



Weekly Newsletter 2025-6

Dear Parents & Families,

Wow! Another week is chalked off, and it truly feels like we are racing towards the summer break at some pace. This has been another very busy week with plenty to celebrate across our school community.

Firstly, I must say a huge well done to all the students involved in our open events this week. Every single adult, whether they were a prospective parent or a visiting Year 5 teacher, was full of praise for our students, noting their wonderful positivity and how well they represented both the school and the wider community. Thank you and well done to everyone involved for making it such a success. Moving forward, we will be holding our second open morning on Tuesday 23rd June from 9am to 11am, and we very much hope to see more new and returning families on the day.



My second major well done of the week goes to our Year 10 students, who have commenced their exams this week. With just twelve months to go until their final exams, these assessments serve as a useful benchmark to gauge how students are progressing. If your child is in Year 10, we encourage you to support them in using their time outside of school to establish good study routines and independent revision habits. Preparation is absolutely key for success in Year 11, and this exam period offers a perfect opportunity to learn that valuable lesson. Good luck for next week, Year 10, and well done for all your hard work so far.

As I type this message, Mrs Potter, Mrs Manning and the team will be winging their way home with our students from the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition. Over the past two years, we have seen a huge growth in the intake for this worthwhile scheme. Our students have put in a massive shift over the past few days and have truly demonstrated our core track values of resilience and kindness.



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Their hard work and determination, alongside the kindness and support they have shown to one another during the challenges of the expedition, have been apparent for everyone to see. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Manning and Mrs Potter for their fantastic organisation and tireless efforts in making this trip but the whole DfE scheme possible.

Finally, on Monday, we had a wonderful opportunity to bid farewell to our Year 11s with a traditional guard of honour. Two things really struck me about this event: firstly, the sense of pride and joy on the students' faces as they walked out, and secondly, the tangible sense of community that filled the air. I have often said that, as a community, we support one another when we fall, celebrate each other's triumphs, and take collective pride in our joint achievements. The guard of honour encapsulated this perfectly and made me very proud to be the Headteacher of this great school community. Good luck, Year 11; enjoy your well-earned rest, and we look forward to seeing you all again in July for our celebration events.

Have a great weekend everyone, enjoy the warm weather, and I look forward to updating you all again next week.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P Balkwill', written over a horizontal line.

P Balkwill *Headteacher*



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Key Dates

Wb 22nd June- Year 7 Normandy Trip

Monday 22nd June- SEND Coffee Morning

Monday 22nd June- Year 10 Exams continue

Tuesday 23rd June- Open Morning 9-11am

Tuesday 23rd June- Year 10 Swanage Field Trip

Sunday 28th- Tuesday 30th June- DfE Silver Expedition

Monday 29th June- Year 10 D&T NEA Project Launch day

Monday 6th July- Celebration Carnival

Monday 6th July- SEND Coffee Morning

Thursday 9th July- Year 11 Celebration Assembly & Prom

Friday 10th July- School Sports Day

Important Information

Warm Weather Temporary Uniform Update

To support students remain comfortable during the warm spell the following temporary arrangements will be in place.

- Blazers are optional.
- Ties must be worn.
- Students are encouraged to remove their V-neck sweaters (these remain optional).
- Shirts must stay tucked in at all times.
- Knee-length tailored shorts or pleated skirts are allowed. Please ensure skirts are worn at this appropriate length.
- Formal black shoes and plain dark socks are still required.



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We will review these temporary changes over the course of next week and send out further information as needed. Please be advised that the school will return to our normal uniform arrangements once the weather returns to more typical conditions for this time of year.

Over the past few weeks, we have seen an increase in the number of students requesting paper cups for a drink from reception. These are intended for first aid purposes and should not be used by students for general consumption. Please support your child and the school by doing the following-

- Send your child with a full water bottle every day to help them stay hydrated.
- If you child has lost/misplaced a bottle, ask them to visit the uniform hub to locate it from lost property. Alternatively purchase a new one and make sure that it is clearly labelled and identifiable.
- Consider providing your child with a sensible hat to protect them from the sun during breaks and PE lessons.
- Please ensure your child applies sunscreen if they are likely to be outside for extended periods, like during PE lessons.

