

St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The first two weeks of term have flown by - partly because we have had so much going on. There is much more to come this term - have you booked tickets for the PTA Fashion Show yet? This promises to be a very exciting event, not least as we shall see which staff will be modelling the clothes! I am looking forward to the evening very much indeed - thank you to the PTA for all their efforts in organising this and so many other fundraising events.

Today we have marked Armistice Day with a whole school assembly, and a minute's silence. I am always moved by the way the whole school shows such respect during the silence and this year was no exception. It was also good to see students who belong to organisations such as the cadets wearing their uniforms to school today.

We have welcomed several new staff to the school - in the SEND team we have Ms Harrison and Ms Gay, joining as pastoral manager is Mrs Mundy and Mr Wardle will be joining us as our new attendance officer - welcome to them all.

In January, Mrs Haden will be joining us as our SENDCO - some of you will have had contact with her already as she is working with us on Thursdays this term, together with Mrs Pillinger who is with us for three days a week as assistant SENDCO; we are delighted to have them both on board.
Mrs Bevan



10.11.23

**NEXT WEEK
ASSEMBLY
FOCUS**
Anti-Bullying
Week, World
Kindness Day
and Children in
need

Coming soon...
13th-22nd Nov
Year 11 Mock
Exams
15th Nov - STEM
workshop for 6
Year 8 students
7th Dec -
Christmas
Jumper Day

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

[Click here for term
dates](#)



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KINDNESS

Armistice/Remembrance Day

It was wonderful to see so many students in uniform for today. Students were extremely respectful and had the opportunity to participate in our minutes silence at 11am.



**WHEN YOU GO HOME
TELL THEM OF US AND SAY
FOR YOUR TOMORROW
WE GAVE OUR TODAY**



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Anti-bullying Week / World Kindness Day / Children in Need

Next week it is Anti-Bullying Week, Monday is World Kindness day & Friday is Children in Need day.

Below are the Activities that are taking place during the week:

- **All week – Odd sock day.** Whilst this is officially nationwide only on Monday, St Dunstan's are inviting students to wear odd socks all week, to show their support of the anti-bullying campaign - **£1 donations**
- **All week – TRACK Points for Kindness.** Staff are encouraged to give out TRACK Points when they see Kindness in Action
- **Mon – Blind date with a Book.** Wrapped up books will be hidden around the school for students to find
- **Mon - Thur – Kindness Box.** A kindness box will be in the main lobby area with cards for students and staff to nominate those students (include tutor group) they have seen being kind at all this year – these messages will then be delivered by prefects so they can be handed out
- **Tues / Wed – Key Stage assemblies on anti-bullying**
- Worry Boxes currently being created to be placed in tutor rooms
- **Tues / Wed – Tutors will be delivering a session on 'How banter can become bullying'**
- **Fri lunchtime 'Children in Need' [Burpee Challenge](#).** Pay to participate (min 20p). Year 11 prefects will be coming to the gym to help with counting the burpees and we will see which tutor group/house wins! Who will it be?



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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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Children's Hospice South West

Children's Hospice have asked us to share the following flyer about their event on the 3rd December - for further details please contact them directly.



Thursday Lunch Club

Over the past few weeks the Thursday Wellbeing group has been meeting for crafts, cookies, and conversations. This week we focused on remembrance with stone painting. Each week we meet together to provide a space for our young people to relax, reflect, have fun, and talk about a range of issues concerning life, school, and the big questions, as well as lots of laughs about our favourite movies and books.



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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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Important Reminders

- 1) Students should **not** bring nuts into school in their packed lunch, we have a number of students with serious nut allergies.
- 2) Students should not bring in energy drinks. These are prohibited.
- 3) Students should not bring in deodorant sprays - as we have many students who suffer from serious asthma.

