

Issue 16: 14th June 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families

At the time of the last Family Bulletin, we were preparing for our Year 11 Celebration Assembly which, as you can imagine, was a really special event as we gathered together to celebrate the students' successes. As well as subject specific awards, we presented our 'special' awards which recognise the achievements of individuals beyond the classroom. A full list of the Award Winners can be found later in this Bulletin.

School life remains very busy: KS3 students have completed their exams and Year 10 are in the midst of their exam programme - we have been really impressed with the conduct of our students as they engage in this formal process; Mr Newbury has been leading the auditions for our next school production of Matilda which will be performed in December - almost 70 students have auditioned for a role - and that's before any talented performers, musicians and dancers join us in Year 7 in September; Ms Hirst is in the midst of visiting all of our new Year 7 joiners in their primary schools and we are currently preparing for their Transition Day in July.

I would like to draw your attention to the survey organised by Caterlink, our catering provider which you can find later in this Bulletin. If your child purchases food at break or lunch time, it will be really helpful if you complete the survey and provide some feedback. In addition, please look out for our annual school survey that we will be coming out to you via SchoolComms next week.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend

Rachel Purnell
Headteacher



Academy Calendar: Key Upcoming Events

Week	Date in June	Event Details	Location/Timing	Staff Contact
1	Thursday 20th	Year 9 Oracy Day - details to follow		Mrs Hardy-Stewart
2	Thursday 27th	The Autism in Schools Project Workshop	5.00pm - 6.30pm	Mrs Wood
		Year 8 End of Year Reports issued		Mrs Dyal
		STEM Event - details to follow		Mr Hill
		MUFTI Day		Mr Mitchell
2	Friday 28th	INSET Day - School Closed to Students		
Week	Date in July	Event Details	Location/Timing	Staff Contact
2	Wednesday 3rd	Year 6 Transition Day		Ms Hirst
		Year 10 Taster Day, Yeovil College		Ms Mallord
		Years 8 and 9 - Vaccination Mop Up Sessions		Ms Fulton
2	Thursday 4th	Year 8 My Futures Day - Details to follow		Ms Walsh

Assembly Rota

17th - 21st June	Global climate crisis [Resource made by KAS] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding climate change/global warming • An introduction to the COP summits/plans • What is Britain doing to reduce our national emissions • Examples of how weathers are becoming more extreme 	HoY
Father's Day (18 June) World Refugee Day (20 June) Windrush Day (22 June)		



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Assembly Rota

24th - 28th June	Safeguarding - E-Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none">● An introduction the term 'digital footprint'● Exploring the issues faced by many young people who have unlimited access to social media:● Cyber bullying, threats, trolling, taking images/videos without permission.	FH
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Notices

From The Safeguarding Team

Spotlight on Online Safety

There is so much that we can now do online including playing games, chatting with others, watching TV or sharing our videos/photographs. Being online can be great but it is important that we set boundaries for our children to keep them safe whilst they explore being online, develop their digital resilience and understanding of what to do if anything negative happens when online .

So how can we help keep our children safe?

We can start by checking age restrictions/ratings. It is important that we follow these to ensure that what our children are doing or seeing online is appropriate for their age.

Where can I find age ratings?

- **Films:** The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) rated films. This page includes a link to a 'Parents' Guide to Age Ratings' [here](#).
- **Video games:** PEGI provides age classifications for video games. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. It is important to note that PEGI does not take into consideration user generated content within games (such as on Roblox) and chat facilities within games.
- **Apps:** Check the individual age ratings within the relevant app store. We also recommend that you download any apps and play them yourself to check their suitability.
- **Social Media:** All social media networks have a minimum age rating; they are all at least 13+.

What else can I do?

- Explain the importance of age ratings to your child.
- Go online together to see what your child is accessing.
- Set up parental controls on your broadband, devices and on any individual apps that your child is using. This will reduce the chances of them accessing or viewing anything unsuitable.
- Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and as always, remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.



