



Bulletin for Ansford Families

Issue 3: 23rd October 2025

Message from the Head of School Mr Musson

So, our first term of the new academic year comes to an end and it's only 9 weeks until Christmas! (so, my daughter told me!). As ever these last two weeks have been jam packed with amazing learning opportunities for our students. Last Tuesday we held our annual 'Year 2 Sports Festival'. Students from our local primary schools came to take part and I was so impressed with our Year 9 sports leaders who led the activities. It was so lovely to see our students embracing this responsibility and demonstrating strong leadership skills when working with the year 2's, all done with kindness and encouragement. It was delightful to see.

Last Wednesday we ran the first of two Geography Fieldwork trips to Lyme Regis and this year there was no rain - always a bonus! The day consisted of students collecting information to use towards the Fieldwork study they have to complete for the GCSE.

This week we held an all-day rehearsal of Oliver! I am so excited about the show, the vocals coming from the hall were an absolute joy - we are all going to be in for a real treat in December. Whole school productions contribute significantly towards the feel of a school. Having students from across all year groups working together to produce a final performance is truly magical and I cannot thank the staff involved enough to make this happen for our students.

Today I'm fortunate to help assist with the Drama trip to see a performance of 'Blood Brothers'. This is a piece of theatre that students study for their GCSE Drama. I haven't seen this production before so I'm very much looking forward to it.

Students have been sitting their end of term assessments, and our teachers are now starting to provide feedback on how students can improve. These regular assessments are a vital part of ensuring staff and students are clear about what needs to be done to further improve, address any misconceptions and for students to demonstrate that they understand any errors.

I wish you all a lovely half term break, hopefully we'll have some sunshine so we can enjoy the outdoors and see the beautiful autumnal colours.

All the best, Karl Musson



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Academy Calendar: Key Upcoming Events			
Week	Date in October	Event Details	Lead
2	Friday 24th	INSET DAY - School Closed to Students	
Half Term - 27th to 31st October			
Week	Date in November	Event Details	Lead
1	Monday 3rd	School Opens to Students	
1	Tuesday 4th	Year 11 Bristol Trip - Geography Students - details provided	Mr Antoine
1	Wednesday 5th	Year 10 DT Textiles Trip - details provided	Mrs Swallow
1	Thursday 6th	Year 7 Students - Orchestra Session	Mrs Marshfield
1	Friday 7th	Year 11 Group and Individual Photos	Mrs White
2	W/c Monday 10th	Year 11 Mock Exams Fortnight Begins	Mrs Dyal
2	Monday 10th	Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying Week - details to follow	Ms Hirst
2	Thursday 13th	Year 7 Students - Orchestra Session	Mrs Marshfield



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ANSFORD ACADEMY

LEARNING TOGETHER TO LEAD OUR LIVES

Notices

From Heads of Year

Reward and Recognition Assemblies Last Week of Term

We are celebrating the amazing achievements of Ansford students this week! These assemblies highlight the fantastic work and contributions of our students, particularly in demonstrating the school's three core values: Aspire, Respect, and Engage.

Well done to everyone for embodying these values in and around the school!

As part of the celebrations, one student from each year group was awarded a £20 voucher for achieving zero negative points, and one student 100% attendance, and consistently demonstrating our core values.



Well Done!!!

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Year 7		Year 8	
Tutor Star students: • Maisie V • Noah G • Evie B • Heidi H	Head of Year Star students: • Leon B • Heidi H	Tutor Star students: • Alex-James P & Sofia H • Daisy J & Elliot G • Jordan H & Lucy L • Ray Z & Ellie F	Head of Year Star students: • Mollie G • Zane H
Year 9		Year 10	
Tutor Star students: • Tyler L • George F • Leonie R • Amelia H	Head of Year Star students: • Layla F • Rowan T	Tutor Star students: • Maisey F • Corey L • Jacob M • Riley L	Head of Year Star students: • Jake F • Flo B
Year 11			
Tutor Star students: • Jack L & Keira H • Izzy B & Isaac C • Oscar H & Beth W • Adam B & Millie C		Head of Year Star students: • Josh B • Archer P • Tegan S • Holly C • Skye B • Issy D	





From Ms Hirst, Deputy Headteacher: Welfare and Inclusion

School Site Safety

Please may we remind parents and carers that the maximum speed limit for the school site is 20mph. Please drive carefully throughout the site when dropping off and collecting students.

