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# Internet safety is day's top lesson 

## PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN SHOCKED BY E-SAFETY EDUCATION

By Roman Hendy, 11 and Joe Daveridge, 11

CHILDREN at a school in Charfield have been learning about the risks of social networking online, and how to keep safe. As part of the national E-safety week, pupils of Charfield Primary School learned how to be safer online during
lessons, and even a visit from the police. Many of the children were surprised to discover how fast their posts can spread across the internet and just how many people could look at it; people they might not even know. Libby Pass, from
year six said: "I was
shocked when I found
out how fast my pictures
could spread across the
internet and I didn't
know that people I
don't know could
look at my posts."
Lessons have included
"I DIDN'T
KNOW THAT
PEOPLE I
DON'TKNOW
COULD LOOK
ATNY MOSTS" shocked when I found out how fast my pictures could spread across the internet and I didn't know that people I don't know could look at my posts." Lessons have included
"I DIDN'T KNOW THAT PEOPLE DON'T KNOW COULD LOOK AT MY POSTS"
looking at e-safety rules, discussing how to take responsibility for your own actions online and, for younger years, knowing how to be SMART online, especially when using websites and apps such as, Instagram, Snapchat and Whatsapp. Jamie Bond, aged eight, said: "I have learned that I should not ever give my password to people I don't know

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3



Pupils from Charfield School discovering how to be SMART online.

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## The Chatter team...



# BBC COME TO CHARFIELD SCHOOL 

By Jacob Edwards, 10

ASCHOOL in Charfield has been honoured with a visit from the BBC as they put together their first school newspaper. The crew from BBC Points West visited Charfield Primary School on Wednesday, February 24 to find out more about the Charfield Chatter, the school's exciting new project. Advertisers were pulled from their lessons in the morning, given

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# BBC pays visit to school journalists 

phones and put in front of the camera to show how they could sell pages to local businesses.
One of the advertisers, Solomon Forge, aged 10, said: "It was nerve wracking and exciting at the same time when I was being filmed on TV."
Next the BBC filmed the graphic designers at work with their allocated journalists to create their graphics for the story that was written. Overall, it was a good session for the Newspaper as they got lots done under the pressure of being filmed. After filming, BBC journalist Dave Harvey, impressed with the project, sat for an interview with the Chatter reporters about life as a journalist:
"One of the things

that's really hard in our jobs is when you know people aren't being honest, trying to wiggle the truth out of them is quite a challenge. It's frustrating when you know people are lying to you.
"What we do get given are great opportunities to meet people, who you wouldn't normally meet, like for example when

ABOVE: Chatter reporters interview BBC journalist Dave Harvey.

I met David Beckham. "You also get to see things you wouldn't normally see, like inside the Magnum factory in Gloucester where they make ice creams.
"Above all, be curious and ask questions. If you don't know something, find out!" •

## Pupils go French for European fair

## By Ruby Bennett, 10

MANY people know that Britain is still deciding whether we should stay 'in or out' of the European Union. Meanwhile, year five pupils from Charfield Primary School are enjoying the fact France is our closest European neighbour. They celebrated this 'alliance' with a themed day by creating a French Market for parents to visit.
The market stalls offered many different French foods; croissants, pain au chocolat and crêpes, which all pupils and their parents enjoyed. Hayley Manser, from year five, said: "I liked the selection of foods since there were different tastes, such as lemon for the pancakes and savoury flavour from the cheese."

Every pupil wore striped clothes,
inspired by the French flag, and had different roles to play. Many pupils, even the girls, had fake moustaches to wear, as if they were really French.
Seren Lawday, also year five, said:
"I liked that many people came to enjoy our food and entertainment from the mimes.

* "We also had a raffle in which parents could also win. Everyone enjoyed the French Market, even the parents!" Miss Thorne, year five teacher, who organised
this market with her class for the third consecutive year, said: "The children really enjoyed learning about France, but most of all, they really loved the food!"

Maybe, if year five were the deciders, they'd vote 'yes' to stay in the EU, but who knows what will happen in June?

## Firm says ‘I care’ with tests for pupils

## ESSILOR GIVE FREE EYE TESTS TO LOCAL SCHOOLS <br> By Libby Pass and Lottie Keen, both 11

ALENS manufacturer in Thornbury has offered to test children from two secondary schools to try and raise awareness of eye care. Essilor, one of the world's leading names in lenses, visited The Castle School last year and will visit Marlwood School this September and October to screen all year seven students. The tests will show whether the children could do with a full eye test. Essilor have also shown how much they care about educating children by donating


ABOVE: Chatter reporters Libby Pass, Lottie Keen, Morgan Garside and Blake Nimmo outside Essilor.
lenses to Castle School's year 12 so they can learn about refraction while they studying optics.

