



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

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



Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: Headteacher's Update 20.03.23**

T Minus 10 and counting! I really can't believe we are only 9 more get-ups away until the end of this term. We continue to make good ground in all areas, and despite the disruption schools have faced nationally, the overwhelming majority of Wadham students should feel pleased with their response to these, and other challenges.

There will always be mixed opinions regarding decisions made and action taken, the response to recent industrial action being a good example, and I do hope that in this regard, people feel that they have been heard. We have certainly tried our best to maintain a routine of quality education.

The Church of England's Vision for Education speaks of 'community' and living well together, of dignity and respect. We believe in courageous advocacy and engagement with big issues, big questions. Schools and parishes are such important places for promoting and modelling these values; developing emotional literacy skills, learning how to listen, to share and how to disagree well when this is appropriate.

We all have different perspectives, thoughts and voices. In the New Testament, written at a time where there were many deep differences of perspective, thoughts and voices, Jesus reminded us to go back to those basics, to love God and love your neighbour as yourself. Surely, part of that love is to notice a fellow human being, to listen and hear the voices of others, especially of the most vulnerable or marginalised. Surely part of that love is to be informed and courageous in responses, challenging respectfully, welcoming respectful challenge, always grounded in love and dignity. There have been some very good examples of this in recent weeks!

A thought for this week is simply, 'who's voice do you hear, and how are you responding?'

### **Dear God**

**Help me to listen well and to hear the voice of others**

**Help me to speak well, to be heard by others**

**Help me to be informed and courageous in debate**

**Help me to challenge and welcome challenge with respect**

**Help me to do all I can to promote community and dignity**

**Amen**

As ever, thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas  
Headteacher



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



## Top Achieving Students!

We've got two weeks of reporting to give – and again it's pleasing to see new faces (along with some familiar ones!) being recognised for their achievements.

Many congratulations to everyone mentioned below – with some students sharing a spot in the top 3 with their peers – what can **you** do next week to edge out the competition?!

### Week Beginning 6<sup>th</sup> March

|   | Year 7    | Year 8      | Year 9   | Year 10  | Year 11     |
|---|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 1 | Jayden N  | Ruby D      | George F | Layla P  | Emma W      |
| 2 | Charlie N | Katelyn E-W | Mollie B | Iris L-G | Priscilla D |
| 3 | Freya K   | Imogen C    | Zena W   | Kira H   | Joel F      |

### Week Beginning 13<sup>th</sup> March

|   | Year 7           | Year 8  | Year 9   | Year 10             | Year 11  |
|---|------------------|---------|----------|---------------------|--|
| 1 | Katelin W        | Ruby D  | Jarvis H | Kelsey N            | Benjamin M   |
| 2 | Aaron A          | Holly H | Syrus H  | Lewis C<br>Oliver M | Lewis H<br>Niall S   |
| 3 | Zoe B<br>Lucas L | Jodie R | George F | Lana E<br>Lexie W   | Daisy B<br>Tess B<br>Danielle C<br>Lara D<br>Evan G<br>Billy L<br>Maddie M<br>Marcus P |

## Late Bus Provision

REMINDER!

The Local Authority have sourced a late bus that will depart from Wadham each week-day at 4.30pm. This is a free service to students that need it, and will travel directly to the centre of Ilminster. This is the only stop on the route, but does now enable students living in Ilminster to stay and engage in after school activities, knowing that there is transport home.

## Out of Bounds!

Please see below a message shared with students last week regarding areas that are out of bounds. Recent behaviour has resulted in damage to school property, as well as posing a health and fire risk. I'm pleased to say that we are only dealing with a very small number of (known) students, but for transparency, I am sharing this information with all parents so that reminders can be given at home too!



Under the Stairs is Out of Bounds!

- We've taped to show where students can't go!
- Crossing the line is a deliberate choice!
- Being caught sat under the stairs will result in immediate ISR.
- Removing the tape will result in immediate ISR!

There are other areas that are warm, clean, safe and visible for you to enjoy your break and lunch – these areas remain out of bounds!

## Year 11 Intervention – Regents Camps Workshops

Wadham has secured the services of a company called 'Regents Camps' to deliver a booster programme for 36 students selected from Year 11.

This intervention is targeted at Grade 4/5 students in the subjects of English and Maths. Regents Camps will be working with two different groups of 18 students, in two 3-days blocks off-site at the Crewkerne Community Church, who have kindly offered their venue to us free of charge. We're really grateful of this generous offer.

Workshops are taking place Wednesday-Friday this week, and Monday-Wednesday next week.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students involved to receive intensive support in these core subjects – do ensure permissions slips are in place for students attending!



## School Production – Peter Pan Junior



With rehearsals going well, and following auditions for backstage and technical crew last week, we're back on track to deliver a knock-out show in the summer term.

Revised show times are as follows:

- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Further information, including how to book tickets, will be shared nearer the time.

## Community Support for Families

Finally, a flyer to promote support for families in our local area:



Richard Burgas  
20.03.23