

Bulletin for Ansford Families

Issue 8: 19th January 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families

This is our first Family Bulletin of 2024 so I hope that you enjoyed a relaxing break over Christmas and that the new year has started well for you. However, it's important to acknowledge that for some families that may not have been the case. I shared some poems from Lemn Sissay's collection 'Let the Light Pour In' with students in my assemblies last week as I think they help to generate feelings of hope when things can feel difficult and they do so in a really accessible format. This is one of my favourites:

*"How do you do it?" said night
"How do you wake up and shine?"
"I keep it simple," said light
"One day at a time"*

We had a really positive - and busy - start to this new term; staff started the term with an INSET day dedicated to the exploration of autism with specialist training provided through our work with the *Autism in Schools Project*. This was a really useful day with lots of information and practical support.

In addition, there have been lots of events for students. Year 11 students have been completing some of their practical exams in Hospitality and Catering whilst others have been practising their speaking exams for MFL. The Year 11 Prom Committee have been really successful in their fundraising and there are more details of their next event later in the Bulletin which we hope you will be able to support. There have been a number of extra-curricular events such as the KS4 Art Trip to London last week, Drama Workshops this week and the STEM Challenge Programme. Thank you to all staff who have organised or supported these events.

We have been really pleased to welcome our Year 9 families into the Academy for Parents' Evening last week and Options Evening last night. These are key events for our Year 9 students, and their families, as they begin the process of making decisions about their next steps. We are really grateful for the support of our families at both of these events as they were really well attended, with our highest ever turnout; this makes all the difference as we work together for our young people.

Finally, we welcome two new permanent members of staff to our community this term. We are very fortunate to have appointed experienced colleagues who bring with them years of experience working in schools. Mr Davis joined us at the start of term in the PE Department - some of you with older children may remember Mr Davis as he worked at Ansford a number of years ago. Mrs Scaramanga will be joining us properly after Easter in the Science Department and we will be welcoming her on Mondays only during the Spring term.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Rachel Purnell
Headteacher

Report a student absence by phone: 01963 350 895 or by email attendanceofficer@ansford.net

Contact the Academy by phone: 01963 350 895 or by email mailbox@ansford.net

Academy Calendar: Key Upcoming Events

Week	Date in January	Event	Location/Timing	Staff Contact
2	Monday 22nd	Year 11 Poetry Live Trip to Bath	Details below	Mrs Rice
2	Wednesday 24th	Year 8 HPV and MMR Catch-up Vaccinations	Details below	Miss Fulton
2	Friday 26th	Year 11 Trial Examination Results		Ms Mallord/Mrs Dyal
Week	Date in February	Event	Location/Timing	Staff Contact
2	Tuesday 6th	Year 11 Photographs	Details below	Mrs Dyal
2	Thursday 8th	Year 11 Parents' Evening	Details below	Mr Musson
2	Friday 9th	Year 7 Interim Reports		Mrs Dyal
	Monday 12th- Friday 16th	Half Term		

Assembly Rota

22nd - 26th January	Ansford Ethos - Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does engagement look like in a lesson? ● Explore and celebrate enrichment successes this year ● Exploring opportunities in our local areas ● Understanding the importance of taking up opportunities 	Mr Mitchell
Holocaust Memorial Day (27th January)		
29th January - 2nd February	SEND - Autism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An introduction to autism ● Understanding how some autistic people interact with the world around them ● How can we include and support peers and colleagues? ● Understanding challenges they may face. ● Recognising talents and famous people. 	Mrs Wood

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Notices

From The Safeguarding Team

Emotion Coaching Workshop

Mel Young, from the Mental Health Schools Team (MHST), is running a workshop on 'EMOTION COACHING' for parents and carers on Tuesday 6th February 5.00pm - 6.00pm in school. This workshop is aimed at all parents and carers and follows on from the emotion coaching workshops that were held for students last year and the wellbeing module that students are about to study in PSHCE. Emotion coaching is about helping children to become more aware of their emotions and to manage their own feelings particularly during instances of heightened emotion and resulting behaviour associated with that..

Summerhouse Services Workshops

From time to time we are made aware of workshops that families may be interested in participating in. Please find a flyer from the Summerhouse Services advertising a free workshop on 'Common Approaches, Tips and Tools, To Promote The Mental Health & Resilience Of Young People You Live With and Love' at the end of this edition of the Family Bulletin.

From Mrs Wood, SENDCo

Free Courses

Here is a link to a list of courses that are available to parents and carers of SEND students through the Somerset Parent Carer Forum. Parents can sign up themselves, instructions are on the web link.

<https://somerseparentcarerforum.org.uk/home/wise-up-workshops/>.

The Autism in Schools Project (run in partnership with the Autism Education Trust (AET) and the Somerset Parent Carer Forum)

As a school, we are participating in the Autism in Schools project run in partnership with the Autism Education Trust (AET) and the Somerset Parent Carer Forum (SPCF). As part of this project a member of SPCF will be running parent groups throughout the school year (please see the dates and times below; these are also on the school calendar).

The initial meeting will be an opportunity for parents of students with Autism to meet together, offer support to each other and discuss topics or issues which are affecting them. The topics which are covered can be led by the preferences of the parents who attend and this will be discussed at the first meeting in January. There is no obligation to come to all the dates, parents are able to attend those sessions they are able to and they feel are most relevant to them:

- Thursday 18th January 9.30am - 11.00am
- Wednesday 28th February 5.00pm - 6.30pm in PA2
- Wednesday 15th May 9.30am - 11.00am
- Thursday 27th June 5.00pm - 6.30pm in PA2

If you are interested in attending any of these events then please complete the google form (link [here](#)) to express your interest.

