

December Newsletter 2022

Headteacher's Address

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy term – it is a bit of a shock to realise that we are approaching 2023! There has been a lot to celebrate this term – we have seen Year 10 Sport students successfully complete their required outdoor activity – thanks to Mr Waugh and Ms Pengelly for organising this and well done to students for completing the challenge. The Seasonal Cooking Club continues to go from strength to strength; it is great to see students so engaged in this activity. Likewise Drama Club is growing and lots of work is being done with Millfield students to develop skills; Mrs Gregory's Media class have also worked with Millfield to progress their understanding of filming and editing; Chess Club is very popular and it is good to see so many students so focused on this classic game; Gardening Club has started up this term and CCF is back up and running for Year 9 and above. The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award continues to attract large numbers of students keen to develop their resilience. Write Night, Japan Club, Art Club, Homework Club and after school Sports Clubs are also very well attended what a lot there is on offer! Thank you to staff for all the effort they put into running these extra curricular activities. I have been delighted to see Year 7 continue to settle in well to their life at secondary school. They are participating in lessons, clubs and the wider life of the school. Well done Year 7. I was very pleased to see the St Dunstan's Christmas tree in St John's Church – thank you to Ms Hart and Mrs Potter for working with students to create decorations and furnish the tree. The church is resplendent with trees from schools and other organisations.

We were thrilled to be able to host a celebration evening this year – our first since the pandemic; it was great to see so many students being recognised for both academic and TRACK achievements.

It has been good to receive a lot of applications from students wishing to join the school – all of them have mentioned the good things they have heard about St Dunstan's as a key factor in their decision to apply; this is a testament to the hard work put in by staff and students to make St Dunstan's such a great place to teach and to learn. As the school's reputation has grown in recent years, so has the number of students that are applying to join the school. As a result, we are making some changes to classes and the timetable after Christmas – you will receive a letter from Mr Armstrong about this. We are also recruiting several more teachers in a range of subjects.

As Christmas beckons from the horizon, we are all ready for a break. This term has tested us and really shown how our important our TRACK values are to the life of the school. As you will be aware, a series of bugs and viruses have hit both students and staff over the last few weeks – this has had a significant impact and has demanded that those in school be Resilient as we have had to collapse lessons and cover for absent colleagues. Please see the end of this newsletter for a factsheet about Strep A.

There has been a real sense of Community as those in school have had to pull together to keep things running smoothly. We have seen a lot of Kindness during this difficult time, from students being cooperative and helpful in lessons, as well as during social time to staff helping each other out and parents sending messages of support when we were left with no option but to ask some students to work from home. It really brings home what a special place this is to teach and to learn.

In spite of the challenges, this has been a very packed term – year 11 have had the experience of sitting mock exams; often this brings home the fact that a lot of hard work is needed between now and May to ensure that students achieve the very best outcomes possible. Staff are working hard, offering a range of support, resources and revision classes. Please do encourage your children to give 100% effort in lessons and to take advantage of all the help available.

In order for us to keep getting better, we would ask you, as parents and carers to complete a survey for us. The google form can be found here: <https://forms.gle/Lti3xwuZ2yyvcPJU8> The closing date is January 17th 2023.

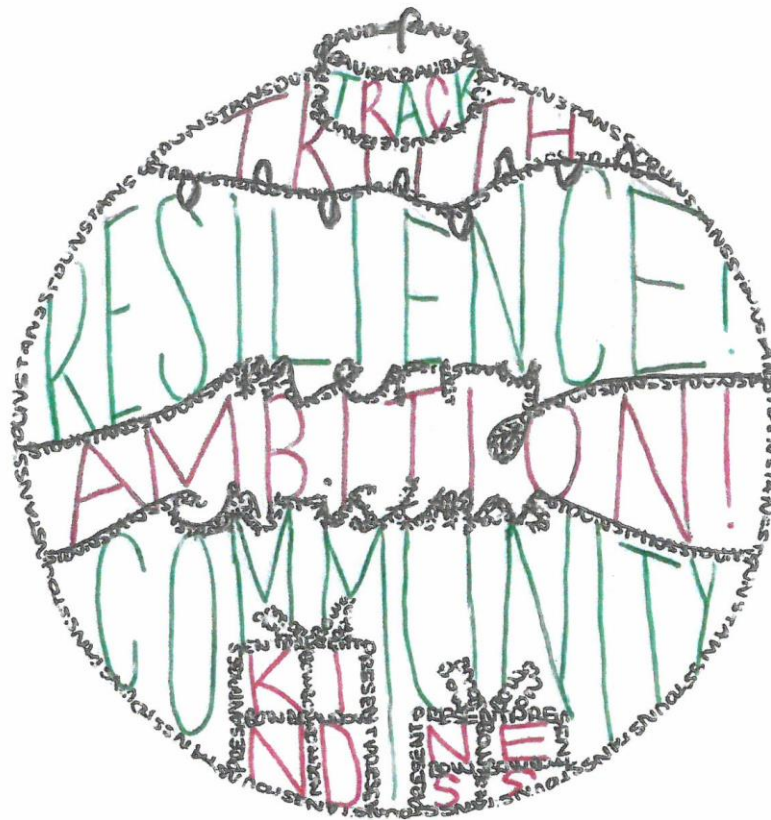
Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We will look forward to seeing all students back on site at 8.40 on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Mrs Bevan

