

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Families and Parents

Please read our newsletter to keep you up to date with everything going on in the school.

Year 11 Exams

Well done to our Year 11s for a really positive start to the GCSE window. We continue to be really impressed with the engagement in after school sessions and googlemeets. It was also very pleasing to see that St Dunstan's School now sits top of the trust Seneca league table for student engagement. We know all these little things will make a big difference to students' final outcomes! Keep up the hard work and good luck for next week.

The school will be running half term revision sessions. If your child has not signed up for these yet, please follow the link below-

<https://forms.gle/YhnH17MTr1oPoP2f9>

Arbor Update

It has been drawn to our attention that many of our communications are ending up in people's junk/spam folders. We advise that all families check emails carefully to ensure that you receive emails in a timely manner.

For any other questions and queries regarding Arbor or the Parent Platform, please do not hesitate to contact main reception via secretary@stdunstans.mnsp.org.uk



16.05.25

NEXT WEEK
ASSEMBLY
FOCUS:

**Celebration
Assemblies**

Key Dates

Thursday
22nd May
Book Awards
trip to Frome
College

Last day of
term 23rd May

Half term
week begins
Monday 26th
May

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

[Click here for
term dates](#)



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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

Wb 19.5- GCSE Exams continue

23.5.25 Half Term- Please see details above regarding Year 11 Revision sessions

Wb 9.6- Year 10 Trial Exams begin. We will contact Year 10 families shortly with further details

Items to celebrate

At the end of the week, we said goodbye to our longest serving member of staff, Carole Salter. 40 years of service to a school, its students and staff, is an exceptional act of commitment, loyalty and dedication. On behalf of the community, students and staff, I would like to thank Carole for all her work and support over the past 40 years. She will be very missed indeed. We wish her a very long, happy retirement and very best for the future.

Well done to our students who continue to be recognised for being 'On track'. This week they have achieved nearly 4000 points, adding to the school total which now sits at a massive 207,631. We will be announcing how we intend to mark the school reaching 200,000 points soon. Keep up the good work.

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

P Balkwill



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May Half-Term Revision Sessions



May Half-Term Revision Sessions 2025 – Sign Up Now:

Calling all Year 11 students! Get ahead in your GCSE preparation with our May Half-Term Revision Sessions at St. Dunstan's School. These sessions are designed to boost confidence, focus on key exam topics, and give you the best chance of success!

Dates: The week beginning 26th May

Location: St. Dunstan's School

Morning & Afternoon sessions available

Sign up in advance-

<https://forms.gle/YhnH17MTr1oPoP2f9>



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GCSE Exams



Now that we are stuck into our GCSE exam season, we want to make sure that our students and families have as much information as possible for the exams and how to manage this period of time.

We will be updating our website frequently with key information.

This week we have uploaded useful links for English and Mathematics revision. There is also information about Seneca Premium, which is an online revision aid for our students packed with last minute revision tools.

[School Website Link](#)



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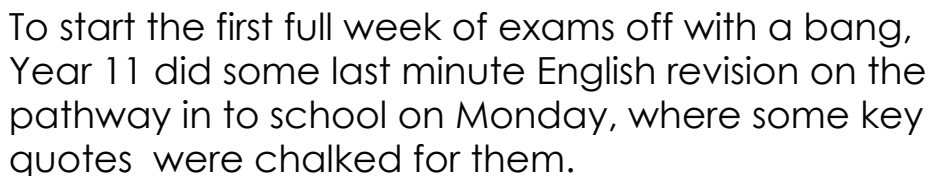
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Mrs Gregory managed to source some special 'Quonanas' which tasted and looked a lot like bananas, but had a quote on them too! Every little helps...





Happy Retirement!



After working at St Dunstan's School for an incredible 40 years, we say goodbye to our wonderful cleaner and lunchtime helper, Carole.

We have absolutely loved having you with us Carole, the halls will be emptier without you, but we wish you all the best in your retirement. Put your feet up and enjoy the sunshine in the garden and relax, you've definitely deserved it. Thank you for everything you've done for us over the years, we'll miss you!



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PTA Fundraising



An easy and **free** way to support the PTA and the school by raising money for the PTA every time you shop online.

Please use the link below to join Easyfundraising and the PTA will receive a donation whenever you shop online at over 7,000 online shops including Amazon, Argos, Tesco, Ocado, Tui...

