



Abbas & Templecombe Church School

Newsletter (1) Friday 9th January 2026



Collective Worship Reflections



In our collective worships this week we have been discussing New Year's Resolutions and being Agents of Change; doing something positive in our lives or to improve the lives of others. During our Wednesday reflection time children shared their thoughts on this reflection question - What will you do to be a positive agent of change? Many focused on their studies in school, but some considered how they treat the environment and others reflected on how they interact with their siblings.

NEXT WEEK - REMINDERS

Monday 12th	Rail Network Safety Workshop – Y5 and Y6 NSPCC Assembly (whole school) (see parent email sent on 8/1/2026)
Thursday 15 th	Treat Shop Thursday



Worker of the Week



NIGHTINGALE

Clark for doing great handwriting and reading - well done Clark for showing great perseverance.

Nancy for doing amazingly in her Maths work, completing the challenge. Well done Nancy!

ANNING

Olivia for showing wonderful imagination and improvisation skills, creating a dance inspired by an erupting volcano! Bravo, Olivia!

Lacey for showing wonderful imagination and improvisational skills, creating a dance inspired by an erupting volcano! Bravo, Lacey!

BOWIE

Lola for a great start to the new term, a positive learning attitude and always having a smile on her face.

Harper for having a positive attitude to her learning and working independently on her writing.

ZEPHANIAH

Ava for being an active learner during our curriculum sessions this week.

Cory for remembering lots of key information about our past learning on prehistoric and Roman Britain.



Eliza from Bowie Class and **Lottie** from Nightingale for being helpful on the playground.



**Templecombe
Token
Certificates**



Congratulations go to **Cory** and **Amelia** from Zephaniah Class for achieving their Bronze Templecombe Token award.

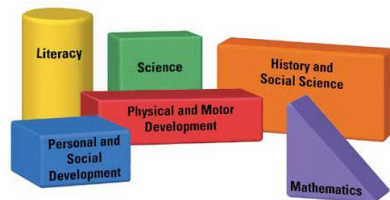
Out of School Achievements:

Congratulations to:

- **Scarlett** in Bowie Class for being awarded novice gold merits 2025, Participation Award in Wincanton Carnival, the Junior Effort 2025 Award as well as the Laver Memorial Award for "Little Miss Character" all from Cygnets Castle Cary

A big well done to all of you!

If your child achieves an award, medal or trophy through participating in an outside-of-school club or activity, we would love to hear about it and congratulate them at our weekly Wednesday worship. Please bring certificates etc to the school office.



Our Curriculum



Spring Term Curriculum Maps

Emails were sent out to parents today attaching the Spring Term Curriculum map for your child's class. The class maps are also on our website if you need to refer to them at any point.



Updates

Trading Items

Several children have brought items in from home today and traded them with other children in school. As best we can, we have returned items to their rightful owners and would ask parents to discourage children from bringing items in from home (unless prearranged due to a medical need or for, say, Show and Tell). Items brought into school are invariably mislaid or damaged which of course, leads to upset so it is best to keep things safe at home.

Roadworks

We have contacted Wessex Water today regarding the road closure signs on the main road, scheduled for 12th January. They confirm that this will, in fact not be a road closure, but the road will have traffic light controls for works to be carried out between 9.30am and 3.30pm so school drop offs/pick ups shouldn't be as severely impacted as a closure would cause.

After School Clubs

These are available to book on the Arbor portal before the deadline of 10am on Monday 12th January. This half term's choices are Yr3-6 Multi-Sports (Monday), Yr2-6 Choir (Wednesday), Yr2-6 Board Games (Thursday) and Yr1-2 Multi-Sports (Friday). Mr Ferrari will be doing the Multi-Sports and Board Games and Miss Ash is running the Choir. These clubs will run from 3.30pm-4.15pm on the designated days at a cost of £10 per child for this half term.

Parent Survey Feedback

As you know your feedback is incredibly important to us and helps us continue to strengthen our partnership with you and improve our school community. We were delighted to hear that so many of you feel your children are happy,

safe, and well supported at school. Many of you commented on the welcoming atmosphere, the friendliness and dedication of our staff and the strong sense of community. It is wonderful to know that children enjoy school and feel settled.

You also shared some helpful suggestions on how we could improve further – particularly around giving more advance notice of events and making communication even clearer and easier to follow. We are listening and we are already working on some ways to make this even better.

What We Are Working on Next

To help make communication even clearer and more accessible, we plan to:

- Provide clearer reminders ahead of school events.
- Highlight any new or updated information more clearly in newsletters – we have introduced a 'Next Week - Reminders' box in addition to highlighting new events in green on the diary dates list at the end of each week's newsletter.
- We will share a simple guide to help you know the best way to communicate with teachers (e.g. email, phone call, quick chat, or requesting a meeting).
- Continue to provide opportunities for informal conversations at the classroom door (pick up) and during open afternoons.

We are very proud of the strong relationships we have with our families, and your support and partnership are essential in helping us to provide the very best education and care for your children. Thank you once again for your honesty, positivity, and ongoing support.

Empowering Parents Programme



Empowering Parents Programme
Session Four

This 60-minute session, led by Emma Hemmings from The Essential Safeguarding Company, helps parents understand online gaming, explore risks such as chat, privacy, and spending, and learn practical ways to keep children safe and gaming responsibly.

We will also look at new and upcoming changes to restrictions on Xbox and Roblox, including age verification, parental controls, chat restrictions, and spending limits, so you are as up-to-date as possible on how best to protect your children while they play.