School Christmas Card

Thank you to Isla in Year 10 for designing this splendid Christmas Card – we love how it incorporates all of our TRACK values.

Merry Christmas



Celebration Evening

It was wonderful to be able to hold a celebration evening for the first time since the pandemic struck. We were delighted to welcome back our Year 11 class of 2022 to receive their GCSE certificates and to see all the students who were nominated for subject and TRACK awards. Thank you to all those who attended and to Mr Atkinson for doing a great job as master of ceremonies. Thanks also go to the PTA for providing refreshments and to Mrs Manning for being our photographer for the evening!

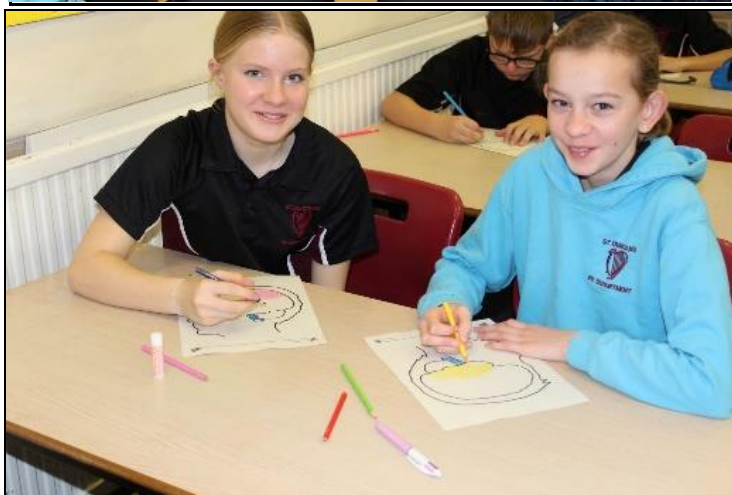


Collapsed Timetable Day on Positive Mental Health

On the 25th of November, we saw all Year 7-10 students being taken off their normal timetable and having sessions on how to build positive mental health. The Year 11 students worked with an organisation called “Elevate” that developed study and revision skills with them.

We were lucky to have eight visiting specialists from the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) who ran sessions on “Understanding Emotions”, how to build a “Well-Being toolkit” and delivering a school wide assembly on “Positive Mental Health”.

St Dunstan’s staff also delivered an hour long session on developing “Resilience” and students were involved in playing “Dodgeball”, whilst the benefits of exercise to positive mental health was explored. Students also undertook “Mindfulness Colouring” and explored the concept of mindfulness as well as playing Drama Games, whilst investigating the positive benefits of laughter, socialising and fun on one’s mental health.



In the following week, tutor time activities allowed for discussion of these themes in more depth, and all students completed a pupil voice survey on the day, to help us make improvements for when we run a similar day next year. The students were an absolute credit to the school and were extremely well behaved and focussed throughout the day, as well as being highly engaged in the sessions.

In our feedback survey, the vast majority of students felt that we should have a similar day each year; their enthusiasm demonstrates the success of the day, and I want to pass on my thanks to the MHST, all the staff for working so hard and to the students for being such superstars.

Attendance Matters

As we are all aware, this term has seen a significant amount of illness for both students and staff – this has been a nationwide issue.

