor Vehicle Maintenance are weekly Vocational activities for Key Stage 4 pupils.

Pupils are able to work on stripping, repairing and modifying motorbikes, as well as working towards their IMI award in Motor Vehicle Maintenance. Three of our pupils have already gained their entry level qualifications in anticipation of attending College next September, where they can continue working on higher level qualifications.

Construction focuses on completing City and Guilds qualifications, and learning the four trades, including plumbing, electricals and bricklaying.



## Work Experience

Some of our Year 10 pupils were able to get involved in Work Experience this year. All were placed at local primary schools supporting the lessons and working with the younger pupils.

Both pupils showed their best selves as we had amazing feedback from both placements, they reported that both pupils were outstanding and a credit to the school.

One was even keen to take on more pupils from Goldwyn on Work Experience.

We hope that these experiences will help them to think about their future careers or perhaps inspire a new area of interest for them. We are very proud of the effort and commitment they put into their placements

## Year 11 Leavers

After successfully sitting their GCSE exams this year three of our Year 11 have been accepted to the college of their choice, Goldwyn College, East Kent College and Broadstairs College to complete their Motor Vehicle and Construction courses., while our fourth Year 11 has successfully secured an apprenticeship for himself working with vehicles and HGVs.

This is a well deserved success after working so hard on their qualifications this year.

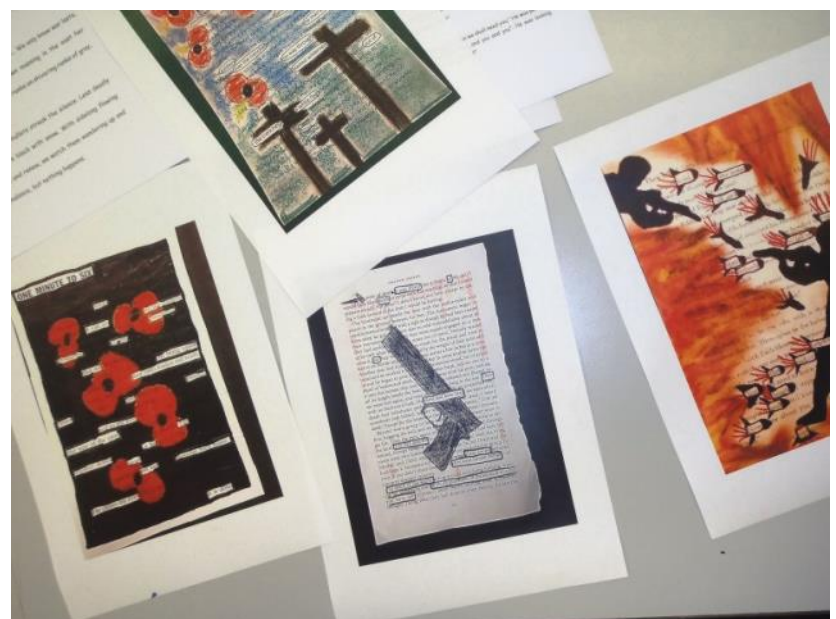
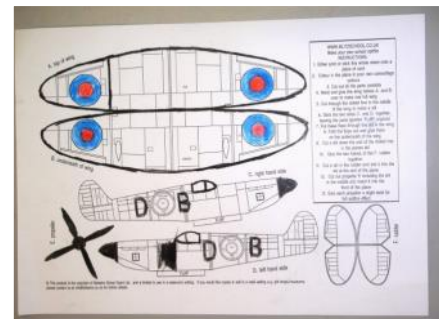
# Day of Remembrance Cross Curricular Day

For Remembrance Day this year pupils took part in their annual Cross Curricular Day.

Group 3T and 4 studied war poetry with Heather G, made WW1 era food with Fiona, Tina and Heather B and learned about how soldiers lived with Charlie and Jamie.

Group 2 created poppies, studied Morse Code and watched the film War Horse, set during WWI.

Group 3 visited the Folkestone Harbour Arm to take part in a Remembrance Walk. They visited several sites such as the Step Short Arch and travelled on the Road of Remembrance.







# Christmas Events 2018



## Christmas Assembly 2018

Pupils put on an amazing performance at this year's Christmas Assembly, where we celebrated their achievements this year.

Many awards including individual subjects, attendance and tutor awards were given, with some including a £5 Amazon voucher!

This year also had a record turnout of parents and carers, as well as a visit from the Chair of Governors.



## Dick Whittington Pantomime Trip at the Leas Cliff Hall

The Leas Cliff Hall generously offered free tickets for our pupils to see the pantomime Dick Whittington. For some it was their first pantomime and it was an enjoyable outing.



