

Bulletin for Ansford Families

Issue 13: 4th April 2025

Message from the Head of School Mr Musson

Dear Families

The Easter break has finally arrived and it is thoroughly deserved for all the members of the school community. Staff have worked extremely hard this term to ensure students experience a high quality education and I've been really proud with how students have responded to this. Our initial analysis of our recent Year 11 mock exam data has been extremely positive and it has clearly demonstrated to students that revision and preparation really does make a difference. Year 11 students now have a really important two weeks ahead of them using the holiday time to revise and prepare for their exams - these two weeks can be a real 'game changer' for students in their success with the upcoming GCSE's.

As you know since September, we have been implementing changes in many areas (student book documentation, curriculums, assessments, feedback processes to students, learning cycle and whole school reading). We are already seeing significant improvements with student progress in subjects and reading scores as a result of these changes. We still have work to do in embedding these changes to ensure our students receive the very best quality of education and we are looking forward to seeing our students relish the opportunities ahead.

As part of our improvement work, it is really important to us to review the impact of the changes by gathering feedback from parents/carers, students and staff will then help us with our future planning.

Please can I ask to complete the survey [HERE](#) by Wednesday 23rd April, it should only take a few minutes to complete.

We wish all our families an enjoyable and restful Easter break. Even for our Year 11 students, whilst they will be working hard, it is important that they find time for things they enjoy doing, allocate time to rest, and recuperate.

We look forward to welcoming the students back in the summer term.

Karl Musson

karl.musson@ansford.net



Academy Calendar: Key Upcoming Events			
Week	Date in April	Event Details	Lead
EASTER HOLIDAY			
2	Tuesday 22nd	Inset Day - School closed to students	
2	Wednesday 23rd	School Opens	
2	Friday 25th	Year 9 Men ACWY/DTP Vaccinations	Miss Fulton
1	Monday 28th	Year 11 GCSE Art Exam - Day 1	Mrs Reddick
1	Tuesday 29th	Year 3 Body Control Festival	Mrs Grove
1	Wednesday 30th	Year 11 GCSE Art Exam - Day 2	Mrs Reddick
1		Middle Leaders Meeting	
Week	Date in May	Event Details	Lead
1	Thursday 1st	Year 11 French Speaking Exams	Miss Frost
1	Friday 2nd	Year 11 Spanish Speaking Exams	Miss Frost
1		Year 11 Leavers Afternoon - From 12:30pm	Mr Musson
2	Monday 5th	Bank Holiday - School closed	
2	Tuesday 6th	Summer 1 Colour Matches - Interform	Mrs Grove
1	Monday 12th	Year 7 Exam Week Commences	Mrs Dyal
2	Monday 19th	Year 8 Exam Week Commences	Mrs Dyal



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Week	Date in May	Event Details	Lead
2	Friday 23rd	Last Day of Half Term	
HALF TERM			
Week	Date in June	Event Details	Lead
1	Monday 2nd	School Opens	

Notices

From Ms Hirst, Deputy Headteacher: Welfare and Inclusion

Support During the Easter Break

Many of us are very excited about the Easter break, however, as the holidays approach, it is important to be aware that this can bring anxiety for some young people, often due to spending more time than usual on social media – but there's lots of help still available! Please find below some links to help you over the Easter period.

The team would like to wish you all a very happy, healthy Easter break!

Find financial support for Somerset households [here](#).

Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224.

Police on 101.

NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

If you are seeking help and support as a parent of a young person around Emotional Health and Wellbeing, please see the organisations above who can provide support and use the links to our website to help direct you to a range of external agencies who can provide help and support at this time:

Young People

<https://ansford.org.uk/key-information/safeguarding-and-pastoral-care/student-mental-health-and-well-being/>

Parents

<https://ansford.org.uk/key-information/safeguarding-and-pastoral-care/safeguarding/>.



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Student Success



Meet Katherine

National Success

After leaving Ansford, I went to Exeter College on a performance scholarship for rugby where I currently study BTEC sport performance as well as the women's rugby academy. Here I had many opportunities joining a Bristol Bears Academy and getting into the England pathway which unfortunately I could not partake in due to injury, however whilst my sport was at a halt I managed to get btec student of the year award at the end of the year as well as winning Rosslyn Park Sevens at the end of the season returning back from injury. This year I have been involved with England again, being given a leadership role and captaining our first test match and securing my place into the six nations. With college we won the Ace league playing the final at Twickenham stadium where I got awarded player of the match getting interviewed by ITV after in college. I am now looking at universities where I am receiving scholarships and opportunities to start training with PWR clubs next season to keep developing as a player...



