

Saturday Bulletin

Also available on the Parent Portal, [here](#)

22 September 2018

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Award-winning poet, playwright and novelist visits Bedales



By Alex Lunn, 6.1

This man had come a long way. Simon Armitage had ventured down from the depths of Huddersfield. I suspect those that came along will not remember Simon for his gruelling trip to the unknown 'South', but for an incredible hands-on experience with a BAFTA winning, internationally acclaimed and captivating modern poet. For those who visited Simon and his workshop, I'm sure they will have lots to say. Simon quickly gave the impression that we weren't to be 'messaging around'. After an exercise in which we had to write for a couple of minutes, non-stop and the fastest we'd ever written, we were told to pause and read our examples. They were certainly not the finished product! However this taught me a valuable lesson. Poetry and writing is raw, alive and, to quote Mr Armitage, "thought vomit". There is time for editing (punctuation even!) later. Writing is best in its purest form. [Read more...](#)

Perspectives from the DofE Silver Expeditions



We hear perspectives from the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Qualifying Expeditions which took place last weekend.

Emilia Barnsdale-Ward, Block 5: "The expedition for DofE is a mixture of emotions and senses... Having spent the last term planning routes and sorting logistics, Block 5 students headed to the New Forest to spend three days walking and two nights camping under canvas... While walking we learnt Italian and sang our favourite songs at the top of our voices. In our busy lives these experiences are few and far between; DofE provides space and time for them."

Julia Bevan, Teacher of English: "Walking boots still in Bedford, tent poles mysteriously missing, farmers threatening people off their land: there is never a dull moment on DofE. Block 5 students set off for the New Forest on Friday morning... The weather was kind to them, with a gentle mix of sunshine and clouds very conducive to navigation. The relatively flat terrain meant most groups reached camp in the late afternoons and evening sunshine made camp craft enjoyable."

[Read more and see photos...](#)

Block 3's show-jumping success



Congratulations to Helena Vardag-Walters (Block 3), who celebrated a double win in her first Italian show-jumping competition this summer. On the first day of the two-day competition, which took place in Teaterno last month, Helena won the National A** 100m on Vardags Equestrian's Hungarian warmblood, Corino de Vardag, leading the way with a three-second advantage over her competitor in second place. The following day, Helena returned to win again, this time on Vardags Equestrian's newest addition, Etoile de Vardag – finishing an impressive 14 seconds faster than her competitor in third place. A [blog post](#) on Vardags' website reads: "Helena's incredible feat over the two-day competition showed not only her unwavering commitment to the sport but also her rising talent and determination to succeed."

Preparations for the Sixth Form Show

By Darcy Bartlett, 6.2, Dance Don

From 12 September, 12 Sixth Form dancers, musicians and actors had the fortunate opportunity to work with the [Temper Theatre Company](#) to create a performance piece, *Kin*, which will be shown on 17 & 18 October. Temper

Theatre Company are a physical theatre company who create work inspired by pressing socio-political and environmental issues. Using dance, realism, ensemble movement and complex immersive sound and lighting design, their work explores stories designed to resonate with contemporary culture and evoke a meaningful, individual response among diverse audiences. We began to devise *Kin* with the consideration of the universally relevant themes of global warming and the impact of social media. It was inspiring to learn from Temper Theatre Company members Jack and Finn, who are acclaimed theatre creators and performers, and are currently on tour with their show *Nightshifter* in London. Book tickets for *Kin* [here](#).

6.1 student attends Rank Foundation Leadership Day

By Norpell Wilberforce, 6.1

On 13 September, I attended the [Rank Foundation School Leadership Day](#). Prior to that, the [Rank Foundation](#) had been a mysterious organisation about which I could only guess. However, on the day all was made clear to me with perfect clarity; we were given a talk explaining the organisation's history and their aims and were tasked to make videos centred on various aspects of leadership to hear each other's ideas and learn from them. These videos could only have ten shots lasting a few seconds so it pushed all our cinematography skills to the limit! My group was given the question "what are the qualities of a good leader?" and there were lots of intelligent answers such as resourcefulness, determination, wisdom and charisma to name but a few. [Read more...](#)

Bedales Scholars' Concert – 26 September



By Giacomo Pozzuto, Music Teacher

The evening of Wednesday 26 September provides this year's first opportunity to hear Bedales music scholars in action in the newly-refurbished Lupton Hall, in a programme ranging from Baroque keyboard sonatas to twentieth-century cabaret songs. It is also a chance to hear the new Boston grand piano, which is perfectly suited to the acoustic, and which has already become many student pianists' instrument of choice. Please do come and support our music scholars, many of whom have maintained an impressive level of practice over the long summer break. View the concert poster [here](#) and book tickets for the concert [here](#).