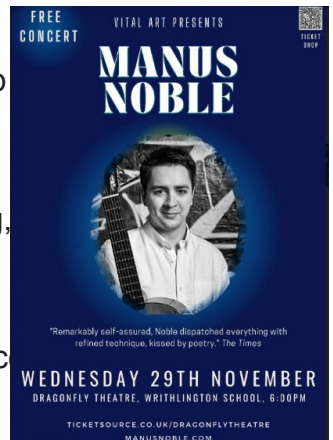


Guitar Concert opportunity

We have an exciting opportunity to take a group of students to a guitar concert by professional musician Manus Noble. He is one of the UK's leading classical guitarists, known for his strong, unique sound, original compositions and varied recital programmes.

We will be taking the school minibus to the concert on Wednesday 29th November at Writhlington School in Radstock at 6pm and is free to attend.

If you are interested in attending the concert, please see Mrs Hopton for a letter. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.



Milkshake with the Head - Year 7

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.

Bethany A, Ethan C, William C, Rhiley F, Charlie K, Isabel K, Matilda M, August M, Ava N, Lily S

Well done to all!



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Sports Fixtures updates

Year 7 Rugby @ Cheddar Valley RFC 18/10/23 - Match Report

Our Year 7's recently took part in a tournament hosted at Cheddar Valley RFC, bringing together schools from across the Mendips for a very soggy, but thoroughly enjoyable, afternoon of rugby. The first match of the group stage was against Churchill School in what turned out to be a baptism of fire for our boys, some of whom had never played a game of rugby before. Our opponents were well-drilled and showed good skill to spread the ball wide into space, and despite some stern defensive efforts from Zander I, Alex N and Fin B they ran away with the match scoring 6 tries to 1. However, there was no time to dwell on the loss as we played our next match straight after, taking on The Blue School from Wells. The boys had learned a lot from their first match and showed a significant improvement as their defensive wall proved tough to breach, whilst they also retained possession much better and were rewarded with a couple of great tries after a number of strong carries through the middle created space outside. Despite this, the Blue School battled back and we lost narrowly, heading inside to shelter from the torrential rain and cold gusts of wind to re-group before the final game of the day. A cup of hot chocolate helped to thaw out the boys and they played their best rugby of the day in their final match against Fairlands, with Cole C and Fletcher A scoring some brilliant long range tries to end the day on a positive note. Well done to everyone, overcoming adversity and battling through the weather with smiles on their faces.

Player of the Tournament:

Cole C



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Sports Fixtures updates

Year 7/8 Rugby @ Fairlands 17/10/23 - Match Report

Following the success at the triangular event at Tor Rugby Club, our Year 7's had their first opportunity to represent the school with a mixed-year development match at Fairlands Middle School. Whilst the scoring was dominated by our opposition, there were a number of notable performances worth mentioning. Oz R and Elliot H led by example, leading in defence and making plenty of ground with some powerful carries and plenty of energy throughout the match as they rallied their teammates and kept morale high. Likewise Jasper T and Tyler L showed brilliant grit and determination to make plenty of try-saving tackles and turnovers. Fin B and Fin S also deserve a shout-out for their bravery, putting their bodies on the line to make tackles on opposition players that towered over them, showing that the bigger they are, the harder they fall. Despite losing 8 tries to 2, this team showed plenty of resilience and should be proud of their efforts!

Player of the Match - Elliot H



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Sports Fixtures updates

Year 8 Rugby Tor RFC - Match Report

Back in early October, a squad of Year 8 students took the short trip across to Tor RFC for an evening of rugby coaching sessions and competitive fixtures against Crispin and Whitstone. After a really beneficial coaching session, with great technical insight about scrummaging from the Tor Rugby age groups coaches, our first match was against Whitstone. The team started a little tentatively, which was to be expected having not played rugby together for almost a year, and conceded an early try. But they rallied hard and fought back to bring us back level with a well-worked try after some good continuity.

