

St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Well, here we are at the start of December already! The weather has finally turned a little wintry although not for long according to the forecasts!

Year 11 Media students had an amazing experience at Pinewood Studios which really brought the subject to life for them - quite literally! Thank you to Mrs Gregory and Mrs Manning for facilitating this opportunity. Keen musicians were excited to be given the chance to attend a concert at Writhlington featuring guitarist Manus Noble - they certainly enjoyed themselves and learnt a lot from Manus' conversation about his musical endeavours.

And then, of course, there was the social event of the year - the PTA Fashion Show Fundraiser. What a brilliant evening it was. Huge thanks to the PTA for the wonderful raffle and refreshments and, a particular thank you to Mrs Gunton, for organising the actual fashion show with Travelling Trends. We can't wait for the next PTA extravaganza - they really do a wonderful job and their fundraising endeavours are always well attended and well worth attending.

Next week is the Christmas Showcase; I am looking forward to seeing all the acts - I am also excited to see all the Christmas jumpers next Thursday in aid of Save the Children. (A reminder that the Christmas jumper is in place of the school jumper for one day only. All other uniform should be worn as normal.)

Mrs Bevan



01.12.23

NEXT WEEK
ASSEMBLY
FOCUS
Social Media

Coming soon...
7th Dec -
Christmas
Jumper Day (£1
or more
donations for
save the
children)
14th Dec - Y8
Parents' Eve
19th Dec - End
of Term
4th Jan - all
students back to
school

[Click here for
Extra-Curricular
Activities](#)

[Click here for term
dates](#)



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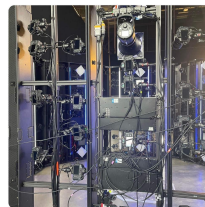
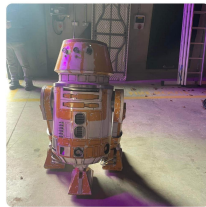
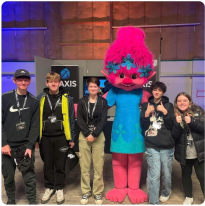
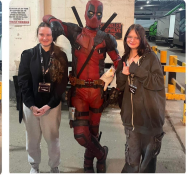
KINDNESS

Futures Film Festival - Pinewood Studio

The Year 11 Media Studies group have had a great day at the Futures Film Festival, held at the home of James Bond and Star Wars.

The day was dedicated to educating young people about the broad range of careers available in the film and TV industry and connected with our core value of ambition.

From Storm Troopers and Chewbacca, to Deadpool and Batman; we met a range of people associated with the industry and were in awe of the skills and knowledge they shared.



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PTA Fashion Show

Anticipation was high as the audience gathered waiting to see who would be modelling the range of fashionable threads on offer. Huge applause and cheers erupted as our very own supermodels Mrs Gregory, Ms Kench, Mrs Loud, Mrs Manning and Mrs Potter strutted their stuff on the catwalk. Never mind New York Fashion Week - St Dunstan's Fashion Show sparkled and shone!

Our models, although professing to be nervous beforehand, took to their new roles like ducks - or should I say swans - to water. They modelled the clothes beautifully and undertook super quick changes off stage. Well done and thank you to them all. Travelling Trends put on a professional show with music and commentary which we all enjoyed immensely.

Thank you to the PTA who organised the event to fundraise for the school library and organised a fantastic raffle as well as providing refreshments. Watch this space for the amount raised. This event follows hot on the heels of staffing the car park for both the carnival and the Frost Fayre - the PTA are tireless in their efforts to support the school. New members always welcome, be it for a one off event or a longer term commitment.

Please email stdunstanscommunitypta@gmail.com if you would like more information.



'Belles of the ball!'



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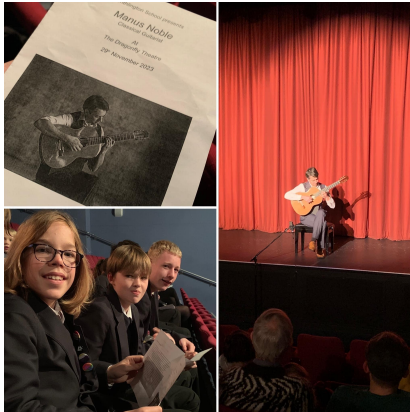
Manus Noble - Classical Guitar Concert

What a wonderful experience for the students on Wednesday evening, travelling to Writhlington School to enjoy a performance by professional guitarist Manus Noble.

