

2 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We continue to expand the opportunities for students outside the classroom, and over the last two weeks we have seen many students involved in extracurricular trips and opportunities. These have included theatre visits, performing arts workshops, sporting fixtures and tournaments and a visit for Sixth Form students involved in the HE+ programme to work with the University of Cambridge on the Oxbridge admissions process. Our Spring [co-curriculum programme](#) is also up and running with a large number of clubs taking place each day. Please encourage your children to get involved in as many of these as possible.

We are excited that the information regarding the Huish Ski Trip for December 2024 will be launched for students in current Year 10,11 and 12 at the start of next week. Look out for further details.

We are also delighted to be running the Year 11 period 6 programme to support students as they prepare for the next round of mock examinations and also the summer exams. The schedule for this is shown below.

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
GCSE Art – this session is by invitation. Please speak to your teacher if you wish to attend.	GCSE Art – this session is by invitation. Please speak to your teacher if you wish to attend.	GCSE Art – this session is by invitation. Please speak to your teacher if you wish to attend.
CNAT Sport – Mr Walby's group in IT1 Mr Akinpelu's group in IT2.	English – En3	Computer Science and Creative Media – IT2 and IT3
D & T – please ask your D & T teacher for more details.	French – ML5 (Week 1 only)	CNAT Sport – Mr Walby's group IT1
Health and Social Care – SC5.		Drama – meet in the Main Hall (Week 1 only)
Music GCSE and BTEC – Mu 1 and Mu 2.		Food preparation and nutrition – DT7
Science drop-in session – Sc6		French ML5 (Week 2 only)
Science intervention class- Sc1		Geography - Gg4
GCSE Physics 11E1 and 11H1 – Sc4		German – ML7
		Spanish – ML6
		Textiles – DT6

Maths will be added to this schedule after the half term break, and we will send out details of the sessions ahead of them starting.

Equipment Reminder



**Respect
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Resilience**

Headteacher: Mrs Katie Boyes

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As we head towards the end of the half term this week, we would like to ask all parents and carers to support students with ensuring that they come to school each day with a school bag and the following equipment to allow students to fully access the learning quickly in each lesson. Please check that your child has this and if you need support, contact your child's tutor.

- 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

Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Attendance

Thank you for your ongoing support with attendance. Since January we have received a number of holiday requests, please can I remind parents and carers that we do not authorise term time leave.

Progress Reviews – Years 7-10, 12-13

Your child will be bringing home a paper copy of their review over the coming days. This will give you an update on their behaviour, effort and progress across the curriculum. If you have not received a review by Wednesday 7th February, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

History- Year 10 GCSE History Mock Examination

Students will take their first mock exam for the 'Medicine through Time' unit in two lessons in the first week back after the half term break (w/c 19th February). We are delighted to inform you that to support them in their preparation for this exam they will be taking a 2-hour examination technique masterclass on Tuesday 6th February during lessons 1 & 2. This class will be taught by Sally McCartney, the History Subject Adviser for United Learning who is vastly experienced in the Edexcel specification.

The History team have been preparing the students for the exam in class and the students should have been revising as part of their homework. We would be very grateful if you could encourage your young person to make sure they are completing their 'Daily Goals' on the Tassomai revision platform at least four times a week or daily, if possible, in the lead up to this exam (it should not take more than 10-15 minutes a day). They could also use their Pearson Revise online account to revise the 'Historic Environment' on the trenches in World War I element of this paper.

Sixth Form

The application and interview process for students to join us in the Sixth Form in September 2024 continues and we have been so impressed with the quality and applications and interviews from so many students. Although the deadline for applications was the end of January, we are still accepting them as there are still some places on some courses.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the Sixth Form offer, or if you would like to arrange a tour prior to applying. Applications can be made on the Sixth Form page on our website.

[Click here to apply](#)

Year 12 Apprenticeship Show trip- Wednesday 7th February for all Year 12 students.

In order for students to attend this trip, parental permission is required. If you have yet to give consent for your child to attend, please do so by Monday 5th February.

