

20 October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of this half term, I would like to congratulate all our students on a successful half term within school. Students have approached all aspects of school life demonstrating our school values of respect, resilience and ambition. School life has been exceptionally busy during the half term, and it has been wonderful to see so many students engaged in opportunities across the school.

There are several updates in this letter regarding schools events and also updates and reminders about some school procedures.

### Uniform Expectations

Thank you to all parents for your ongoing support in ensuring that students arrive each day meeting our uniform expectations. As we go into the next half term, we would like to remind all parents of the current rule around nose studs and jewellery.

*No jewellery should be worn, apart from one pair of small ear studs. (Pupils will be required to remove these for some activities). Ear stretchers are not permitted.*

*One small / discreet nose stud is permitted, however this must be removed for all PE lessons. No other facial piercings are allowed.*

A link to the full uniform guidelines can be found [here](#).

Mr Daniel will be writing to all parents and carers at the start of next half term about our uniform consultation.

### Equipment

During each of the parent information evenings this half term we outlined the equipment that all students should have with them each day to allow them to engage fully with the learning in each lesson. A copy of this slide is shown below. Please can you check that your child has this and if you need support with providing this then please contact your child's tutor.

Ready to Learn- Equipment

**The Basics:**

- School bag
- Pencil case (ideally clear)
- Pens x 2 at least (blue or black ink)
- Green pen x 2
- Pencil x 2
- Pencil sharpener
- Eraser
- 15cm ruler
- Calculator
- Timetable
- School books (provided)
- \*Homework book (provided)
- \*Planner (provided)

\*coming soon



**Desirable:**

- Maths set
- Highlighters
- Glue Stick

## Parent Carer Training and Support Opportunities

Somerset Parent Carer forum are delivering a number of opportunities to learn about how to support your child through challenges they may face at school through a program called Wise Up Workshops. These sessions are FREE and extremely supportive.

### Workshops being offered include:

- Emotionally based School Avoidance
- Establishing routines and using visuals
- Helping your child with sleep difficulties
- Social stories
- Managing behaviour that challenges
- Helping your child through a transition
- Helping your child manage their anxiety
- Helping your child understand the changes that come with growing up
- Understanding sensory differences
- Supporting communication through play
- Online workshops for parent carers of neurodiverse children and young people.
- Online workshops for parent carers of neurodiverse children and young people.
- In person workshops for parent carers of neurodiverse children and young people

Please see use the link below to access the booklet online.

[WISE Up Workshops \(somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk\)](https://www.somersetparentcarerforum.org.uk/WISE-Up-Workshops)

## Huish SEN Coffee Morning Autumn 2023

We warmly invite the parents/carers of students on the SEN register, or undergoing assessment, to join Huish SEN Colleagues for tea and talk on Tuesday 31 October, 10.00 – 12.00 pm in the sixth form cafe.

There will be representatives from Somerset Council Community Inclusion and Local offer teams, Somerset Parent Carer Forum, Autism Somerset, Escape Support Group and others joining us as well as members of our own SEN team. We hope that this will build a supportive community around our young people with SEN at the Academy.

Please register your interest in the event by completing the jot form below.

[SEN Information Coffee Morning 2023/24 \(jotform.com\)](https://www.jotform.com)

## Flu Vaccinations

SAINT are due to visit Huish Academy on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 to deliver the flu vaccinations to all consented students in years 7-11.

Please complete the decision form (one for each child) using the link below and enter the unique code for Huish Episcopi Academy - SM136294.

### [Immunisation Consent \(somersetsaint.co.uk\)](https://somersetsaint.co.uk)

The link will close at midday on 21<sup>st</sup> November. All forms will need to be submitted prior to this date. If you do not consent to your child having this vaccination, please follow the link on the letter to decline this also. This makes it much easier when SAINT are in school delivering these vaccines and not needing to contact home to gain consent/decline the vaccination. If we are unable to make contact on the day, your child will not be able to receive the vaccination.

