Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10

Tuesday 20th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 20.10.26

We are very nearly there!

With just over a week left of the term, it's a good time to pause and take stock of what we've achieved in the last 7 weeks.

Firstly, we continue to receive positive comments from the community regarding the smarter appearance of our uniform – achieved largely by having a shared commitment to wearing the correct skirt! There have been occasions at events with other school where it's been noted that Wadham students have been the best dressed. Thank you and well done!

Next, the number of suspensions has reduced significantly, compared to this time a year ago. This suggests that our community is benefitting from the positive social norms and core habits we've worked hard to introduce, and that the support we offer through the pastoral, AP and SEN teams is timely and effective.

Importantly, we've managed to complete a range of fixtures, trips, workshops and visits that have helped bring our curriculum to life, with a focus on careers advice and guidance across all year groups – very much delivering the Aspiration and Hard Work Values in our F.A.I.T.H.

And finally, I've enjoyed seeing how we continue to develop our rewards to recognise the amazing people we're privileged to work with. Weekly attendance raffles are well anticipated, and the recent F.A.I.T.H point hot chocolates have given way to the "No Behaviour Point" rewards taking place on Thursday.

Busy, Colourful, Challenging, and Rewarding – that's how I can best sum up the first term of this year. Although we're all looking forward to a much-deserved rest over half-term, now is the time to dig deep and find the strength to keep going and end the term well! We've got this!

Dear God
May you give us courage for each challenge,
compassion to share another's burden,
and faith to trust
that through you we may find strength for today and hope for tomorrow.
Amen

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas NPQEL
Headteacher

Top Performing Students – House Points

It's been a busy 7 weeks of learning, sporting activities, trips and visits – plenty of different ways to be rewarded for the kindness, hard work and positive attitudes we experience every day at Wadham School.

So far, the top spot each week for best performing year group has changed – there are no patterns or clear leaders emerging – but I do think Year 9 are the group to watch!

Well done to everyone mentioned below!

Week Commencing 05.10.26

Another positive week of rewards with Year 9 just edging out from Years 10 and 11 with 5 students placed on the podium – making them the overall winners for the week!

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Elliott Osborne	Sofia Galan-Wilkinson	Holly Evans	George Broom	Samantha Carter
2	Lucian-Rae McDonald	Fen Hopkirk	Erin Kent Lily Norton	Evan Pearce	Lola Hart Daniil Lyszyk
3	Maddison Quartley	Megan Whitehouse	Tessa Hayes Evan Lock	Phoebe Curtis Ella Priddle	Rhiley Clarke

Week Commencing 12.10.26

Last week saw all change again, meaning the end of every week brings a chance to reflect, reset and refocus on what you want to achieve on Monday!

Well done to our podium finishers below – out top House Point winners last week.
Will you have done enough this week to continue to the final report of the term!

