

# DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

## 13 December 2024 edition

What a term! As those who have been avid readers of our newsletter and followers of our social media will see there has been an extraordinary amount of individual and collective success to celebrate. We are delighted to share with you that, based on the Progress 8 measure which is used to benchmark all schools we are ranked on the 23<sup>rd</sup> percentile of all secondary schools (including those who are selective). Whilst we are very proud of our students (and staff) for all they have achieved we are determined that even larger numbers of our wonderful students can see and feel success.

We would also like to issue a last invite for our DHS annual carol service taking

place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at St Andrews Church, Tarring. There is an open invite (the event is non-ticketed) and we would love to see you there.

Thank you once again for all your support to date this year and we wish you a wonderful and restful Christmas break.

As a final reminder school starts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 as normal at 8.40am.

*Shaun Allison &  
Chris Woodcock  
Co-Headteachers*

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# Curriculum spotlight

## Year 7

Year 7s are continuing their Durrington journey covering the following topics:

- Order of operations
- Commutativity and fluency
- 4 operations with BIDMAS
- Breaking the order with brackets
- Estimating using a calculator
- Effective use of calculator
- Converting time, approximations
- Directed number negatives in context
- Ordering negatives
- 4 operations with negatives
- Intro to algebra terminology
- Simplifying expressions, substitution, solving



*Mathematics @ DHS*

# Mathematics

*"What I love about maths is that we learn so many new topics, and looking forward to the future maths is vital when you are finding a job. Furthermore, I love the way we get taught and the different skills from addition to algebra, beginning with easy and working our way up to hard."*

Mrinal in year 7

— ? ×



+ ÷ !

*"I think that maths is a very interesting subject because you can learn so much from maths, and the amount of times you have to do maths in regular life shows that it is a really important skill to learn."*

Bradley in year 7

— ? ×



#Year7



# Curriculum spotlight



## Year 8

This half term year 8s have been working on percentages, calculating increase and decrease, working with a calculator, and without, expressing numbers as a % of another percentage, and calculating with fractions.

*#Year8*



# Mathematics

*"I like maths because I like solving problems and just using numbers in general, In maths right now we are multiplying fractions together which I enjoy."*

*Izzy in year 8*

*"I really enjoy maths and for me maths is really interesting. Maths can help you in any job you want to do in the future, and it is also very enjoyable as well. Learning maths is one of my favourite subjects."*

*Maison in year 8*

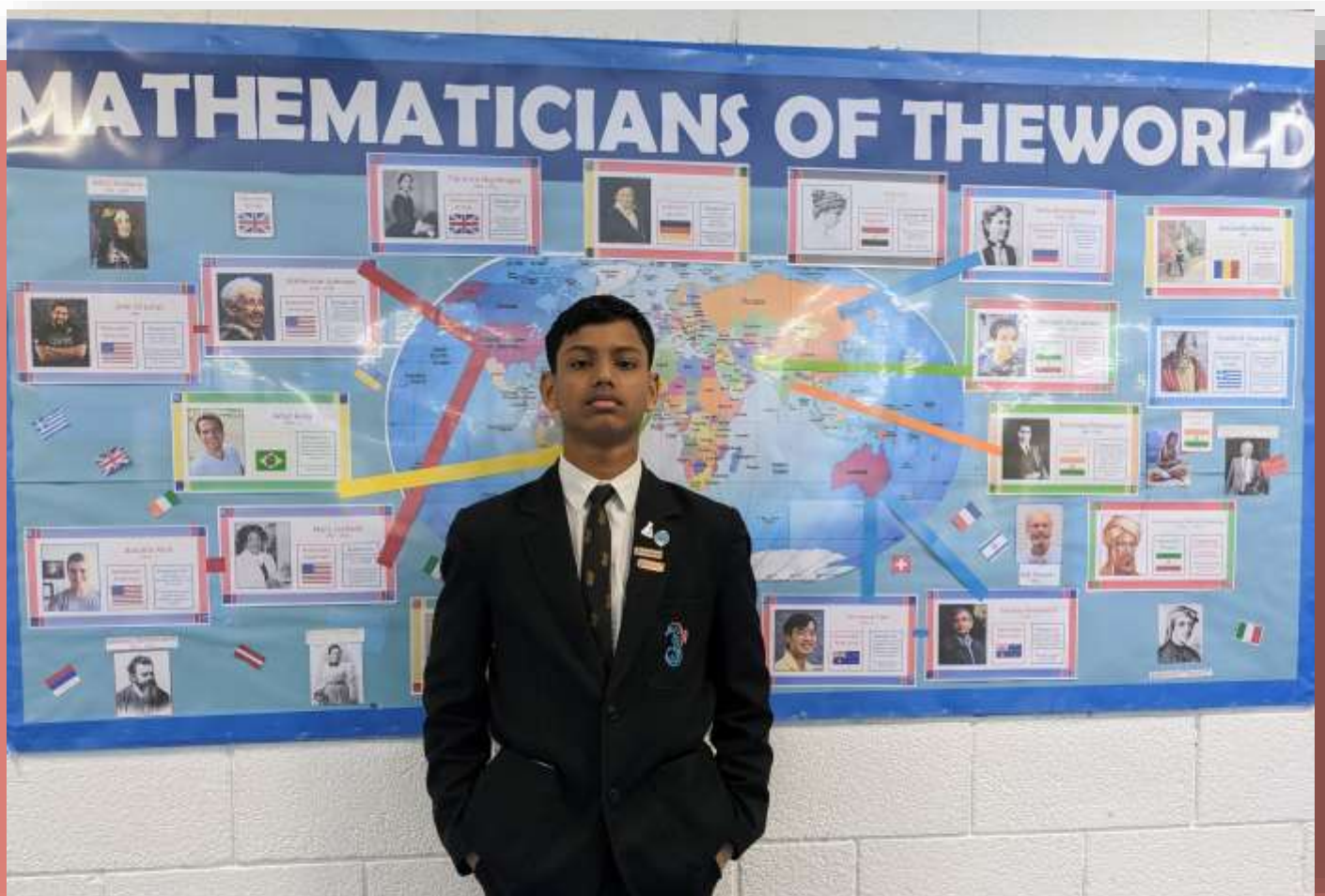
*"I like maths because the teachers are really nice and explain things so you understand and learn. It is an important subject as there are lots of future jobs that will involve using maths."*