### **HPV Vaccinations**

The School Nurse Team at Somerset Council have shared with the academy some resources from the Health Protection Research Unit at the University of Bristol, which have been developed to support parents' decision-making about the universal HPV vaccination programme. Please see below-

*The COMMUNICATE films are intended to address vaccine misinformation and were informed by the preferences of vaccine hesitant, ethnically diverse parents. You can find out more about the research we did with families and watch the videos on our Health Protection Research Unit (HPRU) in Behaviour Science and Evaluation research [webpage](#). The COMMUNICATE films are located in the section titled "Improving Communication with Parents" Versions of the COMMUNICATE films in Urdu, Somali, Arabic, Polish & Bengali are also available on our [YouTube channel](#).*

### **Parent Survey**

As Huish Episcopi Academy is part of United Learning, you will shortly be asked to take part in an annual parent survey so that we can understand your experience as parents/carers of a child at our school and support us with planning for future improvements.

Please see the attached letter with further information regarding the 2023 online survey which opens on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Mental Health Support Team Parent Presentations**

We have booked Mental Health Support Team (MHST) to come in and run two separate parent presentations; one on low mood and one on anxiety to help parents to support their children.

### **Parent Anxiety Workshop- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 4.00-5.00 pm**

The MHST welcomes parents to a workshop on supporting your child with fears, worry, and anxiety. Presented by Education Mental Health Practitioners, we aim to contribute to the Whole School Approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing by delivering bite-sized information evenings for parents to learn about Mental Health and know how to support their child. In this workshop we will cover the following:

- The teenage brain.
- What is anxiety?



- When and why does anxiety become a problem?
- How can I help my child?
- What Next?

The workshop will last 1 hour and while some small/wider group discussion may be encouraged, there is no pressure to speak, and we welcome those who would like to listen quietly as well as those who would like to discuss the topic.

### **Parent Low Mood Workshop- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 4.00-5.00 pm**

The MHST welcomes parents to a workshop on supporting your child with low mood, sadness, and feeling “down”. Presented by Education Mental Health Practitioners, we aim to contribute to the Whole School Approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing by delivering bite-sized information evenings for parents to learn about Mental Health and know how to support their child. In this workshop we will cover the following:

- The teenage brain.
- What is low mood?
- When and why does low mood become a problem?
- How can I help my child?
- What Next?

The workshop will last 1 hour and while some small/wider group discussion may be encouraged, there is no pressure to speak, and we welcome those who would like to listen quietly as well as those who would like to discuss the topic.

To sign up to these workshops please use the JotForm below-

<https://form.jotform.com/232832436680054>

### **2024 United Teaching Applications open on 11<sup>th</sup> October – All Academy Heads (For information)**

Applications are now open for United Teaching’s September 2024 intake. Details of how to apply, subject availability and funding options can be found on the [website](#).

Please share this opportunity with staff, parents and any prospective candidate who may want to train in your school or other United Learning schools.

### **Vacancies**

For vacancies available at the academy, please click on the link below-

[Huish Episcopi Academy- Vacancies](#)

If you have any questions or concerns linked to your child, then please do not hesitate to contact their tutor in the first instance.



Thank you in advance for your continued support and we wish all our students and families and happy and restful half term holiday. We welcome all students back to school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. We will return on week 2.

Yours sincerely



**Mrs Boyes**  
**Principal**

KEY DATES FOR THIS HALF TERM	
20 October	INSET DAY
23 – 27 October	Half Term
2-3 November	Year 11 Geography Fieldwork
9 November	Year 12 Theatre visit to see Machinal
22-23 November	Flu Vaccinations for year 7-11
22 November	Year 7 Parents' Evening
5 December	Year 13 Parents' Evening
12 December	Year 11 Parents' Evening
15 December	Last day of term
18 December – 1 January	School Holiday
2 January	INSET DAY
3 January	Start of term

### **Sporting Achievements this week:**

#### **Primary School Girls 7-aside Football Tournament**

It was a day of excitement and athleticism as girls from various primary schools came together to participate in the Primary School Football Tournament for Years 4, 5, and 6. This event showcased not only their football skills but also the camaraderie and sportsmanship that make such tournaments special.

