



Dear families,

A warm welcome back to Term 2! We hope everyone had a restful break and is ready for a term packed full of fun and excitement. With fireworks, festive preparations, and plenty of learning ahead, it promises to be a wonderful few weeks leading up to Christmas.

Our New School Value – Trust

This term, our new school value is **Trust**. We'll be exploring what it means to be trustworthy, how we can show trust in others, and why it's so important in building positive relationships within our school community.

Non-Fiction November

We are currently enjoying **Non-Fiction November**, celebrating the joy of learning from real-life stories, facts, and information books. It's been lovely to see so many children engaging enthusiastically with factual reading.

Open Afternoon Success

This week, we hosted a very successful Open Afternoon for prospective new parents. Thank you to everyone who helped make our school shine—our pupils were fantastic ambassadors, showing great pride in their school!

Judo Demonstration

This afternoon, we're looking forward to an exciting Judo demonstration event. It's a great opportunity for pupils to learn about the sport, teamwork, and discipline in a fun and interactive way.

Anti-Bullying Week & Odd Socks Day

Next week is **Anti-Bullying Week**, and we'll kick things off with **Odd Socks Day on Monday** to celebrate our differences and remind ourselves that everyone is unique. We look forward to seeing everyone in their uniform, with bright, mismatched socks around school!

Author Visit – Emily Lloyd-Gale

We're also delighted to be welcoming author Emily Lloyd-Gale on Monday. She'll be visiting to inspire our budding writers and share insights into her work—an exciting opportunity for all our young readers and storytellers. Please see Dojo for further details on how to order her book. Emily will also be in the playground on Monday from 3.15pm where you will have the opportunity to purchase her book. Cash only please.

Remembrance Day 11th November Oak Class Visit to St. Leonard's Church Rodney Stoke

Year 3 & 4 pupils will be taking part in the service along with the congregation from the village. Parent and carers would be welcome to attend the service which starts at 10.45am. Please consent to your child attending this trip on MCAS, there is no cost for this trip.

Children in Need – Friday

Next **Friday** is **Children in Need!** Pupils are invited to wear **non-school uniform** in exchange for a donation (via the CIN online platforms). Let's come together to raise funds for this fantastic cause.

St. Andrew's Day – Friday 28th November

Looking ahead, 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!

As always, thank you for your continued support. Term 2 is shaping up to be a brilliant one filled with learning, laughter, and community spirit.

Warm wishes,

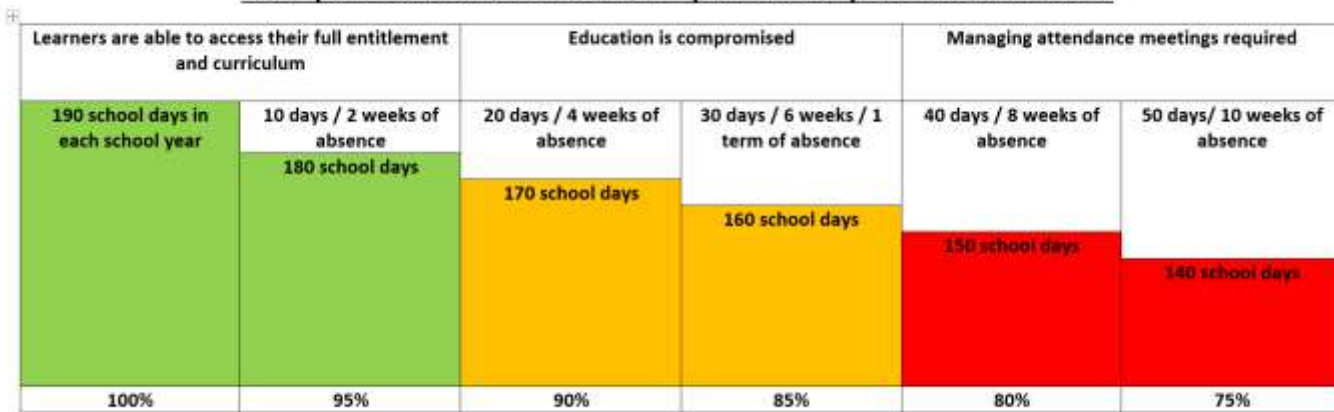
Mrs Netto

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

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	
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
Tuesday 11 th November	Oak Class to St Leonard's Church Remembrance Service
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need ('wear what you like' day)
Friday 28 th November (until 3 rd December)	Book Fair in School
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

WHAT'S ON THIS NOVEMBER AT THE WELLBEING BLEND

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

TUESDAYS

- 18TH 10AM-12PM SOMERSET PARENT CARER FORUM COOP IN
- 18TH 7PM-8:30PM MENOPAUSE CIRCLE TIME TO SHINE WELLNESS. £3 PER SESSION. LED BY AMANDA - JOIN THE SUPPORTIVE CIRCLE NOW!

WEDNESDAYS

- 10AM-11.30 EVERY WEDNESDAY PARENT CLUB

THURSDAYS

- 6:30PM-8:30PM EVERY THURSDAY YOUTH CAFE AGES 11-19 X 10 POUNDS WORTH

SATURDAYS

- 15TH 8:30PM (7PM START) QUIZ NIGHT (£25 PER TEAM MAX 6 PEOPLE) RAISING MONEY FOR THE SPACE
- 22ND FROM 6:30PM MERRY & BRIGHT NIGHT SHOPPING, STALLS, MULLED WINE AND CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!

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@THESPACE SOMERSET.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 12 PP FAMILY FRENZIES NIGHT PETTRUTH PADDOCKS 6:30-8:30 BOOKING REQUIRED
- TUESDAY 11TH ENTERPRISES NIGHT
- TUESDAY 18TH GAMES NIGHT
- TUESDAY 25TH CHRISTMAS CREATIONS
- TUESDAY 30TH KIDS 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>

