

**Summer  
2025**

Achieve  
Belong  
Participate

COURT FIELDS  
SCHOOL

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COURT FIELDS SCHOOL  
The next exciting chapter of your life starts here  
ACHIEVE • BELONG • PARTICIPATE

# COURT FIELDS NEWS

## Award Winners

Exciting news as the school wins two prestigious awards

## Prom 2025

Check out our fabulous prom photos and awards

## Year Group Updates

Our Head of Year staff share updates and well wishes

# WELCOME!

Dear Court Fields Community,

As we reach the end of another remarkable year, I feel such a sense of pride reflecting on all that our students and staff have achieved. Through recognition at the Somerset Careers Awards and the Pride of Somerset Youth Awards, a huge range of sporting achievements, primary festivals, trips and visits, appointment of Prefects and Transition Leaders, our whole school production and the incredible success of our first-ever CFS Fest, this year has truly showcased the spirit of Court Fields.

Our students have embraced every opportunity to Achieve, Belong and Participate—whether through their learning, creative arts, sports, or community service. Highlights include our continued partnership with the Madagascar Development Fund, the inspiring Kings Arms mural project, and the outstanding performances in drama, music, and enrichment clubs.

I am especially proud of the resilience and ambition shown by our Year 11 leavers, and the enthusiasm across all year groups for learning, leadership, and making a difference.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, supportive families, and of course, our incredible students. Your commitment and energy make Court Fields a truly special place.

Wishing you all a restful and joyful summer break. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7s and everyone else back to our fantastic school in September for another exciting year ahead.

Polly Matthews, Headteacher, Court Fields School



# Award winners!

On Wednesday 21st May, six Court Fields School students were honoured to win The Sandy Padgett Award 2025, at The Pride of Somerset Youth Awards. As part of The Somerset West Youth Independent Advisory Group, the Year 10 students; Ashleigh P, Lucy T, Aidyn L, Karylle P, Ben F and Rowen H were recognised for their work in this pilot project. Detective Superintendent Lisa Simpson, introduced the award, saying:



*"Chief Superintendent Sandy Padgett, the District Commander of Somerset West, had huge faith in children and young people and really believed in their potential. Before her untimely death suddenly in 2009, she had always been a huge supporter of the Pride of Somerset Youth Awards, so it is only fitting that she gives her name to this special award this evening. The Sandy Padgett Award celebrates a young person or group of young people who have truly gone above and beyond, and whose achievements have really stood out to our judges. It recognises those who embody the spirit of commitment, service, and extraordinary achievement that Sandy represented throughout her life."*

On announcing the winners of the award, the Detective Superintendent, described the Court Fields Students:

*"This remarkable group of Year 10 students from Court Fields School in Wellington, have gone above and beyond to ensure that young people's voices are truly heard. Recognising that youth opinions were often filtered through professionals, they volunteered to work directly with Somerset West Police as part of a pilot project. Initially a reserved group, over the past year, their impact on the town has been impressive. They created a presentation encouraging other year groups to share their concerns of young people in their town, and have become the spokespeople between the school and local officers. Their confidence has grown rapidly, they've presented to professionals and voluntary organisations at a community breakfast, secured funding from the Wellington Rotary Club, and are now working with youth services to help shape a dedicated youth hub in the centre of Wellington. Their work is already making a real difference and they now hope to grow the project across Somerset West, giving even more young people a chance to speak up and be heard. They truly embody the spirit of this award."*

The students were blown away as they were presented with the award by Sandy Padgett's husband, Ken. Court Fields' Careers Lead, Charity Hunt commented: *"With such a high standard of nominations for the Pride of Somerset Youth Awards I think Mr Reed, Head of Year 10, and myself were trying to manage both our own and the student's expectations of winning the Sandy Padgett Award. So, when Detective Superintendent Lisa Simpson got to the stage and started reading our nomination well, we couldn't quite believe it. There were tears of elation, whoops of excitement and overwhelming sense of pride of our six students Karylle, Ben, Ashleigh, Rowen, Aidyn and Lucy. It goes without saying that we must thank Peter Joint for making the nomination and Bob House for supporting this group in the last 18 months, without them this simply wouldn't have happen."*

Headteacher, Polly Matthews said *"We are so proud that our Court Fields School students have won the prestigious Sandy Padgett Award for their work as the Police Youth Advisory Group. It is all the more poignant that the award was set up in memory of Chief Superintendent Sandy Padgett, who worked tirelessly in the Avon & Somerset area, particularly on leading part of the Action on Street Crime and Citizen Focused Policing initiatives. Our students, through their engagement in the Advisory Group, have opened channels of communication between the young people in*



*our community and the Police, helping to deepen trust and understanding, and this will have a lasting impact on them and the Wellington community. I would like to thank our Careers Advisor Charity Hunt, Peter Joint, local One Team Co-ordinator, and Bob House from the Police Advisory Group, for convening the group and supporting their work, and also the Pride of Somerset Youth Awards (POSYA) for recognising their commitment to improving our community."*

Well done to all involved!

# Court Fields named as Best Careers Focused School



Court Fields School has been named Best Careers Focused Secondary School at the Somerset Careers Awards 2025, a prestigious recognition of the school's outstanding commitment to preparing students for the world of work.

The award, presented at a celebratory ceremony held at Taunton Rugby Football Club on 10th July, highlights the school's innovative and inclusive approach to careers education. The Somerset Careers Awards, organised by the Somerset Education Business Partnership, celebrate excellence in careers provision across the county, recognising schools, educators, and businesses that inspire and empower young people.

Headteacher Mrs Polly Matthews expressed her pride in the school's achievement:

*"It's fantastic that our school has achieved this accolade at the Somerset Careers Awards. Court Fields has an absolute focus on the vital importance of careers education for our students; we are committed to ensuring that every student leaves at the end of Year 11, not only with the qualifications, but also with the confidence, knowledge, and skills to thrive in their chosen path. Our careers programme is a key part of our Court Fields Experience, through which we frame our Personal Development curriculum. This enables our students to Achieve, Belong and Participate in all aspects of their learning, in school life, in enrichment and out of school opportunities. Our whole team are part of delivering this, from planning and preparing for our Careers Fairs, teaching and supporting students via the Tutor Programme, linking our subject curricula to ambitious opportunities, and leading our Careers Strategy. Of course, absolutely key in our Court Fields team is our amazing Careers Advisor, Charity Hunt, whose hard work has been instrumental in our winning this award. Thank you to her and congratulations to our whole team!"*

*"I'd also like to thank the Somerset Education Business Partnership for their work for schools, the Somerset Careers Hub, and in particular Rob Morrish for their support, and of course the employers, colleges and other organisations with whom we engage to open minds and opportunities for our students."*

A key figure behind the school's success is Charity Hunt, Careers Lead at Court Fields, who was also shortlisted as a finalist in the Careers Leader of the Year category. Her leadership has been instrumental in developing a careers curriculum that helps students explore a wide range of career possibilities.

This recognition comes shortly after our successful Year 10 Work Experience Week, during which students engaged with a diverse range of employers across Somerset. The week provided invaluable hands-on experience and insight into various industries, reinforcing the school's commitment to real-world learning and career readiness.

Assistant Head and DSL, Sarah Westwood commented:

*"We are thrilled with this award! Daily, we provide a programme of careers education to ensure our students leave, with the knowledge, skills and aspirations to be the best they can be. Charity is the driving force behind this and we thank her for all her hard work and dedication along with all the staff and students at Court Fields. We are very proud."*

Court Fields School continues to set a benchmark for careers education in Somerset, inspiring students to dream big and achieve their goals.

# MADAGASCAR WEEK 2025

In May, we hosted our annual Madagascar Week, to raise much-needed money for the Madagascar Development Fund.

We've been raising money for the Fund since 2012, and in that time have raised over £50,000. The latest efforts, from a non-uniform day, cake sales and raffle, totalled £675.

Court Fields' partnership with the Madagascar Development Fund was initiated by the late Bob Stark, formerly Deputy Head, who was a leading light in imaginative fundraising activities.