From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

Girls Rugby at Richard Huish for Year 10 & 11 Girls



The poster features a green background with a leaf pattern. At the top left, the text "huish SPORT" is written in yellow and white, next to a white silhouette of a bear's head. To the right, "GIRLS RUGBY" is written in large yellow letters, and "OPEN TRAINING SESSION" is written in white below it. A central photograph shows a group of girls in black and green rugby kits huddled on a field, with a coach in a blue cap and jacket. In the background, there are white tents and a blue sky with clouds. At the bottom left, a green box contains the text: "THURSDAY 17TH APRIL - 11AM-2PM", "AGE - YEARS 10/11", and "@ RICHARD HUISH COLLEGE". At the bottom right, there is a logo for "8 MEDIA" in blue and pink.



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From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

Junior Table Tennis Tournament at Westlands Sports and Leisure Centre in Partnership with Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership (SASP)

**JUNIOR
TABLE TENNIS
TOURNAMENT**

**OPEN TO
CHILDREN AGED
15 AND UNDER**

**£5
ENTRY**

**WESTLANDS SPORTS AND
LEISURE CENTRE, YEOVIL**

**PLAYERS WILL PLAY SEVERAL GAMES IN
GROUP STAGES BEFORE KNOCKOUT STAGES.**

ENTRIES WILL BE LIMITED SO CONTACT THE
ORGANISERS FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR AN
ENTRY FORM.
CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS 27TH APRIL 2025

**30TH
APRIL
5PM-8PM**

YEOVIL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

PHIL STRINGER
LICENCED COACH
07763 099997
PHIL.STRINGER1@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

MARC WALMSLEY
LICENCED COACH
07494 801588
MARCO1974.MW@GOOGLEMAIL.COM

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From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

Year 9 Netball

Year 9 Netball girls smashed their semi-final beating Gryphon School to earn their place in the final. Despite a great effort, the strong Westfield team took a strong lead and we lost. This was the only game our girls lost this season. Well done to this team who have gone from strength to strength this season.



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From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

Year 8 Netball

Congratulations to the year 8 Netball team who beat Gryphon School to take 3rd place at the Yeovil netball Finals. After a tough semi-final against defending champions Westfield, Ansford showed great resilience and determination. Player of the match Leonie R. Great way to end a fantastic Netball season.



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From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

REMINDER: Netball Youth Camp at Westfield Academy - 8th April 2025

Our colleagues at Westfield have informed us about their Netball event, which our students are invited to attend:



SOMERSET NETBALL

NETBALL YOUTH CAMP

**TUES 8TH APRIL 2025
10AM TO 3PM**

Westfield Academy, Stiby Rd.
Yeovil BA21 3EP

**8-11 year olds
12-14 year olds**

Cost - £25 per player
(sibling discount available)



Book a place today using the link
Johanna.templeman@englandnetball.co.uk



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From Mrs Withers, Head of Maths

REMINDER: Year 11 Maths Information and Revision Schedule

Revision sessions

Year 11 Maths revision will take place every Thursday from 3.30-4.30pm, both Foundation and Higher sessions. These sessions are open to all Year 11 students. Please find attached a revision schedule showing the topics being covered each week and the examination dates.

Maths Lunchtime revision

In addition to the after school revision sessions, I'll be offering Maths revision on a Tuesday lunchtime in MA1. Topics covered at these sessions are also listed on the revision schedule. Students are welcome to bring their lunch.

Year 11 Mock Exams

The second set of Year 11 mock exams will take place directly after the half term break, in the fortnight beginning Monday 24th February. Details of the three exam papers are below:

Mathematics Paper 1

Non- Calculator (1 hour 30 mins)

Mathematics Paper 2

Calculator (1 hour 30 mins)

Mathematics Paper 1

Calculator (1 hour 30 mins)

Revision for mocks

Year 11 google classroom is where all revision lists are posted to support students' with their revision. Please encourage your child to access this classroom as part of their revision. Link below:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/MzY4MDYxMjY5NDAz>.

General maths revision

GCSE Maths Revision google classroom has resources and past papers on all the Mathematics topics, and could also be useful when students are absent from a lesson and need to work independently. All year students should be accessing this during their weekly homeworks. Please encourage your child to access this classroom as part of their revision. Link below: <https://classroom.google.com/c/Mzc2NTgzNDA2NjJa>.