Either download the app or visit the Easyfundraising website before continuing to the online store you are shopping at. Easyfundraising will receive a donation from the retailer for the PTA at no cost to you.

Please support this help raise money for our school!

[Easy Fundraising PTA St Dunstan's](#)

The PTA has also very kindly set up a wishlist for the library with books the students have specifically requested. If you would like to support the library, the link is below. Any donated books will get a named insert inside, so please leave your name in the notes so we know who to thank.

[Library Wishlist](#)

Thank you for your support, it really helps the PTA, which in turn helps the students have a better school experience.



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St Dunstan's Library presents...



THE BOOK NOOK



Review by Ena
in Year 9



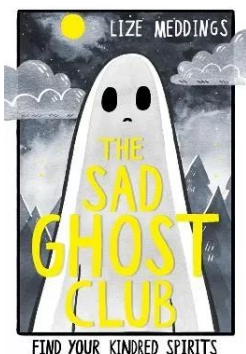
Spin the Dawn by Elizabeth Lim makes you feel like you just want to curl up and be inside this world forever. Caringly crafted, with every chapter making you want to read more.



Beautiful!



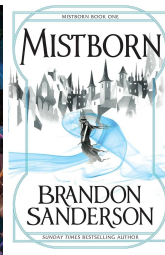
Review by Bess
in Year 7



I LOVED THE SAD GHOST CLUB SOOOO MUCH!

It is a graphic novel which is one of my favourite types of book. I love the fact that all the main characters are ghosts, which makes me think that maybe sometimes we feel like ghosts, unnoticed and disappeared, but when we meet our people, like the ghost meets Socks, we can feel enlightened. This book is so helpful if you need it. It made me laugh out loud, smile and I read it in 20 minutes. I would 100% recommend.

New books in the library:



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Prom Dress Sale



St Dunstan's YEAR 11 PROM DRESS SALE

WE HAVE A RANGE OF NEW
PROM DRESSES AVAILABLE, IN
LOTS OF SIZES AND SHADES,
KINDLY DONATED BY THE PTA

PLEASE SEE MISS KENCH TO
ARRANGE A TIME TO HAVE A
BROWSE (IN ROOM 8)

PRICE: A DONATION! IT WILL
GO TOWARDS HELPING OTHER
YEAR 11 STUDENTS TOWARDS
THE COST OF THEIR PROM
TICKETS

TIME TO SHOP!



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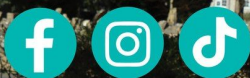
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Careers Events



**REGISTER
ONLINE
TODAY!**



Join us at our
**OPEN
EVENING**
Thu 12 June
5.30-8pm

**Discover our courses for
School Leavers & Adults**

A Level • T Levels
Professional & Technical Courses
Apprenticeships
Supported Learning
Higher Education • Adult Courses

strode-college.ac.uk



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Careers Events



Do you know a young person who is passionate about developing digital and employability skills and who might be interested in a Digital Supported Internship?

An Information and Recruitment event is taking place on Wednesday 14th May from 9.30am at Bridgwater and Taunton College (Taunton Campus), Wellington Road, Taunton TA1 5AX.

Visit the Somerset Education Business Partnership (EBP) website for further details

<https://www.somerset-ebp.co.uk/.../digital-supported.htm>

Please share to help young people access amazing digital careers!



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Community Call



**We are recruiting for
On-call Firefighters**



**GLASTONBURY FIRE STATION
NEEDS YOU!**

Press Release

Release date May 2025

**Join us as a paid on-call firefighter in Frome - Recruitment Open evening 05th June
2025 1800 - 2100**

Your community needs you! Glastonbury Fire Station is crewed by local residents and workers, without the efforts of these men and women a fire engine wouldn't be available in people's hour of need.

Glastonbury is a busy on call fire station with approx. 300 incidents per calendar year within the town and surrounding areas. This is an opportunity for men and women who live and/or work within a five-minute response time to the fire station (George Street, Glastonbury) to potentially save lives by attending emergency incidents such as fires, road traffic collisions, chemical spills, floods, gain entry's and many more and we also talk to our community about fire prevention.

