

Huish Episcopi Academy Parent Newsletter

House Update

The house competition remains tight as we move further into the term.

The current standings for the houses are as follows:

Merchant
8887

Lambrook
8644

Bailbrook
8508

Chelston
8011

Pennard
7986

An Update From Mrs Boyes

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. As we reach the end of the second week of this half term, I am delighted to share that our students have made a very positive start. Their focus and commitment in lessons have been excellent, and it is wonderful to see such enthusiasm for learning across the school.

A special congratulations goes to our Year 11 students, who today have completed their mock examinations. Their hard work and determination during this important period have been commendable. We are equally wishing our Year 13 students the very best as they begin their own mock exams next week. Your support at home is invaluable during these times.

This term also sees the continuation of our extensive Character Education Programme, which plays a vital role in developing the values and skills that underpin success both in and beyond the classroom. You can find further details in the newsletter, but I am thrilled to highlight that the first Golden Ticket trip took place this week to the Eden Project. This reward celebrates students who consistently demonstrate our core values, particularly through independent learning and resilience within lessons. It was a fantastic experience for all involved.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of strong attendance. Everyday matters, and we are grateful for your ongoing support in ensuring students attend school regularly. Please see the newsletter for more information and guidance.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting our students to thrive.

Warm regards,

Mrs Boyes
Principal

Year 11 Update: A Message from Mr Waterhouse

As we come to the end of the Year 11 mock examination window, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your unwavering support and encouragement. Your partnership has been invaluable in helping our students navigate this important stage of their academic journey.

Over the past two weeks, our students have demonstrated exceptional hard work, resilience, and dedication. Sitting a full set of mock exams is no small task, and their commitment to giving their best effort has been truly inspiring. These qualities will serve them well as we look ahead to the summer examinations.

Mocks are not just about grades, they are a vital learning experience. The determination and perseverance shown during this period lay the foundation for success in the months to come. With continued focus and the same positive attitude, we are confident that every student can achieve their full potential.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is essential for every child's learning, confidence, and wellbeing. We know that illness and appointments sometimes can't be avoided, but we do encourage students to attend wherever possible – even with minor ailments – as being in school helps to build resilience and maintain a healthy routine.

Our supportive staff body, including a highly-trained medical team, are always on hand to provide care and reassurance during the school day, ensuring that our students feel safe and supported.

Wherever possible, we kindly request that medical appointments are arranged outside of school hours, allowing your child to engage fully with our curriculum and avoid gaps in learning. If your child does have an unavoidable medical appointment during school hours, we ask that you provide evidence of this; this is not to cause any inconvenience, but simply to exercise appropriate professional curiosity in line with our statutory safeguarding duties. We greatly appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us to keep every child safe.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting strong attendance and resilience across our school community.

Flu Vaccinations

A reminder that flu vaccinations for Years 7 - 11 will be taking place on **Monday 17th** and **Tuesday 18th November**.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have replied to the Flu vaccination consent. If you have not responded yet, please do so as soon as possible. Even if you do not consent to the vaccination, we require your response.

Decision form: <https://www.somersetsaint.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

Unique School Code: **SM13629**

Sixth Form Update UCAS Applications

A reminder that our internal deadline for completion of UCAS applications is **Friday 28th November**. This allows staff time to add supporting references and to check and process applications before the UCAS equal consideration deadline of **14th January**. Applications can still be submitted after this date, but universities are not obliged to consider them.

Year 13s have been given bespoke help with their applications as part of our tutor programme, but anyone requiring additional support can speak to their tutor, Mrs Higman or Miss Edwards.

For more information on how to support your child through the process, the [Parents' Guide to University 2025](#) is a fantastic resource that offers advice to parents and carers every step of the way.

