



Dear families,

What a fun-packed term 1 we've had.

House Team Scarecrow Event

We kicked off our first house team event of the year with an exciting *Scarecrow Making Competition*! A huge thank you to everyone who donated materials — your generosity helped make it a fantastic and creative afternoon for all the children. It was lovely to see everyone getting involved and enjoying the chance to vote for their favourite scarecrow. Well done to all!

Sponsored Walk for Guide Dogs Puppy Appeal

On Tuesday, we held our *Sponsored Walk* in support of the Guide Dogs Appeal. The children showed brilliant spirit and enthusiasm throughout the event, and we're so proud of their efforts.

A huge thank you to everyone who has already logged their donations, everyone has been incredibly generous. We well and truly smashed our original target! £773 was donated which is an incredible amount! Every pound raised will help pair a guide dog with someone in need. I am so proud of the pupils who suggested this idea!

If you'd still like to contribute, here's the link to our JustGiving page:

[👉 https://www.justgiving.com/page/drsfirstschool](https://www.justgiving.com/page/drsfirstschool)

Wear What You Like Day for St. Andrew's House – Thursday 23rd October

Congratulations to **St Andrew House** this term's winning house team — by just 2 points! To celebrate their success, **Thursday 23rd October** will be a *Wear What You Like Day* for all St Andrew pupils. Well done, St Andrew's!

Hot Lunches after half term

Thank you for booking your lunches for next term. The order has been sent to Fairlands today, please don't make any bookings over half term for the first week back as your order won't be processed and provide a packed lunch.

Data Collection MCAS

The My Child At School app has all your child's emergency contact details and medical information, please can you check these details. If any of these details need changing, please amend and save the changes. Any changes will be notified to the office and will approve the changes.

Road Safety Assemblies

Tomorrow afternoon, the children will be taking part in *Road Safety Assemblies* — a perfect reminder as the nights get darker. We'll be discussing how to stay visible, stay alert, and stay safe when out and about. A great way to end the term on a thoughtful note!

INSET Day – Friday 24th October

A reminder that school will be closed to pupils on Friday 24th October for an INSET day. School will reopen after the half-term break on Monday 3rd November.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Wishing you a wonderful break next week.

Mrs Netto

The impact of absence on learners at Draycott & Rodney Stoke CofE First School

Learners are able to access their full entitlement and curriculum		Education is compromised		Managing attendance meetings required	
190 school days in each school year	10 days / 2 weeks of absence 180 school days	20 days / 4 weeks of absence 170 school days	30 days / 6 weeks / 1 term of absence 160 school days	40 days / 8 weeks of absence 150 school days	50 days / 10 weeks of absence 140 school days
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%

Christian Values

Each half term we focus on a Christian Value, this term it is **Respect**.

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' (Matthew 7.12)

PTAF Website

Introducing the new PTAF website which is where the committee will be updating any information you need to know about events, fundraising and news.

<https://draycottandrodneystokesptaf.myshopify.com>



Wrap Around Care

Breakfast Club will be run by Mrs Bradley and Mrs Major every morning. If you would like your child to receive breakfast, they must arrive by 8.15am to allow them time to eat.

Together, We Flourish and Grow

After School Club -

Day	3.15pm - 4.15pm	3. 15pm - 5.30pm
Monday	Mrs Major	Miss Kirk
Tuesday	Mrs Head	Miss Kirk
Wednesday	Mrs Major	Miss Kirk
Thursday	Mrs Cullen / Miss Kirk	Mrs Bradley
Friday	N/A	N/A

Thank you to everyone who is booking 7 days in advance. It is really helping with the admin and arranging the correct level of staffing. We appreciate your support. Please do come in and speak to us in the case of an emergency booking.

Upcoming dates for your diary

TERM 2	
Thursday 6 th November	Open day for prospective new families 1.30pm – 3pm
Friday 7 th November	Judo demonstration for children – 1pm
Monday 10 th November (for 2 weeks)	School-based curriculum assessments taking place
Monday 10 th November	Odd Socks Day (to kickstart Anti-Bullying Week)
Monday 10 th November	Emily Lloyd-Gale Author Visit
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need ('wear what you like' day)
Friday 28 th November (until 3 rd December)	Book Fair in School
Tuesday 9 th December	Willow Christmas – Dress rehearsal (grandparents & the Laurels)
Wednesday 10 th December	Willow Christmas – Performance to families 2pm
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas lunch and jumper day
Monday 15 th December	Chestnut & Oak Christmas – Performance to families 2pm
Tuesday 16 th December	Chestnut & Oak Christmas – Performance to families 2pm
Wednesday 17 th December	Oak Class – Carol Singing at The Laurels
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas class parties

Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

Term 1	4 th September – 23 rd October 2025
Term 2	3 rd November – 19 th December 2025
Term 3	5 th January – 12 th February 2026
Term 4	23 rd February – 2 nd April 2026
Term 5	20 th April – 22 nd May 2026
Term 6	1 st June – 17 th July 2026

Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

Please see the dates for next academic year on our [website](#).

Future INSET Days

Friday 24 th October 2025	INSET - School closed to learners
Friday 13 th February 2026	INSET - School closed to learners

Together, We Flourish and Grow

Monday 20 th July, Tuesday 21 st July and Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	INSET - School closed to learners – Time for the summer holidays!
Full term dates can be found on our website at www.drfirstschool.co.uk/diary	Please note, holidays during term time cannot be authorised.