#### **Tournament Highlights:**

**Friendly Competition:** The tournament emphasized friendly competition, where the girls displayed their passion for football while maintaining the utmost respect for their fellow competitors.



**Respect**  
**Ambition**  
**Resilience**

**Headteacher:** Mrs Katie Boyes

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**Skills and Determination:** The young athletes showcased their football skills and determination, with impressive ball control, dribbling, and goal-scoring abilities.

**Teamwork:** Teamwork was evident throughout the tournament as girls worked together to achieve common goals on the field, providing a great lesson in the importance of collaboration.

**Supportive Environment:** The enthusiasm and support from parents, teachers, and fellow students created a fantastic atmosphere, motivating the girls to give their best.

### **Tournament Results:**

After a series of exciting matches, Charlton Mackrell emerged as the champions of the Primary School Football Tournament for Year 4, 5, and 6 girls. They demonstrated a remarkable combination of skill, teamwork, and determination, winning their matches convincingly and displaying an unwavering passion for the sport.

### **Conclusion:**

The Primary School Football Tournament was a significant event in promoting sportsmanship and teamwork among young girls, fostering their love for football. It provided a platform for them to nurture their passion for the sport and develop essential life skills. Congratulations to Charlton Mackrell for their outstanding performance and their well-deserved victory, and kudos to all the participating schools for their spirited efforts on the field. This tournament will undoubtedly remain a cherished memory for all involved.

### **U14's Football Team (County Cup) - Huish 4 - 2 Bishop Fox**

On a calm and temperate Tuesday night in Langport, Huish embarked on their County Cup campaign for the 23-24 season, opening with a strong win and a scoreline that could have been far more damaging for the away team.

The squad consisted of predominantly the players that had won the Area Cup last year, with the addition of a couple of very promising year 8 boys in Adam Buckley and Alfie Jones. Harry Lawrence, the goalkeeper for the district team, was again outstanding in goal, with phenomenal distribution of the ball with both left and right foot. In front of him, George Powell captained the side at centre back, with Zak Richards alongside him, Lewis Pack at left back and Harrison Down completing the back four at right back. In front of them, Adam Buckley slotted in alongside Jimi Barclay and Tommy McGinty (fresh from his trip to the barber shop the previous week). Out wide on the left we started with Ashton Smith, with Lance Stadden marauding up and down on the opposite wing, and Freddie Macpherson, rising like a 'phoenix from the flames', returned to the starting line-up up front. With Alex Creed, Alfie Jones, Ollie Tring and Will Rogers on the bench, the squad depth was very strong, not to mention the players that also trained but didn't make the matchday squad.

After a cagey opening ten minutes, Huish moved through the gears and opened up a two-nil lead, both goals coming from the pacey Macpherson, after great counter-attacking and wing play from the boys and an assist or two from Stadden. Some sloppy defending from a free-kick and the ensuing chaos in the six-yard box led to a scrappy goal conceded, but the boys



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responded well and bagged a third before half-time to give us some breathing space, Stadden this time hitting the onion bag.

After a half-time team talk consisting of praise for the boys' attitude and commitment, they went back out ready to put the game to bed. The fourth goal came quickly thanks to a rangy run out of defense from Down, ghosting past three players before running out of options and opting to shoot, striking the ball home from fully twenty yards. An absolute belter of a free-kick in the final minute flattered the visitors, and Huish came out as worthy winners and in the hat for the next round, which will be a difficult game at home against the reigning County champions, Worle. Details to follow, as the supporters may need to provide the 'twelfth man' to get us past a formidable opponent.