*Leon in year 8*

*#TheDurringtonJourney*



# Curriculum spotlight



## Year 9

Year 9 topics for this half term include:

**Pythagoras** - understanding, find missing side, application

**Indices & Standard Form** - index rules SF conversion to and from ordinary calculating

**Estimation** - rounding error intervals, estimation

**Transformations** - rotation, enlargement, describing, combining

*"We are learning about indices and powers and I like how challenging it is." Zina in year 9*

# Mathematics

*"I adore maths because I get to learn new skills every time we do maths and problem solving. In the future I am looking forward to continue further with maths and I am going to work hard. All maths teachers I have seen are kind and good and that makes it wonderful when doing maths." Chloe in year 9*



*"Maths is really important because everything has an element of maths in it. It can get you good jobs and lots of money in the future!" Ava in year 9*



*"I enjoy maths because it makes you think and gives you a challenge while doing something which isn't the same to other lessons. The teachers are very supportive and help you understand the topics well." Erin in year 9*

*"I like maths very much and I want to go on to be a scientist, and because it is important in life in general." Jerome in year 9*



# Curriculum spotlight

## Year 10

Our hardworking year 10s are into the second half term of their maths GCSE course and are currently studying the following:

### *FOUNDATION:*

- *Fractions and percentages - Percentage change, mixed/improper fractions, calculating with fractions, finding percentages of amounts including increase/decrease, reverse fractions/percentages, compound percentages*
- *Equations - Solve linear equations, form equations, function machines*
- *Quadratic expressions - Expanding double brackets, Factorising quadratics into single and double brackets, difference of two squares*

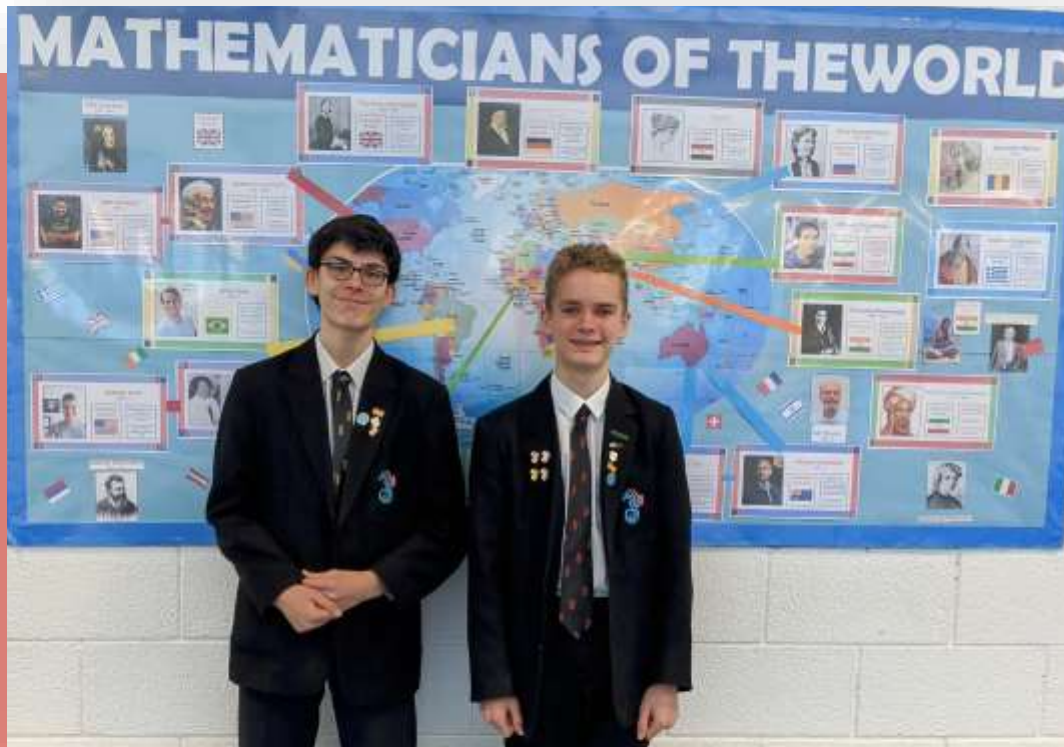
### *HIGHER (as foundation +):*

- *Equations - Solving linear equations including fractional equations, equating coefficients, iteration*
- *Averages - averages and range and choosing the most appropriate one, working backwards to find a mean, understand outliers, comparing data sets, averages from a frequency table, understand different types of data, finding a missing value from a frequency table given the mean, averages from grouped frequency table, quartiles and inter quartile range, stratified sampling*
- *Ratio and Proportion - Sharing amounts, 3 part ratio (combining ratios) express ratio as equations, proportion from formulae, ratio/proportion graphs*

*#GCSEMathematics*



# GCSE Mathematics



*"The complexity of maths is fascinating. The best thing about maths is when you understand that complexity and say to yourself 'not so difficult is it'."*

*Pavel in year 10*

*"I have always enjoyed maths since primary school and I think it will be a very useful skill when I am older."*

*Reuben in year 10*

*"Everyone thinks maths is hard but I think if you learn correctly you can answer questions easily."*

*Thumira in year 10*



*#DHSMathematicians*



# Curriculum spotlight

## Year 11

Our year 11s are now half way through their maths GCSE course and this half term have been deepening their knowledge on the topics below:

### FOUNDATION:

- Sequences - Generating sequences, finding a linear  $n$ th term, testing to see if a term is in a sequence, recognise geometric, fibonacci and linear sequences
- Linear Graphs - Plotting lines, vertical and horizontal lines, parallel lines, finding the equations of lines, finding coordinates of intersections