One such activity was a sponsored walk by pupils to the Wellington monument, to raise funds for a safe, clean water installation. The walk was based on something experienced by Brian Donaldson, the former founder of the Madagascar Development Fund, when he was visiting a primary school in Betafo near Antsirabe, a five hour drive south of the capital, Antananarivo. He noticed that all children walking to work were carrying clearly heavy back packs and pieces of wood. When he enquired it was explained that the school was desperately short of classroom furniture, and no funds to buy them. The backpacks contained two house bricks, which combined with the planks provided something to sit on while listening to the teachers, and a "desk" to write on when required. The Court Fields pupils who participated in Bob's sponsored walk also carried bricks and planks, replicating the experience of the pupils of Betafo Primary School.

When Bob retired, Debbie Greenfield took on his role as Court Fields' main fund raiser. Right, is a list of projects financed by Court Fields over the years.

Mrs Matthews said: "It's fantastic that our school has such a long-standing relationship with the community in Madagascar to support communities that, despite their best efforts to help themselves, are in desperate need of support.

Brian Donaldson, Founder and Patron of the Madagascar Development Fund, in his recent update on projects funded by Court Fields School's fundraising said "Madagascar has seen significant social unrest and political conflict since 2009. Hopes for a better future were raised when a new president was elected in December 2018 and re-elected in 2024. However, a recent report by the World Bank stated that 81% of the population of 31 million people are still living in extreme poverty, on incomes of less than \$2.00 per day. Furthermore, according to a report by the United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP) Madagascar is the third poorest nation in the world in terms of food insecurity and school attendance, behind only Haiti and Afghanistan".

Mrs Matthews continued "As part of our Court Fields Experience personal development programme and our subject curriculum, for example in World Views and Geography, our students learn about those less fortunate than themselves and support fundraising for charities locally, nationally and internationally. Raising money in our Madagascar Week for community projects enabling children to have clean water, sanitation and classrooms in which to learn safely, provide an opportunity for them to learn about the world and provide vital support. The current project to build and furnish a pre-school classroom at Antsampanimahazo Primary School will be hugely positive for the community, who have shown commitment to the education of their children by raising funds to build three additional classrooms. Although work began, the funds ran out before it could be completed, however the community have shown great interest in improving conditions at the school for their children. They see this as the only way to fight poverty and improve living standards. This commitment to schooling, in a region where pre-school and first year primary children walk distances often up to 6km, with no food between leaving and

returning home, is truly inspiring. Our students will be developing links and learning more about to Madagascar as part of their Geography and World Views lessons, and we hope that in the next 2 years we can set up a school visit to Madagascar to help with some of the projects and see the impact our funds have made. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Madagascar Week events."



## Projects over the years

**2012** - Safe, clean water installation at Ambohitrangano (financed by Tim and Claire Heeley, former teachers at Court Fields with funds they were given instead of wedding presents)

- Safe, clean water installation extension at Ambohitrangano

**2013** - Safe, clean water installation at Imerinatsimo

**2014** - Safe, clean water installation at Ambaravaratapia

**2016** - Building two primary school classrooms, furnished and with latrines at Ambohimahitsy, dedicated to the memory of Bob Stark

**2018** - Building an additional classroom at Ambohimahitsy Primary School. Inaugurated by members of a Court Fields Expedition led by Debbie and Peter Greenfield

**2019** - Building a pre-school classroom at Antanetibe Ouest Primary School Co-funded with Friends of Hassocks Infant School in Sussex

**2022** - Extending a safe clean water system at Imerikapoza

**2022** - Buying and distributing basic necessities to hundreds of victims of the deadly cyclone in Ikongo

**2023** - Building a pre-school classroom at Antanimarina and supplying age-appropriate books and educational toys Co-funded with Friends of Hassocks Infant School in Sussex

**2025** - Building a pre-school building with school furniture at Abtsampanimahazo Public Primary School



# EXMOOR CHALLENGE

A group of students from Court Fields School completed the Exmoor Challenge on Saturday 3rd May, walking 16.8 miles. The teams did excellently, with Team 1 (mixed team) coming in at joint 28th, Team 2 (all boys team) coming in at joint 15th and Team 3 (all girls team) coming in at a hugely impressive 3rd!

As none of the students dropped out, reserve student Amelia S (Yr7) agreed to join a team from Silverton, who had a member drop out at the last minute. The Silverton team with Amelia came in 14th overall, in the all girls teams.

Adam Etherington who led the practise walks, said: "Our three teams have been practising really hard for this challenging event, their first practice walk was back on a very cold February on the Blackdown hills, which was challenging in its own right. The second practise was on the Quantock Hills in much better weather but some challenging hills! Their final practise walk was on rugged Exmoor, just a week before the actual event."

Mr Etherington continued: "All students have been fantastic ambassadors for Court Fields school throughout, and the staff involved have thoroughly enjoyed helping such wonderful students achieve their amazing results."

Well done everyone!



# CFS FEST!

Court Fields School came alive on 14th July 2025 with its very first festival on the field, a joyful celebration of student talent and community spirit. The event brought together students, families, and staff for an evening of live music, food, and fun.

The festival featured performances from school bands Slowburne, The Clovers, Paper Jam, Sugar Rush, Impact, The TC, Paradox, Spiked Sound, and the CFS Chorus. Each act brought their own energy and enthusiasm, making the night a true showcase of the school's musical talent.

A special thank you goes to C.L Transport for generously providing one of their flatbed lorries, which served as the stage for the evening's performances.

With such a successful debut, there's already excitement about making CFS Fest an annual tradition. It was a night full of pride, passion, and community spirit—one that will be remembered for years to come





**Head of Year**  
**Mr Seaton**

# YEAR 7 UPDATE

As we come to the end of the summer term, we are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of our fantastic Year 7 cohort. This term has been filled with energy, enthusiasm, and a real commitment to learning.

Throughout the term, students have made excellent progress in their lessons, showing, resilience, and a positive attitude. Their hard work and determination have not gone unnoticed, and we are delighted with the strides they have made academically. Beyond the classroom, Year 7 have thrown themselves into the wider life of the

school, with brilliant participation in clubs and extracurricular activities. Whether it's been in the arts, sports, science, or music, students have embraced new opportunities and supported one another along the way. A special mention goes to the girls' rounders team and the Year 7 cricket team, who have shown dedication, teamwork, and fantastic progress throughout the term. Their commitment and sportsmanship have been a real credit to the school.

One of the highlights of the term was our Presentation Evening, where it was wonderful to see students and their families come together to celebrate the achievements of the year group. The evening was a true reflection of the hard work, talent, and community spirit that defines Year 7.

As we look ahead, we're excited for the challenges and opportunities that Year 8 will bring. We know this cohort will continue to grow, thrive, and make the most of everything Court Fields has to offer.

On behalf of myself and the Pastoral Team, we would like to wish all of Year 7 a wonderful, restful summer break. Thank you for a fantastic year – we can't wait to see what you achieve next!

Well done, Year 7 – you've been brilliant!



# YEAR 8 UPDATE

It's difficult to believe that we have virtually completed 2 years at Court Fields. It's really pleasing to see how much you have built on your solid start to school since Year 7. Many of you have matured immeasurably and consistently show a well rounded approach to the Court Fields Experience that we offer.

Your tutor plays a huge role in this and we were sorry to have to say goodbye to Mrs Alge earlier in the term. We are so lucky with the tutor team that we have and I know how hard they all work to ensure you are well prepared for everything that school can throw at you.

Well done to all of those who represent the school on a more extra-curricular basis. As well as the sports teams and community events, a special mention goes to those who took part in the Exmoor challenge - a fantastic achievement!!

I was fortunate to be part of our celebration assembly. So many of you are excelling in not only your behaviour and attendance but also showing excellence in your timetabled subjects. We had record numbers of students exceeding 1000 positive points. This really does recognise the consistency of effort and behaviour throughout the school and how many students are going above and beyond on a regular basis.

I am always amazed by the efforts when the year group undertake any fundraising events. The totals raised are always impressive with many students showing initiative to organise their own events.

May I finish by thanking you for your ongoing support with your child and their time with us. I do wish you a wonderful summer break and I'll see you as Head of Year 9!!



