



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

*"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10*



Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: Headteacher's Update 12.12.22**

The end of term is fast approaching!

With only 4 more get ups, it's a massive thank you and well done to all members of our community for digging deep and finding the resilience and energy needed to get us to the finish line. We're on track to finish well – despite current levels of student and staff absence.

There will also be a final update letter at the end of this week. Today's message really is to highlight key events last week and give reminders regarding the logistics in place at the end of term.

Quite simply, it's 'business as usual' this week with lessons running as normal up until the end of Thursday. On Friday, all students will spend the morning with their tutor and tutor group, rotating through a series of activities and events around the school that are designed to give an opportunity for reflection, reward and team building.

A reminder that the school day ends at 12.00pm on Friday.

In other news – I remain in close contact with our local Public Health team, following recent cases nationally of Scarlet Fever and GAS (Strep-A)

We currently have 2 confirmed cases of Scarlet Fever, both students are completing courses of antibiotics and the Public Health Team are aware and consider that no further action need be taken.

There were two letters last week giving advice and guidance about what to do if you have concerns about symptoms your child may be displaying, a link to the government letter is here: [Letterhead with fold lines \(wadhamschool.co.uk\)](https://www.wadhamschool.co.uk/letterhead-with-fold-lines)

As ever, my intent in sharing information is not to cause alarm, but to keep everyone informed and be transparent regarding the current situation.

Do not hesitate in contacting me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

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Headteacher: Mr R Burgas  
Chair of Governors: Mr C Chapman



## **Presentation Evening – 8<sup>th</sup> December**

On a cold, dark Thursday night, invited families, staff and distinguished guests gathered to celebrate the achievements of last year's top performing students. With coats and scarves pulled tightly around ears (the heating at the Minster is currently under repair!) citations were dutifully read and awards happily given.

Our guest speaker this year, Amy Duarte, was a Wadham alumni (class of 2014) and is now a practising Pharmacist. Amy spoke passionately about how commitment and strength of character work together to triumph over adversity. The audience were moved by her honesty, and I know her words will have inspired current students (and some adults!) to make similar personal sacrifices in pursuit of their own goals.

I would like to extend my thanks to Rev. Jo Stobart for hosting, and also to Matthew Gardner, who returned to present two special awards in his role as 'outgoing' Headteacher.

## **Reverse Advent – 1<sup>st</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of December**

Thank you so much for your generous donations.

We're in the process of collating and gathering up all boxes received and will be distributing these to the local foodbanks in Crewkerne and Ilminster.

If there are any last-minute items to be handed in, they can still be given to the Pastoral Hub, or handed in at Reception, and we will do the rest.

## **Christmas Carol Service at St Bartholomew's – 15<sup>th</sup> December - CANCELLED**

It is with regret that I announce we are having to cancel this week's Carol Service at St Bartholomew's on Thursday.

I have been in close talks with the Rector, and this is a shared decision made as a result of the rising cases of both Covid and Scarlet Fever.

Although disappointing news, I hope you agree it's better to reduce the risk of infection transmission and safeguard the health and wellbeing of our community as we approach the Christmas holidays.

I know that many other schools have also made similar difficult decisions. It's not all bad news, as Miss Middleton is planning to record the students' performances and our intention is to share these in the worship assemblies taking place on the last day of term.



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