And finally...

I hope that the information above is helpful in navigating the waters of GCSE Mathematics. In addition to the above, there are various different interventions taking place; you will be contacted separately about these if your child is selected to take part.

However, there are also things that you can do at home to support your child, such as talking to them about their EBIs ('Even Better Ifs' - from their previous mocks and recent assessments, these will be on feedback sheets that your child would have been given after each assessment), and encouraging them to revise these topics, using a range of



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From Mrs Withers, Head of Maths

resources: [MET website](#), [Maths Genie](#), [Corbett Maths](#) and [Mathswatch](#) (students have their own logins to this site), if there are any issues logging in, please ask your child to speak to their class teacher.

The Maths Revision Schedule is [here](#).

From Wendy Watson, Careers Advisor

Year 10 Bath University Campus visit – Politics and Social Science

Last week, a group of Year 10 Citizenship students went to Bath University in the second of our raising aspirations visits to find out more about University life and what it's like to study at Uni. We enjoyed a tour of the campus and a fascinating talk about Police interview techniques and the theories and practice in the US compared to the UK from Criminology lecturer, Holly Dempsey.

The students highly rated the visit and said their takeaways from the day were:

'I found out about the great sports facilities at Bath'

'I learned that you can do a work placement year as part of your degree'

'The Bath Uni mascot is a duck and the real ducks by the lake don't eat Nik Naks'

Many thanks to Mr Cue for leading the day and driving the minibus, and also to Holly for her lecture and to Suzanne and Ruby our student ambassadors who hosted the experience.

Want to find out more about Politics or Criminology degrees?

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/subject-guide/politics>

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/subject-guide/criminology>.



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From Wendy Watson, Careers Advisor

Year 9 Higher Education talk

Year 9 enjoyed a talk outlining all the possibilities for Higher Education from Jenna Page – Outreach Officer for University of South Wales as part of Year 9 Careers & Options programme. Jenna covered all the possible routes including HNCs, HNDs, Higher and Degree Apprenticeships as well as the traditional full time Degree study route.

Students learned about entry requirements and the importance of GCSE grades as well as finding out about the affordability and benefits of studying for a degree. They also found out about different bursaries and scholarships available and that there are around 65,000 courses on offer – some work-based, some practical and some that aren't assessed by exams. So something to suit everyone's strengths.

Many thanks to Jenna for her time and expertise.

Want to find out more about Higher Education?

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/higher-education-at-18/what-is-higher-education-what-are-the-benefits>

University of South Wales – where it is, what Uni life is like and what courses they offer:

<https://www.southwales.ac.uk/location/>.





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From Our Parent Family Support Advisors (PFSA's)

Tuning in Teens Course



Tuning in to Teens



Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A six-session parenting programme
for parents of adolescents aged 10-18

Would you like to learn how to:

- be better at talking with your teen?
- be better at understanding your teen?
- help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?
- teach your teen to deal with conflict?

'Tuning in to Teens' shows you how to help your teen develop *emotional intelligence*.

Adolescents with higher emotional intelligence:

- are more aware, assertive and strong in situations of peer pressure
- have greater success with making friends and are more able to manage conflict with peers
- are more able to cope when upset or angry
- have fewer mental health and substance abuse difficulties
- have more stable and satisfying relationships as adults
- have greater career success.

Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!

Starting Tuesday 28th April 9.30 at Ansford Academy for 6 weeks



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From the Canteen

New Menu Starting After Easter!

Click [HERE](#).



From Our Local Community

Castle Cary Free Skate Park Event - Fairfield - Tuesday 8th April

OPEN TO ALL AGES AND ABILITY LEVELS

COMMUNITY SKATEPARK DAY

CASTLE CARY

supported by CCTC

SKATE JAM

TUE 8 APR
10AM TO 3PM
CASTLE CARY PUMP TRACK
(FAIRFIELD)

Castle Cary

TEAM RUBICON

TECH DECK

Snuff SKATEBOARDS

CHILLI

JOIN US FOR SOME FREE SKATEBOARD OR SCOOTER COACHING IN THE MORNING (SUITABLE FOR BEGINNERS) - FOLLOWED BY A CHANCE TO SHOWCASE YOUR SKILLS AT A FUN COMPETITION WITH PRIZES IN THE AFTERNOON. OPEN TO ALL AGES/ABILITIES.