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From The Safeguarding Team

Further information

You can find out more [here](#)

Tips to Promote Positive Body Image

If your child is viewing content online, particularly on social media, then the images they are seeing may be edited or even fake. A child may not yet be able to distinguish between reality and what is not real/fake, which may impact their own body image. Internet Matters provide advice on how to empower your child to develop a positive body image and what you can do to help. Find out more [here](#)

National Crime Agency Issues Urgent Warning About Sextortion

The National Crime Agency has issued an alert due to the rise in global sextortion cases stating that “all age groups and genders are being targeted, but a large proportion of cases have involved male victims aged between 14-18.”

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov>.

Sextortion is a form of blackmail where somebody threatens to share a nude/sexual image of you. It is important to talk to your child about this issue due to the rise in cases, so your child is aware of the signs. The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) outlines on their website what to do if you or your child are a victim of sextortion. You can find out more [here](#)

From Mr Mitchell, Assistant Headteacher: Community and Conduct

New Group Reading Tests [NGRT]

During May and June, all students in Years 7 - 10 sat an online reading assessment known as the NGRT. The test is widely used in schools across the country and results help to identify the student's individual reading ages to determine if they are above, at or below age related expectations. As an Academy we are passionate about reading and value the importance of encouraging all young people to develop a love of reading.

We are currently implementing a number of new interventions to support our weakest readers and recommended reading lists and challenges will also be shared via our website. Over the coming weeks, you will receive a letter which outlines your child's current reading age with some recommendations on how best to support and stretch their reading.

MUFTI Day

We're pleased to announce our next Mufti day has been booked for Thursday 27th June. Members of our Student Council are busy organising the event and liaising with local charities who we are keen to support [further details to follow]. As always, I'd like to remind students and parents that outfits on the day need to be appropriate for our workplace.

End of Year Reward Trips: Friday 19th July.

A huge thank you to all of the families who contacted to enquire about the Reward Trips. I've really enjoyed these conversations and agree how lovely it is to see the trips return. Last week, students were asked to confirm their preferences following the letter that was sent to parents detailing prices and expectations. We have spoken to students about the risk of not getting the first choice trip, notably Air Hop and Thorpe Park, simply due to the



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From Mr Mitchell, Assistant Headteacher: Community and Conduct

popular initial interest. We recommend students have a good think about a reserve trip just in case the spaces are booked very quickly.

Mrs Martin, our Finance Officer, will be sending email communication to families with details how to pay for the event and therefore book a space on the trip.

Ready to Learn: EQUIPMENT

During recent lesson visits, I noticed a number of students asking to borrow basic stationery items including pens. I would greatly appreciate it if families can ensure our students have the required equipment each day to avoid delays or interruptions to lessons.

From Ms Mallord, Head of Year 10 and Year 11

Leavers' Day

It was a morning of speeches, awards and saying thank you to students and staff. After a very last registration in tutor groups, Year 11 students made their way up to the Sports Hall to celebrate their time at Ansford in a final formal assembly. Student's academic achievements were recognised with Subject Awards and individuals who have made significant contributions to school life were celebrated with Special Awards - all recipients can be seen below. The speeches recalled how resilient this fantastic year group have been since their early years at Ansford were rudely interrupted by Covid and how much they have grown and blossomed since then. The highlight was definitely Mrs Rice's rewrite of 'The Charge of the Light Brigade' for 11LR!

Once the formalities were over, everyone set to the traditional task of signing each other's shirts and trying on their Leavers Hoodies with the good humour and kindness I have come to expect from these excellent young people. Then it was out into the sunshine on the field for hot dogs, burgers and ice cream; photo opportunities; a lot of hugs, a few tears and of course, a game of football.