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From Mrs Rice, Head of English

Year 11 Poetry Live trip to Bath - Monday 22 January

Sixty Year 11 students will be on the Poetry Live! trip to Bath Forum on Monday 22 January. At this event, students will hear renowned poets perform their own work, including the following:

- the Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage. He is one of Britain's best poets, with a superb ear for language;
- Carol Ann Duffy who is one of the most read, studied and loved of today's poets. She was an inspiring and transformational Poet Laureate from 2009 to 2019. Her poems are sharp, funny and contemporary, and also full of a literary past, whether from mythology, or Shakespeare;
- John Agard who gives one of the most exciting performances in contemporary poetry, not only in the way he delivers his poems, but also in how he talks about them, combining historical awareness, cultural insight and extraordinary humour;
- award-winning poets Imtiaz Dharker, Daljit Nagra and Owen Sheers.

Students will travel by coach to the event, leaving at 9.15am and returning to Ansford Academy at approximately 4.30pm, when students will need to be collected. They should wear their own clothes, dressing appropriately for the weather, bring a waterproof coat and a packed lunch. If your child receives free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided for them. Please could students also bring a notebook and pen.

News from our Student Community

Year 7 Student Raising Money for Sarcoma UK

Mia S in Year 7 is doing RED January; she is running every day of January to raise money for Sarcoma UK. Sarcoma is the general term for a broad group of cancers that begin in the bones and in the soft tissues. Sarcoma UK is the only charity in the UK focusing on all types of sarcoma. Their mission is to increase knowledge and awareness of sarcoma through ground-breaking programmes to transform the landscape for everyone affected by sarcoma. Mia's family sadly lost a good friend of theirs before Christmas and Mia is raising money in her name. So far she has raised over £5360! If anyone would like to donate to help Mia in her fundraising, her JustGiving page can be found [here](#). Well done Mia and keep up the good work!!

From Mr Mitchell, Assistant Headteacher: Community and Conduct

A very happy New Year to all of our families and friends of Ansford. It's been an excellent start to the year, with the vast majority of our student body enjoying glowing behaviour and conduct scores. Many of the systems introduced over the last 12 months are now running smoothly and our students tell us that these have really helped to further improve the ethos and standards across our community.

Class Charts

I'd like to remind all parents and carers that Class Charts is our primary communication system for recording positive and negative behaviour. The app provides live updates on your child's conduct throughout the day which can be a really useful tool for heaping on the praise at home, or addressing any concerns that have arisen.

The app is also our primary space for recording homework tasks and due dates. In recent years, our students felt that physical planners were no longer needed as they preferred having all school information held on Class Charts.

Finally, our students can access the Rewards Store to trade in their hard earned reward points in exchange for items. We've updated the menu to include more sports equipment, skipping ropes, fidget toys and even wireless headphones. Some items are limited in number so do encourage your child to order throughout the year.

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Enrichment

I'd like to say a huge well done to the hundreds of students who regularly engage in the many enrichment offers and clubs that are available. Good luck to all of the Year 9s who are well underway with the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, and a big well done to our Flying Start [glider building STEM team] and public speaking team who are all gearing up for competitions in the near future.

Everyday, we host a number of lunchtime clubs within school, to allow students time to sample and develop new activities and skills. This term, the PE department are hosting a number of brilliant events:

- Monday: Year 9 and Year 10 Netball. Year 8 and Year 9 Football.
- Tuesday: KS3 Handball. Year 7 Football.
- Wednesday: Year 7 and Year 8 Netball.
- Thursday: KS4 Basketball.
- Friday: KS3 Basketball. KS4 Football.

I'd like to also draw your attention to a remarkable team of 30 young people here at Ansford who are busy raising funds for their Camps International expedition to Kenya. Their hard work, in and out of school, is truly impressive and we hope that you will hear about local fundraising events in our surrounding area.

From Mr Musson, Deputy Headteacher: Curriculum and Standards

Year 11 Revision Timetable

Year 11 Revision/Catch-up Timetable: 8th January - 29th March

Week 1

	Lunchtime (2.00pm - 2.30pm)	Afterschool (3.30pm - 4.00pm)	Afterschool (4.00pm - 4.30pm)
Monday	Maths (Grade 7/8/9 topics) MA3 30mins	Staff meetings	Staff meetings
Tuesday	Maths (Grade2/3 topics) MA3 30mins	Child Development IT2 30 mins	Child Development IT2 30 mins
		Science - Securing a 4/5 in SC1 & Triple in SC3 - 60mins	
Wednesday		English EN4 60 mins	
Thursday		Art AR2 / Photography IT2 60 mins	Art AR2 / Photography IT2 60 mins
		Citizenship WS5 30mins	MFL WS3 30mins
Friday		RE WS4 30mins	Geography WS2 30mins
	GCSE PE / Sports Studies Sportshall 30mins		

Some Thursday after school sessions will not take place due to calendared events. These are:

25th January	Staff Training
8th February	Year 11 Parents Evening
29th February	Staff Training
7th March	Year 8 Parents Evening
21st March	Year 7 Parents Evening

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Week 2

	Lunchtime (2.00pm - 2.30pm)	Afterschool (3.30pm - 4.00pm)	Afterschool (4.00pm - 4.30pm)
Monday	Maths Grade 7/8/9 MA3 30mins	Staff meetings	Staff meetings
Tuesday	Computer Science IT1 30mins	Child Development IT2 30 mins	Child Development IT2 30 mins
	Maths (Grade2/3 topics) MA3 30mins	Science - Securing a 4/5 in SC1 & Triple in SC3 - 60mins	
Wednesday		Creative iMedia c/w IT1 60mins History MA2 60 mins	
Thursday		Maths (Grade 4/5 topics) MA3 30 mins	Maths (Grade 4/5 topics) MA3 30 mins
		Citizenship WS5 30mins	MFL WS3 30mins
Friday	GCSE PE / Sports Studies Sportshall 30mis	RE WS4 30mins	Geography WS2 30mins

