



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

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



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 18.10.24**

With just over a week to go, all eyes are looking forward to next Friday when we can pause, breathe, and reflect on a job very well done.

As shared in previous updates, I am hugely proud of the way students have conducted themselves since returning in September, with feedback from all stakeholders indicating a calm, positive and purposeful focus on learning and behaviour.

This has not been achieved overnight, but is rather the confidence and security our community has in the framework and routines for learning we have collectively worked hard to establish – our very own 'positive social norms.'

In continuation of this theme, my update is to remind you that next week we are hosting a session for parents, delivered by Avon and Somerset Police, to provide information and awareness regarding the risks of criminal exploitation our young people may face.

This reflects the increase in media coverage nationally, which is showing that exploitation and online grooming can happen to any child, or young person under the age of 18, from any background and faith. The purpose of the evening is to help parents recognise the signs and provide advice on how you can protect your child and their friends.

The session will take place **from 5.30-7.00pm on Wednesday 23rd October** and is being offered to all parents and carers.

Our intention is not to cause concern or alarm, but rather to share information in an open and transparent way, so that parents and families can be best informed about these risks and how to seek further advice or support if they have any questions.

With our 'Meet the Tutor Evening' and Careers Fair taking place the following day, we've created 2 key opportunities for us to come together in mutual support of our young people, and I look forward to seeing many of you over the course of these 2 days.

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 Performing Students

Well done to all the students mentioned here for their hard work and best endeavours in keeping learning, and in particular Maths and English learning, at the heart of what they do.

It's always great to see a change of names in tables below, proving that it really is down to your individual performance each week in determining where you could be in these rankings!

With points awarded and scores logged, it's time to reflect and celebrate, before we all go again from Monday!

### Week Commencing 07.10.24

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>1</b>	Toren Radford-Hyland	Logan Fowler Ella Priddle Oscar Sansom	Daniil Lyszyk	Jessica Henley	Sophie Frackiewicz
<b>2</b>	Emily Harwood	Tanya Greenough	Rhiley Clarke	Karmel Adaway Josie Bulmer	Eddie Pattison
<b>3</b>	Alfie Adaway Lily Norton	Pearl Guppy	Caitlyn Edwards	Lucy Wood	Issy Souza

### Independent Learning Update – Sparx!

**Well done** to the following students who achieved the highest reading points last week for Sparx Reader:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
1 <sup>st</sup>	Olivia Moncur	Logan Fowler	Theresa Siju
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lily Norton	Isabella-May Royle	Grace Lock
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alfie Turner	Max Wallbridge	Shayne Morais

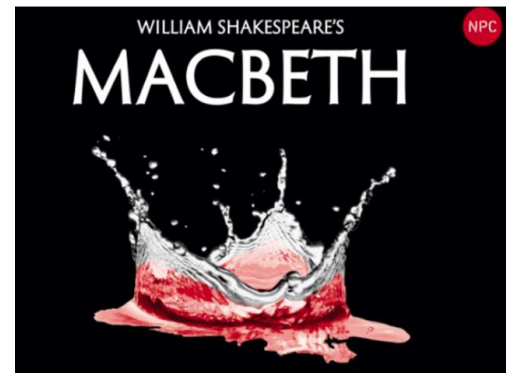
**Well done** to the following students who achieved the highest XP points last week for Sparx Maths:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Fred Cox	Harley-James Turner	Keira Berry	Eliza Orzechowska	Nicole Gentle

## Macbeth Trip – Westlands Entertainment Centre

Two coaches, packed with Year 10 and 11 students and staff set off last Thursday, destination Yeovil, to see a performance of 'that Scottish play.'

With plenty of drama on and off the stage (one of the coaches broke down on the journey home) events conspired to make a memorable night for many reasons, not least providing all students with an interpretation of the play to support their studies in the classroom.



A massive thank you and well done to Mrs Pawling, trip leader, along with her team of staff that gave of their time to make this worthwhile trip happen.

## Geography Field Trips – Cheddar Caves and Lulworth Cove

It's been a busy term for Geographers in the lower school!

Year 7 completed their rearranged trip to Cheddar Caves last week, with Year 8 going offsite earlier this week to complete their visit to Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door.

The purpose of the Year 7 trip was to show the Year 7's some 'Fantastic Places'. This included tours of Gough's cave, understanding the formation of limestone in Cox's cave, developing the reasons why Cheddar has been inhabited for 2 millennia and viewing the scenery up top from Jacob's Ladder.



The Year 8 trip, which is linked to an assessment, was to investigate 'whether Lulworth Cove is a honey pot site?'

Students carried out field sketches of Lulworth Cove, completed land use surveys, assessed the quality of the area by completing an Environmental Quality Survey as well as completing questionnaires to gain first hand data.

Both trips were fantastic and on Monday (Year 8) we had 2 members of the public specifically tell us how great Wadham students are, how polite they were and what a credit they had been.

A massive thank you and well done to Mr Straker-Nesbit, trip leader, along with his team of staff for making sure all students made the most from these enrichment opportunities.



## Scholastic Book Fair: 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October

It's the final day of our Scholastic Book Fair and we've been delighted by the number of students that have visited the library during social times to check out what's on offer and purchase new reading books.

I'm also delighted to announce the winners of our recent Reading Competition, each receiving a £5 Voucher,

Our winners are:

	Student	Sparx Reader Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	Logan Fowler	2170 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tessa Hayes	2162 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alfie Charlesworth	2082 pts
4 <sup>th</sup>	Alfie Turner	2005 pts
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lily Obern	1974 pts

This week's Fair has been a resounding success and another milestone in growing a 'love of Reading' across the school. There will no doubt be further opportunities and events in the future and I'm sure Mrs George is already working with student voice to look at what we do next!

If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to know more about our Reading programmes, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs E George, School Librarian:  
[egeorge@wadhamschool.co.uk](mailto:egeorge@wadhamschool.co.uk).

## Meet the Tutor Evening & Careers Fair – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Tutors warmly invite students and their parents to our 'Meet the Tutor Evening' from 4.00-7.00pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October. This will be a face-to-face event in school.

Our Careers Fair will also be running at this time in the New Sports Hall, and all families, particularly those with children in Years 11 and 13, are encouraged to attend. There will be trade stands from a range of local education providers, employers and professionals, happy to give advice and guidance on career pathways and onward progression.

We hope you find both events on the 24<sup>th</sup> October useful in providing information regarding how well your child has settled into their studies this term, along with some ideas and guidance about possible next steps for their future.

## Non-Uniform Day – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and our student well-being ambassadors are asking you to 'wear something pink' next Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> October, for our first non-uniform day.

All donations received will go to the "Breast Cancer Now" research charity. Thank you for your support.

Richard Burgas  
18.10.24



Wadham Sixth Form



**Wadham  
Careers Fair**

24<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
12.20 – 3pm Open to Students  
4 – 7pm Open to All