WhatsApp Group

We have been made aware of a nationwide issue with WhatsApp and a group called 'Add Everyone' which does exactly as it says, adds all contacts in the phone if the message is opened and then sends out inappropriate messages that look like they have come from the sender. Please be vigilant with your children and report online to 101 if this happens. It can be prevented by not opening any messages from 'Add Everyone' and deleting them immediately.

Anti-Bullying Campaign

School Council are leading the anti-bullying campaign this year; assemblies last week have been really well received. The emphasis is on Ansford as a community and we look out for each other, we have lots of ways for students to report concerns they have about themselves or others - either in person, online or anonymously through the Student Voice Box.

We reiterate to students that every adult in school is there to keep them safe and to think about who their first trusted adults would be that they would go to if they needed any help - tutor, head of year, safeguarding team, our receptionists, first aiders etc.

Remember to wear odd socks on 10th November to show your support!

We are a Telling School





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From Mrs Sweetlove, Pastoral Lead- Attendance & Inclusion

REMINDER: Attendance Matters Booklet

Attendance Matters: A Partnership for Success

We believe that excellent attendance is the foundation of educational success. The Department for Education's latest research demonstrates that students with 95% attendance or above achieve significantly better outcomes than their peers.

Our [Attendance Matters Booklet](#) outlines our collaborative approach to supporting every child's educational journey through consistent school attendance.

We take seriously our shared responsibilities of working together as a community, striving for excellence in all we do, and ensuring that our school community is valued for who we are and who we can become. Through high academic



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and personal expectations, we inspire our students to enjoy their time here and ensure that they leave fully prepared for the next phase of their lives.

REMINDER: Attendance Matters, Moments Count

Do Now

Engage

Learn

Build

Apply

Review

Attendance Matters, Moments Matters

School Target - Above 95%

Good attendance means consistent learning, stronger progress, and better preparation for exams. Being in school daily supports routines, builds confidence, and boosts mental wellbeing by keeping students connected to friends, teachers, and support systems. Every lesson counts, and every day in school helps students move closer to their goals.

Attendance Percentage vs Days/ Lessons Missed

Attendance (%)	Days Absent (per year)	Lessons Missed (per year)
100%	0	0
98%	4	20
95%	9.5	47.5
93%	13.3	66.5
90%	19	95
85%	28.5	142.5
80%	38	190
75%	47.5	237.5
70%	57	285

REMINDER: Attendance and Attainment





Do Now

Engage

Learn

Build

Apply

Review

Attendance & Attainment

Studies show a strong link between attendance and attainment, with consistent school attendance significantly increasing the likelihood of achieving higher academic outcomes.

Did you know?

Every 1% drop in attendance equates to approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ GCSE grade lost. This compounds over time, significantly affecting students educational outcomes and future opportunities

"It's not just about Year 11 – Year 10 matters too." Research shows attendance habits formed in Year 10 continue into Year 11. Students with high attendance now are more likely to stay on track next year

Research shows that students with over 95% attendance are far more likely to achieve five strong GCSE passes, including English and Maths

Future Earnings - Persistently absent students (students with attendance less than 90%): Could earn £10,000 less by age 28 compared to those with near-perfect attendance (95–100% attendance).

From Mrs Martin, Finance Manager

Prom Committee

We have started our annual fundraising for our Year 11 students' Prom; this really helps to keep the Prom ticket prices low for all students.

Our first event took place today and we raised £116 at our Cake Sale - all sold out at breaktime which was amazing. Thank you to everyone who supported us with this.



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Our next event is a Year 11 vs Staff football match which will take place on Friday 7th November. Please see the poster below for details, we charge £1.00 entry plus we will sell sweets on the day.



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From Mrs Martin, Teacher of English

Ansford Reading Logs

Congratulations to Ruby H in Year 7 who won our Term 1 prize!

More information about Reading Logs and what prize is in store next term [here](#).



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Old/New Board Games Needed!

OLD/NEW BOARD GAMES NEEDED

(no matter the condition we can mend and use to create our own)

PLEASE DONATE TO
ANSFORD SCHOOL RECEPTION
OR MRS MARTIN (EN1)



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Learn new skills

Get competitive

GAME ON!