As we start a new year – and hopefully one that is relatively free of viruses - all of us need to aim to be in school every day. We are really focusing on improving attendance for the rest of this academic year – we are aiming to be in line with the pre Covid National Average of 96%. In order to support students and parents to overcome any barriers around attendance, we will be continuing to implement a range of initiatives. Thank you in advance for supporting us in supporting your children to have good attendance in school so that they can make the best possible progress to give them the best possible outcomes and therefore have choices as they move through their academic career.

As well as being in school every day, it is equally important to be punctual – we know that this is a life skill and that poor punctuality can have negative consequences at college, university and in employment. As the school has grown so rapidly, we have introduced a staggered lunch break which means we can no longer run late detentions at lunchtimes and so we will be implementing the following system as of next term:

Anyone who is late to school and/or lessons three times in a week (Wednesday to Wednesday) will serve an after school detention of one hour on that Friday. A letter with full details will be sent to parents at the start of next term.

Top Tip – BE PUNCTUAL TO SCHOOL AND LESSONS!

PTA

St. Dunstan's PTA is up and running again after the enforced hiatus of the pandemic - bigger and stronger than ever, it has already successfully raised funds for the school during Glastonbury Carnival and the Frost Fayre.

One of our first initiatives has been to establish a Free School Uniforms Swap Shop. The PTA has a wide variety of pre-loved St. Dunstan's school uniforms/PE kits on offer free of charge available at school evening events or by contacting the PTA. Donations of unwanted/grown-out-of items can be left at school reception at any time and are much appreciated.

HOLD THE DATE - The PTA will be holding a night of food, fun, quiz and a little wine on the evening of Friday February 3rd, 2023. Details to follow at the start of the new term.

The PTA is always looking for new members or for volunteers willing to help during events.

The PTA can be contacted at stdunstanscommunitypta@gmail.com

EQUIPMENT SHOP

We are pleased to announce that we will be running a school shop from which students can purchase everyday items such as pens, pencils, rulers etc. Having the correct equipment is vital for being able to engage fully in learning. The shop will operate every Tuesday and students will need to bring cash for purchases. A price list will be issued in the New Year.

English, Media and Drama

📖 Book Buzz has Arrived! 📖

We have been eagerly anticipating the arrival of our books from Book Buzz and, in the last week of term, they were delivered.

Year 7 and 8 have been delighted 😊 this week to have their 📖 books presented to them. Book Buzz is a national scheme where schools can invest in literacy 📖 and purchase students a current title. There were 15 books 📖 to choose from and it was very exciting to be able to choose one to enjoy independently for pleasure. All Year 7 and 8 students will receive these books this week and will be able to enjoy them over Christmas 🌲 and quiz on them using Accelerated Reader 📖. It will be great fun to swap them with a friend 🧒🧒🧒 (once they have been read) and spread the 'bookish love'. ❤️



Youth Speaks Competition

We are pleased to have recruited two teams to enter into the Rotary Club's Youth Speaks public speaking competition in the new year. Our junior team, made up of one year 7 and two year 8 pupils, are speaking about the importance of community and our intermediates, all year 9s, are debating the issue of mental health and whether it is seen in the same way as physical health. Public speaking can be a really exciting challenge and we are seeing students pushing themselves beyond their comfort zone and developing resilience in their training and practice. The competition is on January 25th and we will update you with our progress.



Millfield Filming Club

Over the course of term 2, 9 KS4 pupils attended a weekly filming club at Millfield School. The course involved learning how to use a camera and boom mic for filming, interview strategies, editing techniques on the iMacs and filming on location. Our brief was to assist our friends at Millfield to film, edit and produce a documentary for the Crispin Hall Community Centre on the impact of social events such as tea dances for the elderly. We attended the Tea Dance and filmed a whole range of footage for cutaway shots and interviews. The following week we edited some of our work and finally we used the last session to work with the green screen where we were able to travel to the corridors of Hogwarts and even ride on a giraffe! It was a wonderful opportunity for students to practise their skills before they work on the practical production work in April.



Drama Club

The Drama Club has been meeting weekly and working with Millfield 6th Form. Students are creating a piece of theatre based on the idea of protecting and defending the environment. They will be presenting their final piece in a Performance Arts event, in collaboration with Millfield students, in April next year.

It has been an exciting time where our students have been involved with exploratory workshops in their theatre and 6th formers have been coming to the St Dunstan's Drama Studio to help create devise the piece. We look forward to the completion of the final performance and hope you will come and watch.



