



# Abbas & Templecombe Church School

Newsletter (4) Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026



## Collective Worship Reflections



In our Collective Worships we have started a new topic focused on the 'I am' sayings of Jesus. This week we looked at Jesus saying, 'I am the Light of the World'. This fit in really well with a visit from Rev. Lydia who shared about the Christingle and the feast of Candlemas. Pupils were asked to reflect on the question "How could you ask God for help and not just when things are not going well?".

### Muddy Church

Lots of children joined us for this month's Muddy Church. Unfortunately due to the inclement weather, we had to use the hall, but our friends from the Church organised lots of great activities which the children really enjoyed. Next month's Muddy Church is on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 3.30 to 4.30pm - hopefully Forest School will have dried out by then...



### NEXT WEEK - REMINDERS

Open Afternoon (12/2/26) - booking form will go live

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Spring Disco
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Anning and Zephaniah online ballet experience
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Treat Shop Thursday
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Yr3/4 Residential – final payment deadline Yr5 Residential – deposit payment deadline Yr6 Residential – deposit payment deadline



**Worker of the Week**



## **NIGHTINGALE**

**Harper** for showing great perseverance in Year 1 and continuing to impress me everyday, well done Harper!  
**Rowan** has had a super positive week. He has shown amazing sharp-sitting and continuously shares great ideas in carpet time.

## **ANNING**

**Delilah** for beautifully embodying the chaos and beauty of a tornado in our 'Extreme Earth' dances. Well done, Delilah!  
**Jess** for independently asking for help with joined handwriting and it being reflected beautifully in subsequent writing. Well done, Jess!



**Zephaniah Class** for being very helpful in the playground last week.  
**Harvey Stt** for being polite in the lunch queue.

## **BOWIE**

**Mavis** for working hard this week; she has focused well and written some exciting statement sentences.  
**Amaya** for her inspiring learning attitude and perseverance with handwriting. Well done!

## **ZEPHANIAH**

**Darcey** for a well presented and detailed fact file about the life of Early Anglo-Saxons.  
**Olivia** for always working hard and giving 100%. A great role model!



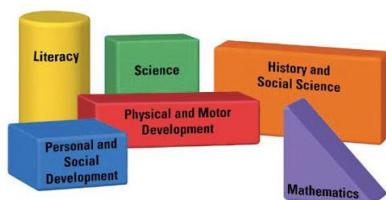
Congratulations go to:  
**Bodhi** and **Freddie E** in Zephaniah Class for achieving their Bronze Templecombe Token award.

## **Out of School Achievements:**

Congratulations to **Harrison** in Anning Class for achieving his white belt red stripe in Junior Tae Kwon-Do.

**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**



### **Nightingale Class**

This term, in Nightingale Class the children have been exploring a variety of exciting movement activities designed to build gross motor skills and improve coordination. Through obstacle courses, balancing challenges, rolling, stretching and jumping, children will strengthen their bodies, develop confidence and learn how to control their movements. Our gymnastics sessions encourage active play, teamwork, and lots of smiles as children discover just how amazing their bodies can be. Well done Nightingale team!





## **Snack Time Update**

This week, children across the school have taken part in our new **snack time** in class, where they have been encouraged to enjoy a healthy snack before playtime. This has been a great success and it's been lovely to see children enjoying their snacks together in a calm and positive way.

Teachers have been using this time in a variety of ways – from talking about the benefits of healthy eating and comparing different snacks, to enjoying a quiet moment reading the class book. As well as eating a healthy snack, children are building their understanding of what their bodies need to stay healthy and ready to learn.

Over the coming weeks, staff will continue to gently monitor snack choices so we can support children in making healthy decisions. If a child has chosen not to eat the healthy snack provided from home, we will encourage them to make a better choice from what they have. If a suitable snack isn't available, we will attempt to make a school healthy snack available instead.

Next week we will also be encouraging all children to **drink water with their snack**. Staying hydrated is important for children's general health and also supports dental hygiene by helping to wash food away from teeth. Thank you to all families for your continued support and effort with this initiative — it is very much appreciated.

## **Attendance – Working Together to Support Our Children**

Good attendance at school plays a vital role in children's learning, wellbeing and sense of routine. Being in school every day helps children build friendships, develop confidence and make consistent progress in their learning. This year, as part of our Academy Trust's Attendance Toolkit, we are required to send attendance letters to parents and carers when a child's attendance falls below certain percentage thresholds. These letters will also be issued even when absences are due to genuine illness that you have informed school about.

We are very aware that before Christmas and again this term, many families have been affected by significant illnesses, with some children becoming very unwell and in a few cases, requiring hospital care. We want to reassure parents that we fully understand these circumstances and agree that when children are genuinely unwell, they should not be in school. A child's health and recovery must always come first. The purpose of these attendance letters is not to cause worry or to challenge parents who have made the right decision to keep an unwell child at home. Instead, they are intended to keep families informed about their child's current attendance picture and to open up a conversation where support may be helpful. If there are ongoing health concerns or other difficulties affecting attendance, we encourage parents to speak with us so we can work together to offer appropriate support.

If you would like to know your child's current attendance for this academic year you can view this on the Arbor app on the main dashboard. Thank you, as always, for your continued cooperation and for the care you show in balancing your child's health with the importance of regular school attendance. By working together, we can ensure every child is supported to thrive.



