

12 December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we head towards the end of the Autumn term, we are enjoying celebrating the successes of so many students through events such as the Year 11 Winter Formal, the reward events and celebration assemblies that are taking place this week. It highlights what an exceptionally busy term we have had as a school and how hard students and staff have worked.

There are a number of key messages and reminders within this letter as we head into the Christmas holidays.

Parents' Evenings

The Year 9 Parent's Evening will be on Thursday 11th January. Booking details will be sent at the start of January.

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you to those students who took part in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. If you would still like to donate, please do so using the link below.

<https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/CJD230025764>

Christmas Lunch

We will be serving Christmas dinner to students on Wednesday 13th December. This will cost £3.00. If your child requires a gluten or lactose free meal please pre order this by email to office@hea.ac.uk

Christmas Concert

We would like to welcome all parents to join us for our Christmas Concert that is being held on Wednesday 13th December at 6.30 pm in the Main Hall. There will be a varied selection of Christmas music from students in all year groups. Tickets are available on Wisepay.

Non-School Uniform Day

Following feedback from student voice we are running a non-school uniform day for students on Friday 15th December. The student council have asked that if students wish to make a donation, the collection will go to Langport Cares Foodbank.

End of Term Rewards

To recognise the excellent achievements of students over the first term, we have two rewards trips with students going ice skating on Thursday and Friday as well as an additional Christmas film rewards afternoon for those that narrowly missed out. We are looking to expand numbers for the Easter rewards trips and will share eligibility criteria at the start of next term.



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Headteacher: Mrs Katie Boyes

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w: huishepiscopi.net

Heads of Year are also recognising student successes in celebration assemblies throughout the week where students will receive certificates for achievement points and attendance.

Uniform and Equipment Reminder

We would like to remind all parents and carers of uniform expectations ahead of the Spring term. Information can be found on the school website [Click here](#)

Please can you ensure that your child is equipped with the following equipment each day:

- School bag
- Pencil case (ideally clear)
- Pens x 2 at least (blue or black ink)
- Green pen x 2
- Pencil sharpener
- Eraser
- 15cm ruler
- Calculator

We will begin equipment checks at the start of next term to ensure that students are equipped with the required equipment to allow for a prompt start to learning in each lesson. If you require help in supplying the standard equipment, please make contact with your child's tutor or pastoral support worker.

Sixth Form

The Criminology Assessment for Year 13 are on the 12th, 13th and 14th December, 9.00 am start.

We have received lots of application for Huish Sixth Form and students are being invited to book in their application interviews on the portal. Applications can be made on our website.

Date for your diary: Sixth Form open evening- Thursday 4th January.

Farewell to staff

Mr Brooke will be leaving Huish Episcopi Academy on 31st December 2023. Andrew has been a dedicated and valued member of the Senior Leadership Team at the Academy for over twelve years and we wish him well in his future opportunities.

Miss Kennedy and Mrs Dumble are also leaving Huish Episcopi academy at the end of this half term. We thank them both for all of their work and wish them the very best of luck for their next steps. We will update all parents and carers on the new staff who are joining Huish ahead of the new term.

Vacancies

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



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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.

We would like to wish all our families a very peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to welcoming all students back to the academy on Wednesday 3rd January.

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
7 December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
8 December	Year 11 Winter Formal
12 December	Year 11 Parents' Evening
13 December	Christmas Concert
15 December	Last day of term
18 December – 1 January	School Holiday
2 January	INSET DAY
3 January	Start of term
11 January	Year 9 Parents' Evening
23 January	Year 9 Options Evening
29 January	Year 11 Exam Evening

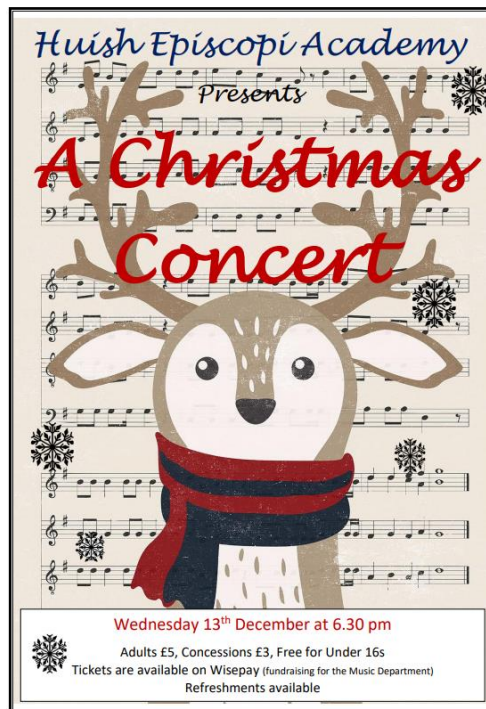


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Sporting Achievements-

Year 7 & 8 Hockey

From September we have run a mixed year 7&8 hockey training where they have worked on skills and teamwork to prepare for fixtures and better their skills. As the term has gone on the group has grown in numbers, finishing with 31 in attendance at the last training session! All the girls' and boys' that attended are always very positive and enthusiastic toward hockey, always wanting to improve their skill and mixing year groups at training to learn from each other and create challenge. Both year 7&8 were lucky enough to participate in a tournament at Millfield where both year groups enjoyed their day and got stuck in with all the games that they played - coming away with excitement in scoring against other schools and a really amazing team atmosphere where they all helped each other and had a go at playing the other schools. We look forward to hockey again next year and returning to their knowledge and skill to improve and get back on the pitch to play some more games. All in all it has been a great term of hockey, and their attitude and performance could not have been better.

