



## Bulletin for Ansford Families

Issue 7: 13th February 2026

### Message from the Head of School Mr Musson

The last 6 weeks of term since the Christmas break seems to have gone very quickly despite the relentless rain and dark skies we have had. This term is always a vital term for Year 11 in the lead up to their second set of mock exams. As ever, I have been really impressed with our Year 11's in working hard preparing for these exams. We now have 6 teaching weeks left before the GCSE exams starts - time is certainly going fast.

Our Year 9s have now submitted their option choices. I have had so many fantastic conversations with students about what they want to study and their future ambitions. It has been a real pleasure talking to them about their dreams for the future and what they aim to achieve with their education.

Year 11 have now had their final parents evening at Ansford. It does not seem that long ago seeing them arrive for their first day in Year 7. To see them grow into amazing individuals is a delight and I know they'll approach the pressure of exams maturely. During the Revision Clinic in January, staff provided Year 11's and parents/carers key individual advice and guidance on how to revise and what to revise to run alongside the revision programmes being followed in lessons. Regular revision with regular breaks is key to successful revision. Students must ensure they build in regular times to relax alongside their focused revision to ensure they manage the pressure of exams. If you have any concerns, please contact either your child's tutor or Mr Willson so we can support during this time.

Year 10 and 11 Art students went to London on Friday 30th January and visited various galleries. Not only was this an amazing opportunity for our students to experience visiting inspiring galleries but also gave the chance to see London and all that it has to offer.

Our Year 11 Hospitality and Catering students have now completed their practical part of their course. I have been so impressed with the quality of the meals created, they all look so inspiring, and students definitely showed off their amazing culinary skills. Cooking is a real passion of mine, and I enjoy being creative with the meals I cook - they work sometimes! Cooking is a skill for life, and I can truly say I wish I had the skill that the Year 11's have shown when I was their age!



Report a student absence by phone: 01963 350 895 or by email [attendanceofficer@ansford.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:attendanceofficer@ansford.mnsp.org.uk)

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**Message from the Head of School Mr Musson**

Over the last few weeks students in Year 11 have received individual careers interviews to support them with post-16 choices and ambitions by external staff with expertise in this field. There is so much on offer with post-16 education and it is vital that our students are given the advice and guidance to make informed choices.

A group of Year 9 and Year 10 students joined Mrs Withers to run a maths session for Year 5 students at Castle Cary primary school on the 4th of February. Our students led four activities involving ratio, circle properties, measuring and using scientific calculators. Mrs Withers was extremely impressed with our students who all embraced the opportunity to work with younger students and help them with their maths. It was a pleasant couple of hours for all and the Year 5's thoroughly enjoyed having the chance to work with our students.

Lastly, Mr Cue is leaving us at the end of this term to pursue new opportunities. Mr Cue has been working at Ansford Academy for nearly 20 years, and I can truly say he will be missed. Mr Cue has had multiple roles from Head of PE, Head of Year, Assistant Headteacher leading personal development and more recently leading behaviour. During his time here Mr Cue has done key pieces of work that has made a lasting impact on students' attitudes towards learning and therefore outcomes. Thank you, Mr Cue, for all you have done and we all wish you the very best for the future. We are delighted to say that Mrs Sweetlove has been appointed to lead with Behaviour and continue her work with attendance from the start of next term. We are really excited with this appointment and know from previous work she has done she will be extremely successful in this new role.

Sorry to mention but the rain seems to still be coming (maybe not on Saturday). The evenings are definitely getting lighter, only 6 weeks until the clocks change! I wish you all a lovely week, regardless of what the weather brings!

Karl Musson



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Academy Calendar: Key Upcoming Events			
Week	Date in February	Event Details	Lead
	Monday 16th - Friday 20th	Half Term - School Closed to Students	
2	Monday 23rd	Year 11 Future Smart Careers Interviews continue	Mr Mitchell
2	Tuesday 24th	Year 11 Future Smart Careers Interviews continue	Mr Mitchell
2	Thursday 26th	Dodgeball Tournament	Mrs Grove
2	Friday 27th	Year 11 Future Smart Careers Interviews continue	Mr Mitchell
Week	Date in March	Event Details	Lead
1	Monday 2nd - Tuesday 17th	Year 11 Mock 2 Exams	Mrs Dyal
1	Monday 2nd - Friday 6th	National Careers Week	
1	Thursday 5th	World Book Day	



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## Notices

**From Ms Hirst, Designated Safeguarding Lead**

### **The I Can, I am Bus**

The I Can, I Am Bus visited us on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, parked up in the humanities playground and was visited by Year 9 students. Fun was had making pizzas, and the students also attended workshops discussing how individuals maintain their sense of belief.

