



Weekly Update: 24th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Dates for your diary

Monday 20th November	Deadline for Christmas Shoe Boxes
Thursday 23rd November 7pm	Free Parent Webinar: Creating a Safe Digital Playground for Your Child. Here is register link .
Tuesday 28th November	Stand Against Violence Workshop for Year 6
Wednesday 29th November	Mrs Robinson from Huish Academy visiting Year 6
30th November; 1st and 2nd December	PTA Grotto
Saturday 2nd December	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 5th December	Pippin Class Christmas Craft Morning
Tuesday 5th December 5pm	Year 6 Parents SATs information evening
Wednesday 6th December	Christingle Making (Fundraising for The Children's Society)
Wednesday 6th December 3.45pm	Choir at Langport Tescos
Thursday 7th December 7-9pm	PTA Wreath Making
Friday 8th December	Christmas Jumper day (Fundraising for Save the Children)
Tuesday 12th December 2pm	PTA Elfridges Shop (In school day)
Wednesday 13th December	Afternoon Nativity performance to Year R,1 & 2 parents
Thursday 14th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 15th December 9.15am	Panto, gifted by the PTA followed by Noodles Ice Creams
Tuesday 9th January	Evening Nativity performance to Year R,1 & 2 parents (6pm)
Wednesday 3rd January	Carol Service at St Andrew's Church
Spring term	PTA Raffle Draw
Spring INSET Days	Last Day of term
Spring Half Term	Day of European Languages (Spanish Day)
Summer term	First day of the spring term
Summer INSET Day	2 January- 28 March 2024
Summer Half Term	2 January and 9 February 2024
	10 February-18 February 2024
	15 April- 24 July 2024
	15 April 2024
	25 May- 2 June 2023

Writing Across the School

English has an important part to play in both education and society. A high-quality English curriculum will teach children to speak, read and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others, and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. All the skills of English are essential to participating fully as a member of a school and society.

Writing provides children with a vehicle to express who they are as people and to actively engage in daily life. Writing makes children's thinking and learning visible and permanent. It provides children with opportunities

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to explain and refine their ideas to others and themselves. Throughout education, pupils need to write, and all tests and examinations require the ability to write, even if in the 'real world' handwriting is not seen as important, and ChatCBT can compose everything for us!

Learning to handwrite and compose is a complex process, and this is a real focus of improvement across the school. Mrs Samuel (our English Lead) is very much focused on supporting the teachers in ensuring that writing opportunities are inspiring, purposeful and impactful. This week, I have enjoyed reading Pippin's Mermaid poetry, Discovery's descriptive pieces and Camelot's outstanding essays on volcanoes.

Attendance Update

The Local Authority (LA) Engagement Officer had met with me this week in regard to pupil attendance. In line with LA policy, we have been advised that in the case of medical appointments, in order to apply the correct attendance code, we will require evidence. If this is not supplied, this will be marked as an unauthorised absence. Medical receptionists can be asked for a slip if you do not have a letter or reminder message- if you having a problem with this, do let us know.

Waste Reduction and Eating

Lunchtimes are so important to the children to relax, refuel and socialise. We also want to reduce waste and encourage children to eat their meals. Understandably, as parents and carers you want to be sure your child has eaten their lunch. We are starting a new trial, where we will be noting any concerns where children are not eating much of their meal, and if after encouragement we are still concerned, Mrs Dance, our kitchen manager will contact you- this will enable you to discuss the menu choices with your child or adjust items in packed lunches- we hope that you find this supportive.

School Council

We are a child centred school, valuing the voices of the pupils. The School Council recently met their classes and fed the following information back to Mrs Davies, our business manager who oversees the work of the School Council. The area of discussion: 'Safety and Happiness'

What is mental health and wellbeing?

- How you feel and the way you think
- Taking care of your brain and feeling happy or sad
- Make people happy if they feel lonely
- Being safe, looking after people and yourself
- Look after your body, staying alive. Be happy and healthy.

How does our school support your mental health and wellbeing?

- Place 2Be, Trusted adults, Movement breaks.
- Mindfulness time and PHSE, ELSA.
- Encouraging us to be kind to others
- Teachers checking in on you.
- Nice friends and staff

What do you do in school if you have worries or problems?

- Worry box, trusted adult. Place 2Be

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- Talk to friends and other staff.

Where and when do you feel safe in school?

- Place 2Be and with my friends, teachers and in the classroom.
- Playground with my friends. Doing reading and drawing.
- Being outside when adults are there.

Are there places or times that you do not feel safe? (Leadership Actions in Red)

- Noisy toilets and no adults there. Silliness in the toilets. *(Staff outside in corridor monitoring every lunchtime)*
- Basketball and getting hit with a ball, it's big and hard. *(Supervising staff made aware and increasing supervision)*
- Walking on roads without parents or being outside if you fall over without your friends or an adult around.
- Walking home alone from school. Walking home in the rain.
- Being outside or alone at home.
- At Westfield, teenagers chasing us, smoking, throwing rubbish and trying to steal your bike.

What ideas do you have to improve mental health, wellbeing and safety in school? (Leadership Actions in Red)

- Colouring outside and have a secret signal for an exit card *(Extra colouring provided)*
- More teachers playing or watching
- More colouring pens and chalks, lids have been left off and they have dried up. *(Provided)*
- Segregate the basketball area off. Put football nets and goals up. *(In process)*
- Calming down area with fidget toys, squishies and puppets. Can this be in Place 2Be? *(New resources provided)*
- More skipping ropes, would like monkey bars, slide or a trampoline. *(Skipping ropes ordered)*

Parent Family Support Adviser

Feedback you gave regarding few people attending out PFSA open coffee mornings suggest you did not attend because you did not know what the PFSA does and did not know it was an open event. Victoria is our PFSA would like to introduce herself:

My name is Victoria and I am the PFSA for the HUIISH CLP schools. I am married and have two children aged 11 and 9. I have previously been a family support worker, Nursery Nurse and also an Assistant practitioner with the health visiting service, so I have a wide range of knowledge across all age groups.

