TERM 5 & 6 2023/24



# Frome College Matters



Sports Day



From Gallery to Glamour: Students Shine in Art and Fashion Show

**Transition Day for Year 8s** 

BULLSEYE! OUR DARTS LEAGUE MAKES THE NEWS Beyond the Classroom with Trips, DofE and our Cadets

<u>www.fromecollege.org</u>

'Dragons Den' with Frome Rotary

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## **PRINCIPAL'S LETTER**

The academic year of 2023 to 2024 has been a hive of activity with many trips, events and opportunities and successes. Thank you to all parents and members of our wider community who have supported our College over this year with presentations, lectures and interviews.

After GCSE and A Level exams, we said a fond farewell to Year 13 and wished them all good luck with their onward career paths. We look forward to the summer results of Year 11 with the vast majority returning to our 6th form in September. Proms were a particular highlight of the summer term, both Year 11 and 13 events were excellent - thank you to all staff and students who helped with the organisation.



**Emma Reynolds** 

This month we welcomed Year 8 students from both local but also regional schools for a day of taster sessions and team building with tutors and Heads of House. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend our transition evening and meet staff, please note all transition information can be found on the website and any questions can be answered through our office or by emailing transition@fromecollege.org.uk . A reminder that our new year 9 cohort have their first day at College on Thursday 5th September.

As ever our Arts offer has been superb this year, ranging from the creativity of the Textiles fashion show on transition evening to the current show at the local art gallery, The Station. 'Later with..' at the Cheese and Grain was superb and topped off another excellent year for the Music Department staff and students. We look forward to greeting the many students joining College in September to join our post 16 music offer!

Students enthusiastically embraced our first College Darts League which attracted national news interest when the world champion Luke Humphries faced Max, our current champion, for a round at Frome football club. Darts players should continue to practise over the summer break as preparation for the Autumn Darts Challenge.

Sports Day was held in May and showcased a host of athletic talent; particularly the tug of war fuelled team spirit and competition between the Houses. The Sports Leaders' course has returned this year which has been enormously successful and is now on track to attract even more students next year. The Duke of Edinburgh scheme welcomes newcomers every year and we must thank all of our local volunteers for giving their time so generously at evening and weekend camping events. Without this support, we could not run such a successful programme. Similarly, our cadets have had an excellent year with many joining the ranks and some top achievement by individuals.

Finally and importantly, our first year of work by Earth House has been tremendously successful. Ambassadors have presented to the Town Council on an array of matters and have galvanised support from the community which we hope comes to fruition- especially in the area of recycling. Thank you to all who support Earth House.

I wish everyone a happy and restful summer break and shall see those collecting exam results in August.

Emma Reynolds Principal



- A Level Exam Results: Sixth form exam results will be published on Thursday 15th August. Students will
  receive these via Frog and can collect them in person from the Sixth Form Study Room from 10am on
  Thursday 15th August. Please note that if students wish to have these collected by someone on their behalf,
  there must be a letter of authorisation completed and signed in advance by the student. The person collecting
  results on behalf of the students will have to show ID at the time of collection. Please note that we cannot
  post results home.
- GCSE Results: GCSE results day is Thursday 22nd August, students will receive these via Frog and can also collect them in person in College from the Sixth Form Common Room from 10am on the day. Please note that collection of results by a person other than the student means that a written letter of authorisation must have been completed by the student. The person collecting results on behalf of the students will have to show ID at the time of collection. Results cannot be posted home.
- Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th are INSET days. College reception is open on these days
- Thursday 5th September: Year 9 and Year 12 only in College. Students need to be in their tutor rooms by 8.45am
- Friday 6th September: All students in College. Students need to be in their tutor rooms by 8.45am.

### In Loving Memory of Freddie Rumming

Freddie Rumming, a beloved Year 11 student, left us too soon in the autumn of last year. His absence is deeply felt by students and staff alike, a testament to the bright light he brought into our lives.