## Stella Maris Nativity

This Christmas our neighbouring school Stella Maris invited our pupils to watch their annual nativity.

Our pupils also performed a rehearsal of our Christmas Assembly for their Year R and Year 6 pupils, which was a great experience for all.



## Christmas Carolling at Broadmeadow Care Centre

A group of pupils, organised by our Music Tutor Kevin, went to the local Broadmeadow Care Centre to sing carols for its residents. This was thoroughly enjoyed and the pupils returned to school ecstatic

# Challenger Troop



This year has been excellent for our pupils at Challenger Troop.

Across the two terms this year (2019) we have produced The Top Student each time over all the other schools attending, promotions to positions of leadership, best fitness, best shot, most improved and superb all round increases in fitness and confidence.

Challenger Troop is a community interest company delivering uniformed youth leadership and engagement courses for young people aged 7-18. Their programmes are designed to engage and to develop confidence, self-esteem and life skills, while attaining nationally accredited qualifications in Public Services.





# 3T Gardening & Wildlife Project

## Group 3T visit to Poulton Wood

On 18th June 2019, Group 3T with Rosa, Jamie and Tina visited Poulton Woods in Aldington, Nr Ashford.

Poulton Woods is a public wood that is looked after by the Canterbury Oast Trust, an organisation that educates and looks after adults with additional needs. The woods have an outdoor classroom and use the natural resources of the woods to create crafts, saleable goods and the trust have developed a wonderful garden area.

As we have been following a gardening project in D.T, we went to explore the woods and steal ideas!!

When we first go there, we saw Willow tree domes, a willow maze and a dipping pond, full of dragon flies.

We saw bug hotels, Robin hood's hide out and an awesome tyre swing hidden in the woods!

Fun was had by all, with a trail achieved by everyone and bug hunting guided by Luke. So, armed with new knowledge, experience and photo evidence, we returned to Goldwyn Folkestone where we started on work on our own mini gardening/wildlife project. Happy days!

Rosa



# Big Garden Birdwatch



In January Group 3T took part in the Big Garden Birdwatch.

The Big Garden Birdwatch is organised annually by the RSPB. The data collected helps to monitor the trends and activities of our garden birds.



“Group 3T and Tina helped get what we needed: a peanut feeder, a fat ball feeder and a seed feeder. We then placed the feeders all over the place and waited.

Obviously the birds didn't come immediately. But a couple of days later blue tits, robins, great tits, blackbirds, and a pair of woodpeckers came flocking in. Rosa and I found out there were four robins who were amazingly tame! Overall I think this was a great thing to do and shows you nature at it's finest.”

Luke, Group 3T



## 3T Gardening Project



As part of their Art curriculum and wildlife project, Group 3T have also started a gardening project.

Each pupil had their own small lot which they took care of, prepping the soil and weeding in the spring and planting and watering flowers in the summer.

There has also been a competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower!



# SPORTS DAY

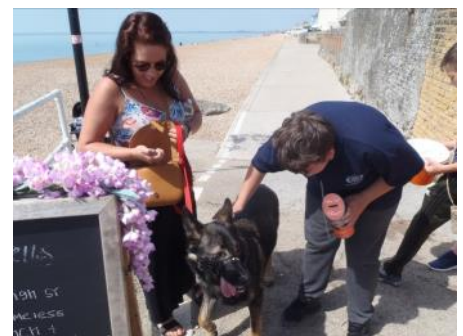
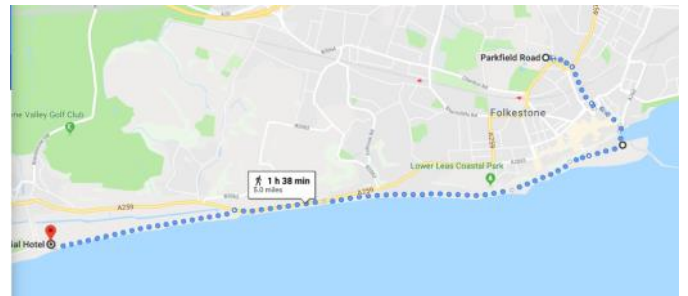
Luckily the weather held on for Sports Day! There were lots of activities including racing, javelin, tug-of-war, long jump and more. Pupils, staff and even parents got involved!



# Sponsored Walk

Once again Steve organised this year's Sponsored Walk. Pupils trekked 5 miles from home base in Folkestone to the Hythe Imperial Hotel to raise money for Ellenor Hospice, dedicated to providing care for families facing terminal illness.

