





Summer Magazine

July 2023 Edition



Achieve | Belong | Participate

Welcome

Message from Mrs Matthews

Thank you for your support throughout what was certainly a busy year in 2022/23! We were absolutely thrilled to achieve our 'Good' judgement from Ofsted, as well as being oversubscribed in Year 7 for September 2023, as well as full in all other Year groups. This shows just how far we have come in the last four years, since the previous Ofsted Inspection, and the staff team and I are very grateful to you as parents, carers, families, students and community members for the support you have shown. This has of course been key in us working together to improve our school.



The hard work doesn't stop here though. We are looking forward to the next step in our development, and of course, working with you to make that happen. Thank

you again. With my very best wishes, Mrs Matthews.

"Leaders are ambitious for pupils. They have created a culture where hard work is expected. As a result, most pupils show positive attitudes to their learning. Pupils enjoy good relationships with staff. As they move around the school site, pupils are sensible and polite. Bullying is rare. If any incidents occur, pupils are confident that staff will resolve them quickly. Consequently, pupils feel safe."

Somerset U19s Handball

A big well done to the talented Tom F in Year 9 for representing Somerset U19s Handball against Chelsea and Nottingham at the weekend. Tom was instrumental scoring



several goals in the win v Nottingham and narrow defeat to Chelsea. Tom, who is the youngest player ever to play for County Under 19s will be going to the South West regional trials in June. Well done Tom!



Success for Jessica!

Another huge well done to the fantastic Year 9 trampolinist Jessica V, who represented Team GB in a big international competition last week - The Scalabis Cup. Jessica did superbly, picking up gold for GB and came 2nd out of 80+ performers from all over the world in her individual competition. Well

done to Jessica and her teammates!



Year 7 William C managed to earn himself a silver medal in the Bath Schools Foil and Sabre fencing competition in the Senior Boys category.



Year 8 District Cup

Well done to the Year 8 boys on their district cup football win over Minehead. It was a close affair, however Court Fields won the game 2-1 in the end, to end the season with



a win. Congratulations on a fantastic performance across the team!



Year 9 District Cup Football Runners Up!

There was a faultless and proud team performance from our Year 9 team in the District Schools Cup

final at Bishops Lydeard FC. Castle won the game 1 -0 with a goal on the stroke of half time. Court Fields came extremely close to scoring when the electric Elijah's effort looked destined for the bottom corner, only to come back off the inside of the post and roll across the six yard box. It was an excellent achievement to be runners up. Fantastic effort and teamwork from all involved.

News & Success



Year 7 and Year 8 District Schools Athletics

What a thrilling afternoon at the District Athletics for our Year 7 and 8 athletes, as they pitted their wits against all the other district schools. There were so many outstanding performances, with Court Fields really leading the way in so many events! The hard work and dedication so far in lessons and athletics club is clearly paying off, building up to the big one on 18th July - The Court Fields Sports Day!

Team results to come, however we are very optimistic for all teams!

Out of the 12 athletes for each event the Court Fields first places and Gold medals went to;

Year 8 Girls 4x100m Relay- Florence A, Murewa A, Kim D and Orla C (59.40s) **NEW SCHOOL RECORD!**

Year 7 Boys Shot Putt- Rochan G-P (10.01m) **NEW**SCHOOL RECORD!!!

Well done to all students. An extra special well done to the Year 8 Girls 4x100m team and Rochan G-P (Shot Putt) who broke two very long-standing Court Fields School records.

U12 Girls Football District Cup Winners

We are super proud of the girls, who won their first cup final for school against Taunton Academy 4-3!

It started off well with the first 2 quick goals from Lleya. At half time it was 3-2 Court Fields, with Darcey putting us in the lead at half time. The winning shot came from a drop ball with Lleya scoring 25 yards out and hitting

top left corner. The last few minutes all the girls battled hard with determination to secure the win!



Somerset Under 19s Handball

A big well done to Tom F who stepped up a couple of ages to represent Somerset Under 19s Handball v London and Shropshire in Wolverhampton last week.

Tom and Somerset did amazingly well, winning one game and losing the other. Tom, who was part of the

Year 9 team to make the national finals last year and tipped for big things in the sport, received special praise from the coaches. He made history to become the U19s County side's youngest ever goal scorer and that was against a Team GB goalkeeper.

Update: Tom has now made The England Handball Talent Pathway for U16s boys! Well done Tom.





Competition Winner

Olivia D in Year 9 has won the Richard Huish Brunner Cup writing competition.

Judge's comment: "An observational narrative,

thoughtfully atmospheric and with crisp dialogue.

"It's fascinating to watch people dance, how they glide elegantly across the floor, their feet perfectly into place. Life is like a dance... that's why I hate dancing."

"An ambitious period story of a young lady coming of age and her own ideas!"

Well done Olivia!

Somerset U15s Girls Chance to Shine Cricket Tournament Runners Up

A huge well done to our U15s cricketers on a successful day at Somerset Chance to Shine Tournament in Bridgwater, finishing as runners up overall against all the other schools.



The girls did fantastically well, going unbeaten through their group and finishing top, beating Haygrove in the decider to make it through to the final.

They lost very narrowly to local rivals Castle in the cup final

What outstanding progress these girls have made to see off schools who have lots of club and county cricketers.

Fundraising and Community Links

Commemorative coins in celebration of the King's Coronation

Wellington Town Council kindly donated commemorative coins for each of our students in celebration of the King's Coronation. These were presented by the Mayor of Wellington.







Our non-uniform day for the Heart charities raised £562.35



Our non-uniform day for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal raised £685.48



Young Lives vs Cancer Fundraising

What a wonderful achievement by Sophie W, raising £351.25 for Young Lives vs Cancer! Sophie collected her cheque last week from the Wellington Carnival Committee for her 'Walk to Carnival' fundraiser, which was then added to her existing fundraising page. Congratulations Sophie, such an inspirational achievement!