A massive well done to the boys for the performance, and the parents for their support with the lads. They continue to model hard-work, discipline, and character to the rest of their year group and the Academy. Onwards and upwards!

Many thanks  
Coach Walby

### **Year 10 Rugby Team (County Cup) - Huish 0 - 76 St Katherines**

The score line speaks for itself, it was a tough game. No one enjoys losing, and especially not by such a margin. But let's remember that in rugby, as in life, we have to learn from our defeats as much as our victories.

The boys never gave up and continued to fight to the final whistle. That fighting spirit is the essence of rugby, and it's something they can take away from the game and be proud of. In the face of defeat, they maintained their character and sportsmanship. I saw many examples of that today, and it's something that makes me proud to be the coach of this team.

This loss is not a setback; it's a setup for a comeback. The boys will go back to the training ground, work on their weaknesses, and come back even more determined.

### **Players of the Match**

Charlie Eason; is best known for his exploits on the football pitch, Charlie has taken up rugby this year and made his debut. Made some outstanding tackles and in the closing minutes, was heard demanding his team push for a try.

Solomon Stinchcombe; a true captain's performance. When the team is having very little possession of the ball and spending large spells of the game defending, you need your leaders to step up. Calm, positive, and the voice of determination - exceptional leadership!

### **Presentation of Sporting Colours**

This term, the Academy celebrated the achievements of our remarkable athletes but also recognised the spirit of excellence and sportsmanship that they have exemplified throughout their athletic journey. We have the privilege of awarding full and half sporting colours to those

individuals who have demonstrated unwavering dedication, passion, and outstanding performance in the world of sports.

Sporting colours are more than just tokens of appreciation; they are symbols of the countless hours of hard work, sweat, and sacrifices that our athletes have made to reach the pinnacle of their respective sports. They stand as a testament to the resilience and determination that it takes to succeed, and they inspire not only the recipients but also every aspiring athlete in our midst.

Each of our athletes has displayed extraordinary commitment, not only to their personal growth but also to the spirit of teamwork. They have represented our Academy not just as individuals but as a united force, creating a legacy of unity and camaraderie that will continue to inspire future generations of athletes.

Recipients of sporting colours, are not just athletes; they are ambassadors of the values that sports instill in us. They represent the best of what our Academy stands for, and we have no doubt that they will continue to carry this legacy forward, making us all proud.

In conclusion, let us remember that sporting colours are not just awards; they are the embodiment of passion, perseverance, and promise. Students should wear them with pride and humility, let them be a constant reminder that greatness is not a destination but a journey. Continue to chase your dreams and inspire those around you. Congratulations to all the recipients, and thank you for being shining examples of what it means to excel in the world of sports.

**Full Colours:** Beau-Paul Butera, Anna Little, Daisy Davies, Megan Pimm, Ellie Roe and Zach Spike.

**Half Colours:** Chloe Cantle, Elsie Leslie and Taisie Byrne,







**Huish Episcopi Academy**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

## Community Events:



### **DRAYTON WOODS near Langport**



**Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Inclusive Woodland Play**

*Exploration, supervised free play, ropes and swings, campfire toasting, games and woodland crafts*

**2-5pm**

**For children of all abilities 5-10yrs**

*Children can stay unaccompanied /with carer*

**£8/child** includes campfire snacks

siblings of same family /low income: £5



**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

#### **Halloween Scary Walk**

**2-7pm**

**For brave children of all abilities 8-18yrs**

*Create a character and be part of a Scary Trail through the woods. Parents invited at dusk to walk the trail, if they dare!*

*Children can stay unaccompanied /with carer*

**£15/child** includes cooked supper snacks at 5pm

Siblings of same family/low income: £12

Bookings & Enquiries: [Hannah@wilderwoods.org](mailto:Hannah@wilderwoods.org)

To discuss your child's needs tel: 01458 252463

Text: 07970883264

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