

Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Thursday 12th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 12.03.26

Without doubt the lighter mornings and longer evenings are making a huge difference to our wellbeing – Spring has sprung – and we're seeing the positive benefits to social times here in school, in being able to get outside and run off some steam!

This week we have also been blessed with two very positive days of interviews. On Monday, we interviewed for a 'Second in English', and I am delighted to announce that Ms Harriet Reed will be joining us in September, and brings with her a wealth of teaching and leadership experience, particularly around oracy, debate and extended writing.

In the last two days we interviewed four colleagues for the position of "Second in Science."

In a similar strong performance to Monday, students and staff involved have been impressed by the quality of the candidates, meaning that tomorrow afternoon Mrs Ridgley, Mrs Hutter and I have the very difficult task of selecting our preferred candidate. It is a positive position to be in, however, and is one that will have huge benefit to our students.

Wadham students have been actively involved in the recruitment process:

- they've been taught by all candidates,
- they've acted as tour guides to visiting candidates
- they've formed a student panel and conducted their own interview of all candidates!

It is wonderful to see our students flourish as leaders – the care and kindness shown, coupled with how brutally honest and direct they can be with their questions, makes them a very wise and formidable group, and one whose opinion I value greatly.

Thank you to everyone involved in this week's interviews – your feedback really does make a difference.

***Heavenly God,
Thank you for the wisdom that we can find through your words and your example
Thank you for the helpful, positive wisdom of people around me - now and in the past
Help me to be wise in my listening and my response to wisdom of others and to you
Help me to be careful in any advice that I offer, may it help others to flourish
Amen***

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas
Headteacher



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Headteacher: Mr R Burgas
Chair of Governors: Mrs R Hawkes



Top Performing Students

Well done to everyone listed below for being our House Point Leaders last week. It is great to see Year 9 take the lead, with 5 students sharing the podium spaces. I know Mr Jackson and Mrs Martin will be thrilled with this result!

Week Commencing 02.03.26

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Fen Hopkirk	Olivia Moncur	James Robinson	Theresa Siju	Lucy Wood
2	Abel Anil Max Welch	Edward Parcell	Evan Pearce Emilio Tribot	Jenny Pitman	Ruby Bryant
3	Ethan Thompson	Alice Henly	Logan Fowler Emma Pitman	Jack Rees Caleb Russell	Esme Hallett

Year 7 Core Learning Habits – Weeks 3 and 4 DONE!

Another two weeks of positive learning habits to report on – with tutor boxes full of raffle tickets to show for it.

Well done to our “Week 3 Winners” shown here collecting their prizes!



Poppy organ
Finley Perry
Abel Anil
Astra Webb
Luke Hodnett
Aislin Charles
Blake Parker
Izzy Foster
Mwai Gangire
Samuel Hardwill

Week 4 - Unfortunately, no photo was taken this week, but I am delighted to share that the winning tutor group was **7KRH**, the top prize was a light-up keyboard, and the following students were our worthy winners – well done, everyone!

Clara Hallett
Chloe Masterman
Finley Perry
Henry Clarke
Oliver Brocklehurst
Stanley Chard

Chloe Pattenden
Ollie Oscar Barratt
Josh Waugh Bacchus
Veronika Gresko
Stevie Watts
Tyler Sarahs

Homework Update

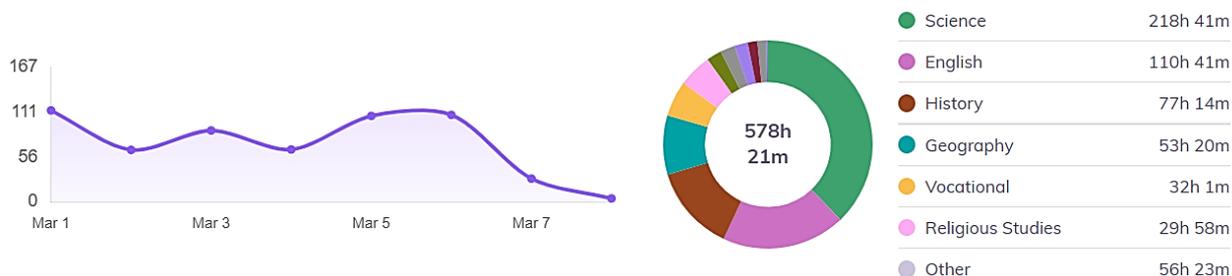
Another milestone in the legacy of learning here at Wadham School –

Last week students achieved OVER 2 MILLION XP POINTS on Seneca Learning.

1	 Wadham School Crewkerne, Somerset	School synced	2,175,720
2	 King Arthur's School Wincanton, Somerset		768,624
3	 The King Alfred School an Academy Highbridge, Somerset	School synced	505,586

A huge increase in study time this week, climbing to 578 Hours of independent learning. Well done everyone, you are absolutely smashing it! 😊

Study time



Finally, a massive WELL DONE to everyone listed below, last week's Seneca Champions! (And a clean sweep for Year 10 with Katelin and Lexi Mae at the top of the tables 😊)

Top students by study time

1	Katelin White	Year 10	5h 56m
2	Cloda Hyde	Year 11	5h 15m
3	Elli-Mai Bradbury	Year 11	4h 36m
4	Lucas Freeman	Year 11	3h 51m
5	Holly Harwood	Year 11	3h 35m
6	Charlie Percival	Year 11	3h 27m
7	Isaac Galfin	Year 11	3h 18m
8	Phoebe Brister	Year 11	2h 50m
9	Ruby Bryant	Year 11	2h 49m
10	Imogen Clarke	Year 11	2h 45m

Top students by average score

1	Lexi Mae Charles	Year 10	100%
2	Craig Zwiyo	Year 9	100%
3	Emily Harwood	Year 11	100%
4	Wyatt Titterrell	Year 9	100%
5	Rusty Jones	Year 10	100%
6	Gabriel Zalari	Year 9	100%
7	Riley Morris	Year 9	100%
8	Adom Baah	Year 7	100%
9	Ellis Roughsedge	Year 9	100%
10	Zuzanna Bamburska	Year 11	100%

Take Your Child to Work Day 2026



Another first for Wadham School!

