



Introducing the USF Journalism Team



L to R: Ellie, Mishka, Analicia, André and Jordan

We are #USFproud to introduce the Year 12 Journalism Core Team comprised of Analicia, André, Ellie, Jordan and Mishka whose articles will be featured throughout the academic year in our USF half-termly newsletter.

Some of our budding reporters have aspirations to pursue a career in Media so, as well as providing a first-hand insight into life at USF, their contributions will also serve to build up their own personal portfolio and look great on UCAS application forms! Happy reading!

Welcome from Mrs. Wallace-Northridge

Spring is well and truly here and as the clocks have gone forward and the evenings get lighter, it is a great time to sit back and reflect on what a busy term we have had.



Mr. Coe and I have been busy interviewing our applicants for their places at USF next year and it has been great to get to know them all before they start their studies with us in September. I am pleased to say that our Enrichment program will be getting a revamp with new opportunities available to all students.

This half term we played host to a group of year 5 students from Avonwood who came to enjoy World Book Day activities, hosted by our year 12s. A huge thank you to all involved, particularly Ellie Wright for her fantastic coordination skills. I look forward to seeing what you cook up for next year.

And finally, year 13 have the end in sight with their A-Level exams looming ever nearer. I am sure you will all join me in wishing them luck on the final part of their journey here at USF.

Geography trip to Hengistbury Head

Analicia and Jordan both got to take part in a trip along with Mrs. Hipsey and Miss Seymour.

On Friday 17th March, Analicia and Jordan along with Mrs. Hipsey and Miss Seymour went to Hengistbury Head for the day with a hypothesis and three aims. On arrival, we measured the sediment sizes, counted the frequency of waves and measured the



width of the beach in three different locations. At the end of the trip, we arrived back at school and started to plan for our reports.

Ramadan month

A USF student, who is taking part in Ramadan, explains what it is all about.

The Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Muslims believe that in this month of Ramadan, the Quran was first revealed to the prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) from Allah by angel Gabriel as a medium. Fasting during Ramadan is one of the 5 pillars of Islam. Ramadan lasts for 29 days to 30 days depending on the position of the moon in its cycle. Sawm (fasting) starts from the appearance of the second dawn according to consensus. The second dawn is the white light that appears along the horizon before sunrise. It lasts until sunset.

During fasting, Muslims restrain themselves from consuming any kind food and fluids. They also abstain from engaging in sexual intercourse. It is a month for Muslims to reflect upon their behaviour. In Ramadan, Muslims try to use the best possible words and the best possible tone while speaking. In this month of reflection Muslims try their best to practice their religion thoroughly.

Interview with our Head Prefect

Analia shares feedback from an interview with Oliwier, Head Prefect.

Here at united sixth form, we value the voices and opinions of our students and one of the ways we do this is through student leadership. This half term we had the opportunity to speak to our head prefect, Oliwier, who shared his future aspirations with us.



Firstly, we asked “How many universities are you looking at?” He responded, “Everyone applying to university usually submits their application through UCAS, which is an application used to make applying for university easier. Most, if not all, apply for 5 universities but obviously only attend one. This is so that there is room in case you do worse/better than expected in your A-level exams. I currently have 4 offers from Southampton, Portsmouth, Plymouth and Liverpool, and I'm waiting for my final response from Brighton, which should come by May! Southampton is my first-choice, but I'm still debating between Plymouth and Portsmouth for my second choice”.

Secondly, we asked “What are your goals in life?” He responded, “Live a happy life. Just like everyone else, I want to be prosperous and live a comfortable life for me and for my family. After university, I would like to go into teaching geography for secondary schools.”

Thirdly, we asked, “Do you have any idea of what job you would like in the future?” He responded, “After that, I'd also like to pursue a career in politics and perhaps run as an MP for my local area - I like to read news on politics and ran for Youth Parliament last year but didn't win the election.”

