



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

## RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 06.02.25

My update this week is to share with you the words and prayer sent out to Headteachers from the Diocese – openly copied as I believe it's a powerful message and heart-warming to see children actively adopt a positive outlook on the world.

"Kindness has been voted as the 2024 children's word of the year. In response to the Oxford University Press survey, 61% of 6000 children identified 'kindness' as their word of the year.

That the word 'kindness' should be top choice among children, with thousands of words to choose from, is really encouraging. I wonder what it is that has placed the word so highly in the children's awareness?

If we look across school visions and values we will often see the word kindness. It is noticeable in schools where those values are lived out, not merely laminated and pinned to a wall. Associating the word kindness with genuine acts of kindness is incredibly powerful at any age, especially during formative years.

Might this be the reason for the 2024 word of the year?

Thank you for all that you do to expect and to model kindness in the every day.

Jesus used the word 'love' when sharing his example and expectations of us, including: 'Love your neighbour as yourself,' and 'love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you.'

Be kind to others, be kind to yourself, be kind to those whose views differ from yours. Being kind is being brave. How have you modelled kindness today?"

### ***Heavenly God***

***Thank you for those who have showed kindness to me today***

***Thank you for opportunities to be kind to others***

***Help me to be brave and kind, even when it may not be the easiest thing to do***

***Help me to acknowledge the kindness of others***

***May we, together, make our world a kinder place***

***Amen***

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 everyone mentioned below for being in the Top 3 for House Points last week. It's another great week for Year 10 – definitely the group to beat currently!

This is great to see and sets a clear challenge to everyone else.

A lot can change in a week, so if you're not listed below, but want to be, your hard work and kindness are all you need to get you there!

## Week Commencing 27.01.25

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>1</b>	Poppy Spurway	Rhona Ash	Rhiley Clarke	Ruby Bryant Isabelle Wilkins	Vivian Dawkins
<b>2</b>	Cody Adams	Alatea Williams	Katelin White	Sienna Isaacs Lucy Wood	Amber Bonning
<b>3</b>	Archie Blunn	Frankie Ash Rose-Ann Cosby	Alfie Windsor	Poppy Hicks	Anna Rowswell

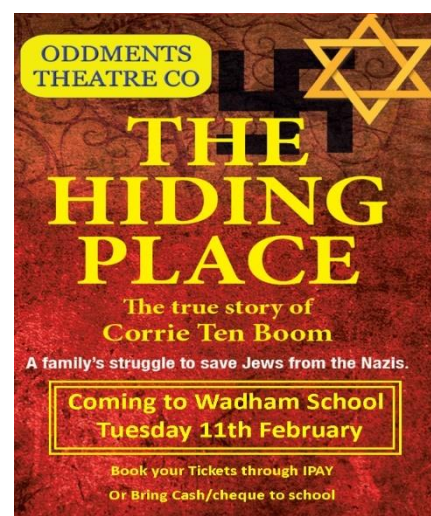
## Reminder: Oddments Theatre Coming to Wadham – Tuesday 11.02.25

Tickets have been selling steadily for this travelling production of a true story from the Holocaust.

The production arrives on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February and there will be 2 performances during the day.

Don't delay in purchasing tickets if you would like your child to attend. Tickets are limited and sold on a first come first served basis.

You can purchase tickets online through Ipay or by bringing cash to the Finance Office in school.



## Safety Notice – Travelling to and from School

We've received calls in the last week from concerned residents in East Street who report students riding their bikes at speed along the narrow pavement.

I'm sharing this in the spirit of advice and guidance, given the risk of injury following collision with a pedestrian (and peoples' front doors open directly onto the pavement too) or possible collision with a vehicle if a young person had to swerve onto the road.







No further action need be taken – but if this applies to you, please take note and ensure your journey to and from school is a safe one.

## Homework Update

I'm delighted to share the following information from the Seneca Platform regarding students' achievements regarding Homework in the last week.


Well done, everyone, for embracing the switch to online learning and self-quizzing and keep up the good work... **...we've held the top spot for 2 weeks running!**

Let's make sure we're still number one at the end of next week as we go in to the half term break! 😊

Seneca School League 🏆			
Regional			03:02:47:50 DAYS HOURS MINUTES SECONDS
School name			XP ⓘ
  Wadham School Crewkerne, Somerset	School synced		669,192
  Buckler's Mead School Yeovil, Somerset	School synced		494,720
  Robert Blake School Bridgwater, Somerset	School synced		481,524

Well done to everyone below for making it into the top 10!

A fantastic achievement which I'm sure is really helping you learn more and know more in the classroom 😊

Top students by study time				Top students by average score			
 Will Todd	Year 11	11h 54min		 Bonnie Cornall	Year 9	100%	
 Kirsty Rowswell	Year 11	10h 59min		 Lily Madgin	Year 10	100%	
 Vivian Dawkins	Year 11	10h 47min		 Lydia-Mae Dare	Year 7	100%	
4 Sophie Frost	Year 11	10h 32min		4 Storm Ruiters	Year 9	100%	
5 Darcy Andrews	Year 11	10h 28min		5 Finley Carling	Year 10	100%	
6 Anna Rowswell	Year 11	10h 23min		6 Chloe Richards	Year 11	100%	
7 Sophie Watson	Year 11	9h 51min		7 Josie Bulmer	Year 10	100%	
8 Noah Barratt	Year 11	9h 36min		8 Mollie-Mae Andrews	Year 7	100%	
9 Mollie Barratt	Year 11	9h 32min		9 Grace Brown	Year 11	100%	
10 Laila Briggs	Year 11	9h 25min		10 Zuzanna Bamburska	Year 10	100%	

## Reminder: Wadham PTFA Fundraising Event 14.02.25



Save the date! Advance notice that the final Friday of this term – 14<sup>th</sup> February – will be a **non-uniform day** for students and staff.

Donations will go towards the PTFA's project of creating a quiet, outdoor reflection space within the school.

There's also a Valentine's Hamper to be won – students donating to wear their non-uniform on the day will be entered into the draw.

My thanks to the newly formed PTFA team for their hard work in making this happen!

## F.A.C. – External Support for Families

The Face Family Advice Service have asked us to share details of up and coming talks and courses they are offering to parents, some of which are free. See below for details.

		February 2025 <b>Newsletter</b>	
FACE delivers online support via zoom for parents across the UK Talks are 90 minutes long, £24 each - Book Online at <a href="http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk">facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a>			
Thursday 20th Feb 19:00 - 20:00 FREE		<b>FREE SESSION</b> <b>Supporting Healthy Screen Use</b> A range of steps that can help minimise the harms from screens	
Monday 3rd Feb 10:00 - 11:30 £24		<b>Supporting a Child with ADHD</b> Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.	
Tuesday 11th Feb 19:00 - 20:30 £24		<b>Facing Defiance</b> Specific strategy to help parents manage defiant and challenging behaviour, especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA conditions, 5 to 12 years old.	
Tuesday 18th Feb 19:00 - 20:30 £24		<b>Cannabis &amp; Ketamine Awareness</b> Get the facts and know the harms about these two drugs so you can hold an informed conversation with your teens.	
Tuesday 25th Feb 19:00 - 20:30 £24		<b>Understanding the Teenage Brain</b> A 'must see' for all parents and teachers of teens and pre-teens. Explains why teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.	
<a href="http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk">facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a>		<a href="mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk">info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a>	

Richard Burgas  
06.02.25