Insight into Apprenticeships Celebratory Event

Hosted at BTC, Cannington Campus, our students and their families celebrated completion of this "Unlocking Potential Somerset" programme with motivational presentation from the newly appointed High Sheriff of Somerset, certificates and cake!

With workshops facilitated by BTC, Royal Navy, Wessex Water and the Mendip Outdoor Centre, our group of Year 9 students has developed their confidence and skills set. We thank all at South Bristol Youth for providing this opportunity and look forward to working with you again in the next academic year.

Programme A huge thank you to WPA the purchase of additional

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Benevolent Foundation for funding equipment for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme in school. The extra kit was essential to enable us to accommodate the large cohort of Year 10 students taking on the challenge this year. We have 45 students signed up, double the number from last year, which is nearly a third of the Year group. This also enables us to lend some of the kit needed, to help remove financial barriers to achieving the award. We are looking forward to using the equipment on the practice expedition day next week. The group pictured were attending their expedition training on the safe use of trangia cookers and putting up tents.

Year 7 Cake Sale

Students of several tutors groups decided as a Student Council to raise money for the Comic Relief charity, by cooking and selling a wide variety of tasty cakes and chocolatey treats. Here we have the stu-

dents of Miss Prouse and Miss Burke's tutor groups who, along with the other charity events managed to raise hundreds of pounds for this great cause.





Employer's Summer Cream Tea

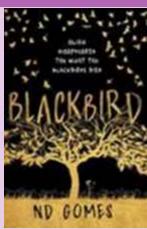
On 12th July we held our first Employer's Summer Cream Tea event to network with local businesses. Our Year 10 Food Technology students prepared a delicious spread of scones with cream and jam.

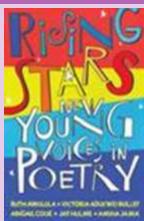
Learning Resource Centre

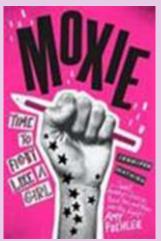


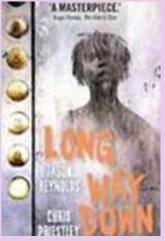
We often share our 'Book of the Week' in our Parent Bulletin, and here are some of our top picks to keep you going over the summer months! See the next page for more online resources and our recommended Apps.











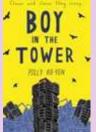




Nahoko Uebashi











Recommended Websites

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

www.literacytrust.org.uk
www.booktrust.org.uk
www.worldbookday.com
www.lovereading4kids.co.uk
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, Accelerated Reader and SORA for eBooks. Post your reviews and you can still do your quizzes.

Remember your logon for Reading Cloud and Accelerated Reader is the same as when you use the school computers and your password is your date of birth.

SORA password is your school/ courtfields.net email address.

Careers

There's been a lot going on within the Careers curriculum this year - working with the NHS, Barclays and the South Bristol Youth Group to deliver employer led sessions; Development of students' employability skills through work experience, mock interviews and attending college experience days; Expanding horizons and connections by offering Career Masterclasses and links to providers of Further Education. Enjoy these photos which are a highlight the year.









College Information Sessions—All Year Groups

PARTICIPATE









Year 9 Insight Into Apprenticeship Programme





Enrichment Week

This year we were able to offer our students a fun-filled week of enriching activities both on and off school site. They enjoyed a trip of their choice, with options including Brean, Go Ape and Flip Out, which they thoroughly enjoyed! We also enjoyed educational visits to PETROC Tiverton, Culmstock Beacon for History, Dawlish Warren for Geography, and Bristol for Art, as well as our Art Project at IKB school. The week was a brilliant success and a great time was had by all, as you can see from the pictures.



Work Experience



PE Department













We've had another fantastic feast of Sport at Court Fields this Term. Firstly, let's start with our very talented Under 15s girls cricket team who, for the first time ever, qualified for the County Cricket Finals to be held at Somerset CC, seeing off lots of other schools around the county. Furthermore, our Under 13s boys cricket team have been outstanding, only losing one game and narrowly missing out on the county finals on wickets. Next up is the outstanding success of our athletics teams; the Year 7 boys, Year 8 girls and Year 9 boys all coming first in the Area Team Athletics Competition, seeing off of the other local district schools. We have already had 3 school records broken this year. Lastly, the attitude and effort from our students in PE lessons has been outstanding. Over the last month students have been working hard improving their distances and times in athletics building up to the big one....SPORTS DAY! Sports Day is on 18th July. Well done to all of our amazing students!



Teen Yoga



This academic year Teen Yoga sessions focused on enabling students to develop their 5 "POWERs" that can reduce anxiety and improve resilience. Learning to put worries aside and be **P**resent in the moment, discussing what makes us **O**riginal, being **W**hole and accepting our flaws and failures as part of our wonderful selves, identifying what **E**nergises us and makes us happy, and building a **R**esilience toolkit for challenging times. These sessions have been inspired by the fantastic book Super Powered: Transforming Anxiety Into Courage, Confidence and Resilience by Dr Shefali Tsabary and Renee Jordan, that I would recommend. It has been a privilege to work with so many students and be part their honest and open discussions, enthusiasm and joy. This year has been particularly exciting as it is the first year we have offered Teen Yoga to KS3 students, which has been hugely successful and will continue next year. I hope you have also found the mindful moment prompts via the parent newsletter helpful for yourself and our young people. Not all strategies will work for everyone, but I hope that some will resonate and be useful, either now or in the future. To stay up to date with the Teen Yoga offering at Court Fields please follow @CourtFieldsTeenYoga on facebook and instagram.



English

The English department have had another very busy year and have welcomed two new members of staff to join the team – Mrs Britton, Head of English and Miss Barraclough, English teacher and Year 9 tutor.