Chatter reporters Libby Pass, Lottie Keen, Morgan Garside and Blake Nimmo visited Essilor to find out how lenses are made. They learned about how they start off as a
chunky piece of glass, to a pin sized lens, and were amazed to find they make up to about 3,500 lenses a day.
Mike Kirkley,
managing director of Essilor in Thornbury, said: "We are passionate about visual care, particularly in young children as more than $90 \%$ of a child's learning will be gained through sight.
"Research shows that children with some form of visual correction needs do not achieve their potential, we believe this should not happen anywhere, but not in the UK in 2016
"I am really happy that we can offer this to the community, I have a passionate and committed team here who want to help and ensure every child has the right to good vision so that they can achieve their potential in life" •

## CONTINUED FROM COVER

so I can stay safe and people don't hack me." Police community support officers Sean McKinnon and Hayley Bromley spoke to pupils about how Cyberbullying is a growing problem among primary school aged children.

They explained how even children as young as 10 could be arrested for bullying online so everybody needs to be aware of how they speak to others online and how this would affect people's lives.
Sean said: "It is illegal as it is another form of bullying. It's horrible for the person who is getting bullied and if you get caught cyber bullying you will get arrested."


So the question remains, will children take this advice in order to protect themselves? Pupils in year six certainly took notice of the advice from the police.
We all need to look out for each other online and make sure we can keep each other safe. -


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# Students dress to impress 

## AMAZING PROM DRESSES HIT THE CATWALK

By Izzy Ault, 10

The annual Prom Fashion Show run by John Lewis at the Old Down Country Park showed some of the best from a competition allows pupils at local schools to design a prom outfit. After reducing entries down to a few finalists, the designers got the chance to have their designs turned into real dresses - helped by the John Lewis sewing department, and model them on the catwalk at the event.

The competition, open to pupils of selected schools, picked seven to go through to the final stages.
"This has been the biggest year so far," said show organisers, Nicola Mason. "With previous competitors we have just done a photoshoot, but for the girls this year, they are hitting the catwalk and I am so excited!" The young designers, aged between 14 and 17, all had a common interest in textiles and a love for designing at their schools. All expressing a love of fashion and a desire to follow this


Students wearing their creations at the show.
as a future career. Competitor Olivia Ashley, aged 14, said: "I want to be a fashion designer so I thought this would be a great experience, and also looks great on a CV!"
Backstage at the fashion show all the girls were excited but nervous as this was the first walk down the catwalk in their own designs. The event helpers had the girls organised, running on schedule and making sure everything went smoothly. The event was a huge success with the girls looking stunning in their creations, with help from Clarins and

KMS Hair, who sorted makeup and hairstyles. Dresses were mainly long and flowing with colours ranging from reds to black with one standout pink ball gown.
In all competitions there must be a final winner, and this year saw 16 -year- old Talia Hacker take first prize with her fruit and vegetable inspired dress, winning a prize of a brand new sewing machine.

John Lewis has worked closely with the community supporting this event for schools and has donated all proceeds from the prom show to the charity YoungMinds. $\bullet$

## Local concern as quarry creeps closer

By Evie Bridges, 10

PEOPLE living close to St James' Church at Churchend, Charfield, are becoming concerned as the Wickwar Quarry gets ever closer to their homes.
Cemex, the company which runs Wickwar quarry, has started digging out stone close to this quiet, pretty area and plan to continue expanding. The 800 year old church at Churchend has plaster falling off its walls and there is a belief by some that this damage may been caused by the increased vibrations from blasting to remove stone. One local resident stated: "We appreciate that Cemex do monitor current vibration levels at the historic church. However, the blasting is set to get closer and we are now concerned about the potential for damage to this building."
At its closest, the quarry will get within 200 metres of the ancient church and surrounding cottages. Cemex declined to comment. $\boxtimes$


## Trust appoints new CEO

## A NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR CASTLE SCHOOL EDUCATION TRUST

By Jacob Edwards, 10 and Lauren Jenkins, 10

AN EDUCATION trust made of schools from across South Gloucestershire has appointed a new CEO. Will Roberts the current head teacher of Downend School will take over as the head of the Castle School Education Trust in September, as founding CEO Melanie Warnes

leaves to take on an international role. In the new role Mr Roberts will work with the head teachers of the seven schools in the trust: The Castle School, Charfield

Primary School, Marlwood School, Severn Beach Primary School, Downend School, Mangotsfield School and Lyde Green Primary School.
Mr Roberts said: "I am excited about my new job because I love meeting children as they are very imaginative and creative.
"Being a teacher is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding jobs because you get to work with children as they are growing up.
"It is very satisfying to help them achieve something new they have never done before."

