



Abbas & Templecombe Church School

Newsletter (1) Friday 12th September 2025

It is lovely to see everyone back after the summer break. All the children have been very keen and settled really quickly into being back in school. A special welcome to our new pupils, not just in Year Reception, but across the school. We hope you all had a good first week. We would also like to welcome Miss Hardiman who joins us as Nightingale's class teacher.



Collective Worship Reflections



As is usual, we begin the year with a focus on our four primary school values: love, perseverance, respect and inspire. This week we focused on the value of love through the story of the Good Samaritan. Jesus said we should Love our Neighbour - in other words we should care for each other. During our Wednesday reflection time, children shared their thoughts on these four reflection questions:

- Why do you think the Samaritan helped the man?
- What does love mean to you?
- Can you think of a time when you helped someone?
- How can we show love to our friends and family every day?



Worker of the Week



Nightingale

Rowan for singing confidently in front of the whole class

Charlie for always doing the right thing, being a great role model to the Foundation Stage children

Bowie

Jaxx for adapting to our new routines so brilliantly and taking on the role of a Year 2 with great independence. Well done!

Star for taking on the role of being a Year 1 so amazingly! You are becoming an independent learner and tackling learning challenges with confidence. Well done!

Anning

Isla P for getting into all the spaces in bench-ball - showing great attack and defence skills. A great start to Year 4.

Harvey for showing great maturity in all aspects of classroom routine and learning. A great start to Year 3.

Zephaniah

Cory for his enthusiasm towards reading and his fantastic participation in reading lessons.

Daisy for such a mature start to Year 6 - Daisy has set an excellent example.

Outside of School Achievements:

Congratulations to:

- **Emmet** from Bowie Class for learning CPR with the South Western Ambulance Service and British Heart Foundation.
- **Grace** from Bowie Class for participating in the Somerset Library Story Garden Summer Reading Challenge over the summer holidays.

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.



Anning Class

As part of our Science learning, Anning Class have been exploring what lies beneath the skin as we begin our study of the skeleton within our *Living Things* concept. We discovered the names of key bones in the body and then worked together to build our own skeletons — each one given a fantastic, imaginative name! By the end of the lesson, the classroom looked a little like Halloween had arrived early, with plenty of fun had by all.



Staffing

A quick reminder should you need it, of our staff roles this year. Mr Webb continues in his role as Executive Head over both our school and St Nicholas, Henstridge. He will generally be on our site on Tuesdays and Fridays going forward. As with last year, my role continues as Head of School and I will be in school all day on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays as well as Tuesday afternoons. Mrs Wicks begins her role as SENCO, her hours for this role will be the afternoons on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Safeguarding roles have also altered:

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads
Safeguarding Governor

Mrs Melissa Brazier
Mr James Webb and Mrs Molly Wicks
Mrs Gemma Titcomb

Flu Vaccination for All School Aged Children

You will have received an email today with all the information around the upcoming flu vaccinations in school which form part of the NHS routine immunisation programme for your child. Please complete the decision form on the link shown in the NHS letter **even if you do not consent to the vaccination.**

Attendance

If your child will be away from school through illness, please let the school office know by phoning in before 9.15am on the first day of absence. Please do leave an answerphone message if school staff aren't available to answer your call. We will be introducing the BWMAT's attendance framework over the next few weeks which has been put together by the Academy along with educational psychologists and is designed to support children and families to achieve good school attendance. We will be sending out more information soon.

Food and Drink in school

A reminder that we operate a "no nuts" policy due to concerns over undiagnosed nut allergies. We encourage healthy balanced meals with both our hot and packed lunches. In packed lunches we do ask that there are no glass bottles, cans of fizzy drinks, or chocolate bars/sweets/chewing gum. It is important to keep hydrated, i.e. not being thirsty, throughout the day as this is good for health and concentration levels. For this reason, children are encouraged to bring reusable "sports type" bottles of water with them into the classroom. All bottles should be clearly named. Your child can bring a fruit or vegetable snack for playtime, this should be brought into the classroom with them (please pack and label it separately from their lunch). Crisps should only be part of a packed lunch, not for snack time.

Medication in School

Please ensure you complete a new administration of medication form (available from the office) if your child requires any form of medication to be administered in school. This includes asthma inhalers. Please check on the Arbor portal that your child's medical information is up to date, to include any allergies and necessary medication. School staff are happy to administer medicines during school time but cannot do so without a completed form.

Collection Arrangements / Permission to Walk Home

A quick reminder to parents that if collection arrangements need to change during the school day, please telephone the office so that we are able to update class staff. If you wish your Year 5 or Year 6 child to walk home from school unaccompanied or to be released from their class to walk to meet you at another classroom on a regular basis, please provide written permission (an email to the office is fine) and this permission will run until you inform us of other arrangements (if any).

Year 6

We are encouraging our Year 6 to take on responsibilities around school this term. On Monday we selected Grace, Layla, Olivia, Amelia, Rupert and Matthew to be our first group of Worship monitors. They will be responsible for setting up the hall, welcoming everyone to worship and saying the closing prayer. Over the year they will also be involved in the planning and organisation of some worships. We plan to select a new set of monitors each half term, so they all get a chance to participate.

Throughout this year, Year 6 will be involved in supporting children in school during breaktimes, special events, listening to readers and for house challenges. They will also be involved in Parents Evenings, Open afternoons and planning events in school. They are great bunch and we are very much looking forward to the year ahead.