**Head of Year**  
**Mr Nicholls**



# YEAR 9 UPDATE



**Head of Year  
Mr Williams**

As the Head of Year 9, I have had the fortunate privilege to be able to witness the wonderful progress made by our Year 9 students during this academic year. I am constantly impressed and proud as ever with the varied and challenging ways, our students have participated in a huge variety of activities and experiences. We have enjoyed a busy and packed year, decorated with fantastic achievements across academic subjects and extra-curricular enrichment opportunities. Our students have also achieved numerous successes in sporting pursuits across the board from Netball to Trampolining. Students have been involved in a wide range of outdoor events, with foundations set in year 7 and 8 with the walking competitions on Exmoor and the Blackdowns. Groups of our students have travelled to local colleges and learned as a part of Insights into Apprenticeships and BTC links. With guidance and advice we have worked our way through the options process, guided superbly by our fine team of tutors. Utilising online videos and mock interviews with representatives from local college providers, as a support mechanism to assist important decisions about future learning and careers potential.



**Head of Year  
Mr Reed**

# YEAR 10 UPDATE

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding school year, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible journey our Year 10 students have been on. From embracing new challenges in their GCSE courses to showing resilience, creativity, and kindness in all aspects of school life, they have truly grown in confidence and character. They have approached their mock exams with focus and resilience,

gaining valuable insight into their strengths and areas for growth. A particular highlight was their enthusiastic participation in work experience week, where they represented the school with professionalism and curiosity across a wide range of industries. I'm immensely proud of their achievements and the positive energy they bring to our community. I wish all our students and families a restful, joyful summer break—well deserved!





# YEAR 11 UPDATE

Congratulations Year 11, on successfully finishing your time here at Court Fields School. You have all had an extremely busy final year, most notably the last few remaining summer months where you completed your GCSE examinations. A lot of hard work and preparation went into these exams, and you should all be proud of yourselves for giving them your best efforts.

**Head of Year  
Mr Rooke**

Aside from the recent GCSE's, there have been other displays of brilliance from the year group. Prefects supporting the school with important key events, charity football matches solely organised by individual students, college interviews, PPE's and the general excellent conduct shown by the year group throughout. There more exciting

days ahead too, notably the final leavers assembly and prom, which will be a great way to end what has been a superb year.

As you all go onto the next steps of your journeys, I just wanted to take the time to congratulate you all again and wish you all the very best of luck in your future endeavours. It has been a privilege to be your Head of Year during your time at Court Fields, and I can't wait to hear how successful you all go on to be in the future!

## Whole-school applause



# Leavers Day



# PROM 2025





## OUR WINNERS!

**Prom Royalty =  
Safka B & Ed O**

**Deputy Prom Royalty =  
Esme A & Josh B**

**Best Prom Arrival = Liam  
B**

**Most likely to be  
famous = Thiago W**

**Most likely to paint a  
masterpiece =  
Gabriela G**

**Mostly likely to win a No-  
bel peace prize = Milly H**

**Most likely to cure a dis-  
ease = Frankie W**

**Most likely to be a mil-  
lionaire = Ollie F.S**

**Most likely to be the first  
person on mars = Ollie B**

**Most likely to headline at  
Glastonbury =  
Leila C**

**Most likely to be a reality  
TV star = Ava H**

**Most likely to be the first  
to buy a house = Safka B**

**Most likely to go viral =  
Sam H**



## Formal PROM PHOTOS

£5 for each 10x8  
glossy print.

When ordering please  
add your child's name  
and photo number/s to  
the additional  
information.  
They will be available to  
collect from early  
October



## Prom Photo Ordering

Formal prom photos are  
now available to order.  
Each 10x8 glossy print is  
just £5.

To order, please visit  
[https://  
www.ticketsource.co.uk/  
court-fields-school](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/court-fields-school) or scan  
the QR Code below, and include:

- Your child's name
- The photo number(s)

in the Additional Information section when placing your  
order.

Prints will be available to collect in early October!



## ENRICHMENT

### CHESS CLUB

Chess club this year  
has been very busy  
again. We have been in  
our new rooms of C9  
and C10 which have  
proved very popular, as  
they are both air  
conditioned and are  
near to the kettles and  
the freezer for hot  
chocolate and tea or  
ice poles, weather  
dependant.



The annual chess club competition has just  
concluded with Tyler J in Year 8 being  
crowned the overall winner. Runners up were  
Malachai P and Luca C, a special mention  
also to Jasmine P for a valiant competition  
effort. We also said goodbye to two of our  
Year 11 who have been coming for many  
years to chess club and wish them well in the  
future, Analeigh O and Aiden I. We look  
forward to a new year of fun, strategic play  
and enjoyment next year. As always if you  
cannot play do not let this put you off coming  
along we can teach you and we are open to  
all year groups.

Thank you to all who have participated this  
year and we will see you next year!

## MINDFUL CRAFT CLUB

Yoga has presented  
itself in a different guise  
this year. We have  
swapped gross motor  
movements and breath  
work for chalks, pencils,  
paintbrushes and wool!  
Over this academic year  
we have explored a  
number of different craft  
activities that can help  
us be present in the  
moment, and put our  
worries and concerns  
about the past and  
future to one side. This  
summer term we moved  
into the sensory garden  
by the hub, to enjoy the  
calming effect of being  
in nature and creating a  
display of painted rocks,  
joyful chalk drawings,  
ribbon bunting and wool  
creations.

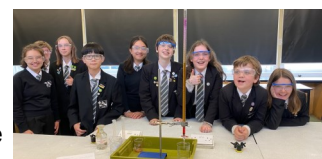


## MFL CLUB

The MFL Club has continued to flourish  
this year, with a dedicated group of  
students attending regularly every  
Tuesday lunchtime. The club offers a fun  
and informal opportunity to explore  
languages beyond the standard  
curriculum. Throughout the year,  
students have discovered a variety of  
fascinating languages, including Finnish,  
Māori (spoken by the indigenous people  
of New Zealand), and Guarani. They've  
also enjoyed taking part in quizzes and  
games focused on world languages,  
broadening their cultural knowledge  
while having fun.

## STEM CLUB

STEM Club have had lots of fun this  
term. Here they are experimenting with  
Acids and Alkali's making 'Rainbow Fizz'  
- the students  
thought this  
was very  
fitting with CF  
Pride Week  
being held the  
same week!

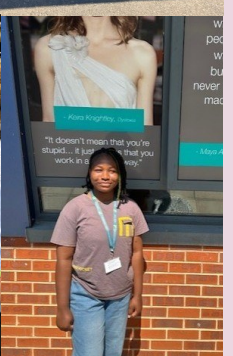


## CYBER CLUB

Here are some pictures  
from our video games  
and cyber clubs. Please  
do come along!



# Work Experience



# LEARNING SUPPORT

## Year 8 Allotment Intervention: Growing Success!

This term, a dedicated group of Year 8 boys have been getting their hands dirty in the school allotment as part of a special intervention programme. From weeding to planting, they've poured time and effort into transforming their plot into a vibrant and productive space.

Thanks to generous donations, the boys have been growing a fantastic variety of fruits and vegetables including strawberries, tomatoes, pumpkins, marrows, and Swiss chard. Their enthusiasm has been infectious, especially during the light-hearted sunflower growing competition, which brought an extra bit of fun to the experience.

The allotment has not only flourished with life, but so have the students — showing teamwork, resilience, and pride in their hard work. It's been a blooming brilliant success!



## ELSA Sessions

We have had an enjoyable year supporting our students with our ELSA sessions and hope they have an enjoyable Summer break and well-deserved rest. ELSA is a child-centred holistic intervention that links to social and emotional aspects of learning. We have been helping with a variety of needs, for example: Emotional regulation, understanding our thoughts and feelings and learning to improve our communication skills; encouraging attendance; bereavement and other issues. Anxiety can be a problem for some

students, so we learn how to use positive self-talk, helping with the "what if" thinking and generally boosting self-esteem and self-confidence. As the students develop a greater emotional understanding, this results in greater motivation and resilience, enabling the students to maintain healthy relationships with others and to enjoy life more. We also use Art therapy and here are some photos of their amazing creations.



## School Links Students Thrive at Cannington College

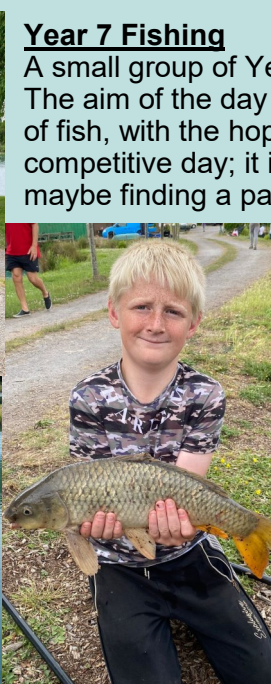
Cannington College isn't just a place students visit—it's a place where they belong, year-round. Thanks to the School Links programme, pupils have been taking part in land-based learning throughout the academic calendar, gaining valuable skills, building confidence, and discovering career paths they never knew existed.

