

Bulletin for Ansford Families

Issue 16: 9th June 2023

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families

I hope that you had a lovely break at half term and that you have been able to enjoy the sunshine.

Since our last edition, we have had a number of enrichment events for our students. Miss Worthy Jarvis and a team of staff lead the Duke of Edinburgh weekend which, as one parent wrote in to express, enabled “children [to] grow in confidence and believe in themselves as well as having fun!” There was another KS3 STEM event led by Mr Hill; Miss Voit arranged for a group of chefs from the Royal Navy to come and work with some of our Year 10 Food and Catering students and Mrs Wood and the PE Team ran the termly Interform competition as well as leading the Year 1 Primary Festival for our local primary schools this week. We are grateful to staff for creating these opportunities for our young people.

The real highlight from the last week of term was our Celebration Assembly for Year 11. After the informal activities of shirt signing and cake eating, we held a more formal celebration with speeches from key staff including myself, Mr Mitchell, Ms Mallord and our team of Year 11 tutors. It was a wonderful occasion where we also presented a series of subject and character awards to recognise the significant contribution of many of our young people. The list of award winners can be found later in this Bulletin.

Last week, we also managed to engage lots of students in photography sessions to gather images for the new school website that we are in the process of building. The students were fantastic and we have captured some great shots of ‘life at Ansford’. We are hoping to be ready to launch at the start of the new academic year and will keep you updated on that as the term moves on.

Finally, as is often the case at the end of a term, we said goodbye to two members of staff: Mrs Jane Bifulco who has made a significant contribution to the SEND Team during her 6 years at Ansford and will be greatly missed by staff and students alike; also, Ms Michelle Harris who has played a key role at Ansford as Head of Maths, placing students at the centre of her work and supporting students to achieve their personal best. I am sure that you will join me in thanking them for all that they have done for our community and wish them well on their next steps in roles outside of education.

We are pleased to be welcoming Miss Frost who joins us as our new Head of Modern Foreign Languages; she brings with her many years of experience and we are looking forward to working with her. Mrs Withers, who has been in post as Second in Maths, has now taken over the leadership of Maths which I am sure will see the Maths Department flourish.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Rachel Purnell
Headteacher

Academy Calendar: Key Upcoming Events

Week	Date in June	Event	Location Timing	Staff Contact
2	Mon 12th June	Year 10 Exams Fortnight Starts		Mrs Dyal Mr Musson
2	Wed 14th June	French Trip information evening for parents	PA2, 6pm	Mrs Kasereka
2	Mon 26th June	Year 10 Work Experience Week		Mr Musson Mrs Watson
2	Weds 28th June	Year 9 STEM Day		Mr Hill

Who to Contact

The relationship between school and home is a key one as a successful partnership between us will support your child's learning, progress and happiness at school. Our aim is to work with you and your child to ensure that happens, which is why it's important to talk with us if you have any questions, concerns or wish to share information with us. Our reception staff will be able to direct you to the right member of staff but, as a general guide, the key routes for contact are as follows:

- For most pastoral matters, your child's tutor will be the first point of contact;
- If the matter remains unresolved, or for more complex pastoral matters, please ask for your child's Head of Year;
- For matters relating to lessons and learning in a single lesson, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance;
- If the matter remains unresolved or is more complex, please ask for the Head of Faculty in that subject area;
- For other matters, please describe your situation to our reception staff and they will direct you to the appropriate member of staff.

