

The Ammonite

A weekly newsletter for students, parents, carers, families and friends of Wellsway School

Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." - Desmond Tutu

There has been so much happening this week; I really do not know where to start!

So perhaps I should begin with an event that occurred at the end of last week - renowned children's author Christopher Edge visited Wellsway to sign books and lead a creative writing workshop as part of World Book Day. Part of the day's celebration was a 'Masked Readers' competition - well done to Ruby who correctly guessed all of the readers.

We are also delighted to announce that, after a nomination from BANES Music Hub, we have been awarded, **Music Mark membership** in recognition for our '*commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum and the value that we place on music*'. This is wonderful news and a real celebration of the hard work of our Music Department.

I particularly wanted to congratulate our hockey players in Year 7 on their first ever fixture as a team against Hayesfield. The final score was a win to Wellsway 5-1. Well done also to year 8. All should be incredibly proud of their performances after putting in all that hard work in training. **#hardworkpaysoff**

There has been so much sport this week; we may not fit it all into this edition, lots to celebrate on the football field and another narrow loss. What has impressed us all is the sportsmanship and the spirit in which all the games have been played.

Year 12 students also benefitted from being able once again to attend the **BANES Oxbridge Conference** and a KS5 theatre studies at the Bristol Old Vic on Tuesday night for a performance of "Wonder Boy".

We are well and truly into the **Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE)** season - our students are now training every weekend for their expeditions, last weekend 33 Silver Award students were out and this weekend, 110 Bronze Award students in Year 9, yes 110! This is a real team effort.

Events like these simply would not happen without the support parents give providing transport, and the commitment and dedication of students and our staff giving up their weekends. Headed up by the relentless enthusiasm of Mr Sage and his amazing team of staff volunteers. Awesome effort by all involved.

This weekend our staff and Year 12 Geography students head off to the beautiful Slapton Ley, in Devon, the students will be writing an article for next week's Ammonite on their Devon Adventure.

Good luck to Year 11 in their mocks next week, they have been awesome this week and finally thank you to the 50 students who have attended the new drama club this term, the drama team are just in awe of your creativity.

There is so much more inside this edition, it is a real team and community effort, a celebration of our resilience and determination to see such a broad and diverse range of activities taking place in and out of lesson time. We are incredibly proud of our students and we thank staff, parents and carers for coming together to support our new beginnings.

"Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end." — Seneca

Have a wonderful weekend.



Issue : 1024—Friday 11th March 2022

Key dates

Friday 11th—Sunday 13th March

Year 12 Geography trip to Slapton Ley

Saturday 12th—Sunday 13th March

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze training weekend

Thursday 17th March

Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening

Thursday 17th March

Year 9 HPV Vaccinations

Students leaving site during the school day

If you are collecting your child from school during the day because we have contacted you or in the case of a planned appointment, there is no longer need for you to phone the office on arrival. Instead please report to Main Reception and we will arrange for your child to be brought to meet you. Parents are asked not to go directly into Student Support.

Attendance—A reminder that when sending emails regarding student attendance, please send them to our enquiries email inbox - enquiries@wellswayschool.com with the subject FAO Attendance Improvement Officer Ms Louise Fox or email direct to Ms Fox lofox@wellswayschool.com. Please do not email direct to Miss Lucy Fox - lfox@wellswayschool.com who is one of our science teachers.

We realise that this is an easy mistake to make and thanks in advance for your support with this request. Mr Ive.



Principal's Student of the Week

All our winners have demonstrated Endeavour, Resilience and Empathy; Wellsway School students striving to be confident, respectful and ultimately successful learners. Simply "Being the best versions of themselves".

At Wellsway School, we have something we try and instil into students: it is okay to fail if you do not give up. It is important to see the journey and remember that you simply haven't got there yet!

This week's nominees have all demonstrated that mindset and trait.

Congratulations go to our winners:

- Year 7 Joshua D – for creating a fabulous video entry into the MFL competition
- Year 8 Harrison L – Helping out in hockey training
- Year 9 Emily S – always being so positive
- Year 10 Charlie C – being a superstar in science
- Year 11 Charlie H – hardworking and polite
- Year 12 Kyle R - improved attendance and attitude
- Year 13 James C - Fantastic contribution to the school musical and an outstanding EPQ presentation



≡ International Women's Day ≡



Inter-house poster competition

The theme of this year's International Women's Day is 'Break the Bias'

Students from Wellsway Equalities Group are holding a competition. Create a poster including an inspirational female role model. Submit your entries to your tutor or send them to the following email address:

emjones@wellswayschool.com

Entries close Friday 18th March!