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From Mrs Dyal, Communications and Operations Manager

Year 11 Summer 2024 Examination Entries

We will shortly be preparing to enter Year 11 students for their GCSE/Vocational/Cambridge National courses. Students will be provided with a Statement of Entry during the last week of February. It is highly important that Statements of Entry are checked carefully to ensure that students are entered for the courses they are expecting. Any queries or concerns with entries should be directed to the Examinations Office as a matter of urgency. Any queries or concerns relating to tiers (for Maths, Science or Languages) should be directed to class teachers.

Year 11 Group and Individual Photographs

Year 11 photographs will be taking place on the morning of Tuesday 6th February. The full year group photograph will be taken followed by individuals. Please ensure students arrive in full correct uniform.

Year 11 Parents' Evening

Parents and carers are welcomed to meet subject teachers during Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 8th February. We will continue to deliver the evening via our hybrid model providing an opportunity for families to choose to speak with teachers in personal or video virtual video appointments. Bookings will be open from 6pm on Thursday 26th January.

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From Mrs Marshfield, Head of Creative Arts

Year 11 Hospitality and Catering Practical Exams

Thank you very much to the Year 11 Hospitality and Catering students who prepared food for 'adults and toddlers to eat after an activity at a leisure centre' for their exam on Thursday 11th January.

The Marshfield toddler taste-testers had a great time trying all the food and particularly enjoyed Libby R's fish bites, Becca S's pizza, Tegan's burger (with fluffy homemade roll) and Layla S's Ravioli (with homemade garlic bread), Ashton M's meatballs and pasta and, the all time favourite, Charlie C's spaghetti bolognese. Thank you so much to Miss Voit for inviting us, and to the students for providing the children with such a wonderfully varied, nutritious lunch!



Somerset Youth Singers

Somerset Youth Singers has been helping develop not just the vocal skills of young people, but also boosting their mental health and wellbeing through singing together. We're keen to see numbers grow and see more young people in Somerset benefit from all that singing can offer. They are reaching out to schools, providing information, as they know there are lots of potential singers out there who would benefit from being part of the Somerset Youth Singers family! Please be below links to a postcard-flyer with booking form and a short video highlighting what they get up to in SYS.

[SYS Spring Term 2024 Booking form](#)

[SYS Promo Video January 2024](#)

From Miss Fulton, First Aid Coordinator

Year 8 HPV and MMR Catch-up Vaccinations

Year 8 HPV vaccinations will take place on Wednesday 24th January during school hours. Full information has been emailed home, which includes means of providing consent. Please could all Year 8 families ensure that this consent form has been completed, expressing your preferences on whether the HPV vaccination is administered to your child. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Miss Fulton via nici.fulton@ansford.net.

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From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

Spring Term PE Extra-curricular Offer

Please see below the new PE extra-curricular offer for this term. Families are advised that there are some changes, and Badminton after school will be free for the rest of the month so students are encouraged to come along and have a go (students should be collected at 4:40pm).

DAY	LUNCHTIME	AFTER SCHOOL
MONDAY	Year 9+10 Netball Club - DG+AT Year 8+9 Football - MD	
TUESDAY	KS3 Handball Club - DG +JD Year 7 Football - MD	
WEDNESDAY	Years 7+8 Netball Club - DG+AT	Badminton (Free for January)
THURSDAY	KS4 Basketball - MD	
FRIDAY	KS3 Basketball - JD KS4 Football - MD GCSE REVISION - DG	



PE KIT

Please ensure students are dressed appropriately for PE during this cold weather. Ansford PE kit includes the Ansford hoodie, leggings or joggers. Students may also wear a beanie hat when outdoors and an underlayer under their PE top. Coats will not be allowed to be worn in any PE lesson. If there is an issue with any PE kit, please contact your child's PE teacher.

From Mrs Watson, Careers Advisor

Year 10 Work Experience Reminder

The initial deadline for work experience is Monday 19th February 2024. If your son/daughter has secured a placement already then please contact our Careers Adviser and work experience coordinator to let her know, so all necessary paperwork can then be completed (wendy.watson@ansford.net). If your son/daughter is still searching then please encourage them to use the database they were given access to with their individual PINs: <https://ssp.learnaboutwork.net/log-in-student.asp>. Alternatively, they can contact employers directly to make enquiries or if they need further support or wish to discuss their options, please ask them to make an appointment to see Mrs Watson in school.

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From Mr Hill, Science Teacher

Somerscience Festival

We are now able to share the brochure for the next Somerscience Festival with you. As you can see there is a lot on, mainly centred at Haynes Motor Museum, making it a great way to spend the May Bank Holiday. The festival is free and a lot of organisations will be taking part.

SOMERSCIENCE FESTIVAL
May 6th 2024
10am – 5.30pm
CASTLE CARY & SPARKFORD
www.somerscience.co.uk

GET ON BOARD FOR SOMERSCIENCE 2024

As Somerset's only rural STEM festival we take you on a journey through the many aspects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) that fuel our daily lives, with plenty of family fun along the way.

The whole programme is **FREE** with no tickets required. Just start your journey at Castle Cary or Haynes Motor Museum and create your own **PERSONAL** routemap using this programme, our friendly event assistants and our free, environmentally-friendly shuttle buses operating all day between the two locations.