Other information that may be of interest



COME CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH DRAYCOTT & RODNEY STOKE PTA F'S

SUGAR. SPICE & EVERYTHING NICE: A FESTIVE DECORATING AFTERNOON

DECORATE YOUR OWN GINGERBREAD HOUSE
HOT CHOCOLATE & MINCE PIES
CHRISTMAS MUSIC
FESTIVE FAMILY TOGETHER TIME
EVERYONE WELCOME

NOVEMBER 30 1PM - 3PM

DRAYCOTT MEMORIAL HALL
TO BOOK TICKETS PLEASE EMAIL DRSPATF@GMAIL.COM

FREE ENTRY
TICKETS
£10 PER
GINGERBREAD
HOUSE

**STALLS
WELCOME
£5
PER TABLE**

KINDLY SPONSORED BY 



Did you know we offer swim lessons for babies and toddlers?

Lessons are available Monday to Friday during the daytime, from birth up to the age of 4. Prices start from just £23.25 per month for a weekly 30 minute lesson and include unlimited public swimming.

www.kingsfitness.co.uk




Messy Church

Don't miss out on the fun!
On Saturday 18th October at 3pm
In Cheddar Village Hall.

Make bread rolls and cook on the griddle
Craft work
Forage for materials to make nests (weather permitting)
Make your own den
Have tea before you go home

If you plan to come along, please email Samm on beneficecdrs@gmail.com

ALL AGES VERY WELCOME
Children to be accompanied by an adult please.

MORE INFORMATION:

-  Benefice of Cheddar, Draycott and Rodney Stoke
-  Cheddar Village Hall
-  www.beneficecdrs.org

Theme: Kindness



Together, We Flourish and Grow

WINSCOMBE R.F.C.

NEW PLAYERS WANTED

U6s SCHOOL YEARS RECEPTION & YEAR 1

FRIENDSHIP THROUGH RUGBY

TRAINING SUNDAY MORNINGS 10AM

NEVER PLAYED, NEVER MIND!
COME ALONG, THROW A RUGBY BALL ABOUT AND HAVE FUN!

THE RECREATION GROUND, THE LYNCH,
WINSCOMBE, NORTH SOMERSET BS25 1AZ
[HTTPS://WINSCOMBERFC.RFU.CLUB](https://winscomberfc.rfu.club)

Half-Term Holiday Activities: Art Adventures

27-29 October 2025, 10:30-15:30

Take inspiration from Wells Art Contemporary (WAC) installations in the Cathedral this half term with our creative drop-in workshops for families!

Monday 27 October
Branching Out
Explore relationships between humans and trees with 2D and 3D art.

Tuesday 28 October
Willow and Windows
Create a willow-framed suncatcher

Wednesday 29 October
Decorate a Deck
Design a deck and create your own mini skateboard model!

Admission FREE with adult entry. No need to book - simply drop in on the day! Plan your visit online at wells cathedral.org.uk/holidays

WELLS ART

WHAT'S ON THIS OCTOBER AT THE WELLBEING BLEND

COFFEE @ THE HUB, 1-2 LOWER NORTH STREET, CHEDDAR, BS27 3HA
THEWELLBEINGBLEND@THESPACE SOMERSET.ORG.UK

TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	SUNDAYS
7TH 11AM-1PM PFA ONE TEAM NETWORKING EVENT	8TH, 15TH, 22ND, 29TH 1PM-3:30PM POSTNATAL GROUP - MARGARET MATERNITY	EVERY THURSDAY 6:30PM-8:30PM YOUTH CAFE	12TH 10AM-12PM SLOW STITCHING WORKSHOP
21ST 10AM-12PM SOMERSET PARENT CARER FORUM	15TH 9:30AM-12:30PM SOMERSET PARENT CARER FORUM	16TH 1:30PM-3PM SEPARATED PARENTING CAFE	26TH 10AM-2PM RE-LOVED CLOTHING SALE
21ST 7PM-8:30PM MENOPAUSE CIRCLE	EVERY WEDNESDAY 10AM-11:30 PARENT & CARER, COFFEE & CHAT	YOUTH CLUB: SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER	

YOUTH CAFE: THURSDAY 2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD, 30TH. DI SET, CHILL SESSION, RADICAL PRIEST, CHILL SESSION, MANDELA (HALLOWEEN THEME DRESS UP OPTIONAL).

HALF TERM ACTIVITY: 27TH 12:30AM-2:30PM. COACHING IN CHEDDAR WOODS. HALLOWEEN THEMED ACTIVITIES. BOOKING REQUIRED WITH LIMITED SPACES. £10 PP | AGES 8-15.

YOUTH CLUB SCHEDULE: TUESDAY 7TH BOYS, TUESDAY 14TH POTTERY CREATIONS, TUESDAY 21ST MID AM?, TUESDAY 28TH HALLOWEEN PARTY.

HELD AT CHEDDAR METHODIST CHURCH | 6:30-8:30PM | EVERY TUESDAY

PQA WELLS

JOIN US FOR 2 DAYS OF MUSICAL THEATRE FUN!

K-POP -DANCE AND SING

WORKSHOP

WITH INTERNATIONAL PERFORMER GRACE PARRY

27TH & 28TH OCTOBER | 9:30AM - 3PM
Wells Little Theatre, BA5 2PS

Together, We Flourish and Grow

Parent Support Sessions

[WISE Up Workshops](#)

[NSPCWT](#)

Online Safety

[Internet Matters](#) and [Google Families](#) has lots of information, advice and support for all your concerns about your child and the internet. Why not take a look.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child and would like to talk to a member of staff in private, please make an appointment with one of the team.

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Netto

Deputy Designated Leads: Mrs Brabbins

Safeguarding Governor: Adrian Warman

WLT Safeguarding and Educational Welfare Lead: Dawn Tomkies

As parents, you can contact support agencies directly on:

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224
- NSPCC: Keeping children safe online

For more information, along with regular safeguarding updates, you can also visit:

<https://somensetsafeguardingchildren.org.uk>