Write Night and Japan Club

Write Night is back this year and has become a more bespoke session - giving students a chance to work on their own personal creative endeavours from poetry to short stories. There will be a selection of writing competitions the group are encouraged to enter their work in throughout the year. However, the main focus is on workshopping and crafting creative skills and feeling comfortable giving and receiving constructive criticism. So far, a very diverse series of work is being produced. Watch this space for examples in future newsletters.

Japan Club is a holistic culture club. The aim of the club is dictated by the students themselves - what they would like out of this club - as well as my own input and selections. The activities vary widely. For example, there will be the opportunity to learn Japanese language; explore Japanese history; understand certain elements of Japanese culture; and enjoy literature and film. So far, the group have created a manga character based on themselves (in collaboration with the Art Club) and have begun a viewing of *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*. This will be compared to some of the works by studio Ghibli in later sessions.

Humanities

48 Year 9 students enjoyed an exciting day in London on the 13th December.

The day started with a sightseeing tour, trying to spot as many famous landmarks as we could. We even spotted Camilla, the Queen Consort, being driven past us!

It was a busy week at the Houses of Parliament. We were lucky enough to view one of the debates on levelling-up from the gallery.

Students then moved on to the viewing gallery in the House of Lords. Here the house was full and we managed to view debates on rail travel and free school meals.

James Heappy MP came to visit us at the end of the day and was questioned by the students on a wide range of issues.

All students were wonderful and a credit to the school.



Festival of Trees!

Our KS3 students have been working hard this term at Christmas Club with Miss Hart to design and make Christmas decorations for the annual Christmas Tree Festival at St John's Church.

St John's Church will glow from the lights of 40 Christmas trees decorated by local schools and organisations, including St Dunstan's.

The festival is open to the public from Sunday 11th December and is then open daily until Christmas Day with music, refreshments and special services.

It would be great if you could visit St John's over the coming two weeks in support of St Dunstan's and other local schools. Merry Christmas.



St John's Church Glastonbury

Shining Branches

A Festival of Christmas Trees

St John's will glow from the lights of 40 Christmas trees,
each decorated to represent the life and work
of a local organisation



Sunday 11th December to Christmas Day

Open daily

Entrance Free

Refreshments, Special Services and Music

Visit the Church website: www.stjohns-glastonbury.uk
or on  St-John-the-Baptist-Church-Glastonbury

Year 10 Sports Studies - Outdoor and Adventurous Activities

The year 10 sports studies class have been working extremely hard on completing their Outdoor and Adventurous Activities assessment which counts towards their final grade at the end of year 11. The students have shown great resilience during their lessons since late September, where they have been editing their assessment documents. A part of the unit requires the students to take part in 2 outdoor activities and review their practise within their assessment. Miss Pengelly and Mr Waugh accompanied the class on a trip to Split Rock Quarry for abseiling and then to Congresbury River for kayaking.

The students demonstrated amazing teamwork, communication skills and resilience throughout the day. The instructors all commented on how brilliant the students' attitudes were as well as their performance.

A huge well done to all of the students for demonstrating the school's TRACK values on the trip and congratulations on completing your first submission for the course! Miss Pengelly is very proud of you all.



Key Stage 3 news

Year 7 Tutor Messages

Mr Waterhouse writes: It feels like only last week I started at St Dunstan's School as so much has happened. It has been a pleasure to be the tutor for 7MWA and I look forward to the new year.

Miss Jeans writes: 7HJE has been energetic, engaged and great to tutor! So many different personalities in one group and it makes every day fun and entertaining! Thanks for being an amazing tutor group! Merry Christmas you lot!

Miss Pengelley writes: 7CPE has been an absolute pleasure this half term, as always! It has been great to see their confidence grow, friendships bloom and positive attitudes continue! Thank you for yet another successful half term and for always making me smile. I hope you have an amazing Christmas and a Happy New Year - I can't wait to see what 2023 brings for us all! Miss P

Mr Waugh writes: I am really enjoying being tutor to 7JWA – you are a great group and I am looking forward to seeing you continue to make excellent progress and exhibit TRACK values over the rest of the year.

Year 8 Tutor Messages

Mrs Loud writes: I continue to be so proud of so many of you that are consistently on TRACK every day! Have a lovely, well deserved festive break and I look forward to starting a fresh term and year with you in 2023!

Mrs Smith writes:

Well done 8VSM - another brilliant term and so much hard work from each of you, I am a very proud tutor! Enjoy the holiday and I will look forward to seeing you all in 2023!