Last Monday, around half of our students went to work with a parent or close relative, to experience a bit of life in the real world and to consider possible next steps and career choices as part of our Careers, Advice and Guidance provision.

At the same time, Year 11 remained in school with a focused day of subject intervention and a revision workshop, delivered by Chloe from the Life Skills Company.



Year 11 were superb in stepping up to meet this change of day with a positive 'can-do' attitude – feedback from the workshops means we know students have benefitted from the experience and we hope that the opportunity has helped calm nerves as we approach the summer exams.

Finally, students in Years 7-10 that did not go into the workplace came to school and were supported with a range of lessons and talks from professionals to give careers advice and information that complements our Personal Development curriculum.



World Book Day Winners!

A reminder to families that World Book Day vouchers are valid until 28th March.

Two raffles were held in the library last Friday lunchtime, all winners received a chocolate prize and a free book of their choosing, with winners as follows

Scavenger Hunt Winner - Leon P

Completed Passport Winners - Harriet K, Chloe P, Bella B and Lily G

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 27th March

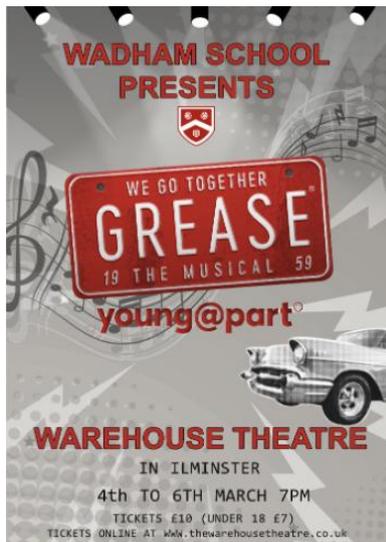
Advance Notice that students and staff are invited to wear non-uniform on Friday 27th March in support of Devon & Somerset Fire Rescue Service.

We're hoping to have a Fire Engine onsite for lunchtime and we've been asked to publicise that Crewkerne Fire Station will be washing cars and hosting other fundraising activities on Saturday 28th March .

Thanks for your support.



Grease is the Word!



A short message to say WELL DONE to the cast, crew and supporting staff that made this year's school production an absolute blast.

I'm looking for photos and feedback to draft a longer 'review' – can you help?

If you were lucky enough to get tickets, and are happy sharing, please send me your images from the show plus your comments, to rburgas@wadhamschool.co.uk by Friday 20th March.

It would be lovely to publish a collective response to what is such an important community event for our school.

Term Dates 2026-28

INSET days for 2026-27 and 2027-28 are now confirmed and have been added to published calendars. A copy of the Term Dates 2026-27 can be found at the end of this letter. Alternatively, you can access pdfs through our website, linked here:

[Wadham School Term Dates and INSET Days 2026-27](#)

[Wadham School Term Dates and INSET Days 2027-28](#)

Important changes to holiday food voucher provision in Somerset

The government's Household Support Fund (HSF) ceases at the end of the month. It is being replaced by a new fund called the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF).

Holiday food vouchers were part of the original HSF government package. However, this was the final voucher provision of its kind under the HSF scheme. The Government have told us there will be no holiday food vouchers issued under the HSF scheme after the 31 March date.

For further information, including details of support, please see the letter from the Council: [Somerset County Council Holiday Food Voucher Update Letter](#)

Richard Burgas
12.03.26

ILMINSTER LITERACY FESTIVAL 2026

WRITING



COMPETITION

KS3 (Years 7 – 9)

Theme – Friendship, anger and what we don't say

KS4 (Years 10 and 11)

Theme – Temptation, responsibility and choice

Your story should be approximately 1,000 words
Please see Mrs George or your English teacher for
further details on the story themes

**1ST PRIZE
£30 BOOK
VOUCHER**

**Deadline
26th March 2026**



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>

September 2026						October 2026						November 2026								
M			7	14	21	28	Mo			5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	30
T		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27	T		3	10	17	24	
W		2	9	16	23	30	We			7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25	
Th		3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26	
F		4	11	18	25		Fr		2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31	S		7	14	21	28	
Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29	
December 2026						January 2027						February 2027								
M			7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25	M			1	8	15	22
Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26	Tu			2	9	16	23
W		2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27	W			3	10	17	24
Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28	Th			4	11	18	25
F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29	F			5	12	19	26
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30	Sa			6	13	20	27
Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	31	Su			7	14	21	28
March 2027						April 2027						May 2027								
M		1	8	15	22	29	M			5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		3	10	17	24	31	W			7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		5	12	19	26		F		2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa		3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su		4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30	
June 2027						July 2027						August 2027								
M			7	14	21	28	M			5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	30
Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		3	10	17	24	31
W		2	9	16	23	30	W			7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25	
Th		3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26	
F		4	11	18	25		F		2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31	Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22	29	

Key:

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Term Time
- Inset Days

Term dates summary:

- Term 1: 03 September – 23 October 2026 (37 days)
 - Term 2: 02 November – 18 December 2026 (35 days)
 - Term 3: 04 January – 12 February 2027 (30 days)
 - Term 4: 22 February – 25 March 2027 (24 days)
 - Term 5: 12 April – 28 May 2027 (34 days)
 - Term 6: 07 June – 23 July 2027 (35 days)
- TOTAL = 195**