



Weekly Newsletter 2025-6

Dear Parents & Families,

Welcome to Term 6! I hope everyone was able to enjoy the beautiful sunshine during the half-term break. It is certainly a relief that the weather has cooled down this week, both for our students sitting exams and for the school more widely.

The next six weeks are incredibly busy, with plenty to look forward to and get involved in. We have our upcoming Open Mornings on Wednesday the 17th and Tuesday the 23rd of June, alongside our upcoming Year 5 and Year 6 transition days. Additionally, our Year 10 students are currently working hard preparing for their exams, we have our end of Year 11 celebrations and we are already busy preparing for our Enrichment Week in July.

On a more sombre note, I led assemblies this week to mark the eighty-second anniversary of the D-Day landings. As part of this, I encouraged our students to consider the qualities of character those young men showed on that historic day and the weeks that followed. One of our core TRACK values is resilience, and students were asked to reflect not only on the bravery and selflessness of those soldiers, but also on the resilience and stoicism they displayed, and the lasting legacy of their actions on our society today.

During the assemblies, I also had the pleasure of congratulating our students on their efforts so far this year. As a school, we have seen significant, positive improvements in regular attendance, and our students have now officially surpassed a total of 400,000 'On Track' points. To recognise and reward this hard work, we will be hosting our final celebration event of the year, the Celebration Carnival. Over the next few weeks, students will receive more information from their Heads of Key Stage regarding how they can qualify for this exciting event.





Weekly Newsletter 2025-6

Finally, I urge you all to read the specific update regarding mobile phones and electronic devices included later in this letter. This update outlines a significant change, but one that I firmly believe will be overwhelmingly positive for our students' focus, learning, and the school culture as a whole. I look forward to sharing a detailed implementation plan for our new device pouches later this term.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Have a wonderful weekend, and I look forward to seeing everyone back for week two.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Balkwill', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

P. Balkwill Headteacher





Weekly Newsletter 2025-6

Key Dates

Monday 15th June- Year 10 exams start

Wednesday 17th June & Tuesday 23rd June- Open mornings

Wednesday 10th June- Y10 site study day- History students only

Thursday 18th June- Friday 19th June- Bronze DofE expedition

Important Information

Year 11 Exams

Just a reminder for families and students that we have dedicated webpage to keep everyone updated over the exam period.

[St Dunstan's School | Information on Exams](#)

Dates of the final term

Just a quick reminder that the new term will start on Monday 1st June and finish on Wednesday 15th of July.

Year 10 Exams

Year 10's End of Year Exams start on Monday 15th June. Please be advised that this exam window is a compulsory part of our programmes of study. Students who are absent will be asked to sit these and catch up upon their return.

Enrichment Week

Payments for enrichment week trips are now open on Arbor. Please log in a complete the payment to secure your child's place



Update

Dear Parents and Families,

Subject: Mobile Phone Policy Update – September 2026

Further to previous correspondence regarding updates to our mobile phone policy, I am writing to provide a brief update on the upcoming transition.

Starting from September 2026, to reflect the updated Government directive, students will be required to store their mobile phones and any other smart devices (including smartwatches and earphones) in a secure, signal-blocking pouch. These pouches are magnetically sealed, restricting access to devices throughout the school day.

Students will place these switched-off devices into their personal pouch at the start of the day and store it safely in their bags. At the end of the day, students will be able to unlock their pouches at designated unlocking stations as they exit the school site.

To ensure quality and compatibility with the unlocking stations, all students will be supplied with a pouch from a single, established supplier. These pouches are robust, sturdy, and designed to last for your child's entire duration at the school. The school, working alongside our Trust, has identified a supplier with extensive experience implementing this system in schools. This partnership will ensure the transition is as smooth as possible while taking into account our specific school context and the needs of our students. We are currently working on these logistics, and I will write to you again with a detailed outline once these plans are in place.

In preparation for this transition, please note that the canteen will no longer accept mobile phones for contactless payments commencing Monday 22nd June.

At the beginning of the academic year, all students were provided with a QR keyring fob for canteen purchases. We kindly ask that you spend the upcoming week locating these fobs and ensuring your child is ready to use them. If your child has lost their fob or has issues with their QR code, please ask them to speak to their form tutor as soon as possible. Over the coming week, tutors will also be checking in with students and supporting them to ensure everyone is ready and prepared for this change.



