Weekly Newsletter 2025-6



Dear Families & Parents,

This weekly newsletter is your essential guide to supporting your child. It is packed with important dates, event details and information. Please take a few minutes each week to read it so you don't miss a thing.

We look forward to sharing all the great news with you this academic year. If you have any good news stories or student achievements you'd like to share, please feel free to reach out to us!

Well done to all the Year 11s involved in exams over the past week. Next week we will begin to share feedback and individual results for papers. It will also be time for students to catch up on NEA work missed in lessons disrupted by exams. We urge all students to continue to maintain high levels of attendance in the crucial weeks following exams.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

P Balkwill

Headteacher





Key Information

Key Dates

Friday 27 November- Youth Speaks Area competition

Monday 1 December- Youth Speaks KS4 Area competition

Thursday 4 December- PTA Silent Disco- more details to follow

KS4 Bath University & Christmas Markets

Important Information

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the survey so far. There is still chance for parents and families to provide feedback to support continued improvement. Please follow the link below to share your feedback-

https://forms.gle/3VQSbTZs2QqZsPDE7

Reminder

Now that we have moved into the cold and wet winter months, we ask that you make sure that students come to school with an appropriate warm waterproof coat. Hoodies, cardigans and shacket style coats do not fall into this category. We ask that these are kept at home please.

Truth	Resilience	Ambition	Community	Kindness

Weekly Attendance Update











What does my attendance look like so far? 24 November

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%	52	0	0	Perfect
2	98% to 100%	50	4	20	Excellent
3	96% to 98%	49	8	40	Good
4	93% to 96%	48	14	70	Requires Improvement
5	90% to 93%	46	38	190	Concerning
6	Below 90%	45	40	200	Persistent absence

Building Attendance, Belonging, and Holiday Fun!

We are excited to share that 157 students are currently on track for a three-week perfect-attendance streak. Their commitment to showing up each day is helping them build strong relationships, deepen their sense of belonging, and stay connected to our school community.

If your child had an absence this week, they can still join in—a new streak begins next week, and there's plenty of time to be part of the momentum!

Alongside the streak challenge, our 100% Attendance Drive for November and December is still going strong. Students can earn 50 points each month for perfect attendance—points that are essential for qualifying for our end-of-term celebration event. Every day in school helps students stay engaged, connected, and on track to earn those rewards.

As part of the these schemes, we recognise that perfect attendance is not always possible for all students. In cases of genuine absence due to exceptional circumstances, your child's situation will always be taken into account, and they will be included.

Weekly Attendance Update



As we head into **December**, attendance becomes even more exciting. Starting next week, students will need to be **in school** to solve festive riddles and compete for Christmas prizes. Ms. Haden is keeping the details secret for now, so students will have to be here to discover more.

We also know that in the lead-up to Christmas, absences often increase. We truly appreciate your support in encouraging regular attendance during this busy time. If you're ever unsure whether your child is well enough to attend school, we encourage you to use the **paediatric HANDi app**, which offers helpful guidance for common childhood illnesses and symptoms.

Thank you for supporting your child's daily attendance. Each day truly matters—for learning, for relationships, and for being part of our vibrant school community.





On Track Update

<u>O</u> rganised	Equipped, on time, and completing homework		
<u>N</u> eat	Smart, well presented books demonstrating your best work.		
<u>I</u> ry hard	Trying your hardest and rising to the challenge.		
<u>R</u> esponsible	A role model to others in your appearance, actions and words		
<u>A</u> ctive	Listening, responding, and participating in lessons		
<u>C</u> ommunity	Supporting staff and other students to create a positive learning environment for all.		
<u>K</u> nowledgeable	Knowing key information, concepts and terminology for each subject/unit		

Our 'On Track' Total so far.....

146,317

Well done to all of our students!

Truth	Resilience	Ambition	Community	Kindness



Tickets available on Arbor now!





MYSTERY STAFF DJ's

TICKETS ON SALE ON ARBOR

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL ST DUNSTAN'S

SILENT DISCO

On Thursday 4th December, 6.30 -8.45pm

CASH TUCK SHOP

TICKETS £3



Resilience

Ambition

Community

Kindness



What a fantastic day! Last week we had the pleasure of accompanying our amazing Year 11s on their Strode College Experience Day. Our hearts were full as we watched with pride as they took their first steps towards their next chapter!

Students took part in a wide range of taster sessions
— from Criminology and Engineering to Barbering
and Further Maths.

As always, they impressed us with their resilience, enthusiasm and outstanding behaviour. We saw kindness in abundance and collaboration with other schools.