Year 7

As well as 'creating characters' in a lively creative writing unit, students in Year 7 have also been studying 'Refugee Boy' by Benjamin Zephaniah, following the protagonist, Alem, as he tries to navigate his way through the political asylum process and forge new relationships in a new country. This has led to some interesting discussions on attitudes towards refugees and asylum seekers and the application processes in the UK.





Year 8

After finishing their study of 'Animal Farm', students in Year 8 have explored poetry from different cultures, looking at issues such as racism, slavery, inequality, poverty and prejudice. They even had a go at writing their own 'blackout poetry'!

Year 9

In Year 9, students have been exploring the theme of conflict through a variety of poetry, non-fiction articles and 'Lord of the Flies'. This has given them the opportunity to express their opinions on conflict and to explore the effect of different conflicts on those involved – either directly or indirectly.



Year 10



Year 10 students have made an excellent start to their GCSE English Language and Literature courses, exploring the characters and themes in 'A Christmas Carol' and 'Macbeth' and exploring the presentation of conflict in a selection of poetry. Students have also completed their spoken language assessments, delivering some very powerful and persuasive speeches on a range of topics. We definitely have some future politicians within the Year group!

Enrichment:

Year 9 participated in a day of spoken language enrichment with visitors from Taunton Youth Culture and Arts coming in to lead workshops on physical theatre and cautionary tales. After looking at examples of cautionary tales and exploring the genre, students were encouraged to produce their own poetry with a warning attached for readers! Although a little shy to perform their pieces themselves at the end of the day, several students gave their work to our visitors to perform.

In March, 50 Year 10 students were taken to the Theatre Royal in Plymouth to see 'An Inspector Calls', experiencing a live performance of one of their set texts for GCSE English Literature.

English students have also enjoyed success with external competitions this year:

Rotary Youth Speaks

Three teams entered the competition, which requires them to debate a topic of their choice in front of an audience. All of the teams gave strong performances and conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. Gemma H (Year 7) won Best Speaker overall – a fantastic achievement!

Young Writers

A number of students from our creative writing club were honoured to have their writing published in a number of anthologies across the year.

The Brunner Cup

Yara C and Olivia D were applauded for their short stories written on the theme of succession. Huge congratulations to Olivia who won the overall competition.

Somerset Anne Frank Youth Awards

Antonia K entered and came second in the writing competition. The theme for this year's competition was 'No-one has ever become poor by giving' and Antonia produced a descriptive piece called 'The River'.



Maths

It has been an exciting year for Maths at Court Fields!

The Court Fields' Cipher Club team have been incredibly busy in their lunchtime sessions and came joint 5th in the National Cipher Challenge in the Autumn Term.

We moved over to Sparx Maths as our Homework platform in March and since Easter our pupils answered over 300,000 questions correctly and spent over 2,500 hours on personalised study! We are so impressed with the positive impact on learning with Sparx that we are going to continue to use this as our homework platform next year. Special awards were provided by Sparx for Caleb M, Kiril P, Luca C, Eryn S and Leila C, who earned the most XP points this year. Special mention must also be given to Alicja Z and Douglas K who managed to level up on Sparx Maths within a term.

In April, 70 of our best Mathematicians in Year 7 and Year 8 participated in the prestigious UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. We achieved 8 Bronze awards, 12 Silver awards and 3 Gold awards, which is a fantastic achievement. The 3 Gold medallists, Vikaris, Edith and Luca, went through to the national competition in June and we are incredibly proud of their achievement.

Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 battled it out in an interhouse Maths competition, based on the TV programme Countdown. Special mentions must be given to Oliver B (9B2), James R (8B2) and Daniel C (8M1) who showed incredibly strong mental maths skills, which would rival Rachel Riley. Blackdown were the overall champions (70 points), followed by Monument (55 points) and then Duke (25 points)

We celebrated National Numeracy Day on 17th May, with our Year 7s submitting entries for the National Numeracy Day poster competition, explaining how they will use Maths in their future careers

It was the perfect end to the year when the Maths and Technology departments joined forces during Enrichment Week and set the Year 8s the challenge to defeat the evil Matechs through a series of challenges, all linked to Space. The pupils had a fantastic two days and got to apply their problem solving skills in a series of fun activities.



Drama

As another year ends, we draw the curtain on a positive and productive year for the Drama department. We have continued to make positive progress with the delivery of our curriculum and embedded a clear vision across the department. As always, we are sad to see another group of KS4 students leave us. However, we know they are going on to pursue excellent and creative pathways, utilising the skills and talents that they have.

In addition, it has been excellent to begin widening our participation and enrichment offer. We very much enjoyed our trip to The Lion King and look forward to continuing to broaden this offer into the next academic year.

Not only do students benefit academically from their Drama studies, but they also have the opportunity to participate in various extra-curricular activities. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with the TYCA (Taunton Youth Culture and Arts) organisation and participate in the recent schools' festival. The abridged production of Olivia! enabled us to showcase the wealth of talent at Court Fields.

Another highlight from this year was the BTEC Murder Mystery evening, which took place during the winter term. This exciting event allowed students to showcase their acting abilities and immerse themselves in the world of mystery and suspense.

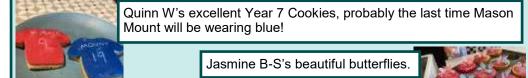
We wish you a restful summer and look forward to the next academic year.



Design and Technology

Food Technology

Our students have had a busy year working on a wide variety of dishes and themes. Year 7 are currently doing the cookie challenge and for Year 8 they have the cupcake challenge. Year 9 have finished with the NHS project where they independently design menus for different hospital wards. All our students have shown creativity and talent in huge measures.





Fantastic focaccia bread flowers from Year 10 Gaia testing out a new recipe for Year 9 to use next year.