**Every Season on the Farm and in the Saddle:** With tutor Holly leading the way, students have embraced life on the land no matter the weather. From lambing in spring to mucking out in winter, they've developed resilience and responsibility while caring for sheep and cattle. Meanwhile, the equine centre offers a year-round chance to groom, and care for horses. The variety keeps things exciting—and students get to experience the full cycle of animal care.

**Exotic Animal Encounters:** Under the expert guidance of tutor Oscar, learners in the Animal Welfare Centre have had regular, hands-on sessions with some of the world's most fascinating creatures. Lemurs, raccoons, skunks, otters, and raccoon dogs are just a few of the exotic animals they help care for. Handling and feeding snakes, lizards, rats, giant land snails to name a few. With each visit, students build confidence, empathy, and a better understanding of animal behaviour and welfare.

**Growing All Year with Horticulture:** No matter the season, tutor Alan has students digging into horticulture. From sowing seeds in early spring to harvesting in late autumn—and even learning about winter plant care—the horticulture programme helps pupils gain practical experience and an appreciation for sustainability and the environment. Greenhouses and garden spaces offer learning opportunities all year long.

This ongoing engagement gives school links students a true taste of what land-based careers can offer. And more than that, it gives them a sense of pride and purpose.



### Year 7 Fishing

A small group of Year 7 boys went to Summerhayes fishing ponds in June. The aim of the day was for the children to have a lot of fun and catch plenty of fish, with the hope that they will want to come again. This is a non-competitive day; it is purely about the children enjoying themselves, and maybe finding a passion.

# PE

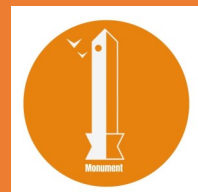
Another fantastic summer term of sport in PE at Court Fields. Inside lessons students have enjoyed perfecting their skills in a range of sports including cricket, softball, rounders, athletics and many more. Outside of the classroom there has been lots of success in the PE extracurricular activities. The Year 8 boys were crowned District Athletics Champions, Year 9 boys and Year 8 girls District Athletics Runners Up. Lots of other opportunities such as the Year 9 and 10 girls basketball sessions at Huish Tigers, the boys Chance to Shine Cricket competitions, rounders CVLs and of course the amazing primary athletics festivals run by over 40 superb Year 9 leaders.



# SPORTS DAY

We had a fantastic Sport Day on 10th July! The day saw inter-house football, dodgeball, benchball, rounders, basketball, nerf throw and athletics field events going in the morning, and in the afternoon the 3 House teams took to the track for the track finals, with students providing another exhilarating Court Fields Sports Day. Records smashed, attitudes were amazing and an all-round superb Court Fields Sports Day 2025!

Well done to Monument House on another convincing Court Fields Sports Day win.



**Congratulations  
to our winning  
House,  
Monument!**

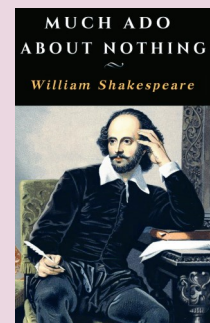


## Year 7: Relationships

To explore the theme of relationships, Year 7 started the year by learning about famous Greek philosopher, Aristotle, and his power of persuasion to forge relationships between speakers and their audience. Using this knowledge, students became successful orators themselves, including persuading the 'Dragons' to invest in their innovative creations. Following this, we travelled to a remote island to learn about Prospero's power and his relationship with his daughter Miranda in Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'. Later, students were able to explore the eerie elements of the Gothic genre through their study of the works of Shelley, Stoker and Gaiman. Students had the opportunity to craft their own supernatural settings and spooky characters. Finally, our Year 7 cohort began their study of the contemporary novel, *The Bone Sparrow*, which enabled our orators to engage in some thoughtful discussions about identity and human rights and develop their analytical skills further.

## Year 8: Inequality

Year 8 started the year in the middle of the conflict between Beatrice and Benedick as they attempted to challenge the Elizabethan patriarchy. Students were able to apply their knowledge of Shakespeare and Elizabethan society to understand his intentions for writing the play, 'Much Ado about Nothing'. Later in the year, our critics engaged with Orwell's 'Animal Farm' exploring the inequality on the farm and discovering the power of propaganda through Squealer's persuasion. Following this, they explored a range of poetry from other cultures. We were incredibly impressed by students' maturity when discussing some challenging topics including immigration, racism and cultural identity. Finally, students utilised their knowledge of rhetoric to engage in the Great Gender Debate and explore how attitudes to traditional gender roles have changed through the ages.



## Year 9: Conflict

Our Year 9 literary critics have engaged with different types of conflict this year – both external and internal. They have studied Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' and explored Romeo's role as a tragic hero; a range of Dickens' stories to explore the conflict characters experience due to their poverty and a range of poetic forms which are all used to explore conflict in its various guises. These have enabled our students to demonstrate their understanding of how context influences a writer's presentation of characters, themes and ideas. Additionally, our students have created a range of their own short stories and monologues to present the theme of conflict.

## Year 10:

Our Year 10 students have made an excellent start to their GCSE course. They have studied more than half of the Literature content through their study of the conflict poetry anthology, analysis of Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' and the complex nature of Shakespeare's tragic hero, Macbeth. Additionally, Year 10 have also studied half of their Language GCSE by focusing on their evaluative skills as well as their transactional writing. The year ended with students completing their spoken language exams, delivering speeches on a range of different topics and showing the potential they have to change the world!



## Sparx Reader:

We have been impressed with the commitment of the majority of KS3 students in regularly completing their Sparx Reader homework since its introduction in the Autumn term. Sparx Reader offers several benefits for students, including improved reading fluency and accuracy, enhanced comprehension skills, and the development of strong reading habits. The platform provides personalized reading experiences, accessible content, and engaging features like vocabulary puzzles to support students in their reading journey. There is more information for parents on how to support students with reading on the Sparx Reader platform.



A special mention to the following students who top the leaderboard for Sparx Reader across the whole school:

Olivia F (over 50,000 SRP)

George L (over 45,000 SRP)

Eleanora A, Arjesu A, Akousa Y (over 30,000 SRP)

Moranu A, Gwion W, Arya C, Jessica M (over 25,000 SRP)

We encourage all students to get reading over the Summer break and look forward to hearing all about the books they read when we see them again in September!

## Enrichment:

This year, we have taken students to see performances of 'A Christmas Carol', 'Macbeth', 'An Inspector Calls' and 'Romeo & Juliet' and look forward to planning more theatre trips next year!

We have also had lots of success through our enrichment clubs – creative writing and debate club.



# MATHS

Celebrating National Numeracy Day  
– Inspiring Future Number Heroes!

On 21st May, we proudly  
celebrated National Numeracy

Day with a month-long focus on how maths shapes our futures. Throughout May, our Key Stage 3 students explored their career aspirations during tutor time, reflecting on how mathematics could play a role in their dream jobs.

As part of the Number Heroes competition run by National Numeracy, students brought their ambitions to life by creating vibrant illustrations of themselves in their future careers—whether as architects, engineers, game designers, or even astronauts—showing how numbers are everywhere!

We're excited to share some of these fantastic entries with you in this issue. The creativity and thoughtfulness on display were truly inspiring. Winners will be announced in July, so stay tuned!

## SPARX Success – A Year of Maths Mastery!

We've had another fantastic year using SPARX for maths homework, and our students have truly risen to the challenge! SPARX has proven to be an invaluable tool—helping students consolidate their classroom learning, engage in retrieval practice, and even stretch themselves beyond the curriculum.

From compulsory homework to XP and Boost tasks, our students have logged an impressive number of hours, showing real dedication and enthusiasm for their learning.

A huge congratulations to our top-performing students in each year group for their outstanding XP point totals:

- **Jasmine P** – 53,646 points
- **Olivia F** – 37,546 points
- **Orla P** – 76,534 points
- **Jakub M** – 44,806 points

Well done to all our students for their hard work and commitment this year. Keep up the great work!