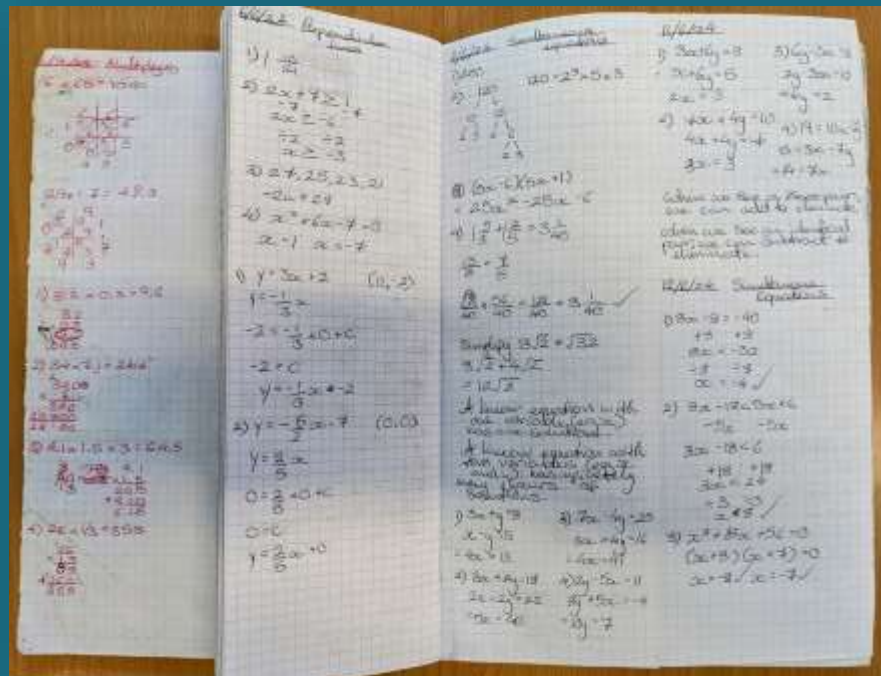
### HIGHER:

- Data - Pie charts, Cumulative Frequency, Box plots, Scatter graphs, Histograms
- Trigonometry- Right angled trig, 3D trig, Trig graphs, Sine rule, Cosine rule
- Functions - Substituting numbers, Substituting algebra, Composite, Inverse

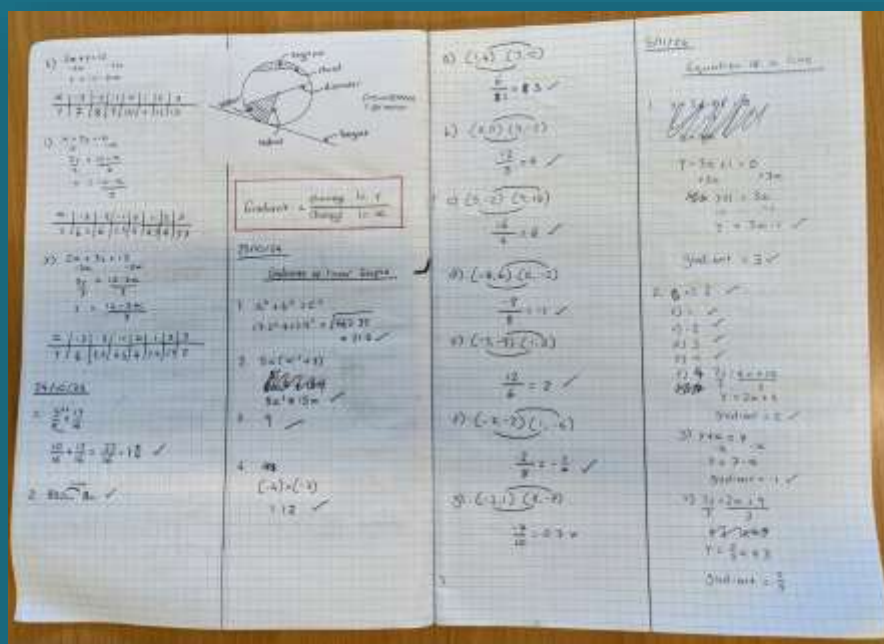


*#Year11*

# GCSE Mathematics



Work by Isla Killick in year 11

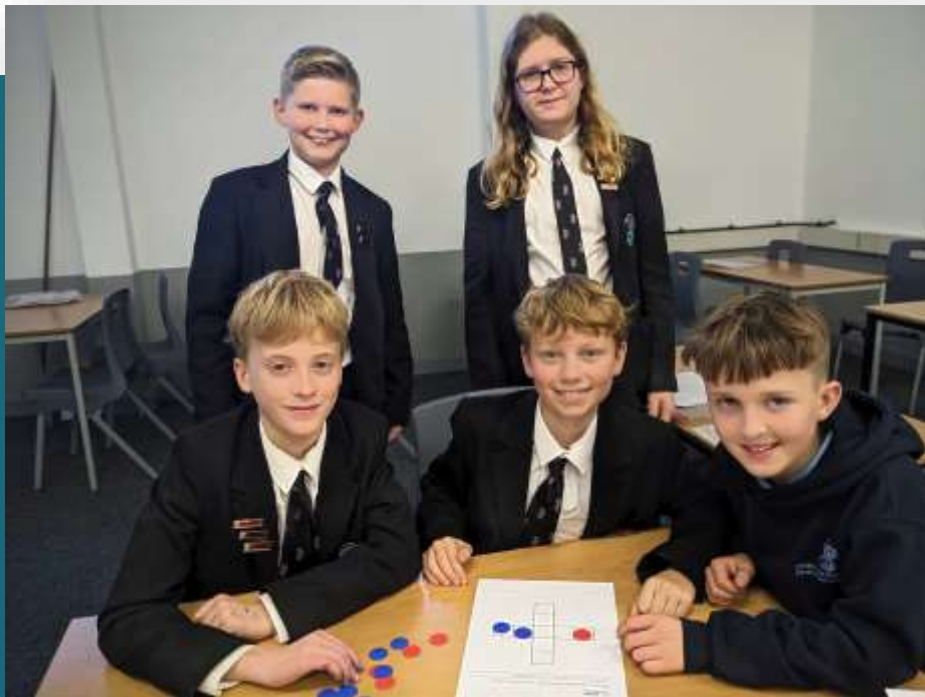


Work by Holly Bond in year 11

#Classof2025



# Maths clubs



The maths department run several clubs across the week including Axiom maths circles after school on a Thursday in G21M with Mr Borrett.

