

TERM 2  
2023/24



# Frome College Matters



*"Everybody needs a Mr Hampson" - music teacher wins national anti-bullying award*

OFSTED Report

GCSE Presentation Evening

sport news

Anti-Bullying Week

Diabetes Awareness

[www.fromecollege.org](http://www.fromecollege.org)

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# PRINCIPAL'S LETTER



Dear students, parents and carers,

College has enjoyed an excellent second term of the year, with the publication of our successful Ofsted report and many trips and events. We are especially proud of our work on Anti- Bullying week and thank Mr Forrest, Head of Mars House, who organised all College educational events. We are also extremely proud of Mr Hampson, Head of Performing Arts, who was nominated for and won the England Secondary School category of the Anti-Bullying Week 2023 School Staff Award. This award was presented in a ceremony in London and reported in the nationwide press; congratulations to Mr Hampson. As we go forward for the National Gold Award it is important for everyone to remember that this college wide initiative must be employed every day, every week, by both students and staff alike.



Emma Reynolds

We have seen many sporting fixtures take place since September, with particular successes for girls' sport- our Year 9 girls' football team has shown true potential with numerous wins so far against local schools with many more undoubtedly to celebrate in the future. Our Year 9 and 10 netball team is building a strong presence locally as more girls attend weekly club training. Badminton club and our onsite gym are also both very well attended (a reminder that students must sign up in the House offices to secure their place in the gym). Finally, we all enjoyed our celebration of girls' sport last week with over 40 students taking part in competitive sport followed by a presentation of their achievements. Thank you to all parents who attended and to the female sport team who led the event.

Well done to all Year 11 who completed their first round of mocks this term. These rehearsals for the finals in the summer are extremely important- both in terms of revision but also in terms of gaining confidence with the exam papers, building stamina for the longer examinations and knowing the gaps in knowledge which need to be filled. Our Year 11 Parents' Evening is on 11th January, the second week back of term, and an important chance for parents to talk to teachers about how they can support revision at home. Invitations will go out the first week of term for parents to book slots, if families cannot make that date please contact Mr Robson, Year 11 Raising Achievement Leader, about our parents' plus event - [JRobson@fromecollege.org](mailto:JRobson@fromecollege.org).

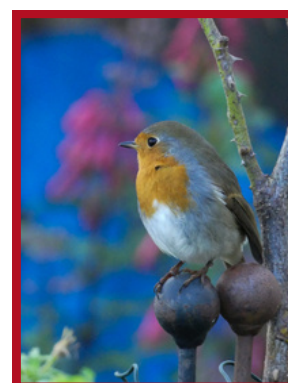
Successes at GCSE were celebrated in our annual GCSE Presentation Evening held in Frome Memorial Theatre in November. Many parents turned out to see their children receive their certificates and subject prizes. We were treated to some wonderful music performances from this year group and an entertaining talk from the Mayor of Frome, Philip Campagna. We look forward to seeing last year's Year 13 who are invited into College on Wednesday 3rd January to receive their certificates and catch up with their Sixth Form teachers.

I am looking forward to another busy and interesting term next year. Meanwhile, I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



Emma Reynolds  
Principal

The winning designs,  
submitted by students  
and chosen by the  
Head, for the school  
Christmas cards





# OFSTED Report 'Good'

From our Principal, Emma Reynolds

I am writing to share our Ofsted report following the inspection held on 4th and 5th October 2023.

Ofsted shine spotlights on key areas nationally and are currently interested in how all schools deliver the curriculum, how students are supported with their personal development and how schools deal with bullying.

Our judgment in all areas continues to be good; we have many positives highlighted in the inspection report: our wide-ranging curriculum, celebration of reading, accurate support for students with SEND, personal development education and careers. Sixth form expectations are high, with students well supported and well prepared for adult life when they leave College.