Year 11 Winners

Drama	Emily Rogers
English Language	Summer Kelly
English Literature	Carolina Teixeira
Food Preparation and Nutrition	Cameron Dyal
Geography	Clois Phillips
History	Walter Tidball-Zapp
Design and Technology	Issy Haslam
Horticulture	Kelsey Bradfield
Hospitality and Catering	Layla Sirl
Mathematics	Kyle Frapple
Music	Saba Grace
Physical Education	Tom Vaux
Religious Studies	Ellen Padfield
Combined Science: Trilogy	Tom Hale



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From Ms Mallord, Head of Year 10 and Year 11

Science: Separates
Spanish
Sports Science

Niall Pitman
Ralph Dodge
Theo Davey

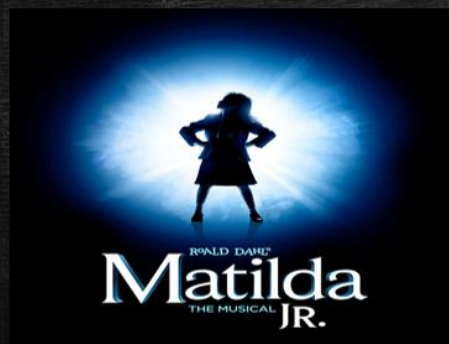
Year 11 Special Award Winners

Sports Personality of the Year
Mick Hemming Award
Harrison Trophy
Rob Benzie Award
Ansford Graduate Award
Endeavour Award
Suzy Jones Award
Burnstone Trophy
Dave Higgins Trader's Trophy
Governors Trophy

Oscar Churchouse
Finnlagh Smith
Freya Baker
Molly Maidment
Tilly Cooley
Deni Smith
Lyla Plympton
Tom Hale
Issy Haslam
Saba Grace

From Mr Newbury, Drama Teacher

Auditions for Ansford Academy's 2024 production



A massive thank you to all those who were involved in the audition process last week. We had a total of 63 students sign up with potentially more joining in September; making it the biggest cast we have had at Ansford in a long time!

Mr Newbury will be releasing the cast list by 21st June

Well done to the future cast of Matilda 2024...you were all amazing and very talented!!

From Mrs Watson, Careers Advisor

Local Apprenticeships Now Available

Are you interested in an Apprenticeship? *The Newt* In Somerset have just released 3 Apprenticeships for a September start. To find out more and to apply please click on the relevant link below and, if you have any questions or need support, please contact your Careers Adviser: wendy.watson@ansford.net

[Chef Academy \(Level 2 Commis\) : https://harri.com/fandb---the-newt-in-somerset/job/2205392-chef-academy---chef-apprenticeship](https://harri.com/fandb---the-newt-in-somerset/job/2205392-chef-academy---chef-apprenticeship)

[Level 2 Butchery: https://harri.com/Butchery---The-Newt-In-Somerset/job/2203285-apprentice-butcher](https://harri.com/Butchery---The-Newt-In-Somerset/job/2203285-apprentice-butcher)

[Level 2 Horticulture: https://harri.com/Garden---The-Newt-In-Somerset/job/2203248-horticulture-garden-apprenticeship](https://harri.com/Garden---The-Newt-In-Somerset/job/2203248-horticulture-garden-apprenticeship)

From Caterlink

As your catering provider, we value feedback to help us improve the service we provide to students. This term we are completing a **Parent and Carer survey** on the meal provision we provide. If you would like the opportunity to provide some feedback please use the link below. The survey will close on 31st July.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CN9XYWJ>

From Mrs Wood, SENDCO

Autism in Schools Project Parent Group

The next Autism in Schools project parent group was due to be on Thursday 27th June from 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm but, as this is the Glastonbury weekend, the session has been moved to Thursday 4th July 5:00 pm - 6.30 pm. Please email rebecca.wood@ansford.net to confirm your attendance.



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From Mrs Hardy-Stewart, Head of PSHCE and Oracy Co-ordinator

Talk the Talk

We are delivering a communication confidence workshop to all Year 9 students, please see below for more details.