QR Codes and Food Purchases from the Canteen

Thank you to everyone who has successfully located their QR codes for making canteen purchases. Our admin team will be supporting a small number of students today to replace any lost or damaged QR codes.

Please be aware of an important reminder that from Monday 22nd June 2026, phones will no longer be permitted for purchasing food. Our standard policy remains firm: 'phones should not be seen or heard' at any time during the school day.

St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY



Announcement

Summer Open Mornings



St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY

Wednesday 17th & Tuesday 23rd June
9:00-11:00am



**‘Come and see what makes our
school such a great place to be.’**

To register your interest in attending, please email:
secretary@stdunstans.mnsp.org.uk
Or visit our website: www.stdunstansschool.com



Celebration Carnival

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

**ON
TRACK**



St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY

★ CELEBRATION ★ CARNIVAL

Join the fun on 6th July!



**BUBBLE FOOTBALL - ARCHERY TAG - BONKERS GAMES TEAM
CHALLENGES - INFLATABLE AXE THROWING - BASKETBALL AND
FOOTBALL DARTS – INFLATABLE CURLING - INFLATABLE CRAZY
GOLF - INFLATABLE PENALTY SHOOT OUT - NERF WARS -
GOGGLE FOOTBALL TEAM CHALLENGES - GLOW DODGEBALL**



**ALL STUDENTS WHO MEET OUR ATTENDANCE AND 'ON TRACK'
POINTS TARGETS WILL BE INVITED!
100 INVITES GOING OUT BY 19TH JUNE
100 MORE INVITES GOING OUT NEXT WEEK
WILL IT BE YOU?**

Truth

Resilience

Ambition

Community

Kindness



Attendance Update

Band	Percentage	Number of days attended this year to date	Potential Days of Absence across the year if this continues	Potential hours of lost learning	Classification
1	100%	160	0	0	Exceptional
2	98% to 100%	157	4	20	Strong Standard
3	96% to 98%	154	8	40	Expected Standard
4	93% to 96%	150	14	70	Needs Attention
5	90% to 93%	146	38	190	Urgent Improvement
6	Below 90%	145	40	200	Critical Action

End of Year Celebration & Summer Games Update

The posters are up, invitations are starting to go out, and students are getting excited about our End of Year Celebration!

So far, invitations have been given to students with close to 100% attendance and a high number of positive points. Next week, I will be reviewing students with 96% attendance or above and a strong number of ON TRACK points.

Students and parents asking about the criteria, so here is the guidance:

Attendance: If your attendance is currently below 96%, I will be closely monitoring attendance over these final weeks, so make every day count and give yourself the best chance of qualifying.

ON TRACK Points: If you haven't yet reached 500 points, now is the time to make a push. Ask your teachers how you can earn more points, work hard in lessons, show a positive attitude, and look for opportunities to help others.



Attendance Update

Students who have arrived during the academic year, we are checking to see if you have had good attendance since you started and if you have fully engaged with our ON TRACK points.

We want as many students as possible to be part of this celebration. One easy way to earn additional points is by taking part in the Summer Games Challenges – you'll receive 5 ON TRACK points just for participating.

We are now approaching the halfway point of our Summer Games Challenge, and I think the winning tutor group deserves a little treat next Friday. What does "winning" mean? The winning tutor group will be the one with:

The highest number of students participating in the Summer Games Challenges. The most students signed up on Monday.

So, if you haven't signed up yet, now is the time and help your tutor group climb to the top of the leaderboard.

Let's see if we can get the whole school into the Celebration Event and make this the biggest and best end to the year yet!