Confidence had begun to rise and the team grew into the game in the second half, lifted with superb defence from Jenson M and Tyler L, they scored 2 further tries to win the match. Feeling great after this success, it was now time for the much anticipated match against Crispin. Strong defence from Ollie N, Jacob D, Tyler-Jay A and Elliot W created chances from turnover ball for Corey P to use his pace to score in the corner. Sonny C led the side well and organised the team on both sides of the ball, whilst Tyler J showed flawless technique to set up a solid platform at the scrum. Another scintillating score from Corey P after he showed his speed to beat the opposition on a kick chase put us firmly in control and by the final whistle we had scored 4 tries in total to secure 2 wins from 2 on the night.

Well done to the entire squad, and especially to the **Player of the Day** - Tyler J!



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Fashion Show - PTA event

Don't Miss Out! Book Now! Women's Fashion Show Event - 30th November 2023

Our brilliant PTA are hosting a fashion show event for the people of Glastonbury and neighbouring areas!

It is a chance to have a fun night out before Christmas with friends; enjoy the fashion show and buy some high street brands at bargain prices!

Wondering which staff will be modelling the garments on the catwalk?

Buy tickets for yourself and friends via ParentPay today and find out!

If you would like to support the raffle by donating a prize please contact the PTA via email: stdunstanscommunitypta@gmail.com



FASHION SHOW

An exciting evening of fashion & fun hosted by
Travelling Trends

A ladies night out with a difference!
As well as a live CATWALK SHOW,
there is ample time to try on & buy
this season's High Street & Branded fashions.

All at bargain prices!!



November 30th 2023

Doors open 6:30 pm

Show starts 7:00 pm

St. Dunstan's School
Wells Road, Glastonbury
BA6 9BY

Tickets available on Parentpay.

Ticket includes a glass of wine (or
alternative).

Organised by St. Dunstan's
Community PTA.

In aid of the renovation of St.
Dunstan's School library.



Travelling Trends
Fundraising Fashion Shows

We
Accept
All
Major
Credit
Cards

www.travellingtrends.com



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Parking for 18th November and 25th November

Saturday 18th
November 2023

CARNIVAL PARKING

AT ST DUNSTAN'S SCHOOL
WELLS RD, GLASTONBURY
BA6 9BY

///fries.reflected.evidently

Raising funds
for the PTA

£5

OPEN FROM 3PM

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER
2023

FROST FAYRE PARKING

AT

ST DUNSTAN'S SCHOOL, WELLS
ROAD, GLASTONBURY BA6 9BY

(/////fries.reflected.evidently)

OPEN FROM

11AM

£5

PER CAR

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE PTA



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Careers and Post-16

New school careers advisor

First of all - a very warm welcome to Beth Church, St Dunstan's new careers advisor that begun this week and has had an excellent time getting to know the interests and intentions of our year 11 cohort. Beth will be working with KS4, and eventually our year 9 to help them to discover and decide what opportunities lie ahead.

Exeter Maths School

Exeter Maths School are offering tours and taster sessions on Saturday 18th November. The school is highly reputable and for anybody interested in STEM, this is a great opportunity. Sign up can be found in the following [link](#).

Strode College

Strode College have an open evening on the 14th November. For those interested in finding out what Strode has to offer, this is a perfect opportunity to meet potential teachers and students for the following year. Students can register their interest [here](#).



RateMyApprenticeship

RateMyApprenticeship are offering a virtual event that explores what apprenticeships have to offer and in which industries you can complete an apprenticeship on November 30th between 17:00-19:30. To register your interest, please follow the [link](#).



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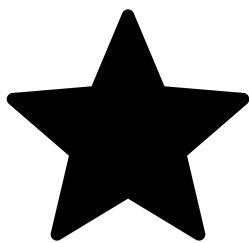


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ATTENDANCE MATTERS



100%
Attendance

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

95%+
Attendance

82% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

92-93%
Attendance

77% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

Below 90%
Attendance

53% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

96%
Attendance

43% of students achieve 5 GCSEs grade 5+

Absences add up

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

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

