

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Please take the time to read about what is coming up over the next few weeks. As usual, we have plenty to share and celebrate too.

Key Updates for Families

Wednesday 5 February

Poetry Live Trip

BSO Music Trip to Westlands

Thursday 13 February

Year 9 Parents Evening and KS4 Choices Fayre.

Monday 24 February

Year 11 Trial Exams- this will take place over two weeks. Please can all Year 11 parents ensure that any appointments or commitments are rescheduled to avoid clashing with the exams. This will be the final chance students have before the May final examinations.

Thursday 27 February

PTA Quiz night

Thursday 13 March

Year 7 Parents Evening

Items to Celebrate

We have dedicated time to recognise and celebrate students in our 100 Club for November and December. This award is given to students who achieve 100% in each calendar month. Well done to all the students who were awarded the November 100 Club prizes. The award not only celebrates a student's dedication but also sets the tone for their success in school and beyond.



24.01.25

NEXT WEEK
ASSEMBLY
FOCUS:

**Serendipity in
Science**

Key Dates

05/02/25
Poetry Live Trip
and BSO Trip
to Westlands

13/02/24 Year
9 Parents'
Evening and
KS4 Choices
Fayre

Week
Beginning
24th Feb: Year
11 Mocks

[Click here for
Extra-Curricular
Activities](#)

[Click here for
term dates](#)



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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Over the past few weeks, Year 11s have been involved in after school revision sessions.

Since the changes to GCSEs in 2015, students are expected to learn and recall a greater breadth and depth of subject knowledge in their exams. The reduction in the weighting of coursework components, alongside the greater subject content has meant that a good performance in examinations is absolutely critical to successful outcomes. It is often a misconception to think that revision and exam preparation takes place just a few weeks, days or evenings before an exam. A well structured revision over a sustained period of time is the key to ensuring Year 11 students stay 'On track' for success in the summer. Our afternoon sessions have been set up for this purpose and will encourage all students to make the most of these.

Thank You to our staff for your time and hard work delivering these valuable sessions.

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend and look forward to seeing you all for week 4.

Best wishes

P Balkwill



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PARENTS –

GUIDING OUR CHILDREN THROUGH THEIR EDUCATION IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST ROLES.



MOMENTS MATTER,

ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Consistent support and motivation from you plays a pivotal role in their success, and this begins with school attendance – that isn't just about adhering to school rules; it's about shaping their future, one day at a time.

If your child is struggling with school attendance, our tips overleaf can help you help them. Or if you have any concerns contact your child's school.



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Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all parents for your support to ensure that your child attends school as regularly as possible.



We know that sometimes our pupils cannot come to school because they are really unwell - and that's the right thing to do for them and other students. Medical advice is clear however that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend - for example if they have a cough, or cold, without a temperature. The NHS guidance [is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) is designed to support parents in their decision making about mild illness.

We also know that pupils fall behind their friends and classmates when they miss school. At St Dunstan's School we want the amount of missed education to be reduced as much as possible. We believe that our community is stronger together, with all of our pupils in school, on time, every day. We are building life skills, life-long friendships and preparing your child for future success.

The advantages of good attendance are numerous:

- **Improved Academic Performance:** Regular attendance helps children stay up-to-date with their lessons and reduces the likelihood of falling behind.
- **Social Development:** Consistent attendance allows children to form and maintain friendships, enhancing their social skills and sense of belonging.
- **Routine and Structure:** Attending school regularly helps children develop a sense of routine and structure, which is beneficial for their overall development.
- **Increased Opportunities:** Students who attend school regularly are more likely to participate in extracurricular activities and special events, enriching their school experience.
- **Better Mental Health:** Being part of the school community can boost children's confidence and self-esteem, contributing to better mental health.

We also know that parents/carers can have a significant effect on good attendance and we would really appreciate your continued help and support ensuring that your child comes to school every day so that they can get the best possible outcomes.