Rubik's Cube club takes place on a Wednesday lunchtime in G26M. This is a really fun club to test your problem solving skills and all years are welcome to come along.



Chess club also takes place on a Wednesday lunchtime with Mr Borrett and Mr Venness in G21M and everyone is welcome to come along and play, from beginners to advanced!

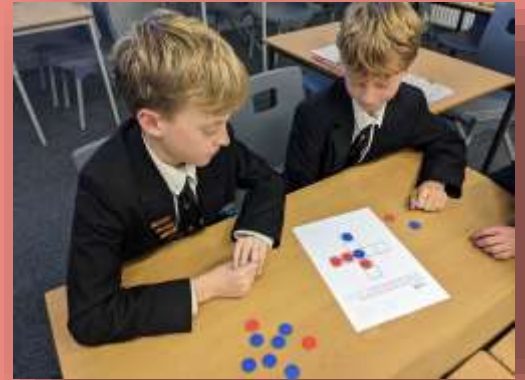
*"I enjoy the games we do in Axiom club and it's great for improving your maths skills." Isaiah in year 7*



# Maths Ambassadors

*"I like Axiom maths circle because it is very fun and helpful." Josh in year 7*

*"These Axiom maths circle sessions are really fun because you get to work with other sorts of mathematicians that are really kind and nice."  
Sammy in year 7*



*"I really like Axiom maths circle club because it just gives you a chance to learn more and sometimes you get challenges that really make you think."  
Aliya in year 7*

## Mathematics Ambassadors



Our brilliant Mathematics Ambassadors: Louie Choate, Leon Cramp, Izzy Panipucci, Ikeh Favour, Favour Maison Fok, Favour Ogboja, Jack Angell, Harrison Carter, Grace Mabiza, Ethan Hegarty, Jerome Mathew, Artem Maksymuk, Chloe Wenyeve, Pavel Stamov, Thumira Ranaweera and Reuben Bowdery.

*"I like to come to Axiom maths club because of the games we do and the new people I have met." Jenson in year 7*



# Celebrating top achievers



## **Our year 10 top achievers and most improved**

Dawud Ahmad, Hazel Fraser, Leon Barber, Freya Derbyshire, Shay Reeve, Reuben Bowdery, Maya Isaac, Thomas Moran, Ashlyn Gilmore, Rhys Evans, Lucia Bean, Mei Akiba Nathanson, Kristian Byfield, Callum Jillett, Isaac Foggett, Willow Tandy, Rachel Marshall, Lydia Lawal, Nathan Eldridge, Nafisa Rahman, Riley Knight, Jess Mayo, Tom Weager, Ashton Hegde, Ollie Samson, Ben McKay, Pavel Stamov, Dylan Beardsley, William Hewett, Kaleb Wyatt, Amara Bulut, Leon Browning, Mercy Ogboja, Immi Duggan-Rees, Ashton Hegde, Riley Knight, Nazmine Begum, Bobby Beck, Lexi Durling, Amy-Louise Rooke, Summer Langley, Maddie Langdell, Ryan Chidemo, Amy Harrocks, Willow Tandy, Dexter Lodge, Tallulah Hedges-Abbott, Esme Harris, Seline Searle, Briar Goldring, Ben McKay, Carys Ware, Leah Sutherland, Ellis Walsh, Lucia Bean, Oliver O'Rourke, Yacine Rebouh, Poppie Thomas, Sofia Whittle, Reuben Harrison, Ollie Samson, Rubie Fagg, Lily Argyle, Reggie Drew, Dottie Jacobs.

*Going beyond our best*

# and most improved



## **Our year 8 top achievers and most improved**

Jamie Ward, Olivia Kelly, Finn Lagdon, Ben Wain, Poppy Burford, Paul Ashmore, Grace Packer, Emily Lemon, Eric Regan, Harry Stanford, Effie Dean, Eponine Larks, Ava Duarte, Daniel Ainsworth, Sophie Hopkins, Alexie Charles, Isla Leadbeatter, Elijah Bean, Jackson Dumbrill, Cash Jones, Jack Angell, Arthur Stamp, Isla Bowdery, Shirin Solimani, Jessica Stavely, Thomas Buckland, Chris Cansdale, Hollie MacDonald, George Smith, Theo Mugridge.

Congratulations to each and everyone of you, a fantastic achievement, your names are now displayed on our 'Going beyond our best' board for all to see. Well done to you all.

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride





# Curriculum spotlight



## Year 7

Year 7s started their year exploring what the subject means and looked at advances in technology (new products to market) and developed their analysis skills. The students have also widened their knowledge and understanding of material categories and are now able to identify and give examples for each.

The year 7s can correctly articulate the health and safety rules and routines during practical lessons in the workshop, in addition to the names of the tools/machines and processes when working with Acrylic.

They went on to select from, and use, specialist tools, techniques, processes, equipment and machinery precisely and independently to create their Acrylic keyring designs.

Students will also have the opportunity to create a magnet using 2D design and the laser cutter. Their final products will be evaluated during the manufacturing stage with consistent use of technical language through a 'Manufacturing Diary'.

*Design & Technology @ DHS*



# Design & Technology



*"I enjoy getting involved in the drawing and designing, and also learning the different processes along the way."*

*Mila in year 7*

*"I like how you can design and make your own ideas, and I enjoy the practical side of DT."*

*Harry in year 7*

*"I am enjoying making our keyrings, choosing our designs and learning how the laser cutter machine works."*

*Maha in year 7*

*"I really like making things and designing and creating your own products."*

*Lucas in year 7*

*#TheDurringtonJourney*



# Curriculum spotlight

## Year 8

Year 8s revisited material types and properties with a focus on Polymers and Timbers. They have also developed their knowledge of the functions of packaging.