H1 Taylors Bus

There are a few spaces left available on the H1 private bus, run by Taylors Coach Travel. The route is as follows:

Yeovil (Larkhill Bus Stop), Chilthorne Domer (Halfway House), Ilchester (North Over Layby), Tintinhull (Old Post Office), Ash (Opposite Borough Street), Ash (Old Post Office), Huish Episcopi Academy.

If you would like to enquire, please call **01935 423177** or email info@taylorscoachtravel.co.uk



Replacement Bus Passes

If your child travels on a bus operated by Somerset Transport and their bus pass has been lost, please order a replacement by completing the online form here: [Request a replacement school bus pass](#)

If your child travels on a bus not operated by Somerset County Transport, you will need to contact the bus company direct to request a replacement.

Whilst your child awaits the arrival of their replacement bus pass, please remind them to see Ms Neale at lunchtimes outside of ML1 to collect a temporary bus pass.



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Wincanton Road
Langport, Somerset
TA10 9SS

T: +44 (0) 1458 250501
F: +44 (0) 1485 250262
E: office@hea.ac.uk

A Visit From Langport Transport Group



On the 23rd October members of Langport Transport Group visited Huish Episcopi Academy. Phil Edge, Simon Taylor and David Northey addressed students from Year 12 with respect to their campaign to reopen a railway station in the Somerton and Langport area.

Prior to 1962, there used to be 10 stations between Taunton and Castle Cary, but all those stations were closed as part of what is known as the Beeching Programme including Somerton and Langport East. This has resulted in a stretch of railway line of 27 miles without a railway station, which is the longest distance between stations in the whole of the southwest.

Following the presentation by the group, which included details of a feasibility study that is still being considered by the Department for Transport, the students were invited to discuss in small groups what they regarded as the advantages and disadvantages of having a new railway station in the area close to the Academy. Some interesting discussion took place, but the vast majority of students were supportive of the campaign to reopen the station.

A huge thank you to the LTG for their time and for continuing to advocate for better public transport in our rural community.

Denim Wanted!

The Textiles department would appreciate the donation of any **unwanted denim** for Year 9 to use as part of a project on sustainability and recycling.

The jeans will be cut up to make bucket hats, so we do not mind rips or paint on the fabric. We just ask that they are clean and washed.

Thank you for your support!

Anti-Bullying Week

Thank you to the students and staff who took part in Odd Socks Day on Monday to mark the start of Anti-Bullying week!

Ms Neale delivered assemblies to years 7-10 to remind students how bullying is defined, to raise awareness of how to report concerns to trusted adults or using the whisper button on the school website and to encourage the entire school community to consider how to use their power for good in putting a stop to bullying.

Moving forward, students will discuss this theme further in tutor times and be given the opportunity to sign up to train to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

Character Education

Autumn 2 Focus: Respect

This term, our Character Education focus is Respect. Throughout the term, students will learn what respect looks like in practice and how to show it towards others - in school, at home, and within our wider community.

To help embed this value, students will be rewarded with house points for demonstrating respectful behaviour. These points will contribute towards eligibility for this term's Rewards Trip: Ice Skating!

Rewards Trip Criteria

To qualify for the trip, students must achieve:

- **97%+ attendance**
- **40+ house points**
- **0 removes** and minimal behaviour infringements

Data for the trip will be collected on 21st November, and the trip itself will take place on **9th and 10th December**.



The Biggest Quiz

Our inter-house Biggest Quiz finals concluded with some fantastic participation across all year groups. Congratulations to **Chelston House**, who emerged as the overall winners!

House	The Biggest Quiz (Everyone)	The Live Finals	Combined Total	Placement
Chelston	500	400	900	1st
Lambrook	400	400	800	2nd
Merchant	200	500	700	3rd
Bailbrook	300	400	700	3rd
Pennard	100	100	200	5th

Well done to all students who took part with enthusiasm and teamwork!

