



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 03.02.26

We're 5 weeks into Term 3 and our collective mood has taken some knocks as we've worked through a long January; 'Blue Monday', journeys in the darkness to and from school, adverse weather forcing a closure last week and the frequent frustration felt when social time is disrupted by wet weather.

This is the same every year, is something that all schools and organisations face, and our response at Wadham School is always to try and see 'opportunities rather than obstacles.' Our view is one of a glass half full!

With GCSE PE Practical Exams this week and Mock Speaking exams in French and German next week, we understand that Year 11 are feeling the pressure, compounded by poor weather and limited access to outdoor spaces to let off steam.

We've opened the Old Sports Hall every lunchtime and students from all year groups are welcome to use this space to sit and enjoy their lunch. Chairs need to be tidied away at 1.50pm, but we know this is a habit already well established!

Additionally, it's great that our Well Being Ambassadors have planned a non-uniform day as part of an uplifting "Show some Love" day, next Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Full details can be found later in this newsletter.

I am always humbled by the care and compassion Wadham School students (and staff!) show each other, especially when things can become challenging. Yes – there have been bumps in the road, but more importantly, there have been many acts of kindness, thought for others, and personal attempts to regulate, remain calm and show resilience in the face of adversity.

I remain utterly proud of the amazing people that make up our Wadham Community.

### ***Heavenly God***

***Thank you that I may notice daily demonstrations of humility, gentleness, patience and love***

***Thank you that daily I may demonstrate humility, gentleness, patience and love***

***Help me to notice and to encourage the very best in myself and in others***

***Amen***

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas  
Headteacher



Yeovil Road, Crewkerne, Somerset. TA18 7NT Telephone 01460 270123  
Website : [www.wadhamschool.co.uk](http://www.wadhamschool.co.uk) E-Mail : [office@wadhamschool.co.uk](mailto:office@wadhamschool.co.uk)

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 **again** 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 fortnight of learning. 😊

### Week Commencing 19.01.26

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>1</b>	Lily Greenham	Asha England	Bertie Pattison Riley Webb	Keira Bentham	Ruby Bryant
<b>2</b>	Mabel Salzer	Alice Henly	Olivia Mate Raffy Pilton	Judit Kozari	Evie John
<b>3</b>	Rory Grieve Matthew Hodder	Toby Dalton-Brown	Keegan Robinson Lewis Watkins	Jack Rees	Esme Hallett

### Week Commencing 26.01.26

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>1</b>	Teddy Parsons	Ava Davenport Alice Henly	Leon Godfrey	Elsie Swatridge	Emily Harwood
<b>2</b>	Poppy Organ	Toby Dalton-Brown Lucy Ellis	Lewis Watkins	Charlie-Jane Norris	Ruby Bryant Imogen Clarke
<b>3</b>	Abel Anil	Toren Radford-Hyland Anna Smeeton	Herbie Brunt	Harry Bayford Dylan Bazley Nolen Gratton Jenny Pitman Tasker Shepherd	Frankie Rousell Isabelle Wilkins

## Year 7 Core Learning Habits







Starting today, Year 7 are taking part in a raffle competition to encourage everyone to follow the expected core learning habits.

This positive intervention will reward the silent majority that do everything right, giving others the chance to learn from these role models and make changes to their actions to also receive their raffle ticket, and improve the skills they need to learn.

Tickets unlock prizes, and the intervention was a big hit when we spoke to students in assembly this morning!

## Homework Update

Although only 2 days into another week of Homework, we're already top of the Somerset leaderboard, with a lead that we know will only grow over the days ahead. Well done!

School name	XP
  <b>Wadham School</b> Crewkerne, Somerset <span style="float: right; border: 1px solid purple; border-radius: 10px; padding: 2px 5px;">School synced</span>	351,536
  <b>Brymore Academy</b> Bridgwater, Somerset <span style="float: right; border: 1px solid purple; border-radius: 10px; padding: 2px 5px;">School synced</span>	228,825
  <b>Preston School Academy</b> Yeovil, Somerset <span style="float: right; border: 1px solid purple; border-radius: 10px; padding: 2px 5px;">School synced</span>	159,216

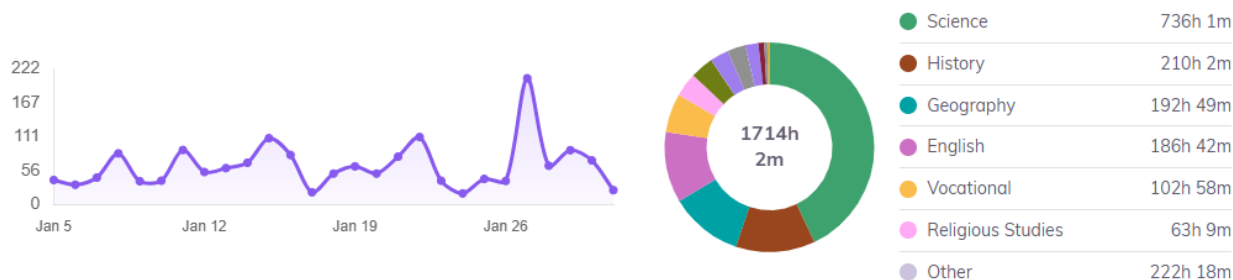
## The January Results Are In!