Technology

Students continue to enjoy a very practical curriculum in Technology, our curriculum evolves every year to suit learners and the range of knowledge is vast, from cutting wood and drilling holes to soldering, 3D printing and using Computer-Aided-Manufacturing machines like our laser cutter.

The pictures included show just some of our projects from Casting in Pewter in Year 7 to electronics and working with wood making the light and sweet dispenser in Year 8. Graphics work and rocket factory which was linked to our very successful STEM day with Maths.

Our chess set was made by the team to demonstrate what is possible with our Computer controlled equipment and Louis T's Technology Trophy shows what is possible when you are able to combine disciplines.

































Enrichment Week

For two days over the Enrichment Week Year 8 were enrolled in a Space Academy. Teachers across the Maths and Technologies Faculties created a range of challenges for students to complete in small teams, competing against each other to be the overall winners after 9 separate challenges.

Students took part in activities such as rocket making, geo caching, creating space themed pizzas, designing space helmets, coding a space challenge in computing and creating a protective space capsule!

We have not announced the overall winners yet so Year 8 will have to hold on until the celebration assembly to find out who was victorious!



Modern Foreign Languages

Year 7

Year 7 French and Spanish students have been busy learning the basics of the language, including phonics (how to pronounce the words in the foreign language), and key grammatical concepts such as word order and gender agreement. They have learnt how to introduce themselves, talk about their likes and dislikes, describe their school, discuss what they like to do in their free time, and talk about their local area.





Year 8

Year 8 Spanish students deepened their knowledge of the language through a range of topics, such as describing a past holiday, discussing how they use their phones and other mobile technology, talking about their musical and TV preferences, and discussing food and drink. This last topic involved researching typical dishes from Spain and Latin America, and also preparing a "restaurant dialogue". Meanwhile, French students have completed a module all about the geography, history and culture of Paris, and have also been describing family members in increasing detail.

Year 9

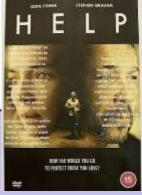
In French, Year 9 students have been discussing their social media usage, talking about sports and the importance

of healthy eating and keeping fit, and discussing their future plans post-16. In Spanish, students completed a unit of study on cinema, and produced a review of a film of their own choice. They have also learned how to talk about the world of work in a variety of contexts and time frames, and have recently been looking at Children's Rights and how many children across the world are denied these rights.









Year 10

Year 10 students of both languages have begun their GCSE courses, with a more in-depth focus upon the key pillars of language learning: phonics, vocabulary and grammar. They have been applying this knowledge to a range of contexts, and have been producing longer and more-detailed pieces of writing in their chosen language.



MFL Club began in September 2022 and has gone from

strength to strength, with around 15 students attending regularly every Thursday lunchtime. The purpose of the club is to take an informal look at languages that we would not normally study during curriculum time. Languages covered across the year include: German, Romanian, Icelandic, Tagalog (main language of the Philippines), Hebrew, Swahili, Korean and Greek. We also held a competition just before May half-term which was narrowly won by Luca!

Science

This year has been a very exciting one in Science, which has seen lots of learning within lessons as well as a range of extra-curricular activities that have helped our students grow in their scientific ability, knowledge and skill.

Year 7

It has been fantastic to see Year 7 progress throughout the year and watch them develop their understanding of the world around them. They have spent the year learning about different equipment in science, carried out a range of different chemical reactions, learnt the difference between plant and animal cells and focused on how to investigate a scientific question.

Year 8

Year 8 have been discussing the structure of DNA and learning more about how certain characteristics are inherited. They have spent time learning how to wire plugs as well the difference between a series and parallel circuit. They had an exciting opportunity to work with the Smallpeice Trust in an online workshop and spent a lesson building and racing rubber band cats. The rest of the year will see Year 8 discovering more about the universe and space.

Year 9

Our Year 9s have had an exciting year with students taking part in an educational visit to Hinkley Point C, the nuclear power plant in Bridgwater. This trip allowed students to see how Science, Maths, Engineering and Technology work together and possible careers that these could offer in the future. This year has also seen some of our Year 9s taking part in science competitions including the Rotary Technology Tournament and the Flying Start Challenge.

Year 10

Year 10 have made an excellent start to their GCSEs and have been focused on learning a range of knowledge and skills from Biology, Physics and Chemistry. Outside of lessons, a team of Year 10 boys performed excellently at the Rotary Technology Tournament, coming away as tournament winners! Year 10 also spent a day during Enrichment Week focused on improving their Science skills, completing a range of practicals, as well as exploring how atoms were discovered and making genetic monsters.



Art & Design

Year 7 - Coloured pencil in black observational drawing



Year 9 - Arts Award, presenting the work of others





Year 9 - Ceramic based on optical illusion



IKB Art Project

During Enrichment Week our students worked with Year 2 Isambard Kingdom Brunel Primary School pupils on their own versions of Sarah Morris's work. They worked in teams of five whilst the final touches were added to the large Morris mural. The results of both the extended doodle wall and the Morris mural are awesome, well done CFS Year 9 & 10 and of course IKB Years R,1 & 2.

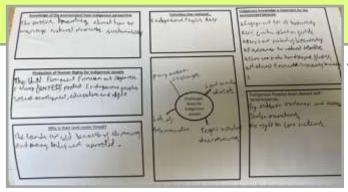


World Views

Year 7 This term students explored the internal journeys that individuals make to progress spiritually.

They discovered and analysed the benefits of following guidance within the faith of Islam. Students also explored the value of physical journeys that people of faith make. They investigated the largest gathering of people on the planet hajj and the importance both physically and spiritually for Muslims. Students then compared this journey to that of a Christian faith. Students also reflected upon having the time within one's own life to take time out of the normal routine to see if this allows them to grow as individuals.