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We have planned our rewards and recognition for attendance in order to recognise a wide range of student successes and achievements as well as take into account occasions when absence is unavoidable. Our aim is to encourage all students to secure high attendance across the year and in doing so, maximise their chances of success in school. This will include the following-

Improved attendance- students with improved attendance across a term will receive a letter from our Attendance Champion and 10 'On Track' points. The most improved students will also be recognised in our celebration assemblies

Termly attendance target- all students who have met or exceeded our termly attendance target (96%) and 'On Track' points thresholds, will be invited to our end of term celebration events

Exceptional attendance across the year- all students who are 98% or above at the end of each term, will receive a letter from the Headteacher, 50 'On Track Points' and recognised in our celebration assemblies

Monthly 100% attendance - if a student achieves 100% in a calendar month, they will receive a reward card and they will be entered into a prize draw to win Amazon vouchers. Students in the 100 club will also be celebrated on our celebrations board and awarded 50 'On Track Points'

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to make contact via main reception. Thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Ms K Haden

Deputy Headteacher



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100 CLUB AWARD



St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY

After a super busy Christmas Term, we are catching up on our 100% Club winners, where we celebrate and recognise those students who have attended every day for 6 weeks.

We had 189 students with 100% attendance from mid-October until the end of November and 15 winners of the £10 Amazon voucher.

This week, we will celebrate our 221 December 100% Club winners.

We are looking forward to seeing how many entrants there will be for the January 100% Club?



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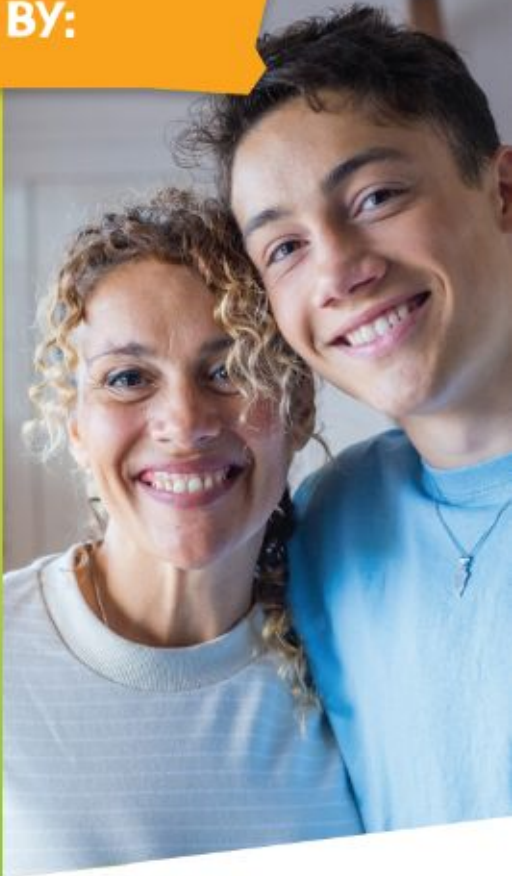


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YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD BY:

- ensuring your child understands the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality.
- asking about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities.
- discussing any problems they may have and inform their Form Tutor to pass on concerns.
- not allowing them take time off school for minor ailments – particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work.
- arranging appointments after school hours, at weekends or during the holidays, to prevent disruption to your child's education and to the school.
- being open and willing to work with us to improve your child's attendance.



If you are concerned about your child's school attendance, it's best to contact their school first. Our dedicated Attendance Team are on hand to support pupils and families.

For more information about school attendance visit our website: www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/attendance

We're here to help if you need it.



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Just Write Club



Just Write Creative Writing Club has been really successful this term. We have two shortlisted poets for the Shepton Mallet Snowdrop Festival: Grace and Lily (well done and good luck in the final round!) and we've got some incredible stories taking shape. One student has even written over 40 thousand words on their fantasy romance! It is wonderful to see so much creativity amongst our students, and so many budding writers working hard at crafting their own adventures...