You **MIGHT** want to take part in **EXPERIMENTS** or **INTERACTIVE** demonstrations in the Science Fair Zones; take in a show or two; get **HANDS-ON** in a workshop; explore your health in the **Biozone** or sit in on a talk on a subject of interest. Or take a pitstop at the food outlets on site or in the town.

VENUE KEY

HAYNES MOTOR MUSEUM	CASTLE CARY & BRUTON
1 Merlin Room 1 - BA22 7JH	9 Market House - BA7 7AH
2 HAYNES stage - BA22 7JH	10 Undercroft - BA7 7AH
3 Merlin Reception - BA22 7JH	11 Caryford Hall - BA7 7JJ
4 Merlin Room 2 - BA22 7JH	12 Ansford School 1 - BA7 7JJ
5 Main Reception - BA22 7JH	13 Ansford School 2 - BA7 7JJ
6 Napier - BA22 7JH	14 Carymoor Environmental Centre - BA7 7NR
7 Meadows Suite - BA22 7JH	15 Mill on the Brue - BA10 0BA
8 The Poddock - BA22 7JH	

Put your pedal power to the test, see what's involved in heritage car racing (see page 1), hear how healthy your feet are, discover the science behind bubbles, explore the elements and the planets in our very own space & ocean domes, play **SCIENCE QUIZ** chess, find out what time it is on **ISSUE** and whether we can talk to aliens.

Whatever your interest we'll put you in the driving seat towards your **STEM THIS WAY**

Buses from **CARYFORD HALL** via **MARSH HOUSE** to **HAYNES** and back.

OUR SPONSORS

Thanks to our **MAIN** sponsor:

THALES
Building a future we can all trust

ASSOCIATE SPONSORS

Royal Society of Biology, Stronger Starts, Somerset Community Foundation

BROCHURE SPONSORS

Nikon, IOP Institute of Physics South West

FOLLOW US: f t i @somerscience
Don't forget to tag us in your posts! #somerscience

TALKS

1 The Science of Hinkley	10am
2 Exploring the Deep	11am
3 Our Wild World	1pm
4 Myths & Legends of the Sea	4pm
5 Can Mathematics Teach Computers to Talk?	1:30pm
6 Own Your STEM Destiny	2:30pm
7 Inspiring the Next Generation of Scientists	4:30pm
8 AI Computing and Humanity's Future	10am
9 Can We Talk to Animals?	12:30pm
10 What Time is it on Mars?	1:30pm
11 How Can Maths Help Create a Sustainable Future?	2:30pm

BIOZONE

Hosted at **CARYFORD HALL** — 10am to 5.30pm

Discover NHS Careers/Teddy Bear Hospital	10:00
Biology in Action	10:30
Killer Fungus	11:00
Rhizostatic Science	11:30
Using Stem Cells to Understand Disease	12:00
Festival of Pharmacy	12:30
The Tape of Life	13:00
Endless Insects	13:30
The Science Behind Life-Saving Stem Cell Transplants	14:00
Healthcare Science & Biomedical Science Careers & Training in the SW	14:30
What Does Working in an NHS Pathology Lab Look Like?	15:00
We Can Hear Your Foot Health!	15:30
Build a Cell with Playdoh: Take the Microscope Challenge	16:00
Hands On Science - Immunology Chess & Dr Snoot	16:30
Reimagine Bristol and Bath with Minecraft, or Program our Robot!	17:00

SHOWS

1 YCS App Challenge Finale	12pm
2 Ask Me Anything	2pm
3 Putting the Wow Back into Science	3pm
4 Family Space Show	10:30am, 1:30, 2:30pm
5 Eat Me, Drink Me	10:30am
6 Ask Me Anything (Health & Bio)	11:30am
7 Chemistry Lab Adventures	12:30pm
8 Eat Me, Drink Me	1:45pm
9 Chemistry Lab Adventures	3pm

WORKSHOPS

1 Membranes for Water Filtration	10:30am
2 Keep it Safe	11:30am
3 Robotics 101 Build and Program	11:30am
4 Maths for a Sustainable Future	2:30pm
5 Through the Looking Glass	11:45am
6 Cyber Risk Awareness and Cyber Security Challenge	1pm
7 Through the Looking Glass	3pm

SATELLITE ACTIVITIES

15 How Healthy is The Brue	10:30am - 12:30pm, 1:30pm - 4:30pm
16 Eco Hunt around MOTB	10:30am - 12:30pm, 1:30pm - 4:30pm
17 Great Height Egg Drop	10:30am - 12:30pm, 1:30pm - 4:30pm
18 Wildlife and Sustainability at Carymoor	10:30am, 12pm, 3pm

THE SCIENCE FAIR HOSTED AT HAYNES MOTOR MUSEUM

10AM - 5.30PM

NATURE & POWER ZONE

Hosted at MERLIN ROOM 1 (1)

- Chemical Engineering: Turning Raw Materials into Everyday Products
- UWE Applied Sciences Hands-On Activities
- Kitchen Sink Chemistry
- From molecules to living organisms
- Nature Recovery Network
- The Wonders of Physics
- The Future of Food
- 200 years of Animal Action!
- Hershey Point C: Helping Britain Achieve Net Zero
- Build a Henry Vacuum Cleaner
- Put Your Power Pencil to the Test! Virtual Reality Helicopter
- Leonardo
- Engineering with Thales
- Engineering at Yeovil College
- Heritage Engineering and Maintenance

OUTDOOR ATTRACTIONS

Hosted at THE PADDOCK (8)