It's been a fantastic year for the Drama Department, filled with creativity, collaboration, and unforgettable performances. Our students dazzled in this year's school production of *The Wizard of Oz*, bringing the magic of Oz to life with vibrant costumes, powerful acting, and imaginative staging. Year 10 and 11 students impressed with their devised pieces and scripted performance, showing real maturity and flair in their assessments. We also welcomed ex-students to discuss creative careers and post-16 pathways, alongside visiting theatre companies that inspired and challenged our young performers.

We would like to say a personal thanks to Wellington Arts Centre for their generous donation of **£1,000** to our school from funds raised through Christmas at the Wellesley. Your support means the world to us and will make a real difference in enriching our students' educational and creative experiences. Thank you for investing in the future of our young learners and for championing the arts in our community!

As we look ahead to next year's exciting projects and completion of our new theatre, we wish all our students a well-earned summer break—thank you for bringing such passion and energy to the stage!

# DRAMA



# FOOD TECHNOLOGY

We had an excellent opportunity for Bridgwater Taunton College to deliver the fish masterclass earlier in the term, this was for all Year 10 Food Technology students. Lovely to see George Walker back in the food room and delivering the session, showing high quality presentation/plating techniques alongside the BTC staff. Students were fully engaged and found this preparation for Year 11 invaluable.



## Guinness World Record!

We're thrilled to announce that Court Fields School played a part in breaking a Guinness World Record with none other than Jamie Oliver!

On 1st July 2025, our students joined over 10,500 people worldwide in the largest cookery lesson (multiple venues) ever recorded! Together, we cooked up fresh pasta and a no-cook tomato sauce, learning essential skills and having a blast along the way.

This incredible event was part of Jamie's mission to ensure every young person leaves school with the confidence to cook and nourish themselves — and we're proud to be part of that vision

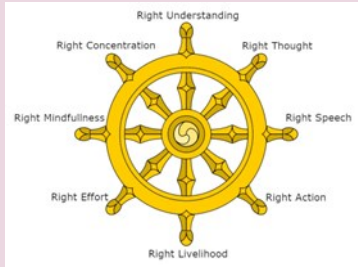
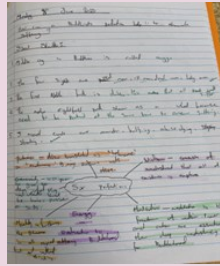
A huge well done to everyone who took part — we made history together!



# WORLD VIEWS

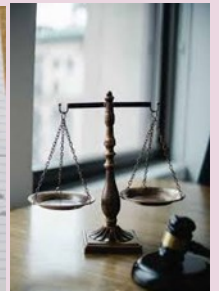
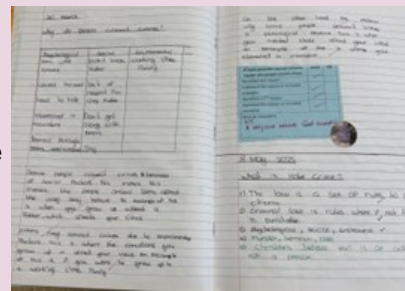
In Year 7 this term we have been evaluating 'what makes us happy?' We have explored how humans overcome evil and suffering. It has been wonderful to see our Year 7s developing that enquiring mind and watch them become fantastic philosophers.

We have considered how the Buddha found happiness through living a balanced life and evaluated if we could learn from any of these practical pieces of advice.

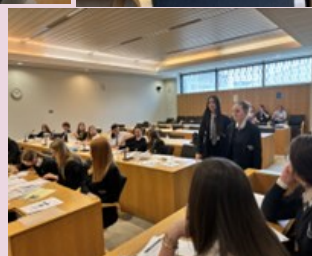


Throughout Year 8 we have been considering the climate crisis and exploring how we can overcome current concerns. We have studied Neopaganism and Tribal beliefs to suggest ways in which we can leave less of a carbon footprint on the earth.

In Year 9 we have completed an in-depth investigation into crime and punishment. We began the unit through exploring the purpose and nature of law in GB. We have looked sociologically at why people commit crimes and the importance and effectiveness of punishment. We have debated whether British prisons are fit for purpose. Finishing with asking whether Britain should bring back capital punishment.



Year 10 had a wonderful opportunity to attend Bristol Family Courts for the day where we worked with the museum of National Justice for the day. The students were able to use a court room to reenact a case on knife crime. We got a great deal out of the day, and it was wonderful for students to see how the courts worked. We also were able to interview two different judges and understand the role they play in the criminal justice system.



Year 10 students have also had the opportunity to interview Odette's granddaughter Mrs Sophie Parker. Such an

amazing experience to listen to the bravery and duty Odette showed during World War Two. We discussed the role of women in war and the contribution they made to changing society. We uncovered what it means to be a Human Rights activist. It was wonderful for students to stop for a moment to think about the contribution they would like to make in the world.



# ART

Year 7 - Year 7 are completing their first year with a mix of painting and 3D sculpture. They have been looking at the work of Julian

Opie to inspire their own portraits in his style and taking it to the extreme by turning themselves into cyborgs which we will build using cardboard and gum strip over the coming weeks.



Year 8 - Year 8 worked on wire sculptures. By working in a circular format we are paving the way for our Year 9 clay project as a development of these skills. We have completed our intricate, hyper real paintings of beach scenes which were both amazing and beautiful. Students really developed their resilience.

Year 9 - Year 9 have been working independently on their Movement project.

Combining all of their knowledge and skills to research an artist of their choice in a style and medium of their choice. Having spent the year developing their drawing/ printing and 3D skills they can now choose how they want to realise their intention for this project and we are looking forward to seeing the results.



Year 10 Artists - The GCSE artists have had an amazing year. The standard of work has astounded us this year and students are on track for another fabulous year ahead when they go solo in Year 11. The range of skills and knowledge has covered all of the media available, from pencil and pen, to watercolour and clay and everything in between. We think you will agree the photos speak for themselves.

Year 10 Photographers - GCSE photography students have had a whole new world of learning this year. Firstly, understanding and using the technical language has been a challenge, so much new learning. Students have developed

their understanding and knowledge of both analogue and digital photography and created their first set of personal responses to the theme of colour. These photos are amazing. Students have captured the fine detail and contrast of colours and light in beautiful compositions. We are now working towards the sustained project to complete their coursework element of the course by December.

Year 11 GCSE Art and Photography- These guys have worked so hard this year. They have taken every opportunity available to them to develop and improve their own creative understanding. We would love to be able to share the exam outcomes with you but we are not able to do this until after October 2025. But we will share a few teasers that demonstrate the quality of their work.





# Kings Arms Mural

A vibrant new mural celebrating the spirit of Wellington has taken shape at the Kings Arms Community Hub, thanks to the creativity and hard work of some of our students!

We were approached by Wellington Town Council with a special request: to design and paint a mural inspired by the town itself. Rising to the challenge, Year 9 students kicked off the project with enthusiasm and artistic flair. On the first day, they tackled the complex task of mixing all the colours from scratch, using only the primary colours along with black and white. This hands-on approach not only tested their colour theory skills but also brought a unique authenticity to the mural.

Day two saw the baton passed to our talented GCSE Art students, who added the finishing touches. They refined the edges, applied a second coat, and brought the mural to life with detailed elements such as flower beds — all while working in sweltering heat.

All materials for the mural were generously funded and donated by the Wellington Rotary Club.

The result is a stunning piece of community art that reflects both the heritage and vibrancy of Wellington. The mural will be unveiled to the public at the official launch of the Kings Arms Community Hub later this year.

Mrs Binmore said: "The students did an amazing job, especially considering the heat involved. Well done to all involved".

# SCIENCE

As we approach the end of the summer term, we are excited to share with you the wonderful learning experiences your children have had across various year groups. Our students have been engaged in a diverse range of topics, fostering their curiosity and expanding their knowledge.



Year 7 students have delved into the fascinating world of Energy 1, exploring different forms of energy and their applications. They have also studied Ecosystems, understanding the intricate relationships between organisms and their environments. Additionally, they have been introduced to Electricity 1, learning about basic electrical concepts and circuits.