Freddie was known for his kindness and infectious humour. His ability to make others laugh and feel at ease endeared him to all who knew him. Whether in the classroom or around site, Freddie's presence lifted spirits and brought joy to those around him.



A lifelong Star Wars enthusiast, Freddie's passion for the iconic franchise was well-known and cherished by his peers. In honour of this, we were privileged to have characters from MK Squadron attend a special tree-planting ceremony in his memory.

Freddie had his favourite spots around College, but he particularly enjoyed spending time on ECOS. It was there that his vibrant spirit seemed most at home, surrounded by nature and friends. To commemorate this, we have placed a plaque in his honour, ensuring that future students will know of the special young man who once walked these grounds.

Though Freddie's time with us was far too brief, the impact he made will last a lifetime. His kindness, humour, and zest for life continue to inspire us. As we remember Freddie, let us carry forward his legacy of laughter, friendship, and passion.

May the Force be with you always, Freddie. You are deeply missed and will never be forgotten.

### Escape. Explore. Experience. Frome College Trips.

This academic year, we organised an impressive 90 educational trips, providing students with invaluable opportunities to expand their horizons beyond the classroom. As well as the theatre, museums, fishing, uni fairs, AIM, sporting events and more, these excursions have taken students to diverse destinations across Europe, including Berlin, Geneva, Prague, Spain, Norway, and Rome. School trips offer immense educational value. They bring textbook knowledge to life, fostering a deeper understanding of global perspectives and enhancing personal growth. These experiences not only complement the curriculum but also develop essential life skills such as independence, adaptability, and cultural sensitivity, preparing students for an increasingly interconnected world. All while creating some unforgettable memories.



Glacier walking in Norway



Southampton Uni



Bilbao



Italy



Fishing



#### Earth House: Cultivating Sustainability Across School

with Mrs LePivert

**Earth House Ambassadors work with Frome Town Council.** During Frome's 'Big Green Week', Earth House Ambassadors were invited to Frome Town Council's meeting. Cllr Fiona Barrows, lead FTC councillor for climate and the ecological emergency, introduced some of our Earth House ambassadors. Cllr Barrows has been working with College students in recent months, describing them as 'extraordinary, articulate and with so much to say'. She invited Niamh, Tallis, Jack, Belle, Bella and Esme to address the meeting. Niamh, a year 10 student, spoke of the climate anxiety experienced by her generation – 'a looming feeling, like a storm on the horizon of my generation's future' and urged the council to 'walk towards a future with as much investment into the environment as possible'.



Tallis and Esme both spoke about the stigma sometimes experienced by young people, and the unfair presumption that they might shoplift or engage in anti-social behaviour. Clubs, activities and things for young people to do were cited as potential solutions. Jack, a member of Frome canoe club, echoed these thoughts and the issue with smaller clubs gaining the funding they needed to provide activities. Bella spoke about the need for increased biodiversity and green space, and she shared disappointment at the amount of single use plastic on the Frome College site and a littering problem made worse by a lack of recycling bins.

The councillors thanked the students for speaking so eloquently and sharing their ideas. Plans will be made to continue the conversation and work with the students and some of their peers to ensure the voices of young people are heard at FTC.



#### The DT/Sustainability Club has been meeting once a week this year.

We have been gradually collecting all that we need for our bike charging project. (Term 3 Newsletter) In the meantime, Graham Burgess has supported our students to consider many aspects of design and sustainability. We have created arches using compression forces; investigated tensile structures; and are in the process of making our own gargoyles.

In a recent trip to Innox Hill the team were able to explore an energy efficient home made using local materials that are in keeping with the surroundings, as well as beautiful craftsmanship and sustainable technology.

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Frome Medical Practice SUPPORTING YOUR HEALTH Vevu greetheathylduretroom or

#### The State of Nature Report

Frome Town Council held assemblies to launch the Frome College platform in the iNaturalist app.