The poster features a central image of a skateboarder in mid-air, performing a trick. The background shows a skate park with a ramp and other people. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, with the event name in large green letters and the date and time in yellow boxes. Logos for sponsors like Team Rubicon, Tech Deck, Snuff, and Chilli are displayed at the bottom.

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From Our Local Community

REMINDER: Castle Cary Youth Club

Castle Cary Youth Club, a fantastic opportunity for students in Year 7 and above to socialise, take part in activities, and enjoy a safe and welcoming environment outside of school.

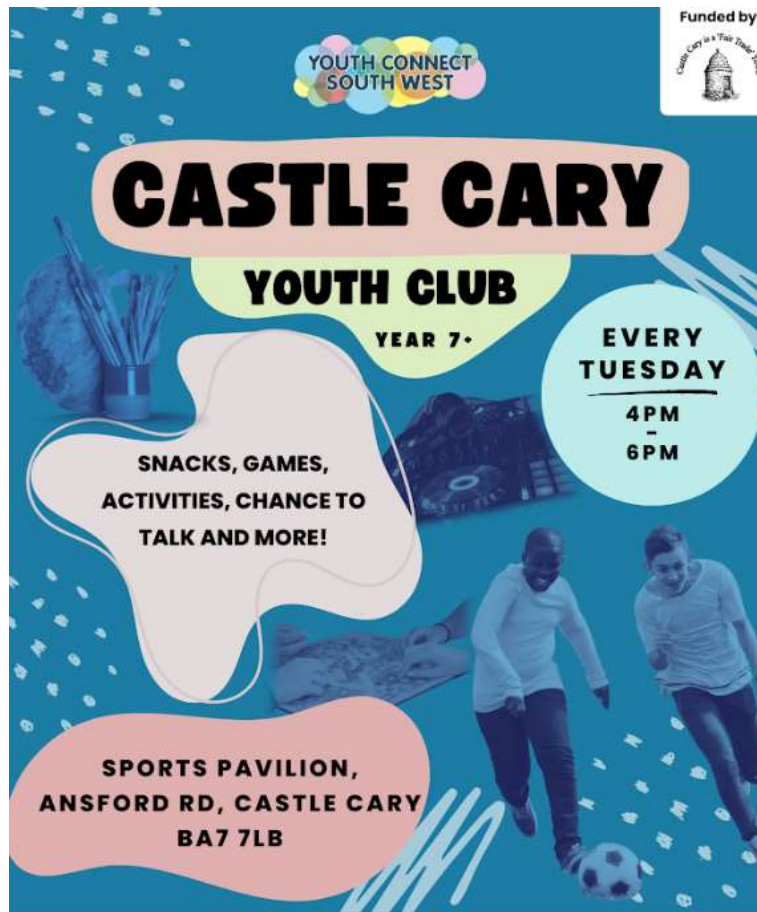
The club runs every Tuesday from 4pm to 6pm at the sports pavilion, Ansford Road, Castle Cary, BA7 7LB and is run by Youth Connect South West, with funding from Castle Cary Town Council.

We offer a range of activities, including music, games, and sports, providing a fun and supportive space where young people can relax, try new things, and meet new friends. There is no fee for attendance.

Youth Connect South West is a charity dedicated to supporting young people across the region. Our experienced youth workers create safe spaces where young people can socialise, develop skills, and access support and guidance when needed.



From Our Local Community



The poster features a blue background with white confetti and a central image of two young men playing soccer. Text is arranged in colorful, rounded shapes. At the top left is the 'YOUTH CONNECT SOUTH WEST' logo. At the top right is a 'Funded by' logo with a castle icon. The main title 'CASTLE CARY' is in a large pink oval, followed by 'YOUTH CLUB' in a green oval and 'YEAR 7-' in a yellow oval. A white cloud-like shape contains the text 'SNACKS, GAMES, ACTIVITIES, CHANCE TO TALK AND MORE!'. A light blue circle on the right says 'EVERY TUESDAY' with '4 PM - 6 PM' below it. A pink oval at the bottom left provides the address: 'SPORTS PAVILION, ANSFORD RD, CASTLE CARY BA7 7LB'.

For more info get in touch with Penny:
☎ 07814125508
✉ penny.lukins@ycsw.org.uk

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www.youthconnectsouthwest.org.uk



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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 (Casual)

[Exams Invigilator I Ansford Academy](#)

Governor

[Governor I Ansford Academy](#)

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

[Ansford Academy Staff Vacancies](#)



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