# St Dunstan's School

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Apologies in advance for the number of times we mention Christmas in this week's newsletter! Time is galloping on and, before we know it, the tree will be up and we will be feeling festive - I always enjoy the run up to Christmas in school as it lightens the shorter days and often gloomy weather.

As a staff, we have been very impressed by Year 11's attitude to their mock exams. All students have been focused, polite and have brought the correct equipment with them. We will be having a results day in December - I am looking forward to seeing how students have got on in their exams. We also have Year 11 Parents' Evening coming up next term so that you can discuss your child's results and areas for development with subject teachers.

It was great to see students and staff completing the Burpee Challenge for Children in Need last week - the results are in and published in this newsletter.

We are all very proud of Sam Hopkins and his sporting prowess in representing the country in water skiing - what an achievement! I am sure that he will continue to excel as he competes in further competitions.

As a school, we are proud to have signed up to the UK Feminista Action Pledge in support of the International Day to End Violence Against Women. Thank you to Mrs Loud and our year 7 students who have been raising awareness and funds by collecting donations in exchange white ribbons.

It is the Frost Fayre tomorrow - thank you to the PTA for staffing the car park to raise funds. It looks like it will actually be frosty this weekend rather than wet - enjoy!





NEXT WEEK ASSEMBLY FOCUS Positive Wellbeing

Coming soon... 29th Nov - Y10 Sports Studies assessment 7th Dec -Christmas Jumper Day 14th Dec - Y8 Parents' Eve 19th Dec - End of Term 4th Jan - all students back to school

<u>Click here for</u> <u>Extra-Curricular</u> <u>Activities</u>

<u>Click here for term</u> <u>dates</u>

Mrs Bevan









# Our wonderful student - Water Skiing.

A MASSIVE well done to Sam in Year 11 who has been representing Team GB at the World Water Ski Racing Championship in Australia! The racing is now complete and Prodigy 200 Racing, GB came in at an impressive 4th position!

Well done to Sam and all his teammates! You have shown true resilience in following your ambition to be a world class water skier. Your hard work and dedication has really paid off.

All of us in the St Dunstan's Community are super proud of you.



# Milkshake with the Head - Year 9

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. Jan B, Zara C, Angelika C, Hayley C, Gracie D, Yeva D William G, Katie H, Amber M, Dorothy R Well done to all!



# **Burpee Challenge - Results**

Last Friday lunchtime students (and staff!) participated in our Burpee challenge. Everyone was trying to do as many burpees as possible in 15 minutes. Every student and staff member participating pushed themselves as hard as they could. It was great to see their resilience! House Results

1st Place - Mendip 640 burpees

2nd Place - Quantock 462

3rd Place - Blackdown 443

4th Place - Exmoor 274

This will all count towards the St Dunstan's Cup at the end of this year.

AND THE FINAL STAFF RESULTS ARE ...

Mr Waugh did 180 Burpees in 15 minutes closely followed by Mr Waterhouse with 141 and Mr Green with 120 - impressive stuff! Well done to all staff involved

We thank everyone who participated or came to watch for their support of Children in Need.



# Frost Fayre - 25th November - Glastonbury Abbey Event

The school have been asked to share the following link regarding the Frost Fayre on 25th November. Glastonbury Abbey are holding an event to 'Visit Santa'

For more details - please click the link below

https://www.glastonburyabbey.com/whats-on/special-events/visit-santa-at-gla stonburys-abbey-house.php











#### International Day to End Violence Against Women

The 25th November marks the start of 16 days of international activism to eliminate violence against women.

Some of our wonderful year 7 students have been selling white ribbons this week to raise awareness in our school. All donations will be going to the charity White Ribbon UK who are the UK's leading charity engaging men and boys to end violence against women and girls.

Our school has also taken the UK Feminista Action Pledge which means we will commit to taking a whole school approach to tackling sexism and sexual harassment in our school. This pledge allows us to work towards the Action Award provided by UK Feminista which awards schools who are taking outstanding action tackle sexism and sexual harassment. Students also wore white socks in solidarity for this cause. What this space for more information throughout the year!







# Parking for 25th November



# **Christmas Card Competition**

All entries should be submitted on A5 white paper with name and tutor group on the back

All entrants will receive 25 TRACK points

RESILIENCE

TRUTH

The winner will have their card made into the school Christmas Card and will receive a  $\pounds10$  amazon voucher

All entries are to go to tutors or Mrs Potter and the deadline is Friday 1st December



AMBITION

COMMUNITY

**KINDNESS** 

#### 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





TRUTH





#### Careers & Post-16

In 2023, the options available to students are far greater than when we were at school. Many of these options are new to adults as well as students. Please follow the <u>link</u> to a slideshow that explains all the routes open to students.

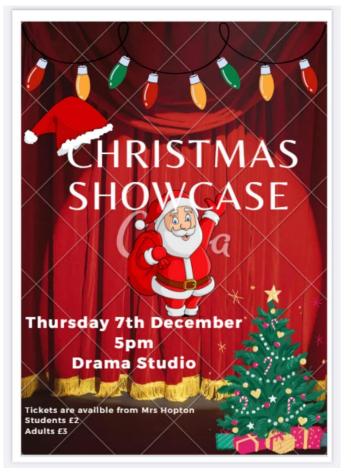
On December 7th, Year 11s will be attending a taster day at Strode College. An email containing the preferences students have for different sessions is being sent out today. Please ensure your students get this completed over the weekend.

#### Christmas Showcase

Our Christmas Showcase evening is coming up on Thursday 7th December at 5pm!

If you would like to come along to see our wonderful students act, sing and perform then tickets are available next week from Mrs Hopton in music..

Tickets are priced at £2 for students and £3 for adults, raising money for our school production later in the year.





# <u>Christmas Trees</u>

Our wonderful PTA continue with their tireless efforts to raise money for the school.

They have joined forces with Wookey Hub Christmas Trees to add a further fundraising opportunity.

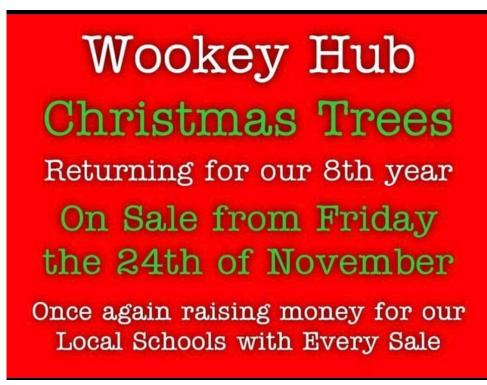
The address is:

Wookey Hub, High Street, Wookey, BA5 1JZ

For further details, please email:

stdunstanscommunitypta@gmail.com

Thank you to the PTA for all your hard work.



# **REMINDER National Poetry Competition - Nature**

Mrs Gregory is looking for entries for a national poetry competition about Nature. The theme of the competition is 'Nature Unbound' and can focus on any aspect of Nature. The word 'unbound' means unrestrained or not tied down so it is about Nature being free and unfettered. Poems must be a maximum of 30 lines and the prize money is £50! There will be a prize for the tutor group with the most entries!











#### 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 <u>here</u> which has more information and how you can submit nominations.











# 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/stdunstansstudentgate way/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.





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