By joining The Community Wildlife Mapping project, the team at Frome College will be contributing to valuable citizen science. One in six species is at risk of being lost in Great Britain, according to a comprehensive analysis by leading wildlife scientists. It is therefore vitally important that we record, track and support wildlife on our beautiful College site.

For more information, please visit: <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/</u>

#### **Earth House and Trees for Schools**

June saw the delivery of a new Silver Birch tree from Trees for Schools. The Silver Birch has been planted in the centre of our beautiful campus. We look forward to watching it grow and thrive at the heart of our College community.

#### Did you know?

Silver birch can be used to improve soil quality. Its widely spread roots bring otherwise inaccessible nutrients into the tree, which are recycled on to the soil surface when the tree sheds its leaves.

Silver birch provides food and habitat for more than 300 insect species – the leaves attracting aphids which provide food for ladybirds and other species further up the food chain. The leaves are also a food plant for the caterpillars of many moths, including the angle-shades, buff tip, pebble hook-tip, and Kentish glory.

https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/a-zof-british-trees/silvr-birch/

Earth House Ambassadors completed their Green Connector Training in association with Frome Medical Practice.

The Earth House Ambassadors continue to develop their carbon shadows.

We were joined by Charlotte Carson this term for a seminar that enables students to develop their understanding of carbon footprints generated by organisations, and the impact this has on an individual's health and standard of living. By becoming a Green Connector we are better able to discuss issues that impact on our wellbeing and the health of the planet. We hope that many more students at Frome College will become Green Connectors.





### **Combined Cadet Force**



By Mr Pavli

The Frome College Cadet contingent have recently had their first inspection since COVID-19 restrictions were lifted. The inspecting officer was Captain Benjamin Stafford of the Royal Navy, who travelled from Plymouth for the visit. During the inspection, Capt. Stafford led the cadets through drill exercises and handed out promotions to senior cadets. He also observed and participated in various cadet activities such as TAG archery, radio hide and seek, and others.

Well done to all the cadets who prepared for the inspection by pressing their uniforms and polishing their boots. Thank you to Capt. Stafford for taking the time to inspect and work with the Frome College cadets!







### **Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme**

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme recently saw both Bronze and Silver level students undertaking expeditions. The Bronze participants embarked on their actual expedition, putting their newly acquired skills to the test in real-world conditions. These young adventurers navigated challenging terrains, set up camp, and worked together as teams to overcome obstacles along their journey. Meanwhile, the Silver level students engaged in a practice expedition, preparing them for their official expedition scheduled for September. This dry run allowed the Silver participants to refine their outdoor skills, test their equipment, and build the teamwork necessary for their more demanding upcoming expedition. Both groups demonstrated resilience, adaptability, and a growing sense of self-reliance as they tackled these important components of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme.



### EAL – English as an additional language

with Mrs Owsley

We are proud to have over 90 students in college who speak English as an additional language. This means that at home, they speak and listen to a language other than English. These students are known as our EAL students. Here are just some of the 20 languages our students speak:



Our EAL students are integral to our school community. We want to celebrate their traditions and learn about their cultures and to make sure that students feel seen, heard and supported. We know that multilingual learners can find communication in school difficult which might lead to a lack of confidence and feeling excluded. We try hard to make sure this doesn't happen by helping create inclusive spaces and activities. Teachers provide different teaching strategies to help students improve their understanding and students have access to translation services and texts in their own language if needed. If available, students are also encouraged to sit GCSE exams in their own languages before year 11.

September will see the start of our termly EAL coffee mornings whereby we invite parents and carers into school to give them a space to share their experiences, gain support, to ask questions and to learn a little more about the education system in the UK.

On the 20th of November we will be celebrating 'a Day of Culture'. The library will host events throughout the day where students and parents will be invited to share traditional food, clothing, artwork and traditions. This coincides with the United Nation's World Children's Day which aims to promote international togetherness. awareness among children worldwide and improving children's welfare.