Ms Kench writes: Wow, what a term! I am so lucky to have so many wonderful tutees, always showing excellent TRACK values, making me smile and looking after one another! Wishing you a fabulous Christmas and New Year and looking forward to seeing you in 2023! Miss K

Mr Timm writes:

It's been a tough one this term guys! With lots of you as well as me catching delightful viruses! I've been so impressed at your perseverance however! House points are up which I always love to see, thanks for that lovely Christmas present! Have a delightful holiday period and may the New Year bring many blessings to you all! Mr Timm

Year 9 Tutor Messages

Mr Brown writes: Well done for another fantastic term everyone. I have been impressed with how you have worked together as a form to finish your enrichment booklets, reading Hunger Games in class and I was especially proud of you all for your focus during the Positive Mental Health Day. As we move towards the last few World Cup games; we see Edward, Chloe, Ella and Oliver battling it out to be the sweepstake winners; given their love of football this seems fully fitting.

Stay safe over the holidays, and let's do it all again in 2023!

Mrs Pulford writes:

What a fab term. As ever, 9JPU have met each moment with resilience and aplomb! Christmas is on the horizon and we look forward to a festive break. Thanks for being amazing!

Mr Conway writes: Well done 9RCO, I feel many of you have made progress this term in the following ways: improved behaviour in lessons, having the right equipment with you at school, or improved attendance. I hope you enjoyed our (no money needed) World Cup sweepstake this term!

Congratulations to all students for getting to the end of a very long term. Christmas is finally here and I hope you all have a wonderful break and enjoy spending time with family and friends. We will see you back on Wednesday 4th January (TRACK non-uniform day for some).

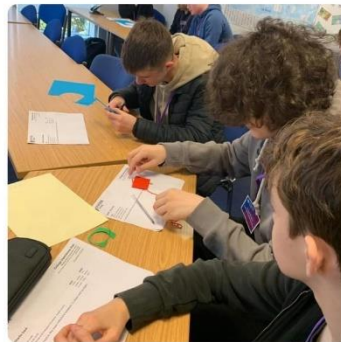
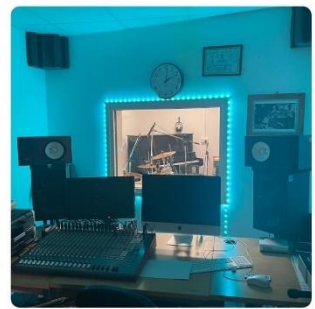
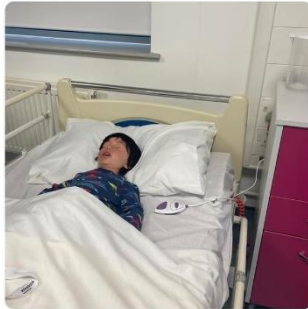
Mrs Easterbrook

Year 11 News

Year 11 have had an extremely busy term.

Strode College Taster Day

In November the whole year took part in a taster session at Strode college giving every student an opportunity to participate in sample post 16 lessons and activities and gain an insight into all aspects of Further Education. They behaved impeccably and had a fantastic day.



Careers interviews

The majority of 11 students have now attended their careers interview with Mrs McKinley giving them the chance to talk through their post 16 options and opportunities, get advice on college applications and begin opening the door on their post St Dunstan's plans.

Mock exams and results

Well done to all of Y11 for successfully navigating through the mock exam period. Exams can bring a degree of unease and uncertainty but whatever their results this time, students are now very clear on what is required of them to fulfil their potential in the coming months. Do encourage them to attend all revision and intervention sessions on offer.

Elevate Education

Elevate is a company that St Dunstan's has partnered with and they provide free webinars for parents. Find their webinar schedule enclosed. To access the webinars, please register using the link below:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>



Senior Leadership/Prefect team

Our incredible group of School leaders and Senior students have been doing an excellent job at assisting staff across the school. Through ensuring they are on duty around the site and attending and contributing to school events including open Evening. Thank you to you all.

Celebration Evening

Congratulations to all KS4 award winners at the recent celebration event- recognising your hard work and determination through last year and moving forward.

Revision Sessions

Revision sessions are on:

Mondays - Science

Wednesday - French and English

More subjects will be adding revision sessions from January.