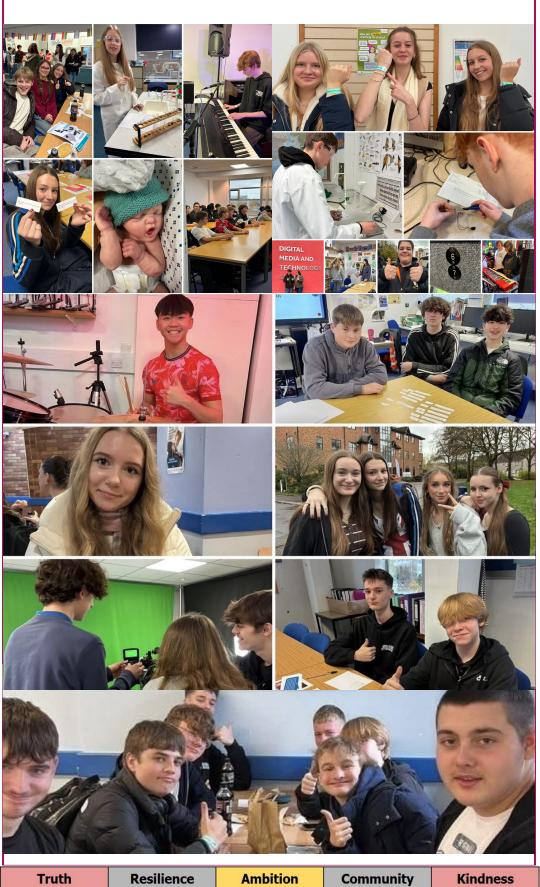
Well done, Year 11, we're so proud of each and every one of you!





Strode Experience Day









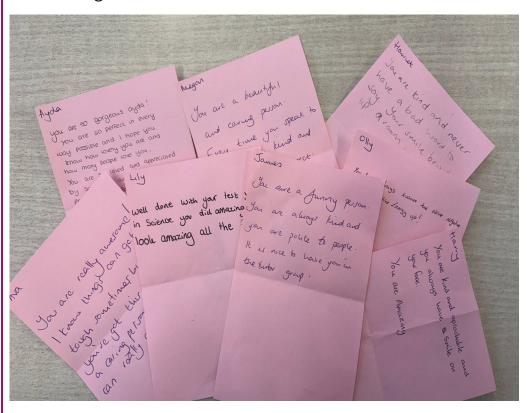
Last week we celebrated World Kindness Day 2025 by spreading positivity and joy!

Messages were hidden around the school for students to find and in staff pigeon holes.

We hope this spontaneous act of kindness brought joy and inspired others to be kind.

Last week also marked Anti-Bullying Week, and we are always proud to make kindness the focus of everything we do — it's one of our core values and at the heart of what makes our school community so special.

Let's continue to be kind, lift each other up, and stay on track together!





St Dunstan's Alumni



Calling All St Dunstan's Alumni!

We want to hear from you! Whether you left last year or many years ago,

your journey matters to us — and it has the power to inspire our current

students.

Please take a moment to complete our short alumni survey:

Alumni Survey Link

We're gathering stories, updates, and interest from former students who might like to:

- Visit the school.
- Share their career paths or life experiences.
- Offer support, guidance, or inspiration to the next aeneration.
- Your voice and experience could make a real difference. We'd love to reconnect!

Thank you for being part of the St Dunstan's community





Production Request



Rehearsals for the next school production of The Addams Family are well underway and we are turning our attention to set and costumes!

We are looking for donations of costumes which may be suitable for our ancestors' characters within the show. These characters wear white floaty type clothes, which can be shawls, dresses, jackets, white accessories, wigs etc. and can be from varied time periods.

If you have some spare white material, lace or white lace curtains, or any suitable clothing you don't need anymore and our wonderful costume department can work their magic. Here are some ideas for the types of costumes we would like to create. Thank you!





Bronze DofE



And we're off!

What a fantastic (and hectic!) first session as a record 48 students logged into the DofE system for the very first time and started adding their details!

A huge thank you to everyone for their enthusiasm.

Mrs Manning and Mrs Potter will be running drop-in sessions over the next few weeks to help students add their Physical, Skills and Volunteering sections.





PTA Fundraising







Thank you PTA!



A huge thank you and well done to our amazing PTA for raising £200 from the carnival parking last weekend!

They also kindly provided free parking for 12 walking performers and all their equipment.

Thank you for all your hard work raising money for us, we're so grateful!





Thank you WFL



A big thank you to the Wells Festival of Literature's Education Committee for donating some fantastic books to our school library! They are also funding an author visit for us next year. We're so grateful for their support and look forward to hopefully continuing to work with them in the future.

These books are now available in the school library to loan to all students.





Safeguarding Spotlight





Alumina is a free, online 7 week course for young people struggling with self-harm.

Each course has up to 14 young people, all accessing the sessions from their own phones, tablets or laptops across the UK. The courses take place on different evenings of the week and are run by friendly, trained counsellors and volunteer youth workers. You don't need an adult to refer you or sign you up, and no-one will see or hear you during the sessions – you'll just join in via the chatbox.

https://www.selfharm.co.uk/









A huge thank you to our local icon Burns the Bread for regularly donating bread for our breakfast club. This week alone they donated 12 frozen loaves which makes such a huge difference. Thank you Burns the Bread!

We are always looking for donations of food items for our breakfast club, which runs every morning. It is free of charge, and open to anyone.

The following items are always appreciated:

- Jams / spreads
- Cereals
- Breakfast bars and biscuits
- Long life juices

Thank you to the PTA and to you all for your support with helping us run this club!



Children in Need



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need non-uniform day last Friday, we raised a huge £500!

