



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Thursday 20th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 20.06.24

My update this week comes with the Euros fast unfolding, the Olympics on the horizon, Andy Murray looking doubtful for Wimbledon and the radio providing never-ending soundbites ahead of the election.

Sometimes it is very hard to filter out what we need to hear from all this 'noise' - as well as determine what is important and what can be disregarded from all the information being thrust upon us.

It's no less busy inside school either – the end of term is always a fine balance between completing end-of-year assessments within the rigid framework and discipline of true exams alongside the trips, visits and opportunities that present themselves with the better weather.

It's the challenge of managing work and play. For this reason I'm delighted to share that following a visit from our School Improvement Partner on Tuesday, she felt we had correctly identified this balance within our curriculum and thought our personal development framework and SEN provision were strengths of our overall quality of education.

She also stated again (as in January) that the site is calm and classrooms a place where teachers can teach, and students can learn.

Calm brings the opportunity for reflection. At a 'noisy' time of year I make this point to really highlight the exceptional work of everyone in our Wadham community, and am pausing to reflect and think of those I will give thanks to for such a positive year's work.

Heavenly God

Thank you for the peace that can come with being silent
Thank you for the purpose that being silent can hold
Thank you for the positives that a time of silence can provide
Help me to grow comfortable with silence
Help me, in that time of silence, get to know myself more deeply
Help me, in that time of silence, to grow closer to you
Help me, in that time of silence and beyond, to flourish
Amen

As ever, thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas
Headteacher



Top Performing Students

Well done to everyone mentioned below, and great to see a strong turnout in Year 10 as they work towards their end of year exams! Overall winners this week are clearly Year 7 – who will it be next week though?

Week Commencing 10.06.24

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
1	Oscar S	Maria C	Nathan F	Jack S
2	Bertie P Erin G Chloe W Matilda L	Hope W	Holly W	Jed B Bella C
3	Leon G Wyatt T Frankie A Ellis R Poppy D	Edward O Keira B	Skye P Poppy H	Yasmine N Michael P Elijah B Courtneigh B Emerald S George F

Competition – Design the Next Wadham School Birthday Card

There's still time to show off your creative talent by designing a new Birthday Card for Wadham School. Full details are on the poster at the end of this letter, with a submission deadline of next Wednesday, 26th June.

The winning design will be printed and used by me next year, and the winning designer will also receive £20's worth of vouchers.

I'm looking forward to seeing what you've produced next week!

General Election Hustings Event – Sunday 23rd June

Rev. Jo Stobart has organised a Hustings at the Minster, Ilminster, this Sunday Evening. Full details are on the poster at the end of this letter, with a QR code if you would like to attend or have a question you would like raised on the night.

It promises to be a lively debate and a brilliant opportunity to have your say ahead of polling day in two weeks.

Rev. Stobart would particularly like to encourage any Year 13 students who are about to vote for the first time to attend, and welcomes your questions to the candidates!

Ashlands Sports Day at Wadham – Thursday 27th June

We're delighted to be hosting Ashlands' Sports Day again this year and are looking forward to welcoming their students, staff and parents onto the site for fun-packed afternoon of events next Thursday, 27th June.

For Wadham students it's 'business as usual' and the field remains open at break and lunch, although we will be asking students to move up towards the Pavilion end.

Like last year, for safeguarding reasons it is not possible to allow Wadham students to mix with our guests – even if they have younger siblings or parents on site, but we will have an area next to their space for our students to sit and cheer on family members, should they wish.

Our students were excellent role models and ambassadors last year, both those involved as 'officials' in support of the Sports Day and those watching at lunch – I'm confident the event will be just as positive this year.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 28th June

Student Well-being Ambassadors are pleased to announce a non-uniform day on Friday 28th June, with donations raised going to 2BU, a charity that supports the LGBTQ+ Community in Somerset. [Home | 2BU Somerset \(2bu-somerset.co.uk\)](http://2bu-somerset.co.uk)

There will also be a bake sale at lunchtime (thank you Camps Kenya team!) with Mr Tustin bringing out his decks to provide a welcome summer soundtrack!

Bring your change as we've also had several staff volunteers step forward for "Sponge a Teacher" which will take place on the field at lunch.

Finally, Ambassadors would welcome further ideas of events and particular charities we can support to raise the profile of other important groups in our community – the mental health of young men and boys in particular being an important example.

Please speak with / email Ms Wells with your ideas so we can take them into consideration.

Year 6 Transition Day – Wednesday 3rd July

Advance notice that on the same day that the majority of Year 10 will be visiting Yeovil College, we will be welcoming our new Year 6 intake into Wadham for their transition day.

We're looking forward to welcoming 150 'new' students to the school where they will complete transition tasks, taster lessons and some team-building activities.

It's a big thank-you in advance to our existing students for always stepping up to provide a warm welcome and be helpful citizens on the day.

From an operational point of view, for parents that pick-up their children the roads are going to be busier than normal on Wednesday 3rd as 'new' families also make the same journey.

As always, please take care on the roads and be mindful of pedestrians when arriving and leaving the surrounding roads.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 12th July

Advance notice that the newly appointed Senior Student Leadership Team (Ethan, Lara, Patrick, Ellie and Izaak) have set the final non-uniform day this year as Friday 12th July.

This is also the last day Year 10 will attend school onsite, before they begin their Work Experience Placements.

Donations received will go towards supporting national mental health charity, Mind.

[Home - Mind](#)

Thank you for your support of all our charities this year, and a reminder that if there is a particular group of charity you feel we should be looking to support, please let your school council representative know.

Parent Governor Opportunity at Wadham School - Reminder

Alongside successful recruitment last term, the Board of Governors currently has a vacancy for one further Parent Governor.

The role of a Governor is to:

- Help plan the strategic direction of the school
- Ensure money is well spent
- Support and challenge the school leadership team

If you feel you could contribute, or are interested to find out more, please use this link to read the full invitation and application letter:

[9A46E5203DEAE506F4CCCD962C42B263.pdf \(wadhamschool.co.uk\)](#)

You may wish to contact Laura Andrews, Clerk to the Governors, should you have further questions or would like to arrange an informal meeting to discuss this role in more detail.

The deadline for completed applications is 3.00pm, Friday 5th July.

Richard Burgas
20.06.24

HUSTINGS

Sunday 23rd June 7pm - 8.30pm



Hustings for the General Election for Yeovil Constituency are to be held at The Minster on Sunday 23rd June from 7pm to 8.30pm. All the Prospective Parliamentary Candidates have been invited to participate.

To attend this event please register via the QR code below.

If someone would like to attend but does not have access to the Internet they can register in person by coming to the Parish Office in Court Barton on 19th, 20th & 21st June 9.30am - 3.30pm.

We are inviting questions for the candidates to be submitted in writing prior to the evening. Details of how to do this will be available upon registration.

We will be livestreaming the event on The Minster's Facebook page: Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/minsterilminster>

<https://bit.ly/4aPh5E9>





Design a Birthday card for Wadham!

Design **MUST** include the words
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Your design can be in any media and needs
to be submitted to Mrs George in the library

The winning design will be used as the
birthday card for the 2024-2025
academic year

DEADLINE
Wednesday 26th June

