



Dear families,

We had very special visitors to kick-start our week. We enjoyed a lamb-tastic afternoon when a ewe and her three 10-day-old lambs, owned by the Parsons family, visited. The children loved meeting and feeding the lambs, asked fantastic questions to the farmer, and impressed staff with their sensible and brave behaviour.



Safer Internet Day

We celebrated *Safer Internet Day* with the theme: **Smart Tech, Safe Choices – Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI**. The children were helped to understand how to use technology safely and responsibly, with a focus on the exciting and evolving world of artificial intelligence.



Congratulations once again to our winning house team of the term - **St. George!** They enjoyed their celebrations on Wednesday.

We will also be holding another whole school house event later today – with a pancake theme!

TODAY - Chestnut Class Assembly in the school hall– You're Invited!

We look forward to welcoming our Chestnut families at 9am today to share their incredible learning journey with you.

Children's Mental Health Week – Wear What You Like Day

A reminder that will also celebrate *Children's Mental Health Week* today with another *Wear What You Like Day*.

We the Curious School Trip – 6th March Thank you for making payment on MCAS, please can I ask that you consent and make your payment by 27th February.

INSET Day – Friday 13th February A reminder that school is closed to learners tomorrow as all the staff attend a Trust-wide training day.

Football After School Club – Sports Masters Coaching will be running a Football After School Club starting Wednesday 25th February until Easter, 3.15pm-4.15pm, £6.60. If your child is interested in joining, please book on MCAS: Clubs, After School Club, 1 hour.

We wish you all a wonderful half-term rest. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Monday 23rd February**.

Please do take a look at the diary dates below as we already have lots of exciting things planned for term 4.

Best wishes,

Mrs Netto

Christian Values

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

'Be strong and courageous' (Joshua 1.9)

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

BUY TICKETS ONLINE or vis the booklets that have been sent home in bookbags.

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



We are excited to be planning a SCHOOL DISCO on Friday 27th February 2026 at Draycott Memorial Hall 🎵 🎵

💰 Raising money for Draycott and Rodney Stoke CofE First School

🎫 Book tickets online [here](#).

Together, We Flourish and Grow



BMC RACE NIGHT **PTAF** (Draycott and Rodney Stoke PAF School)

DOORS OPEN 7PM

DRAYCOTT & RODNEY STOKE CHARITY RACE NIGHT

SATURDAY 28th MARCH
 DRAYCOTT MEMORIAL HALL - 7PM START
 LATCHES LANE, BS27 3UE

BUY A HORSE **ETC P.R. TICKET**

PLACE YOUR BETS **CHEESE & BISCUITS INCLUDED**

COLLECT YOUR WINNINGS **CASH IS KING**

JOIN US
 JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF HORSE RACING FUN, AS WE BRING YOU THE ENTERTAINMENT & THRILL OF A NIGHT AT THE RACES. ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TOWARDS SUPPORTING & PROVIDING ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN
 FOR TICKETS & SPONSOR PACKAGES CONTACT DRSPTAF@gmail.com

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE
DRSPTAF@gmail.com

Messy CHURCH

Activities, Songs, Food, Games, Stories, Crafts

SAVE THE DATE

07 MARCH 2026

Theme: Mothering Sunday

MORE INFORMATION :

- 🕒 3pm - 4.30pm
- 📍 Cheddar Village Hall
- 🌐 www.beneficecdrs.org

All very welcome

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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 3	
Thursday 12 th February	Wear What You Like for Children's Mental Health Week
Thursday 12 th February	Chestnut Class Collective Worship – Chestnut families welcome 9am
Friday 27 th February	PTA Disco 4pm-5pm Draycott Community Hall
Wednesday 4 th March	St David's Team Bake Sale 3.15pm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 6 th March	Whole School Trip We The Curious
Monday 9 th – 13 th March	Science Week in school
Friday 13 th March	Church Service 2.30pm Mothering Friday all welcome St. Peter's Church
Thursday 19 th March	Forest School After School Club
Friday 20 th – Wednesday 25 th March	Book Fair in hall
Friday 20 th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 20 th March	St Patrick's Team Bake Sale 3.15pm
Saturday 28 th March	PTA Charity Race Night 7pm Village Hall
Monday 30 th March	Eater Egg Hunt at the Laurels 1pm
Monday 30 th March & Tuesday 31 st March	Parent meetings
Thursday 2 nd April	Easter Service and Easter Bonnet Parade 2.30pm St. Peter's Church
Thursday 14 th May	Forest School After School Club

