



Dear families,

As we approach the end of term, we would like to share some recent highlights and important reminders.

Today, we say a fond **goodbye to Mrs Budd**, who leaves us after many years of dedicated service to the school. Mrs Budd has been a much-loved member of our community, and her many talents — particularly her creativity in art and her passion for gardening — have enriched school life in countless ways. The beauty she has helped create around the school and the inspiration she has given to our children will be greatly missed. Her departure leaves a huge loss, and we thank her sincerely for everything she has contributed. We wish her every happiness in the future.

This week, we were treated to dazzling performances from Chestnut and Oak classes. The children performed brilliantly, and we are incredibly proud of their confidence and hard work.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome the Chief Executive of the Wessex Learning Trust, Gavin Ball, and the Director of People and Culture, Louise Hulbert, to our school. They were extremely impressed by what they saw, commenting positively on the warm atmosphere, the engagement of the children and the high-quality learning taking place across the school.

Our class parties have also taken place and were enjoyed by all, providing a lovely opportunity for celebration and fun as the term draws to a close.

We are also very excited to welcome a special visitor today. We are expecting a visit from Father Christmas, kindly organised by our PTAF. This is always a magical moment for the children. Thank you to families for purchasing gifts for your child via the PTAF website — your support is greatly appreciated.

We will finish the term with Carols in the Church at 2:00pm today. Families are warmly invited to join us for this special service. At the end of the carols, children are welcome to go home early with you.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We wish you all a joyful and restful break.

Mrs Netto and the whole school team



## Wessex Learning Trust Admission Arrangements for Somerset Schools (2027/28) Consultation

The Wessex Learning Trust are consulting on their 2027/28 admission arrangements. It is statutory to consult every 7 years or when a change is made. To view and comment on the arrangements please click here

<https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/2027-arrangements>

Our consultation will start on 1 December 2025 and end on 19 January 2026 and the final determined arrangements will be published on the Trust and our School website by 15 March 2026.

## 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 Messages

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

<https://draycottandrodneystokesptaf.myshopify.com>

We are planning a BIG raffle, if you can help with a donation big or small please email [drsptaf@gmail.com](mailto:drsptaf@gmail.com)

BUY TICKETS ONLINE

<https://draycottandrodneystokesptaf.myshopify.com/products/raffle-ticket?variant=56361688400245>



## 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 3                            |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January   | 6-7pm Year 4 Parents meeting regarding Kilve Court residential visit |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> January  | Lockdown Drill   |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January | Forest School After School Club 3.15pm-5.30pm                        |
| Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January   | PTAF Wear What You Like Day – in exchange for raffle prizes          |
| Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February   | Number Day   |
| Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February | Safer Internet Day   |

### Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

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

### Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

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

### Future INSET Days

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026   | INSET - School closed to learners                                 |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July, Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July and Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026                            | INSET - School closed to learners – Time for the summer holidays! |
| Full term dates can be found on our website at <a href="http://www.drfirstschool.co.uk/diary">www.drfirstschool.co.uk/diary</a> | Please note, holidays during term time cannot be authorised.      |

## Other information that may be of interest

### 2025/2026 SOMERSET SAINT FLU VACCINATION WALK IN CLINICS FOR ALL SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN (From Reception up to and including Year 11)

All clinics below are for the FLU Nasal spray vaccination and are walk ins  
(No appointment is needed). If your child requires the FLU inactivated injection  
Please contact 0300 123 0032 to arrange an appointment.

| DAY       | DATE                      | TIME OPEN     | LOCATION  |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------|---|
| Monday    | 15 <sup>th</sup> December | 14:00 – 17:00 | Minehead Community Hospital, Ludell Way, Minehead TA24 6DF                      |
| Monday    | 15 <sup>th</sup> December | 14:00 – 17:00 | Community Families Hub East Beach House, East Beach, Taunton TA1 3EH            |
| Tuesday   | 16 <sup>th</sup> December | 14:00 – 17:00 | Bridgwater Community Hospital, Bower Lane, Bridgwater TA6 4GU                   |
| Wednesday | 17 <sup>th</sup> December | 14:00 – 17:00 | Frome Community Hospital, Erno Way, Frome BA11 2FH                              |
| Monday    | 22 <sup>nd</sup> December | 09:30 – 14:30 | Victoria Park Health and Wellbeing Hub, Victoria Park Drive, Bridgwater TA6 7AD |
| Tuesday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> December | 10:00 – 12:30 | Burnham-on-Sea War Memorial Hospital, 6 Love Lane, Burnham-on-Sea TA8 1ED       |
| Tuesday   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> December | 10:00 – 12:30 | Upper Bracken House, Chard Hospital Site, Crewkerne Road, Chard, TA20 1YA       |
| Monday    | 29 <sup>th</sup> December | 09:30 – 12:30 | Willbards Entertainment Venue, Weddonsme, Cl, Yeovil BA20 2DD                   |
| Tuesday   | 30 <sup>th</sup> December | 09:30 – 12:30 | Community Families Hub East Beach House, East Beach, Taunton TA1 3EH            |
| Tuesday   | 30 <sup>th</sup> December | 09:30 – 12:30 | West Mendip Hospital, Old Walk Road, Glastonbury BA6 8JD                        |

## 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>

## Safeguarding is everybody's business

⚠️ If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact:

Children's Social Care on **0300 123 2224**  
Email: [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)  
Police: **101** or in an emergency **999**



**Together, We Flourish and Grow**