If you would like to join the equalities group, speak to Miss Mewett.



One Punch Assembly

On Wednesday this week, Wellsway welcomed George and Hollie from Avon and Somerset police to lead assemblies for students in years 7- 10 on the dangers of violent and physical behaviour. The assembly educated students on the following issues:

Reasonable force and the difference between self - defence and retaliation.

The law, dangers and negative effects of violent behaviour for both the perpetrator and the victim.

How to resolve conflict and arguments without getting physical.



During this term, students in years 7 to 10 will be exploring the theme of 'Healthy Me' in PSHE, Year 11 will be exploring the theme of relationships.

Session content for week commencing 14th March:

- Year 7: How to overcome stress
- Year 8: How could I be healthier? & Managing stress
- Year 9: Alcohol & Drugs
- Year 10: Protecting my health & Substances and the body
- Year 11: Sexuality and Coming out

Ms Jones

Teacher of Languages

PSHE Subject Lead



Department
for Education

Letters to students and parents about National Careers Week

To coincide with National Careers Week 2022, Michelle Donelan, Minister of State for Further and Higher Education, is writing to students and parents about the education, training and work choices available to young people after they finish their GCSEs and once they turn 18.

Please share this letter through your school's communication channels with every student in years 9 - 13, as appropriate, and their parents, carers and guardians this week.

[Open the letter to students](#)

[Open the letter to parents, carers and guardians](#)



Year 13 Textiles



This week I would like to share some wonderful Year 13 textiles work. A huge well done to Gracie for producing such an amazing final piece which is based on decay. Here we can see some amazing textile sample work of burning fabric, suffolk puffs, hand embroidery and eyelets.

Well done Gracie!

Miss Davies



Poppy in Year 13 studies A Level food and is such a creative student! She asked us to learn how to make a chicken saddle for one of her hens.

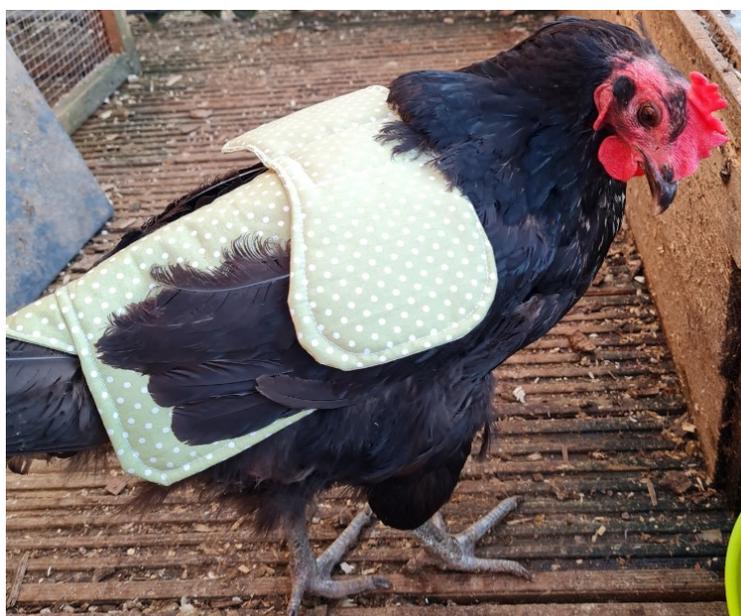
The design problem? Some of her chickens were losing their feathers.

The design solution? Learn how to make the chicken a little coat so its feathers are protected.

Poppy emailed me this amazing photo to show the saddle in action. This is a brilliant example of just how wonderful Wellsway students are. This is my design solution of the week!

A huge well done to Poppy!

Miss Davies





Year 9 Author Visit and Workshops



On Friday 4th March, two groups of year 9 students were lucky enough to have sessions with author, Chris Edge. The sessions engaged the students with some creative writing top-tips, hints about how to write a brilliant opening sentence, and an insight into how authors create their stories. Other Key Stage 3 students joined Chris in the library at break time to have books signed and to ask questions about the life and role of an author. A brilliant inspiration opportunity!