Spend time
with friends



KS3 BOARD GAMES CLUB
EVERY FRIDAY LUNCH
EN1

BISCUITS PROVIDED



Find a quiet
game and place
to reset

Make new friends



Master a
game to beat
those at
home

From Mr Newbury, Drama Teacher and Oliver! Production Director

REMINDER: Oliver! Cast Rehearsal Information

Full day rehearsals for Oliver for all cast:

- Tuesday 25th November
- Monday 8th December

Full day Sunday rehearsals for all cast

- Sunday 16th November
- Sunday 30th November



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From Mrs Withers, Head of Maths

Maths Homework

Reminder to Year 11 student parents/carers that the students have three 1/2 past papers to complete for homework over half term please.

REMINDER: Year 11 Maths Revision Session Plan

YEAR 11 MATHS REVISION SESSION COUNTDOWN PLAN 25-26

Exam Board: Edexcel

Paper Details: Paper 1 Non-calculator, Papers 2 & 3 Calculator

Exam Date(s): Paper 1 – Thursday 14th May Morning, Paper 2 – Wednesday 3rd June Morning, Paper 3 – Wednesday 10th June Morning

Sessions run every Thursday after school 3.30 - 4.30pm Higher Tier with Mrs Withers in MA1, Foundation Tier with Mrs Loud in MA3

Sessions run every Monday lunchtime 2.00 - 2.30pm Higher Tier with Mrs Withers in MA1, Foundation Tier with Mrs Loud in MA3

Weeks until Summer Paper 1	Week commencing	Monday lunchtime Higher Tier Topics 2.00 - 2:30pm with PW in MA1	Monday lunchtime Foundation Tier Topics 2.00 - 2:30pm with LL in MA3	Thursday afterschool Higher Tier Topics 3.30 - 4.30pm with PW in MA1	Thursday afterschool Foundation Tier Topics 3.30 - 4.30pm with LL in MA3
31	6.10.25	Simultaneous Equations	Angles	- Standard form calculations - Histograms - Weekly 10 Mock revision P1	- Directed no.s - Indices - Weekly 10 Mock revision P1
30	13.10.25	Recurring decimals to fractions	Stem & Leaf diagrams	- Circle Theorems - Area Sector - Length Arc - Weekly 10 Mock revision P2	- Best Value - Factorise - Expand brackets - Weekly 10 Mock revision P2
29	20.10.25	Trig Ratios	Nth term	- Sine Rule - Cosine rule - Weekly 10 Mock revision P3	- Fraction of amount - Ordering fractions - Calculations with fractions - Weekly 10 Mock revision P3
28	27.10.25	OCTOBER HALF TERM			
27	3.11.25	Surds	SDT	- Cumulative frequency - Vectors - Weekly 10 Mock revision P1	- Frequency trees & Multiples/Factors/Primes - Weekly 10 Mock revision P1
26	10.11.25 Mock Week 1	- HCF, LCM, prime factors - Probability tree diagrams	Recipes	Completing the square	- Pie charts - HCF/LCF

Careers

Careers Information

Do not forget that the [Careers pages](#) on our website provide a wealth of information for all students, and particularly students in KS4 in the process of gathering information for their Post 16 choices:



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Events and
Experiences

Employers,
Work Related
Learning & Jobs

Labour Market
Information

Post 16

Useful Websites

Ansford Alumni

University

The [Events and Experiences page](#) is updated with information received from the Colleges and Sixth Forms so do keep an eye out there for events coming up in our local area.

Somerset Careers Hub

Please find this months' careers bulletin with opportunities and resources here:

[8 October 2025](#)

[15 October 2025](#)

Somerset
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

Mrs Marshfield, Head of Creative Arts

REMINDER: Orchestra Sessions for Year 7 Students

Year 7 students will be having the exciting opportunity to experience four performances, each one hour long, exhibiting and discussing the four sections of the orchestra during November. Each performance is presented by professional musicians demonstrating their instruments and performing individually and as an ensemble. We look



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forward to sharing some photos!:

- Thurs 6th November
- Tues 11th November
- Wed 12th November
- Thurs 13th November