*Please remember that many of our staff are also teachers which means that they will not be able to make immediate responses due to their teaching commitments. We aim to respond to all queries **within 2 working days**; for more complex queries this initial contact may be a holding response whilst we look into your concerns. If your concern is more urgent, please explain that when you make contact.*

Regular Notices

From Assembly Themes

12th-16th June	<p>Ethos - Teamwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understanding the concept of teamwork/playing your part ● Exploration of why some teams are incredibly successful ● Understanding the importance of team work within the workplace ● Understanding essential workplace skills and how these can be developed at school 	Mr Mitchell
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[Father's Day](#) (18 June)

19th-23rd June	Windrush and Refugee Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none">● An introduction to the Windrush generation● Exploration of the work and culture they brought to Britain● Exploration of examples where citizens are forced to become refugees● Understanding the dangers of stereotypical/misplaced assumptions of refugees	
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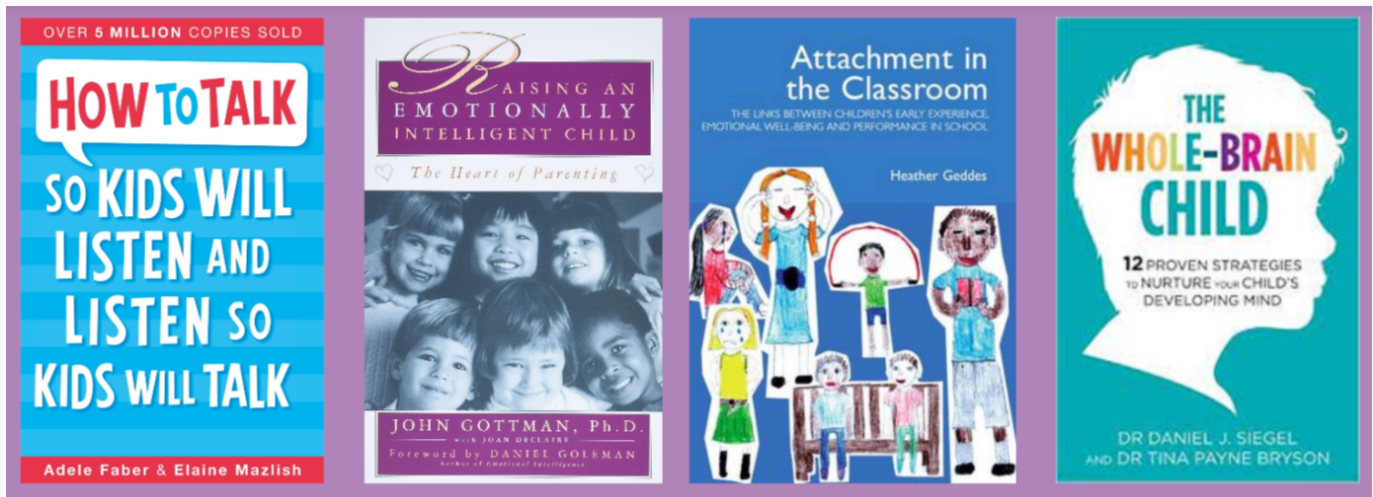
[World Refugee Day](#) (20 June)

[Windrush Day](#) (22 June)

From the Safeguarding Team

Emotion Coaching

In May, Mel Young from the Mental Health School Team came to give Year 7 students a workshop on managing their emotions, she then did a CPD session after school for staff so they were aware of what students had been taught so we are using the same strategies and language about emotions and the strategies that can be used to help manage them at times when needed. In addition, Mel recommends that parents have a look at the resources below for further information about this. The workshop for parents will be rearranged, apologies for the cancellation but this was due to ill health.



School Nurse

The school nurse service restarted on Wednesday 7th June, this is a drop in service for students to discuss anything health related. Please see [this poster](#) that they have asked us to share with you.

From the Caterlink team

Greek Day!

On Thursday 22nd June the caterlink team will be running a special Greek-themed menu. See [this link](#) for full details.

From Ms Mallord, Head of Years 10 and 11

Year 11 Leavers

The Year 11 students came in to celebrate their time with us on 26th May. They looked incredibly smart and composed and were a joy to be with. They collected their Leavers' Hoodies, signed each others' shirts and ate mountains of cake amidst much hugging and reminiscing. Some students had sequined designs on their shirts that looked fantastic!