Being on-call means that you provide a level of cover whilst at work or at home and when you are needed your pager will alert you to attend the station. People who can give cover during the day are particularly needed. Many people have primary occupations whilst on-call - either employed or self-employed, the Service has examples of employees in factories, shops, takeaways and restaurants who are on-call firefighters. No previous experience of firefighting is necessary for this role and full training will be provided – the ideal prospective firefighter starts with a commitment to the community, a positive attitude and a good level of fitness.



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Community Call

You need to be over 18 and have a good level of fitness and strength, but sometimes people overestimate the levels required and this can deter them (particularly women) from applying. The Service will give people advice and help in preparing for both the written and practical assessments.

We have a recruitment open evening planned for Thursday 05th June 1800 – 2100. At this recruitment event you will be presented with what is required and what it is like being an on-call firefighter, get to ask questions and have a look around the fire engines and station. If you are interested, think you might be interested or open to the idea of helping your community come along and find out more.

There are many benefits you'll receive as an employee of Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service (DSFRS) such as transferable skills, trained in first aid, teamwork, working under pressure, LGV licence (depending on station needs), trained in manual handling, good publicity and local reputation for your company, pensionable pay & many emergency services discounts

To apply please visit

<https://www.dsfire.gov.uk/careers/on-call-application-process>

Anyone interested can email Watch Manager, Adam Whitcombe direct on awhitcombe@dsfire.gov.uk or are welcome to come to Glastonbury Fire Station, George Street during drill nights on Monday or Tuesday from 1900 - 20:30.

More information about becoming an on-call firefighter is on the website www.dsfire.gov.uk

Ends

For more press information please contact:

Paul Slaven

PR Officer

07973 429436

pslaven@dsfire.gov.uk

Keep up to date and follow 'dsfireupdates' on Twitter and Facebook



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New Arbor App (replacing Talaxy)



We have now switched to Arbor and our new app is live! Please check your emails carefully for details on how to log in and set yourself up.

Please contact the school office if you require any assistance.



We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Parent App

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

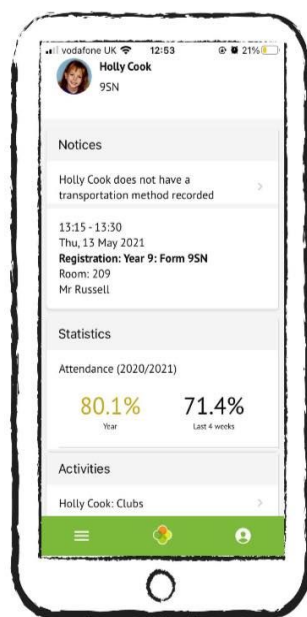
Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



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YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD BY:

- ensuring your child understands the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality.
- asking about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities.
- discussing any problems they may have and inform their Form Tutor to pass on concerns.
- not allowing them take time off school for minor ailments – particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work.
- arranging appointments after school hours, at weekends or during the holidays, to prevent disruption to your child's education and to the school.
- being open and willing to work with us to improve your child's attendance.



If you are concerned about your child's school attendance, it's best to contact their school first. Our dedicated Attendance Team are on hand to support pupils and families.

For more information about school attendance visit our website: www.midsomernortonschoolspartnership.com/attendance

We're here to help if you need it.



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<u>O</u>rganised & Proactive	<p>Bringing the correct equipment, kit and uniform</p> <p>Meeting deadlines</p> <p>Working on tasks independently and completing homework to a high standard</p>
<u>N</u>eat & Tidy work	<p>Smart, well presented books demonstrating your best work</p>
<u>T</u>enacity	<p>Trying your hardest, rising to challenges, having a 'can do' attitude, working out solutions and taking ownership of your learning</p>
<u>R</u>eady, Respectful and Responsible	<p>Being a role model by consistently demonstrating our basic expectations</p>
<u>A</u>nswering, reading and listening like an expert	<p>Sophisticated full sentence answers using technical terms</p> <p>Following along, tracking the text and ready to read aloud in class.</p> <p>Reading widely and for pleasure</p> <p>Listening and considering the views of others</p> <p>Taking in turns to respond</p>
<u>C</u>ontributing to the class	<p>Playing an active role in every lesson</p> <p>Attention to the speaker, sat up straight, arms still, pens down</p> <p>Teacher focused</p>
<u>K</u>indness & Community minded	<p>Caring, polite, looking after one another and the site</p> <p>Speaking with kindness and respect</p> <p>Supporting staff and other students to create a positive learning environment for all</p>



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