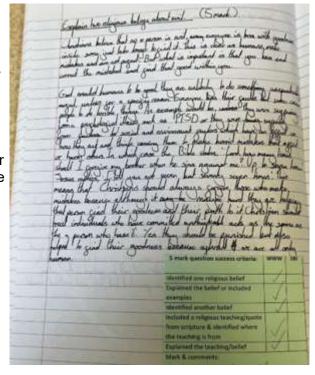


Year 8 focused this term on the causes and impact of human action on the environment at a local, national, and global level. Students learnt about the concept of Justice, inequality, community, and respect. They considered the complexity and impact of environmental issues we are facing in modern society. This led students onto exploring what people believe impacts how

they live their life. Students gained knowledge and understanding about how indigenous communities lead their lives, and explored what we can learn from them about treading on the Earth lightly.

Students also had the opportunity to meet a Humanist guest speaker who explored what it means to be a Humanist in Great Britain and how this had impacted the way he treated the environment.

Year 9 This term students completed an in-depth investigation into the conscientious issue of Crime and Punishment. Our exploration began with student's looking into contemporary UK law. They looked at a range of laws that exist within the UK, considered their relevance today and discovered how laws are created and updated. Students learnt about the intrinsic link between laws and the Christian tradition. Students considered what motivates people to commit crimes and allows students to assess whether we can do more as a society to prevent crime, or whether some are simply born evil. Students explored the recent increase in hate crime in the UK and considered reasons for such crime before they move on to discuss the punishments that exist in the UK for those who commit crime. Students enjoyed a workshop with the local police, considering the impact of hate crime both locally and nationally. Students will consider the death penalty and compare British law with other more draconian systems from around the world. Students also benefitted from meeting with a local barrister who introduced them to a variety of case studies and helped them to understand the court system in Great Britain.



Music

This term, students have been improving their music skills. Year 7 have been getting to grips with the ukulele and chord changing, Year 8s have been composing their own soundtrack for a horror movie, whilst Year 9s completed their own version of a song of their own choice and then settled down to plan a profitable music festival. Special mentions for great work go to Spencer for his amazing vocals, and Karylle for her outstanding work on her soundtrack.

I can't let this year end without introducing our newest band, Slowburne. They performed for our Pride event and in Madagascar's Got Talent and I'm really looking forward to their continuing development next year! Congratulations to all the performers at this - we hope to make it an annual event as everyone did so well.



Geography

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. More recently, they have been putting their map skills to the test and checking their navigation on OS maps. Year 7 have shown brilliant resilience so far this year, and we look forward to working with them further in 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! Their geographical skills were then put to the test when students were asked to complete their own independent enquiry around Wellington; many overcame their fears and were brave enough to take part in questionnaires around Wellington, with all students showing enthusiasm and initiative. Year 8 are ending the year looking at weather and climate, developing their understanding of why the UK weather is so

changeable, and developing their knowledge of how climate change will continue to alter extreme weather events. Well done Year 8!

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. Despite the challenges thrown at them, they have risen to expectations every time and have persevered in lessons. With many continuing on to GCSE Geography, they have pushed themselves to improve their extended writing and knowledge of the world. As we are currently ending the year looking at



extreme environments, students are looking at tropical rainforests and glaciation, some of the most important environments on the planet. We look forward to welcoming them back in September!



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, Year 10 are completing their Dawlish Warren GCSE fieldwork, to help investigate the effectiveness of hard and soft engineering at the coast. All students have shown fantastic fieldwork skills and completed their data collection, ready for them now to complete their write up before the beginning of the summer holidays. We look forward to continuing our work with them in Year 11!

Our <u>Year 11</u> Geographers rounded off a superb 5 years of Geography by focusing in on their GCSE exams. Whilst this was a stressful period for all, many students approach this with resilience and a can-do attitude. The hard work for their time at Court Fields was put to the challenge in a final set of revision sessions before each exam, where students showed determination and focus in applying their geographical knowledge to a series of revision exercises. We wish them all of the best for their results and look forward to celebrating their successes with them.



History

Year 7

The Year 7s have been learning about 'How did William win the Battle of Hastings?' and then investigating, 'How did William gain control of England?'. Students compared the effectiveness of Anglo-Saxon housecarls vs Norman knights and archers, then prioritised the various problems Harold Godwinson faced. Due to the success of William the Conqueror, the students moved on to how William

established his control through violent methods such as the Harrowing of the North, and other methods such as the Domesday Book and castles. During Enrichment Week, the Year 7s visited Chepstow Castle to learn about its history, and had the opportunity to dress up wearing chain mail, and watch a display of medieval weapons.





Year 8

Following Year 8's trip to Bristol to look at its involvement in the slave trade, they focused their study on the impact slavery had on the countries involved in it. Students looked at West Africa and the Kingdom of Benin, comparing and contrasting its culture before and after its people were captured and transported to the Caribbean as slaves. Students moved their focus onto the Caribbean, studying the colonies of Jamaica, and looked at how the emancipation of slaves led to indentured labour, and judged how far the people of the Caribbean gained independence. Students then looked at Bristol, and focused on Pero (an ex-slave), and assessed how far Bristol accurately remembers the slave trade, and whether this is appropriate for its level of involvement. This completes their learning on empire for Year 8, as they move onto the Industrial Revolution, looking at the causes of it, and the impact this had on agriculture, law and order, society and medicine.

Year 9

Students have completed their study on comparing the different dictatorships of Stalin, Mussolini and Hitler, and have been learning about how Hitler and the Allies' policy of appeasement, led to WW2 and the significance of certain events as turning points in WW2. We then moved onto how this caused a 'cold war' and the impact this had on Europe, Korea and Cuba. This is an excellent foundation for those studying History at GCSE when we look at USA Conflict Abroad with the involvement of USA in Vietnam, but also it helps students to understand current conflicts in the world around us.

