



COUNTESS
GYTHA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Diary Dates

26th September 2025



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Bonjour, Hola, Hallo, Hoi, Ciao! Children had a fantastic time immersing themselves in cultures and languages from around Europe today. Their face paints, outfits and enthusiasm to join in with dances, food tasting and language workshops really proved how popular European Day of Languages remains across the school!



European Day of Languages 2025

Children in reception stayed for their first full week this year and what a success they have made of it! All of the children have settled brilliantly and it was a delight to hear the fun they were having together in their reading groups, which started as well this week for them. Parents of Merlin and Year 1 children are invited to join Miss Morris and Mr Gallagher on Monday from 3pm in the school hall to discuss the school's approach to phonics, [using the Little Wandle scheme](#) and early reading more generally.



Dance Festival Participants

I am pleased to report on a new sporting event this week, with eight of our talented children enjoying an exciting opportunity to attend a Dance Festival at Westfield Academy. During the event, they learnt a fantastic Rock 'N Roll routine, set to Let's Twist Again by Chubby Checker.



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The children threw themselves into the experience, picking up some brilliant moves and performing with huge smiles and confidence. At the end of the session, Seb, Lincoln, Wren, Emily, Molly, Harriet, Iyla and Isabelle wowed the audience with a lively performance that showed just how much fun they had!



XC Race 1 – Yeovil Rugby Club

Returning to our more regular events, Cross Country has always been a staple of our sporting calendar and Race 1 at Yeovil Rugby Club proved no different.

With 30 runners ranging from Year 2 to 6, Countess Gytha returned some impressive results from the first round, with Molly S placing 9th, Emily B 2nd and Grace in Lancelot finishing 1st!

With between 25 and 30 schools entering each age category, our runners did the school proud, averaging a team score of 5th place overall for Countess Gytha. Every runner counts towards the age category score and so the more runners we can encourage to take part, the better our team score will be. Therefore, a big well done to the Year 2s racing for the first time and we would be delighted to see more new faces at the next event on Monday 6th October. Letters will be available from Mr Gallagher and class teachers next week.



Those signed up for the carnival have been busy crafting their parade makes and we have had a lot of interest from across the school – if your child is interested but not yet signed up to the carnival. [please complete this brief Microsoft Form.](#)



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I would like you to join me in congratulating the following children who were recognised this week by their teachers for excellent hard work and dedication:

Merlin Class will be joining our Praise Assemblies in the second half of the Autumn term.

Pendragon – Congratulations to Elif, Pendragon's Star of the Week – for her beautifully presented work and handwriting as well as great use of finger spaces – keep it up, Elif! Pendragon's Worker of the Week this week goes to Primrose, for her fantastic efforts and focus during reading groups all week – great hear, Prim!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Maisie as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for being a superb role model to all in her class as well as showing great kindness to friends and peers alike. King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Summer, for her strong understanding of vowels in spellings as well as her grammatical use of determiners in her English – very impressive, Summer!

Excalibur – Wren is the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for helping and supporting peers (when needed) in a kind and caring way – wonderful news, Wren! Wren is also appearing for a second time as part of the Sarcoma UK appeal on Saturday afternoon, at 2:15pm on BBC1. Excalibur's Worker of the Week is awarded to Lincoln, for producing a brilliantly persuasive text to convince tourists to visit Greece! Lincoln shared some of his wonderful ideas in the assembly which got a few teachers wondering about their next holiday destination!

Lancelot – Wilf has been recognised as Lancelot's Star of the Week for impressing Mr Gallagher with his quick recall of maths facts and never being afraid to ask questions if unsure – an excellent start to the year, Wilf! Mr Gallagher's Worker of the Week goes to Emelia, for always contributing to class discussion; for trying her best in every lesson and for being a supportive shoulder partner – three in one, Emelia – very impressive!

A special mention this week goes Mrs Feierabend and Mrs Hewlett! As part of our ongoing commitment to offering the broadest curriculum to all our children, this pair of passionate teachers have worked with the children to gain the recognition of the RHS Level 2 and 3 awards, which now sit proudly in the foyer. A particularly big thank you goes to Mrs Feierabend, whose fundraising jive dance and raffle at Sparkford Hall last weekend raised over £300 for the school – a phenomenal effort, thank you!

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RHS School Gardening Awards



Congratulations

Countess Gytha Primary School

- You all contribute to your gardening plans
- You are learning new gardening skills
- You use gardening to support your wellbeing

Date: 2 September 2025

Handwritten signature of Alana Cama in black ink.

Alana Cama
Schools and Groups
Programme Manager, RHS

Handwritten signature of Clare Matterson in black ink.

Clare Matterson CBE
Director General, RHS



L2S 3

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RHS School Gardening Awards



Congratulations

Countess Gytha Primary School

- You grow and can name a range of plants
- You keep your plants healthy
- You are planet-friendly gardeners

Date: 2 September 2025

Handwritten signature of Alana Cama.