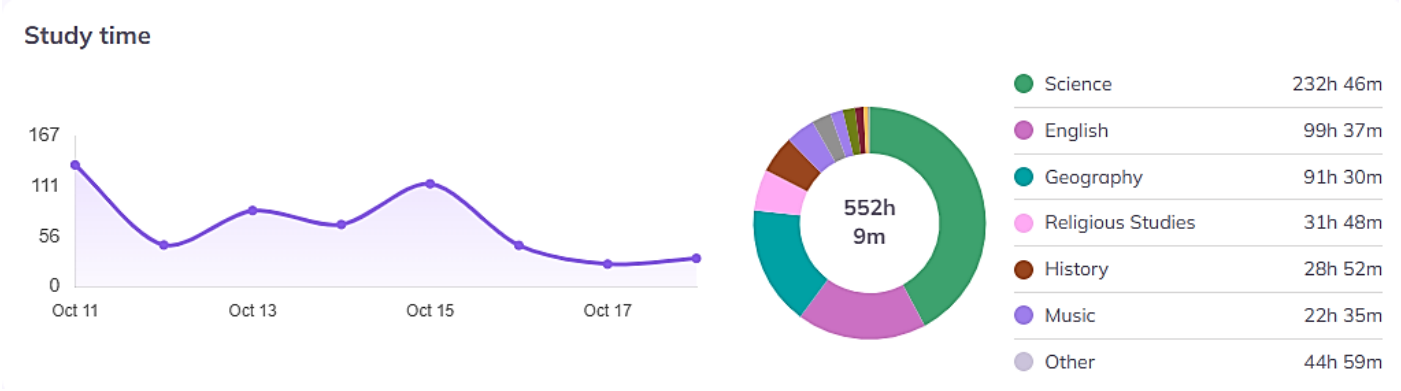
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Sebastian Linten	Chloe Pattenden	Sophie Wicks	Aston Osborne	Suzie King
2	Penny Preece	Stanley Moseley	Alice Henly Finley Winter	Poppy Best Chloe Slade	Mason Williams
3	Imogen Blackwell	Yasmin Hill Fen Hopkirk	Olivia Moncur	Darcie Rich	Lexi Mae Charles

Homework at Wadham School

Another superb student performance in the last 2 weeks has kept us clear at the top of the Somerset Seneca League, with a huge milestone achieved as we pass the 2,000,000 XP mark! An amazing achievement and testament to the hard work of our students – **Well done!**

	School name	XP
1	Wadham School Crewkerne, Somerset — School synced	2,124,568
2	King Arthur's School Wincanton, Somerset — School synced	970,920
3	Robert Blake Academy Bridgwater, Somerset — School synced	839,466

Study time has increased to over 550hours last week, with a superb performance from English to move into second place – great to see you there!



Well done to everyone for making sure homework is completed to the required expectation – it really is helping you know more and do more in lessons.

Seneca Champions – Week Commencing 05.10.26

Firstly, **well done** to Daniil Lyszyk and Lucy Ellis - Seneca Champions 2 weeks ago!

Top students by study time

1	Daniil Lyszyk	Year 11	6h 46m
2	Alfie Charlesworth	Year 11	6h 24m
3	Caleb Russell	Year 11	5h 30m
4	Katelin White	Year 11	4h 50m
5	Londyn Welch	Year 11	4h 35m
6	Grace Lock	Year 11	4h 27m
7	Ollie Newbury	Year 11	4h 16m
8	Ellie Hooker	Year 11	4h 3m
9	Sophie Venn	Year 11	3h 56m
10	Teegan Marsh	Year 11	3h 55m

Top students by average score

1	Lucy Ellis	Year 9	100%
2	Jake White	Year 8	100%
3	Lexi Mae Charles	Year 11	100%
4	Alivia Manley	Year 8	100%
5	Poppy Organ	Year 8	100%
6	Mwai Gangire	Year 8	100%
7	Stanley Chard	Year 8	100%
8	Emma Pitman	Year 10	100%
9	Craig Zwiyo	Year 10	100%
10	Wyatt Titterrell	Year 10	99%

Seneca Champions – Week Commencing 12.10.26

And finally, **well done** to Alfie Senior and Lucy Ellis **(again!)** – last week's Seneca Champions!

Top students by study time

1	Alfie Senior	Year 11	7h 23m
2	Alfie Charlesworth	Year 11	7h 23m
3	Ollie Newbury	Year 11	4h 23m
4	Daniil Lyszyk	Year 11	3h 56m
5	Hope Wood	Year 11	3h 41m
6	Nicole Zondo	Year 11	3h 29m
7	Katelin White	Year 11	3h 29m
8	Grace Lock	Year 11	3h 28m
9	Esme Lauchlan	Year 11	3h 23m
10	Rita Baker	Year 11	3h 20m