2026 Secondary School Applications

Please find below the dates and times of our local secondary school open evenings:

School	Date(s)	Time
Gillingham School	Wednesday 17 th September	6pm-8pm
King Arthur's School	Thursday 25 th September	4.30pm-7pm
Sturminster Newton High School	Thursday 25 th September	5pm-7pm
Gryphon School	Thursday 2 nd October	5pm-7.30pm



AGM – 7pm on Thursday 16th October 2025

Our PTA does amazing work organising events and raising money to purchase equipment and resources for all pupils to benefit from, we simply wouldn't be able to provide these due to our funding levels. For these events to take place a very dedicated team of volunteers meet regularly to discuss ideas, plan and agree spending with school staff. As the PTA is a registered charity it must meet annually for an AGM to appoint key positions (Chair/Treasurer/Secretary), report on the past year and plan for the year ahead. This meeting is taking place on **Thursday 16th October at 7pm** in school. A letter was sent home with your child today which includes a nomination slip and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to join the PTA team. Please complete and return the slip to the PTA postbox by the school office on or before Friday 10th October. If you are new to our school this is an excellent way to get to know some of your fellow parents and school staff.

The PTA need your help if they are to continue with their vital work. Please do come to this meeting, meet the team and consider how you might be able to support, in whatever way you can – without a growth in this leadership team, many events will simply not be able to take place this year.

In the meantime, there are other ways you can continue to help with our fundraising efforts through various avenues: **My School Fund** is an exciting initiative which combines the spending power of parents, guardians, school staff and other individuals to help boost school budgets. It's free for schools to register and individuals connected to the school can earn cashback rewards on their behalf as well as pocketing some for themselves when they spend with participating retailers, including Sainsbury's and Argos. Please do register using this link:

<https://www.myschoolfund.org/#/>

We continue to collect books and games/CDs/DVD's (anything with a barcode). Please put donations in the marked bins outside the school's front door, at the Eco Council Recycling Point.

Our next **Bag2School** collection is booked for Monday 10th November.

And finally...

It has been a great first full week back; the children have all settled well into the routines of school and have been working hard in lessons. In particular, the children who have started school joining us in Nightingale Class have really impressed us all! I also wanted to thank parents for their support on our new coming in arrangements, staff have reported some very positive feedback from the children. Please do remember that if you need to communicate anything that may impact on their day, send an e-mail to your child's teacher before 8:30am. If you are unsure of their email address please do ask the school office.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all bright and early on Monday.

Mrs Brazier

Whilst we are happy to advertise events in our area provided by third parties, we make no representations or warranties about the suitability of such products or services referenced in these advertisements for any purpose. Our inclusion of such products and services does not constitute their recommendation or endorsement.



Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

Emotional health

is your child 5-19 and are you
looking for confidential help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact your School Nursing Team

Just send a text
07480 635 515

Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.

Improving LIVES

FREE COURSE FOR SEPARATED PARENTS

Reducing the impact of separation on everyone

6 week online course



Helping parents navigate separation, putting the well-being of their children at the centre.

'Really feel my relationship with my ex has improved since being on this course.' said mum after June course



Course A: 8 October 6:30 pm - 8:30pm
Course B: 9 October 10:00am - 12 noon

To book place scan code or email
r.james@somerset.gov.uk



Welcome to the Somerset School Nurse Service!

We'd like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and the School Nursing Service to all families—whether your child is starting school for the first time or returning after the summer break. As part of Somerset's commitment to supporting children's health and wellbeing, our School Nurse Service is here to help your child thrive—both in and out of the classroom. School Nurses are qualified nurses and public health professionals who work with families of children aged 5 to 19, offering confidential advice, care, and support on a wide range of health topics. Whether it's guidance on sleep, healthy lifestyles, emotional wellbeing or continence, our team is here to support you and your child. We work closely with schools, families, and other professionals to ensure every child gets the help they need to stay healthy, happy, and safe. ChatHealth – Easy, Confidential Support via Text

ChatHealth is a confidential text messaging service for parents and carers of children aged 5–19. You can text a qualified school nurse for advice. Just send a text message to 07480 635515—available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (excluding bank holidays)



FREE Swim Trial

Contact Wincanton Sports Centre on
01963 824400 or email

harry.browne@freedom-leisure.co.uk

to book your child's FREE Swim Trial

Offer ends 20 September 2025



Learn to Swim Programme





September 2025						October 2025						November 2025							
M		1	8	15	22	29	Mo		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		3	10	17	24		We	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		5	12	19	26		Fr	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su	5	12	19	26		Su	2	9	16	23	30	
December 2025						January 2026						February 2026							
M		1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu		3	10	17	24	
W		3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26	
F		5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24	31	Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22		
March 2026						April 2026						May 2026							
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24		F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		Su	3	10	17	24	31	
June 2026						July 2026						August 2026							
M		1	8	15	22	29	M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		3	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su	5	12	19	26		Su	2	9	16	23	30	

Key:

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Term Time
- Inset Days
- Yr6 Tests
- Yr6 Residential
- Yr5 Residential
- Yr3/4 Residential

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 02 September – 24 October 2025 (39 days)
 Term 2: 03 November – 19 December 2025 (35 days)
 Term 3: 05 January – 13 February 2026 (30 days)
 Term 4: 23 February – 02 April 2026 (29 days)
 Term 5: 20 April – 22 May 2026 (24 days)
 Term 6: 01 June – 22 July 2026 (38 days) **TOTAL = 195**

Bank and public holidays 2025/26

Christmas Day	25 December 2025	Easter Monday	6 April 2026
Boxing Day	26 December 2025	May Day Bank Holiday	04 May 2026
New Year's Day	01 January 2026	Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2026
Good Friday	3 April 2026	Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2026