Alana Cama
Schools and Groups
Programme Manager, RHS

Handwritten signature of Clare Matterson.

Clare Matterson CBE
Director General, RHS



L3S 3

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School Harvest Information – Wednesday 1st October

The Lord's Larder Food Bank

Last year in 2024, over 163,000 items of food were given out via 70 different agencies to help over 9,342 local people, (5,678 adults and 3,684 children.)

All this would not be possible without the generosity of all those who happily support the Lord's Larder Food Bank Yeovil. If you would be interested in donating food for this Harvest, please consider the following:-

All food items need to be, unopened, in good condition and well **IN DATE**, If you would like to talk to the Lord's Larder contact 01935 726576, thank you for collecting.

List of Food Items

Tins of Curry

Tinned Ravioli

Tins of Chili Con Carne

Tins of Carrots

Porridge

Packets of Pasta

Toothpaste

Carrier Bags

*Please send in donations into school on Monday 29th September
and Tuesday 30th September 2025.*

*Collection table will be in the school hall and a box in the school
reception area.*

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday 	<h2>FRIDAY TUCKSHOP</h2> <p>Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p</p>	
Monday 29 th September	Lancelot Class and Year 5 Excalibur Class swimming session 3	
Monday 29 th September	Meet the Teacher and Phonics Information for Reception and Year 1 parents in the school hall. 3-3.45pm.	
Monday 29 th – Tuesday 30 th October	Donations for Lords Larder to be brought into school for Harvest Festival.	
Monday 29 th September	The Citizen Portal for starting primary school applications will open on 29 September 2025. The closing date for starting school applications is 15 January 2026.	
Tuesday 30 th September	AIM High Writing event for selected pupils.	
Wednesday 1 st October	Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 6 th October 2025. Completed booking forms can be emailed to wraparoundcare@countessgytha.ppat365.org	
Wednesday 1 st October	Harvest Festival – details to follow shortly	
Thursday 2 nd October	National Poetry Day	
Monday 6 th October	Lancelot Class and Year 5 Excalibur Class swimming session 4	
Wednesday 8 th October	9.15am School Tour for New Intake 2026 – please see office to book a place.	
Wednesday 8 th October	3.30pm Year 6 Parents meeting regarding SATs and residential	
Friday 10 th October	Yellow Hello Day – Details to follow	
Saturday 11 th October	Castle Cary Carnival Event	
Monday 13 th October	Lancelot Class and Year 5 Excalibur Class swimming session 5	
Wednesday 15 th October – Friday 17 th October	Scholastic Book Fair in hall	
Week commencing	Parents' Evening Events – Details to follow	

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20 th October	<i>Please note that there will be no enrichment clubs this week.</i>
Friday 17 th October	PTFA UV Disco – details to follow shortly 
Thursday 23 rd October	9.15am School Tour for New Intake 2026
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Half Term – school closed
Friday 31 st October	Deadline for Secondary school applications.
Friday 7 th November	School and Preschool Photography by Imago – Individual and sibling photographs.
Monday 10 th November	1.30pm School Tour for New Intake 2026 – please see office to book a place.
Tuesday 18 th November	10am School Tour for New Intake 2026 – please see office to book a place.

Have Your Say – Childcare Survey from Somerset Council

Somerset Council is seeking feedback from families around wraparound and holiday childcare needs across the county. The survey aims to collect information around current and future childcare needs, reasons why families may not use existing provision and any barriers or challenges families face. Where 10 or more responses are received, an anonymised summary will be shared with the school.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey by midday on 14th November 2025: <https://forms.office.com/e/5wZtEjuYqP>



For children with Medical, Health or Care Plans, please inform the office as soon as possible if there have been any updates or changes, which should be reflected in your child's plan.

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YOUNGMINDS

**Hello
Yellow**
FRIDAY 10 OCT

Wear it loud. Wear it proud.

This World Mental Health Day, 10th October, wear yellow and donate to YoungMinds.

Less than 1 in 3 young people are getting the support they need for their mental health. This needs to change. With your support – it can.