See this [link](#) to see what the bus is about!!



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From Mrs Sweetlove, Pastoral Lead- Attendance & Inclusion

### WHAT DOES ATTENDANCE LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

We expect outstanding attendance for all, however we do recognise that there are times when pupils will absent from school.

If attendance drops below 97% the school will contact parents immediately to put a plan in place to make improvements.



### ATTENDANCE MATTERS SO DO YOU!

Our vision is to achieve excellence by consistently fulfilling 100% attendance and punctuality goals.

MNSP

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.



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**From Mrs Martin, Finance Manager**

**Arbor Payments/School Gateway**

As a reminder, with effect from 3pm today, payments will no longer be able to be accepted through School Gateway. Arbor Payments will go live during half term, a further e-mail with instructions will follow in due course.

**Year 11 Leavers Hoodies**

Just a reminder that Leavers Hoodies must be ordered by **16th March 2026**. In addition, if you wish to have your child's name printed on the reverse of the hoodie, please sign and return the consent form. This is on the original letter and a copy can be found [here](#) which includes all the details you need for ordering.

Should you have any queries, please e-mail Mrs Martin - [hmartin@ansford.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:hmartin@ansford.mnsp.org.uk).

**Year 11 Prom - Fundraising**

Our next fundraising event will be our family Ansford Quiz Night which will take place on 20th March. The cost for this will be £10 per person which includes a meal provided in the interval.

There are prizes for the winning team, refreshments available to purchase plus a raffle with fabulous prizes. Please put the date in your diary, details for booking your team's place will follow in due course.

**From Miss Fulton, Attendance Officer**

**Student Absence**

The easiest way to report your child as absent is via the Arbor Portal or the Arbor App, please do this on the first day of absence and each day of subsequent absence. This replaces the School Gateway Portal/App.

You can still phone the school number and choosing option 1, or notify us via email if you'd prefer via [attendanceofficer@ansford.mnsp.org.uk](mailto:attendanceofficer@ansford.mnsp.org.uk).

To request/record a future absence/term time leave for your child, please refer to the form on the website [here](#).



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**From Mrs Reddick, Teacher of Art**

**Art & Textile Trip Friday 30th January**

GCSE Art and Textiles students enjoyed an exciting and inspiring day visiting two of London’s most renowned galleries. Their first stop was the Saatchi Gallery, where they explored The Long Now, a major exhibition celebrating four decades of ground-breaking contemporary art and creativity. The expansive show featured a dynamic mix of iconic works by artists closely linked to the gallery’s history, alongside innovative pieces from an emerging new generation of artists. Students were able to experience a wide range of artistic styles, materials and concepts, encouraging them to think critically and creatively about their own artistic approaches.

The visit continued at Tate Britain, where students explored collection displays spanning 500 years of British art. The galleries showcased a rich variety of stories and voices, allowing students to discover well-loved historic masterpieces alongside bold and thought-provoking contemporary artworks. The trip provided valuable first-hand experience of professional gallery spaces and artistic presentation. Students had a fantastic day immersing themselves in the artwork, gaining inspiration and developing a range of ideas to support and enhance their GCSE coursework and exam projects.



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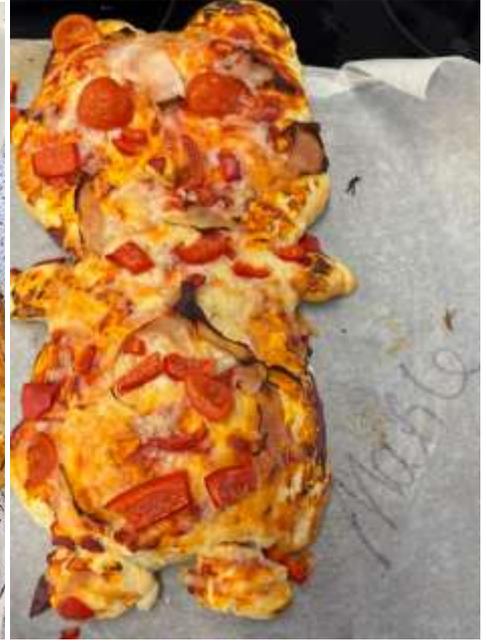
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**Mrs Swallow, Head of Design Technology**

**More delights from the Kitchen**

Year 7



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Year 8



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From Mrs Grove, Head of PE and Mr Darby, PE Teacher



### Cross Country National Championships Success

We have had THREE(!) students qualify for the National Cross Country Championships in March. After qualifying from the area, county, and southwest races and recently representing Somerset, they have now had confirmation of their places in the top will compete in Liverpool next month.