During this rotation the year 8s also develop their drawing skills and generate a creative design of a mirror or photo frame, drawn in 3D accurately. Their designs are annotated fully using tier 3 vocabulary with the use of opinions.



Students go on to select from and use specialist tools, techniques, processes, equipment and machinery precisely and independently. They will evaluate their product at each manufacturing stage using consistent technical language.

*"The best thing about DT is being able to create and produce your own individual art." Poppy in year 8*

# Design & Technology



*"I like DT as you get to find out how things are made, when you buy things in shops you don't think about the processes but in DT you experience it."*

*Eric in year 8*

*"DT is great as you get to use tools and learn how to use them safely and it's nice to be able to have this facility where you can make your own things."*

*Oscar in year 8*

*"I like DT as you get to build things and use the machines, it doesn't matter if you make a mistake and I like experimenting."*

*Maya in year 8*

*"DT is different from other lessons and I like the practical side and making things."*

*Daniel in year 8*



*"I enjoy DT as you get to be independent and produce your own ideas."*

*Kyra in year 8*



# Curriculum spotlight

## Year 9

During the year 9 rotation students will develop their technical knowledge by looking at material properties and modelling materials. They will learn about the design process including the types of research, designing and prototyping. Maths content is introduced through scale, proportions, measuring/units.

*"DT is really good and not many schools have this opportunity to learn with such great facilities."*

*Toby in year 9*

Students will develop their drawing skills and generate a range of creative designs, drawn in 3D accurately. Designs are annotated fully using tier 3 vocabulary with the use of their own and peers opinions.

*"The work is fun and it's a great experience to learn something new, I will consider choosing DT as one of my option choices."* Yuan in year 9



#Year9



# Design & Technology



*"I have really enjoyed learning more about design and our teacher is so kind and helpful." Nomsa in year 9*

Their first project is a pet toy design that explores the use of prototyping with modelling clay with references to jobs such as toy design, product design and automotive design.



*"I like how creative you can be and make literally whatever you want, the laser cutter is cool and you can print really specific designs." Harrison in year 9*

Their second project requires the students to work in pairs as architects/interior designers to convert shipping containers into housing that suits a specific design brief and specification set by clients. They will select from and use specialist tools, techniques, processes, equipment and machinery precisely and independently evidenced with photographs in their workbooks.



*"I like DT and I have enjoyed making our model houses and creating our own designs and I am thinking of choosing DT as one of my GCSE options next year." Leo in year 9*

*#DHSDesigners*



# Curriculum spotlight



## Year 10

During the Autumn term our year 10s have begun their GCSE course looking at product evolution, production lines and the Industrial Revolution. They have deepened their knowledge and user skills of CAD, CAT and CAM, along with their drawing and modelling skills and product analysis.

Students have also studied the importance of intellectual property, looked at different types of research, and the use of crowd funding.

*#GCSE*

# GCSE Design & Technology

*"This subject is really interesting and at the moment we are learning how to design using CAD, Computer Aided Design, to build on what we have already learnt from physically making our own model chairs." Eddie in year 10*



*"I like how it is hands on, you learn digital and practical skills and I am enjoying the lessons" Josie in year 10*



*"I enjoy the planning, designing and making of our models, also looking at products on the market and the designs that have been used." Armaan in year 10*

*"I want to work in Formula One in the future as I have a real interest in cars and racing, helping to design future racing cars is what I want to do." Eleanor in year 10*



*"I like everything about DT, the designing, creating, using the CAD software." Aston in year 10*

## #Year10





# Curriculum spotlight

## Year 11

Our year 11s are now half way through their GCSE course and during the Autumn term they have been busy investigating contexts, primary and secondary research, product analysis and writing up their brief and specification.

To generate their design ideas the students have looked in depth at smart materials, composite materials, textiles and sustainability including energy sources and life cycle.



# #Classof2025



# GCSE Design & Technology

*"Currently I am working on the theme of 'Eating out' and I am designing tables for restaurants that can be extended when required, include photo holders for the dinners, and are ergonomic in shape to make it easier for the waiting staff to move around."*

*"DT is fun, interesting and creative as you get to be yourself, do the designs you want to do. I plan on continuing DT at college next year with the possibility of a future career in design."*

*"I like the hands on practical side of DT, and that you are free to think about your own designs and work independently. I have also enjoyed learning about the manufacturing processes and different materials."*

*DT gives you a creative outlet, the coursework is fun and I really enjoy the designing and practical element. I plan to go on to study 3D product design and engineering in the future."*



#Pride



# Curriculum spotlight

## Design & Technology Trips

During the Spring term year 10 Design & Technology students will have the opportunity to visit the Mini plant in Oxford.

This is where all the parts come together from across the different plants and are assembled to produce the iconic Mini. The

students will get to see this production in action and hear about the technology in use as the plant produces 800 Mini's each day!



## Design & Technology student products

At the end of their GCSE course we are proud to put on display the students final pieces which they have designed and made as part of their overall examination.



*#DHSCreativity*

# Design & Technology

## Design & Technology Ambassadors



Our fabulous Design & Technology Ambassadors: Josie Upperton, Tyler Green, Henry Hall, Adam Cooper, Rebecca Hartry, Wilfred Preston-Cook, Sophie Campton, Kristian Byfield, Oscar Parsons, Chris Cansdale, Izzy Panipucci, Caden Evans, Ben Packham, Poppy Jackson, Harrison Martin and Louie Couper.

*#StudentAmbassadors*





# DHS Winter Lecture Series

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As part of our ongoing work to ensure our students have access to the best extra-curricular and academic enrichment programmes possible, we are delighted to announce the “Durrington Winter Lecture Series” that will be taking place this season in our brand new state-of-the-art theatre.

The Winter Lectures will give our students and staff the opportunity to attend a series of talks led by world leading academics in a range of subjects which are linked yet go beyond their normal school curriculum.