Please help your child to plan their revision timetable. They will value your input and might need a helping hand to ensure that regular breaks are in place as well as making sure that all subjects are covered. Here are some links to help you:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zn3497h>

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/how-to-create-a-revision-timetable/>



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
8AM - 10AM REVISE SUBJECT 1	8AM - 10AM REVISE SUBJECT 1	8AM - 10AM REVISE SUBJECT 1	8AM - 10AM REVISE SUBJECT 1	8AM - 10AM REVISE SUBJECT 1	10AM - 12PM REVISE SUBJECT 1	REST!
BREAK!	10:30AM - 1:00PM REVISE SUBJECT 2	10:30AM - 1:00PM REVISE SUBJECT 2	10:30AM - 1:00PM REVISE SUBJECT 2	10:30AM - 1:00PM REVISE SUBJECT 2	12:45PM - 2:45PM REVISE SUBJECT 2	REST!
BREAK!	2PM - 4PM REVISE SUBJECT 3	2PM - 4PM REVISE SUBJECT 3	2PM - 4PM REVISE SUBJECT 3	2PM - 4PM REVISE SUBJECT 3	2PM - 4PM REVISE SUBJECT 3	REST!
BREAK!	4:15PM - 6:15PM REVISE	4:15PM - 6:15PM REVISE	4:15PM - 6:15PM REVISE	4:15PM - 6:15PM REVISE	GO HAVE FUN	REST!

Reverse Advent Calendar

December has arrived and in homes across the country, cardboard doors will be opened in the traditional countdown to Christmas. But just as some look to luxury, students in 11JMA and 11KGR are choosing to reverse things this advent - with a calendar which gives back. The idea is simple; instead of opening the door to a chocolate or picture, they do the giving.

Students have been putting aside a donation of food each day of advent, so they have a collection of goods ready to drop off in time for Christmas. All donations will be given to Glastonbury Bridging the Gap at the end of term. We have been overwhelmed with their kind donations.

<https://together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/glastonbury/churchesp/foodbank/>

Housepoints

Year 11 students have continued to impress us with the number of house points they have collected. Our current, top 5 individuals are:

- 1 Oliver A
- 2 Frankie D
- 3 Macaully B
- 4 Poppy B
- 5 Maddison S

CAREER OF THE WEEK

FATHER CHRISTMAS

Annual salary (dependant on qualifications & experience):

No salary but own company vehicle, uniform, expenses and 364 days off per year

Qualifications needed:

Ability to work alone and to tight deadlines, must not be afraid of reindeers or heights. Good knowledge of Geography and air travel. A passion for mince pies and mulled wine is essential

How long at college:

No college qualification required. Can start on an elf-helper apprenticeship, and then gain promotion for the right person



We continue to be impressed by Year 11's hard work and resilience and look forward to working with them during the Spring term, their last few months at secondary school! We are always on the end of an email if students or parents need to contact us.

Once again, may we take the opportunity to thank parents/carers for your ongoing support. We hope you all have a great Christmas holiday.

Mrs Manning, Mrs Gregory and Ms Thomason

Online Safety

Some useful websites to help understand how to keep children safe online

Net Aware: An easy guide to apps, games and sites:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

NSPCC Online safety resources:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Advice and support for young people, via Childline:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/>

YoungMinds parent helpline:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-helpline/>

<https://vimeo.com/480839159>

Have a look at this film about who to trust online

<https://vimeo.com/uksic>

Please note that you can find the Trust safeguarding policy (and all other policies) by using this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B5Z73cTOEMQdTVJCVU0weFZQb2s?resourcekey=0-mC9nM0f-rFEjRkAeis0sAw>

Further tips on e-safety for parents from CEOP

1. Make sure your child knows where to go for support: Remind them they can always speak to you or an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. For a breakdown of report services, visit: [Supporting your child with reporting unwanted content online](#)
2. Make sure they know about CEOP: Young people can report a concern about grooming or sexual abuse to CEOP at <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/> and get support from a specialist Child Protection Advisor.
3. Have an ongoing conversation: Continue to talk about the apps, games and sites they like to use, and what they like and don't like and any concerns about being online. Discuss with them when to unfollow, block or report. For help starting this conversation, read [having a conversation with your child](#).

School Nurse

Our School Nurse service is currently operating on a reduced service but still accepting referrals. If students have concerns or need to talk to someone over the holiday season, they can use the text number or QR code in the poster to access help or advice.



