



Abbas & Templecombe Church School

Newsletter (1) Wednesday 4th September 2024

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 have a good first week.

In future weeks the newsletters will be sent on a Friday as normal, but we wanted to update you all on staffing roles as well as some general reminders:

Staffing

As we mentioned before we broke for the summer holidays, Mr Webb has now become Executive Head over both our school and St Nicholas, Henstridge. He will generally be on our site on Thursday afternoons going forward, so any queries on day to day matters which you would have previously addressed to him, will be dealt with by me in my new role as Head of School. I will be in school all day on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays as well as Thursday mornings. Mrs Mewett continues her role as SENCO and will be here in school on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Safeguarding roles have also altered:

Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Melissa Brazier
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads	Mrs Max Mewett and Mr James Webb
Safeguarding Governor	Mrs Gemma Titcomb

Class Names

We have changed our class names too, after inspirational British people which will also link to our curriculum:

Diamond	Nightingale (after Florence Nightingale)
Emerald	Bowie (after David Bowie)
Ruby	Anning (after Mary Anning)
Topaz	Zephaniah (after Benjamin Zephaniah)

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.

PE and Forest School Days

A reminder that children should please come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days and so that our use of Forest School can continue when the weather is less kind, please can you send wellington boots in on your children's Forest School days or, if you have a second pair, they can remain in school. Please ensure they are clearly named.

Class	PE Days	Forest School Days
Nightingale	Friday	Friday
Bowie	Monday and Tuesday	Tuesday
Anning	Monday and Wednesday	Friday
Zephaniah	Tuesday and Wednesday	Monday

Hot Meals / Breakfast and After Fun Clubs

A quick reminder that all of these items are available on the Parentmail app for ease of booking and payment. Regarding Hot Meals, the deadline for ordering will be ten days, for example, this Friday is the deadline for ordering meals for week commencing 16th September. If you wish to have a paper copy of the menu for information, please call into the office to collect one.

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. You will soon be receiving a data collection sheet for each child for checking and updating - please check 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 with 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).

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.

Ad Hoc MDSA vacancy

We are looking to recruit an ad hoc Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant to ensure we can cover when other supervisors aren't available. Experience of working with children in a voluntary or paid capacity is preferred. We have a really friendly and dedicated lunchtime team and full training will be given. The hours are from 11.45am until 1.15pm school term time only, with a commitment of around two to three days a week. This post requires a criminal background check via the disclosure procedure. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

2025 Admissions Process

School Admissions have asked us to publicise the admissions process for school place applications for September 2025. The online portal will be live for secondary applications from Monday 16 September and for primary applications from Monday 30 September. For children due to transfer to a secondary or upper school the closing date for applications is 31 October 2024 and the national offer day is 3 March 2025. For children due to start school for the first time or transfer to a junior or middle school the closing date for applications is 15th January 2025 and the national offer day is 16 April 2025.

The web pages and primary and secondary admission guides for the 2025 admissions process will be updated from early September and can be found on their website under "Applying for school" (someset.gov.uk). Parent/carers are advised to read the information thoroughly before making an online application. **It is a parent's responsibility to make an application by the closing date.**



Bag2School

We have booked our Bag2School collection dates for this academic year and the first one is on **Thursday 26th September**. Please bring donations to the lower playground gate by 9am that day.

Here's to a great start to our new school year.

Mrs Brazier



September 2024					October 2024					November 2024						
M	2	9	16	23	30	Mo	7	14	21	28	M	4	11	18	25	
Tu	3	10	17	24	Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu	5	12	19	26	
W	4	11	18	25	We	2	9	16	23	30	W	6	13	20	27	
Th	5	12	19	26	Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th	7	14	21	28	
F	6	13	20	27	Fr	4	11	18	25	F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa	7	14	21	28	Sa	5	12	19	26	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29	Su	6	13	20	27	Su	3	10	17	24	
December 2024					January 2025					February 2025						
M	2	9	16	23	30	M	6	13	20	27	M	3	10	17	24	
Tu	3	10	17	24	31	Tu	7	14	21	28	Tu	4	11	18	25	
W	4	11	18	25	W	1	8	15	22	29	W	5	12	19	26	
Th	5	12	19	26	Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th	6	13	20	27	
F	6	13	20	27	F	3	10	17	24	31	F	7	14	21	28	
Sa	7	14	21	28	Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	1	8	15	22		
Su	1	8	15	22	29	Su	5	12	19	26	Su	2	9	16	23	
March 2025					April 2025					May 2025						
M	3	10	17	24	31	M	7	14	21	28	M	5	12	19	26	
Tu	4	11	18	25	Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu	6	13	20	27	
W	5	12	19	26	W	2	9	16	23	30	W	7	14	21	28	
Th	6	13	20	27	Th	3	10	17	24	Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F	7	14	21	28	F	4	11	18	25	F	2	9	16	23	30	
Sa	1	8	15	22	29	Sa	5	12	19	26	Sa	3	10	17	24	31
Su	2	9	16	23	30	Su	6	13	20	27	Su	4	11	18	25	
June 2025					July 2025					August 2025						
M	2	9	16	23	30	M	7	14	21	28	M	4	11	18	25	
Tu	3	10	17	24	Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu	5	12	19	26	
W	4	11	18	25	W	2	9	16	23	30	W	6	13	20	27	
Th	5	12	19	26	Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th	7	14	21	28	
F	6	13	20	27	F	4	11	18	25	F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa	7	14	21	28	Sa	5	12	19	26	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29	Su	6	13	20	27	Su	3	10	17	24	31

Key:

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

Term dates summary:

- Term 1:** 03 September – 25 October 2024 (39 days)
- Term 2:** 04 November – 20 December 2024 (35 days)
- Term 3:** 06 January – 14 February 2025 (30 days)
- Term 4:** 24 February – 04 April 2025 (30 days)
- Term 5:** 22 April – 23 May 2025 (23 days)
- Term 6:** 02 June – 23 July 2025 (38 days)

TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2024/25

Christmas Day	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2024	May Day Bank Holiday	05 May 2025
New Year's Day	01 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Friday	18 April 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25 August 2025