We are proud that many students spoke to the inspectors about the support received from staff and the many opportunities available to all year groups. Student leadership is clearly a strength and recognised by Ofsted both in terms of the student leadership team but also our anti bullying ambassadors. I am also delighted to announce that our Head of Performing Arts, Mr Hampson, has won the England, Secondary School category of the Anti-Bullying School Staff Awards. Mr Hampson attended the national awards ceremony in Parliament, Westminster.

Finally, we take on board the recommendations to work with feeder schools in finer detail to embed an ambitious curriculum for Year 9. We also continue to work towards greater consistency across all students in terms of their attitude and commitment to learning.

Going forward, our Annual Meeting, Parents Evenings, Raising Achievement Evenings, Parents' Plus Evenings and Hub drop-in sessions provide all parents with an opportunity to hear more about how we support and challenge students.

May I thank all colleagues, governors and parents who were involved in the inspection and for your on-going support.

The full OFSTED report is available to read on our website  
[fromecollege.org/ourschool/news](https://fromecollege.org/ourschool/news)



# Anti-Bullying Award



For Anti-Bullying Week 2023, the Anti-Bullying Alliance held their School Staff Awards, where pupils can nominate teachers and school staff who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to prevent and respond to bullying, and to raise awareness of bullying in school. Competition this year was stiff - with over 400 nominations across the UK. School staff were surprised with the award during National Anti-Bullying Week and winning staff in England were announced at a Parliamentary Event by the Minister for Children and Families, David Johnston MP.

We were utterly thrilled to hear that our Head of Performing Arts, Mr Hampson, was awarded the prize for secondary school teachers in England.

Mr Hampson, and one of the pupils who nominated him, Millie, travelled to the Houses of Parliament to receive his award, which was sponsored by Radnor Hills.

We are so proud of Mr Hampson, and of the efforts made by all our staff to put an end to bullying.





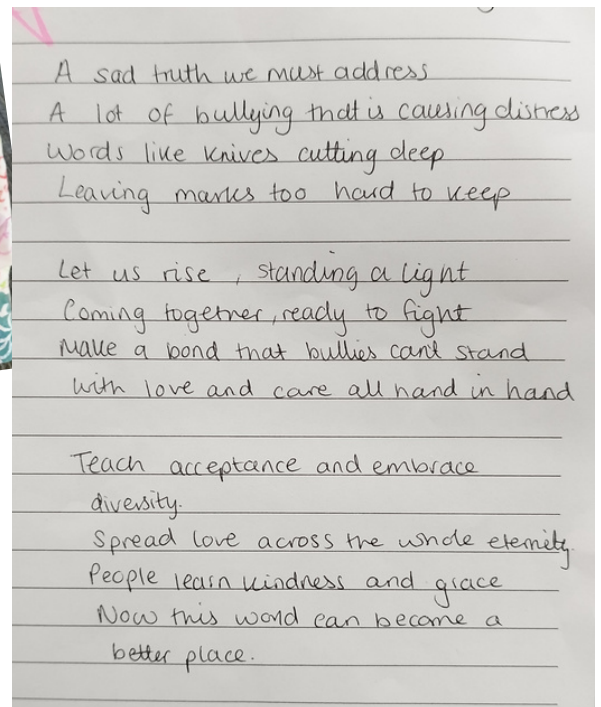
# Anti-Bullying Week 2023

By Mr Forrest

Anti-Bullying Week 2023 was coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, a coalition of organisations and individuals that are united against bullying. The theme was 'Make A Noise About Bullying' and it took place from Monday 13th to Friday 17th November.

During that week we held special assemblies, tackling issues such as 'banter' and 'what is bullying?'. We also organised workshops to help students understand the issues surrounding bullying, as well as anti-bullying ambassador training. A group of students even got the chance to directly challenge the Director of TikTok's Harmful Content Public Policy for Europe on their response to online bullying on their platform! The week culminated in a lunch and live music event.

