



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Tuesday 15th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 15.07.25

So, this is it, my final update letter of the year!
It's hard to put into words how I feel coming to the end of what has been another positive year in the continued growth and development of Wadham School.

All I can say is a massive **thank you** to the staff, students and families that have come together when it has really mattered to ensure the learning and well-being of our students remains at the heart of what we do.

Although unable to attend any of the offsite activities planned for the next few days, I've thoroughly enjoyed waving students off this morning and spending time today with those still in school completing their creative activities. I'm looking forward to seeing updates posted online and am proud of how well students have grown, both personally and academically, over the course of this year. It is moments like this that remind me why working in education is so important, and so rewarding.

I am privileged to work alongside such dedicated, resilient and caring colleagues, and feel strongly that it is direct result of their efforts that the culture, values and expectations of our school have been so successfully embedded. It has made for a superb end to the year.

That's not to say the students haven't been awesome either, because they have!
Holding yourself and others to high standards is never easy, yet despite this and other challenges, Wadham students have consistently shown great spirit and commitment to do what is right over what is easy.

The potential they have is huge, and we're excited to be part of their lives, helping them shape and define who they are and where they want to be.

As this final week unfolds, I'm delighted that Mr Hopwood will shortly publish another edition of 'the Quill' – giving further insight into the magic that happens here every day.

On behalf of everyone here at Wadham School, I would like to thank all members of our community for your continued support and wish everyone a positive and peaceful summer holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas
Headteacher



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



Top Performing Students

The table below is the final one for the 2024-25 academic year!

It's been an absolute pleasure to see how the podium has continually changed over the last 11 months, a testament to the culture of rewards we have instilled in recent years, as well as the determination of students to consistently give of their best.

Well done, everyone, for your hard work and achievements 😊

Week Commencing 07.07.25

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
1	Joe Guppy	Wyatt Titterrell	Sophie Barrett Molly Lafford Amy White	Karmel Adaway Lucy Wood
2	Shiann Baulf	Ruby Callow	Logan Gregory Alfie McCormick	Lucas Freeman Emily Hutchings
3	Lexie Whitmarsh	Harry Willmott	Harvey Howard Eliza Sugar Jack Hansford	Daniel Bryant

Sports Day 2025

The results are in...

Activity	Berry	Cooper	Gibson	Powell
Tug 'o' War	285	270	330	315
Capture the Flag	120	70	60	105
Inflatable Assault Course	83	82	96	101
Boccia	27	15	31	18
Field Events	539	672	596	753
Track Events	433	400	367	330
Overall Total	1487	1509	1480	1622

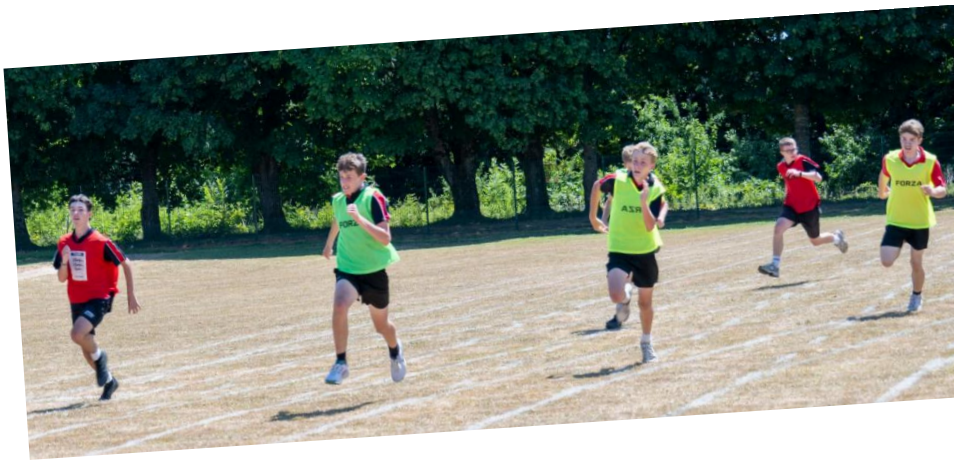
With scores pretty even across many of the activities, it came down to Mr Owen's mantra that 'participation makes points' as the determining factor out on the field, with one House clearly flooding activity sheets and climbing the scoreboard.

I'm therefore delighted to announce that this year's Champions are... **POWELL HOUSE**

Another winning year for Powell – can anyone stop them?

Well done to everyone for taking part, with special thanks to Mr Owen and his amazing PE team for delivering such a spectacular day.

Sports Day 2025



Camps International – Kenya Expedition July-August 2025

The culmination of just over 2 years' planning and fundraising is nearly upon us!

On Thursday, a small and plucky contingent of Wadham students will be swapping green fields and Somerset for the hotter climes of Kenya!

We're proud of all the preparations, fundraising and team-building skills this group have made as they embark on a 4-week expedition to complete volunteer work across several communities.



They'll also have the opportunity to study and obtain their PADI open water diving license, putting this knowledge to immediate use in many practice dives as they learn.



Camps International are a well-established company providing these life-affirming experiences, and our team will be ably supported throughout their expedition with a Camps guide, as well as Miss Kelly, who has kindly stepped forward as our school leader.

My sincere thanks to all parents involved, with special thanks to Mr Isack for initially launching this expedition back in 2023, and for quietly holding the reins and keeping everything moving forward to get us to the departure date prepped, ready, and raring to go.



