



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Headteacher's Update Letter 03.12.25

Thankyou November, hello December!

There has been a positive response to our Christmas Cash-in, with students (and staff!) loving the introduction of green draw tickets - awarded as an additional acknowledgment of the great work and kindness we see each day.

We all thrive on praise, when it is given genuinely and sincerely, and it's been great to see students speak about the recognition they've received as they come to the draw box to deposit their tickets.

As we come to the end of a busy term it's right that we make time to pause, reflect and recognise that the spotlight needs to shine on everyone, but most of all on the overwhelming, silent majority that attend each day, well prepared and in the right frame of mind for learning.

Just this week I've seen many examples of this kindness and maturity first hand:

- It's hearing 2 Year 8 students speak about how they're supporting our Reverse Advent collection, as they walk to lesson.
- It's seeing a Year 10 student offer to help staff calm and support a student in distress.
- It's watching A Year 9 student pause and remove litter from outside tables as she walked past them, on her way to her lesson.
- It's the care shown by Year 7 boys playing football when someone is accidentally injured.
- It's the daily greetings, catch-ups and 'how are you?' between students and staff as we work through each day.

The net result of our collective kindness is that although everyone may be feeling tired, everyone is invested in wanting to end this term well, peacefully and calmly. I believe this is because everyone here knows what is expected and is respectful of the culture and positive social norms we have embraced.

I'm looking forward to enjoying further celebrations with our students as this term draws to a close. It is no less than they deserve.

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

It's been great to see students depositing their green draw tickets where they've been awarded. There's always a busy crowd around the Operations Hub and it won't be long now until names are drawn and prizes awarded.

Here are your "Podium Placers" for last week – with not many points separating everyone at the top.

Well done, everyone, for another successful week of learning 😊

Week Commencing 24.11.25

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Oliver Thomson	Evan Lock	Jake Hardman	Andrei Radulescu	Roman Wood
2	Ted Hartley-Smith	Jasmine Ham	Ethan Ash	Otto Stahl	Ciaran Emmerson Arthur Wood
3	Anna Whitfield	Vinnie Crossland	Dylan Pattemore Craig Zwiyo	Maria Cox	Casey Westerberg

Reverse Advent has started!

From Monday 1st to Friday 12th December, we're asking for donations of toiletries, dried food, tinned food, long-life milk, cereal, biscuits, etc to be collated.

Families are asked to add to their collection box (at home) over the 12 days, and bring the donation into school on Friday 12th December.







We recognise that the cost-of-living crisis continues to affect many families, so remain utterly grateful of all and any donations received.

Thank you so much for your support.









Homework Update

Another superb student performance has kept us well clear at the top of the Somerset Seneca League! As well as our overall XP Points, this week I am sharing details of student engagement, ranked according to individual study time and average score.

School name		XP
  Wadham School Crewkerne, Somerset	School synced	1,349,492
  King Arthur's School Wincanton, Somerset		769,782
  Robert Blake School Bridgwater, Somerset	School synced	555,696

Well done to Team Ridewood with Evie and Darcie at the top of both tables last week.

It's not surprising to see Key Stage 4 students filling the "study time" table, but it is very encouraging to see a good mix of all year groups represented on the "average score" table.

Top students by study time				Top students by average score			
 Evie Ridewood	Year 11	9h 33m		 Darcie Ridewood	Year 7	100%	
 Thomas Gibson	Year 11	9h 7m		 Bella Taylor	Year 9	100%	
 Eli Crick	Year 11	8h 55m		 Evie Ridewood	Year 11	100%	
4 Summer-Louise Green...	Year 11	8h 9m		4 Wyatt Titterrell	Year 9	100%	
5 Cloda Hyde	Year 11	8h 8m		5 Craig Zwiyo	Year 9	100%	
6 Katelin White	Year 10	8h 3m		6 Adom Baah	Year 7	99%	
7 Xavier Coombe	Year 11	7h 41m		7 Clide Zwiyo	Year 7	99%	
8 Maks Orzechowski	Year 11	7h 41m		8 Lily Madgin	Year 11	99%	
9 Dolly Baker	Year 11	7h 32m		9 Amber Quartley	Year 8	99%	
10 Zuzanna Bamburska	Year 11	7h 21m		10 Daniel Bryant	Year 11	99%	

Library Update - Reading Advent 2025

Mrs George is inviting all students to attempt the Reading Advent challenge this December, with support from the library in place to help everyone find suitable texts and complete the suggested tasks set.

A reminder that the library is open every break and lunch for students, and we're looking forward to hearing all about the challenges you've managed to complete.

A copy of the Reading Advent Challenge can be found at the end of this letter.

Good luck 😊

Scholastic Book Fair – Sparx Winners!

We're delighted to announce the following top Sparx Readers, drawn from a raffle to win a £5 voucher that was used at our recent scholastic book fair.

Well done to everyone that qualified for entry into the raffle.

Winners this year are as follows:

Kiki Heslop	Year 7
Beau Butler	Year 8
Bonnie Cornall	Year 10
Judit Kozari	Year 10
Nicole Zondo	Year 10

Year 7 Book Buzz!