- Royal Navy STEM Engagement
- The Great British Take-off
- Immersive Ocean Dome
- Mapping the Oceans
- Numatic Vehicle
- Small But Mighty
- Greepower Car
- Boeing Car Display

NUMBER & TECH ZONE

Hosted at MERLIN RECEPTION (3)

Hosted at MEADOWS SUITE (7)

- Cyber First Schools
- The Science of Soapfilm and Bubbles
- The Measure of all Things
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Science & Technology of Bournemouth
- Small World: Life under the Microscope
- Keeping Pilots & People Safe in the Air
- Science For All: From Mors to Humans
- BitBot Robotics Laboratory
- Interactive Maths

SCHOOLS ZONE

Hosted at MERLIN ROOM 2 (4)

- Science at Manor Court
- Brainpower
- STEM Club at Oakfield
- Automotive & Engineering Guidance
- Explore the wonders of STEM at Strade
- Educator Zone
- Pin the Cornet on the Planet/RSB

CASTLE CARY

9 10

THE MARKET HOUSE & UNDERCROFT

TALKS AND WORKSHOPS HERE >

12 13

ANSFORD ACADEMY

SHOWS AND WORKSHOPS HERE >

11

CARYFORD HALL

BIOZONE HERE >

14

Carymoor
Environmental Trust

WILDLIFE & SUSTAINABILITY TOURS

15

MILL ON THE BERE
outdoor activity centre

SATELLITE ACTIVITIES HOSTED IN BRUTON

There is also a website where you can find out more: <https://somerscience.co.uk/>

From Reception

Borrowed Uniform and Lost Property

Families are reminded that if students have borrowed any uniform, it should be returned to Reception at the earliest convenience. We are particularly keen to have any borrowed ties returned as our supplies have now been diminished.

We also have a growing amount of lost property that we are hoping can be returned to their right owners. Items include:

- water bottles
- shoes
- ear pods (odd)
- black earpods in a case
- glasses
- necklace with an 'M'
- pencil cases (full of items)
- santa hat
- lunch boxes (one which is a Smash lunchbox)
- uniform items
- coats (one which is a red Xuehan)

Students have also been reminded in Registration to claim any items. Items not claimed within the next two weeks will be allocated for re-use, recycled or disposed of.

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From Mrs Martin, Finance Manager

Year 11 Prom Committee

Fundraising continues for the Year 11 Prom; Maddie and Alice made Reindeer Hot Chocolate bags, Cookie Jar Mix and Marshmallow Bags to sell at Keinton Mandeville Christmas Fair. Surplus stock was then sold at the Beauty and the Beast Performances and to staff. In total we raised £175.00.



Quiz Night: Friday 2 February 2024

Our next fundraising event is a Family Quiz Night. Full details are in the poster below. Mr Antoine is our Quiz Master for the night and the ticket price includes a hot meal. Can your team beat the teachers? Booking is essential, teams of 4-6, limited places so book early via the link [here](#). We look forward to seeing you for a fun evening.

£10 PER PERSON

INCLUDES CHILLI OR VEG PASTA

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2024
DOORS OPEN 6:00PM | QUIZ START 6:30PM
@ ANSFORD ACADEMY

RAFFLE
REFRESHMENTS
RECOMMENDED AGE 11+

BOOK YOUR TEAM HERE:



BOOKING ESSENTIAL | CASH ONLY ON THE NIGHT

Report a student absence by phone: 01963 350 895 or by email attendanceofficer@ansford.net
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From Mr Newbury, Drama Teacher

Somerstage Gifted and Talented Workshops

Following the success of previous years, we will again be working with Somerstage to deliver the Gifted and Talented workshops again this academic year. Somerstage will deliver a 2.5 hour workshop at Ansford with the group of students who took part in our show of Beauty and the Beast, where a song from 'Grease' will be taught, including choreography. The workshop will conclude with an informal performance.

SOMERSTAGE is an exciting Musical Theatre School, based at The McMillan Theatre in Bridgwater. With over ten years' experience in the world of Musical Theatre, Lisa Lynch and Tim Bonser are bringing the essential ingredients of The West End to the West Country. The sessions allow students to dance, act and sing songs from popular shows and create some Musical Theatre magic that they can show off to family and friends.

Students will combine passion with fun and learn all the tricks of the trade in these exciting workshops with these West End professionals who have travelled the world in shows such as Mamma Mia, Jersey boys, Spamalot, South Pacific and Jackie the Musical.

From Miss Voit, Food Teacher

Sweet Tubs!

If anyone got their fair share of selection tubs of sweets over the festive period, please could they be donated to school. They are perfect for students to use if they forget containers to take home their cooking practicals. Students can bring them into DT1 or drop them into Reception.

Kitchen Items?

If you have any kitchen items that you are getting rid of, such as plates, cutlery etc. the Food Department would make good use of them. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

From Miss Wilson, 2nd in English

Burnham Book Festival Writing Contest

Free writing competition!



BURNHAM BOOK FESTIVAL 17-19 MAY 2024

Free Writing Competition

Burnham Book Festival is running a writing competition, it is free for people living in Somerset and North Somerset. There are categories for:

- 11 & Under Short Story (500 word limit)
- 11 & Under Poetry
- 12 to 18 Short Story (1000 word limit)
- 12 to 18 Poetry
- 19+ (Adult) Short Story (2000 word limit)
- 19+ (Adult) Poetry

People can submit three entries into each category they are eligible for.

The closing date is 4 March 2024.

Prizes

The winning entry will be announced at the festival in May. The top prizes are £50 (in under 19s categories) and £100 (adults categories).

Shortlisted works will be published in an anthology, available at the festival. We are also running a [cover competition](#) for the anthology.