The aim of the week was to empower students to speak out against bullying, when they hear it or when they experience it. The Anti-Bullying Alliance have produced helpful resources for parents, so that the message that it's not ok to be unkind can be reinforced at home. Working together is the only way to stamp out bullying. You can find all these resources on our website or by clicking [here](#)



Students wrote poetry, produced artwork and performed songs all on the theme of 'speak out against bullying'.

# Diabetes Awareness Talk

By Mrs Dredge

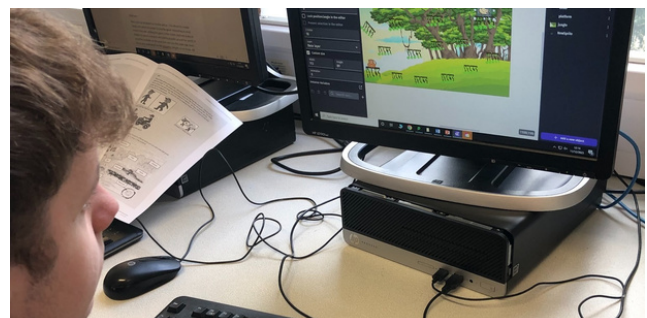


Sixth form students Mackenzie, Oliva and Grace, along with our Sixth Form Co-ordinator, Mrs Dredge, recently delivered a workshop to Trinity First School on diabetes. As people with diabetes, they were able to answer all the questions the children had, and spread awareness of the condition.

# Great job year 11 Creative iMedia!

By Dr Ruggieo

Our amazing year 11 Creative iMedia students are on the final stretch of their game design unit. They are working hard to meet a client brief of a 2D arcade game that is designed for entertainment. Students have had to write a game design document, create all of their assets and learn to program a game on gDevelop. Game ideas range from a monkey platformer to a bank robbery game and a boxing game . We hope to see some of these amazing designers in our sixth form game and app design class next year.





# GCSE Presentation Evening



Our Heads of House Team with Frome Mayor, Philip Campagna.

Venus House, Dr. Smith  
Mars House, Mr Forrest  
Saturn House, Mrs March  
Neptune House, Mr Lavington  
Jupiter House, Mr Dickens

We had the absolute pleasure of hosting our amazing Class of 2023 leavers at the GCSE Presentation and Awards Evening. Held at the Memorial Theatre, it was a night filled with joy as we celebrated their hard work and dedication throughout their exams.

We were honoured to have the Mayor of Frome, Philip Campagna, as our guest speaker. His speech was both inspiring and interactive, keeping the audience engaged and entertained throughout.

To our remarkable Class of 2023, we want to extend our heartfelt congratulations once again! We believe in your potential and we're confident that you'll achieve great success in all your future endeavors.



Music was provided by student trio  
Bella, Millie and Lainey



CLASS  
OF  
2023

# GCSE Presentation Evening - Subject Award Winners



Congratulations to all our subject award winners. Keep up the good work!





# Playwriting Workshop

from Mrs Plomer



We were thrilled to host [Papatango Theatre Company](#) this term. This Olivier Award winning theatre company actively champion the next generation of brilliant playwrights, especially those who might otherwise lack pathways into theatre.

The company sent a professional playwright in to work with students on how to write monologues. The finished writings were edited by the team at Papatango Theatre Company, and finished scripts were published into our own Frome College Book of Plays!

In addition to becoming 'published playwrights', the students were also treated to videos of professional actors performing their plays! It was a truly wonderful experience for the students, and we are grateful to Papatango Theatre Company for their time, work and for sharing their expertise with our young people.



# P.E. and Sports

#teamfromecollege

from Miss Wilson, Mrs Sypko, Mr Jones,  
Mr Dickens and Mrs Gee



## MIXED YEARS FOOTBALL

On Wednesday 6th December we held the combined years inter-house football competition. It was a close game with a final score of 5-3. In first place was Neptune and in second place Mars. A big well done to the pupils who attended and supported their Houses and to Maddy R in post-16 for refereeing. Inter-House is for all abilities and is a great way of supporting and representing your house and allowing them to field a full team and gain points for the Sports Cup. Keep an eye out for the next competition and sign up with tutors near the end of next term.