Manus is one of Europe's leading classical guitarists, known for his strong unique sound, original compositions and varied recital programmes.

Students witnessed his resilience when Manus tuned his guitar to various complex tunings and admired his ambition when he talked about his professional career whilst displaying his beautiful guitar playing.

We look forward to visiting Writhlington again in February, for a concert with pianist Daniel Lehardt.



Well done!

Well done to Finley B in Year 7 for walking the streets on carnival night for the second year running to raise money for St Dunstons School. We are very proud!



Milkshake with the Head - Year 10

Mrs Bevan and Mrs Easterbrook were pleased to reward the following students with a Milkshake and treat at breaktime today. They have been embodying our TRACK values and were nominated by teachers for this reward. Each week a different Year Group will get nominated. ... Riley D, Lucas G, Roxy H, Jack M, Oliver R, Luthfia S, John W-R, Mollie W, Katie-Marie W
Well done to all!



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Tellmi App promoted to students

We are pleased to announce a partnership with the Tellmi app which Mr Oakwood launched in assembly today. Below please find a letter from Tellmi to parents and carers explaining how the app works:

Dear parents and carers,



One of the best ways for a young person to manage their wellbeing is to share how they are feeling. We are delighted to be partnering with your school to share our expertise and provide additional support for students. Your child can add their school when they register their account.

[Here](#) is a short video to explain how it works. Tellmi can be downloaded from Google Play & Apple App Store.

Tellmi is a multi-award winning, age-banded, peer support app that the NHS deems safe for people as young as 11. The app has been independently evaluated by the Evidence Based Practice Unit at University College London and is evidenced to improve mental health in young people.

Users can anonymously post about anything that is worrying them and receive supportive replies from other people of a similar age. All posts and replies are checked by trained moderators and are published within 30 minutes. High-risk posts are redirected to the in-house counselling team for immediate support.

Tellmi features a comprehensive support directory with over 600 resources and educational resources and users can access 24/7 crisis support in two clicks. Both the feed and directory can be filtered by topic, eg 'exams', 'friends', 'autism' which makes it easy for young people to join relevant conversations and access appropriate support.

"I actually didn't realise how much better this app can make someone feel. I love being able to ask my own questions and just the experience of trying to help even one other person helps me to feel happier too." –Tellmi User

For more information about how we keep your child safe, our approach to confidentiality, or any other question please visit <https://www.tellmi.help/safeguarding>.

Yours Faithfully, Kerstyn Comley Co-CEO



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Action For Happiness - December Calendar

Now it's December it is time for a new Action for Happiness Calendar. This month is all about Kindness, one of our core TRACK values. Why not try to do small things to show kindness this December?

December Kindness 2023

MONDAY



4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about

TUESDAY



5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely

WEDNESDAY



6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find

THURSDAY



7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today

FRIDAY

1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others

SATURDAY

2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are

SUNDAY

3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment

11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank

12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today

13 See how many different people you can smile at today

14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one

15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day

16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to

17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you

18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving

19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated

20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need

21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you

22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed

23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness

24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh



25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!

26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature

27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat

28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy

29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people

30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why

31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2024

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Christmas Card Competition

All entries should be submitted on A5 white paper with name and tutor group on the back

All entrants will receive 25 TRACK points

The winner will have their card made into the school Christmas Card and will receive a £10 amazon voucher

All entries are to go to tutors or Mrs Potter and the deadline is TODAY

Previous winner



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Year 8 Parents' Evening

We can't wait to meet the parents of our Year 8 students at our parents evening event.

The event is on Thursday 14th December: 16.00 - 19.00

Please make your booking on our Talaxy Portal software.

Please contact the office if you need help accessing talaxy: secretary@stdunstanschool.com.

See you on the 14th.

Christmas Showcase

Our Christmas Showcase evening is coming up on Thursday 7th December at 5pm!

If you would like to come along to see our wonderful students act, sing and perform then tickets are available next week from Mrs Hopton in music..

Tickets are priced at £2 for students and £3 for adults, raising money for our school production later in the year.



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REMINDER National Poetry Competition - Nature

Mrs Gregory is looking for entries for a national poetry competition about Nature. The theme of the competition is 'Nature Unbound' and can focus on any aspect of Nature. The word 'unbound' means unrestrained or not tied down so it is about Nature being free and unfettered. Poems must be a maximum of 30 lines and the prize money is £50! There will be a prize for the tutor group with the most entries!