We are always looking for ways to improve and welcome advice and feedback from students who have joined the school as a multilingual learner. For up-to-date information or for anything EAL related please email our EAL coordinator Mrs Owsley: <u>NOwsley@fromecollege.org.uk</u>

### **Sporting News**



with Mrs Sypko and Mr Howlett



What an amazing Sports Day we had this year! The sun was shining (most of the time...) and the competition was fierce as our students gave it their all in track and field events. Those not competing cheered home the winners and the losers and everyone enjoyed an afternoon in the fresh air.

A huge thank you to our PE Department and all the honorary PE teachers who made the day happen. Results: -

Year 9 5th Neptune, 4th Saturn, 3rd Jupiter, 2nd Venus, 1st Mars Year 10 4th Jupiter, 3rd Saturn, 2nd Neptune, 1st Mars



### **Sports Leaders**

In the week leading up to Transition Day, our Sports Leaders honed their leadership skills by practicing fun games and activities designed to welcome our incoming Year 9 students (current Year 8). The preparation began with an action-packed classroom session, followed by hands-on experience with the planned activities. As they tried out the games themselves, the Sports Leaders' energy and enthusiasm was on full display, ensuring everything would run smoothly on the big day.

We were excited to see our Sports Leaders in action, guiding the younger students and helping them feel at home in their new school environment. The day finally was a resounding success thanks to our well-prepared students. with Mrs Sypko



This year's Summer Scrum 2024 at Bath Rugby's The Rec was a resounding success, bringing together over 200 pupils and staff from the Bath Rugby Foundation's Schools Partnership programme. Our dedicated Sport Leaders played a pivotal role, expertly managing five inflatable stations, a yoga area, and various multi-sport activities. Their enthusiasm and guidance ensured that all participants, regardless of ability, had an enjoyable and inclusive experience.



Our talented Sports Leaders showcased their skills and leadership abilities at Selwood Academy's recent sports day. These dedicated young volunteers played a crucial role in ensuring the event's success, assisting with various track and field activities, guiding participants, and fostering a spirit of friendly competition. Their enthusiasm and support encouraged all students to participate fully, regardless of ability level. The Sports Leaders' presence not only helped the day run smoothly but also inspired younger students, demonstrating the positive impact of youth leadership in sports. Their commitment to community engagement and passion for athletics truly shone throughout the event, making it a memorable experience for all involved.





The Frome College Darts League concluded spectacularly with top student Max B. facing World Darts Champion Luke 'Cool Hands' Humphreys. This innovative programme has boosted student attendance, improved behaviour, and enhanced mental maths skills. The league's success is credited to the combined efforts of staff, parents, and local businesses who supported the initiative. As the season ends, the Frome College Darts League proves that creative educational approaches can yield impressive results both in and out of the classroom.



### **Frome Hidden Gardens**

with Ms. Hurst

Despite challenging weather conditions this year, the "Grow it, Cook it" classes successfully prepared their garden for the Frome Hidden Gardens event. Visitors enjoyed mostly sunny weather, with only a brief downpour on Friday.



The class instructor, Ms. Hurst, praised the students' dedication in preparing for the event and engaging with visitors. The school now awaits judging for Frome in Bloom in the coming week, after which students can enjoy the fruits of their labour as produce ripens and flowers continue to bloom.

Special thanks were extended to the SEND team supporting the programme, particularly Mrs. Eames, Mr. Hewitt, and Mrs. Nicholls. Mrs. Smith was also recognised for providing hand-painted plant labels.

m supporting the programme, Nicholls. Mrs. Smith was also bels. ng gardeners and the value of

This showcase highlights the resilience of young gardeners and the value of school gardening programmes in education and community engagement.







### 'Dragons Den'



Our first ever Dragons Den event in Design Technology was a roaring success!