Read Write Inc

This term we have been completing an intervention with Year 7s and 8s to improve their literacy and reading speeds. Miss Carter's group have been working hard and have completed Module 11, Miss Etherington's group are just finishing Module 17. Both groups have been making excellent progress, keep going at it!





ELSA

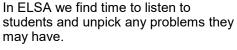
ELSA capacity in our school has increased this year as Miss Passmore, Mr Hutchinson and Mrs Govier have been able to dedicate time to our students. ELSA sessions include building the student's self-esteem, helping them with friendship issues, improving social skills and understanding emotions.

In our ELSA sessions we help students to find out all the amazing things they are good at and discover the strengths they have.

Here are some of the creative pieces the students have made.







Thank you to all the students we have supported this year. We hope you all have an enjoyable, well-deserved summer holiday and we look forward to September 2023.









On Wednesday 21st June the Court Fields allotment groups were invited down to Fox's Field by Transition Town Wellington (TTW) to help with their Green Fields Project. Luckily the weather was great for us that day, which meant that there was plenty of river walking and watering of the vegetable plants that had been planted.

The students were met by Anita and Stefan who are both volunteers for TTW. Stefan is an artist who works mainly with wood and willow in particular. TTW had asked if the students would like to help leave their mark at the green field's site by helping making a willow bench.

The students helped dig the holes for the legs to go in and then attached the seat part to the legs using wooden dowels. Once this was in place the students were able to add the scaffolding for the willow. The students put hazel branches through pre-cut holes and then Stefan, using the willow, tied the hazel into place. The students were then let loose on the weaving after being given a demonstration by Stefan. The students did a great job and worked hard but unfortunately time got away from us and we were unable to finish the bench. Luckily both Anita and Stefan decided to stay on and finish the bench.



For yet another year, our Court Fields students have enjoyed outdoor activities at Young Somerset.

We have enjoyed long walks in the Quantocks, cooking in Kilve Activity Centre, looking for new places on the map, and getting to know our immediate surroundings!

We have enjoyed a great team time!





Year 7 Update

What a great year! It feels as if only yesterday I met this amazing set of people in the school's main hall on day one.

This has been a fabulous beginning to your learning journey with us here at Court Fields School. Showing excitement, enthusiasm and interest in the world around you. Wasting no time settling in to the new school community, with impressive successes in all subjects. The school ethos wholeheartedly embraced, with brilliant achievements – collecting over 72,000 house points, developing a keen sense of belonging with wonderful amounts of participation.



Mr Williams, Head of Year

We must offer our gratitude to the superb set of tutors who have advised and guided your steps throughout the academic year, delivering a tutor programme with such dedication and professionalism. Getting to know you has been a privilege, the immense kindness you demonstrate, your excellent attitudes to learning and how you care for each other. These qualities were never more evident than at the North Devon Residential in October, when we surfed, we went coasteering, we climbed the High Ropes course, we enjoyed the campfire and toasted marshmallows together. The photos taken show the terrific experience everyone was able to enjoy. Fantastic lasting memories that provided the platform for your friendships to begin and establish relationships with your tutors.

You have also participated in the Comic Relief and Children In Need charity events raising hundreds of pounds for such worthy causes to your credit. I am told the quality of your cake making is exceptional! The school enrichment week schedule, provided the opportunity for friendly, respectful competition, in the multi-sports events, as well as visits to Chepstow Castle in Wales and trips to Flip Out and Brean.

Take time during the summer break to rest, reflect and renew your energies for Year 8. There will be more opportunities to show your wonderful characters as transition leaders, during Open Evening and Days and helping with parents' evenings. I proudly look forward to the next stage in our journey together.









Year 8 Update

As the summer approaches and Year 8 comes to an end, it is time to reflect on the achievements, sense of belonging, and active participation students experienced throughout their year at Court Fields.

First and foremost, Year 8 students have demonstrated remarkable achievements in various aspects of their academic and personal lives. From excelling in subjects like Mathematics and English, to exploring their passions in Technology, Drama, and Art, students have showcased their abilities and honed their skills. As a result, it has been a privilege to see just how far our students have developed and improved in various aspects of the



Mr Reed, Head of Year

curriculum. The dedication shown by the Year 8 students is commendable, and their accomplishments serve as a testament to their hard work.

In addition to individual achievements, Court Fields has fostered a strong sense of belonging among its students and across the Year group. Throughout the year, students have interacted with their peers, attended notable trips, participated in extra-curricular opportunities, developed a student council and formed close-knit friendships along the way. I look forward to continuing this journey with the Year group and the exciting opportunities that the end of KS3 will bring.

I wish you a restful and enjoyable summer.



Year 9 Update

The end of Year 9 has arrived and what a year it has been. Another year has been and gone here at Court Fields and Year 9 as a cohort have been nothing short of amazing. It has been a busy and successful year for you all and I am proud of the hard work you have all put in.

There have been challenges along the way, such as making the difficult but exciting decision in choosing your options to study at GCSE, but each and every one of you have handled it brilliantly and I hope you are looking forward to studying your chosen subjects throughout Year 10 and 11.

This year has seen lots of activities and trips, including visits to HPC and Go Ape, as well as lots of external speakers coming in to speak to you all. The very recent Spanish trip was a great highlight to my year and I hope yours too. It was a fantastic trip with exceptional behaviour and commitment displayed by all.



Mr Rooke, Head of Year

As you finish Year 9 and complete KS3, you begin a new journey into Year 10 and start KS4, where a lot of you will go on to do even more brilliant and amazing things. I'm excited to be continuing the journey with you as Head of Year 10 and look forward to seeing you return in September.

Have a wonderful summer break, relax, enjoy and most importantly stay safe.



















Year 10 Update

The end of Year 10 has come around very quickly and what a busy year it has been. This year has seen the student have excellent opportunities in preparing themselves for life after Court Fields. These have included Mock Interview Days, College interviews and Taster Days to our local Colleges.

