



# THE STONEHENGE

## SCHOOL Weekly Newsletter

Issue No. 10 | 21st November 2025

### UPCOMING DATES NOVEMBER

Wed 26 & Thurs 27th  
Year 11 Art & Design  
Milestone 1

Thurs 27th  
Year 9 - Bletchley Park Trip

Fri 28th  
TD DAY

### DECEMBER

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> & Tues 2nd  
Year 10 - Catering Milestone

Wed 3rd  
The Woman In Black Trip

Thurs 4th  
STEM Yr 9 & 10  
FTC Scrimmage Robot Club  
Trip

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> - Fri 12th  
Year 9 - Milestone 1

Fri - 19th  
END OF TERM  
EARLY CLOSURE 12.30  
BUSES AND TAXIS AT 1.00  
PM

### Looking Ahead: 2026 - Our Year of Reading

As we move towards the end of this term, I am excited to share that next year will be The Stonehenge School's official Year of Reading, aligning with the UK-wide National Year of Reading 2026. The national theme is "Go All In"—a celebration of the simple idea that whatever you're into, there's a book for it.

Whether your child loves football, music, gaming, fashion, science, art, baking, animals, or anything else entirely, we want to show them that reading is not a separate hobby for a select few—it is something that can deepen their passions and open new doors.

If you're into it, read into it.

Throughout 2026, we'll be engaging with the National Literacy Trust's fantastic programme of events and resources, including:

- **'Go All In Together' live broadcasts** each half-term, featuring nationally renowned authors, illustrators, and celebrities.
- **Expert-led webinars**, giving students insights into writing, creativity, and storytelling.
- **In-person events** and workshops to help reading truly come alive.
- **Resources designed specially for schools** to help bring books into lessons without adding to staff workload.

This is a brilliant opportunity to inspire a culture of reading across our school—and at home.

### Supporting Reading at Home: Simple Ways to Build the Habit

Our focus this year is on helping every young person find the kind of reading that fits them. Here are some easy ways families can help nurture reading at home:

#### 1. Start with what they already love

Graphic novels, football magazines, gaming guides, song lyrics, biographies, short stories—it all counts. Let their interests lead the way.



## 2. Create a small daily reading routine

Even **10 minutes a day** makes a huge difference to vocabulary, confidence, and wellbeing.

## 3. Read alongside them

Children of all ages benefit from seeing adults read. It doesn't have to be the same book—just sharing the habit is powerful.

## 4. Encourage variety

Books, articles, audiobooks, e-books, poetry, manga—reading comes in many forms.

## 5. Talk about what you're reading

A quick conversation in the car, over dinner, or on the walk to school can help build curiosity and enjoyment.

## Visit the School Library - and Amesbury Library Too

Our **school library** is open daily and is stocked with new titles, subject-linked reading, award-winners, and books chosen by students themselves. We encourage pupils to pop in, browse, ask for recommendations, and make reading a part of their everyday school life.

We also work closely with **Amesbury Library** in the town centre, which offers:

- Free book borrowing
- Access to e-books and audiobooks
- Reading challenges
- Space for quiet study or relaxation

If your child isn't already a member, it's a simple and free process—and a great step in developing a lifelong reading habit.

## More to Come...

Over the coming months we'll be sharing more about the events, challenges, and celebrations planned for our Year of Reading. We are incredibly excited to work with families, staff, and our wider community to make 2026 a joyful, inspiring celebration of reading for all.

Together, let's help every young person at Stonehenge discover that reading can take them anywhere.



## Have Your Say - Annual SEND Survey 2025 (for parents/carers)

Families play an essential role in shaping SEND services, and Wiltshire Council is inviting all parents and carers to share their experiences in the Annual SEND Survey 2025.

 Parent/carer survey link:

[click here](#)

Your feedback helps the Local Authority understand what is working well and what needs to improve to better support children, young people, and families across Wiltshire.

Thank you for your time and support – your voice genuinely makes a difference.