## Who is invited?

The lecture series is open to all students in year 9 – 11. It is expected that students currently part of the ‘Oxford Scholars Academies’ in year 9 and 10, and the Year 11 ‘Platinum Academy’ will attend as many of the lectures as possible.

Curriculum leaders and teachers will also be identifying students within their GCSE groups who may benefit from attending talks closely linked to those subjects.

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*#DHSWinterLectures*



# 2024 - 2025

**Title: A Lifetime (and some) of Cosmological Discoveries - The story of Einstein, Hubble, Planck and Euclid**

**Lecturer: Alex Maraio**

**Date: 12th December 3:30pm - 4:30pm**

Kick starting our winter lecture series we are delighted to welcome back former DHS student Alex Maraio to Durrington to discuss the fundamental physics of our universe. Described by Professor Kathy Romer, University of Sussex professor and international recognised astrophysicist, as “one of the best and most intelligent she has mentored”, Alex has been completing his PhD at the Institute of Astronomy, University of Edinburgh and will be talking to us about how our understanding of the Universe has been completely transformed over the past century, as we have progressed from studying just the solar system to studying distant galaxies, and the origin and eventual fate of our universe.



*Going beyond our best*



# DHS Winter Lecture Series

**Title:** The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, empires and their afterlives

**Lecturer:** Professor Alan Lester

**Date:** 17th December 3:30 – 4:30pm



Professor Alan Lester is a leading researcher and renowned author in the field of historical geography, currently working at the University of Sussex. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, Professor Lester has also held visiting lectureships at Rhodes University and the University of Fort Hare, among many other roles. This talk is perfect for all students in years 9 to 11, but especially for those currently studying GCSE Geography, History or Citizenship, as Professor Lester explores the legacy of the slave trade and its lasting impact on the empires involved.

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**Title:** Building Sustainable Peace

**Lecturer:** Dr Suda Perera

**Date:** 16th January 3:30 – 4:30pm



Dr Suda Perera is a lecturer in International Development (Anthropology) at the University of Sussex and holds a PhD in International Conflict Analysis. Her research focusses on approaches to dealing with violence in conflict-affected states. She has worked extensively as a researcher and advisor in Africa and the Middle East. This talk draws on her experience as a former peace builder in the Democratic Republic of Congo and explores how we can think about peace and rebuild societies after conflict.

# 2024 - 2025

**Title: Session 1 – Electrophysiology: the amazing way your brain controls everything you do!**

**Lecturer: Dr Oliver Steele**

**Date: 5th February 3:30pm - 4:30pm**

**Dr Oliver Steele is an Assistant Professor of Physiology , in the Department of Clinical Neuroscience at the University of Brighton.**



**Session 1 - Our brains are incredibly complex organs that control everything about our daily lives. To do this, our brains generate signals which course throughout our bodies and control almost everything we do – even you reading this! Come and see these signals in real time, learn about the different ways medical professionals might read these signals and maybe even learn how to control someone else's arm in the process. Dr Steele will introduce the concept of electrophysiology with demonstrations, and possibly even (gently) electrocute a teacher or two, all in the name of science!**

**Title: Session 2 – Endocrinology 101: hormones, systems, and self-regulation.**

**Date: 18th March 3:30pm –4:30pm**

**Sessions 2 - Hormones surge throughout our bodies acting as messengers that drive processes all around our bodies. Without these important signals we wouldn't feel fear, wouldn't wake up in the morning and would never go through puberty. Some of these consequences may be considered more disastrous than others ... From superhuman feats of endurance to the man who feels no fear, all the way up to the tallest person alive - Dr Steele will explain how hormones are the true superheroes of our bodies.**





# Chichester Cathedral



We are so proud of all the 43 gifted and talented year 9 art students who attended our annual Art trip to Chichester Cathedral and Pallant House Art gallery this week! Students were a credit to both the school and the art department. They produced excellent sketches and enjoyed soaking up the festive feel of Chichester's winter market. Well done all, a fabulous trip!



*#DHSArt*



# & Pallant House Art trip



*"I loved that we got to know other places and relax and get to know each other." Year 9 student*

*"it was an amazing day, very calming spending time carefully drawing and admiring paintings and architecture." Year 9 student*



*#DHSInspiration*

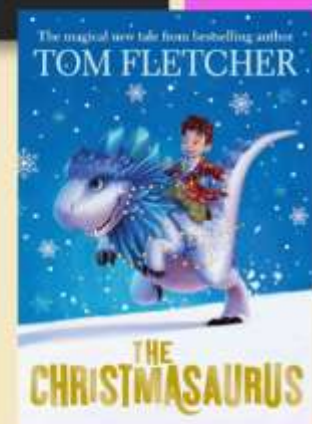


# Learning Resource Area

## Christmas fiction for years 7 & 8

### The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher

The Christmasaurus is a story about a boy named William Trundle, and a dinosaur, the Christmasaurus. It's about how they meet one Christmas Eve and have a magical adventure. It's about friendship and families, sleigh bells and Santa, singing elves and flying reindeer, music and magic. It's about discovering your heart's true desire, and learning that the impossible might just be possible.



### The Nightmare Before Christmas by Megan Shepherd

Jack Skellington has grown tired of leading the usual scares every year. Then he stumbles upon a mysterious tree-shaped door deep in the Hinterlands and falls straight into Christmas Town--an enchanting place like no other, full of sparkling snow, merry elves, and twinkling lights.

Reinvigorated, Jack returns to Halloween Town and recruits the citizens into his new to organize Christmas themselves! But even with aid from his loyal dog Zero and the resourceful rag doll Sally, challenges lurk around every corner. Sally sees a terrible vision of Jack falling into danger, and the mysterious Oogie Boogie hides in the shadows. Will Jack's dream of creating the perfect Christmas come true . . . or is it destined to become an utter nightmare?



#Year7&8

# Recommended reading

## A Boy Called Christmas by Matt Haig

The true story of Father Christmas

A time when an ordinary boy called Nikolas, lived in the middle of Finland, doing nothing with magic except believing in it? A boy who knew very little about the world except the taste of mushroom soup, the feel of a cold north wind, and the stories he was told.