One of the main opportunities in Year 10 is work experience and the positive feedback I have received from businesses who have taken on our students has been outstanding, and once again shows what a great Year group we have. Year 10 students have also been given the opportunity to attend residential trips this year, from Spain to closer to home at the Mendip Activity Centre. These trips have given the students lifelong memories and maybe even funnier stories....



Mr Seaton, Head of Year

From Sports to the Arts, our Year 10s have taken the opportunities given to them from representing the school in sporting fixtures, putting on theatre productions like the Murder Mystery Evening and volunteering their time to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. A big well done to all the Year 10 students who have participated in clubs this year, too.

I have had the pleasure of being involved in the prefect application process and next year's student leadership team looks to be very strong, which will represent the school within the community and be the voice of the student body.

As a Head of Year, it has been such a joy seeing the Year group develop and mature into young adults preparing themselves for the challenges and opportunities Year 11 will bring.

Have a restful summer break and recharge the batteries so you are all ready to hit the ground running into Year 11.



Year 11 Update

So, as we bid our final farewells to our Year 11 students we reflect on their busy year. Not only have all students been working hard on their GCSE subjects, PPEs and final exams but also in all other parts of school life.

A key part of the year involved the college interviews and also careers interviews to plan their next steps. There have been various fundraising events for Comic Relief and Madagascar. Many students have continued to be involved in the extracurricular activities on offer as well as receiving hard earned rewards.



Mr Nicholls, Head of Year

There were opportunities for student leadership throughout the year. Namely, student voice panels, ambassadors for visitors, helping ensure parents evenings run smoothly and as tour guides for our many visitors to the school.



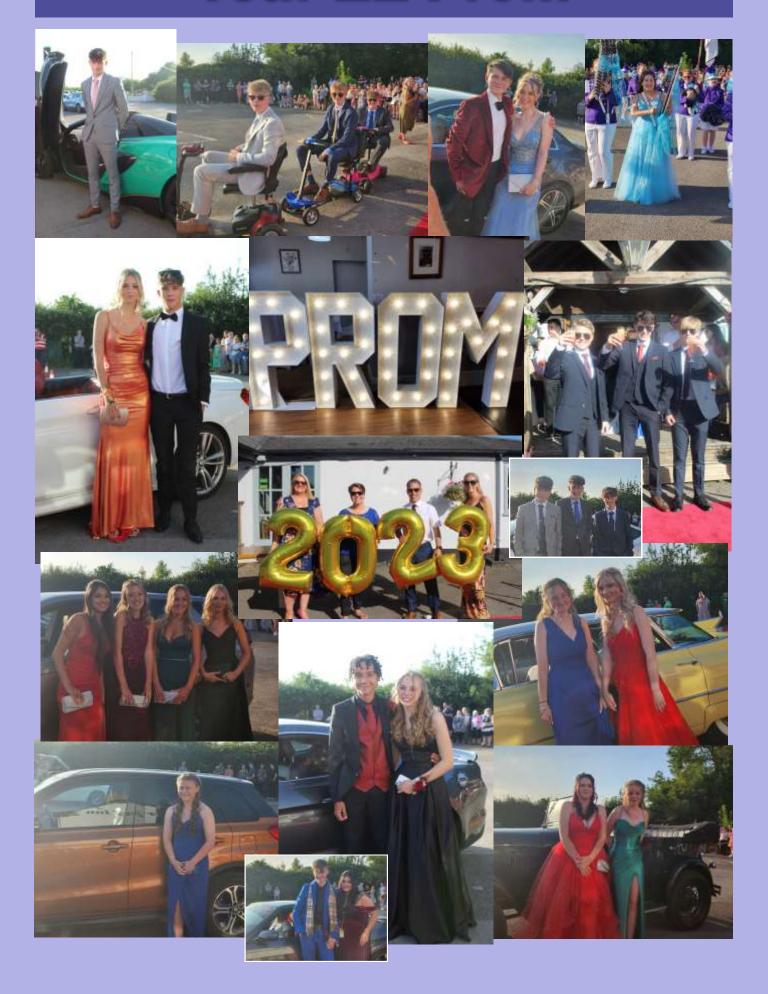
Year 11 Leavers



Year 11 Leavers



Year 11 Prom



Year 11 Prom



Mental Health and Wellbeing

Throughout the year we have ensured tutor time, PSHCE and lessons support students with their wellbeing and mental health. Next year we will continue to promote services to support students. We have promoted positive mental health that includes advice and guidance on how to look after ourselves, as well as challenges to complete. We celebrated Hello Yellow Day in October, along with Mental Health Awareness Day, by understanding connections and #BeKind. It is important we are kind to ourselves, others and the environment.



Safeguarding our Students

We have been really fortunate to have external speakers come into school and support our students this year. We have continued our work with Collaborative Digital and Safer Somerset to educate students about Violence Against Women and Girls. Students took part in assemblies and workshops, and we had an entry go through to the public vote for their extremely informative Podcasts.



We are really proud of our students demonstrating how to look after themselves and others. Our PSHCE days explored, My Happiness Manifesto

and Seeking Safety, which included assemblies from Stand Against Violence, linking to the tragic death of Lloyd Fouracre in Taunton. These hard hitting assemblies were really informative and supportive of our students' education. Year 7 all took part in a 4-hour workshop to promote self-esteem and confidence and we welcomed the police educating knife crime. We have welcomed the local police team running our Wednesday Beat Surgery, which encourages students to approach the police with any concerns. It has been fantastic to work with so many different agencies and charities to support our PSHCE curriculum and next year we will be welcoming even more speakers, including Safe Link and Sari to support the safeguarding education for our students, which we are excited about!