Top students by average score

1	Lucy Ellis	Year 9	100%
2	Wyatt Titterrell	Year 10	100%
3	Sofia Galan-Wilkinson	Year 8	100%
4	Eli Jones	Year 10	100%
5	Eva Finch	Year 9	100%
6	Frida Quince	Year 10	100%
7	Erin Middleditch	Year 7	100%
8	Yasmin Hill	Year 8	100%
9	Mwai Gangire	Year 8	100%
10	Henry Collins	Year 7	100%

Non-Uniform Day – Thursday 22.10.26

We're bringing Term 1 to a close with a non-uniform day for students and staff this Thursday. Donations are requested, not compulsory, with a minimum £1 gratefully received!

This event has been organised by Head Girl, Hope Wood, with donations going to support Young Somerset – Home - Young Somerset - the largest youth and community support charity in Somerset, providing a range of bespoke services for young people and their families.

Thank you for your support.

Borneo Bash Karaoke – Thursday 22.10.26

Members of the Borneo Expedition 2027 are fundraising to prepare for their trip next summer. They are hosting a karaoke event in the Hall at lunchtime on Thursday 22nd October.

It's FREE to sign up and sing – we already have 12 singers ready to tickle your ears and give you a smile with their vocal performances, with some guest appearances from staff!

It's £1 to buy a ticket to come and watch the event. You can also buy sweets from the team once you're there.

Karaoke starts at 1.30pm and we'll work through the list of singers until the end of lunch. To buy your ticket, or to sign up and sing, see the Boneo team at lunchtime outside the Operations Centre.

Sparx 'Readerboard' Winners!

Sparx Reader is well established in school and as part of home-learning, and we are delighted to announce the top students in each year group with a Sparx 'Readerboard' style celebration of their achievements.

Well done to everyone below – our inaugural 'Readerboard' winners!

Picking Up / Dropping Off at School - A Polite Reminder

This is never an easy issue to resolve, but please can I ask all road users to be mindful of their surroundings when waiting to drop off/collect children from school.

In particular, please ensure that you only park in permitted areas, not blocking residents' drives or junction entrances.

Please do not come onto the school site if you intend to drop-off or pick-up your child by car.

Buses need to be able to enter and leave safely and too many vehicle movements, if parents are coming in or have parked in the coach area, will compromise this.

Student Safety – Walking and Cycling to and From School

With evenings becoming darker much earlier and the return of more unsettled, wintry weather, we are urging students to take extra care when making their way to and from school each day.

We would expect ALL cyclists to ensure they are wearing appropriate safety equipment when riding, that their bikes are roadworthy and that they have lights to be used when it is dark.

For students walking to and from school, they should be aware of their surroundings and stick to footpaths to avoid the risk of trips and falls on uneven or slippery ground. Recently, members of the public have reported near misses with students stepping out into the road, without looking.

At this time of year, we know that families sometimes make alternative arrangements for lifts and collections when the weather is particularly bad and are asking that as part of this process children are reminded of the need to be vigilant with regard to strangers or people they do not know.

Richard Burgas 20.10.26

FORDE ABBEY
HALLOWEEN GARDEN ADVENTURE
24th Oct - 1st Nov
www.fordeabbey.co.uk

THE Parent PLACE

A welcoming space for parents/carers to connect, share, and find support. Practical advice, signposting, and helpful resources. All in one friendly drop-in session.

Every Wednesday
9am-11am
INCLUDING HALF TERM

A NEW community project run by your friendly Parent Family Support Advisors:

- Jemma Henwood
- Rebecca Larcombe
- Suzanne Morris

- Children welcome
- Refreshments provided
- Spotlight sessions with other professionals
- Parenting resources
- Signposting and form filling support
- Healthy snacks for all

Be A Good Neighbour - Community Church, Barn Street, Crewkerne, TA18 8BP

Keep up to date via our Social Media - search "The Parent Place'

Scan the QR code to find out more and register your interest.

https://forms.office.com/e/EeZrBvhm7v