Update

I am sure some of you will have questions regarding the finer details of the logistics, the implementation and the implications for your child. There are lots of considerations and steps that will need to be in place in advance of September so we kindly request that all your potential inquiries regarding the move to pouches wait until you have received further information later this term. As soon as final arrangements are confirmed, I will send you a guide covering everything you need to know. We will also dedicate some time to talk to the students so that they are fully briefed and prepared in advance of the summer holidays.

Thank you for your continued support in creating a focused, distraction-free learning environment for our students.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Balkwill

Headteacher

Celebration Carnival

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

**ON
TRACK**

St Dunstan's School
GLASTONBURY
**CELEBRATION
CARNIVAL**

Join the fun on 6th July!



**ALL STUDENTS WHO MEET OUR ATTENDANCE AND 'ON TRACK'
POINTS TARGETS WILL BE INVITED!
SPEAK TO YOUR TUTOR AND HEAD OF KEY STAGE FOR MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE.**

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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





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%	150	0	0	Exceptional
2	98% to 100%	147	4	20	Strong Standard
3	96% to 98%	144	8	40	Expected Standard
4	93% to 96%	140	14	70	Needs Attention
5	90% to 93%	136	38	190	Urgent Improvement
6	Below 90%	135	40	200	Critical Action

Every Day Counts – A Strong Finish to the School Year

As we enter the final term of the academic year, it is important to remember that these last few weeks are just as valuable as any other part of the school year. Learning continues right up until the final day, and every lesson, activity and opportunity contributes to our pupils' success.

We are delighted to have so much happening this term, including the launch of our exciting new **Summer Games**. Each week, pupils can sign up on Monday, discover the mystery activity on Wednesday, and then take part on Friday lunchtime. There will be a wide range of fun challenges and activities throughout the term, and everyone is welcome to come along and watch and support their friends. We have a variety of enrichment activities planned as we move towards the end of term, a chance to enjoy different experiences and create lasting memories with their friends. There is also our much-anticipated **Celebration Event** to look forward to, where we will come together to recognise achievements, successes and the positive contributions pupils have made throughout the year.

Attendance remains a key priority for our school. We have made positive progress towards the Department for Education attendance target of 96%, and we would like to thank families for their continued



Attendance Update

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Discover the benefits of consistent attendance

PERFORMANCE

Consistent attendance leads to improved academic performance and higher grades over time.



TEAMWORK

Regular attendance fosters better teamwork skills, enhancing group dynamics and collaboration among peers.



RELIABILITY

Consistent attendance builds a reputation for reliability, making you a valued member of any team.



BE PRESENT

Commit to showing up for success and growth.



support. However, we still have work to do. Every day in school makes a difference, and we need everyone to play their part by attending school every day and arriving on time.

The final term is about much more than academic learning. It is also a chance for pupils to strengthen friendships, celebrate their achievements and enjoy the many experiences that make school such a special place. These final weeks provide opportunities to learn together, have fun together and finish the year on a positive note before the summer holidays begin.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we can make these final weeks of the school year some of the most successful, rewarding and enjoyable yet.

Every day is a chance to learn.

Every day is a chance to belong.

Every day matters.

Your attendance shapes your future!

St Dunstan's School

GLASTONBURY



On Track Update

**CONGRATULATIONS
STUDENTS!**



**407,600
POINTS ACHIEVED**

SINCE SEPTEMBER

**LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET TO 500,000 BY
THE END OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR!**



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**YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS**

Thank you

to
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

St Dunstan's School

who spent

1326 Hours

**volunteering between
1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.**

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement
of young people making an impact in their community.

The social value of these hours is

£10010

Ruth Marvel OBE, Chief Executive

June 2026

Enrichment Activities

Reminder for KS3 Parents and Carers

Please ensure that all Enrichment Activity payments are made by Tuesday 10th June 2026.

Further information can be found in this link to the letter:

[Enrichment Letter](#)

Thank you for your support!



Summer Showcase Auditions

Summer Showcase Evening is coming soon!

We would like to see as many students as possible performing at our Summer Showcase Evening in July. We are looking for music, drama, dance, gymnastics, poetry acts or any other talents to audition.

Auditions will take place on Thursday 11th June in the Drama Studio 3:15 pm onwards.

More details coming soon about our Summer Showcase and how you can secure your tickets.