Then came the formal assembly where everyone settled down for one last time as a year group to listen to speeches and celebrate each others' hard work and dedication in the Subject Awards. Ansford is very lucky to have a wide range of legacy awards and these went to students who had contributed to the life of the academy in the widest sense. As ever, the one thing that always stays with me after these events is the generosity of spirit and how students whoop and cheer to celebrate other people's successes. These amazing young people really showed that although they will always be part of the Ansford family, they are ready to go out and make their own way in life and take on fresh challenges. We wish them the very best of luck!

Year 11 Award Winners

Please find details below of all of our award winners in Year 11.

Award	Winner
Art & Design: Art, Graphics, Textiles	Ruby D
Art & Design: 3D Design	Rowan C
Art & Design: Photography	Sophie H
Business	Ella H
Child Development	Poppy P
Citizenship	Rowena S
Computer Science	Jack H
Creative iMedia	Evie J
Drama	Lottie D
English Language	Clemmie S
English Literature	Connie J
Food Preparation & Nutrition	Emily L
French	Katie H

Geography	Liam J
History	Poppy R
Horticulture (City & Guilds)	Harrison D
Hospitality & Catering	Toby K
Mathematics	Alex H
Music	Lilija A
Physical Education	George H
Religious Studies	George G
Combined Science: Trilogy	Sophia H
Science Separates	Tommy A
Spanish	Tess M
Sports Studies	Reuben A
Sports Personality of the Year	Emily W
Mick Hemming Award for Independent Spirit	Peter O
The Harrison Trophy for significant contribution to the life of the school	Sam R
Rob Benzie Award for the student who epitomises the Ansford philosophy of 'Learning together to lead our lives'.	Poppy R
Ansford Graduate Highly Commended Award, for integrity and being a great ambassador of the school	Kieran S
The Endeavour Award (Strode), for battling through adversity and still being the best they can be and achieve beyond expectations	Sophie W
The Suzy Jones Award, for creativity	Daisy L
The Burnstone Trophy, for determination and hard work	Tom B
The Dave Higgins Traders' Trophy, for the highest performing student in the year group	Rowena S
Governors' Trophy, for the student who has made the most progress since KS2 in all subjects	Laura A

From Mr Noot, Head of English

Bedrock Stars

A Bedrock Stars prize draw is currently running! If students earn 140 Bedrock points between now and 23/07/2023, they are entered automatically into a draw to win a prize. Prizes include Amazon vouchers and a Chrome Book.

From SEND Department

Homework Support Club

Struggling to get homework completed? Need help with a particular piece of homework? We will be offering a Homework Support Club in the Intervention Room from 8.50 - 9.20. Ansford's amazing teaching assistants will be on hand to support you with your homework and there might even be a cup of tea and a biscuit available! No need to book, just come along to the Intervention Room.

SEND News

Please see the link below for the latest edition of SEND News, with updates for children and young people aged 0-25 with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), their families and professionals in Somerset.
<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/the-local-offer/>

From Mrs Rice, English Teacher

Joe's Big Breakfast

On Saturday 3rd June, Joe W cooked up a storm in his local village hall, providing breakfast to a steady stream of local villagers. Joe served up 20 breakfasts, including Full English breakfasts with all the trimmings plus tea or coffee, and there was also a raffle. Joe raised over £300! Furthermore, he has been asked to consider doing a regular breakfast at the village hall's monthly Saturday morning cafe. **What a success - congratulations to Joe!** Joe is raising money to fund his place on a Scuba Expedition to Kenya in August 2024.



From Mrs Dyal, Exams Officer

Year 10 Exams

The Year 10 student exams kicked off this week, with some amazing food being produced in the Hospitality & Catering practical. Written exams commence next week and we wish the students the best of luck!