This is a huge achievement to be recognised at a national level, congratulations Ruby S (Year 8), Jamie W (Year 10) and Rachel H (Year 11)!!



### Fixtures, fixtures and fixtures!

We have had lots of fixtures in PE the last few weeks including football, netball, indoor cricket, and basketball. We



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have had several teams qualify for the finals that will take place over the next few weeks!

Our Year 10 boys also won the Gillingham football tournament, going unbeaten and beating a school in the last 8 of the national cup. Mikey was also named player of the tournament for a great goalkeeping display.



Well done to all who have taken part.



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From Mrs Withers, Head of Maths

**UPDATE: Year 11 Maths Revision Session Plan**

13	16.2.26	• FEBRUARY BREAK			
12	23.2.26	• Plotting graphs	• Vectors	TWILIGHT - STAFF MEETING	
11	2.3.26	• Conditional Probability	• Pythagoras Theorem	• Non-linear simultaneous equations • Simultaneous equations with graphs	• Forming & solving equations • Weekly 10 revision
10	9.3.26	• Cumulative frequency • Box plots	• Probability basic • Probability trees	• Inequalities solving • Inequalities on graphs, regions, quadratics	• Compound measures • Weekly 10 revision
9	16.3.26	• Recurring decimals to fractions	• Venn Diagrams	TWILIGHT - STAFF MEETING	
8	23.3.26	• Weekly 10 Revision	• Scatter graphs	YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING	
7	30.3.26	• Weekly 10 Revision	• Inequalities	• 3D Pythagoras & Trigonometry	• Simultaneous equations • Weekly 10 revision
6	6.4.26	EASTER HOLIDAYS Check with your teacher as to when they are running a half-term revision session Complete two exam papers – one non-calculator and one calculator (paper 1 & paper 2)			
5	13.4.26	EASTER HOLIDAYS Check with your teacher as to when they are running a half-term revision session Complete two exam papers – one non-calculator and one calculator (paper 1 & paper 2)			
4	20.4.26	• Weekly 10 Revision	• Indices	• Velocity Time graphs	• Equation of line & midpoint • Weekly 10 revision
3	27.4.26	• Weekly 10 Revision	• Standard Form	YEAR 7 PARENTS EVENING	
2	4.5.26	BANK HOLIDAY		• Perpendicular lines & equation of a tangent • Weekly 10 P1 revision	• Trigonometry ratios • Weekly 10 P1 revision
1	11.5.26	• Weekly 10 Revision P1	• Weekly 10 Revision P1	• Vectors proof • Weekly 10 P2 Revision	• Direct & Inverse Proportion • Distance time graphs • Weekly 10 P2 revision
<b>Paper 1 Exam Date – Thursday 14/05/26 AM</b> Breakfast Revision from 7.30am					
	18.5.26	• Weekly 10 Revision P2	• Weekly 10 Revision P2	• Weekly 10 Revision P2	• Weekly 10 Revision P2
MAY HALF TERM Complete three exam papers – all of them calculator (paper 2 and paper 3)					
<b>Paper 2 Exam Date – Wednesday 03/06/26 AM</b> Breakfast Revision from 7.30am in PA2					
<b>Paper 3 Exam Date – Wednesday 10/06/26 AM</b> Breakfast Revision from 7.30am in PA2					



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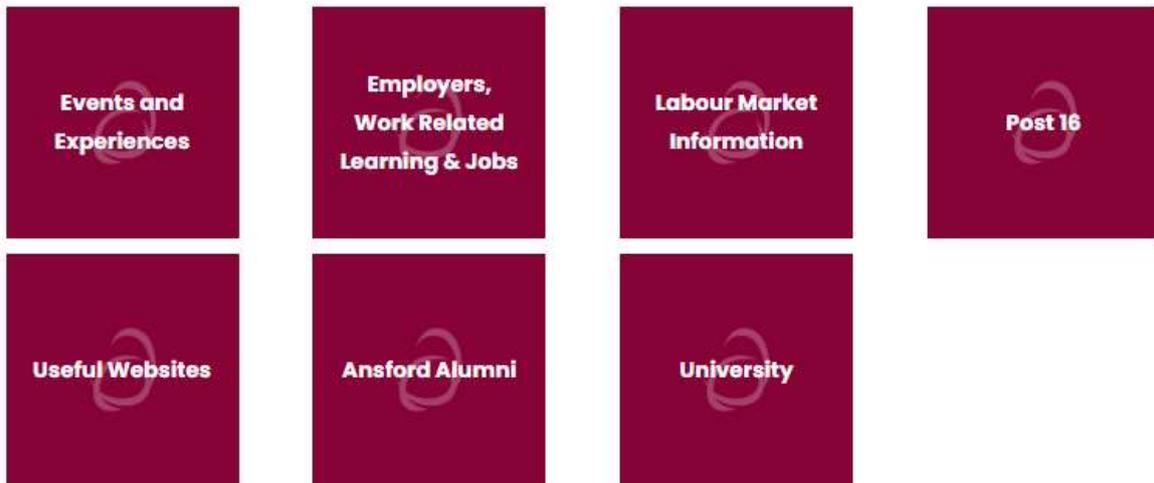
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Careers

