

# St Dunstan's Bulletin

Explore, Achieve, Succeed

Dear Parents

Now that the new school year is well underway I thought I would write to tell you about some of the things that have been happening at school so far this term.

To improve feedback and regular communication we have decided to send out a more regular news bulletin to keep parents and the school community up-to-date. These bulletins can be found on the school website and we will be sending them out as an email to all parents; please ensure that your email address is up-to-date so that you don't miss any important information.

We have welcomed new staff; Mr Bardzil—our new SENCO, Mr Armstrong, Mrs Shousha-Nady and Mr Maple. Many of you will know Mrs Lawrence, who has decided to leave St Dunstan's after 8 years' service. In the past 2 years she has been Deputy Head and SENCO. She has decided to leave to pursue new opportunities and challenges. We wish her well for the future.

Enjoy the bulletin! Mr Howard, Headteacher

## E SAFETY AT ST DUNSTAN'S

We consider e safety to be a high priority for our students and so all year 7 students watched a performance and then joined in a workshop about online safety. The session was aimed at helping students to know how to use the internet responsibly.

Students saw the possible effects and consequences of overuse of the internet as well as some of the problems that they may encounter such as cyber bullying and issues with sharing personal images/information.

There was an opportunity for students to join in a discussion with the performer and ask questions. All of year 7 enjoyed the performance and afterwards felt that they had gained valuable information which will help them to make safer choices in the future.

The performance and workshop will compliment the work that they are doing in their IT lessons throughout the term and also the Curriculum Enrichment Day dedicated to E Safety on the 29th September.

## Book Fairies visit St Dunstan's

St Dunstan's students and staff took part in "Hide a Book Day" on 18th September. Cunning little book fairies hid ten books in sneaky places around the school for students to find. When they have read the

books, the fairies ask that they pass theirs on to a friend. Staff took part in a book fairy gift activity whereby they bought a book for their allotted colleague,

wrapped it and hid it for them to find. Coming up is a book fairy lunch to "show and tell" the books that were found.



## Vivary Park Trip

On Thursday 21st September, Year 7 students set off for an exciting and fun-filled day at Vivary Park.

Activities included two different high ropes a climbing wall and Jacob's ladder. There was also a point when students just jumped from the top to fly and land on the ground! All students got involved and it was great to see the Year group really gel and work together. Lots of confidence boosting and helping each other as well as egging each other on! A real pleasure to have taken them!



Come and see what's new at St Dunstan's

## Sport at St Dunstan's Year 9/10 Rugby v Huish Episcopi

A fantastic way to kick off the new rugby season with a close encounter against a well organised Huish outfit. The first half was all about a solid back line, with both teams going close to scoring a try, only to be denied by heroic last-ditch tackles. The score remained stalemate 0-0 at half time.

The second half started off much the same, with both sides struggling to get through each other's defensive wall. However, the breakthrough finally

came for St Dunstan's with a fabulously worked try, finished off by Ellis Staniforth. Both Toby Honeywill and Ollie Jones went close again for St Dunstan's, only to be denied. With 6 minutes left Huish worked their scrum well and managed to use quick-ball to get the ball over the line to level the score. The conversion kick went over. Both teams went in search of a second try to seal the game, with St Dunstan's certainly looking the most threatening with the electric pace of Tomlinson. It was at the death that it looked like St Dunstan's would be

victorious, with Harvey Tomlinson using his lightning speed to ghost past the Huish defence, only to be denied a try by an illegal high tackle.

Unfortunately, only a penalty was awarded instead of a penalty try and the game was brought to an end. A hard-fought game finished with both sides scoring one try each. Well done boys, on to the next game!

M.O.M- Harvey Tomlinson



*Have fun filling a Christmas box*

## Operation Christmas Box

On Wednesday, Mrs Lewis presented an assembly to the whole school about participating in Operation Christmas Box. St Dunstan's has a great record for donating at least 100 boxes each year. Students were encouraged to see if they had any toys, books, stationery etc that they could donate to a Christmas box for a child that wouldn't otherwise receive a present. This year, we have the added option of providing boxes for young people leaving care who would appreciate the basic toiletries and perhaps some treats such as chocolate or books. Students were invited to join in with wrapping boxes on a week A Monday lunchtime in room 13.

## Coming Up ...

In the next week, we are looking forward to our Open Day and Open Evening on Wednesday 27th September—do come along and see what's new at St Dunstan's.

On Thursday 28th September we have a poet coming in to school for National Poetry Day; Coral Rumble will be working with year 7 and 8 students in poetry workshops—we look forward to reading their poems!

On Friday 29th September, all students will participate in our first Curriculum Enrichment Day of the year:

Year 7—e safety

Year 8—attendance

Year 9—Healthy Relationships

Year 10—Safer Futures

Year 11 Philosophy and Belief Masterclass

Drama Students have the opportunity to attend after school sessions at Millfield on a Wednesday starting on 4th October—be sure to return letters promptly!

On Tuesday 26th September, our local primary schools will be participating in a football tournament at St Dunstan's. The tournament will be officiated by our talented GCSE PE students who have qualified referee status. Good luck to everyone!



**Come and see what's new at St Dunstan's**