Last week, Year 7 students were thrilled to receive their eagerly awaited Book Buzz books.



Back in September, they were offered a choice of 16 exciting titles, and they have now each been given a free book to take home and enjoy.

This initiative aims to spark a genuine enthusiasm for reading by allowing students to select a book that reflects their personal interests.

We hope this will inspire more independent reading both in school and at home, boosting academic achievement, expanding their imagination, and nurturing a lifelong love of reading.

Wadham School Christmas Fair – 06.12.25

The PTFA warmly welcome you to our Christmas Fair this Saturday.

There'll be a range of stallholders, refreshments, raffle prizes and a tombola – everything you need to complete some Christmas shopping and hopefully take a prize (or two!) home as well.

(The giant sloth must be won!)

Doors open at 10am, with the event taking place in and around our Main Hall.

See you there!



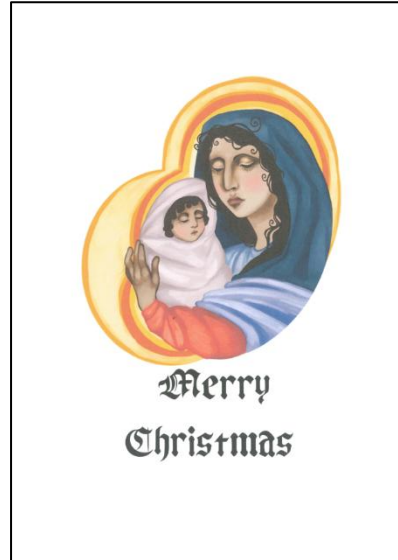
Christmas Card Competition 2025

With thanks to all students that submitted entries to this year's competition. The standard was once again very high, with nearly all submissions meeting our selection criteria.

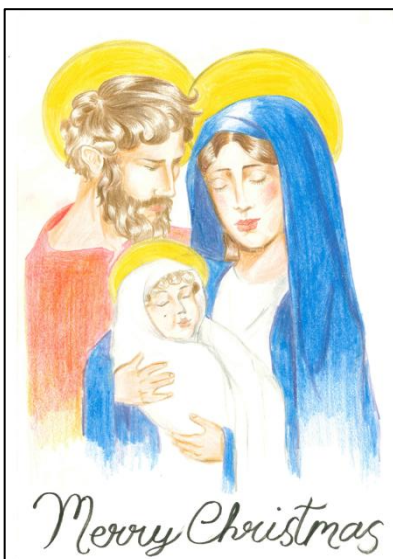
After some deliberation, judges shortlisted 5 entries as our finalists for the year, and I'm delighted to share their designs with you:



Lucy Wood Year 11



Eszter Kozari Year 11



Judit Kozari Year 10



Asha England Year 8



Lily Greenham Year 7

This year's finalists are to be congratulated for their creativity, use of colour (or not!) and simplicity in presenting a clear message regarding the true meaning of Christmas.

There can be only one winner, and I'm delighted to announce that the winning artist, with her design going forward to be made as our Christmas Card for 2025, is.....

..... **Judit Kozari**

Richard Burgas
03.12.25



Wadham School



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY




**Thursday 11th
December**





 **Non-Uniform Day**


Wear your favourite **Christmas Jumper!**

 **£1.00 Donation**

All donations will support:

 **Crewkerne Food Bank**

 **FERN Animal Sanctuary**

Let's spread a little kindness this
Christmas! 


The Parent Place


A welcoming space for parents/carers to connect, share, and find support. Practical advice, signposting, and helpful resources. All in one friendly drop-in session.

Every Wednesday
9am-11am
INCLUDING HALF
TERM

A NEW community project run by your friendly Parent Family Support Advisors:
Jemma Henwood
Rebecca Larcombe
Suzanne Morris

Children welcome || Refreshments provided || Spotlight sessions with other professionals (Dates TBC) || Parenting resources || Signposting and form filling support || Healthy snacks for all ||

 Be A Good Neighbour - Community Church, Barn Street, Crewkerne. TA18 8BP

 Keep up to date via our Social Media - search 'The Parent Place'

Scan the QR code to find out more and register your interest.



<https://forms.office.com/e/EeZrBvhm7v>

Reading Advent

Keep track of your reading, how many pages (or books!) can you read during advent	Try the first chapter of a new book	Sign up for (or use!) your library card	Share a book with a friend	Make a festive bookmark!	Revisit your favourite book from when you were younger
Write a book review to recommend a book to someone in your class	Take an extreme reading photograph!	Write your own Christmas cracker joke	Watch a Christmas movie based on a book	Compile a list of books you'd like to read	Make a bookish decoration for your tree!
Take a story for a walk – take turns adding the next part of the plot...	Follow a recipe to cook or bake something together	Read a magazine or news article	Read together over lunch – make a snack and grab something to read!	Donate any books you don't want to read again to your local charity shop or food bank!	Write an acrostic poem using a festive word
Listen to an audiobook or episode of a podcast	Rewrite the lyrics to a Christmas carol or traditional song!	Ask someone for a book recommendation	Take time to relax and read!	Watch an Authors Live broadcast together!	Create a cosy reading den with blankets, pillows and books – hot chocolate optional!