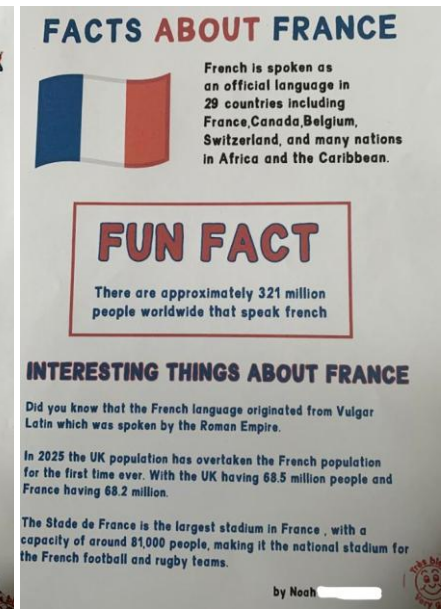
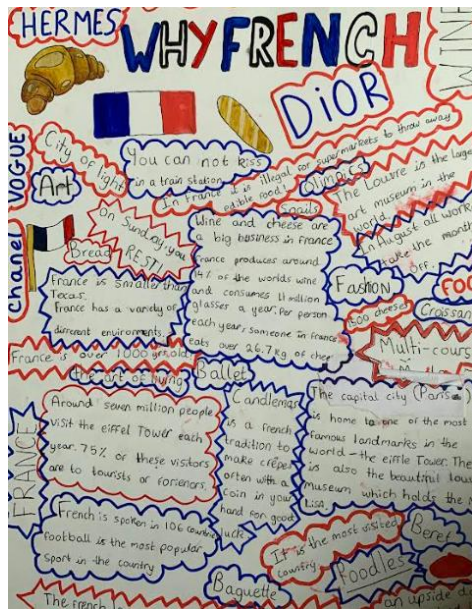
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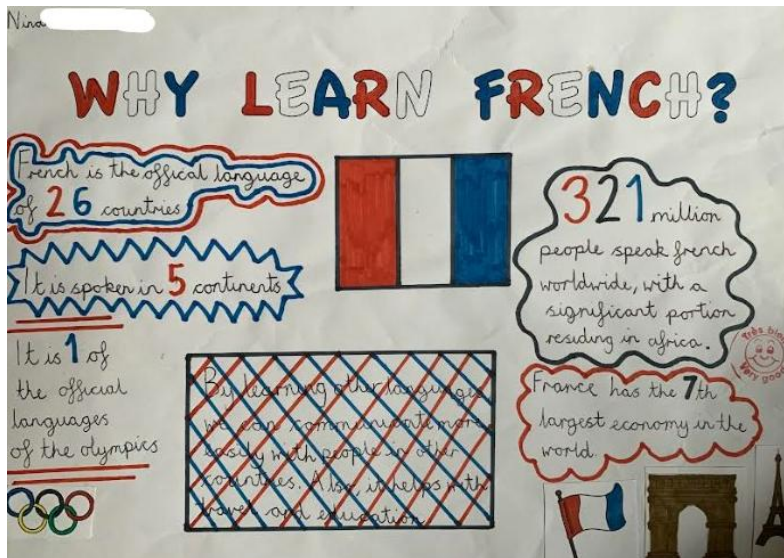
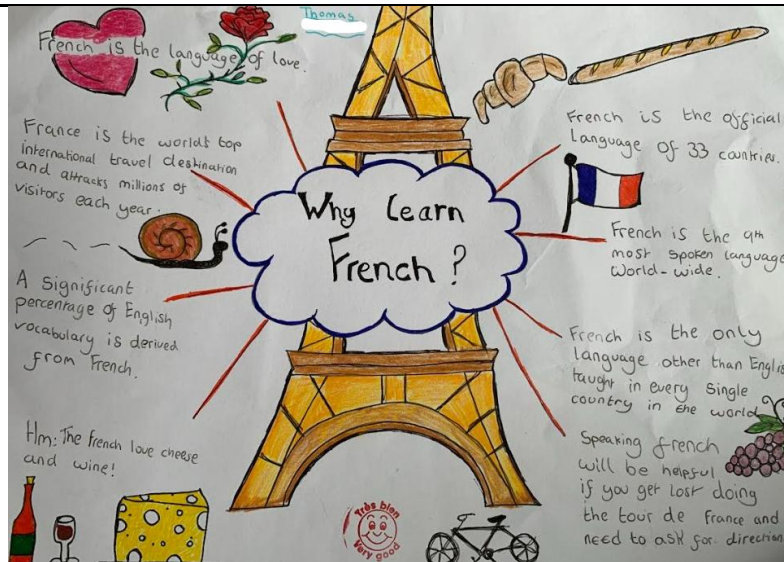
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Ms Rogers, Teacher of French

Wonderful French Homework from Year 7

Their task was to design a poster to explain the reasons why we learn French / other languages. They did such a wonderful job and I was blown away by their efforts.