Year 8 students have been busy learning about Rocks, discovering the types, formation, and uses of rocks in our daily lives. They have advanced their knowledge in Electricity 2, building on their previous understanding and exploring more complex electrical systems. The topic of Motion & Forces has also been a key focus, where students have investigated the principles of movement and the forces that affect it.

Year 9 has been an exciting year for our students as they covered a range of topics across different sciences. In Physics, they have studied Atomic Structure, gaining insights into the building blocks of matter. In Biology, they have learned about Infection and Diseases, understanding how pathogens affect living organisms. Chemistry has been equally engaging with topics such as Endothermic and Exothermic Reactions, and the Chemistry of the Atmosphere, where students explored chemical reactions and atmospheric composition.

Year 10 students have been diligently working through their Biology, Chemistry, and Physics Paper 1 topics, preparing them for their recent Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs). Their hard work and dedication have set a strong foundation for their upcoming academic challenges.

We are also thrilled to share that our weekly STEM Club has been well supported and enthusiastically attended by students. They have participated in a variety of exciting activities, including making film canister rockets, balloon rockets, and taking on the air bag egg drop challenge. Students have also enjoyed making and exploring non-Newtonian fluids, creating rainbow fizz, and designing and constructing hydraulic syringe lifts and arms. Additionally, they had fun making bath bombs, combining creativity with scientific principles.

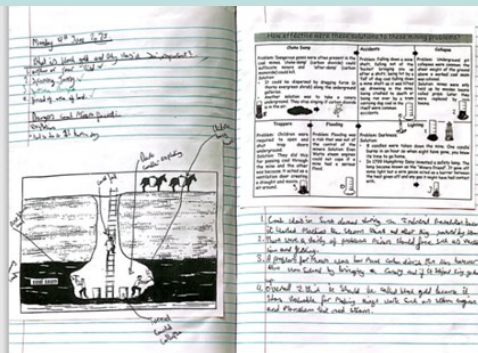
Finally, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Year 11 students who have completed their final GCSE exams. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours and are confident that they will continue to excel in their chosen paths.



# HISTORY

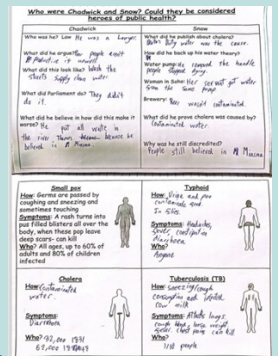
## Year 7:

Students have begun their enquiry into 'How did William gain control of England'. Students have addressed the problems that William faced once he became King of England. Students then learnt about how he used terror via *The Harrying of the North* and symbolic methods of control such as castles, and finally financial control via the *Doomsday Book*. To support this topic, all of Year 7 visited Chepstow Castle to understand what this control looked like for the civilians of Chepstow, and how the castle's role changed from protecting the gateway to Wales to being a symbol of wealth. We are very lucky to have a castle to represent this local history so close and so well. Students had the opportunity to climb up the tower in the upper barbican, explore the kitchen and cellar, look at the Earl's Chamber and finally experience the damp and dark prison in one of the towers.

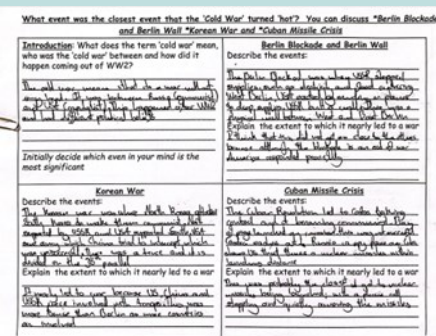


## Year 8:

Students have moved into the Industrial Revolution and looked at not only the revolution in industry, but also agriculture to meet the demand of a growing population. They've learnt about how the cholera challenged the miasma theory of disease leading to improvements in sanitation, and how the Metropolitan Police came into existence. Alongside this they are

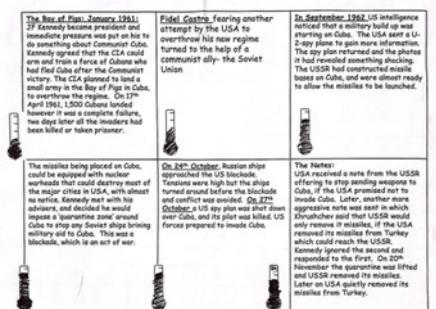
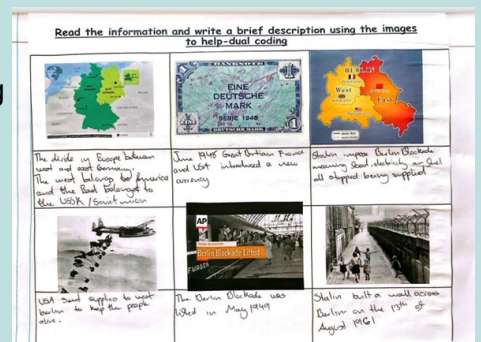


leaning about suffrage and the franchise, how women were perceived as the 'Angel of the house' and how both the suffragettes and suffragists challenged this perception. The students have presented some thoughtful discussions on what the age of voting should be and whether this should change. Whether they think that they are old enough or mature enough to make these political decisions.



## Year 9:

Students have finished their learning on the Cold War and answered the enquiry question on 'which event was the closest to turning the Cold War, hot'. They have learnt about how many of the countries felt after the atrocities of WW2, how USA challenged the spread of



communism across eastern Europe and how Churchill coined the term the Iron Curtain which split Europe in half. Students have learnt about the Berlin Blockade and the building of the Berlin Wall, the Korean War and involvement of China and finally the Cuban Missile Crisis where nuclear missiles were stopped within minutes of being fired. We are now learning about the Civil Right Movement in USA and how segregation and discrimination was challenged by significant individuals such as Homer Plessey, Linda Brown, Emmett Till and Rosa Parks.

### **Year 7 French and Spanish:** **A Fantastic Start!**

Our Year 7 students have made an enthusiastic start to their French and Spanish lessons this year. They've been getting to grips with the basics of each language, including phonics (learning how to pronounce words correctly) and key grammar points such as word order and gender agreement.

So far, they've learned how to introduce themselves, share their likes and dislikes, describe their school, talk about their hobbies, and discuss their local area. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they begin to express themselves in a new language!

### **Year 8 Language Learners Explore Culture and Communication**

Our Year 8 Spanish students have been expanding their language skills through a variety of engaging topics. They've learned how to describe a past holiday, talk about how they use mobile phones and technology, share their music and TV preferences, and discuss food and drink. As part of the food unit, students explored traditional dishes from Spain and Latin America and created their own "restaurant dialogues" to practise real-life conversations.

Meanwhile, Year 8 French students have completed an exciting module focused on the geography, history, and culture of Paris. They've also been developing their descriptive language by learning to talk about family members in increasing detail.

### **Year 9 French and Spanish: Exploring Real-World Topics**

Year 9 French students have been engaging in meaningful conversations around everyday life and future aspirations. They've discussed their use of social media, explored the importance of sports, healthy eating, and staying fit, and shared their plans for life after age 16.

In Spanish, students completed a dynamic unit on cinema, learning to express opinions and describe films. They've also explored the world of work, using a range of vocabulary and tenses to talk about jobs and career ambitions. More recently, they've been discussing healthy lifestyle choices and environmental issues—topics that connect language learning with global awareness.

### **Year 10: Building Strong Foundations for GCSE Success**

Our Year 10 French and Spanish students have made a strong start to their GCSE courses. With a deeper focus on the core pillars of language learning—phonics, vocabulary, and grammar—they've been developing their skills with increasing confidence and precision.

Students have been applying their knowledge across a range of topics and contexts, producing longer, more detailed pieces of writing in their chosen language. It's been fantastic to see their progress as they rise to the challenge of more advanced language work.

### **French cuisine:**

With a small group of enthusiastic Year 10 students, we took over the main kitchen and delved into the delicious art of making traditional French galettes and crêpes. It was a hands-on experience that combined culinary creativity with cultural discovery, and the students thoroughly enjoyed mastering the techniques behind these classic dishes. We're proud of what they achieved and hope to share our newfound skills with even more people next year!