On the walk we were able to raise over £133 to help towards paying the costs of vital hospice care including pain and symptom relief, end of life care, respite, bereavement support, and emotional and spiritual care.



ellenor.†

# Careers Conference



Education Business  
Partnership **Kent**

In March 2019 Goldwyn Folkestone hosted it's first ever Careers Conference.

We partnered with Education Business Partnership Kent to host a day for careers advisers to talk, do activities and 1:1 mock telephone interview sessions with our pupils to help them prepare for the skills they might need and useful skills for applying and interviews, and to encourage them to think about their future career.

There were talks and workshops on a number of subjects including Presentation skills, communication, CV writing and marketing your skills and attributes.

Pupils from across Goldwyn attended and all pupils gained valuable experience from it.





## UCL Project



We were able to take part in a study organised by researchers at the University College London.

The students were conducting research to learn more about how children with conduct problems view and interact with the world around them.

The students who visited were very complimentary of the pupils, who received vouchers for taking part. The staff were also given an interesting presentation about the student's research and the work that they do with young people and their families.

## Student Social Worker Placement



This year we were able to host Eki, a Student Social Worker from Canterbury Christchurch University from March to July 2019.

We have been very grateful to have Eki with us—she has done some immensely valuable work supporting in the classroom and forming great relationships with the pupils.

“I had an amazing time at Goldwyn Folkestone. It was a brilliant placement for my professional development as a Student Social Worker, all thanks to the conclusive environment, supportive teachers, TAs, all the pupils and the exemplary leadership. Thank you for all you do for all the pupils at Goldwyn Folkestone.”

Eki

## Folkestone and Hythe Young Person's Community Safety Conference



On Thursday 2nd May Goldwyn Folkestone was invited to attend the Folkestone and Hythe Young Persons Community Safety Conference at the Leas Cliff Hall.

There were engaging talks from several speakers including the Breck Foundation, Addaction and the Police. They covered important and heavy topics such as drugs and alcohol abuse, knife crime, positive relationships, self care and staying safe online.

Over 800 pupils attended from several local mainstream schools and we were very impressed and proud of how our pupils handled such a busy environment. They listened intently and respectfully and were excellent representatives of the school.

## Who Cares Performance at the Folkestone Quarterhouse



Group 2, 3 and 3T watched a performance of *Who Cares* at the Folkestone Quarterhouse.

Adapted from real-life testimonies, the play features themes around the UK care system, the impact of austerity and the challenges of being a Young Carer.



## Canada Day Memorial Service

2019 marked the 100th anniversary of the first Canada Day parade, held every year since 1919 to commemorate the 296 Canadian soldiers who died during WWI and are buried in the Shorncliffe Military Cemetery. Two of our pupils were able to attend and were excellent ambassadors to the school at the event.



# Charity Days

## Jeans for Genes Day—September 2018

Jeans for Genes Day is the annual event for Genetic Disorders UK, an organisation who help support individuals and families living with a genetic disorder.



## Little Baby and Co.—October 2018

October Group 3 chose to support Little Baby and Co., a charity of volunteers who work to support grieving parents, and successfully raised £27.65.



## Children in Need—November 2019

Friday 16th November once again pupils wore their spots to improve the lives of disadvantaged young people across the UK.



## Christmas Jumper Day—December 2018

Friday 14th December everyone wore a Christmas jumper to raise money for Save the Children



## Centre Point—February 2019

Group 2 chose to support Centre Point, a charity dedicated to providing housing and support to homeless young people.



## Comic Relief—March 2019

Group 4 organised Goldwyn Folkestone's Comic Relief Day, an annual nationwide event to raise money to support people all over the world.



## Mental Health Awareness Week—May 2019

In support of Mental Health Awareness Week Group 3 dedicated their charity day to supporting Mental Health charities.



## Alzheimer's Society—July 2019

Group 3T made flyers and did an assembly for their charity day in support of Alzheimer's Society, the UK's largest charity focused on campaigns for change, funding research to find a cure and supporting people living with dementia.



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## Dates for your diary

Monday 2nd September 2019	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 3rd September 2019	Staff Training Day
Wednesday 4th September 2019	Induction Day—Nurture only
Thursday 5th September 2019	All pupils start
Friday 18th October 2019	Term 1 Finish
Wednesday 30th October 2019	Staff Training Day
Thursday 31st October 2019	Term 2 Start
Friday 20th December 2019	Term 2 Finish

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's newsletter.

If you have any concerns around any content contained in this newsletter please contact us as soon as possible

Edited by: Jess Murphy