What is the role of a Parent & Family Support Adviser?

If you need advice, support and guidance on any issues affecting your child and family, or your school, then a Parent and Family Support Advisor can help.

Parenting is not an easy job and sometimes things can get tough. I am here to listen to you, without judging, and to support you through challenging times.

I am here to...

- *Impartially support families and young people to enable our children to gain maximum benefits from their education.*

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- Work in partnership with families and their schools to help our children reach their full potential
- Work closely with other Professionals where necessary or to direct you to other services which may be useful
- Be there to work with and support you and your child if you are experiencing difficulties

All families go through difficult times. This can affect children's ability to do well at school.

I can help you by advising and working with you on issues such as:

- Building a partnership between home and School
- Supporting Children in school by providing sessions to focus on their difficulties.
- Behaviour (in and out of school)
- Parenting Concerns
- Family Issues
- Emotional/Mental Wellbeing
- Confidence building
- Attendance at School/School Anxiety
- Feeling Isolated
- Support for parents/carers who want to go back to work or education
- Finance/housing.
- Arranging and attending meetings.

Referrals are made through your school's head teacher or SENCO.

Message from the PTA

Christmas Fair - 2nd December. Grotto - 30th November-2nd December

The PTA are in full organising swing setting up for the grotto and the fair. There are still a few spaces in the grotto so do book to avoid disappointment. Visit our website to book.

Sponsors
WIZARD
Pitt Rivers
Sainsbury's

Santa's Grotto

Curry Rivel School Christmas Fair

**30th Nov to 2nd Dec
Curry Rivel School**

**2nd December
11am - 2pm**

Story with Santa and a gift.
Hot food, drinks and milkshakes
will be on sale on all days.

Book now →

Thursday and Friday enter via school back gate.
Saturday come through the fair using the front gate

Games, cakes, gifts, crafts,
cakes, milkshakes, bar,
hot food and drinks,
Firehouse pizzas

All PTA stalls will accept cash or PTA Bux

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Winter warmer - 1st December 3.15pm

In preparation for our fair on the Saturday we will be opening our PTA shepherd hut for milkshakes and hot chocolates in the back playground on Friday. Do come and join us for festive music and cheer from 3.15pm.



Carols at Tesco Langport - 6th December 3.45pm

Join us at Langport Tesco as the School Choir fills the air with carols and festive tunes. There will be bells, lively jazz hands, and the cheerful sight of Christmas hats! 🛎️🔔🌟



Elfridges - 8th December

The PTA elves will be setting up their Christmas shop in school on Friday 8th. Gifts will be available from £1. Each class will have the opportunity to come and visit during the day. PTA Bux or cash will be accepted. Buy PTA Bux at our website shop.

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Lates

We are aiming to reduce the number of pupils who arrive late.

Class	Number of last week	Number of lates this week
Pippin	3	2
Maigold	2	3
Gala	4	3
Discovery	2	1
Camelot	3	5
Blenheim	4	3
TOTAL	18	17

Please remember that being late can lead to your child:

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss of learning time.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

Attendance

Class attendance award: Discovery (97.7%)

Most improved class attendance: Camelot (96.8%)

Celebration

We were able to welcome parents/carers to our celebration assembly today. Well done to the following pupils:

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Class Cup Awards

Pippin: Arlo
Maigold: Elly
Gala: Archie T
Discovery: Freddie
Camelot: Elcie
Blenheim: Clemmie

Lunchtime stars

Pippin: Mia
Maigold: Louis
Gala: Thomas

50 Merit (Dojo) Certificates:

Pippin: Delilah, Amelia, Max
Maigold: Honor, Isla, Phoebe, Emily
Gala: Azalea, Finley, Eli M
Camelot: Beth, Tommy, Brooke
Blenheim: Bea, Joseph

TTRockstars Competition

	Gala	Discovery	Camelot	Blenheim
1	Rosie	Michelle	Tommy	Joseph
2	Izabelle	Evie	Jack	Casper
3	Luca	Lilly	Barney	Holly

Classes: 1st: Blenheim; 2nd: Discovery; 3rd: Camelot

Achievements outside of school:

Finlo (Maigold): Huge progress in learning the piano

Wildlife Fair - Drayton Village Hall (TA10 0LH)
Saturday 25th November
9.30am-4.00pm
Parking at the Drayton Crown Pub

- Revealed - the beauty and magic of our wildlife
- Talks from wildlife experts throughout the day
- Shop wildlife-related/locally made goodies: art, bird, bat and hedgehog boxes, pottery, textiles etc
- Hear about local conservation projects
- Meet and talk to the experts
- Discover how to get involved
- Learn about the Somerset Tree and Somerset Nature Recovery Strategies
- Meet Councillor Dixie Darch (Lead for Climate Change and Environment)

Come and see the work of our amazing wildlife teams

Wild Otter Trust
Bumblebee Conservation
Somerset Wildlife Trust
Reimagining The Levels
RSPB
Somerset Tree Strategy
Somerset's Nature Recovery Strategy
Kingsbury Wildlife Group

£3 on the door, come and go as often as you'd like on one entry. Children free.
Money will be split between the wildlife charities
Snacks, drinks, hot lunch available by donation: vegan or meat hotpot
For more info - email gracefulbadgerforestschoo@gmail.com

MIS All BOOK

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Have a good weekend.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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