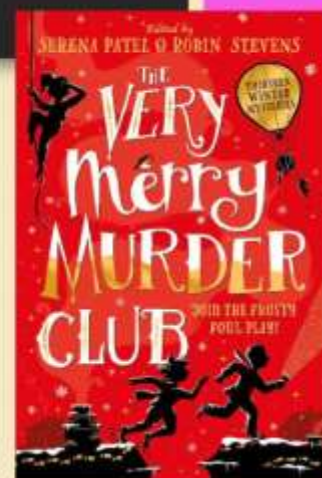
But life was going to change for Nikolas, in ways he could never have imagined.



## The Very Merry Murder Club

Sleuthing through the snow, on a merry mysterious day, in disguise we go, investigating all the way . . .

Join a range of authors such as Benjamin Dean, Elle McNicoll and Sharna Jackson as they lead you on a snow-covered wintery journey of Christmassy crimes, festive foul play and murderously magnificent mysteries!



*#ChristmasFiction*





# Learning Resource Area

## Christmas fiction for year 9

### Stay Another Day by Juno Dawson

When three very different siblings, Fern, Rowan and Willow, go home for a Christmas reunion at their family home in Edinburgh, it's not long before some VERY BIG SECRETS threaten their cosy holiday ...

The McAllister house on Arboretum Road has seen 120 Christmases since its completion. This year, FERN is bringing her gorgeous boyfriend home and she wants everything to be perfect.

But her twin brother ROWAN would rather go on the pull than pull crackers with the family.

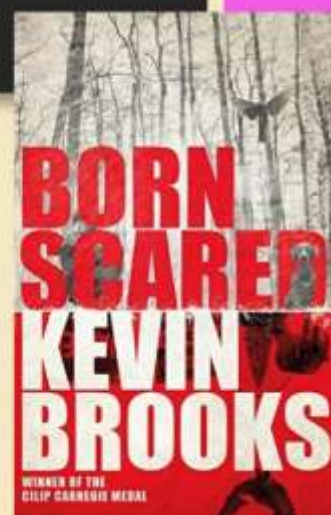
And their younger sister WILLOW is terrified of Christmas Day.

This Christmas, there will be some BIG surprises under the tree.



### Born Scared by Kevin Brooks

Elliot is terrified of almost everything. From the moment he was born, his life has been governed by acute fear. The only thing that keeps his terrors in check are the pills that he takes every day. It's Christmas Eve, there's a snowstorm and Elliot's medication is almost gone. His mum nips out to collect his prescription. She'll only be 10 minutes - but when she doesn't come back, Elliot must face his fears and try to find her. She should only be 400 metres away. It might as well be 400 miles.



#Year9



# Recommended reading

## Abiola Bella

Her debut YA, LOVE IN WINTER WONDERLAND was an Amazon Number 1 bestseller, The Bookseller One To Watch and was on an Amazon Billboard for Black History Month in Leicester Square.

Abiola's latest book ONLY FOR THE HOLIDAYS was The Bookseller One To Watch, one of Waterstones Best Paperbacks of 2023 and featured in The Guardian Children's & Teens Best New Novels.



## All The Jingle Ladies by Beth Garrod

Molly hates Christmas. And it's not even her fault. Her mum and dad had the biggest ever Christmas single when she was a child, complete with video evidence of Molly in a hideous Christmas costume joyfully singing the mortifying last line that EVERYBODY knows.

Molly has spent her life trying to play it down but then the song is used in the hottest new Christmas film. It's only November and it's already EVERYWHERE. And when Molly meets a cute guy at the premier, how can she stop him from working out who she is?

But Molly isn't the only one hiding her real identity... will her Christmas romance turn out to have a Hollywood ending?



*#ChristmasFiction*



# Christmas Charity Challenge



A very big THANK YOU to everyone who has donated to our annual Christmas Charity stockings and hampers challenge.

As you can see from the photos we have received an incredible amount of children's gifts for our stockings, as well as food and toiletry items for our hampers.

Your kindness and generosity will make a huge difference to those in need within our community.

Our Student Senior Leadership Team will be out and about on Monday delivering the stockings to our local primary schools and we will have more news to share in our final Christmas edition newsletter next week!

*Going beyond our best*



# Kindness in the community



**THANK YOU**  
**From everyone at Durrington High School**

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride





# KAPP nominations

Our system of KAPP rewards and recognition ensures we are able to award students for going beyond their best in a variety of ways.

How can you nominate your child?

It's very simple. Just let us know if your son/daughter has done/achieved something amazing and you think it might be worth a Kindness or Pride badge. We have tried to make things as simple as possible. The only thing you need to do is complete the form below, telling us about your child's accomplishments.

[KAPP rewards recognition form](#)

Aspiration and Perseverance badges will be rewarded by the school, through teaching staff and house teams.

*#KAPPAwards*



# Durrington High Values

## Durrington High School



### Kindness

Giving to and caring for others.

### Aspiration

Aim high, dream big and believe you can get there.

### Perseverance

Digging deep and never giving up.

### Pride

Being proud of who you are, what you achieve and the success of others.

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

*#DurringtonValues*



# Inspiring Future Teachers

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRAINING TO TEACH IN YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS?

Come along to our GET INTO TEACHING –  
INFORMATION COFFEE MORNING and find out  
how you could embark on a career with  
excellent progression opportunities where no  
two days are the same.



**Thursday 16th January 2025/ 8:30am – 9:30am**  
**Durrington High School, The Boulevard, Worthing, BN13 1JX**

REGISTER HERE



*Going beyond our best*

# Get into teaching event

**Get into Teaching –Information Coffee Morning on 16th January 2025  
at 8.30am to 9.30am**

**Venue: Durrington High School**

Find out about Teacher Training with Inspiring Future Teachers - South Downs Teacher Training and what a career in teaching has to offer.