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

**SATURDAY
21ST
FEBRUARY**

**DRAYCOTT
COMMUNITY
CINEMA**



**PENGUINS
- MADAGASCAR**

U



**@ DRAYCOTT MEMORIAL HALL
DOORS OPEN 130PM FOR 2PM START**

**TICKETS £2 EACH
AVAILABLE FROM DRAYCOTTCINEMA.CO.UK
DRAYCOTT VILLAGE SHOP & ON THE DOOR**

**ALL AGES WELCOME
CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
CHILD-ACCOMPANYING ADULTS DO NOT REQUIRE A TICKET**

THE SPACE

Parent Club

Being a parent is HARD! Do you sometimes just want to talk to like-minded people without judgement?
Does your child experience school avoidance or have SEN? Or maybe you just need a gentle chat with someone who understands?

We are here for YOU!
Parent Club offers a safe, welcoming space with:
☕ Hot coffee ☺ Friendly faces 🗣️ Support, advice & signposting
📅 Every Wednesday ⌚ 9am-10:30am

No need to book — just drop in!
Prefer to reserve a spot? Text 07940 177399
We also have activities to keep little ones occupied!

New Evening Sessions!
Evening sessions available by appointment only.
7 Monday of every month from 6pm. Coffee @ The Hub.
Personal Victoria Williams@thehubparentclub.org.uk to book your space.
Monday 7 January 6pm-8pm (subject to availability)

COFFEE @ THE HUB, 1-2 LOWER NORTH STREET, CHEDDAR, BS27 3HA (OPPOSITE TESCO EXPRESS)



The Mid Somerset Consortium

BACK TO SCHOOL... AS A TEACHER

Train to Teach Primary with Mid Somerset Consortium – Inspire the Next Generation

- Flexible training designed for busy parents.
- Make a real difference in children's lives.
- Start a meaningful career in your community.
- Earn while you learn with hands-on classroom experience.

Client Testimonials

I couldn't have wished for a more supportive group of staff and fellow trainees... The MSC team have all been incredible and there is always someone there to talk to should you need it!
— **Danni**

The primary training course has been supportive and practical, allowing me to build confidence and develop invaluable classroom skills. Importantly, it has worked well around being a parent, allowing me to successfully balance training alongside a busy family life!
— **Sarah**

A real strength of the course is the opportunity for primary and secondary trainees to work together!
— **Millie**

Placement schools are varied and well chosen, including first schools, middle schools, and primary schools. Being placed locally has helped us build strong networks across the area, which feels invaluable for future job opportunities and professional connections.
— **Millie**

Ready to take the next step?
JOIN MSC TEACHER TRAINING TODAY!

e: office@mscott.org.uk | w: www.mscott.org.uk | t: 01458 449498

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WHAT'S ON THIS FEBRUARY AT THE WELLBEING BLEND



MONDAYS

TUESDAYS

2ND
12:30-2:30PM

SOMERSET PARENT CARER FORUM
UNDERSTANDING SENSORY PROCESSING

3RD
6PM-7.30PM

PARENT CLUB EVENING
1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
SUPPORT, ADVICE, INFORMATION OR JUST A FRIENDLY FACE AND A CUPPA (ON US!)