Christmas Trees

Our wonderful PTA continue with their tireless efforts to raise money for the school.

They have joined forces with Wookey Hub Christmas Trees to add a further fundraising opportunity.

The address is:

Wookey Hub, High Street, Wookey, BA5 1JZ

For further details, please email:

stdunstanscommunitypta@gmail.com

Thank you to the PTA for all your hard work.

Wookey Hub

Christmas Trees

Returning for our 8th year

On Sale from Friday
the 24th of November

Once again raising money for our
Local Schools with Every Sale



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Holiday Activity Calendar

The Somerset Council Community, Inclusion and Activity Team have created a Christmas holiday activity calendar for children with a disability or additional needs.

The events start on Monday 18 December, with some offering concessions for students in receipt of free school meals.

All timings and contact details are included in the shared images. If you would like more information, please contact ciateam@somerset.gov.uk



Monday 18 Dec

Purple Elephant
St Carlos, Fernham Lane, Frome, BA11 5AL.
Family Holiday Fun Activities for the whole family plus a healthy meal. Festive crafts and quizzes, magic and balloons, and presents from Santa. 10am-2pm. For all ages. £2 per child suggested donation. Free if in receipt of free school meals.
To book, please email [Rebecca Harrison](mailto:Rebecca.Harrison@purpleelephant.org.uk) or call 07935 242948

Tuesday 19 Dec

Purple Elephant
St Carlos, Fernham Lane, Frome, BA11 5AL.
Family Holiday Fun Activities for the whole family plus a healthy meal. Festive crafts and quizzes, magical entertainment and presents from Santa. 10am-2pm. For all ages. £2 per child suggested donation. Free if in receipt of free school meals.
To book, please email [Rebecca Harrison](mailto:Rebecca.Harrison@purpleelephant.org.uk) or call 07935 242948

Wednesday 20 Dec

Purple Elephant
Frome Cricket Club, Rodden Road, Frome, BA11 2AH.
Family Holiday Fun Activities for the whole family plus a healthy meal. Festive crafts and quizzes, magic and balloons, and presents from Santa's team. For all ages. £2 per child suggested donation. Free if in receipt of free school meals.
To book, please email [Rebecca Harrison](mailto:Rebecca.Harrison@purpleelephant.org.uk) or call 07935 242948

Thursday 21 Dec

Remesh Woodsmore
Young Wood, Staple Fitzpaine, TA3 3AZ.
Seasonal hotpot and canapés cooking activities. 11am-2pm. For 2-18yrs. £16 per family.
To book, please call [Sarah Hobday](mailto:Sarah.Hobday@remeshwoodsmore.org.uk) or email sarah@remeshwoodsmore.org.uk

Friday 22 Dec

AN
Ank at Egwood, TA10 5GL.
Christmas Activity Day comprising of outdoor activities including, meeting our animals, colour games, Christmas themed arts and crafts, campfire and hotting Marshmallows. 10am-2pm. For 5-10th Birthdays. £3 a head for young people. £3 a head for parents and carers to cover lunch and refreshment costs.
To book, please call [Matt Loughton](mailto:Matt.Loughton@an.org.uk) on 07751 645454 or email Matt@an.org.uk

In the Mix Project
The Hub Centre, Hattfield, South Street, Westcombe, BA2 0NE.
A Christmas Mystery - what's in store for stress and mood? Craft activities, local mystery walk, hot chocolate making, outdoor cooking activity. Transport might be available for those who live locally, please enquire when booking. 10am-2pm. For all ages. £3 per child. £3 per sibling.
To book, please email [Nick Horner](mailto:Nick.horner@inthemixproject.org.uk)

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Ank at Egwood, TA10 5GL.
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To book, please call [Matt Loughton](mailto:Matt.Loughton@an.org.uk) on 07751 645454 or email Matt@an.org.uk

WHAT'S ON ACROSS THE WEEK?