## RUGBY

Meanwhile, the boys rugby teams have been bringing home the wins. Year 11s played what was a tough and close contest, but came out on top, to beat Kings of Wessex 12-13.

Year 9s boys rugby team travelled to Brymore for the Somerset Cup league and won 7-21. A great performance by the team.





## NETBALL

The post 16 team took on Kingdown and the Yr9s had a round robin tournament against Kingdown and John of Gaunt. The newly formed post 16 team had a great game with some players dusting off their netball bib for the first time in 2 years. The team worked together really well and put in some great performances. Player of the match went to Maisie B. Some excellent defending from Ruby and Maddie making it difficult for the opposition to move the ball around to shoot. Some good play by the post 16 but they lost 19-6.

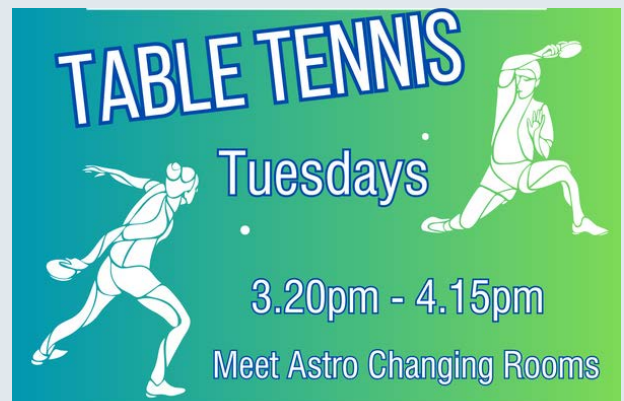
The year 9s had several games and played well, not giving up throughout the evening. Some excellent performances from Natalie K, Alice G and Bella W

Game 1 JOG B 2 -2 Frome POM- Natalie

Game 2 JOG A 5-0 Frome POM- Alice

Game 3 KD B 1-1 Frome POM- Natalie

Game 4 KD A 6-0 Frome POM - Bella







### EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS

We held an incredible afternoon, dedicated to celebrating and empowering women in sports! Over 40 of our amazing girls, who regularly play sports after school, joined us for a fun-filled session where we showcased various sports activities including exciting races and thrilling ball games. Leading the way were six talented Year 13 students who are currently enrolled in the inspiring 'Your Time' leadership course. Eva H, Jenna W, Ellie C, and their fellow leaders, are true champions when it comes to promoting female leadership and inspiring role models for younger athletes! We are incredibly proud of our fierce and passionate leaders who encouraged everyone to push their limits and embrace the joys of being active. They truly exemplify the power and strength of women in sport!







@fromecollegelibrary

# The Library

The second term has been a BUSY one for the library.

In October, we were invited to Downside School to meet the Young Adult author Nikesh Shulka. Nikesh is a broadcaster, author and journalist who has worked for the BBC and Marvel. Nikesh spoke to the students about the importance of standing up for what you believe in. He told of how his uncle brought the first case of racial discrimination against an estate agency in the UK who refused to sell him a house - this was a fundamental case in developing the Racial Discrimination Act of 1975.



We celebrated Halloween by welcoming the wonderful Miss Morris who treated us to ghost stories in the library. Being read to is a lovely way to improve students appreciation of language, develop their emotional intelligence and understanding and is a lovely connection that we lose as we grow up. Miss Morris treated us to 'Stairway to Heaven' by Roald Dahl which has a sinister twist at the end.



In November we were visited by the author David Gatward. David is the bestselling author of the Harry Grimm Detective novels as well as some young adult horror (we have this on the shelf in our library). He also writes the popular series Padre, alongside Andy McNabb. David spoke to us about his changing tastes in reading throughout his life and the multiple jobs he has done including salmon fishing, teaching, Ofsted inspecting and publishing. He discussed his writing career with the students and how it has grown dramatically over the last 3 years.