Ties

Please could parents check their child has a school tie and if it is a borrowed HEA one, please could it be returned to the House Base and a replacement bought. Ties can be ordered online using Wisepay. If you need any support in purchasing a tie, please contact your child's Head of Year.

Arbor Parent Portal and App

Logins have now been issued to parents and carers to access the parent portal. If you have any issues logging in, please contact the main office. As we are still in the process of updating Arbor please be mindful that not all information is currently available.

Parent Pay

The Academy will be moving its parental payment systems from Wisepay to ParentPay in the near future. Further information will be provided in due course.

School transport

Please note for any school bus/ travel queries you will need to contact school transport directly using the following number 0300 123 2224.

Performing Arts

Somerstage Musical Theatre School ran a performing arts workshop for us earlier this week (thanks to Somerset Music for setting this up). Students from Years 8, 9 and 10 learnt songs and dance moves from Grease.

Participating students who have selected Music as a GCSE option especially appreciated the chance to work on vocal exercises and learn a new song together.

All the students also really enjoyed the challenge of learning a dance, with many commenting that they wished the workshop could have lasted for longer!



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Somerstage commended the students on their enthusiasm and willingness to give it a go - well done to all!



Numbers Day- in aid of the NSPCC

The Maths Department have had a lovely day today celebrating National Number Day and raising funds for the NSPCC in the process.

“The NSPCC is the leading children's charity in the UK, specialising in child protection and dedicated to protecting children today to prevent abuse tomorrow.”

Half a million children suffer abuse in the UK every year. The NSPCC offer a lifeline to these children in the form of Childline and in school support. However, offering these services costs money and the annual Number Day is just one way that we can help to raise some of this much needed funding.

Students took part in a challenge to find teachers wearing number badges with specific numbers on them and then at break and lunch time were able to take part in the chocolate tombola.

The Maths Department are very grateful for the many, many kind donations of chocolate, without which this fun activity would not have been able to take place.

We are really pleased to announce that we raised a fabulous £175.00 and will be sending this off to the NSPCC on Monday.

SEN Coffee Morning- 21 February 2024

We are due to host our second SEN Information coffee morning on 21/02/2024, 10:00 – 12:00 pm.

There will be representatives from Somerset Council Community Inclusion and Local offer teams, Somerset Parent Carer Forum, Escape Support Group, Young Somerset and a few others joining us as well as SEN.SE, who will be promoting supported employment

opportunities for young people with SEND (perfect for those in Years 10 - 13 considering their next steps).

We warmly invite the parents/carers of students on the SEN register, or those undergoing assessment to attend.

Please could you complete the below registration form to confirm your intended attendance;

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

Do get in touch if you have any queries.

Mrs Woodward-King, Inclusion and Intervention Co-Ordinator

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.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. Boyes
Principal

KEY DATES FOR THIS HALF TERM	
2 nd January	INSET DAY
3 rd January	Start of term
4 th January	Sixth Form Open Evening
11 th January	Year 9 Parents' Evening
22 nd January	Year 11/13 Drama Trip
23 rd January	Year 9 Options Evening
29 th January	Year 11 Exam Evening
9 th February -19 th February	Half Term
8 th May	Year 8 Parents Evening
25 th April	Year 10 Parents Evening

Sporting Achievements this week:

Year 7 Netball v Wadham:

The girls turned up on the day with a great attitude and ready to go with no subs and being very new to the sport. They all chose a position, and we started the first quarter, the girls worked hard together and really showed what they could do finishing on 0-0 at end of first quarter. We swapped some positions around and carried on unfortunately leading to a 1-0 to Wadham by half time. With no subs available on the day the girls had a quick break and then straight into the last two quarters where the game ended on 2-0 Wadham. Although a loss on the score board the girls really enjoyed themselves and did not give up until the last whistle. It looks as though it will be a good season and a really strong team to come out of netball club.