A celebratory graphic for the 100 Club Award. It features three large, 3D gold stars on the left side, surrounded by falling gold confetti. At the top center is a blue circular badge with the number '100' in white. To the right of the badge, the text 'CLUB AWARD' is written in bold black letters. Below this, the St Dunstan's School Glastonbury logo is visible. In the center, the number '292' is displayed in a large, black, serif font. Below the number, the text 'STUDENTS WITH 100% IN MAY' is written in bold black letters. At the bottom, 'WELL DONE!' is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner, there is a small orange and green badge that reads 'MNSP MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.'

100 CLUB AWARD

St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY

292

**STUDENTS
WITH 100% IN
MAY**

WELL DONE!

MNSP
MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.



**CONGRATULATIONS
STUDENTS!**



418,197
POINTS ACHIEVED
SINCE SEPTEMBER

**How high can the total reach before the
academic year concludes?**



Congratulations Year 11!

Congratulations to our Year 11 students on completing their final exam this week. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, resilience and positive attitude they have shown throughout the exam period!

On Monday morning, after their final GCSE was completed, we marked the occasion with a guard of honour as our Year 11 students left the school site. The whole school applauded them on getting through their exams, and wished them luck on their next adventures as we bid them farewell!



[Watch the Guard of Honour Video on our Facebook page](#)

School Production

The corridors were filled with excitement for next year's production reveal video after weeks of guessing which show would be next?

We are thrilled to announce that in February 2027, the next school Production will be **Matilda**.

Auditions for main characters will be held on Thursday 25th June with an additional audition lunchtime on Tuesday 30th June for those in Normandy) and we will begin rehearsals when we return in September.

'Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty'



Bronze DofE

Bronze DofE – Practice Expedition

Forty-one Year 9 students have just set off on Day 1 of their Bronze DofE practice expedition.

Over the next two days, they will be putting their navigation , teamwork and camping skills to the test as they prepare for their qualifying expedition.

We wish them every success and hope they enjoy the challenge , create lasting memories and return with plenty of stories to tell. Good luck to you all!



Bronze DofE



Truth	Resilience	Ambition	Community	Kindness
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Bronze DofE



We Wonder Competition

We Wonder: Protect Our Nature — St Dunstan's Named a National Runner-Up!

Earlier this year, our Year 7 and Year 8 classes took part in the National Literacy Trust's *We Wonder: Protect Our Nature* Reading Challenge, run in partnership with Turner & Townsend — a major global consultancy whose work includes the expansion of Heathrow Airport and the new Sydney Metro.

Students researched conservation and biodiversity, looking at how nature protects itself and how we can protect nature in return. They then designed their own community green spaces to celebrate and support wildlife. We had 47 entries across the two year groups and awarded 17 Honourable Mentions, before submitting four of the strongest designs to the national competition — and we're thrilled to share that **St Dunstan's has been named a secondary school runner-up!**

The judges selected the entry of Iris in Year 8, praising the creativity and quality of her work — a brilliant achievement among a huge number of entries from across the country.

Congratulations, Iris, and a big well done to everyone who took part.



Truth

Resilience

Ambition

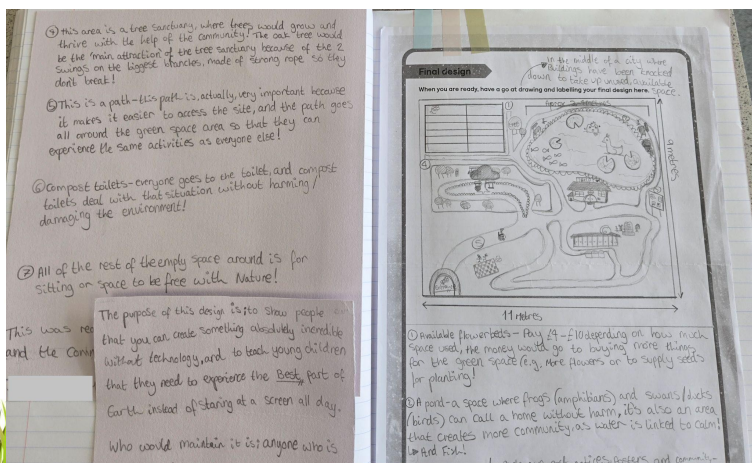
Community

Kindness

We Wonder Competition

As our prize, the school has received a wonderful collection of nature and conservation books: Chris Packham's *Back to Nature*, Dara McAnulty's *A Wild Child's Guide to Nature at Night*, Isabella Tree's *Wilding: How to Bring Wildlife Back – An Illustrated Guide*, *Climate Action*, *Curiositree: Natural World* and *University of Cambridge: Nature Heroes*.