After the session, some lucky students were chosen to attend a creative writing workshop where they all worked on the process of developing characters using story cubes to develop the plot. Sadie from year 9 said 'It helped to open our minds and bring out our creative side. I really enjoyed it'. The 16th book of the Harry Grimm Dark Harvest series was released on the 30th of November available in paperback and on Kindle.

The library reached out to the local community recently in search of Community Reading Ambassadors. These are people of all ages and backgrounds and work with words in their many different careers. We have so far enjoyed Q&A sessions with an author, a copy writer for a major tech firm, a tour guide, and a tender manager for Nutricia. The idea behind community reading ambassadors is that they demonstrate the skills learnt in school in the outside world in all types of ways. Reading goes way beyond the classroom and our Community Reading Ambassadors are our local literacy advocates. If you would like to volunteer your services, please email [Nowsley@fromecollege.org](mailto:Nowsley@fromecollege.org)

# “Here We Come A Carolling...”

Our Music Department have been very busy this end of term with two extremely popular events: the Somerset Music Wells Cathedral Concert and our annual Christmas concert. The preparation for these events is no small feat. Hours of practice, rehearsals, and fine-tuning go in to perfecting the outstanding performances we enjoy.

The Somerset Music Wells Cathedral Concert is undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year. Held in the magnificent Wells Cathedral, it is an awe-inspiring experience for both performers and audience members. The students' voices blended harmoniously, filling the grand space with a sense of spirituality and wonder. Each note sung reverberated through the ancient walls, creating a truly transcendent atmosphere.

The annual Christmas concert was a chance to enjoy the full spectrum of musical talent that our students possess. From enchanting solo performances to breathtaking ensembles, from piano to harp, the concert showcased the diversity of musical genres and instruments mastered by our students.

The impact of these events extends far beyond the stage. Our students develop crucial skills such as confidence, discipline, and creativity that will serve them well in all aspects of their lives. Whether they pursue a career in music or not, the experiences gained through their involvement in the choir and music department will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression.

We are immensely proud of the exceptional musicality that resides within our school, and we look forward to the future endeavors of our talented performers.



“Thank you so much for inviting me to what was a wonderful Christmas Concert. I so enjoyed and appreciated all the talent demonstrated and I know the work, in so many areas, which goes into such events. If only all people could appreciate the talent of the young people, the joy given by their performances and the dedication of the teachers and staff. Congratulations to each and every one.”

Pam Brewster, Inner Wheel





## at Frome Community College

Place2Talk	One-to-One Counselling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informal talking session</li> <li>• Up to 30 minutes</li> <li>• Registration, breaktime or lunchtime</li> <li>• Up to 6 sessions available</li> <li>• Parental consent not needed</li> <li>• Come on your own or bring up to 2 friends</li> <li>• To make an appointment, speak to a member of staff or email <a href="mailto:elloyd@fromcollege.org">elloyd@fromcollege.org</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal counselling sessions</li> <li>• Once a week, for 50 minutes, during lesson time</li> <li>• Up to 10 sessions available</li> <li>• Parent consent needed for Year 9-11</li> <li>• Referrals made through Mrs White (SEMH Manager)</li> </ul>

Colour



Play



Create

Rest




Talk

Place2Be services are confidential unless you are at risk of harm to yourself, someone else is at risk of harm, or you give permission for information to be shared

Your Place2Be Counsellor and Mental Health Practitioner is:  
Ellen Lloyd [elloyd@fromecollge.org](mailto:elloyd@fromecollge.org)  
Available Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Inclusion Base



# Community News



**Frome COLLEGE**


Fundraising in aid of **why... why... why... Cancer Counselling**

### Fundraising for WHY

We Hear You (WHY) is a specialist cancer counselling charity operating across Somerset, BANES and Wiltshire.