Year 9, 10 and 11 Hockey Season

We've had some good numbers of girls and boys go along to year 9, 10 and 11 hockey, and they have been enjoying the full-pitch training games. The group played one game against Preston, and whilst we didn't win, the students enjoyed the competition against another school and played some skillful and fast-paced hockey. We have the rematch soon and hope to win on the next occasion.

Year 7 and 8 Hockey Season



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Castle Cary Rugby Tournament - November 29th

On Wednesday, November 29th, the year 7 and year 9 rugby teams enthusiastically participated in the Castle Cary rugby tournament, joining local schools in a spirited round-robin competition. This event served as a platform for our young athletes to showcase their talent, sportsmanship, and team spirit.

The tournament was structured as a round-robin format, ensuring each team had the opportunity to compete against all others. The evening was filled with intense matches, showcasing the passion and determination of our rugby players. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as the teams battled it out on the field.

After a series of hard-fought matches, both our year 7 and year 9 teams emerged with commendable results, finishing in second place. This achievement reflects the dedication and skill of our players, as well as the effective coaching and support they received in preparation for the tournament.

Despite the overall success, the year 7 team narrowly missed securing the top spot, with the deciding factor being the number of tries scored. The disappointment of falling just short of first place should not overshadow the remarkable effort and sportsmanship demonstrated by the team.

The boys were able to enjoy some well-deserved treats after their matches. Bacon butties and hot drinks provided a comforting and satisfying way to unwind and celebrate their efforts on the field.

Report: Sixth Form vs. Year 11 Basketball Showdown - December 5th

On Tuesday, December 5th, an exhilarating basketball showdown unfolded as the Sixth Form team clashed with the academy's Year 11 basketball team. The game played with enthusiasm and great sportsmanship proved to be a highly entertaining spectacle for all involved.



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From the opening tip-off, it was evident that both teams were committed to giving their best on the court. The intensity and skill displayed by the players contributed to the excitement of the match, keeping spectators on the edge of their seats throughout.

The atmosphere was charged with friendly competition and mutual respect, as the players demonstrated not only their athletic prowess but also their commitment to fair play and teamwork. The sportsmanship exhibited by both the Sixth Form and Year 11 teams added an extra layer of enjoyment to the game, creating an environment where the spirit of the sport shone brightly.

In the end, the Sixth Form students emerged victorious, securing a well-deserved triumph in this closely contested matchup. The joy and camaraderie among the team members were palpable, reflecting the dedication and hard work they invested in their training and preparation.

This basketball showdown not only showcased the talent and sportsmanship of our students but also provided a platform for fostering a sense of community and healthy competition within the academy. Such events are instrumental in promoting physical well-being, teamwork, and a positive school spirit.

Congratulations to the Sixth Form team for their triumph, and kudos to both teams for participating in a game that exemplified the true essence of sportsmanship. We look forward to witnessing more such exciting contests and celebrating the achievements of our dedicated student-athletes in the future.

Huish Young Leaders Support Somerton RFC Primary School Tag Tournament

On Wednesday the 6th, the Huish Young Leaders demonstrated exceptional leadership and officiating skills at the Somerton RFC Primary School Tag Tournament, overcoming challenging weather conditions to serve as fantastic ambassadors for the academy.

The tournament took place in less-than-ideal conditions, marked by persistent rain and strong winds. Despite these challenges, the Huish Young Leaders showcased resilience and professionalism throughout the event. Their commitment to officiating with integrity and enthusiasm under adverse weather conditions reflects the high standards of leadership instilled within the academy.

The young leaders played a crucial role in ensuring the smooth and fair progress of the tournament. Their officiating skills not only contributed to the success of the event but also exemplified the values of sportsmanship and dedication. By navigating the wet and windy conditions with grace and composure, the Huish Young Leaders emerged as positive role models for both the participating schools and their peers.

Huish Equestrian Team - County Show Jumping Hickstead Qualifier at Kings Sedgemoor

On November 26th, the Huish Episcopi Equestrian Teams participated in the County Show Jumping Hickstead Qualifier. The teams faced challenging conditions, starting at 7 am in 4-



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degree temperatures and rain. They walked the course to prepare, noting details crucial for their horses' performance.

The competition included schools like Millfield, Taunton School, Kings College, and others. Arthur Pyke, riding Merlin, secured 19th place out of 34 competitors. Jessie Cowling's exceptional riding placed her first in her class at 70cm, earning a spot in the Hickstead County Championships.

Hollie Ainsworth faced an unfortunate elimination despite a strong ride in her first ever competition, securing the team's second place among seven attending school teams at 70cm. Team two, led by Tabitha Curtis and Arthur Pyke, achieved commendable individual rankings in the 80cm category.

Despite challenges faced by riders like Rebecca and Alice Chapman, the team's collective effort placed them fourth overall in the 80cm category. Jessie Cowling's standout performance and qualification for the Hickstead County Championships were celebrated.

The teams demonstrated remarkable teamwork, supporting each other through successes and challenges, culminating in a memorable day for Team Huish at the event.

Football - Huish Sixth v Gryphon Sixth

Huish Sixth triumphed over Gryphon Sixth with a final score of 3-1 in an intense and competitive football match. The game showcased the skill and determination of both teams.

Throughout the match, Huish Sixth displayed exceptional teamwork and determination, dominating the field and effectively capitalising on scoring opportunities. Gryphon Sixth fought hard but struggled to keep up with Huish Sixth's offensive and defensive strategies.

With a strong display of individual talent and cohesive teamwork, Huish Sixth secured a well-deserved victory. Their coordinated efforts on the field were evident in their gameplay, allowing them to control the game and secure their goals.





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