They now have pride of place in our library for all our students to enjoy!



Career Talks - we need you!

Parents - we need you!

We would love to enrich our assembly programme to include career talks from as many different sectors as we can. We would like you to deliver a 15 minute assembly about entry into the profession and details of what the profession includes. If you would like to be involved, please respond to this google form and we will be in touch.

Many thanks in advance for any support you can give.

[Google Form - Parent Assemblies](#)

Thank you,
St Dunstan's

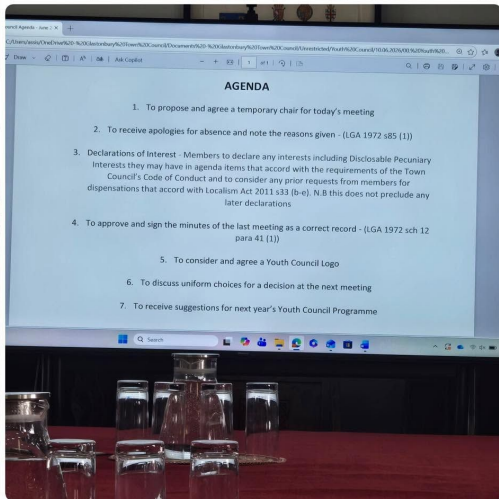


Youth Town Council Trip

Last week, our Youth Council students met at the Town Hall and experienced their very first official meeting in the council chamber!

The students discussed an agenda, appointed a chairperson, shared their ideas and worked together to make important decisions.

It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm, teamwork and leadership from our young people as they learned more about democracy and having their voices heard.



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Egg and Spoon Race

There was plenty of laughter at lunchtime last Friday as around 30 students took part in our Egg and Spoon Race!

A big well done to Mr Armstrong and Mr Ray for getting involved and running alongside the students. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make it such a fun event.





St Dunstan's Library presents...



THE BOOK NOOK



Just Write Club

Where Kings Go To Drown - by Leo and Billy (Year 8)

Avery awoke sleepily on a beautiful sunny morning. Golden light illuminated him and drenched his bedsheets and brightened his mood as he hauled himself out of bed. His companion, Poe, purred playfully with her cloudy pure ears and stretched before settling contently on his velvety auburn cloak. Reluctantly, Avery gently nudged her off and turned towards his balcony. He observed the peaceful view of his humble village Sotu which was surprisingly calm for a Sunday morning. He gazed over at the rows of cheerfully colorfulness and strings of flags gently and gracefully flapping in the breeze. Waves of crystal blue water lapped up at the sandy beach shore. Above him in the sky, a few lone clouds drifted solemnly across the blue. Below him the streets were bustling with life as people rushed to set up market stands, people hauled crates full to the brim of hundreds of exotic fruits and beautiful oil paintings, the kind that seems older than time itself. Excitedly Avery rushed to the nearest stand, one labelled *Martin's Maps*. The old man seemed to be content although seldom people were visiting his old dark stand. Avery curiously gazed over all of the many maps that the man had on display, some were newer and more modern whereas some were crumbling near to dust. One map however, caught Avery's eye...

