



Dear families,

It's been another busy and exciting week.

This week we kicked off Anti-Bullying Week by taking part in Odd Socks Day. The children (and staff!) proudly wore their mismatched socks to celebrate what makes each of us unique. It was a wonderful reminder that our differences are what make us special.

On Armistice Day, we came together as a school community to pay our respects and remember those who gave their lives in service. The children showed great maturity and reflection during our remembrance services, and we are very proud of them.

We were delighted to welcome author Emily Lloyd-Gale to school this week! The visit, kindly funded by our PTAF, inspired the children to think creatively and reminded us all of the joy and importance of reading regularly at home. A huge thank you to Emily and to our PTAF for making this possible.

Today, we'll be celebrating Children in Need Day. We're looking forward to a fun-filled day supporting this brilliant cause—thank you in advance for your generosity and enthusiasm!

We are so proud of all our pupils as they begin their assessments this week. These are being carried out in a fun and informal way, and the children have been taking them completely in their stride. It's been lovely to see their confidence and positive attitudes shining through.

We are also delighted to share that we have appointed Mrs Lukins, who will take over from our wonderful Mrs Budd in January.

A polite reminder to families that the staff car park should only be used by those who hold a Blue Badge or a school parking permit. Thank you for helping us keep our site safe for everyone.

Very best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Mrs Netto

St. Andrew's Day – Friday 28th November

On **Friday 28th November**, we'll be celebrating the first of our **Patron Saint Days – St. Andrew's Day**.

- Children in **St. Andrew's Team** are invited to wear **something blue** (or Scottish!) to school.
- We'll also be holding a **cake sale**—please could children in St. Andrew's team donate cakes for this event.
- Cakes will be sold to the whole school, with proceeds going towards our fundraising efforts.

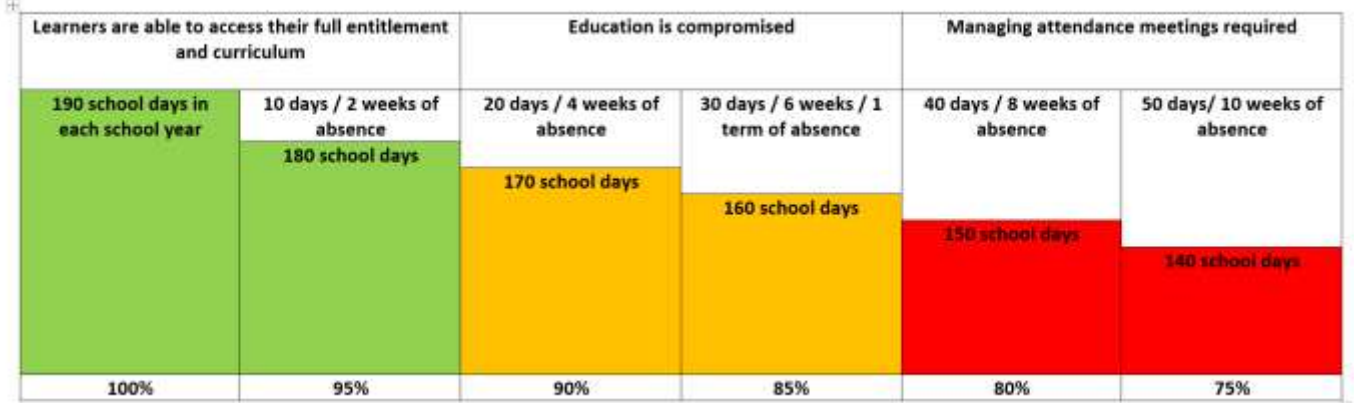
There will be four **Patron Saint Days** throughout the year, so if your child isn't in St. Andrew's, their team's turn will come! Let's see which team can raise the most money across the year!

Attendance

Please take a look on your My Child At School app. How is your child's attendance? Is it at 95% or above?

School attendance is so important. Let's see if we can make a real difference this term.

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



Christian Values

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

"My God is my strength in whom I trust." (Psalm 18:2)

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.