Anthologies from [2022](#) & [2023](#) are available now on Amazon.

Entering the Competition

You can submit your work through our online submissions hub at <https://subhub.org/submit>

People who live outside Somerset or North Somerset can pay to enter the competition. For more information and terms & conditions, see <https://burnhambookfest.co.uk/writing-competition-2024/>

If you have problems accessing the submissions hub or you have any questions, email competition@burnhambookfest.co.uk

About the Event

Burnham Book Festival is running for its third year in Burnham-on-Sea on 17 to 19 May 2024. The festival will feature workshops, talks and readings at The Princess Theatre and Burnham-on-Sea Library.

For more information go to burnhambookfest.co.uk and [subscribe to our mailing list](#) for updates as we announce more details of sessions

burnhambookfest.co.uk

[@BurnhamBookFest](#)

Report a student absence by phone: 01963 350 895 or by email attendanceofficer@ansford.net

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From Mrs Withers, Head of Maths

Maths Revision

YEAR 11 MATHS REVISION SESSION COUNTDOWN PLAN 23-24

- Exam Board: Edexcel
- Paper Details: Paper 1 Non-calculator, Papers 2 & 3 Calculator
- Exam Date(s): Paper 1 – Thursday 16th May Morning, Paper 2 – Monday 3rd June Morning, Paper 3 – Monday 10th June Morning
- Grade 6+ sessions run every Monday lunchtime with Mr Musson/Mrs Withers in MA3
- Grade 2-3 sessions run every Tuesday lunchtime with Mrs Withers in MA3
- Grade 4-5 sessions run every Thursday after school 3.30 - 4.30pm with Mrs Withers/Mr Musson/Mrs Piper in MA3 & MA4

Weeks Left	Week Commencing	Monday Higher Topics Grade 6+ 1:55pm - 2:30pm PLW/KGM in MA3	Tuesday Foundation Topics Grade 2-3 1:55pm - 2:30pm PLW in MA3	Thursday Foundation Topics Grade 4-5 3.30 – 4.30pm PLW/TP in MA3 & MA4
17	22.01.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebraic Fractions ● Recurring decimals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Angle Facts ● Angles in Polygons 	NO THURSDAY SESSION DUE TO TWILIGHT
16	29.01.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● sequences include quadratic ● Circle Theorems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BIDMAS ● Place Value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volume ● Surface area
15	05.02.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cumulative frequency ● Box plots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pictograms ● Calculator use 	Y11 PARENTS' EVENING
14	12.02.24	FEBRUARY HALF TERM Complete two exam papers – one non-calculator and one calculator		
13	19.02.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inverse Functions ● Composite Functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Averages & Rounding ● Percentages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sequences ● Plotting quadratics ● Expanding & Factorising ● Scale Drawings & Bearings
12	26.02.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upper and lower bounds ● Volume of pyramids and cones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Substitution ● Solving Equations 	NO THURSDAY SESSION DUE TO TWILIGHT
11	04.03.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Surds ● Congruent triangles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Estimating ● Transformations 	Y8 PARENTS' EVENING Drop-in Session Mr Musson MA5 and Mrs Withers MA3

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10	11.03.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plotting quadratics Turning points Factorising quadratics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exchange rates Perimeter/Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similarity & Congruence Pythagoras' Theorem Speed & density HCF & LCM
9	18.03.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quadratic Formula Completing the square Turning points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fractions Substitution & formulae 	Y7 PARENTS' EVENING Drop-in Session with Mr Musson MA5 and Mrs Withers MA3
8	25.03.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pythagoras in 3D Trigonometry sohcahtoa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Straight line graphs Stem and leaf diagrams 	NO THURSDAY SESSION DUE TO (Early school finish for Easter break)
7	01.04.24	EASTER HOLIDAYS Check with your teacher as to when they are running a half-term revision session for Paper 2 Complete two exam papers – one non-calculator and one calculator (paper 1 & paper 2)		
6	08.04.20	EASTER HOLIDAYS Check with your teacher as to when they are running a half-term revision session for Paper 2 Complete two exam papers – one non-calculator and one calculator (paper 1 & paper 2)		
5	15.04.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sine Rule Cosine Rule Sine Area of triangle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinates Bar charts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentages (Compound & Reverse) Averages from tables Standard form
4	22.04.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inequalities solving Inequalities on graphs/regions/quadratic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factors/Multiples BIDMAS 	NO THURSDAY SESSION DUE TO TWILIGHT
3	29.04.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ratio Velocity-time graphs Simultaneous Eq's (w/ Graphs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area & circumference of circle Simplify ratio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circles - Label (Area/Circumference) Sectors/Arc length Ratio/fractions

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2	06.05.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cubic & reciprocal graphs • Similar shapes area/volume 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage increase & decrease • Pictograms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cylinders • Probability • Enlargement
1	13.05.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebraic proof • Vectors • Equation of circle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency trees • Two way tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trigonometry • Plans/Elevations • Indices
Paper 1 Exam Date – Thursday 16/05/24 AM - Breakfast Revision from 7.30am				
	20.05.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P2 Predicted/best guess topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P2 Predicted/best guess topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P2 Predicted/best guess topics
MAY HALF TERM				
<p>Check with your teacher as to when they are running a half-term revision session for Paper 2</p> <p>Complete two exam papers – both of them should be calculator (paper 2 and paper 3)</p>				
Paper 2 Exam Date – Monday 03/06/24 AM - Breakfast Revision from 7.30am				
Paper 3 Exam Date – Monday 10/06/24 AM - Breakfast Revision from 7.30am				

From Mr Kershaw, Head of Science

How can parents and carers help with Science Revision?