### **French exchange 2025:**

Our recent French exchange with the Year 10 students was an unforgettable adventure that everyone absolutely loved. It was a perfect blend of cultural immersion and sporty fun, offering students a unique opportunity to explore a new country and embrace a different way of life. We went to Lillebonne our twin town in Normandy where all the families have been very welcoming with our students, who formed lasting friendships, practiced their language skills, and gained a deeper appreciation for French culture. It was truly an amazing way to discover the richness of another country while having a fantastic time.



# GEOGRAPHY

## Year 7:

Year 7 have had a fantastic year in Geography, they have shown a curiosity for the world around them and encountered lots of new knowledge about different environments around the world. They started the year looking at the features of Africa and developed an understanding of the challenges faced in other parts of the world. With many, also getting involved in the landscape in a box house competition – some very impressive examples this year, with lots of creativity on show. They have ended their year putting their map skills to the test, possibly some future Duke of Edinburgh stars in the making? We have loved seeing their confidence grow this year and they have shown resilience and determination throughout; we look forward to welcoming them back in Year 8!



## Year 8:

Year 8 kick started the year looking at local settlements and contrasting this with the challenges faced in our largest urban environments, megacities! We then helped to foster their independence and supported them to achieve their own Wellington Enquiry project, where they were commended on their professional and respectful attitudes when conducting questionnaires in Wellington. We were really impressed with the bravery and teamwork throughout this period. Year 8 have shown a keen interest in our changing world, having looked at the impacts of more extreme weather due to climate change, and the impacts the UK landscapes such as rivers have on the environment and how people affect them. We look forward to continuing this hard work with them in September.



## Year 9:

The geography department have been really impressed with the attitude Year 9 have shown in Geography this year! From the beginning of the year, they have been developing their knowledge of complex phenomena such as globalisation, interdependence and sustainability. Year 9 have developed their critical thinking when considering some of the physical and human challenges facing the world. With many year 9s continuing onto GCSE Geography in year 10, they have aimed to develop their evaluation skills and extended their knowledge of key terminology. The recent

Eden Project trip with our future GCSE students explored issues around sustainability and the importance of our global biomes. The trip was hugely enjoyable and the Year 9s were exemplary ambassadors for Court Fields.

## Year 10:

Year 10 have had a busy year in Geography, and have shown a focused start to their GCSE. Having recently finished their end of year exams, many have shown an impressive attitude to their studies and presented some brilliant work and revision. To finish off this academic year, students will begin preparation for their GCSE fieldwork at Dawlish Warren, which will be carried out in the first half of the Autumn term, where they will put their independent enquiry skills to the test. It has been amazing to watch Year 10 flourish this year, and adapt to the demands of a GCSE, they have faced it all with grit and determination and we look forward to continuing our work with them into Year 11!

## Year 11:

Our Year 11 Geographers rounded off a superb 5 years of Geography by focusing in on their GCSE exams. Whilst many may have found this stressful, the majority took this in their stride and approached this with resilience and a can-do attitude. The hard work for their time at Court Fields was about to pay off, many joined us for final revision sessions and were able to enter their exams with confidence. We wish them all the luck for results day, and all the best for their futures!

# PSHE

Since January, Year 7 students have continued to approach their PSHE lessons with enthusiasm and curiosity. They've built on the foundations laid in the autumn term by exploring important issues including healthy lifestyles, developing safe friendships, and making positive choices both offline and online. In January, they took part in a whole-school PSHE Enrichment Day with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. We've also explored how to stay safe in digital spaces, the impact of social media, and how to look after ourselves as we head into the summer term.

Year 8 have had a thought-provoking and engaging PSHE experience in recent months. Following discussions earlier in the year around friendships and wellbeing, their focus has moved to managing puberty and staying physically and emotionally healthy. They've also developed their understanding of financial awareness through introductory money management topics. The PSHE Enrichment Day for Year 8 centred on respect and inclusion, and students have shown real maturity when learning about sexual identities, how to recognise and maintain positive mental health, and what contributes to personal happiness. Journaling remains a popular feature in Wednesday sessions, helping students reflect and start the day with intent and perspective.

Year 9 began the year exploring the links between mental health, social media, and body image. As they progressed through the term, they focused more deeply on relationships and understanding consent, and have shown empathy and insight during these sessions. In Enrichment Day, they tackled important social issues such as the dangers of drugs and vaping, as well as awareness around county lines. Over the past couple of months, Year 9s have been learning about alcohol safety, sexual health, preparing for the world of work, and gaining a deeper understanding of citizenship, racism, and extremism.

In Year 10, students explored how to manage stress and pressure as they balance the demands of Key Stage 4. We've now turned our attention to essential life skills, including financial decision-making, digital safety, and recognising the influence of media bias. The Enrichment Day in January provided a thoughtful space for learning about sexual health. As we progress, we're continuing to develop students' understanding of safe and respectful relationships, and the risks associated with alcohol consumption and their online footprints.

Year 11 have revisited sexual health and healthy relationships during their Enrichment Day. In their regular PSHE sessions, the focus has been on preparing for life beyond school. Topics have included how to recognise risk-taking behaviours, understanding the impact of digital footprints and online gambling, and learning life-saving skills such as CPR and first aid. As they moved towards the exam season, the Year 11s engaged in discussions about mental health and wellbeing, learning techniques to manage pressure and take care of themselves during this time.

We recognise that the themes covered in PSHE can sometimes be sensitive. Wherever possible, we give students prior notice if a particular topic might be challenging, and support is always available for those who may need it. If you have any questions about PSHE content or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at [gthomas@courtfields.bep.ac](mailto:gthomas@courtfields.bep.ac)

Discuss: Why might you be experiencing emotional changes during puberty? What do you think might be causing it?

- Our moods and emotions are being affected by the hormones being released from our brains into our body as we get closer to, and experience puberty.
- Just like our bodies are having to get used to these changes physically, our minds also need to get used to these new feelings too

Your payroll number	123456	Mr John Smith	Pay Day 01/01/2016	The tax period	Deductions - tax and National Insurance	Your tax code
		Company Name Ltd	Tax Week 12		CNPayroll	
		<b>Earnings</b>	<b>Units Rate Amount</b>	<b>Deductions</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
		Basic Pay	2,008.33	Tax (code 4321A)	233.33	Expenses
				NI (category A)	169.40	Pensions
				Pension	50.00	Student loan
				Student Loan Plan X	10.00	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>Earnings 2,008.33</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Deductions 442.73</b>	
		<b>Running Totals</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>			
		<b>Tax Year to Date</b>	<b>Accumulations</b>	<b>Earnings</b>	<b>2,008.33</b>	
		Gross Pay 25,000.00	Basic Pay 25,000.00	Deductions 452.73	1,620.60	
		Taxable Pay 14,000.00	Era Pension FL 50.00	Net Pay 1,620.60		
		Tax 2,799.96				
		<b>This Employment</b>	<b>Amount Paid</b>	<b>Employer's Contributions</b>	<b>1,620.60</b>	
		Gross Pay 25,000.00	25,000.00	NI (category A)	100	Workplace benefits
		Taxable Pay 14,000.00				
		Tax 2,799.96				
		Employer's NI 169.40				
		<b>Previous Employment</b>	<b>Annual Salary</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>		
		Gross Pay				
		Taxable Pay				
		Tax				
		<b>NI Number</b>	<b>AB 12 34 56 C</b>			
		<b>Amount Paid</b>	<b>1,620.60</b>			
						Your national insurance number

In Somerset, the sexual health service is called SWISH ([www.swishservices.co.uk](http://www.swishservices.co.uk)). You can find the details for Wellington and Taunton below. They do have several clinics across Somerset including other locations such as Bridgwater and you can find these on their website.

Look through the online guide to see what you can expect to happen if you use SWISH.

## TAUNTON, WELLINGTON, WIVELISCOMBE

- Main Clinic: SWISH Taunton**  
Mill Stream House, Castle Street, TA1 4AS
- Opening Times**  
Monday - Saturday clinics. Please call our booking line for a Telephone Consultation.
- Contact**  
0300 1245010
- Additional Info**  
If using the app limited times are listed, the clinic runs Tuesday - Saturday and some evenings.

# Library News

This year our school library has seen some big changes; changes are set to continue into next year to make the space more useable and comfortable.

We are excited to be adding lots of new books to our shelves for September thanks to the generous donations received from World Book Day.

Thank you, to our Year 10 library volunteers, Nicole and Eniola, for all their hard work this year. Your commitment has been crucial to maintaining a tidy and friendly environment.