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

Together, We Flourish and Grow

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	
Friday 28 th November (until 3 rd December)	Book Fair in School
Friday 28 th November	St Andrew's Day including a cake sale
Sunday 30 th November 1pm-3pm	A festive decorating afternoon PTAF Draycott Village Hall
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 13 th February 2026	INSET - School closed to learners
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 PTAF'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

FREE ENTRY TICKETS
£10 PER GINGERBREAD HOUSE

STALLS WELCOME
£5 PER TABLE

NOVEMBER 30 1PM - 3PM

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

KINDLY SPONSORED BY 



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KI AIKIDO

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- Classes in a dedicated dojo in Mark, Somerset



Ki Aikido does not rely on size or strength - students develop skills to redirect a partner's energy rather than resist it. There is no aggression or violence. It is a supportive community where discipline and etiquette are maintained in a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect.

Ki Aikido students report feeling more resilient and confident, and happier and healthier in their lives.

MARK, SOMERSET TA9 4PZ

JUNIORS: 5 - 12 YEARS
WEDNESDAY TERM TIME: 6PM TO 6:45 PM
£3 PER CLASS + £12 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

- [@fusionlifestyle.com](https://www.fusionlifestyle.com)
- 01278 647116
- The Causeway, Mark, Somerset, TA9 4PZ
- trubs.needs@fusionlifestyle.com

The Ki Federation is a non-profit organization with over 100 clubs throughout the UK and beyond.





HOLIDAY CLUB

At Kings Fitness & Leisure

- ✓ For ages 5-13 years from £23* per day 9.00am-4.00pm.
- ✓ Extend the day with early drop-off and late pick-up from £4.50 per session
- ✓ Have Fun playing Christmas games, sports, going swimming, and doing festive arts and crafts!
- ✓ Bring packed lunch, snacks, refillable drinks bottle, swimming kit, weather dependant items (sun cream, waterproofs etc).




Visit our Junior Activities Page here:

Contact Kings Fitness & Leisure at 01934 744939 to sign up NOW!





*£23 if booked 3 weeks in advance, alternatively, £28 per day, if booked after this time frame

Save the date! Messy Church Christingle

Sunday 7th December
3pm - 4.30pm
Cheddar Village Hall

Followed by
Messy Church
Christingle Service
at 4.30pm
in St Andrew's
Church, Cheddar

Together, We Flourish and Grow

WHAT'S ON THIS NOVEMBER AT THE WELLBEING BLEND
 COFFEE @ THE HUB, 1-3 LOWER NORTH STREET, CHEDDAR, BS27 3AB
 THEWELLBEINGBLEND@THESPACESSOMERSET.ORG.UK

TUESDAYS
 18TH 10AM-12PM SOMERSET PARENT CARER FORUM (2023-24)
 18TH 1PM-4:30PM MENORSE CIRCLE (THE COFFEE HUB WILL EVENTUALLY BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC - PLEASE MONITOR)

WEDNESDAYS
 10AM-11:30 EVERY WEDNESDAY PARENT CLUB (FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.PARENTCLUBSOMERSET.CO.UK)

THURSDAYS
 6-8:30PM EVERY THURSDAY YOUTH CAFE (AGES 7 TO 18 - BOOKING REQUIRED)

SATURDAYS
 15TH 6:30PM QUIZ NIGHT (£125 PER TEAM MAX. 6 PEOPLE) (BOOKING NOT FOR THE HUB)
 22ND 7PM-8:30PM HERRY & BRIGHT NIGHT (SHOPPING, STALLS, MULLED WINE AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS)

DO YOU HAVE A GROUP OR AN ACTIVITY BASED AROUND CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH OR THAT COULD STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY? NEED A SPACE? WE HAVE YOU COVERED!
 GET IN TOUCH THEWELLBEINGBLEND@THESPACESSOMERSET.ORG.UK

YOUTH CAFE:
 THURSDAY 6TH CHILL SESSION
 THURSDAY 13TH LIVE MUSIC
 THURSDAY 20TH CHILL SESSION
 THURSDAY 27TH LIVE MUSIC

BOOKING REQUIRED FOR YOUTH CLUB AND EVENTS VISIT

YOUTH CLUB: SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER
 TUESDAY 4TH 10-11:30PM FAMILY FRIENDS NIGHT (WITHIN PAROCHIALS) (BOOKING REQUIRED)
 TUESDAY 11TH ENTERPRISES NIGHT
 TUESDAY 18TH GAMES NIGHT
 TUESDAY 25TH CHRISTMAS CREATIONS
 TUESDAY 30TH 1600S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET

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

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>



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