9TH
10AM

TALKING CAFE THE GENTLE BREW
EVERY SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

10TH
6:30-8:30PM

BOLD MINDS, SAFE SYSTEMS
UNDERSTANDING & SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD THROUGH A NEURODIVERGENT LENS ^{1st session}

EVERY MONDAY
7.30-8.30AM
3.30-5PM

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
A WARM SPACE FOR OUR YOUTH BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL. *MEMBERSHIP CARD REQUIRED

17TH
7PM-8:30PM

MENOPAUSE CIRCLE
TIME TO SHINE WELLNESS. £5 PER SESSION. LED BY AMANDA - JOIN THE SUPPORTIVE CIRCLE MONTHLY

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

WHAT'S ON THIS FEBRUARY AT THE WELLBEING BLEND



WEDNESDAYS

THURSDAYS

EVERY WEDNESDAY
8.30-10.30AM

PARENT CLUB
SUPPORT, ADVICE, INFORMATION OR JUST A FRIENDLY FACE AND A CUPPA (ON US!)

EVERY THURSDAY
6:30PM-8:30PM

YOUTH CAFE
CHILL OR LIVE MUSIC EVERY OTHER WEEK FOR AGES 13-18

EVERY WEDNESDAY
8.30-10.30AM

FOODBANK VOUCHERS AVAILABLE HERE



EVERY WEDNESDAY
7.30-8.30AM
3.30-5PM

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
A WARM SPACE FOR OUR YOUTH BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL. *MEMBERSHIP CARD REQUIRED



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THEWELLBEINGBLEND@THESPACESOMERSET.ORG.UK

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.

Free Parent/Carer Session Around Online Grooming & Exploitation, the sessions will be Led by Prevention officer Andri Nicolaou from the dedicated Child Exploitation Team in Avon and Somerset Police.

This session will enable participants to learn how to keep the children in their care safe online and recognize the signs of grooming and exploitation. It will provide valuable insights and practical tips to help them navigate the digital world with their children and young people.

[Avon and Somerset Police Events - 2 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators
SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance, however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with alignment.

- 1. DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS**
Children encounter AI in most online spaces, including games, streaming platforms, and social media. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples. Use fun scenarios to show how AI can be used for good, such as recommending books or helping with homework, and how it can be used for bad, such as spreading false information or being self-censoring or biased.
- 2. TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION**
AI can create convincing fake information, including fake news, photos, and deep fakes. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to ask if images and videos seem a bit off, and to ask if something doesn't seem right.
- 3. DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY**
Agree that as a parent you're protecting kids' data, sometimes involving parental supervision. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and how they protect personal data. Model good habits like creating two passwords (log in and recovery) and a consistent online presence in the home or school.
- 4. ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI**
Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or make projects. Help develop a confidence in their own ideas and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, make sure you're supporting them to think through their choices.
- 5. USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS**
Not all AI products are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or learning, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings and help children understand how to report any issues. For example, some educational tools recommend that children only be used with guidance and supervision by a parent.
- 6. USE AI TOGETHER**
Learning to work together with tools, while understanding how they work and what potential traps they can set, is a key skill. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This will engage children, help you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allow you to reinforce safe and responsible use while learning together.
- 7. SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE**
Consider when, where, and how AI tools can be used, and set clear rules on digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to create inappropriate content or share sensitive, confidential information with anyone online.
- 8. WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE**
While AI tools, like a calculator, help support the learning process, encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Remind them that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit their learning.
- 9. TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY**
Help children explore how AI works, where it might be used, and why ethical digital practices, including digital literacy, are important. AI is a powerful tool, but it's not a magic wand. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes, and that it's important to be respectful and to be aware of how AI can be used to harm others. Encourage children to be thoughtful and to be aware of their own digital footprint.
- 10. STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED**
AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and news that can help you stay informed and to be a good role model for your children. Stay curious and involved. Showing interest builds trust and encourages digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert
Helen is the world's largest CPD library for educators. The National College has transformed the way education professionals go about developing their expertise and managing complexity. Our three membership help all phases and types of learning: new entrants, new hires, mid-career, and build a culture of improvement.

Wake Up Wednesday
The National College

[@wake_up_weds](#) [www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

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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

Police: **101 or in an emergency 999**