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd December
Brookside Academy, Street, BA16 0PE
A variety of indoor and outdoor activities, including arts & crafts, cooking, music and sensory play, sports and games for 4-13 years (must be school aged). 10am-3pm. £2.75p. For 14-16th birthdays. 10am-3pm. £3.00p.
To book, please email [Sandra Colefax](mailto:Sandra.Colefax@extendedschool@brooksideacademy.co.uk) at extendedschool@brooksideacademy.co.uk

THE MOUND SCHOOL
Wells Leisure Centre, Charter Way, Wells, BA5 2PB.
An Inclusive Christmas Fun Day for families with a meal and activities provided as well as a small gift and support for families who might need. 10am-2pm. For ages 4-18yrs. £1 per person.
To book, please email enquiries@themound.co.uk

Graciel Ridge
Dorset Woods, Dorset, Langston, TA10 8JZ.
Inclusive Woodland Fun Day for children with parent/carer or option to drop-off. Extended play, natural arts and crafts, nature discovery, games, camp cooking, doughcraft, stories and story friends. 10am-2pm. For ages 4-18yrs. £15 per child. £12.50 per sibling. Under 10s free. Parent carer free.
To book, please call 0774876118 or email gracielridge@forestschooldorset.co.uk

Community Inclusion Activity Team Family Day
Westcombe Entertainment Venue, Westcombe Close, West, BA2 2DQ.
Enjoy the pantomime 'Children in a Noised Theatre environment, adapted for those with an autism spectrum condition, sensory communication disorders, learning difficulties or hearing impairments. 11am-3pm. Please arrive by 10.45 at the latest. £12.50 per person.
To book, please call 07777 337374 or email ciateam@somerset.gov.uk

Stephens-G2 group
Activity packs tailored to the young person's interests and abilities. Including puzzles, crafting, song and games. Hand delivered to local St Stephen Market or sent by Royal Mail. £2 per pack.
To order, please contact becky@stephens-g2.org.uk

Community Inclusion Activity Team
Winter or Christmas themed activity packs, containing arts & crafts, puzzles, recipes and more! £3 per pack. Payment in cash on delivery please.
To order, please email ciateam@somerset.gov.uk by 4th December with your preference for 'Winter' or 'Christmas' themed packs, your child's name, age, nature of disability, address and phone number. Delivery sat: 11th December.



Be Kind Awards - Opportunity to nominate

The Be Kind awards is a set of awards to celebrate kindness amongst schools and young people.

There are 7 award categories but categories 2, 4, 6 and 7 are relevant to us as a school

Secondary Star School

This can cover the whole school or a specific year group. Nominations must detail how kindness has been promoted and if possible the impact it has had on the pupils, the outside community and/or the staff

John Caudwell Community Kindness

This is for Individual pupils or groups of students in all year groups. The act of kindness must have been shown to the community, outside of school. Nominations must be able to demonstrate how their kindness has impacted the community

Star Pupil

This is for individual pupils from all year groups. The act of kindness must have been shown within a school environment. Nominations must be able to demonstrate how their kindness has impacted others

Star Teacher

This is to nominate a teacher that has gone above and beyond to demonstrate kindness. The act of kindness must have been carried out at school or for pupils outside of school. Nominations must be able to demonstrate how their kindness has impacted others

Nominations will be open from Monday 3rd July 2023 until Friday 12th April 2024.

The link to the Be Kind Awards website is [here](#) which has more information and how you can submit nominations.



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Students logging on to their Talaxy accounts from home

If any of you are struggling to access your child's Talaxy account at home, please find some instructions below. There are two routes to use:

Route 1 - *useful for all their school work*

- Students must make sure when they log onto the computer, they are signed in on their **school email account**.
- They should then go to the following **link**

<https://sites.google.com/stdunstansschool.com/stdunstansstudentgateway/home>

- Once there, press the **Talaxy link button**.
- Then click '**Log In**' located at the top right
- Then click '**Google**' icon at the bottom right where it asks for login details.
- *You do not have to sign in here if you are logged on with school email already, just click the google button and it will take you straight through*

Route 2 - *Talaxy only*

- Students should go to the following **link** below.

<https://stdunstans.talaxy.app>

- Click '**Log In**' located at the top right.
- The student will need to use their **school email account** to log on if they are not logged on to the computer already on their school account.



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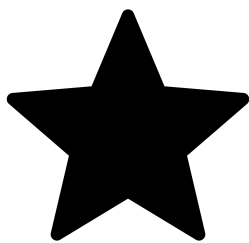


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KINDNESS

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



100%
Attendance

95%+
Attendance

92-93%
Attendance

Below
90%
Attendance

96%
Attendance

Absences
add up

Be in to win - 100% attendance will be rewarded with TRACK Stars and chance to win Amazon vouchers

82% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

77% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

53% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

43% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

This is the target equalling at most 8 days off per year

Missing 2 days per month means you miss 10% of school