Fourthly, we asked, “Did you consider an apprenticeship?” He responded, “I didn't consider any apprenticeships as I didn't see any fit for my specifications - I'd like to go to university as I think I'd enjoy it and it seems lots of fun! I like seeing TikTok's and Instagrams of people enjoying their life at university. It seems like a great social opportunity, which is why I'm going!”

Finally, we asked him, “What made you want to be a Head Prefect?” He responded, “I ran for prefect because I feel like it would give me good experience in leadership and working with a team. I have a great team of prefects in Ariana, Amber and Kizzy and we communicate regularly about how we can improve the school for students. I also ran for prefect because I thought I would be a good choice for it - I have good relations with teachers and students in my year group which makes me suitable to be a person to communicate with senior leaders at Avonbourne regarding issues students may have”.



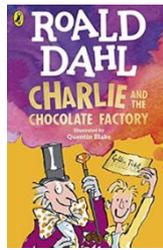
World Book Day at Avonbourne

USF welcomed two groups of Year 5's to Avonbourne and Sixth Formers performed in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Thursday, 2nd March welcomed World Book Day into the hearts and minds of the students at United Sixth Form. With less than two weeks to pitch the idea, assign characters, gather costumes, plan activities, rehearse scripts and



songs, and create decorations, our Sixth Formers certainly had their work cut out. After conversing with the leaders of Avonwood Primary School, the theme was set - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Thus began USF's journey to transform into the world of Roald Dahl's famous story; to provide a magical and immersive experience for the primary-school pupils. With much hard work and determination to fulfil our ambitious goal, we were finally ready to present our efforts to a large group of Year 5 students. Upon arrival, they were greeted with an introductory performance by Charlie, Grandpa Joe, Slugworth and Mr. Willy Wonka himself! They cycled through a carousel of exciting activities: hot seating as characters from the story; reading extracts; writing character descriptions, and even designing their



own confectionery! The students were delighted by their day at USF, and they especially loved the character of Mr. Wonka, played by our very own Tylo Bisbikos. We are so grateful for the opportunity to host the event and cannot wait



for next year, which will be even grander! We would love to involve the Year 12s who will be joining us for the next academic year.

Debate club

Debate student Mishka shares what she has learnt from debate club and why she enjoys it.

Debate club is with Mr Noble on a Thursday afternoon. We alternate weeks researching and staging a proper debate. In debate club our unofficial motto is "iron sharpens iron" so to live up to this, we aim to play devil's advocate on all our arguments wherever possible. My personal future goal is to become a Barrister and Debate Club really aids me in this ambition. Debate club serves as both an educational confidence boost and a way to learn how and why other people think the way that they do.



Further Info

If you have any further questions regarding study at USF, please email the USF team at: office@unitedsixthform.org.uk

Eco-committee

Ellie explains the Eco-committee's next plans to help the environment, along with getting some advice from an expert!



After an inspiring virtual interview with the founder of Dorset Devils - a volunteer-led litter-picking group, based across the county - the Eco-Committee began to organise their own litter-picking sessions, which will help to create and promote a litter-free environment at Avonbourne Academies and United Sixth Form. As part of the Great Big School Clean, for two weeks, during morning tutor and DEAR sessions, the group will venture to Littledown Walk and Kings Park, where they will collect litter that has been improperly discarded by the public.

On Tuesday, 14th March, our committee members volunteered their time during DEAR and after school to plant a variety of native shrubs, from the Woodland Trust, across the site. With a total of sixty shrubs of five different species, we hope that our efforts will encourage a host of new wildlife to find their homes with us, at Avonbourne.



On this day in history – Charlie

On this day in history - 20th Feb- 31st March

23rd February 2020- Ahmaud Arbery, a 25-year-old Black man, is shot dead by a white father and son while out for a jog in a suburb of Brunswick, Georgia

3rd March 1918- Treaty of Brest-Litovsk concluded.

12th March 1894- Coca-Cola sold in glass bottles for the first time

22nd March 1972- The equal rights amendment is passed by US Senate and sent to the states for ratification (to provide for legal equality of the sexes and prohibit discrimination based on sex)

27th March 1958- Khrushchev becomes Soviet premier.