One of our year 9 students outlined their experience of Christopher's workshop-

“Christopher Edge, author of renowned children’s’ books *The Many Worlds of Albie Bright*, *The Jamie Drake Equation*, *The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day*, *The Longest Night of Charlie Noon* (all nominated for the Carnegie Medal), and his new exciting bestseller *Escape Room*, visited Wellsway to sign books and lead a creative writing workshop for select Year 9 students. Insightful and stimulating, the workshop consisted of Chris explaining the fundamental elements of a story, enlightening us about how to build realistic and memorable characters and directed us on how to find original inspiration for a story. Furthermore, to utilise our newly gained knowledge and fuel our creativity, we had a go at writing our own pieces on a scene from Chris’s new book -*Escape Room*- reimagining the setting and putting our own spin on Chris’s original story; an activity which resulted in impressive pieces from the students to almost rival his.”

Christopher commented on how brilliant some of the students’ openings to a story were and we can definitely see some budding authors in the making.



Other Library news

The winner of four complimentary tickets to VUE cinema, kindly provided to us by VUE cinemas, is Ruby B. Congratulations Ruby! Ruby in 7B2, correctly guessed all 4 teachers and all 4 books being read. Thanks to all staff and students who took part, and also to VUE cinema Longwell Green, who supported our book to film theme for World Book Week.



Ms Frances
Reading from
Harry Potter

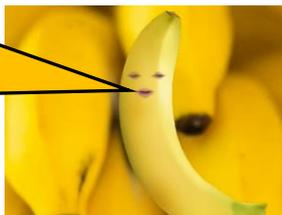


Mr Cooper
reading from -
Lemony Snicket



Mr Pearsall,
reading from -
Percy Jackson

All these books are available to borrow from the school library, so why not give one a try?



Mr Campbell
reading from -
Diary of a
Wimpy Kid

There is still a chance to take part in a Wellsway Film Night, with popcorn and Pizza. All you have to do is read a book which has been turned into a film, complete a review and return to Mrs Youle in the library by 26th April. The first 24 reviews received will be invited. So get reading. 😊



Drama Department

It was great to see over 50 of you come to our new clubs that have started this term! If you missed out on coming this week you are more than welcome to still join. We are running a Musical Theatre group on a Tuesday afterschool in M31 (3.15-4.15) where you will get to learn routines to some of your favourite musical theatre songs, everyone is welcome! We are also running a KS3 drama club on a Wednesday afterschool in M31 (3.15-4.15) where you can develop your acting skills using a range of different scripts! We can't wait to see you there.

We also took our A level Theatre Studies students to the Bristol Old Vic this week to watch the thought-provoking play 'Wonder Boy'. It was a brilliant evening, and an excellent production. I would highly recommend you watch it if you have a chance!

Miss Cole



Music Department

We are delighted to announce that

we have been nominated by BANES Music Hub, and awarded, Music Mark membership in recognition for our 'commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum and the value that you place on music'.

Music Mark is a leading association which supports music education across the UK. This membership will enable our music staff to access more training and resources which will impact on students.

Madam Butterfly - We're looking forward to taking 48 students to see Madam Butterfly performed by Welsh National Opera in Cardiff on Monday 14th March. Students need to meet at 11.25am by the coach departure area and bring a packed lunch. The opera finishes at 4.30pm so we hope to return to Wellsway by 6pm. We would advise students to bring their mobile in order to contact home with an estimated time of arrival. An excellent synopsis of the opera is here <https://wno.org.uk/whats-on/madam-butterfly-puccini#synopsis>

New club

We're excited to confirm a new Music Production Club starts on Wednesday lunchtime in Q03. This is a chance to explore how to create music on SoundTrap and beyond. All in KS3 are welcome to attend.

Ms McLean



Languages

Some of our year seven students produced books for young children in French, using their knowledge of prepositions. Here are a few examples.

Mrs Wharf



• Le livre est dans le chien.

Le chat est sous le livre



Le poisson c'est dans la cruche.

Le drap est sur le chien



L'ours est derrière un cochon d'Inde





This week year 7 are back to studying chemistry in their science lessons, learning all about the periodic table and chemical reactions. In this lesson, students investigated the pH of some unknown household items.