A vibrant poster for St Dunstan's School's Summer Showcase Auditions. The background is dark blue with colorful tropical leaves and a string of bunting flags at the top. The text is centered and reads: 'St Dunstan's School presents Summer Showcase Evening Auditions Thursday 11th June At 3:15pm in the Drama Studio'. Below the text, there are illustrations of a yellow boombox, a yellow speaker, and a group of five diverse children dancing joyfully. The overall theme is festive and celebratory.

St Dunstan's School presents

Summer Showcase Evening

Auditions

Thursday 11th June

At 3:15pm in the Drama Studio

We are looking for students who would like to perform at this year's Summer Showcase Evening in July. If you have a musical, dramatic, dance, poetry or any other talent, we would like to see you audition!

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School Gardens

Thanks to the beautiful hot weather we've recently experienced, the school gardens have benefited greatly and all things wonderful are happening.

The students have had a busy first week back collecting some lovely strawberries... well done gardeners!



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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



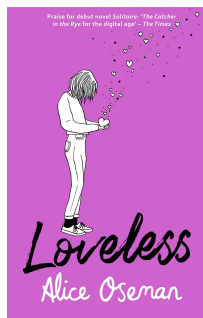
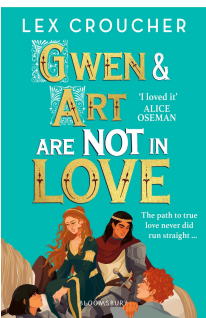
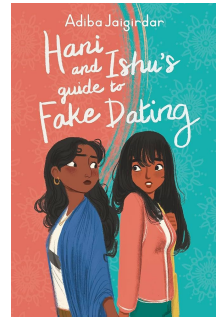
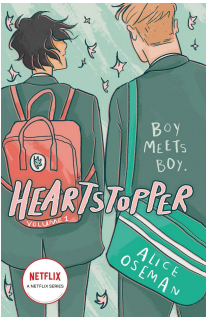
St Dunstan's Library presents...

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 of our highlighted pride books that we've got on display this month:



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St Dunstan's Library presents...



THE BOOK NOOK



Reading Challenge

We have been taking part in a National School's Reading Challenge, hosted by Whitstone School and sponsored by Wells Festival of Literature. We've been keeping track of students' reading in library lessons and beyond as there are prizes to be won! Every milestone reached means an entry into the Whitstone prize raffle, and we'll be hosting our own awards in school too.

The deadline is the end of June! So you have four weeks of reading left to try and reach your target. Students must read the whole book and can't reread the same book multiple times for the challenge.

7 books = bronze entry

14 books = silver entry

21 books = gold entry

40 books = platinum entry

Book read and loaned from a local library = a bonus entry

Not long left, so keep reading!



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St Dunstan's Library presents...

THE BOOK NOOK

HELP US WIN
£1,000
FOR OUR SCHOOL'S LIBRARY

NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens

In association with

Read
for Good



#rebuildthelibrary

National
Year of
Reading
2026

We still need your vote- deadline is June 24th!

National Book Tokens are giving away £1000 to a school library, and we need your help to be in the running to win it! Please nominate 'St Dunstan's School' on the link below, and you could personally be in with a chance of winning a £100 book voucher every week!

Nominate us!

Thank you for your support, it would make a HUGE difference to the library and to our students to win so much money, so fingers crossed! **Thank you!!**

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The Bishop's Palace, Wells

GARDEN FETE


Saturday 6th June

 **Petting Farm**
with Puxton Park

 **Artisan Market**
with 50+ stalls


 **Live Music**

 **Hula Hoop Show**

 **Axe throwing**
with Mendip Activity Centre

 **Meet the Gardening team**

 **Big Bloomers Walkabout Show**

 **Dog Show**
with Pawsability

 **Food stalls and bar**

Craft & Produce Competition
in partnership with
Wells Tuesday WI

Classes include:

An animal made from fruit or vegetables
Six fairy cakes
A model made from recycled materials
A drawing or painting of a landscape

Plus! Half price entry when you enter a class!

SCAN HERE for more information

BOOK NOW!

www.bishopspalace.org.uk

Annual Passes are not valid for this event
This is a fundraising event for The Palace Trust



OPEN EVENT

REGISTER
NOW!

STRODE COLLEGE
Wed 10 June | 6pm - 8pm

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