Students formed teams to tackle 3 real-life design challenges related to our school site:

- Litter and recycling solutions
- · Disabled access improvements for buildings
- Better signage for visually impaired students

Over 6 weeks, the teams researched, designed, and modelled innovative ideas. They had to consider client needs, budgets, materials, and how their products could enhance life at our college.

The event culminated in tense pitches to our "Dragons" judges as the teams sold their concepts Dragon's Den style!

A huge thanks to Frome Rotary and Frome Town Rotary for supporting this inspiring event and helping nurture the next generation of designers and entrepreneurs.

### **Transition Day**

At the beginning of July, we welcomed Year 8 students from schools across our town, and beyond, for an immersive transition experience. Our future Year 9s had a packed day connecting with their new tutor groups and building relationships; trial lessons for core subjects; and learning about Year 9 expectations, routines, and opportunities. We were truly impressed by the enthusiasm, curiosity, and potential of this wonderful group of young people. Their eagerness to learn and embrace new challenges was inspiring.

A big thank you to all students, parents, and staff who made this day possible. We can't wait to welcome them all officially in September!





### The Library

with Mrs Owsley

The Summer term is always quieter for our library. We help some of our students by allowing our space to be used for children who need more individual support during exams – the library is peaceful which makes it an ideal space for those needing help during what can be a very stressful time.

#### **Frozen Friday**



The student librarians have been continuing to host Frozen Friday each week. The highlight this month was the transistion day for the year 8s from our feeder schools. The librarians sold out of icecreams and made a staggering £120! This has gone a long way towards new books for our library and we thank you all for the support and kind donations.

#### **NEW for September 2024!**

We have some exciting things planned for September and we urge you sign up to one of our extracurricular library clubs. These will be supported by the student librarians.

BOOK FOLDING CLUB: Ever wanted to learn how to fold old books into beautiful designs? Come and learn with us. We have had some old books donated to us and we want to make them into magnificent pieces of craft. Tuesday breaktime.

MURDER MYSTERY CLUB: Help us to get World Book Day ready and design our next 'Murder in the library' showcase. Tuesday lunchtime.

BREAKFAST BOOK CLUB: The breakfast book club is NEW for September. You will decide which book we listen to (or read if you prefer) and the librarian Mrs Owsley will provide the pastries. We will talk about all things book and eat some yummy snacks. What's not to love? Friday tutor time.



POETRY BY HEART COMPETITION: We were so impressed by Ebony and Luka who represented Frome College this that we want to go even bigger! Now we know what to do and how to do it, we think we are in with an excellent chance of getting to the finals. Learn a poem off by Heart and the winners get an all-expenses paid trip to the Globe to compete in the final! Starting after October half term.

If you want to sign up to any of our wonderful clubs – please email Mrs Owsley: <u>NOwsley@fromecollege.org.uk</u>



SUMMER READS



Maybe this is the year that you will take part in a summer reading challenge? You could head to your local library and join in with the Reading Agency summer reading challenge : <u>https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/</u>

Did you know that on average, students who read for 20 minutes a day gain an extra level on every GCSE simply be being engaged in reading?

Or, if you want to buy your child some new reads this summer, this is what we recommend:



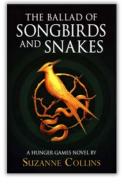
#### Adam Silvera: The First to Die at the End:

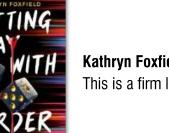
The prequel to They Both Die at the End, this is a clever, heartwarming and thought-provoking story set in one day. This story celebrates the lasting impact that people have on each other and proves that life is always worth living to the fullest.

#### RATHRYN POLFIELD GETTING AWA WITH WITH MUR DER MUR DER

Suzanne Collins – The Ballad of the Songbirds and Snakes:

Will Coriolanus Snow be able to mentor the female team from District 12 to glory or will this be his family's final downfall? How will he cope with his feelings for Lucy Gray in the battle to the death?





