

18 July 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

This year, we've witnessed progress across every facet of school life. Our students have not only worked hard academically, but they have also developed personally, demonstrating our Track Values in so many different ways.

## Academic Effort and Success

We are immensely proud of the hard work shown by students across all year groups. Their deep engagement with new ideas and willingness to challenge themselves has been truly inspiring. Our Year 11 students, in particular, have shown exceptional application and resilience in preparing for and completing their final GCSE exams and we wish them the best of luck for their results in August.

Visitors frequently commend the calm and quiet atmosphere in our classrooms and the mutual cooperation between staff and students, which speaks volumes about our positive learning environment. Students have also benefited from extensive after-school support, information evenings and dedicated revision sessions during half-term, holidays, and weekends, underscoring our commitment to their success.

## Celebrating and Recognising our students

Building a culture where every student's efforts are seen and celebrated has been a key focus this year. We extend a huge congratulations to all students who earned Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards for meeting key points thresholds—a true testament to their consistent effort and positive engagement.

Beyond individual recognition, we also are proud of the students' collective achievements. Our final total for 'On Track Points' for 2024-25 is an astonishing 272,400 points! This absolutely smashes last year's total of 42,000 points, an increase that powerfully reflects the dedication and hard work of every single student. Well done, everyone!

## Sporting Participation & Success

Our teams have enjoyed a fantastic year of sporting opportunities, participating in a range of games and tournaments across a number of sports. The highlight was undoubtedly our annual Sports Day, which showcased a wealth of individual achievements, from courage in participation and improved personal bests to top-three finishes, new records, and multiple event wins. More importantly, the day truly embodied our collective community spirit, with students cheering each other on and a palpable sense of enjoyment throughout the event.

## **Vibrant Arts & Culture**

The creative spirit at St Dunstan's continues to develop. This year's school production, 'The Lion King,' was a magnificent highlight, brimming with joy, energy, and enthusiasm from students across all year groups. We also celebrated our students' musical talents in assemblies, enjoyed festive carols in the town centre, and had a fantastic Christmas showcase. Enriching experiences continued with visiting authors, the growing strength of our peripatetic provision, and inspiring visits to prestigious venues like Cedars Hall and the Royal Albert Hall.

## **Community Ethos**

In November and May we observed Remembrance Day and VE Day commemorations, with a deeply poignant gathering of all students and staff honouring the sacrifice and service from the Glastonbury community.

Our students' generosity shone through with an overwhelming number of food donations to our local food bank and their impressive efforts in raising over £500 for Children in Need. The kindness and generosity shown by our families and students through these donations were truly heart-warming moments and real highlights of the year.

## **Enrichment**

Our students have engaged in a wide array of enriching activities this year, including the Dungeons and Dragons Club, an Ada Lovelace Guardian visit for female STEM students, the Faraday Challenge, a Vivary Park trip, Chess Club, visits to Strode College, DofE Silver and Bronze expeditions, Library Pen Pals, Just Write groups, the Computational Thinking Competition (which our Key Stage 3 students won!), Bath University and theatre visits, the Youth Speaks Competition, Young Chef of the Year (with a student taking first prize!), Sustainable Futures projects, Poetry Live, the BSO Music Trip to Westlands, World Book Day and related events, developments to the school gardens, a trip to Pinewood Studios, Year 10 Mock Interviews, the Maths Challenge, and participation in the MNSP Book Awards. These experiences have broadened horizons and ignited new passions.

Beyond the headlines, we also celebrate the countless individual moments of personal growth—a shy student finding their voice in a debate, a struggling learner mastering a difficult concept, or a leader emerging in a group project.

None of these achievements would be possible without the unwavering support of our dedicated staff, who go above and beyond every day to inspire and guide our students. On behalf of the students and the entire community, I want to extend a huge thank you to every single one of them.

Equally, we extend our heartfelt thanks to you, our parents and families. Your partnership, encouragement, and commitment to your children's education are invaluable. Thank you.

Finally as the year concludes, we bid a fond farewell to staff members moving on to new chapters. We extend our sincere gratitude to Carol Salter for her incredible 40 years of service to our school community and wish her all the very best. We also bid farewell to Mr Jones and congratulate him on his retirement.

I wish everyone a wonderful summer break and we look forward to greeting all the students back in September for what I have no doubt will be another fantastic and successful year for St Dunstan's School.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Balkwill  
Headteacher