It is **not enough to revise hard** – students have to **revise SMART** to maximise exam success. Please have a read through the useful tips for families to support with revision below.

1. Revision does not have to be hours sitting in a room. Whilst this has a place, short regular reminders can be **very effective** as well if started early. **Parents and Carers:** Long continuous periods of time revising is unlikely to be focussed. 15/20 min sessions with a short break between them has been proven to be the most effective. Encourage the productive use of small gaps of time in the day – such as the 15 mins before you are about to go out – to have a quick look through some revision cards or complete a single Seneca task.
2. Distraction is very damaging to securing ideas into memory for the future. Doing revision tasks whilst your phone is next to you on the table can be almost as distracting as using it and it draws your attention away to the **possibility** of receiving a message. **Parents and Carers:** Make sure mobile phone/tablet/laptop is not in the same room when revision is happening – unless of course it is needed for that particular task.
3. For Science, we are using Seneca Learning to help students review whole topics independently. It covers

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all the ideas in a clear, step by step way. Science teachers will set homework tasks to complete certain topics, but this system can be used independently and is especially good if a student is not confident about a topic. It is not expected that students get 100% but 75% should be considered a minimum on average. **Parents and Carers:** ensure that homework set using Seneca is completed by the deadline. This is best done as several short sessions rather than a single long one.

4. Use topic lists available on ClassCharts to do **'quick checks'**. These cover both combined and separate science and so combined science do not need all of the ideas (they are labelled clearly). **Parents and Carers:** Ask your child to explain **one** idea from the list to you. If they cannot – give them 5 mins to go and look it up and have another go. If they still can't get them to come and discuss with their teacher (and check they have the next day). Little and regular is very effective support for retrieval.
5. Make sure students use **brain / book / brain** to practise remembering. Science exams are initially about **memory** and so this needs to be revised and practised. Students pick a topic, write as much as they can. Then use a book to fill in any gaps. Finally using a new piece of paper to have another go to see what can now be remembered. Repeat the same topic a week later. **Parents and Carers:** ask your child to show you their first and second attempts so that you can highlight and celebrate the improvement. Don't expect perfection – just improvement.
6. Make sure students use **practice questions** to get used to the format of exams. **Don't do this as a test.** If you are stuck, find the right answer and practise writing them correctly. **Parents and Carers:** ask to see their practice questions. Check that answers are written clearly and that none are ignored – any which are missed out need to be brought to school and discussed with their teacher (and check they have the next day).
7. **Revision can be hard** on your own and so there are weekly **after school revision sessions** on a Tuesday 3.45-4.45pm. The timetable is attached. Students that cannot attend because of transport issues can access the resources on ClassCharts. **Parents and Carers:** support and encourage participation with these weekly sessions and/or the topic questions on ClassCharts to ensure that revision is spread across the year.

Science Year 11 Revision Support Tuesday 3.30-4.30	
Combined Science with Mr Kershaw in Sc1	
Triple Science with Mr Hill in Sc3.	
Date	Topic
23 January 2024	P5
30 January 2024	P2 required practicals
6 February 2024	P2 exam questions
13 February 2024	half term
20 February 2024	B6
27 February 2024	C7 & 8
5 March 2024	P6
12 March 2024	C9/10

19 March 2024	P7
26 March 2024	B7
2 April 2024	Easter hols
9 April 2024	Easter hols
16 April 2024	Bio P1 exam questions
23 April 2024	Chem P1 exam questions
30 April 2024	Phys P1 Exam questions
7 May 2024	Bio P2 exam questions
14 May 2024	Chem P2 exam questions
21 May 2024	Phys P2 exam questions
28 May 2024	half term

Current Vacancies

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

Personal Assistant to the Head Teacher (including Clerk to the Governors)

[Personal Assistant to the Headteacher](#)

Teacher of English

[Teacher of English](#)

Teacher of Maths/Second in Maths

[Teacher of Maths](#)

Exam invigilators (casual)

[Exam Invigilators \(Casual\) | Ansford Academy](#)

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, Maggs Lane, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7JJ
Tel: 01963 350895
Email: mailbox@ansford.net

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


[Ansford Academy Staff Vacancies](#)

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Community News & Events


Summerhouse Services Workshops



www.
summer-house.org

Summerhouse Services

'Supporting Brighter Futures'



www.
summer-house.org

Supportive Training For Adult Family & Friends

'GENERIC'S'

Gentle Empathic Neutral Effective Resilient
Insightful Compassionate Safe


Common Approaches, Tips & Tools, To Promote The Mental Health & Resilience Of The Children & Young People You Live With & Love

Max 2 Adults Per Booking.
We train in small groups
for all services, therefore
FIRST COME 1ST SERVE!

Tuesday 23rd January VIRTUAL

9.45 - 2.45

FREE OFFER! - Usually £40.00
You will receive the full workshop


zoom

In this friendly, relaxed, supportive and holistic workshop, you will have the opportunity to develop empathy, insights and understanding and gain approaches and tools, to help you help the children and young people in your world, who may be experiencing a range of mental health difficulties e.g. Anxiety, stress, Low Mood, Eating Difficulties, Self Harm, Obsessive Behaviours, Problems Expressing Anger, Low Self Esteem or Confidence, Risk taking behaviours etc. 'Look beneath the surface' of these issues and enter the world of young people and thereby realise both the common experiences and uniqueness of the spectrum of mental health issues in a grass roots, real life way.