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English Revision League



English Revision League Winners - Week 1

The race is on and competition is in the air as the year 11 English groups battle it out to be the winners of the weekly revision league.

Each class are a team and they can win points by completing their homework, attending revision sessions and completing extra revision and past papers!

This week's winners were 11A1 who won by a 'whisker'! They won a sweet treat, bragging rights for the week and the promise of some great grades. Well done Year 11.



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Term 3 Sports Clubs



Please find below details of the sport clubs taking place after school during Term 3.

If you need any more information please contact the PE department!

Monday - Years 7+8 Football ;Years 7+8 Netball;
Years 9-11 Gym.

Wednesday - Badminton (all years); Years 9-11
Gym.

Thursday - Years 9-11 Football; Years 9-11 Netball;
Years 9-11 Gym.

Friday - Basketball (all years); Years 9-11 Gym.



After School Sports Club



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St Dunstan's Library presents...

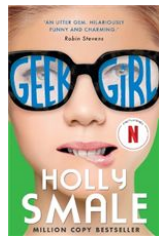
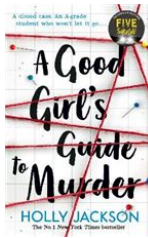
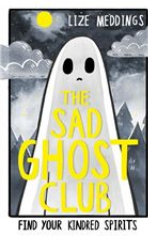
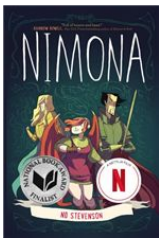
THE BOOK NOOK



Emotions are high in the library this week because we are all absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity we've seen from you all! We've had more books gifted to us from our wishlist, and we truly cannot thank you enough. For a small school with a small budget, these go SUCH a long way with our students, and the excitement and buzz around new packages is electric. Thank you thank you THANK YOU from us all!! Aby, Rachel, Victoria (and a mystery gifter), you're so kind!

[Wishlist link](#)

Popular loans this week:



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Careers Events

Huish Episcopi Sixth Form are coming in on Monday 27th to do an assembly for our Year 10s and 11's so if you have any questions, get them ready to ask at Monday's assembly.



Open Evenings

Two promotional posters for open evenings. The left poster is for Stode College, featuring a teal and white color scheme. It says "STRODE College", "Join us at our OPEN EVENING THU 13 FEB • 5.30-8PM", and lists courses: "A Levels • T Levels", "Professional & Technical Courses", "Apprenticeships", "Supported Learning", "Higher Education", and "Adult Courses". It also mentions an "Apprenticeship Talk 6.30PM" and a "REGISTER ONLINE TODAY" button. The right poster is for Bridgwater & Taunton College, featuring a blue and white color scheme. It says "OPEN DAY" in large letters, "www.btc.ac.uk", and "CANNINGTON CAMPUS Saturday 25 January | 10am - 1pm". It includes a "REGISTER NOW!" button and a photo of a student in a blue uniform holding a rabbit. The college's logo and tagline "BRINGING OUT YOUR BEST" are also present.



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Local Events

YMCA BRUNEL GROUP

BATH | BRISTOL | WILTSHIRE
EAST & SOUTH SOMERSET

GLASTONBURY YOUTH CLUBS

**An exciting opportunity to
meet new friends & join in
fun activities.**

Mondays 7-9pm: Windmill Hill

Fridays 7-9pm: Red Brick

Term-time only | Entry £1



Weekly youth clubs & extra events and trips

Hang out with your friends | Meet new people | Activities & games | Free food

we
welcome all
young
people
aged 10-19



let's all
catch up,
have fun
and support
each other!