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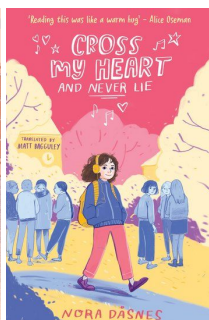
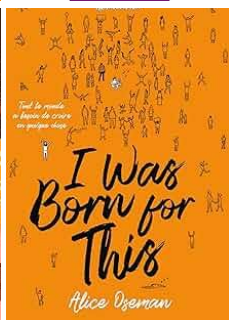
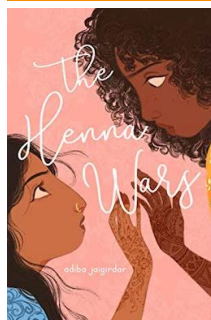
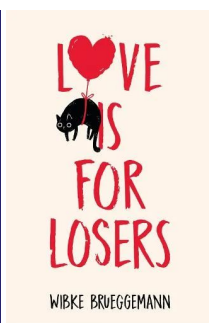
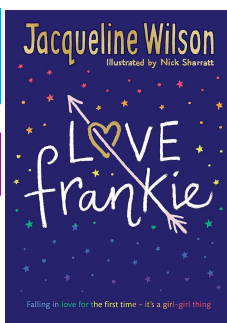
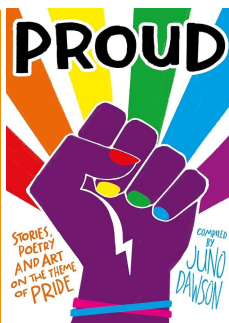
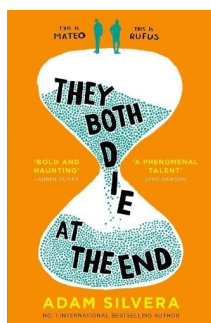
St Dunstan's Library presents...

THE BOOK NOOK

Pride Month!

June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate love in all forms, but in the library, we celebrate pride all year round. It is important to us that the library is always a welcoming and inclusive place, where everyone feels safe and supported every single day!

Check out some more of our highlighted pride books that we've got on display this week:



Truth

Resilience

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Uniform Exchange

We are keen to replenish our stocks for our uniform exchange scheme in order to support families with growing costs, as well as our environment.

We are gratefully accepting:

- Blazers, ties, and plain navy V-neck sweaters.
- Trousers, skirts, and school shoes.
- All items of PE kit.
- Revision guides and stationery equipment.

If you have any items, please drop them in to our reception at any time. We will contact you later this term with dates and times for the summer "Exchange Days" where you can source items for the next year. Please note, this is for all families to access.

Thank you for your support.

UNIFORM EXCHANGE SCHEME



Party at the Palace

THE KIDS PARTY!
SUNDAY 5TH JULY

THE ULTIMATE POP TRIBUTE SHOW FEATURING HITS FROM...

Taylor Swift

Olivia Rodrigo

Sabrina Carpenter

Miley Cyrus

INFO & TICKETS: www.bishopspalace.org.uk

Local Events Spotlight

Book now!

HOT DOGS, PIZZA, KIDS
LUNCHBOXES & DIRTY FRIES!

A DAZZLING EXPLOSION OF MUSIC,
DANCE AND EXCITEMENT AT THE
BISHOP'S PALACE, WELLS!

STARRING...!

SINGALONG
POP FUN!

SCAN HERE
FOR MORE!

**POP
QUEENS
LIVE**

Gates: 4pm / Show ends: 7pm
£12 adult / £18 children (5-17) / u5 free / £50 family
INFO & TICKETS: www.bishopspalace.org.uk

This is a fundraising event for The Palace Trust

Local Events Spotlight



LOVED BY KIDS,
TRUSTED BY PARENTS.

With our famous fit and unbeatable comfort in every step, parents can trust Clarks to deliver perfectly fitting, ultra-durable school shoes, that empower kids to be their very best selves - *all day, all term, and all at a price you'll love.*

Our in-store experts are available to help with professional measuring and personalised advice, to ensure your child leaves with school shoes that fit perfectly and feel comfortable all term long.

We also offer Quiet Time appointments, with fewer crowds, less noise and gentler lights in store. For Quiet time appointments, simply get in touch with your local store and the team will be happy to help.

