

05 February 2020

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's been another busy and productive week at Sexey's - I hope you enjoy the following updates, with news of our dorm personalisation competition, Friday night 'Game of Phones' activity, trips to We the Curious Bristol and Bruton Methodist Church and our Cultural Cooking evening (this week we visited Nigeria). It truly amazes me how much happens here over the course of just one week!

Coronavirus

I have no doubt that you are aware of the current spread of Coronavirus, predominantly from a region in China but increasingly around the world. Mrs Cullen has emailed all parents about the steps in place to ensure that everyone at Sexey's is safe, however, if you are planning to travel over half term to any countries of concern listed on the [Foreign Office website](#), or those nearby, please be aware that there may be restrictions about returning to school. Our processes will be in line with [BSA guidance](#), which do go further than FO advice, to ensure that all of our community are safeguarded. This is an emerging picture and we appreciate your understanding and support. We will endeavour to keep you updated as required. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions or concerns on hkershaw@sexeys.somerset.sch.uk.

Streaming media sites

It is the norm these days for people to access TV programs and other video media via streaming sites such as Netflix and Amazon Prime. We do not restrict access to these in the boarding houses but please can parents ensure that there are appropriate parental controls on the accounts given to students. If a student is found accessing age inappropriate content then their access will be reviewed.

Dorm personalisation

Over the last two weeks, Boarders have been encouraged to personalise their dorm rooms. Walls were adorned with photos of family and friends, posters of favourite sports teams or made relaxing using cushions and fairy lights. On Monday, chocolates were awarded to those that had made the best effort and been the most creative – which for some was considerable.

Dorm personalisation (continued)



Game of Phones

Game of Phones was our Friday night activity in Macmillan. It is a game where the students need to get a photo that shows the answer to a riddle. For example:

- 1- Named after Douglas opened by David (Macmillan)
- 2- Where you will find parcels, travel and Mrs Brownlow (reception)

Once they get the picture they then they are given the next riddle to solve etc. All the correct answers together then indicate the final photo needed, and the winner of the Game of Phones is the first person/team back with the final picture. Lius A and Laura S were the eventual champions with many hot on their heels.

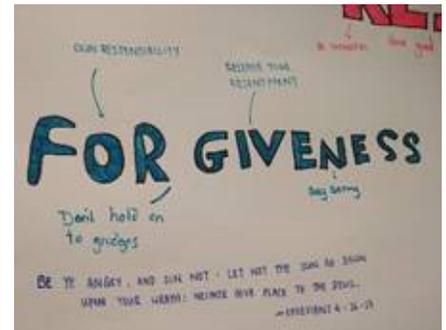
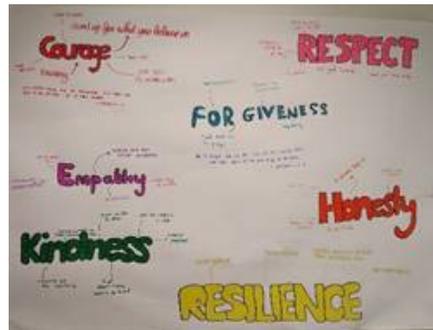
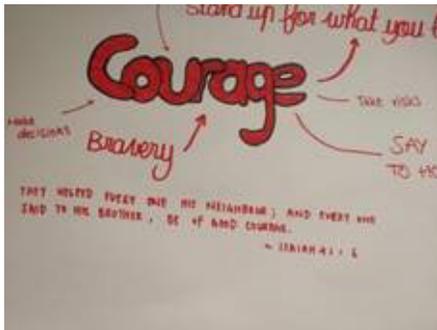


Sexey's Core Values

On Saturday evening, the students also made a poster examining Sexey's School's core values - giving the students the opportunity to write their thoughts about each key idea. Some students spent a long time discussing what these values meant to them, and how this is influenced by their experiences, role models and teachings from the Bible.



Sexey's Core Values (continued)



We the Curious

On Saturday a group of boarders went with Mr Dodge to 'We the Curious' in Bristol. This is a hands-on Science exhibition aimed at encouraging young people to ask questions, get creative about solutions and testing them out. It is a museum that rejects the normal 'Shhhhhh!' and 'DO NOT TOUCH' attitude and instead promotes exploration and curiosity, which are at the heart of both artistic and scientific enquiry.



The exhibitions ranged from experimenting with light and sound, learning about biology and sustainable farming and so much more! The highlight of the trip had to be our 3D tour around the winter night sky in the planetarium, where we got to learn about different constellations and travel through space to distant stars and see their life cycle.



Nigerian Night

On Saturday, Ola and Melody cooked Nigerian Jolloffe rice and chicken, continuing on with Macmillan's Saturday supper tradition of having food cooked by students. The food was absolutely delicious although very spicy and was enjoyed by the majority of the students. Next week it's Bulgarian night!



Sunday Service at Bruton Methodist Church

On Sunday, Macmillan students enjoyed the intimate setting of the local Methodist church, which reflected on individual perspectives of power and influence. Our young people were warmly welcomed and happy to support the service by getting involved in activities and some receiving Holy Communion. The students were a credit to themselves and displayed their respect for others out in our wider community. Judy Purnell (Steward of Bruton Methodists) wrote in to say that they "thoroughly enjoyed having the students with us".