# Christmas Lunch

£3.75

Turkey

£3.75

Pigs in Blankets

(wheat)

Glamorgan Sausage(V)

(wheat)

Roast Potatoes

Peas

Carrots

Yorkshire Pudding

(wheat, eggs, milk)

Stuffing Balls

(wheat, eggs, milk)

Cranberry Sauce

Vanilla & Chocolate

Ice Cream

(milk)



# CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Year 7

Thursday 11th December - Years 8 and 9

Fri 10th December - Years 10 and 11

*These are now available to book for Christmas lunch on Parent Pay. Please note that space is limited so early booking is advised.*

*FSM students should have received a Microsoft form via Classcharts make sure you respond to this form if your child requires a Christmas lunch*

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## STAFF VACANCIES

**Further details and an application form for all our vacancies can be found on our website via the following link - <https://www.stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk/vacancies/>**

**Informal visits to the school are welcome; please contact the Head's PA, Debra Harker on 01980 676660 or e-mail [harkerd@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:harkerd@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk)**

**You should provide detail outlining your skills applicable to the role and reasons for applying. This should be returned to Mrs D Harker, The Headteacher's PA, The Stonehenge School, Holders Road, Amesbury, Wiltshire, SP4 7PW**

## OFFICE MANAGER

The Governors of The Stonehenge School are seeking to appoint a highly organised, proactive and experienced Office Manager to lead our busy administration team at this thriving secondary school. Our Admin Team is the central hub of the school providing exceptional support to students, staff, parents and visitors every day. The team includes three Reception Administrators, a Medical Administrator and an Attendance Officer, all dedicated to ensuring the smooth running of the school.

Salary: Wiltshire Grade G 12 -14 - £26,281 – £28,051 (actual salary)

Hours: Mon – Thurs 8.00am – 4.00pm and Fri 3.30pm

Contract: Term time only (39 weeks) plus 2 additional weeks to be worked during the first week and the last week of the summer holidays to prepare for the new academic year.

Start Date: 26th January 2026

Closing date - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 9.00 am

Interview date - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Responsible to: Business Manager

Contract Type: Permanent

# House Point Reward Update

Points earned **THIS TERM** will now result in the winning House receiving the Christmas pantomime trip reward at the end of December. This has been agreed in order to give students in the winning House enough time to sign up for the trip properly. The winning House will be announced in the last week of this Half Term.

This also means there will be a double reward taking place in Term 2, as there will still be a winning House for Term 2 and they will receive their reward in that term.

## Total - This Week



House	Attendance	Bonus	Homework	House Points	Library	SSC	Staff Points	Tutor Challenge	Total
Archer	200		323	4770	200	400	30	100	6023
Barrow	400		312	4584	400	500	130	110	6436
Sarum	400		321	4632	400	300	240	100	6393
Solstice	100		304	4205	100	700	150	90	5649



## Total - This Term



House	Attendance	Bonus	Homework	House Points	Library	SSC	Staff Points	Tutor Challenge	Total
Archer	800	200	605	11725	200	1400	220	230	15380
Barrow	900	600	617	11379	400	1400	450	340	16086
Sarum	1200	450	600	11893	400	1300	510	270	16623
Solstice	300	850	599	10740	100	1700	470	320	15079

## COUNTY CUP RESULT

The Stonehenge Year 7 boys team put in an outstanding team performance to secure a 4-0 victory over Trafalgar in the County Cup.

The game started competitively, with both sides creating early chances, but Stonehenge found the breakthrough before half-time, taking a 1-0 lead into the break. The second half saw Stonehenge step up a gear. With confident passing and excellent teamwork, they added three more goals to take full control of the match.

Man of the Match goes to Noah Piper, who scored twice and worked tirelessly up and down the wing.





## Family and Community Learning

### Understanding School Anxiety

#### Early Signs of Emotional Barriers to School Attendance

Online Course  
Co-taught with education psychologist



**Booking essential!  
Booking closes  
one week before  
course date**

### Course Overview

- Strategies to support with anxiety and worry
- Strategies to support attendance
- Advice on reasonable adjustments that schools can make

**Friday 12 December 10am - 12pm**

Contact [familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
Visit <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>  
Call the FACL team on 01225 770478  
or scan the QR code



Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ on 31 August this academic year; they must have a Wiltshire postcode and meet certain residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: on a lower income, earning less than £25,750 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to go into work, now or in the future.

**Wiltshire Council**



## Decoded: A Brilliant Day at the Jurassic Coast STEM Scrimmage!

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, Team STEMhenge travelled to Bournemouth University for the **Jurassic Coast STEM Conference & Scrimmage**. We spent the day taking part in talks, workshops, and scrimmage sessions led by industry experts and university staff.

The day opened with a welcome talk from FTC UK, including a run through of this year's competition field and the rules and regulations for this year's **DECODE Challenge**.

