

St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY

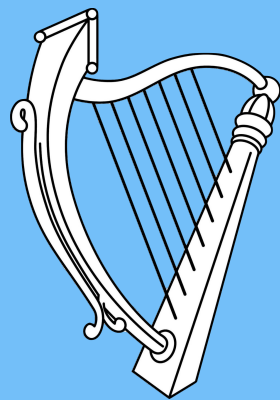
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

We have had a wonderful week at school with lots of Year 6 students and their parents coming to have a look round during our open mornings. Without exception, they have commented on how polite, friendly and welcoming our students are and how impressed they have been with the lessons they have seen in progress. It has been very pleasing to see students wearing their uniform with pride - thank you to parents for your support with this.

It was good to see so many of our year 7 parents here for an information evening on Thursday. The evening gave an overview about life at St Dunstan's and allowed time for informal chats with the leadership team, Mrs Easterbrook and the year 7 tutors.

The trip to the Longleat Conference took place this week - of which there is more in this newsletter; what a wonderful event for our students to be involved in. Thank you to Mrs Hutchison for organising this. Next week sees the trip to the Houses of Parliament and the Year 7 trip to Vivary Park - I am looking forward to hearing all about these great opportunities!

Mrs Bevan



13/10/23

Assembly
Focus:
Mental
Health
Awareness
&
Anti-Bullying



TRUTH



RESILIENCE



AMBITION



COMMUNITY



KINDNESS

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

A polite reminder that the NEA 1 practical exams are next week. Please contact Mrs Potter if you have any questions about this. The students are prepared for this exam and have been working hard this term in preparation for this.

Wildlife Conservation Student Conference

KS4 Science and Geography students were fortunate enough to attend a student conference held at Longleat yesterday. Students were introduced to different aspects of wildlife conservation with presentations from Longleat's own specialists, they then had the opportunity to explore the safari park. Student behaviour was fantastic and they all showed true TRACK values throughout.

Well done everyone!

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Alpha C and their band Absolute Zero. They have played two charity fundraisers over the past couple of weeks.

On the 30th September they played at "Mind over Metal" at The Cobblestones in Bridgwater, with several other metal bands. This raised around £300 towards Bath Mind.

On Sunday 8th October they played at Glastonbury Football Club in aid of Issac's Army, a fundraiser for a little boy aged 4 with stage 4 cancer, which raised a total of £1155.

What a wonderful achievement and for such good causes too - great examples of our core values of Community and Kindness



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Careers & Post-16

Somerset County Council have published [The Parent's Guide to What's Next](#) a very helpful guide that explores the different routes available to students after leaving school.

Goalbridge events have a variety of student taster days, live events and pre-recorded webinars available including:

- Study Smarter | University of Sunderland | 19/10
- A World of Opportunity | HSBC | 01/11
- Building the Future with Engineering | Siemens | 08/11
- Why University? | University of Sunderland | 21/11
- The Lowdown on Banking | HSBC | 29/11
- STEM-tacular Christmas Quiz | Siemens | 01/12
- Real Journeys with UCL Student Ambassadors | UCL | 06/12

Pre-booking is required and the booking form can be found [here](#)

Aster Group have created a programme that will allow you to explore the career options available including customer service, planning, sales and marketing, maintenance and more. This is a perfect experience for anyone considering further study or apprenticeships in the property industry. You may be more interested in the business roles or perhaps you are interested in urban planning or regeneration perhaps linked to studying Geography or Design or Design and Technology.

A few points to highlight:

- The programme is self led and should take approx 6 hours to complete
- There are interactive quizzes and activities
- The experience could be a great addition to your CV or application to college, university or an apprenticeship
- You will receive a certificate upon completion

Important Dates

Deadline for applications is **18th October**

Programme can be accessed from **23rd October to 3rd November**

Contact Mr Ward for more information on how to apply.



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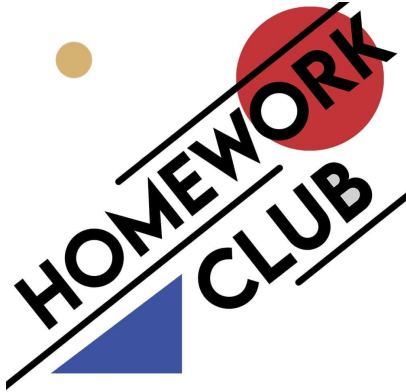


KINDNESS

Homework Club

Homework Club is held in the Learning Hub every day between 3.15 - 4.15pm . It is open to all students.

Students have the opportunity to use computers and resources in a quiet environment.



Optimistic October - Action for Happiness

When the world feels uncertain, it's helpful to stay hopeful. Things can get better.

This month why not try Action for Happiness #OptimisticOctober and find ways to take positive steps forward and help others do the same?

Optimistic October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today
8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation
15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you
22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?
29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together

The bottom of the calendar features several small illustrations: a globe with a hand pointing to it, a person climbing a mountain with a flag, a person holding a trophy, a person reading a book, a plant growing from a seed, and a person walking with a backpack.

TRUTH



RESILIENCE



AMBITION



COMMUNITY



KINDNESS

Community and Kindness Ambassadors Launch

This week we had our very first meeting for students that are interested in becoming Community and Kindness Ambassadors.

At the meeting we had a range of students from all year groups wanting to get involved. Some of their ideas are as follows:

- Mini-movies promoting kindness and explaining why different forms of bullying are wrong.
- Cards to give out to students who have shown kindness to others.
- Set up a monthly student Newsletter to promote the importance of Kindness, talk about random acts of kindness that have been witnessed and have an agony aunt to support students.
- Work with the Community Police to promote kindness and community.

Mr Atkinson has met with the community police who are going to come in and assist the ambassadors on their mission to spread kindness in our community and help train the ambassadors as junior leaders of the community.

If your child would like to get involved the next meeting will be held in the drama studio on Wednesday lunch time.

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

As part of the mental health week Mr Oakwood delivered an assembly on Friday outlining the difference between being unkind and bullying. St Dunstan's School has historically had very low levels of both unkindness and bullying, but like any school, it does occasionally happen. The school has robust procedures to deal with this, but often, due to GDPR, students will be unaware what has taken place. Mr Oakwood therefore went through exactly what happens when the school has a report of bullying and explained to the students all the steps that are taken in each case.

The school always strives to be even better and during the assembly he discussed some of the further measures, decided by both the school and the Student Council, to support students who have experienced bullying or have been the perpetrators of bullying. There are many new ideas in the pipeline, and include making St Dunstan's School an Anti-Bullying Community, and having anti-bullying ambassadors to represent this, Those interested in being our first anti-bullying ambassadors should pass their names to their tutors.



TRUTH



RESILIENCE



AMBITION

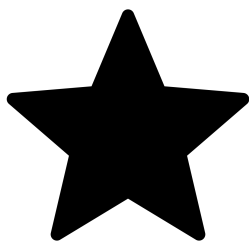


COMMUNITY



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