Wadham students clocked up a whopping 1714 hours of Seneca study time in January, with 718 students regularly engaged in homework or further independent learning.

This is an amazing achievement that benefits our students in so many ways:

- They will know more and be able to do more, leading to...
- ...improved outcomes in final exams.
- They will have improved disciplinary skills in how to answer questions, leading to...
- ...improved confidence in their ability, organisation and time-management.
- They will develop stronger self-belief, leading to...
- ...greater aspiration to aim higher and go further!

### Study time






Finally, a massive WELL DONE to everyone listed below, our January Seneca Champions!

### Top students by study time

1	 Katelin White	Year 10	10h 14m
2	 Thomas Gibson	Year 11	9h 36m
3	 Eli Crick	Year 11	9h 31m
4	Cloda Hyde	Year 11	9h 22m
5	Alfie Senior	Year 10	8h 24m
6	Imogen Cremen	Year 11	8h 21m
7	Alex Guise	Year 11	8h 10m
8	Maks Orzechowski	Year 11	8h 5m
9	Terence Bateman	Year 11	7h 54m
10	Ruby Miles	Year 10	7h 28m

### Top students by average score

1	 Sam Rasheed	Year 10	100%
2	 Judit Kozari	Year 10	100%
3	 Daniil Lyszyk	Year 10	100%
4	Bella Taylor	Year 9	100%
5	Evie Ridewood	Year 11	100%
6	Daniel Bryant	Year 11	100%
7	Zuzanna Bamburska	Year 11	99%
8	Lily Madgin	Year 11	99%
9	Andrei Radulescu	Year 10	99%
10	Jessica Curtis	Year 7	99%

## Rotary Young Chef Competition

A regular event in our calendar, the Wadham Rotary Young Chef competition took place last term on January 13th.

This was organised by the Crewkerne Rotary Club and judged by local chefs (one a past student! ) onsite at Wadham School.

The competitors were:

Alfred Deakin  
Phoebe Curtis  
Bertie Pattison  
Daniel Pattemore  
Ella Priddle  
Bella Veres  
Jessica Henly  
Ciaran Emmerson  
Maria Cox  
Georgina Ham



It was great to have representatives from a range of year groups, with everyone working hard to meet the competition criteria! The competitors had to produce a two course meal for two people in two hours.

Dishes made included lasagne, cheesecake, brownies, fruit tartlets, lemon posset, to name a few - there were some great skills being demonstrated and executed well.

The judges were very impressed with the standard of work produced this year. All of the competitors should be really proud of their achievements.

After some deliberation, Alfred Deakin was declared the winner- he will be going forward to the District Round in Taunton on March 14th.

***Well done, everyone, for stepping up and getting involved in this competition.***



***...Best of luck to Alfred as he goes on to fly the flag for Wadham School next month.***



**"Show some Love" Day  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Wadham School's Well Being Ambassadors are delighted to announce their latest whole school event – a "Show some Love" Day next week.

Students and staff are invited to wear non-uniform (pay attention to the weather!) with donations made going to support the Samaritans.

Events at break and lunch will give everyone the opportunity to discover self-care top tips, as well as purchase some sweet treats in a bake sale.

Obi the Therapy Dog will also be joining us!

Kindness is something we do very well here at Wadham School and I'm sure everyone will relish the opportunity to spend a day in their own clothes, reflecting on how we treat ourselves, as well as others.

With thanks to Mrs Martin and the Well Being Ambassadors for making this happen!

**Royal Artists' Summer Show Competition 2026! - Reminder**

A reminder that this competition is open to all students.

Winners will have their work displayed in the Royal Academy.

In recent years winners have also been invited to attend a launch event in celebration of their work!

Registration and submission of artworks are open until 5.00pm on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 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!

Richard Burgas  
03.02.26



## Spotlight Sessions

Informative talks and support with visiting professionals

### Upcoming Spotlight Sessions



**11/2/2026**  
**Somerset  
Parent Carer  
Forum**

More dates coming soon,  
stay tuned!

**Next up:  
School Nurse  
Team –  
18/2/2026**

If you're a parent or carer of a child with additional needs or disabilities (aged 0-25), come and join us:

- Make new friends
- Share experiences, tips, and gain advice
- Ask questions, or simply enjoy some company




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
- 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>