**REMINDER: 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:



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**

The Somerset Careers Hub, established in collaboration with The Careers and Enterprise Company to help transform careers education for young people across Somerset. Find information, resources and updates [here](#).



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From Caterlink

Tariff Changes

Advanced notice that our tariff is due to increase after the Easter holidays (From Monday 20th April). Below are the new prices. The Free School Meal allowance will increase to accommodate this.

Our menu will also be changing at the same time, we look forward to bringing this to you soon!

**TARIFF BOARD**

LUNCH		ALL DAY	
MAIN MEAL (FSM) – HOT	£2.85	SANDWICHES FROM	£1.60
HOT DESSERT	£1.30	BAGUETTES FROM	£1.60
PIZZA SLICE VEG	£1.75	JELLY POTS	£11.85
PIZZA SLICE MEAT	£1.85	FRUIT POTS	£1.15
JACKET POTATO w/ FILLING	£2.30	DESSERT POTS	£1.25
PANINI (FROM)	£2.40	SARGADE ROLLS	£1.15
HOMESAVE	£1.30	PAW AU CHOCOLAT	£1.50
COOKIE	£1.25	WAFFLE	£1.75
		BURGER FROM	£2.35

DRINKS	
WATER	£0.95
I PRO	£1.75
MILKSHAKE	£1.25
RAIDNER FIZZ	£1.20
RAIDNER SPLASH	£1.25
RAIDNER CARTONS	£1.10

**ALLERGIES**

PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF STAFF IF YOU HAVE AN ALLERGY AND NEED TO KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE OUR FOOD DISHES. THEY WILL ADVISE YOU OF YOUR AVAILABLE CHOICES.

**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination



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From our Local Community

CATS: Wind in the Willows

Castle Cary Amateur Theatrical Society presents:

Cary Amateur Theatrical Society Presents

# The Wind in the Willows

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>  
February 2026

7pm  
Ansford Academy, BA7 7JJ

Tickets £12  
Available from  
Needful Things, Castle Cary  
or  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/castle Cary cats](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/castle Cary cats)



Enquiries:  
[castle Cary cats@gmail.com](mailto:castle Cary cats@gmail.com)  
[castle Cary cats](http://castle Cary cats)

Book by  
JULIAN FELLOWES

Music by  
GEORGE STILES

Lyrics by  
ANTHONY DREWE

Based on the book by KENNETH GRAHAME

Original Production Produced by JAMIE HENDRY

"THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by  
Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), [www.theatricalrights.co.uk](http://www.theatricalrights.co.uk)



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For more details and tickets see CATS Socials:

<https://www.facebook.com/castle Cary cats/>

<https://www.instagram.com/castle Cary cats/>

[Castle Cary amateur Theatrical Society event tickets from TicketSource.](#)

### Children's Cinema in Caryford

See Elio this Half Term on Monday February 16th at Caryford Hall

*Children's Cinema in Caryford*  
Presents

ALL TICKETS £2.50 EACH!

Free snack & drink with Child Ticket

Adults: Tea /coffee & biscuits for donations

Ice Creams For Sale!



Disney+  
2025 • U • 114 mins

Disney PEARL  
**ELIO**

**MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**  
Doors: 13:45 • Film: 14:00  
Tickets - Bailey Hill Bookshop  
Or - [www.caryfordhall.co.uk](http://www.caryfordhall.co.uk)

All children must be accompanied by an adult

*Caryford Community Hall*  
Maggs Lane, Ansford, Castle Cary, BA7 7JJ

Tickets  
↓  




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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.

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](mailto:mailbox@ansford.net)

### [Exams Invigilators](#)

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

[Ansford Academy Staff Vacancies](#)



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