Miss Fox

Theo, Dylan & Louis



Jasmine, Belle, Isla & Rosie test the tubes!

Molly, Alphabeth & Poppy assess the levels.





Our Year 7 and 8 Hockey teams were in action on Tuesday this week against Hayesfield School. It was the Year 7's first fixture and there was great excitement as they looked forward to putting their hard work at training into action. The team, captained by Starsky, showed excellent levels of individual skill but they also worked really well as a team, passing the ball accurately and communicating effectively. Alexa was solid in goal making some great saves and clearing the ball out of danger, supported by Sophie, Poppy, Ella-Grace and Jaz, who all made some excellent tackles. Molly, Roxie, Belle and Rosie worked extremely hard in midfield, feeding the ball into our forwards Starsky and Freya. The final score was a win to Wellsway 5-1 with goals from Belle (2), Freya, Roxie and Starsky.



Player of the game - Belle.

The Year 8's, captained by Daisy, had a much closer game with end to end action. The team battled brilliantly with Holly G making some great tackles in defence. Holly W, Gaia, Lucy and Ria worked extremely hard in midfield against strong opponents and Daisy and Ollie worked hard upfront to break down the Hayesfield defence. The final score was a 2-1 win for Hayesfield, with the Wellsway goal scored by Daisy.

Well done to all the players and thank you to Miss Dell who ran the Year 8 team.

Mrs Burston.

Sports Fixtures next week

Tuesday 15th March

Year 7 and 8 football @ Beechen Cliff

Year 7 and 8 hockey v Ralph Allen @ Wellsway

Wednesday 16th March

Year 8, 10 and 11 football v Beechen Cliff @ Wellsway

Year 7 Netball (Cup) @ Redland Green



Wellsway v St Gregory's – Year 11 Football Match

On Tuesday 8th March Wellsway played in the district football league against St Gregory's. Wellsway were in control of this game from the very first touch and they dominated possession throughout. For extended periods at the start of the game Wellsway failed to turn the high amount of possession in to goals which meant there was always a level of concern that the game could turn quickly. St Gregory's scored a superb goal just before half time from 45 yards to make the score to 2-1 to Wellsway going in to the break. Jake H and Keegan scored with sublime finishes in the second half with the score line finishing 6-1 to Wellsway. Wellsway now turn their attention to the Somerset FA Cup match against Churchill on Thursday.

Mr Comber



Somerset FA Cup – Under 19 Quarter Final

On Wednesday 9th March Wellsway played against Millfield in this highly anticipated cup tie. For extended periods Wellsway managed to control the game with quick and consistent passing from all players. Repeatedly the Wellsway team demonstrated an excellent first touch on the ball on a tricky surface. It was Millfield who managed to go in to half time with a 1-0 lead after a goal late in the second half. The Wellsway work rate was excellent and ensured Millfield had little time on the ball to build attacks. Wellsway will be disappointed that they didn't convert some of the chances they had, but the team should be proud of their performance in this fixture. Well done!



Year 8 Football Wellsway 16 - 1 St Greggs

MOTM: Jacob

Goals: Ed (4), Jacob (3), Charlie (3), Will, Fin, Liam, Zach, Joe & Nick

The year 8 football team put on a dominant performance against St Greggs on Tuesday after school. Wellsway opened the scoring in the first half which excellent teamwork and a precise attack which put St Greggs under pressure from the start. A strong defensive effort by Wellsway made sure that they played the game in St Greggs half and were rarely threatened. Wellsway carried on their strong performance into the second half, with the substitutions all contributing significantly to keep Wellsway in the lead. A fantastic performance by all the players, well done!





Y12 Oxbridge Conference

It was great for 14 Year 12 students to be able to attend the BANES Oxbridge Conference. Students networked with current applicants and offer holders, attended sample lectures, and received advice from admissions tutors.

