



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

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



Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: Headteacher's Update 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023**

We are very nearly there! My update this week has to focus on how well Year 11 students have taken to their GCSE exams, as well as the positive community response to the changes in how we are managing behaviour.

Firstly, Year 11 – I have shared previously how impressed I have been with their positive attitude towards their studies, both during the day and in after-school intervention sessions. With several 'big' exams successfully navigated, it's hugely encouraging to see the number of students coming prepared to the exam briefings with notes and flashcards.

Feedback so far is that exams are going well – I always look forward to speaking with students after an exam and my favourite group currently sits on the green space behind the Hub (you know who you are!) Their honesty, commitment and care for each other as they go through this process is second to none, simply wonderful human beings!

We are continuing with the same blend of lessons, revisions lessons and exams after half-term, although students will gradually switch to more off-site study as exams progress. Mr Jackson will give further details in an update letter before the end of term.

Secondly, Behaviour – talking with students and staff over the course of the last 7 school days, one word comes to mind, 'transformational.'

The changes we have made were immediately visible – students moving with purpose to lessons, the site being empty during lesson time, and a greater acceptance of students to engage in the process of sanction and support if a mistake has been made. Mistakes are a part of learning!

The time saved by staff not having to chase students or 'negotiate' with those that persistently refuse to follow instructions has been significant, and is time that has immediately been given back in the support of others. Just as it should be.

Although I know a small number of students and parents are not happy with these changes, the overwhelming majority are – the site is calmer, the start of lessons smoother, the learning in lessons greater, as a result of firm and clear boundaries that will be consistently maintained.

As ever, I remain grateful of the support of our parents and carers as we continue to keep learning and well-being at the heart of what we do.

Wishing everyone in our Wadham Community a positive and peaceful half-term break, when it gets here.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas  
Headteacher



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



## Top Achieving Students! - Week Beginning 15<sup>th</sup> May

Well done to all students mentioned below, and great to see many new names being recognised for their hard work and fantastic achievements last week – will you be there again next week?

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Lola H	Thomas G	Lottie D	Lilly D	Roman K Elvie L Charlie P Joe S Will T
2	Wilf W	Bethany B Imogen C	Zachary H	Karlee D	
3	Andrei R	Olly M	Jack M	Belle C	

## School Production – Peter Pan Junior



It's all hands on-deck with final preparations, costume fittings and tech rehearsals bringing together our wonderful cast and crew for this year's performance.

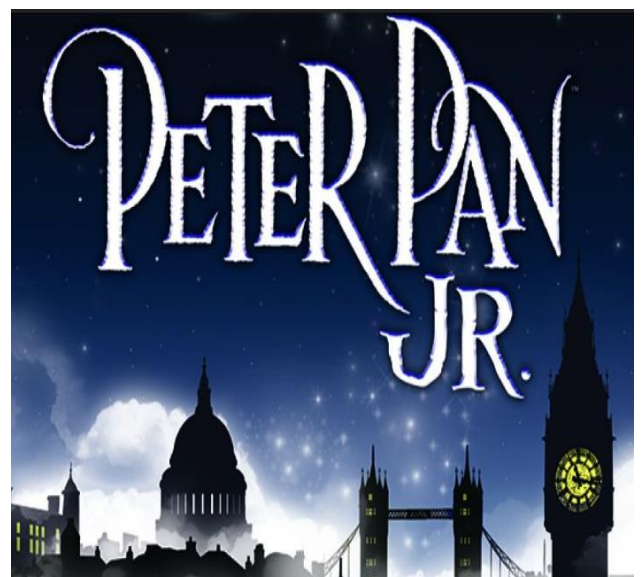
Tickets are now available from the school office, or Ipay – there will be limited tickets each night on the door but book early to avoid disappointment!

Doors open 6.30pm for 'Curtain Up' at 7.00pm.

Tickets: £9 (Concessions £7)

Show times are as follows:

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





## Sporting Success Stories!

It's been another busy week for sporting fixtures at Wadham and great to see the growing confidence of students in putting themselves forward to represent the school as our sporting ambassadors.

We're riding high after a string of victories and immensely proud of all our students involved.

Details as follows

### Rounders

Year 7 – 12.5 rounders to 7 WIN against Westfield School

Year 8 – 16.5 rounders to 13 WIN against Sexey's School

Year 9 – 16.5 rounders to 4.5 WIN against Preston School

Year 10 – 6.5 rounders to 3 WIN against Westfield School

### Cricket

Year 7 & 8 Team – 9 run LOSS against Huish Episcopi, BUT an amazing first game with Moken and Vincent both named as 'players of the match.'



### Year 12 Water Sports!

Students have had the opportunity to try a range of water sports at Sutton Bingham Reservoir recently, with initial feedback indicating this could (and should!) become a regular feature of our PE offer in the Sixth Form.

It's great to see students develop a completely new skill set and massive thanks must go to Mr Evans for making this happen, ably supported by Mr Owen!

There are a few spaces left, anyone interested should speak to Mr Evans or Mr Owen ASAP!



Richard Burgas  
23.05.23