**Kathryn Foxfield - Getting Away with Murder:** This is a firm library favourite. A day of puzzles and fun becomes a fight for survival.

#### Morgan Owen - The Girl with No Soul:

This flew off the shelf before it was even labelled. This fantasy book is set in a world where others can see your soul's purity. Can Iris put together the parts of her broken soul or can she remain hidden until then?

All these books are stocked in our library.



### **AIM Programme**

with Dr Ruggiero, AIM Lead

This year AIM has hosted over 75 events including speakers, workshops, charity events, day trips, university taster days and residentials. 100% of AIM students in years 12 and 13 attended at least one of our academic workshops and 95% of students in years 9 to 11 attended at least two events. In addition to the super-curricular events we had 35 pairs of year 9 and year 12 mentorships that have lasted for the year. As the AIM coordinator what I am most proud of is the verve and zest that the students show for learning in all contexts from setting up and running a charity event for Guide Dogs for the Blind to serving as role models for our incoming year 8s during our Outreach events. We have seen an uptake in aspirational programmes from Cambridge, Oxford and the University of Bath as well as creating a more contextual offer for our humanities AIM students through cultural trips and experiences. As I leave this post I would like say thank you for your support and to my students- make good choices.



An AIM field trip to the American museum recently saw 24 students exploring mixed media through a collaborative creation of a tapestry.

The session, called 'Art in the Garden' allowed students to use the shapes, colours and textures of the American Museum gardens to create their own piece of art using textiles, thread and paper in conjunction with natural materials such as leaves and sticks.

After the workshop students explored the current exhibit 'American Road Trip' as well as the collection in the museum.

AIM hosted its last outreach event of the year with a Clean Energy STEM day involving Oakfield, Avanti and our year 10 AIM students. Students worked in mixed groups of six to create and market a solar house, pilon system and clean energy motor powered by either water or wind. In addition to costing the items and plotting where they would be best placed on a topographic map, students in each team wired circuits to test their creations and built either a wind turbine or water turbine to house it. Thank you to the Smallpeice Trust for running this workshop.







#### FROME COLLEGE MATTERS

### Year 11 Prom & Leavers Day





















Photos by Chris Bailey Photography







FROME COLLEGE MATTERS



### **Creative Arts Show**

Once again, our annual Art, Photography and Graphics Summer Exhibition and Fashion Show, showcased a diverse array of student work. The event invited students, families, and friends to celebrate the artistic achievements of the past academic year.

The exhibition featured outstanding pieces from the various disciplines, highlighting the creativity and skill of the school's young artists. Staff members selected award winners based not only on technical proficiency but also on their contributions to the arts department and wider community, as well as their enthusiasm for their studies. A particular highlight of the event was a fashion show featuring the work of GCSE and A level Textiles students. This addition to the exhibition allowed these budding designers to present their projects and final pieces in a dynamic, real-world context.

Ms. Knibbs, Head of Arts, commented, "We're immensely proud of all our students. This exhibition is a testament to their hard work, creativity, and growth throughout the year."

The Summer Exhibition serves as a capstone event for the school's arts programme, reflecting its commitment to nurturing artistic talent and providing students with opportunities to showcase their work to the wider community.



### **Community News**





#### Fundraising for WHY

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

whv.,

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







Discover Frome has a comprehensive list of summer activities! Click the button to to find out more!







A Community Celebration, marking 50 years of Frome Town Council takes place on Saturday 10th August from 12pm to 4pm, in Victoria Park, Frome. Entry is free. Any event proceeds raised by <u>Frome Town Council</u> will be donated to <u>Fair Frome</u>.

# **Safeguarding Notices**

#### Attendance

In the case of absence or late arrival please contact us as soon as possible. Email: FCC.Attendance@fromecollege. org.uk 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.



Frome College is proud to be part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Frome College Matters Terms 5 & 6 2023/24

www.fromecollege.org