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## Illustrations: Charley Shipton

## A tale of two castles...

## Thornbury Castle

By Lottie Keen, 11, and Benji Thomas, 10 .

THORNBURY Castle has come so far since Edward Stafford stated it for his home in the 1500's. Now it is a four and a half star hotel. If we look back in to the history of the castle, it was in 1510 that Edward Stafford, who lived in the Manor House, decided to build a castle surrounding his home. Although the castle had an extraordinary amount of space, the servants still had to sleep on straw mattresses in the main hall. Tragically for the Duke, the fierce King Henry VIII ordered his execution in 1521,
before he could realise his final plans for the castle. The King proceeded to confiscate the castle and in 1535, he stayed there for 10 days with his second wife, Anne Boleyn.
Stephanie Salter,
23, receptionist at Thornbury Castle told the Chatter: "Edward began building in 1510, after getting permission and a license to build from the King."
The Chatter reporters were shown the Stafford knot motif which was located on the door handles and an archway. This knot was very famous as it was used to hang three people at once. This knot motif is used as by

the Crossways Primary School as their emblem. They were also pointed out the glass windows that would have been originally tiny panes as glass was so expensive. When asked: "How many Ferraris it would cost to glaze one window?" everyone laughed but no one know the answer.
Throughout the 1960s and 1970s the castle was one of the top restaurants in

## Berkeley Castle

## By Cinny Fallows, 10

BERKELEY Castle (still inhabited by the Berkeley family) is a very famous medieval castle that was given to Robert Fitzharding from King Henry II.
The castle was built during the Norman Conquest in 1068. Soon after in 12 hundreds, the castle was confiscated by King John after signing the famous Magna Carta. The most famous scientist from the SouthWest, Edward Jenner, was a personal friend of the 5th Earl of
Berkeley's and visited the castle
often until his death in 1810.
David Smith, aged 73, who has been the archivist at Berkeley castle for 36 years, told the Chatter: "I think the most important event was the murder of the deposed King Edward II who was imprisoned at the castle in 1327." Mr Smith explained: "He was a very unpopular King, but was moved to Berkeley Castle from Kennelworth (Warwickshire) after authorities became aware of an escape plot."
Berkeley Castle was once the strategic strongpoint between


Gloucester and Bristol and was also a gateway to Wales, when it was still an independent country.
The castle was opened to the public in 1956 so people could learn about its fascinating history.
"It's very expensive to maintain a medieval castle so now public visit fees are the main source of income," said Mr Smith, whose job is to conserve over 30,000 historical documents, dating back to 1154, and to advise the current Mr Berkeley about the archives.
Nowadays, the castle attracts many visitors and tourists every year due to its rich and diverse history. $\bullet$


COMMUTERS IN CHARFIELD ARE CALLING FOR THE RAILWAY STATION TO RE-OPEN

## By Freya Bartlett, 9 and Kelan Pitts, 10

It is believed it would be a quicker journey to places like London as commuters currently have to go to Dursley, Yate or Bristol to catch a train.

Charfield railway station has been closed since 1965, but now Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire Councils are in discussions about funding a re-opening.

In 1884, Charfield station was opened. Trains ran smoothly through Charfield station until 1928 when there was a fatal collision between a mail train and a freight train.

Gas used the light the carriages ignited and four carriages were destroyed. 16 people lost their lives in the incident. Those who died are now buried at St. James Church, Charfield.
Phillip Jones, age 66, part-time dinner man at Charfield Primary School and Bristol museum employee, said: "A long time ago in Charfield,
there weren't many cars and if you wanted to go somewhere you would have to go by horse.
"The railway was closed because not enough people were using it enough. Soon cars and HGVs were invented and then people used those more and the station closed."
Many residents of Charfield and Wotton-under-Edge would benefit from the potential reopening.
Tim Bartlett, a commuter who lives near Charfield station said: "I have to drive for an hour into Bristol for my job and sometimes I go to London on the train.
"If the railway station opened I would use less petrol, which is good for the environment and save money on parking in Bristol.
"My only worry would be where people would park to catch the train."
The Friends of Suburban Bristol Railways are leading the campaign for the reopening, but no decisions have been made yet.

