



Abbas & Templecombe Church School

Newsletter (4) Friday 30th 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 24th 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 rd	Spring Disco
Wednesday 4 th	Anning and Zephaniah online ballet experience
Thursday 5 th	Treat Shop Thursday
Friday 6 th	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!

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!



Zephaniah Class for being very helpful in the playground last week.

Harvey Stt for being polite in the lunch queue.



Templecombe
Token
Certificates



Congratulations go to:

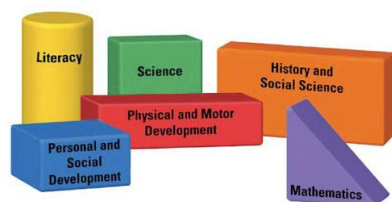
Bodhi and **Freddie E** in Zephaniah Class for achieving their Bronze Templecombe Token award.

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.



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.



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Spring Disco – Tuesday 3rd 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!



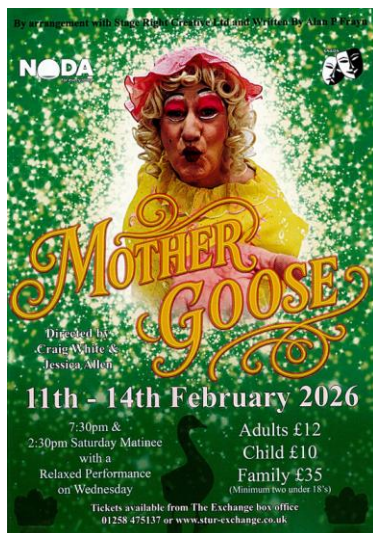
- **Date:** 14th February 2026
- **Location:** Virtual, follow online
- **Tickets/Registration:**
<https://bit.ly/EcoBalloonRace>

Date of release: 22nd January 2026

Date of event: 14th – 21st February 2026

A unique Valentines Balloon Race, starting from the Eiffel Tower in Paris on the 14th 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:

Friday 30th	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:

	Open Afternoon (12/2/26) - booking form will go live
Tuesday 3rd	Spring Disco
Wednesday 4th	Anning and Zephaniah online ballet experience
Thursday 5th	Treat Shop Thursday
Friday 6th	Yr3/4 Residential – final payment deadline Yr5 Residential – deposit payment deadline Yr6 Residential – deposit payment deadline
Tuesday 10th	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) house challenge
Wednesday 11th	Anning and Zephaniah online opera experience
Thursday 12th	Open Afternoon (Yr1-6 parents from 2.15pm / EYFS Stay & Play from 2.30pm) Pre-loved uniform available at Open Afternoon
Friday 13th	3.30pm School closes for half term
<u>16th FEBRUARY to 20th FEBRUARY – HALF TERM</u>	
Monday 23rd	School re-opens
Tuesday 24th	Muddy Church – Spring, new beginnings
Friday 27th	Church Street Dental Centre team – dental hygiene talks for all children

MARCH:

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

Saturday 28th	Easter Bingo – to be confirmed
Tuesday 31st	Muddy Church – Easter
APRIL:	
Wednesday 1st	9.05am End of Term Awards Dare to be Different Day (more info to follow) Movie 'n' Munch
Thursday 2nd	House Challenge a.m. Easter Experience p.m. 3pm School Closes for the Easter Break (No After Fun provision)
<u>3rd APRIL to 17th APRIL – EASTER BREAK</u>	
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
<u>25th MAY to 29th MAY – HALF TERM</u>	
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 <i>Class & Year 6 Leavers' Photographs to be confirmed</i>
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	<i>Yr6 Production – arrangements to follow</i>
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.