



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Thursday 22nd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 22.01.26

When the weekend arrives, we'll be halfway through Term 3!
It's been another busy week here at Wadham School, where the weather has done it's best to unsettle and disrupt normal routines at break and lunch, and we've done our best not to let it! Students anticipated the disruption to social time and made a real effort to minimise the impact of wet and muddy shoes on our floors, taking care to move around the school calmly and safely. Thank you – your care and consideration are much appreciated.

In other news, we welcomed our School Improvement Partner into school last Thursday for our annual Local Authority Visit. Although not an official inspection, our SIP is a serving Ofsted inspector and has worked closely with us since we restructured in 2022.

I'm delighted to share that Wadham School had a "very positive morning" last Thursday, with our SIP noting that standards have continued to improve since her last visit in December 2024, and following our Ofsted Inspection in January 2025. It was a rigorous process, involving lesson visits, meetings with our SENCO and Inclusion Lead, as well as a student panel and book scrutiny.

There were many positives and examples of exemplary practice last Thursday (as there are every day here 😊), but the highlight for me has to be the comments from the student panel. We chose Year 10 students because they were Year 7 back in 2022 – they are best placed to reflect and consider the impact of everything we have done and continue to do. It was brilliant to be told, then, that these students recognise the significant improvements since that first year together, and feel utterly safe and settled in their studies.

They articulated a pride and confidence that I know is felt among a wider student group and are superb ambassadors of the school. Well done and THANK YOU to the following awesome students:

April Abbey
Marie Cox
Nye Edgar
Daniil Lyszyk
Jacob Prouse
Amy White

It's right and proper that we recognise and celebrate our achievements – if you have something for this newsletter, please do get in touch!

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas
Headteacher



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Headteacher: Mr R Burgas
Chair of Governors: Mrs R Hawkes



Top Performing Students

It is great to see several students sharing the podium across the year groups, with Year 10 crowned overall winners for the last two weeks.

Whatever the reason, it's lovely to see everyone's hard work rewarded.

Well done, all, for another successful week of learning. 😊

Week Commencing 05.01.26

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Izzy Foster Lily Greenham	Cody Adams	Riley Morris	Caleb Russell	Frankie Rousell
2	Stanley Moseley	Joshua Isaac	Reuben Clarke Riley Webb	Daisy Wells	Keira Hamilton
3	Fletcher Pitman	Asha England	Bethany Bulmer Alfred Parks	Alfie Holt Martha Kennedy Jacob Lewer Luke Pearce Emily Salzer	Grace Steer Daniel Williams

Week Commencing 12.01.26

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Yasmin Hill	Teddy Pithers	Riley Webb	Charlie-Jane Norris	Ruby Bryant
2	Chloe Pattenden	Toren Radford- Hyland Finley Swinnerton	Hedley Egré Mya-Rose Wilson	Iris Willy	Lucy Wood
3	Aiden Bazley	Toby Dalton- Brown	Rhys Vaughan- Mitchell	Freya Killick Jenny Pitman	Imogen Clarke

Year 11 Subject Evening (Online) – Thursday 5th February 4.00-7.00pm

A reminder!

Information will shortly be published to Year 11 parents to launch our online consultation Evening.

This follows the recent Informaiton Evening and will give parents another opportunity to be informed and ask questions as we work towards the summer exams.

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	1,648,156
	King Arthur's School Wincanton, Somerset		649,008
	Buckler's Mead School Yeovil, Somerset	School synced	433,552

Well done to Katelin in Year 10 for being top of the table in the "Study Time" leaderboard and great to see Betsy in Year 7 being crowned top performing student for "Average Score" – amazing work, both of you!

Top students by study time				Top students by average score			
	Katelin White	Year 10	3h 54m		Betsy Best	Year 7	100%
	Ruby Miles	Year 10	3h 11m		Stevie Watts	Year 7	100%
	Eli Crick	Year 11	2h 45m		Emily Hutchings	Year 11	100%
4	Holly Harwood	Year 11	2h 41m	4	Millie Tither	Year 11	100%
5	Thomas Gibson	Year 11	2h 38m	5	Poppy Hampshire	Year 7	100%
6	Sienna Isaacs	Year 11	2h 24m	6	Alfred Parks	Year 9	100%
7	Evie Ridewood	Year 11	2h 22m	7	Jacob Prouse	Year 10	100%
8	Cloda Hyde	Year 11	2h 20m	8	Darcie Ridewood	Year 7	100%
9	Logan Shelley	Year 11	2h 20m	9	Phoebe Glover	Year 7	100%
10	Zara Mapstone	Year 11	2h 17m	10	Daniil Lyszyk	Year 10	100%



Wadham Students at County Cross Country Finals!

We are so proud to have been represented at the Somerset Schools Cross Country finals race at RNAS Merryfield, with several students entered across two categories.

Well done and congratulations to Sam, Finley and Harry for qualifying to compete in the Junior boys' race!

And the same goes to Edward and Benjamin for qualifying to compete in the minor boys' race.

A very wet and muddy course, and they all did really well!

Houses of Parliament Trip – Monday 12th January 2026

Last Monday a group of students enjoyed a fantastically in-depth tour of the House of Commons, the House of Lords, and the connecting halls and passageways, meeting several Lords and MPs along the way.

The students also took part in a workshop on petition writing, where they created their own proposals. Staff were particularly impressed by one petition calling for free public transport for 16–18-year-olds to support access to post-16 education and workplaces.

We were then treated to a surprise visit from Adam Dance MP, who had noticed our visit and wanted to meet our students. He spoke about his work since becoming an MP last year and has arranged a school visit – he’s coming to Wadham on Thursday 19th March!



Royal Artists' Summer Show Competition 2026!

Mrs Taylor and Mrs Trim are excited to launch this year's competition, which is open to all students. Winners will have their work displayed in the Royal Academy, and in recent years have been invited to attend a launch event in celebration of their work!

Registration and submission of artworks are open until 5.00pm on March 4th, 2026.

Mrs Taylor will register and submit students' work on their behalf, and all artists are encouraged to participate. Please speak to Mrs Taylor or Mrs Trim directly if you would like to be involved!

Young Artists' Summer Show

RA Young Artists' Summer Show Competition 2026
14 July - 30 August 2026
Weston Studio | Burlington House
An exciting opportunity for students aged 4–18 across the UK to exhibit their artwork online and at the Royal Academy of Arts.

RA

You can create your Artwork using any medium such as painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, printing based on any theme. You will need to include the size of the piece and what it means to you.

Check the website for further details. For more information see Mrs Taylor in A02. Hand in your entry to A02 /A03 by Monday 23rd February 26

[Young Artists' Summer Show](#)

Richard Burgas
22.01.26

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

LAUNCHING
14th JAN
2026

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>