The poster is for ChatHealth, a service provided by Somerset County Council. It features a teal background with a pink speech bubble containing a list of issues: Emotional Health, Relationships, Sexual Health, Drugs, Smoking, and Alcohol. Below this, it asks 'Got a concern?' and specifies 'If you're 11-19'. It states 'it only takes one text to start making a difference'. At the bottom, it provides the text number '07480 635 516' and a QR code. Logos for ChatHealth and Somerset County Council are at the top, and 'Improving LIVES' is at the bottom right. A disclaimer at the bottom left states: 'Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service. It operates Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm and is only available by using a 5 digit mobile number. Your messages are stored in our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.'



Medicines/Medical Conditions



Please remember to update any medical conditions or required medicines with the school office.

If your son/daughter suffers from Asthma and uses an inhaler or has an allergy and requires an epipen, please supply the school with a spare to keep for emergencies.

Prescribed medicines administered by the school or unprescribed medicines administered by students both require an authorised form to be completed which is available from the school office

Important Information



Keeping in contact



Please remember to update any changes of your contact details for your son/daughter with the school office.

You can make changes to your details by calling 01458 832943 or emailing: secretary@stdunstansschool.com.

We are relying on email communication more than ever to send you updates and notices.

To help you to receive your emails promptly, there are a few things you can do to help

- Inform the school if you change your email address
- Check your email box daily including your SPAM mail
- Regularly sort and delete any unrequired messages to keep space in your inbox



24 November 2022

Fact sheet for schools and parents about Group A Streptococcus (GAS)/Scarlet Fever.

What is Group A Streptococcus?

Group A Streptococcus or *Streptococcus pyogenes* is a bacterium that can be found in the throat and on the skin. People may carry it and have no symptoms of illness or may develop infection.

How is it spread?

Group A Streptococcus survives in throats and on skin for long enough to allow easy spread between people through sneezing and skin contact. People who are currently carrying the bacteria in the throat or on the skin may have symptoms of illness or they may have no symptoms and feel fine. In both cases, these bacteria can be passed on to others.

What kinds of illnesses are caused by Group A Streptococcus?

Most Group A Streptococcus illnesses are relatively mild, with symptoms including a sore throat ("strep throat"), scarlet fever or a skin infection such as impetigo. However, on rare occasions, these bacteria can cause other severe and sometimes life-threatening diseases.

Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others.

The **symptoms** of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine red rash which typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it will still feel like 'sandpaper'. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

Children who have had **chickenpox** or **influenza ('flu')** recently are more likely to develop more serious infection during an outbreak of scarlet fever and so parents should remain vigilant for symptoms such as a persistent high fever, cellulitis (skin infection) and arthritis (joint pain and swelling). If you are concerned for any reason please seek medical assistance immediately.

What is invasive Group A Streptococcal (iGAS) disease?

Although rare, invasive Group A Streptococcus disease may occur when bacteria get into parts of the body where bacteria are not usually found. These infections are called invasive Group A Streptococcal disease and can be very serious and even life-threatening.

What are the symptoms of invasive Group A Streptococcal disease?

The most important thing to be aware of are the early signs and symptoms of invasive Group A Streptococcal disease. These are:

- High Fever
- Severe muscle aches
- Localised muscle tenderness
- Redness at the site of a wound

What should I do if my child becomes unwell?

If your child becomes unwell contact your GP practice. Alternatively, you can call NHS111 and you should also call NHS111 if your surgery is closed.

If my child is unwell, should they stay off school?

If your child becomes unwell with these symptoms you should contact your GP practice or call NHS111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice. If your child is unwell they should stay off school until they are better.

What else can I do to prevent my child from becoming unwell?

Because Group A Streptococcal disease is spread through coughing, sneezing and skin contact, it's important to have good hand hygiene and catch coughs and sneezes in tissues and throw these away. If you are unwell, stay at home and seek medical advice. This will all help limit the spread of other infections, which are common this time of year.



Term Dates

We will look forward to seeing everyone back in their classrooms, in correct uniform and with the correct equipment (including a reading book) on 4th January 2023. A reminder that students should be in their tutor room at 8.45 and so should arrive on site by 8.40; the gates will be closed at 8.40 to ensure everyone gets to tutor on time.

INSET Day on Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Term 3 begins on Wednesday 4th January 2023

Term 3 ends on Friday 10th February 2023

Term 4 begins on Monday 20th February 2023

All students should be on site by 8.40 for a prompt start to registration at 8.45. Students must be in the correct uniform and have the correct equipment with them including a reading book.

Have a GREAT Christmas and a Happy New Year!

