

St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Well, here we are at the end of another week - unbelievably, it is almost the month of May! For year 11, we are now entering the exam season with graphics and art having had their practical this week as well as French conducting speaking exams. It is so important, Year 11, that you really embrace those TRACK values of resilience and ambition in particular. It IS a stressful period but, at the end of it, you get to start your summer holidays before the rest of us! It is also vital to be ambitious for yourself - push that little bit harder to ensure you do your very best in the exams. I always say that the exams are a chance to show off what you know rather than be tested for what you don't - examiners want to award marks; make it easy for them!

For parents of Year 11, this is a tough time - you will want to support your child without putting too much stress on them. Do talk to your child about what they know, ensure they have a good revision plan in place and make sure they get some rest and relaxation as well as studying hard.



26.04.24

NEXT WEEK
ASSEMBLY
FOCUS:
Positive Mental
Health

Coming soon:

Careers Event
Years 7 -10
03/05/2024

Year 10 Parents'
Evening
09/05/24

BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY
06/05/2024

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

[Click here for term
dates](#)



TRUTH



RESILIENCE



AMBITION



COMMUNITY



KINDNESS

Headteacher's Intro Continued...

The rest of the school have also been busy this week, I delivered an assembly about Earth Day which takes place every year on April 22 - I was delighted to see the display made by students about their pledges to protect Planet Earth. It was great to see that Year 7 have worked hard to raise funds for each tutor group to adopt an animal!

Coming up, we have a collapsed timetable on the morning of May 3 for a careers event involving Years 7 - 10 - do make sure that your child has selected the sessions they wish to attend.

We are looking forward to seeing Year 10 Parents on May 9 for Year 10 Parents' Evening - a great opportunity to catch up with your child's teachers and hear about their progress.

Do remember that there is a bank holiday on May 6 and the school will be closed.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Bevan

EARTH DAY 2024



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Goodbye and Thank You!

Today is the last day at the school for our beloved Mrs Sue Tucker who has been here for nearly 18 years. She has worked as the Head's PA and, in her role, has supported myself (and previous headteachers) in ensuring that we get everything done when - and how - we should!

Mrs Tucker has an encyclopedic knowledge of all things admin - from safeguarding through personnel to student paperwork.

Coupled with this, she has been a rock for many staff in the school over the years with a kind, calm approach to any situation they are facing. She is always able to take a step back and look at situations from a practical point of view, offering constructive advice to help us manage and get back on track. She has a wicked sense of humour and a no nonsense approach to 'getting the job done'. I know that she has been a huge support to Mrs Gerrard as she steps into the role of Head's PA.

On a personal note, Mrs Tucker has guided me through being both Deputy Head and, latterly, Headteacher. She has kept me focused and organised and is a true friend as well as a great colleague. I have appreciated her wisdom, generosity of spirit and guiding hand. The school will be a very different place without her but I know she is looking forward to spending lots of time with her family and her dogs.

Thank you Mrs Tucker for all your dedication and support over the years - we all wish you a, very well deserved, happy retirement.

Mrs Bevan and all of us at St Dunstan's



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The New Library by Violet Healey

The library has been librarian-less for a while now, but luckily Mrs Morris has joined our family and she has a new library-look in her sights. There are going to be lots of changes for the library, including student librarians and a book glow-up, where new and trending books will be making an appearance.

Some other additions to the library are the clubs, including creative writing (Tale Quest), book club and library club where there will be scavenger hunts and lots of fun activities.

Each week there will also be some pop-up events including reading an extract, poem or story for National Tell a Story Day, and lots more coming up to raise awareness for different causes. Soon the library will look like a different place!

Safety of Students

Please remember that the speed limit on the school drive is 5mph. We have had several concerns raised by staff on duty that there have been instances where parents have been driving much faster than this when dropping off or picking up their children. Students have to cross the drive to go home and so it is their safety at risk if cars are speeding. Please ensure that you are driving slowly when on school premises

French Speaking Exams

Congratulations to all of our students that completed their French speaking exams this week! Usually, this is the first exam that students take and a gruelling one at that. This means that 25% of the French GCSE is now complete with only 75% to go! Well done, Year 11, and keep up the hard work.



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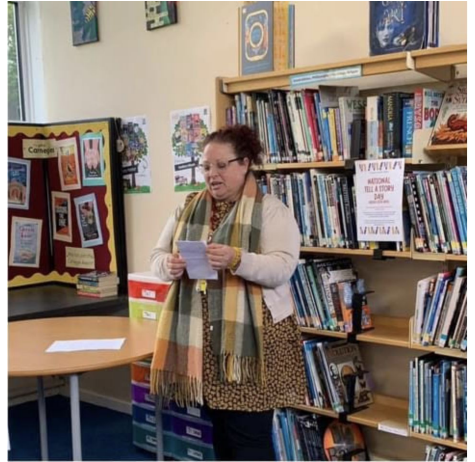
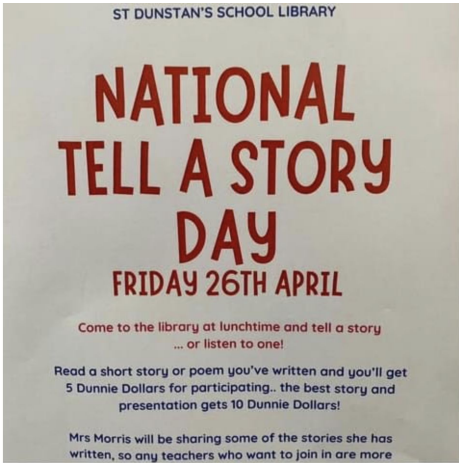
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NATIONAL STORYTELLING DAY

It's National Storytelling Day tomorrow and to celebrate, Mrs Morris held a storytelling and poetry event at lunchtime in the library. Students and staff shared their own creative writing as well as some extracts from their favourite or current reads. Some students came just to enjoy the performances. Why not share a story of your own at home? Young people are always interested in hearing about the 'olden days' and some of the adventures that have had a lasting impact on our lives.



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Secret World Animal Adoption

Year 7 animal adoptions arrived this week and we are now proud carers of Violet the deer; Cowslip the fox; Cherry the badger; and Oregano the Owl. Each tutor group took part in fundraising last term in order to 'adopt' their animal friend. This activity is allowing us to learn more about our wildlife and about the work that organisations such as Secret World do. Year 7, as a year group, are very kind and are always keen to fundraise and work together, and this is something to celebrate, even more when it benefits our community. Watch this space for more adventures of Violet, Cowslip, Cherry, and Oregano.



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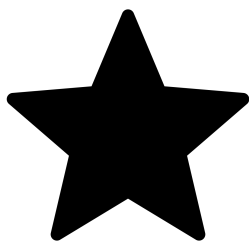


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ATTENDANCE MATTERS



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