Heroic teachers – Clare Jarmy in TES

When Bedales' former Head of History Ruth Whiting died last Easter, Head of Religious Studies and Philosophy Clare Jarmy saw tributes roll in from students and parents about the impact Ruth had on their lives. Many former students and parents paid tribute to Ruth by describing her as a heroine, but in a thought provoking piece for TES, Clare explores whether it's accurate to say teachers are superheroes of the classroom. Clare argues that describing teachers in this way takes away some of the "magic" of teaching, not to mention the agency of the student. She says: "Teaching is so much a team effort, and is intrinsically relational. There is no teacher if there is no learner. No teacher is an island, entire unto herself. Teachers are certainly central to the heroic endeavour that is education, but we never truly know what part we've played." Read Clare's piece in full [here](#). There is a [Memorial Event](#) for Ruth Whiting on 10 November.

Bedales blog – Engaging head and heart

By Magnus Bashaarat, Head of Bedales

A [report](#) which ran in [The Times](#) on Monday was difficult reading for arts undergraduates sharpening their pencils and adding more memory to their smartphones ahead of the new university year about to start. Freshers will be worrying whether they have made the right choices, and those nearing the end of their degree courses might be facing even more than the standard amount of Brexit-tinged uncertainty laced with a thick layer of debt.

Figures previewed from *The Times* and *Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019*, which is published next weekend, found that the best-paid graduates were those who had studied computer science at Imperial College London, topping out at £50k six months after graduation. The course with the lowest average graduate salaries was drama, dance and cinematics at Liverpool Hope University, whose graduates earned a mean figure of £9,000 after six months. In this context I think 'mean' could mean more than average. [Read more...](#)

Sports update: Tightly fought encounter against Lord Wandsworth for girls' hockey, boys' football disappointment at Marlborough and narrow defeat for girls' U15 hockey at Lord Wandsworth



By Kevin Boniface, Head of Hockey – Girls' 1st XI v Lord Wandsworth College 2nd XI – The expectation going in to the game was that this would be a tightly fought encounter between two well matched sides. This proved to be the case as both teams played with plenty of attacking intent, committing players forward at every opportunity but neither side able to convert chances in the first half. The Bedales side, for the second week running, showed good professionalism at half-time; taking on development points and were well steered by captain Nancy Tier. Improved attacking possession in the second half created better chances for the home side with Elsa Rymer finishing well in a congested circle and Nancy Tier adding to her tally for the season with a well taken penalty corner. Lord Wandsworth still looked dangerous and attacked with pace and

directness and were on more than one occasion unlucky not to convert. Read the full match report and view photos [here](#).



By Spencer Leach, Director of Sport – Boys' 1st XI v Marlborough (away) – The 1st XI started very strongly after the long journey to Marlborough and at half-time the score was 0-0 with both teams creating a number of good chances. Marlborough rotated their large squad to good effect and as Bedales tired a flurry of quick goals midway through the second half gave Marlborough a deserved win. See more photos from the game [here](#).

By Maria Presnell, Teacher of Girls' PE and Games

Girls' U15 Hockey v Lord Wandsworth College (away) – A tough game for the U15As this Wednesday as they faced a strong Lord Wandsworth side. After an extremely successful year of hockey in Block 3, the girls are now facing tougher and more experienced opponents which is creating some new and exciting challenges. The girls displayed some excellent defensive skill, and although Lord Wandsworth came away with the win, we certainly made them work for it. Emma Nelson was the very deserving recipient of the player of the match and demonstrated just how much of a defensive force she is. Some really great hockey on display from the Bedales girls yesterday and despite the loss they kept their heads up and worked hard until the final whistle.