We then had a varied schedule of STEM conference talks:

- **How to Become an Archaeologist** delivered by lecturers from Bournemouth University, giving an insight into what archaeologists do, the scientific skills involved, and the different career routes into the profession.
- **STEM in Archaeology: It's Not Just Digging!** presented by Wessex Archaeology, showcasing modern tools used in the field, including 3D-printed artefact replicas and a VR reconstruction of a Stone Age hut.
- **Careers in Motion: Army Engineering** led by Babcock, explaining how their engineers support not only the military but also aviation, nuclear power, and weapons handling.
- **Engineering in the Extreme** delivered by Curtiss-Wright, highlighting engineering routes and the company's work on the European Spallation Source (ESS).
- **Degree Apprenticeships and Careers in Construction** by Kier Construction, exploring the work of civil engineers and the pathways available through apprenticeships and degree programmes.
- **Mechatronics & Robotics** led by Bournemouth University lecturers, explaining what the Mechatronics degree involves and the careers students can progress into.



We also took part in a hands-on activity from **The Tank Museum**. It focused on the specially modified M4 Sherman tanks that were used during the D-Day landings. These tanks were fitted with a large inflatable canvas screen to allow them to "swim" ashore.

To explore the engineering behind this idea, we used marbles and small cups to experiment with **weight distribution, flotation, and water displacement** to try and float the most marbles.



We also were able to spend a couple of hours working on building our robot for this year's DECODE Challenge. During our weekly after school club, we have been able to **dismantle last year's robot and begin rebuilding a new design**. The scrimmage gave us the perfect chance to make more progress on our robot and to test our progress. By the end of the day, the robot could drive reliably and successfully launch the 'artefacts' (hollowed out plastic balls) into the goal - **a significant milestone for this early stage of the season!**



The day concluded with a closing ceremony where winners of some challenges were revealed. **We are also proud to announce that the team won the Best Time Capsule Design Award in the Creative STEM Competition - a huge well done goes to Corey and Tayfun for their great design!** We can't wait to see it built later in the season, and we are excited to see their ideas brought to life.

#### **Thank You & Stay Connected**

A huge thank you to everyone who's supported Team STEMhenge so far - staff, parents, donors and the wider community. If you'd like to sponsor, donate, or support the team in any way, please get in touch at:

✉ [freemantleb@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:freemantleb@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk)

📺 Follow our journey on Facebook and Instagram at [@TeamSTEMhenge644](#)

We're aiming for Nationals this year - and this is just the beginning! ❤️ 🇬🇧 ❤️  
#STEMhenge #MoreThanRobotsUK #FTCUK #DECODE #STEMStories

Did you know

90%

attendance  
attendance  
means your  
child has  
missed



19

days  
and

100

lessons  
in a year?

Time Out For Parents - Children with Additional Needs

Are you a parent/carer for a child (or children) with additional needs? This course was written for you!

Come and meet other parents/carers to support, help and encourage each other to share feelings and experiences about your child with additional needs.

Discuss and share ideas that support you to come up with solutions to problems and behaviours that challenge on the basis of what works – not what's meant to work!

(No formal diagnosis required)

Join us virtually  
via Microsoft Teams  
Friday 23rd January to  
Friday 20th March  
Excluding  
Friday 20th February  
10:00-12:00



Scan QR code to  
register your interest

# Got questions? We've got answers!

Your nurses are here to help-  
no worries too big or too small!

- Healthy eating & nutrition
- Sleep tips & routines
- Emotional wellbeing & stress
- Sexual health & relationships
- Bedwetting & toileting support

The Community  
Pantry  
Old Sarum and  
Longhedge  
Community Centre  
Wednesdays  
9.30-10.30am



Join us at the  
Community  
Health drop-in!

or children and young people  
5-19 and their families  
No appointment needed!

# Late Night Shopping

Every Thursday in December

📍 **Salisbury City Centre**

Enjoy exclusive offers, live performances and festive surprises with big brands and indie favourites staying open late.

SHOP LATE  
**04, 11 & 18  
DECEMBER**



**Support Local. Support Salisbury this Christmas.**

DONATIONS NEEDED

Christmas

Jumper Day

19th December 25'

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNWANTED  
CHRISTMASSY JUMPERS?

To ensure no pupils are left out  
of the fun, we are asking for  
donations to stock on our  
Uniformd site.

These will be free to claim  
(1 per pupil)



THE STONEHENGE  
SCHOOL



# Merry Christmas!



## December Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Decreasing Depression	1 DEC 10am
Raising Self Esteem	1 DEC 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	2 DEC 7pm
Autism - Improving Communication	8 DEC 10am
Improving Family Communication	8 DEC 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	9 DEC 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	9 DEC 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	15 DEC 10am
Understanding Anger	15 DEC 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 DEC 10am
Facing Defiance	16 DEC 7pm

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3 Your favourite brands donate to us whenever you shop with them

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GROUPON



TUI

JOHN  
LEWIS



Viking

ASOS



Uber Eats