Important reminders:

- Be prepared – equipment, you must ensure you bring all the equipment you need for the exam you are taking, in a clear pencil case
- Calculators – you must clear the memory on your calculator, and you must not bring the lid into the exam
- Attendance – go straight to your morning exams (no registration)
- Timings – be on time!! Note that afternoon exams start at 2:15pm
- Exams noticeboard – remember to check the exams noticeboard for timings, rooms and seating plans
- Food and drink – food is not authorised in the exam room unless agreed in exceptional circumstances. You may have water – in a clear bottle with no labels or design
- Arriving late – if you arrive late, do not worry – go to the Exams Office and we will assist you getting into your exam
- Missed exams, catch-up - If you miss an exam for any reason, go to the Exams office to arrange when you can sit it
- Access arrangements – if you are unsure what exam access arrangements may be in place for you, go to the Exams Office
- Special considerations – The Exams Office is here to help you. If you have encountered any problems or difficulties leading up to or on the day of the exam that may affect your ability to do your best, please tell us.

Year 11 GCSEs

The Year 11 students continue to work through their GCSE and vocational exams; with just 7 days of exams to go, excellent work Year 11!

From Maths and Computer Department

Extra-Curricular Activities: NEW Maths and Computing times for after the Easter break

Mathematics and Computing		Summer 2023	
Your weekly timetable of extra-curricular activities			
	Tutor Time 09.00 – 09.20	Lunchtime 13.45 – 14.30	After School 15.30 – 16.30
Monday	Numeracy Mentors Ms Buckley MA2	KS3 Homework Club (Wk 1) Mrs Withers MA5	NO CLUBS – STAFF MEETINGS
Tuesday	Numeracy Mentors Ms Buckley MA2	KS3 Homework Club (Wk 2) Mrs Withers MA5	Minecraft Club Miss Worthy-Jarvis IT1
Wednesday	Numeracy Mentors Ms Buckley MA2	Problem Solving Club Mrs Piper MA4	
Thursday	Numeracy Mentors Ms Buckley MA2		Year 11 GCSE Maths Intervention/Revision and Support Foundation Paper in MA5 with Mrs Withers and Mrs Piper Higher Paper in MA3 with Ms Harris and Mr Musson From Thursday 9th June this will become Year 10 GCSE Maths Intervention/Revision and Support
Friday	Numeracy Mentors Ms Buckley MA2	KS3 Games and Chess Club Mr Wong in MA2	

Community News

Current Vacancies

For more information on any of the vacancies listed below please visit the school website/vacancies page or click on the links below.

Governor Vacancy



Would you like to shape the future of our thriving academy?

Vacancies have arisen for a Parent Governor on the governing body.

Becoming a school governor is a rewarding and challenging role and will allow you the opportunity to use your skills and attributes to have a positive impact on the education of all the students in our school. Governors work closely together and play a vital role in the strategic direction of the school, working with the Principal and other senior members of staff to ensure that each of our students can reach their potential and be the best they can be. You will be able to develop and learn new skills in a board-level environment, take on different challenges and work as part of an established and successful Governing Board.

Governors need not be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school and the welfare of its students, together with the time, energy and willingness to get involved. As well as attending Full Board meetings, attendance at committee meetings is also required. The frequency of meetings, and therefore the time commitment, has recently been reduced.

We are particularly interested in self-nominations and expressions of interest from individuals with experience and skills in the following areas:

- Finance
- Leadership

Contacting Us

If you are interested in becoming a governor and would like further information please contact our Clerk clerk.governors@ansford.net

Do you have the time and skills to be an examinations invigilator?

We are seeking to expand our team of invigilators, who work with us on a casual contract basis to support the Examinations Office in the running of internal and external examinations.

For more information and how to apply, see the vacancies page on our website:

<http://www.ansford.org.uk/vacancies>

Ansford Academy, Mappa Lane, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7JH
Tel: 01963 350895
Email: mailbox@ansford.net

For further information on vacancies please click on the link below.

<https://www.ansford.org.uk/vacancies>