Transition for Year 6

Transition to secondary school is an exciting yet nervous time and this year is no different. We welcomed 200 students from 15 different primary schools at the start of July. Students got to tour the site, watch Staff presentations and they certainly enjoyed the lunches from the canteen. Most students met their tutor for next year, as well as making new friends. Students took part in lessons as a taster to life at Court Fields from September. The days were supported by our fantastic Transition Leaders, who were brilliant ambassadors for the school and supportive of each visiting student, as they were in their shoes 12 months ago. We are excited to fully welcome our new cohort in September and wish all our students a happy, safe and relaxing summer holidays.

End of Year Awards

We have hosted our Presentation Evenings in July, we have celebrated Year 7 to 10 students for all their hard work and efforts this year. Awards included Attendance, Positive Behaviour, Attitude to Learning, Faculty, and Head of Year awards. SLT also awarded students who have been exceptional in all areas. We truly value all the hard work and effort our students have made this year. We have also been fortunate to bring back our Leavers 2022 and celebrate their exam success. We look forward to also seeing our 2023 leavers in the autumn term, following their results in August.



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 we 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 ChatHealth is a mobile health service for parents and young people in Somerset making it easier to get health and wellbeing advice.

Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm.

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 <u>07480 635516</u>



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

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



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)



Suicide is the biggest killer of under 35's in the UK
Home | Papyrus UK | Suicide Prevention Charity (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)

NHS Mental Health Apps



distrACT app - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

The distrACT app gives you easy, quick and discreet access to information and advice about <u>self-harm</u> and <u>suicidal</u> thoughts.

The content has been created by doctors and experts in self-harming and suicide prevention.



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

Calm Harm app - NHS (www.nhs.uk)



BlueIce is an evidenced-based app to help young people manage their emotions and reduce urges to <u>self-harm</u>.

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.

BlueIce app - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

- For further Health & Wellbeing tips, advice & information including self-help support for parents and carers go to the Public Health website: www.cypsomersethealth.org
- For further information & support for young people go to: www.youngsomerset.org.uk/coronavirus-support-for-young-people



Mrs Westwood Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer

Mr Canham



Mrs McCarthy



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers

Safeguarding Team





Mrs Hartnell

Mrs Lowe



Safeguarding Officers



Mrs Matthews
SLT Designated
Safeguarding Officer





Events & Activities





Happy Healthy Holidays is back for the summer!

Happy Healthy Holidays offers a range of exciting activity clubs for children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals across Somerset.

Find and book FREE local activities by visiting www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays or scan the QR code!















Ages







Summer Holiday Course: Art & Design

8-10 August, 9.30am-1pm

- Voca can report to:

 Develop skills in odding light and tone, through
 drawing and shorthing
 Inplies colour, shape and pattern through
 painting
 Consen from and sexteen through studying
- Discover how are can be used as a response to

Care #135, or #113 if booked before 1 May

gamel.ec.uk/gordoomfoo-courses

Get in truck by emailing gestmentons gund on an or plane 077542 57993.





PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) **DURING THE 6 WEEKS SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2023**

COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



Kids eat for £3 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from Mon 24th July - Fri 1st September 2023

Kids eat for ET with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays & up to 2 Kids get free breakfast with 1 adult breakfast

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

MODDISONS

Spend £4.49 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

2 kids eat FREE all day, every day from Monday 24th July - Friday 1st Sept 2023

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

WHITEDFAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

PAUSA CAFE & DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

From Mon 17th of July until Fri 11th of Aug kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

TO BE CONFIRMED ...

M&S and Farmhouse Inns







Summer Holiday Course: Music & Drama

7-11 August, 9.30am-4pm

A fun action-fitted week for 10 to 18 years, packed full of music and drama workshops.

With sustems in reck, pop, musical shearer, classical and juz, music production, 33-ing, singing, arring, erapework, desting and improvisation, our animar holiday corase is a great way to develop your shills in the performing arts.

Cut: £340, or £295 if booked before 1 May

Bursaries available.

gamd.or.ok/gyafaunton-courses

Get in seach by emailing gyataunton@gund.oc.uk. or phone 077542(7993.





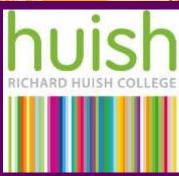












Richard Huish College

Saturday 14 October 9.30am - 1.00pm

Monday 16 October 5.00pm- 8.00pm

Two dates for your diaries; upcoming Richard Huish College Open Events. Explore the campus, speak to staff and students about the courses and apprenticeships on offer. You will also be able to discover more about their services that support students and the many EnRICH opportunities available at Huish!

DIARY DATES

Mon 4th Sept

Inset Day

Tues 5th Sept

Inset Day

Wed 6th Sept

Year 7 & 11 in school

Thurs 7th Sept

All students 7-11 in school

Wed 20th Sept

School closes at 1.30pm for Open

Evening

Thurs 21st Sept

School starts at 9am

Mon 25 - 27th Sept

Year 7 camp

Thurs 28th Sept- 4th Oct

Open mornings

Wed 4th Oct

Year 11 Curriculum Evening

Thurs 19th Oct

Year 11 Parents Evening

Fri 20 Oct

Inset Day

Mon 23rd - Fri 27th Oct

Half Term

Mon 30th Oct

Inset Day

Wed 8th Nov

Year 12 Presentation Evening

Mon 20th Nov

Art PPE Day

Tues 21st Nov

Photography PPE Day

Thurs 23rd Nov - Fri 1st Dec

Year 11 1st PPEs

Thurs 7th Dec

Year 9 Parents Evening

Fri 15th Dec

End of Term, early finish at 12.45pm



Court Fields School Achieve | Belong | Participate

Thank you for all your support and hard work throughout the year.

Have a wonderful summer. Keep safe and see you in September!

From Mrs Matthews and all the Court Fields Team

Thank you to our partners who are supporting us as part of our Wellington and Somerset community























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www.courtfields.net