To sign up please access the consent form by scanning the QR code or via the link
<https://forms.gle/AvNMEj3MqWZv3rux5> Consent must be provided by a parent/carer

Contact us:

Glastonbury: SiobhanWhite@ymca-bg.org
www.ymca-bg.org

Find us:

St Edmunds Hall, Chinnock Road, Glastonbury, BA6 8EW
Red Brick Building, Moorland Road, Glastonbury, BA1 9FT

YMCA

Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you



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PTA Quiz Night

Tickets are available on ParentPay now for St Dunstan's PTA's 4th annual quiz! Who will the teacher quiz masters be? There'll be a trophy for the winning team and the best student team. Don't miss out, book your tickets early as it is set to be a fantastic night.

A dark blue poster for a quiz night event. At the top, a pair of hands holds up a string of warm white lights. Below the lights, the text 'ST DUNSTAN'S COMMUNITY PTA PRESENTS' is written in a light yellow, sans-serif font. The words 'QUIZ NIGHT' are written in large, glowing yellow-outlined letters. Below that, the date 'THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2025' is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. Further down, the event details are listed in a smaller, light yellow font: '6.30 pm - doors open.', '7pm kick off', '£6 per adult, £3 per child [children must be accompanied]', 'Teams of 8 max', and '1st drink free, nibbles on the table, BAR!'. At the bottom, the location 'ST DUNSTAN'S SCHOOL, WELLS ROAD, GLASTONBURY, BA6 9BY' is listed, followed by the website '///FRIES.REFLECTED.EVIDENTLY', and the ticketing information 'TICKETS ON PARENTPAY OR EMAIL STDUNSTANSCOMMUNITYPTA@GMAIL.COM'.

ST DUNSTAN'S COMMUNITY
PTA PRESENTS

QUIZ NIGHT

THURSDAY 27TH
FEBRUARY 2025

6.30 pm - doors open,
7pm kick off

£6 per adult, £3 per child
[children must be accompanied]

Teams of 8 max

1st drink free, nibbles on the table, BAR!

ST DUNSTAN'S SCHOOL,
WELLS ROAD, GLASTONBURY, BA6 9BY
///FRIES.REFLECTED.EVIDENTLY
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Safeguarding Spotlight

Dear schools,

We are excited to launch our new series of parent/carer webinars for Spring 2025! Please share the below in your newsletters and on your socials to spread the word. Parents can register via the links in the flipbook below.

Calling all Parents & Carers!

The MHST (Mental Health Support Team) are offering a series of FREE helpful webinars over **Spring 2025**.

- Supporting your neurodivergent child
- Supporting exam and test wellbeing
- Helping your child to thrive: Boosting self-esteem & resilience
- Understanding and supporting anxiety and low mood
- Supporting your child's big feelings

Find out more & register here: [Click Link](#)

SOMERSET'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM ARE HOSTING A SERIES OF

FREE

PARENT & CARER WEBINARS

Click the link to find out more & register

MHST

In partnership with NHS Somerset



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ON TRACK

<p><u>O</u>rganised & Proactive</p>	<p>Bringing the correct equipment, kit and uniform Meeting deadlines Working on tasks independently and completing homework to a high standard</p>
<p><u>N</u>eat & Tidy work</p>	<p>Smart, well presented books demonstrating your best work</p>
<p><u>T</u>enacity</p>	<p>Trying your hardest, rising to challenges, having a 'can do' attitude, working out solutions and taking ownership of your learning</p>
<p><u>R</u>eady, Respectful and Responsible</p>	<p>Being a role model by consistently demonstrating our basic expectations</p>
<p><u>A</u>nswering, reading and listening like an expert</p>	<p>Sophisticated full sentence answers using technical terms Following along, tracking the text and ready to read aloud in class. Reading widely and for pleasure Listening and considering the views of others Taking in turns to respond</p>
<p><u>C</u>ontributing to the class</p>	<p>Playing an active role in every lesson Attention to the speaker, sat up straight, arms still, pens down Teacher focused</p>
<p><u>K</u>indness & Community minded</p>	<p>Caring, polite, looking after one another and the site Speaking with kindness and respect Supporting staff and other students to create a positive learning environment for all</p>



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