This event is for anyone interested in training to teach in either the primary or secondary sector - start date September 2025.

This Get into Teaching event will include a presentation about our Postgraduate School Based Teacher Training programmes as well as the chance to ask experts about your teacher training options and what it's like to teach. You will also receive one-to-one advice on the application process, the training program, and finances.

Please complete the form in full. Any queries should be directed to [info@southdownsscitt.co.uk](mailto:info@southdownsscitt.co.uk)

Express your interest in attending here: [Get into teaching event](#)

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride





## Lunchtime Clubs November 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	LGBTQ+	All Years	Sawyer	G31E
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
Tuesday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Debate Club	All Years	Mrs Leney	S2
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
Wednesday	Rubix Cube Club	All Years	Miss Gover	G26M
	Chess Club	All Years	Mr Borrett & Mr Venness	G21M
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Thursday	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Friday	Fashion/Textiles	9	Mr Bloomer	FO3T
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	LGBTQ+	All years	Sawyer	G31E
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro

## After-School Sports Clubs Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> Half-Term 2024

Day	Club	Staff
Monday	Yr 7 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr De Gruchy
Tuesday	KS3 Girls football club	Miss Johnson
	Yr 8 Basketball Training	Mr Burnett
	Yr 9 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Brombley
	KS4 Boys Basketball Training	Mr Pickford
	U14 Girls Football Fixtures	Mrs Fuller & Mrs Wallis-Taylor
Wednesday	Yr 7 Girls Basketball Fixtures	Miss Johnson
	Yr 9 Boys Basketball Training	Mr Brombley
	Netball Training	Miss Cann
	Yr 10 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Poole
Thursday	KS3 Girls Basketball Club	Miss Johnson
	Yr 8 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Burnett & Mr Mott
	Yr 7 Boys Basketball Training	Mr De Gruchy
	Yr 9 Netball Fixtures	Miss Cann
	Yr 11 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Mr Pickford
Friday	Badminton Club	Mr Brombley & Mr De Gruchy

#GetInvolved





## After-School Clubs November 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Writing Club	All Years	Miss Foster & Mr Gaffney	G32E
	Y7 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y7	Mr De Gruchy	PE Office
Tuesday	Y9 Gifted and Talented Art (Oct Half Term)	Y9	Mrs Gray, Mr Bloomer, Miss Kingwell & Miss Grimes.	F04T
	Choir	All Years	Mrs Maughan	F20C
	MFL Film Club	All Years	Mr Gilbert	U06L
	Code Club	Y9	Mr Scott	F24T
	KS4 Spanish Speaking Club	Y10-11	Mrs Baquedano	U01L
	Arabic Club	All Years	Mrs Farah	U02L
	Y8 & Y9 French Club	Y8-9	Mrs Cooper	U03L
	Y8 & Y9 Spanish Club	Y8-9	Miss Smith	U05L
	KS3 Girls football club	Y7-9	Miss Johnson	Pavilion
	Y8 Boys Basketball Training	Y8	Mr Burnett	Sports Hall
	Yr 9 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y9	Mr Brombley	PE Office
	KS4 Boys Basketball Training	Y10-Y11	Mr Pickford	Sports Hall
	U14 Girls Football Fixtures	Y7-Y9	Mrs Fuller & Mrs Wallis-Taylor	PE Office
Wednesday	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Portfolio Enrichment	Y10-Y11	All Art Staff	All Art Rooms
	Drama Club	All Years	Miss Cross	Performing Arts Theatre
	Minecraft Club	Y7	Mrs Carter	F27T
	Y7 Science Club	Y7	Miss Gurgun & Miss Lee	G15S
	E-Sports	All Years	Mr Scott	F24T
	Y7 Girls Basketball Fixtures	Y7	Miss Johnson	PE Office
	Netball Training	All Years	Miss Cann	PE Office
	Y9 Boys Basketball training	Y9	Mr Brombley	Sports Hall
	Yr 10 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y10	Mr Poole	PE Office
Thursday	Lego Spike	Y8	Mrs Taylor	F26T
	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Portfolio Enrichment	Y10-Y11	All Art Staff	All Art Rooms
	Whole School Musical	All Years	Mrs Isham	Performing Arts Theatre
	KS3 Girls Basketball Club	Y7-Y9	Miss Johnson	Sports Hall
	Y8 Stem Club	Y8	Mrs Laming	G09S
	Yr 8 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y8	Mr Burnett & Mr Mott	PE Office
	Yr 7 Boys Basketball Training	Y7	Mr De Gruchy	Sports Hall
	Yr 9 Netball Fixtures	Y9	Miss Cann	PE Office
Friday	Yr 11 Boys Basketball Fixtures	Y11	Mr Pickford	PE Office
	Dance Live	All years	Mrs Isham	Performing Arts Theatre
	Badminton Club	All years	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Brombley	Sports Hall

#DHSEnrichment



# Term dates 2024/2025

## Autumn Term 2024

**Monday 2 September – Friday 20 December**

### Half Term

• Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

### INSET Days

- Monday 2 September
- Tuesday 3 September
- Friday 22 November

## Spring Term 2025

**Monday 6 January – Friday 4 April**

### Half Term

• Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

### INSET Days:

- Thursday 23 January
- Friday 24 January
- Monday 10 March
- Tuesday 11 March

## Summer term 2025

**Tuesday 22 April – Tuesday 22 July**

### Half Term

• Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May

### INSET Days:

- Friday 27 June

### Bank holidays

- Monday 21 April
- Monday 5 May

*The Durrington Journey*



## Diary Dates

- Carol Service at St Andrews Church - Monday 16th December
- Last day of term - Friday 20th December, **students will be dismissed early at 12.35pm**

## Sign up to our newsletter

- Our newsletter is sent out fortnightly to parents & carers and we aim to cover as much as possible from across the school. If your family and friends would like to receive our fortnightly editions they can sign up here: [Newsletter](#)

## Social media

Don't forget you can follow all the latest news on our social media pages:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)





*Going beyond our best through  
Kindness, Aspiration,  
Perseverance and Pride*



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