Year 8 Netball:

The year 8's played their first netball fixture of the term v Wadham on Tuesday. They displayed some great build up play when transitioning from defence and came away with their first win! 7-3. Training continues and another game to come next week, so there is still plenty of opportunities for the girls to be selected for the squad.

Also, a huge well done to the outstanding turn out to training from year 7 and 8 yesterday, we had 40 girls come to practice. Keep it up!

Year 11 Netball:

The year 11 netball team travelled to Westfield on Thursday 1st of February for the Area netball tournament. We are very lucky to have a large Year 11 squad and the team demonstrated fantastic determination and skill throughout the tournament resulting in sixth place. Their spirit, sportsmanship and drive to be the best they could be was fantastic to see. It is also exciting for the future of Huish Sixth Sport as so many of the team are remaining with us to continue their post-16 studies.

31/01/24 Year 8 Football: Huish 11 - 2 King Arthur

Mr. Valente's coaching journey has taken a surprising turn from the glitz and glamour of five consecutive Scudettos to dabbling in various caretaker roles. However, he has once again embraced the challenge of leading a team – this time, a group of budding football talents with dreams as big as their backpacks.

Known for his past teams being dynamic and full of voice, Mr. Valente seems determined to instil the same work ethic and vocal prowess in his new charges. The year 8 football team, a blend of youthful exuberance and questionable pre-game snack choices, is now under the seasoned guidance of a coach who has seen it all.

In their opening fixture against King Arthur, Mr. Valente's team showcased their potential with a resounding 11-2 victory. The only Arthurian legend they encountered on the field was the tale of their opponent's disappearing defence. The scoreline suggests that this team is not just here to participate; they are here to dominate the school football scene.

31/01/24 Year 7 Football: Huish 0 - 7 Wadham



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In a thrilling kick-off to the season, the year 7 football team, under the strategic command of coach Akinpelu, descended upon Wadham for their first away fixture. The Huish Episcopi Academy's year 7's were filled with a heady mix of anticipation and nerves, as they braced themselves for the clash.

Despite their valiant efforts, the scoreline told a tale of its own - a 7-0 defeat at the hands of Wadham. But in the realm of sports, every setback is a setup for a comeback.

The defeat, while stinging, served as a rich source of education for the budding talents. Lessons were absorbed like sponges soaking up knowledge, and the experience will undoubtedly be the cornerstone for future triumphs. Mr. Akinpelu, the visionary orchestrator of this footballing odyssey, is already concocting a brew of improvement strategies.

23/01/23: Primary Basketball Tournament

Huish Primary School hosted a thrilling basketball competition on Tuesday, the 23rd, with an impressive turnout of 16 teams. The event was marked by fervour and sportsmanship, showcasing the budding talents of young athletes. Middlezoy and Othery emerged as victors, displaying exceptional teamwork and sportsmanship. Special thanks to officials Casper, Kian, and Freddie for their commendable job. The energetic atmosphere, cheers from the audience, and a positive environment contributed to the success of the tournament. The event highlighted the school's commitment to promoting physical activity, teamwork, and healthy competition among its students, making it a memorable and enjoyable experience for all involved.

20/01/23: Equestrian Success at 'Just for Schools' Showjumping Competition

On Saturday, January 20th, Amy Wadsley represented the school in a British Showjumping competition, competing at heights of 60cm and 70cm as an individual in the 'Just for Schools' League. The competition, held in conjunction with The Pony Club and British Riding Clubs, is part of a qualifying period from July 1st to June 30th each year. Amy's stellar performance in the 60cm round, riding her horse Pandora, secured her a first-place finish, earning 15 points and placing her 52nd out of 92 for the HEA team Huish Hotshots. Despite a stirrup mishap in the 70cm round, Amy's exceptional riding skills earned her 8th place, contributing 3 points to the school's total. Overall, Amy's achievements have placed the school 25th out of 55 on the scoreboard. The journey continues, with the National Finals scheduled for the British Showjumping National Championships at Stoneleigh Park in August. Congratulations to Amy, and best of luck to the entire equestrian team as they aim for further success and points for HEA.



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