WHY has offered free specialist counselling to Frome College students since 2008, improving the lives of hundreds of young people going through tough times. Visit the link below or scan the QR code to support WHY

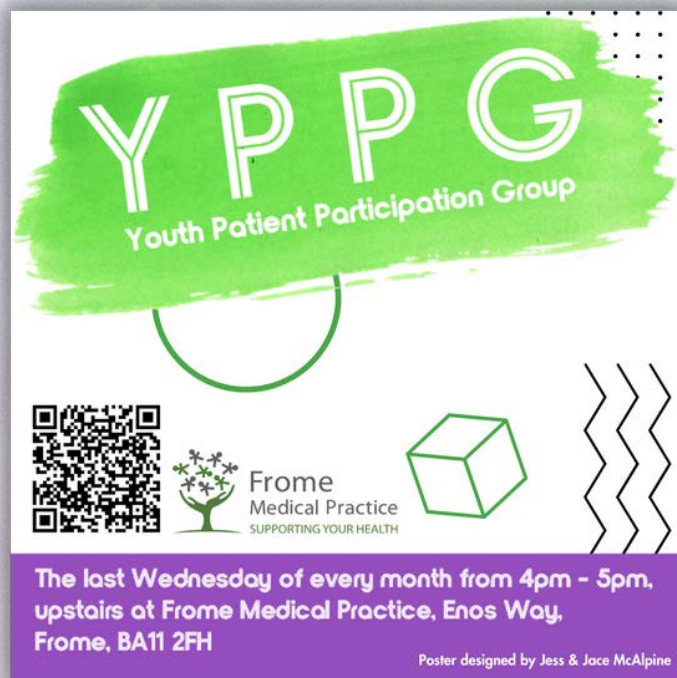
[bit.ly/frome-college-why](https://bit.ly/frome-college-why)







The festive season is usually associated with joy, happiness and celebration, but for some it may not always be a positive time. The shorter days, colder temperatures and the pressures associated with this time of year can negatively impact our wellbeing, and it can be easy to forget to look after ourselves. Here are some toolkits for coping.

[Tips for coping with seasonal affective disorder](#) - YoungMinds A blog from a young person, sharing their experiences with seasonal affective disorder and what has helped them.

[What to do if you find Christmas difficult](#)



**YPPG**  
Youth Patient Participation Group



The last Wednesday of every month from 4pm - 5pm, upstairs at Frome Medical Practice, Enos Way, Frome, BA11 2FH

Poster designed by Jess & Jace McAlpine

Somerset  
**Mindline**  
Somerset's 24-hour mental health helpline.

0800 138 1692  
01823 276 892



# Safeguarding Notices

## Attendance

**In the case of absence or late arrival please contact us as soon as possible.**

**Email: FCC.Attendance@fromecollege. org**

**Telephone 01373 469008(Attendance) or 01373 465353(choose option 1).**

**Students are not allowed to leave the campus at any time during the day**, except by prior arrangement (e.g. medical appointment) or if they are feeling unwell and have been seen by a First Aider.

Your child will need to go to Student Services to sign out. When you come to collect your child, please buzz at the gate in the lower car park (to the right of the Merlin Theatre); Reception staff will ask Student Services to send your child to meet you.

If your child arrives back at College later in the day, they will need to sign in at Student Services.

*For all student-related, concerns  
or queries please phone  
01373 469037*

### **New contact details?**

If you change your mobile, home or work phone numbers, email address, home address or emergency contacts, please don't forget to let us know!

Contact the Admin Team:

Email: office@fromecollege.org

Telephone: 01373 465353

Write: Admin, Frome College, Bath Road, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2HQ.

### **Mobile Phone Policy**

***Students may bring personal hand-held devices (e.g. phone/tablet) to school with them, but can only use it at break and lunch. Phones must be switched off and not visible during or between lessons.***

***If students use a device when it is not permitted, it is liable to be confiscated. Students must only access the internet using the College's filtered WiFi. Earphones are not to be visible at any time during the College day.***

***All such items are brought into College at the student's own risk. We cannot be responsible for any loss/damage.***

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Frome College Matters  
Term 2 2023/24

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