By the end of the session, parents will have practical tips and tools to manage gaming safely, set boundaries, and have meaningful conversations with their children about online play.

THE ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARDING COMPANY
Helping you help others

Online
29th January 2026
6pm - 7pm

The next session in the *Empowering Parents* series is taking place **online on Thursday 29th January 2026 at 6.00pm**. This session will focus on **online gaming** and will explore how parents and carers can support children to engage with this popular hobby safely, positively, and responsibly.

The session will provide practical tools, insights, and strategies to:

- Understand the online gaming world and why it appeals to children
- Recognise potential risks, including online safety and wellbeing concerns
- Support healthy boundaries, communication, and positive gaming habits
- Help children enjoy gaming safely while maintaining balance

Anyone wishing to attend the session will need to register for a ticket using this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1979863381671?aff=odtdtdcreator>

Previous Empowering Parents sessions have been recorded and we will share these over the coming weeks – the first of these recorded sessions is *Our Behaviour, Their Behaviour*. Please click on the link, then insert the username and password below to access the recording.

- Link: <https://www.safeguardingco.co.uk/support/>
- Username: empoweringparents
- Password: empowering2526

Children's Commissioner – Digital Guide for Parents

Please do look at this new online guide shared by the Children's Commissioner, which shares helpful information on helping children navigate our digital world [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives](#).



Every Learner Matters

The Importance of Routines for Children

Many children — not only those with additional needs — rely on routines to feel safe and calm. Predictable routines reduce anxiety, improve behaviour and help children transition smoothly through the day. In school, routines include consistent start-of-day procedures, clear visual schedules and structured expectations. These help children know what to expect and how to succeed.

At home, simple routines such as regular bedtimes, morning checklists or consistent after-school times can reduce stress and support learning. Strong routines build confidence and help children thrive both academically and socially.

And finally...

Happy New Year to you all! We are all so impressed with how well the children have settled back into school life. Already this week we have seen lots of great learning! Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Brazier

DIARY DATES - 2025/26 Academic Year

If text is highlighted in green this is a change / addition to the diary dates

JANUARY:

Monday 12 th	Rail Network Safety Workshop – Y5 and Y6
Thursday 15 th	Treat Shop Thursday
Tuesday 27 th	Muddy Church – Candlemass

FEBRUARY:

Wednesday 4 th	Anning and Zephaniah online ballet experience
Thursday 5 th	Treat Shop Thursday
Friday 6 th	Yr3/4 Residential – final payment deadline
Tuesday 10 th	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) house challenge
Wednesday 11 th	Anning and Zephaniah online opera experience
Thursday 12 th	Open Afternoon (Yr1-6 parents from 2.15pm / EYFS Stay & Play from 2.30pm)
Friday 13 th	3.30pm School closes for half term

16th FEBRUARY to 20th FEBRUARY – HALF TERM

Monday 23 rd	School re-opens
Tuesday 24 th	Muddy Church – Spring, new beginnings

MARCH:

Thursday 5 th	World Book Day Treat Shop Thursday
Mon 9 th / Tue 10 th	Yr3/4 Residential – Kilve Court
Monday 23 rd	Parents evening 3.40pm-5pm
Tuesday 24 th	Parents evening 3.40pm-6.30pm
Tuesday 31 st	Muddy Church – Easter

APRIL:

Wednesday 1 st	9.05am End of Term Awards
Thursday 2 nd	House Challenge a.m.

Easter Experience p.m.

3pm School Closes for the Easter Break (No After Fun provision)

3rd APRIL to 17th APRIL – EASTER BREAK

Monday 20th **INSET Day – school closed**

Tuesday 21st School re-opens

29/4 to 1/5 Yr 5 Residential

MAY:

Monday 4th **Bank Holiday – school closed**

Tuesday 5th Muddy Church

Thursday 7th **Treat Shop Thursday**

11th to 14th SATS Week

18th to 21st Year 6 Residential

Wednesday 20th KS1 Multi-Skills Festival @ KA

Friday 22nd **3.30pm School closes for half term**

25th MAY to 29th MAY – HALF TERM

JUNE:

Monday 1st **INSET Day – school closed**

Tuesday 2nd School re-opens / Y4 Multiplication check

Thursday 4th **Treat Shop Thursday**

Mon 8th/Tue 9th Phonics screening check

Monday 15th KS2 Top Link Festival @ KA

Monday 22nd Yr1-5 School Trip – to be confirmed

Tuesday 23rd Muddy Church

Friday 26th Non-uniform day for sweets for Tombola at Summer Fayre

Class & Year 6 Leavers' Photographs to be confirmed

Monday 29th Bikeability Day 1 (Yr6 and 5 only)

Tuesday 30th Bikeability Day 2 (Yr6 and 5 only)

JULY:

Wednesday 1st Swap a class afternoon **To Be Confirmed**

Thursday 2nd **Treat Shop Thursday**

Friday 3rd School Sports Event **To Be Confirmed** / PTFA Summer Fayre **To Be Confirmed**

W/C Mon 13th *Yr6 Production – arrangements to follow*

Friday 17th Reports sent home

Monday 20th Yr6 Trip

Tuesday 21st Whole School Fun Day

Wednesday 22nd 9.05am End of Term Awards / 2pm Leavers Service in school

3pm School Closes for the Summer Break (No After Fun provision)

Please note: all activities/events mentioned above are subject to postponement or cancellation at short notice in line with any change in Government guidelines/internal school staffing pressures.