Talk The Talk
CONFIDENT COMMUNICATION FOR LIFE

We are delivering our communication confidence workshops to your students!
Details below

'Talk About Communication Express'


on Thursday, 20th June

to Year Group 9

Staff are always welcome to drop into our workshops to see them in action!
For more information, please speak to your colleague:
Polly Hardy-Stewart

To find out more about **Talk The Talk** and our high-impact range of oracy and employability workshops for year 5 through to 13, please visit us at:
www.talkthetalkuk.org

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CONFIDENT COMMUNICATION FOR LIFE



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From Miss Fulton, Medical Coordinator

Have your say....

Somerset Council would like to hear your views on healthcare related school absence.



Article 28

The right to education

Children and young people said:

- School is a place where we access support and other services. It's a place which supports our physical, emotional and mental health.
- Health services and schools should work together to help us with school attendance.

We are looking at improving the ways healthcare, education and other services for children and young people work together to better meet their needs:

- **We would like to hear your views on healthcare related school absence and how our services could be improved**
- If you would like to help, please scan the QR codes opposite for links to anonymously complete our surveys!

Please share your views on health-related school absence...

Scan for parent or carer questionnaire:



Scan for young person's questionnaire:



Find out more....
For useful links and tips on participation on children's rights go to www.rcpch.ac.uk/rightsmatter



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From Our Community

Let's Talk SEND and Inclusion Event

We wanted to share with you details of the upcoming Let's Talk SEND and Inclusion event for parents, carers and practitioners in Somerset taking place on the 11th June.



LET'S TALK **SEND & Inclusion**

Tuesday 11th June 24 10:00 - 14:00
@ Cheddar Community Pavillon

We are delighted to announce the first of our Let's Talk SEND and Inclusion events for this year. The event will include a range of discussion tables covering SEND topics including:

- EHC needs assessments
- Funding support
- Somerset's SEND Local Offer
- Support for parent carers
- Using Learning support assistants to support direct payment work
- The compliments, comments and complaints systems

It will also include Local Offer live and have information stalls from a range of providers

To find out more and book a space please see web page below.
www.somerset.gov.uk/somersets-local-offer-live-week

SEND Somerset's Local Offer

Yeovil Ukulele Club

Tickets on sale! An evening of music, friends, nibbles and drinks with a raffle too! Snap your tickets up now and help us raise much needed funds for Jude's trip to Kenya to work with local communities. This will allow us to get his kit. Please support us if you can, and share this with you friends, thank you. Please text for tickets.

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CHARITY MUSIC
NIGHT WITH...

Yeovil Ukulele Club

Playing hits from the
50s to the 00s

QUEEN CAMEL MEMORIAL HALL
BA22 7NF

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE
7.30PM

TICKETS
£10
INCLUDES
NIBBLES

TEXT OR CALL
07825394974 TO BOOK

FUNDRAISING FOR A LIFE
CHANGING TRIP TO
KENYA FOR LOCAL TEEN

Cash bar
& raffle



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Cary Mufulira Community Partnership Trust are seeking past participants and supporters of the programme for their 30th Anniversary celebrations. Details of the celebrations are contained in the invitation

The Cary Mufulira Community Partnership Trust

Registered Charity No 1047556.



Join us to celebrate

The 30th Anniversary of CMCPT

Sunday, 14th July in Castle Cary

We will be joined by colleagues from Mufulira.

Time to chat and remember times in Mufulira, Zambia and Castle Cary

Bring two or three of your photographs to add to the timeline



There will be a special service at 10.30am at All Saints Church, Castle Cary followed by coffee at the church

Or come direct to Ansford Academy 11am onwards

Tea and coffee throughout

Barbecue 12.30-2pm (Courtesy of Brue Valley Rotary Club)

Zambia related family Activities.

Afternoon performance by 'AZALAZA' (Goodson Mbewe)



RSVP to Ann Cook anncook1@yahoo.co.uk Telephone 01963 440735



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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.

Exams Invigilator

[Exams Invigilator I Ansford Academy](#)

www.ansford.net

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

[Ansford Academy Staff Vacancies](#)



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