**Every Learner Matters**

## **Connection-First: Relationships Before Reactions**

Children learn and behave best when they feel connected to the adults around them. **Connection-first** approaches prioritise understanding before correction. This means:

- Getting down to the child's level
- Using a calm tone
- Naming feelings

- Offering reassurance
- Solving problems *with* the child, not *to* the child

Connection doesn't mean letting go of boundaries — it means setting them kindly and clearly. When children feel connected, they are more able to listen, regulate, cooperate, and flourish.



### Spring Disco – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Today is the deadline to return the booking form for your child to attend the disco next week. If you can volunteer to help at one or both of the sessions, please do contact the PTA on their email address shown above. **If you have booked After Fun that day but your child will be attending the disco instead, please use the Arbor parent portal to cancel/amend your booking.**

### And finally...

It's been a wonderful week with a positive focus on health and wellbeing throughout the school. Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

*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.

### Sticky Finger's Preschool hosts a virtual Eco-Balloon Race to raise money for their new Mud Kitchen!



- **Date: 14th February 2026**
- **Location:** Virtual, follow online
- **Tickets/Registration:**  
<https://bit.ly/EcoBalloonRace>

**Date of release: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026**

**Date of event: 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

A unique Valentines Balloon Race, starting from the Eiffel Tower in Paris on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to raise funds for Sticky Fingers Pre-School's Mud Kitchen and warmer all-in-one puddle suits for the children so that they can reap the benefits of outdoor, messy play all year round! Simply buy a virtual balloon to be in with a chance of winning a wonderful prize! This event is virtual, meaning no balloons are physically released, but will be conducted with real-time weather data and you can track your balloon online via the Eco-racing website, or on Google maps.

Mike Phillips, inventor of the world's only 100% eco-friendly, non-gambling, virtual balloon race systems said "All balloon racers can have great fun decorating their balloon and changing the three flight parameters like helium content to increase their chances of winning a prize. And of course, the more money you raise, the bigger and better Mud Kitchen the school can have. Plus, follow your balloon 24/7 for even more fun."



One of our pupils is participating in this show!

## DIARY DATES - 2025/26 Academic Year

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

### **JANUARY:**

<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Sycamore House non-uniform day Deadline for Young Artists' Summer Show consent forms to be returned Deadline for return of booking forms for Spring Disco
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### **FEBRUARY:**

	<b>Open Afternoon (12/2/26) - booking form will go live</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Spring Disco
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Anning and Zephaniah online ballet experience
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Treat Shop Thursday
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Yr3/4 Residential – final payment deadline Yr5 Residential – deposit payment deadline Yr6 Residential – deposit payment deadline
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) house challenge
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Anning and Zephaniah online opera experience
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Open Afternoon (Yr1-6 parents from 2.15pm / EYFS Stay & Play from 2.30pm) Pre-loved uniform available at Open Afternoon
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3.30pm School closes for half term</b>

### **16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY to 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY – HALF TERM**

<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	School re-opens
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Muddy Church – Spring, new beginnings
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Church Street Dental Centre team – dental hygiene talks for all children</b>

### **MARCH:**

<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Deadline for Young Artists' Summer Show applications IF APPLYING AT HOME
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	World Book Day Treat Shop Thursday
<b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup> / Tue 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Yr3/4 Residential – Kilve Court
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Non-uniform day for Easter Egg Bingo prize - <b>to be confirmed</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Parents evening 3.40pm-5pm (Pre-loved uniform available)
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Parents evening 3.40pm-6.30pm (Pre-loved uniform available)

<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Easter Bingo – <b>to be confirmed</b>
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	Muddy Church – Easter
<b>APRIL:</b>	
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	9.05am End of Term Awards Dare to be Different Day (more info to follow) Movie 'n' Munch
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	House Challenge a.m. Easter Experience p.m. <b>3pm School Closes for the Easter Break</b> (No After Fun provision)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL to 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL – EASTER BREAK</b>	
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>INSET Day – school closed</b>
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	School re-opens
<b>29/4 to 1/5</b>	Yr 5 Residential
<b>MAY:</b>	
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bank Holiday – school closed</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Muddy Church
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Treat Shop Thursday
<b>11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup></b>	SATS Week
<b>18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Year 6 Residential
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	KS1 Multi-Skills Festival @ KA
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3.30pm School closes for half term</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> MAY to 29<sup>th</sup> MAY – HALF TERM</b>	
<b>JUNE:</b>	
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>INSET Day – school closed</b>
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	School re-opens / Y4 Multiplication check
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Treat Shop Thursday
<b>Mon 8<sup>th</sup>/Tue 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Phonics screening check
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	KS2 Top Link Festival @ KA
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Yr1-5 School Trip – to be confirmed
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Muddy Church
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Non-uniform day for sweets for Tombola at Summer Fayre <i>Class &amp; Year 6 Leavers' Photographs to be confirmed</i>
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Bikeability Day 1 (Yr6 and 5 only)
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Bikeability Day 2 (Yr6 and 5 only)
<b>JULY:</b>	
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Swap a class afternoon <b>To Be Confirmed</b>
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Treat Shop Thursday
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	School Sports Event <b>To Be Confirmed</b> / PTFA Summer Fayre <b>To Be Confirmed</b>
<b>W/C Mon 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Yr6 Production – arrangements to follow</i>
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Reports sent home
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Yr6 Trip
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Whole School Fun Day
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.05am End of Term Awards / 2pm Leavers Service in school
<b>3pm School Closes for the Summer Break</b> (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.