



### A message from Mrs Jackson, Deputy Headteacher

This week has been very busy with VE day celebrations and the start of the GCSE exams. Students from Year 5 at Bowerhill Primary joined us on Thursday morning for cakes and scones and a chance to see the Sherman tank parked in the school courtyard! Melksham students wore red, white and blue and our cadets were proudly dressed in their Air Cadet and Army Cadet uniforms to show their support. Many staff and students took the



opportunity to come and learn about the tank and how it was renovated. Our thanks to Jim Clark for providing this amazing opportunity for our students. This afternoon was the first of the GCSE written papers and we were so proud of our year 11 students entering the exam rooms calmly and quietly and ready to do their best. Other year groups remembered to be respectful and remain quiet in the corridors to support them. Year 13 have their first A Level exam on Monday morning so we wish all the students in year

11 and 13 the best of luck for the next few weeks.





### Sparx Maths Leaderboard

A huge well done to all students for their commitment and effort with Sparx Maths homework, particularly YEAR 8 and YEAR 9 this week.

Remember to keep up-to-date with your Sparx homework – it will really support your understanding of content being taught during lessons.

Research has shown that a student can jump a whole GCSE grade through regular, positive engagement with homework!

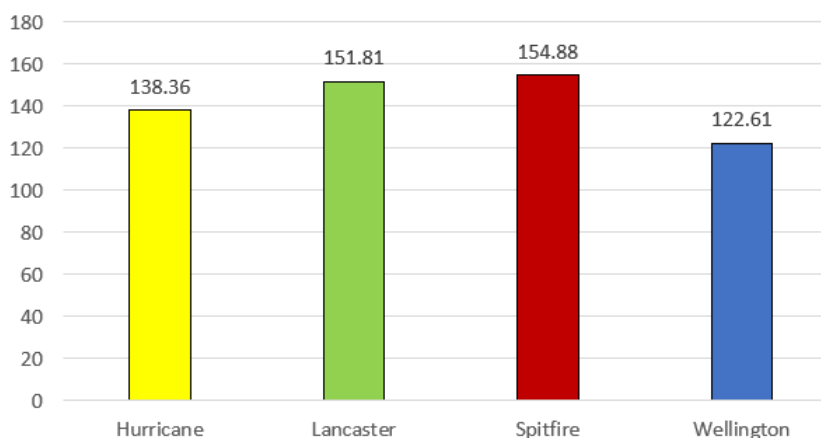
Weekly Leaderboard Monday to Sunday		
1	Kyla 9H	2101 XP
2	Hanna 8E	2096 XP
3	Leo 9K	1755 XP
4	Aleena 8E	1492 XP
5	Martha 7M	1465 XP
6	Ruby 8A	1429 XP
7	Mhamad 9K	1245 XP
8	Maria 8S	1190 XP
9	William 10H	1141 XP
10	<u>Alanta-Mae</u> 11H	1140 XP





## Merits

Average Merits per Student



## Key Contacts

In the first instance please contact your child's tutor, who will be best placed to answer your query or direct you to the best person who can give you an answer. Details of the pastoral team are below:

### Pastoral Manager

Ms A. Berry

[berrya@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:berrya@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)

### Heads of Year

Year 7	Mrs H. Pearce	<a href="mailto:pearceh@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk">pearceh@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk</a>
Year 8	Miss S. Abraham	<a href="mailto:abrahams@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk">abrahams@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk</a>
Year 9	Mr L. Ballinger	<a href="mailto:ballingerl@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk">ballingerl@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk</a>
Year 10	Mrs C. Hughes	<a href="mailto:hughesc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk">hughesc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk</a>
Year 11	Mr J. Oatley	<a href="mailto:oatleyj@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk">oatleyj@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk</a>
6th Form	Ms R. Cooper	<a href="mailto:cooperr@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk">cooperr@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk</a>

To e-mail any other staff member  
please e-mail  
[admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
with a subject line of FAO: <staff  
name>

### Head of Careers Education

Ms C. Tranter

[tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)



## Upcoming Events

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May:** Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 to 19:00.



## Safeguarding - Mental health, sexual health and relationships

It can be really difficult to have conversations about the above with young people in the digital age that we live in as the online world can influence thought and beliefs both negatively and positively. There can be really powerful knowledge online. This can be through real informative content or on the negative side 'fake sites'/false information and influencers that can have diverse views that are not accurate or show a 'bias' that young people find it hard to navigate.

Fumble can help you and your children.



### Fumble state the following:

**Right now, young people are really struggling:** the challenges that we face when it comes to sexual health, mental health and relationships are massive – especially in the digital world. Things like sexting, porn, 'revenge porn', online bullying and grooming, self-harm and suicide ideation, and more.

This is as well as old-school, offline issues we still face, like...

- too afraid to ask what's happening when our periods start
- unable to identify basic parts of human anatomy, understand what they do, and know when something's wrong
- young LGBTQ+ needing support as they work out how they fit into the world
- young people struggling with mental health and wellbeing (especially in the digital age)

We turn to the internet, but the content we find is currently uninspiring, unhealthy, and even unsafe.

**This is where Fumble comes in. We're the free digital sex ed resource for the 21st century.**



## Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May

We are an award-winning youth charity in the UK, leading the way in supporting young people with their mental health, sexual health and relationships in the digital age.

We create engaging, reliable digital content on intimacy, relationships, health and wellbeing. A happy, healthy digital world of free sex ed: created with young people, for young people.

Some of their larger resources have a fee but even some of these are free at the moment on a special offer on the back of the programme Adolescence so please check them out.

Please check out their You Tube advert:

[Fumble matters](#)

If you have any concerns please reach out to external agencies, your GP and us at school where we can either support or provide details of who can help.





## Wiltshire Family Hubs

**New changes to our website**

Click below to find out What is Happening in your area. This includes information about one off events, Baby Massage and Five to Thrive

**You can search by activity, age or location**

**Don't forget you can you put your name down for our parenting courses by clicking the link here**

**Contact us by email:**  
[wiltshirefamilyhub@spurgeons.org](mailto:wiltshirefamilyhub@spurgeons.org)

**Contact us by phone:**  
0800 970 4669

**Poisoning**

Suspected poisoning is one the most common reasons young children are taken to A&E.

Washing pods and capsules can badly hurt small children if they burst them or bite into them. Keep them locked away.

Blister packs are not child proof. Don't leave them lying around in bags or on the side.

Click here for more information

child accident prevention trust

**Family Hub Wiltshire Council** | **All Together**  
Supporting families in Wiltshire

**Issue 4 - 2025**

**Wiltshire Family Hub**  
Everything you need to know about what's on offer from your family hub

[www.wiltshirefamilyhubs.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirefamilyhubs.org.uk)

**Drop-in Events and Activities**  
View Drop-in Sessions

**Bookable Events and Activities**  
View Bookable Sessions

Activity	Day	Details	Type	More information
Play, Craft and Connect	Friday 25th April 2025	Drop in to play, relax, craft & reconnect with other families! For children aged 0-5 (accompanied by parents/carers at all times). <b>Location:</b> Monkton Park Family Hub, Monkton Hill, Chippenham SN15 1ER <b>Time:</b> 1.30 pm to 2.50 pm	Drop in - No booking required	Poster