Mrs Swallow, Head of Design Technology

Our Artists Work

Work from our Year 8 artists last week



REMINDER: Sweet/Chocolate Tubs

We ask for donations of any unwanted tubs/christmas chocolate tubs for students to take food home in, they would be gratefully received!



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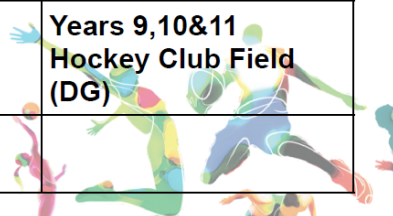


From Mrs Grove, Head of PE

REMINDER: Extra-curricular Sports Activities for the Autumn Term



DAY	LUNCHTIME 1.45pm - 2.30pm	AFTER SCHOOL 3.30-4.30pm
MONDAY	Dodgeball Club - Sports Hall (RH)	
TUESDAY	Cross-Country - All Years Field (JD) Handball Club - Sports Hall (DG)	Years 7+8 Hockey Club Field (DG)
WEDNESDAY	Year 7 + 8 Rugby Club Field (JD/MD)	All years Badminton Sports Hall (Coach)
THURSDAY	Year 7 Multi-sports - Sports Hall (JD) Girls Football - Field (MD)	Years 9,10&11 Hockey Club Field (DG)
FRIDAY	Years 9, 10 & 11 Volleyball (DG)	



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From Our Student Community

Well Done Mia T!!

We are very proud to say that Mia won gold at her golf competition last weekend for Somerset girls - well done Mia!



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From Caterlink

New Autumn/Winter Menu

We will be launching our new Autumn/Winter Menu from the start of the new half term. Here is a sneak peak:

WEEK ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN #1	 CLASSIC MAC & CHEESE With crunchy croutons	 BEEF CHILLI with rice & salsa Mexicana	 CLASSIC ROAST DINNER with all the trimmings!	 CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA with turmeric rice & sambals	 BREADED FISH OR SAUSAGE WITH garden peas and gravy/curry sauce
MAIN #2	 AUTUMN VEGETABLE BAKE With roast sweet potato	FALAFEL WRAP With cous cous & yoghurt dip	CAJUN SWEET POTATO & SPINACH TART with roast potatoes	STICKY SOY & HONEY VEGETABLES With egg noodles	LOADED HOUND DOG with Chips
HANDHELD	 Classic Cheese Burger	 Crispy Chicken pitta	 Breaded Chicken wraps	Savoury topped Flatbread	 Selection of hand stretched pizzas
BOWLED OVER	 Loaded Wedges	 Penne Carbonara	 Stir fried sweet chilli vegetable noodles	 Loaded Nachos	 Tomato pomodoro Pasta pots

See the full menu on our website [here](#).





From Our Local Community

Youth Connect South West



Inspiring Young People

Tuesday @Castle Cary

Autumn sessions

Date	Youth club schedule
	Sessions are free!
28/10/2025	Session open 4pm-6pm Half term Halloween themed session
04/11/2025	Session closed - Staff Holiday
11/11/2025	Session open 4pm-6pm Remembrance themed session
18/11/2025	Session open 4pm-6pm Using bikes, scooters and skateboards safely
25/11/2025	Session open 4pm-6pm Celebrating difference & ADHD awareness
02/12/2025	Session open 4pm-6pm Christmas Crafts
<i>Come and join us at the Cricket Pavillion, Donald Pither Memorial playing field, meet new friends, chat, play sport, and enjoy activities, music and food.</i> <i>Look out for details of our subsidised Christmas trip to Clarks Village Ice skating.</i>	

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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.

[Teacher of ICT and Computer Science](#)

[Parent and Family Support Advisor](#)

[SEN Teaching Assistant](#)

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

[Ansford Academy Staff Vacancies](#)



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