Finding 'monsters and gremlins', discovering the inner 'paradise chicken' and 'Tapping for better mental health and resilience' are a just few of the activities that you will have the opportunity to participate in ! You will 'hear from young people' what helps and what hinders them and it will then become clear, what helps them build their resilience and ability to cope with the ups and downs of life, in a safe and effective way and in doing so, address their mental health difficulties.

Note: We make every effort to offer a sensitive, supportive and non-biased space. Your facilitator has also had their own direct life experience of serious mental health difficulties and is a highly experienced therapist of over 20 years experience in the field of holistic and generic mental health and resilience promotion, whose field of interest lies in the area of eating difficulties and self harm. **If you have any concerns before the day, please do not hesitate to contact Penny for a chat.**

Outcomes

- Discuss and explore the spectrum of what constitutes a mental health issue from a Humanistic and empathic perspective.
- Develop insights to establish the link between a child and young person's mental health problem and their emotional, mental, spiritual and environmental world
- Argue the risks of making assumptions regarding children, young people with 'mental health problems' & explore the phrase **'we are all products of our environments'** in this context.
- Discover the wider meaning of resilience and its relationship to mental health promotion for children and young people.
- Acquire straightforward, safe and 'orbital' responding and support strategies to help any child or young person who may have difficulties with their mental health
- Understand the common reasons that young people struggle to ask for help and open up and how to help with this and offer alternative expression forms in the interim.
- Gain practical, tangible tools and quick tips for you and your young people to have in a holistic support toolkit, including 'Tapping' (Emotional freedom Techniques)
- Acquire relevant local and national signposting and support service awareness.

Company Number 13427929

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Some Feedback From Recent Workshops

"This workshop was a game changer for me ! It has shown me how to help my daughter safely and in a way that makes sense to me as a parent . It has really opened my eyes ! Thank you so much :)

" Just to say I loved the course we did last year; I got what I needed from it and my daughter is radically better.....as is our relationship....You really helped me at a time when I was frightened, lost, had no answers and felt utterly ill equipped.....Keep on shining your special light. What Summerhouse does is so important."

"This has been a game changer for me. I now know I can stop blaming myself for everything and I have also now got lots of tips to help my son. It was a really fun day too! Thank you!"

'I found this day so helpful. Thank you! Penny has a unique approach that really works & no powerpoint ! A great day !'

'As a parent of a child that has an eating disorder, I was worried about joining this workshop. Penny put me at ease straight away with her friendly and non-judgmental attitude and I found the day very informative. I feel much more confident as to how to help him now. Thank you '

"It has helped me a lot to understand more about my Granddaughter's self harming. I feel reassured that on the whole I am trying to do the right thing and have learned a lot. I now also know the things to avoid. I really enjoyed the day! Thank you."

'Thank you so much for this day. After just one day of training, I have now been able to help my son by changing a few things that I do and he has now come up with a plan that is sensible and doable to help him return to school. (Young person had problems with anger and was a consistent school refuser)

'This workshop was just what I was hoping for! Everyone can benefit from this training! Thank you!'

The Thoughts of Parent Lynn , Whose Young Person Uses Our Service.

"I cannot recommend this service enough having tried many conventional lines of help and nobody really seeming to understand the issues for my 13 year old. I was put in touch with Summerhouse Services and the Drifts programme and since they started here they have learnt many things and although they still have some issues, they have learnt new skills to aid them to cope with these

The approach of Summerhouse Services is very different to anything offered mainstream and the support I have been offered as a parent too has been amazing with one to one time, courses and workshops to help me better understand what my child is going through.

To anybody struggling out there please reach out to Summerhouse Services; you won't be disappointed."

Booking Details

For bookings or enquiries please email Penny penny.logsdail@summerhouseservices.org

No online or phone bookings for this offer please.

Summerhouse Services

T. 07869173154

E. penny.logsdail@summerhouseservices.org

U. www.summer-house.org

F. <https://www.facebook.com/supportingbrighterfutures>

I . <https://www.instagram.com/summerhouseservices/>



Supported
By



Company Number 13427929



Summerhouse Services

'Supporting Brighter Futures'



Safe Spaces For Young People's Mental Health

We are a small, Plymouth-based, holistic, not-for-profit organisation promoting mental health, resilience and free thinking for children, young people and those adults that inhabit their world. We provide a range of human-centred, outcome-led, orbital and unique training and support services.

We have in person and virtual offers for all services, for which we have a nationwide remit.

While we are only just over 2 years old as an organisation, the work and unique approach we use has been in the making and continually shaped in response to need for over 20 years in the voluntary sector by Founder and Director Penny.

Our creative, engaging, enjoyable and supportive offers are easy access, friendly and professional and never use power point, even for our virtual training ! The focus instead is on lively interaction, enjoy as you learn and participation to own level of comfort.

ALL offers are generic and for EVERYONE and we never target audiences with specific issues, as our services are both preventative and supportive in nature and importantly, NONE of our offers are therapy or counselling, although ALL the spaces we create facilitate climates that are potentially, therapeutic (helpful), motivational and healing in nature.

We have had a fantastic reception since starting up in May 2021 and adults that come to our training use words such as 'game changing', 'ground breaking', 'new', 'pioneering', 'straightforward' and 'value for money' and young people generally find us 'helpful' 'validating', 'relaxing', 'interesting' and 'really fun' !

To find out more, please take a look around our website and if you would like a chat about any aspect of what we do or have any queries as to how we may help, please do not hesitate to get in touch....we always like a chat !



Contact Details

Tel: 07869173154

Email: summerhouse.services@gmail.com

www.summer-house.org

<https://www.facebook.com/supportingbrighterfutures>

<https://www.instagram.com/summerhouseservices/>

Company Number 13427929