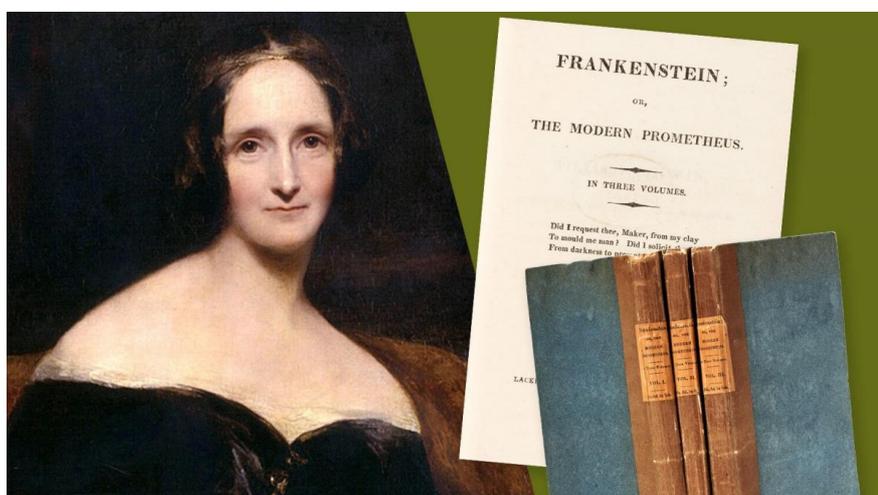
Margaux said 'I was fortunate to have been able to attend the Oxbridge conference. It gave us the opportunity to explore the application process and attend several mini lectures. I attended the anthropology lecture on Colombia politics by Dr Gwen Burnyeat which was fascinating, introducing us to a new field of humanitarian work that we did not previously know of.'



Y12 English Literature

Katie W, recently attended the Gothic Lit workshop:

During our English literature lesson, we had people from Exeter University present a workshop for us around the theme of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and The Gothic. They helped give wider, more in depth ideas on what makes up a piece of Gothic literature and gave examples of how these fit into Frankenstein. They helped by: answering an example essay question; going through a detailed step-by-step structure and increasing our knowledge on The Gothic, relating it to the books that we are studying for A level.





At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about NFTs

(NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS)

A non-fungible token, or NFT, is a unique digital record of a particular file – such as an image, audio track or video (non-fungible meaning it can't be replaced by an identical item). NFTs let digital content producers like artists and designers control how their work is distributed and monetised. The offline equivalent would be owning a limited-edition art print, signed by the artist, with a certificate of authentication. The value of the tokens is incredibly volatile, unregulated and very much based on hype, publicity and marketing. These digital assets – typically collectibles, avatars for social media profiles or character add-ons for online games – are traded in specialised marketplaces using cryptocurrency.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FAKE COLLECTIONS

When searching for a particular collection of NFTs, it is common for fake versions to display alongside the originals, which can easily fool a less experienced buyer. Larger projects will be verified, but small ones will not, so check the volume that has been traded and check the activity to verify authenticity – fake collections will have almost no trading history.

LACK OF CLARITY

Buying a limited-edition print of a painting isn't the same thing as owning the original. Likewise, when someone buys an NFT, they're not acquiring ownership rights to an original work. Some buyers don't realise that – since many NFTs are publicly on view – purchasing one doesn't stop other people from making their own copies of your NFT (by saving a screenshot of it, for example). Sneak peeks of NFTs can also falsely advertise what the purchaser is investing in, leaving buyers disappointed in what they actually receive, and as they are unregulated, there isn't a procedure for returns and refunds.

IP THEFT & "WASHTRADING"

Many online thieves steal NFTs to sell, while another common scam is "washtrading". Here, an unscrupulous trader creates aliases to buy the same NFT multiple times at increasing prices (so A sells to B for 10, who sells to C for 100, who then sells to D for 300 – except A, B, and C are actually all the same person). The goal is to lure in naive speculators with the illusion of a juicy opportunity.

STORAGE ISSUES

An NFT is cryptocurrency which is linked to an additional file containing a digital asset. Due to the cost of storing data on a blockchain, it's typical for a project founder to store only the NFT's transaction record "on chain" to prove ownership – with the accompanying asset stored "off chain". Whether that storage is in the cloud or on a personal server, it must be permanently secure or the asset could be lost. So in a large number of cases, the NFT contains a link that points to the image data: it is not the image data itself.

TRANSACTION COSTS

Issuing an NFT requires "minting" it and any future sales require updating a blockchain ledger to transfer ownership. The cost of this – depending on the blockchain and market conditions – can vary wildly, based on supply and demand of "block space". In 2021, the fees paid for NFT transactions on one blockchain regularly cost more than the value of the asset itself, often by hundreds of US dollars.