> A day in the life of a teacher

By Joanna Thorne, teacher, Charfield Primary School
AS ANY primary teacher you ask will tell you, this isn't a boring job. Every day is completely different from the next and it's impossible to predict what each one will bring. Just today, we sang along with an amazing pianist visiting the school to inspire children to take up music lessons (and ended up asking if I could). I then got lost in a time warp teaching the tricky concept of telling the time ("You don't say

15 past, but you do say 20 past!" - bonkers). Next, I was amazed by the independence of 10 year olds as they ran about the school managing their Madagascar Guide team projects (with little to no direction from us boring teachers). That was just the morning! The afternoon showed that my inner performer had no rhythm as we took part in some
 Madagascan dancing and music, the class still had fun exploring this fascinating country. Finally, the day ended with helping edit Chatter stories. I'm so proud of what the children have achieved. Not just the journalists, but also the brave advertising team, the creative photographers and graphic designers. $\bullet$

## Scoop the poop!

By Alaina Charles, 11 . HAVE you ever walked into dog mess while having a relaxing stroll?
Well, some smart people have come up with a scheme to control irresponsible dog owners who don't pick up their dog's business; DNA swab the poo. Responsible dog owners are being asked to sign up to the scheme by letting poo testers PooPrints sample their dog's DNA. Park wardens and council officers will send samples of poo that have not been cleared to PooPrints to compare the DNA to the list of registered dogs. Owners will at first receive a warning letter if a match is found, but later fines could be up to $£ 80$. Visit www.streetkleen. co.uk/pooprints-uk.html for more information.


Illustration: Blake Nimmo

Congratulations to Charfield Primary School for their first newspaper 'Charfield Chatter'

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## Meet the team!

MEMBERS OF THE CHATTER TEAM REFLECT ON WORKING ON THE NEWSPAPER...


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## CHATTER SPORT

# Gym keeps new look kid-friendly 

THORNBURY LEISURE CENTRE'S GYM EXTENSION HAS NOW FINISHED AND HAS BECOME A VERY POPULAR GYM IN THE SOUTH-WEST<br>By Ruby Bennett (10)

which helps them to start using the gym. "This follows from the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) which is a framework setting exercises suitable for different ages, helping children develop their basic fundamental skills to become an adult.
He added: "At the

"MANAGERS HAVE DECIDED THE AGE LIMIT FOR THE GYM SHOULD BE 11 SO CHILDREN IN THE AREA STAY FIT." Thornbury manager, Nick Rowe, said: It's believed that by 11 years old, children have sufficiently developed their motor skills such as, balance, co-ordination, and body awareness he new-look gym, which opened on Saturday, February 13, took around 6 weeks to complete, as part of a $£ 250,000$ face lift for the centre. Managers have decided the age limit for the gym should be 11 so children in the area stay fit.
gym, weights are only allowed for ages 16 plus as it may be dangerous. Although this may be seen as outdated, it's set for health and safety recommendations. "However, pressups, sit-ups, squats and others using body weight are allowed for those younger than 16 ." Mr Rowe ended by telling Ruby Bennett from the Chatter: "Thornbury Gym encourages all ages to take part in physical activity in order to help build foundations for future years." •

Manager Nick Rowe.


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By Evie Bridges, 10 THE CHARFIELD Cross Country Team put in a strong performance at the Inter Primary School Cross Country League on Saturday, February 24. The primary cross country running teams meet at Katherine Lady Berkshire School four times each season.
Over 350 children took part at the final event which featured four races: junior girls, junior boys, senior girls and senior boys. With 26 local schools

putting forward a team the Charfield team did well. One Charfield runner stood out. Caitlin Witham, year four, won second overall in the junior girls' category. Miss Thorne, Charfield team's coach, has been an enthusiastic and encouraging coach to the Charfield group. After Saturday's event, Miss Thorne said: "I was incredibly proud of each and every runner who

Miss Thorne with the Charfield School Cross Counrty Team
took part in all races. "The enthusiasm and courage shown by the children at these races make it easy to get out of bed early on a Saturday! This was the final even for this year's season; however, the top 10 senior girls and boys will meet at a special champion's race in March.

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## Funding boost for town sport

## THE FUTURE IS BRIGHTFOR SPORT IN OUR LOCAL AREA

By Jacob Edwards, 10
THE FUTURE looks bright for sport in Wotton as housing developers promise a major injection of funding. A windfall of $£ 220,000$ from two developments in Charfield will make its way to Wotton Community Sports Foundation with a number of new facilities planned for the near future, including a full sized football pitch.
Also on the list are plans for a BMX track, a running track and club house.
Geoff Keen, a member of the foundation told The Chatter: "We want to make the park to be used by all of the community.
"Next to be built, will be a safe path to Wotton Skate Park, which they
need $£ 8,000$ to build. Completion of this will provide a secure way to the skate park." The new facilities will accompany the already well used seven-a-side 3G football pitch, hockey pitch and Skate Park.
Katherine Edwards from Wotton-UnderEdge hockey club said: "It would be extremely useful to have a club house on site for changing and warming up after a game." •


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