More success for Block 4 student's script

Further to last week's announcement that Freya Hannan-Mills has been shortlisted for the Young Pleasance London Playwriting Competition, it has been revealed that the script in question, SWALLOW, is set to be produced for an event in London's West End on 7 October. Freya's script, which is about a daughter spending the last days in a hospice with her mother, is one of only four selected to perform at casting company Spotlight's Mental Health night next month. Tickets are £8 (plus booking fee) when [purchased online](#) or £10 on the door.

Correction – Ullswater perspectives blog post

In last week's Bulletin, the link we provided to the Ullswater perspectives blog post was incorrect. To read the Ullswater blog post, with perspectives from a Block 3 student, a 6.1 mentor and a teacher, click [here](#).

Train times for boarders

Saturday 22 September – leave Petersfield 18.48 (next train 18.57), arrive Waterloo 19.51 (next train 20.13)

Sunday 23 September – leave Waterloo 19.00, arrive Petersfield 20.58

Coming up

Term dates are on the school website [here](#).

For parents / students

22 Sep, Badley Day

26 Sep, Scholars' Concert, Lupton Hall, 7.30pm

28 Sep, New Bedales Parents' Lunch, Sixth Form Common Room, 1-2.30pm

28 Sep, Friends of Bedales (FOBs) Tea and Coffee for All Blocks in the Reading Room, 2.15-3.30pm

28 Sep, Block 3 Parents' Welcome from Magnus and Parents' Meeting, 3-6pm

28-30 Sep, Long Leave Weekend

20-21 Oct, Great South Run, Portsmouth (please [join the runners](#) or [sponsor the team](#))

Bedales Events: Book tickets via the links on the [website](#) (fee free) or call the Box Office on 0333 666 3366 (booking fee applies). To set up the ability to place tickets directly on the school bill, please email our Front of House Lead, Amanda on abrewer@bedales.org.uk

30 Sep, Drama production: *Tabby McTat*, Theatre, 2pm

2 Oct, Drama production: *A Super Happy Story (About Feeling Super Sad)*, Theatre, 7.30pm

17-18 Oct, Sixth Form Show: *Kin*, Theatre, 7.30pm

2 Nov, [James Taylor Quartet](#), Theatre, 7.30pm

7 Nov, [Kate Adie](#), Global Awareness Lecture, Theatre, 7.30pm

For students

25 Sep, Block 4 Ancient Civilisation trip to Avebury, West Kennet Long Barrow and Stonehenge, 8.45am-6pm

2 Oct, 6.1 trip to see Othello at the Globe Theatre, 11am-6.30pm

4 Oct, 6.1 Product Design trip to polymer manufacturing company, 8.30am-1.30pm

4 Oct, Bedales International Day

6-7 Oct, Dance All-in Weekend

Sport (parents welcome)

Reminder that parents are very welcome to come and support teams: tea will be served to parents in the Dining Hall after matches.

Date	Time	Fixture	Home / Away
Wed 26 Sep	2.30pm	Boys' 1st XI Football v Lord Wandsworth College	H
Wed 26 Sep	2.45pm	Girls' 1st XI Hockey v Hampshire Collegiate	H
Wed 26 Sep	4.30pm	Girls' U15 Hockey v KES Witley	A
Wed 26 Sep	4.15pm	Girls' U14 Hockey v Hampshire Collegiate	A
Tue 2 Oct	2.30pm	Boys' U14 Football v KES Witley	H
Tue 2 Oct	2.30pm	Boys' U15 Football v KES Witley	H
Wed 3 Oct	2.30pm	Girls' 1st XI Hockey v Christ's Hospital	H
Wed 3 Oct	4.30pm	Girls' U15 Hockey v Portsmouth High	H

Notes

Absence: Please send requests for planned absences for routine matters to house staff, and requests for overnight absence to Louise Wilson, Senior Deputy, (lwilson@bedales.org.uk). For on-the-day absence of day students, please email bedalesabsence@bedales.org.uk. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours,



Magnus Bashaarat

Head of Bedales

If you do not wish to receive these emails in future, please reply with 'no thanks' in the subject line.