PHISHING EMAILS & REPLICA SITES

There have been instances of messages being sent advertising the availability of new NFTs with a link to a fake website with a very similar URL to an authentic site. Users then link their cryptocurrency to the site, are able to "mint" the fake NFT, and once you press "confirm", the cryptocurrency leaves your wallet and you are left without the NFT you were promised, and very much out of pocket.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHECK AUTHORSHIP

Don't buy NFTs from unknown sources, and be wary of trading outside of official marketplaces. Branded NFTs, like those sold by sports franchises, are typically available via a platform that's easy to authenticate. However, NFTs sold by individual artists can be harder to verify. Research their online reputation to ensure they have a consistent track record of authorship and a recognised cryptocurrency wallet before you send a payment.

WALLET SECURITY

Wallet security can be the difference between keeping NFTs secure and having them stolen. There are two primary types: a hot wallet (such as metamask) is used for minting NFTs and general day-to-day interactions with third-party sites. A cold wallet (or "vault") is for storing high-value assets, as interactions can't take place without physical confirmation on the hardware. Only buy these from official sites and not from third-party sellers (including Amazon).

DON'T GAMBLE

Beginners should avoid investing significant sums of money and gambling on future NFT prices. Anyone can create NFTs: this potentially infinite supply of "limited-edition" collections means that, eventually, 99% of NFTs will likely be worth nothing. The market is largely based around building hype and making people believe that the next project will be the one that makes them rich. Take time over your decision and ensure you fully understand a project before getting involved.

SPOT THE SCAMS

Learn what type of message a hacker will leave. They'll often try to create the illusion that you're one of a select few who has this incredible, limited-time opportunity. These can appear on official pages via hacking, so be wary of this pressure-buying tactic. Hackers also send links outside official channels, such as on message boards and private messages. Turn off direct messaging from the server when you join, and never click links that aren't on a project's official page.

RESEARCH THE SPACE

If you're interested in NFTs and you've learned the basics of cryptocurrency, talk to people who are already involved in the space (like an NFT alpha group) on authentic marketplaces. Research the projects you're considering investing in to avoid scams: follow the project on Twitter or Discord and review the work they've done before – avoid artists and teams who insist on remaining anonymous.

Meet Our Expert

JP Vergne is Associate Professor at the UCL School of Management and a researcher at the UCL Centre for Blockchain Technologies. His award-winning research on technology and organisation has been published in leading academic journals as well as in two books. JP is also a speaker and startup advisor. He tweets at @PrateOrg.



National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.pcmag.com/news/nft-scams>, <https://www.pcmag.com/news/nft-scams>, <https://www.pcmag.com/news/nft-scams>



FREE Adult Maths Course

Futura Learning Partnership has teamed up with SGS College to offer a FREE 8 week maths course. The courses will be held at Wellsway Sports Centre and SBL Sports Centre on Tuesday evenings, starting 22nd March. The maths course is open to anyone aged 19+ and will not only help you increase in confidence when using maths every day, but also help you to help your child! If you are interested in signing up, or would like some additional information, please email adultmaths@sgscol.ac.uk.



Do you need a maths refresher to help your child with their homework? We can help!

SGS College are working in collaboration with Futura Learning Partnership to offer a FREE Maths course help parents improve and refresh their own maths skills so they can effectively support their child/children at home.

Our FREE Maths course will help you brush up on your skills and boost your confidence over 8 weekly sessions.

Starts week commencing 21st March
17:30 - 19:30 for 8 weeks
Refreshments provided
Email: adultmaths@sgscol.ac.uk
Or call 0117 909 2296

For further information
or to enrol visit:
www.sgscol.ac.uk/study





Are you interested in local history?

Join us for the Keynsham Museum through time!

Please join us at **Wellsway School** to celebrate the work of keen historians from **Saltford, St Keyna's, St John's and Chandag School** where you can learn about Keynsham during the Roman, Medieval, Early Modern and Modern period.

When?

Monday 28th March

16:00-17:00





STRAIGHT AFTER SCHOOL



**PAY
AND
PLAY**

**Astro Pitch
from 3.15pm**



- Visit Sports Centre after school
- Or call 0117 916 1034
- Check if the pitch is available
- If yes then pay by card
- £3.50 per student for 55mins

You can only play, if you have checked on the day



**WARNING : Not guaranteed to be available
Do not miss your ride home**