Character Education Autumn 2 Focus: Respect

Christmas Card Competition

This term, all students will take part in creating and writing Christmas cards for members of our local community. Each year group has a different focus group for their cards:

- **Year 7:** Huish Primary School teachers and staff.
- **Year 8:** ARC (Somerset-based charity supporting the homeless).
- **Year 9:** Thrive (local community support charity).
- **Years 10 and 11:** Residents in local care homes.

After selection, students will hand-deliver the cards to their recipients.



"We are delighted that Huish Episcopi Academy has chosen to support us this Christmas by creating and writing cards for the people we support. For many, the festive season can be a difficult and lonely time.

Receiving a handwritten card filled with kind words and care from local students helps spread festive cheer and reminds them that they are not forgotten."

- **ARC Somerset Charity**



Foodbank Challenge

Continuing our theme of giving and community support, we are also running a Foodbank Challenge. We invite all students and families to donate essential items for local foodbanks. Donations can be brought to school and handed to tutors. Students will receive additional house points for showing respect and kindness through their contributions.

Suggested donations:

- Loo rolls, kitchen roll
- Shower gel
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Washing powder, gel, or tablets
- Tinned vegetables or fruit (not pulses)
- Tinned custard or rice pudding
- Beans and sausages
- Corned beef
- Noodles or pot noodles
- Crisps and snacks



Football Match Report: Huish vs. Stanchester

Despite having a squad of just 11, the girls demonstrated excellent resilience and ambition to dominate possession in the second half, ending the match with a 5-2 win! A huge well done and into the next round!

Year 9 Hockey Match Report: Huish vs. Holyrood

The Year 9s faced a strong Holyrood side, who showed great experience and individual quality. This was their first experience of a team who moved the ball efficiently and effortlessly from defence to attack, challenging the girls' resilience to tackle and find the space. Though the Year 9s did not win, lots was learned to take into their final group game next week!

Year 7 and 8 Hockey Match Report: Huish vs. Holyrood

Both the Year 7 and 8 Girls Hockey Teams travelled to Holyrood for another match. They all played with such amazing teamwork and resilience throughout the game, running until the last whistle at the end of a hard game.

The Year 7 girls went into half-time at 0-0, leaving them determined to gain a win. They put all their skills into play and worked hard together, winning them the game with a score of 2-0. Well done, girls, what a great team effort!

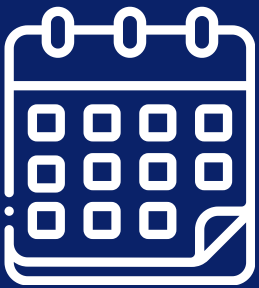
The Year 8 girls also had an amazing game, full of teamwork and resilience throughout. It was an incredibly close game right up until the end. While Holyrood clinched the win, the Huish girls showed some great skill and did not give up, no matter what.

Sporting Fixture Round -Ups



Congratulations to Finley!

Finley achieved great success this term in the 2025 Trampoline and DMT League. After qualifying through rounds taking place across the country in Sunderland, Bath and Cardiff, he went on to compete in the national final held at Derby Arena, where he placed first in his category and secured a gold medal in DMT League 3, achieving personal best scores in the process. Well done, Finley!



Dates for your diary for this term

- **18th November** - SEND Coffee Morning (9:30 - 11 am)
- **28th November** – **INSET Day**
- **3rd December** – Music: Primary Carols
- **4th December** – SLT Coffee Morning
- **4th December** – Year 11 Parents' Evening
- **5th December** – Year 11 Winter Formal
- **8th December** – Music: Wells Cathedral Choir Concert
- **9th December** – Rewards Trip: Ice Skating Day 1
- **10th December** – Rewards Trip: Ice Skating Day 2
- **11th December** – Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- **11th December** – The Reindeer Run - Supporting St. Margaret's Hospice
- **11th December** – Music: Christmas Concert
- **18th December** – Music: Christmas Carol Service
- **19th December** – **School finishes at 12:30 pm, with all students to be off site by 1 pm**



Respect
Ambition
Resilience