To our wonderful explorers, wishing you all safe travels and happy memories. We know you'll make the most of your time away and can't wait to hear all about it when you return.

Wadham School Camp Kenya 2025 Team List

Alfred Deakin
Emily Hutchings
Frances Evers
Charlie Percival
Lily Madgin
Emily Bending
Millie Webster
Ruby Bryant
Led by... Harriet Kelly



Exam Results Days – August 2025

The following arrangements are in place for the exam results days in August.

A-Level Results day: Thursday 14th August

Results can be collected from the New Sports Hall public entrance from 8.00 to 9.30am. Staff will be available to celebrate student achievements, be on hand to discuss results and to provide support regarding HE choices.

GCSE Results Day: Thursday 21st August

Results can be collected from the New Sports Hall public entrance from 9.00 to 11.00am. Staff will be available to celebrate student achievements, be on hand to discuss results and to provide support regarding Post-16 onward progression.

Note:

If students cannot collect their results in person, they have 4 options available to them:

- they can be emailed to them,
- they can be collected by another person (with the permission of the student),
- they can be posted home, if an A5 stamped, addressed envelope is provided,
- they can be collected by the student when the new term begins in September.

Please contact Mr Andrew Jackson by email amjackson@wadhamschool.co.uk if results cannot be collected in person, so that he is aware and arrangements can be made for students to receive their results via one of the alternative methods above.

Birthday Card Competition – We have a Winner!

We've had another bumper crop of entries for our annual Birthday Card Competition, where the winning design becomes the Wadham Birthday Card for 2025-26

My sincere thanks to every student that submitted their design(s) – we had a range of colour and styles to choose from, as well as some great examples of humour, even if a little off topic!

After much deliberation, the panel kept returning to 5 entries and I am delighted to announce our finalists as:

Amelia Davies 8RPP
Molly Lafford 9AMW
Betsy Britton 9SLG
Lily Obern 9KEH
Caspar Crouch 10KJG



Each will receive printed cards of their design for them to use going forward.

However, there can be only one, and it's my pleasure to announce this year's winner as Amelia Davies!

Well done, Amelia, I love the simplicity and clean colours, and the glitter balls edged it!

Moken Mills – First Gold for England!

Moken continues to shine in the Boxing world and competed in a national duel on Saturday, representing England in a clash against Scotland.

We're delighted to learn that Moken won by unanimous decision and secured his first gold medal for England.

We're also sure that his continued rise and run of form will not go unnoticed and wish him every success as he sets his sights on the Olympics.

Well done, Moken, we're behind you all the way!

This story was also featured on BBC News, which you can read here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/clym0ep0n94o>



Brave the Shave – Thank You and Well Done!

We were really pleased to bring the 'Brave the Shave' event forward last Friday, so that Year 10 students were able to join in the fun before starting their Work Experience placements.

PE staff needed barely any encouragement to rope off a section of the field and build a gallows style platform! Within minutes of the lunch bell sounding, a sea of red and black figures swarmed to the barriers, accompanied by a healthy staff turnout, as Mr Straker-Nesbit and Mr Burgas duly waited to be 'done.'

Mr Straker-Nesbit went first, with his winning students, Riley Morris and Isabella-May Royle both taking turns with clippers to remove his beard. He was 'tidied up' by the PFSA team before dashing off to clean shave the rest.



Betsy Britton and Lenny Cox then climbed into the ring and applied their best barbering skills to take Mr Burgas's hair down to a Grade 1. Locks fell, to the gasps and cheers of the crowd, with the end result being clear – they'd made another Mr White!

Well done, everyone, for supporting the PFSA in such a good-humoured way, we hope you enjoyed the event, and I'm sure students are already discussing colleagues they'd like to take the chair if we go again next year!



End of Term Arrangements

Please see below details of arrangements for the final week of term.

Day	Years 7-9	Year 10
Monday 14th	Wadham School Walk and House Sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE kit and footwear for walking/sports • Bring water bottles, sun hats and sunscreen 	Work Experience
Tuesday 15th	Activities Week (On and Offsite) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offsite Camps, Visits and Activities • Onsite Enrichment Activities 	
Wednesday 16th		
Thursday 17th		
Friday 18th	Last Day of Term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE kit and footwear for sports • Rotation of Sport and Celebration Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School ends at 12.15pm • Buses depart at 12.30pm! 	

Students have been briefed regarding these events and activities, and we're excited to be spending time outside of the classroom as we come together to complete the 2024-25 school year!

Arrangements for the start of term in September have been sent out in a separate letter: [Start of Term Arrangements – September 2025](#)

Safeguarding over the Summer

Finally, whilst we hope that the summer break passes without incident, safeguarding concerns can still be reported to keepsafe@wadhamschool.co.uk

You may also find the following contacts useful if you need support during the summer, while the school is closed.

- If someone is in imminent danger, call 999.
- If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child, please contact Children's Social Care on 0800 123 2224

If you are a child and are worried and need to talk to someone, please see the contacts below:

- Samaritans- <https://www.samaritans.org> or call 0800 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org
- Childline- <https://childline.org.uk> or call 0800 1111.
- You can email a Childline counsellor any time by signing up for an account. You won't need an email address, and you'll get a reply within a day.
- Shout- <https://www.giveusashout.org> or text 85258.
- Shout is a free, confidential and 24/7 text messaging service for anyone in the UK who needs support.