With the Launch of Wider Reading earlier this year, students have been busy writing book reviews. Well done to all students who were awarded with a certificate and to those whose book reviews won a Book review of the month.



## Recommended Websites

Have a look at the following websites for lots of book reviews and activities :

[www.literacytrust.org.uk](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk)

[www.booktrust.org.uk](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)

[www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)

[www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk](http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk)

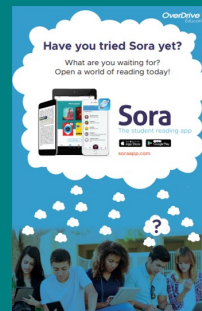
[www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)

Loads of authors are on YouTube reading their books and on their websites. Search your favourite author to find out more!

Don't forget courtfields.net has lots of links including to our Reading Cloud, and SORA for eBooks.

REMEMBER your username for Reading Cloud and is your school email address and your password is your date of birth.

SORA password is your school/ courtfields.bep.ac email address.





# BEHAVIOUR & ATTENDANCE



## Behaviour Awards

801 Bronze awards  
736 Silver awards  
625 Gold awards  
410 Emerald awards  
209 Sapphire awards  
92 Ruby awards  
54 Platinum awards  
28 Head teachers awards  
4 Governors awards

## Attendance Awards

Bronze 95% – 291

Silver 98% - 302

Gold 100% - 344

100% attendance for the last 3 weeks:

383 students achieved this and will receive their attendance cookies this week. We have awarded nearly 800 cookies for good attendance this year.

We all understand just how important good school attendance is to every student. Please keep working to encourage your children to keep attending.



OUR WINNING HOUSE IS

# BLACKDOWN!



## House Cup Winners!

We're thrilled to announce that Blackdown has officially claimed the House Cup this year! A huge well done to all students and staff who contributed to this achievement.

To celebrate, students from Blackdown House enjoyed an hour on the field per year group with inflatables and games, including laser quest, an assault course, bungee run and more on Wednesday 16th July!



### Mental Health & Wellbeing Help for Young People & Families

**Mindline Somerset**  
Emotional support helpline  
Coronavirus  
01823 276 892  
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Open 24 hours a day, seven-days a week. Mindline is open to people of all ages who need urgent mental health support. The helpline is the first port of call for mental health help – it is operated by people in your local area who will know how best to support you.



**Parents of children 0-4:**  
Confidential help from the Health Visiting Team. Just send a text 07480 635514

**Parents of children 5-19 years:** looking for confidential help and advice? Just send a text to your School Nurse Team. Text 07480 635515

**Young People 11-19 years:** Discreet and quick, it only takes one text to start making a difference. You'll get confidential advice from a local School Nurse. You don't have to give your name if you don't want to. Text 07480 635516



**Young Somerset's Wellbeing Service** - Free wellbeing support for young people experiencing low level mental health needs. Find out more here: [www.youngsomerset.org.uk/wellbeing-support](http://www.youngsomerset.org.uk/wellbeing-support)

**Somerset Big Tent** brings together local organisations that offer support to children and families **Somerset Big Tent**

Take a look at our previous hubs for parents and young people covering a range of topics from anxiety to stress to online safety. **Virtual Hubs Archive** - **Somerset Big Tent**



**Kooth** - Safe and anonymous online support for young people until 10pm - friendly counsellors, self-help and community support. [kooth.com](http://kooth.com)



Having good mental health helps us relax more, achieve more and enjoy our lives more. We have expert advice and practical tips to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing. **Every Mind Matters - NHS** ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))



Suicide is the biggest killer of under 35's in the UK  
Home | Papyrus UK | Suicide Prevention Charity ([papyrus-uk.org](http://papyrus-uk.org))

**Somerset Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) webpages**

We offer a variety of teams and services for young people aged 0-18 years old who are struggling with their mental health. **Somerset CAMHS - CAMHS - Somerset NHS Foundation Trust** ([somersetft.nhs.uk](http://somersetft.nhs.uk))

### NHS Mental Health Apps



**distrACT app** - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

The distrACT app gives you easy, quick and discreet access to information and advice about self-harm and suicidal thoughts. The content has been created by doctors and experts in self-harm and suicide prevention.



**Calm Harm app** - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

Calm Harm is an app designed to help people resist or manage the urge to self-harm. It's private and password protected.



**Blueice app** - NHS ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk))

Blueice is an evidence-based app to help young people manage their emotions and reduce urges to self-harm. It includes a mood diary, a toolbox of evidence-based techniques to reduce distress and automatic routing to emergency numbers if urges to harm continue.

For further Health & Wellbeing tips, advice & information including self-help support for parents and carers go to the Public Health website: [www.cpsomersethealth.org](http://www.cpsomersethealth.org)

For further information & support for young people go to: [www.youngsomerset.org.uk/coronavirus-support-for-young-people](http://www.youngsomerset.org.uk/coronavirus-support-for-young-people)



**Mrs Westwood**  
Lead Designated  
Safeguarding  
Officer



**Mr Canham**



**Mrs McCarthy**



**Mr Whelan**

Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Officers

## Safeguarding Team



**Mrs Hartnell**  
Safeguarding  
Officer



Safeguarding Officers



**Mrs Matthews**  
SLT Designated  
Safeguarding Officer



**Mrs K Little**  
Safeguarding  
Governor

# WELLBEING & SAFEGUARDING

## Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying week saw students take part in a range of activities and really promoted #BeKind and the theme 'Choose Respect'. The focus was on peer support and everyone in our community supporting to stop bullying. We continue to work with Stand Against Violence and they returned recently to deliver assemblies and workshops, which was a great success. Next year our senior prefects will be working with students to develop our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors programme with Year 9 students and we will also be following the 2025/2026 theme Power for Good.

## Safeguarding our Students

We continued to promote safety during the pastoral programme, which this year has included knife crime, road safety, anti-violence on the streets, county lines, alcohol and drug awareness and harmful sexual behaviour. Our students engaged really well in these sessions, and we launched a self-referral form for students to seek support, should they need it. We are continuing to link with the Mental Health in Schools Team to promote access to external school support as well as internal support. We are offering 2 PSHCE enrichment days next year following the success of our day in January along with our Careers Enrichment Day and Careers Fair.

Our students are fantastic at speaking to us if they ever feel worried or upset for any reason. In the event any student does not feel they are able to talk directly to us during the school day, they can use Tootoot. We monitor any concerns and pick them up quickly to resolve and support.



## Mental Health and Wellbeing Action Group

The senior prefects for 2025/26 have been recruited and they will be developing a Mental Health and Wellbeing Action Group. We are seeking students to support this. We will meet as a group once a half term to discuss matters of mental health and wellbeing and develop further awareness and strategies within the school. This is an exciting opportunity to work with the community and develop education and experiences. We will be recruiting Wellbeing Champions in Year 7 and 10 to support our work. We will continue to work with Chat Health, School Nurses and MHST along with our internal support via our Pastoral/Welfare team, Mrs Hartnell & Mrs Locke, our new Medical/Welfare Officer, Miss Binding, School Chaplain, Chloe Mew and our Counsellors Jo and Ceri.

## The Court Fields Experience

Our Court Fields Experience has developed over the last 2 years and ensures all students have a range of education opportunities to develop them as a person and in preparation for life beyond Court Fields. This year our students have explored British Values in tutor time and lessons, had careers talks and college visits, which were a huge success. Students have had the opportunities of a vast programme of enrichment trips and visits to places such as Chepstow Castle, London Dungeons, Bristol and St Ives Arts Trips, Theatre visits and taster days at the local colleges, to name a few. We pride ourselves on celebrating national days such as mental health awareness to ensure students have a wide knowledge of the world and how to keep themselves safe and well. Next year we will be launching our Rights Respecting Schools Award and linking this to the CFS Experience Award Scheme, more information to follow in September.



## Transition

We recently held our 2 days of transition for Year 6 students starting in September. It was fantastic to meet all the new students and give them a taste of life at Court Fields. Students got to meet their tutors as well as tour the school and try lessons. We look forward to welcoming them all in September. Thank you to Albert Goodman who funded a filled pencil case for each new student and Conway Cladding for leaflets full of information and tips to support transition to secondary school. The students were very grateful for this.



# Coming September 2025

