

"Sharing life in all its fullness." John 10:10

Values : The value we are focussing on this half term is Respect.

Dear Parent/Carers,

I would like to thank you for your continued support over this half-term. We are really proud of the huge amount of learning that has occurred and I hope you enjoy reading the section about what the children have shared that they have enjoyed. Have an enjoyable half-term. **School re-opens to the children on Tuesday 3rd November.**

Year 6 Visiting the Wellington Cemetery

On Wednesday this week, Year 6 were joined by members of the Royal British Legion as they placed flowers and crosses on the war graves in Wellington Cemetery. This is a very special event for our children as it is a key part of their personal development, connects to a number of our school values and reminds them why we have the poppy as part of our school logo. Moving forward, one class a month will now visit the cemetery and place flowers on the war graves meaning that all children from Badgers to Woodpeckers will have experienced this by the end of the academic year.



Readathon

The PTFA Readathon was launched with the children yesterday, they will have brought home a recording sheet and sponsor form today. This is a great way to continue to encourage the children to read as well as raise money that then goes back into the school to benefit all children. Enjoy and we look forward to lots of children taking part.

Primary School Applications

For primary school places, applications can be made from 28th September and must be submitted by 15th January 2027. This applies to all children starting school for the first time in September 2027, as well as those moving between infant and junior or first and middle school.

https://emsonline.somerset.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

Secondary School Applications

The secondary school application deadline is Friday 31st October. A guide of how to apply is below.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/secondary-admissions-guide/#:~:text=You%20can%20apply%20on%20our,sent%20by%20second%20class%20post.>

The local authority admissions team have asked us to share the following information:

*If your child is due to transfer to secondary school next September please be aware that places in Taunton and Wellington are limited due to a high birth rate. It is really important that you apply on time (deadline 31st October 2026) and choose 3 preferences of school. We also **strongly recommend** you include your catchment school as one of your preferences.*

If you do not include your catchment school among your preferences and are refused your preferred schools, we cannot guarantee your child a place in the local area. Your child may then be offered a place at a school further away with no entitlement to travel assistance.

Learning over half-term

Building on from the Readathon, please encourage your child to read over the half-term holidays and to keep practising their spellings and number facts. Repetition of key facts is a highly effective strategy to retain information in the long term memory. The websites we use in school including purple mash, spelling shed, Numbots and times table Rockstars are designed to support this overlearning.

Reading Champions

Congratulations to our newly appointed Reading Champions. Already they have had several training sessions with Miss Whelan, where they have learnt how to use the librarian software 'Libre Soft'.

This role will rotate every half-term, meaning there will be another chance to apply around Jan 2027.

Miss Whelan



Learning this half-term

Badgers: • I enjoyed the owl visit - Baley the Barn Owl from the Barn Owl Trust • I enjoyed making the bird and tree collage • I have enjoyed phonics • I enjoyed our Harvest Service	Hedgehogs: • I enjoyed learning about the continents • I've enjoyed our maths lessons • I enjoyed drawing our faces in art • I've enjoyed learning about animals in science
Kingfishers: • I have enjoyed developing our footwork and balance in PE • I enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London in our history lessons • I have enjoyed using manipulatives like Numicon in maths • I have loved our class story 'Portly the Otter' by M.G Leonard	Otters: • I have enjoyed learning and thinking about God in our RE lessons • I have enjoyed Forest School • I have enjoyed learning about otters and then writing our otter poems • I have enjoyed learning more about numbers; their value and then adding and subtracting them
Squirrels: • I've enjoyed learning to play the violin • I enjoyed doing the times table challenges • I've enjoyed science learning about living things as well as learning about countries and cities in geography • I've enjoyed writing poems in English	Tawny Owls: • I have enjoyed learning about the ancient Olympics in history • I have enjoyed reading both 'Percy Jackson' and 'Who Let the Gods Out' in shared reading • I enjoyed learning about the monotreme mammals' life cycle in Science • I enjoyed making quizzes in our Computing sessions
Woodpeckers: • I have enjoyed creating our own non-chronological reports about our own Greek Gods • I loved the Yr6 residential to Kilve Court - the high ropes, the grass sledging, the beach walk and the campfire • I've enjoyed our PE sessions with both Mr Parsons and the Somerset County Cricket Coach • I have enjoyed our French sessions and learning the vocabulary about family	

Dates for your Diary

	October 2026
Monday 26th	Half term. School closed
Friday 30 th October	
Friday 30 th	Closing date for Secondary School applications
	November 2025
Monday 2 nd	School closed to pupils – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 3 rd	School re-opens
Sunday 8th	Remembrance Sunday
Monday 9 th to Friday 13 th	Anti-Bullying and Tolerance Week
Wednesday 11th	Armistice Day
Wednesday 11 th	Tawny Owls to visit the Wellington Cemetery with flowers
Thursday 12 th	Parents' Evening
Thursday 12 th & Friday 13 th	SCARF RSHE workshops for each class
Friday 13 th	Children in Need
Tuesday 17th	Parents' Evening
	December 2025
Tuesday 8 th	Squirrels to visit the Wellington Cemetery with flowers
Wednesday 9 th	Christmas Jumper Day
	School Christmas Lunch 12 noon
Thursday 10 th	House Treat – Christmas Party 2-3pm
Monday 14 th	Badger Nativity Dress Rehearsal 1.35pm
Monday 14 th	Head Boy and Girl Tea Party at 2.40pm
Tuesday 15 th	Christmas Arts & Craft with parents 2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. Rockets to Year 6 in own classes
Wednesday 16 th	KS1 Christmas Service at All Saints' Church 9.15am
Wednesday 16 th	Badger Nativity 2.15pm
Thursday 17 th	Christmas Class Parties
Friday 18 th	KS2 Christmas Service at All Saints' Church 9.15am
	Final Celebration Assembly
	Last day of term
Monday 21 st to Friday 1 st January 2027	Christmas Holiday. School Closed
	January 2027
Monday 4 th	School closed to pupils – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 5th	School re-opens to pupils
Tuesday 5 th – Friday 8th	Arts Week
Friday 15 th	Closing date for Primary School applications for September 2027

Hedgehogs: Kingfishers: Otters: Squirrels Tawny Owls Woodpeckers



Bikeability:



External Achievements:



Star Learners:



House Points:

Blackdown: 479

Brendon: 545

Mendip: 479

Quantock: 433