#HelloYellow

M&S | YOUNGMINDS

YoungMinds, registered Charity in England (1016968) and Scotland (SC039700)

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NEW TIME, NEW PLACE



GAMES

CHRISTIAN STORIES



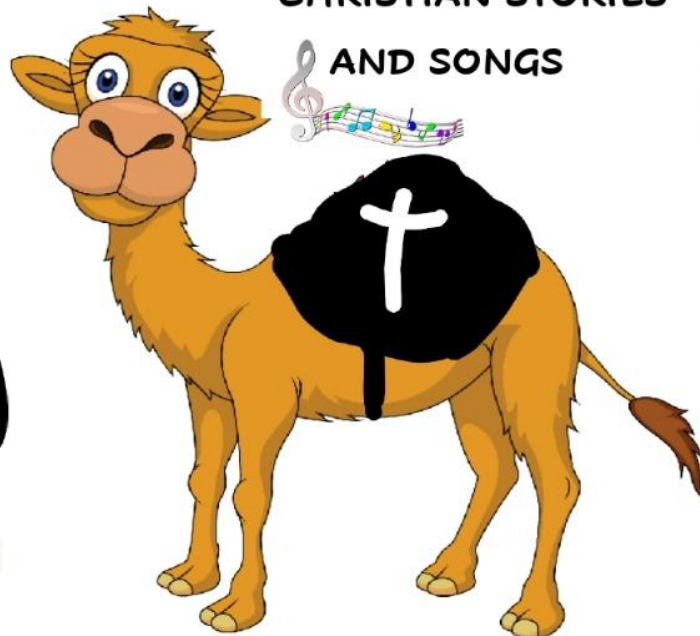
AND SONGS



COOKING



DRAMA



ART



CAMEL CLUB

WHERE? COUNTESS GYTHA SCHOOL

WHEN? EVERY MONDAY 3:30-4:30

FROM 15TH SEPTEMBER

WHY NOT COME AND GIVE IT A TRY?

To book a place please contact...

Rev Caroline Walker...07765 126355

carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

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COUNTESS GYTHA PTFA
UV DISCO

FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
3.30-4.45pm

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6
5.00-6.15pm

£ 3.00 PER CHILD -
INCLUDES DRINK, SNACK, GLOW STICKS & FACE PAINTING
Pre payment & permission slips will be sent home with children.



COUNTESS GYTHA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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20
25

UPCOMING EVENTS



UV DISCO

17TH
OCT

29TH
NOV

XMAS WREATH
WORKSHOP



COMING SOON-
ORDER PORTAL FOR
MY CHILD'S ART
CHRISTMAS CARDS



NOV

5TH
DEC

XMAS FAIR



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ChatHealth




Somerset
Council

Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

Emotional health



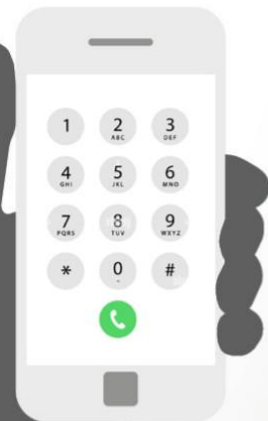
**is your child
5-19 and are you**
looking for confidential
help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact
your School Nursing Team

Just send a text

07480 635 515

Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.



Improving
LIVES

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Queen Camel Village Meeting-

Community Pub?



Monday 29th September
2025 at 7pm

Queen Camel Memorial Hall

A small group from your community has started exploring the potential for a community 'buy-out' of The Mildmay Arms, but it needs community support to progress.

- Do you think a Pub is important for the village?
- Are you interested in supporting a Community Buy-out of The Mildmay Arms to ensure it remains a continuous facility for the community?
- Do you have ideas on what a community pub should provide?
- Do you want to know what's involved and what needs to be done?

Come along to the Village Meeting to have your say and find out more. See you there 🙌👁️



Ministry
of Defence

Armed Forces Families & Safeguarding

2025 Service Pupil Premium

Get extra school funding to support your Service child!

- Are you a parent of a Service child in a state school, academy or free school in England?
- Is your child in Reception Class to Year 11?

If the answer is yes, your child may be eligible to bring in an extra £350 funding for their school with the Service Pupil Premium (SPP).

Simply inform your child's school of your Service status by 2 October 2025, otherwise they will miss out on extra funding.

How will the funding support my child?

The SPP is provided to fund mainly pastoral support to help Service children with their education and wellbeing. But it's for the school to decide how the money is spent.

Pupils attract SPP if they meet one of the following criteria:

- A parent is serving in the regular armed forces or is on full commitment Full-Time Reserve Service.
- A parent died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.
- They have been registered as a 'Service child' in the most recent DfE school census or in the census in the past 6 years.
- A parent is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England.

For general queries:

Email the MOD Armed Forces Families and Safeguarding team:
People-AFFS-Education-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk

For more guidance: Please scan the QR code:
(GOV.UK Guidance Service Pupils in Schools:
Non-statutory guidance)



Army Design Studio ADR013209

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Ansford Academy

Open Evening and Open Morning



Year 6 and Year 5 families are warmly invited to attend our open events

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 2nd October: 5.00pm until 7.30pm

Please join us to hear from our Head of School and take a tour around our school

Presentations will take place in PA2 at: 5.15pm and 6.00pm—no need to book in advance

OPEN MORNING

Wednesday 8th October: 9.30am until 11.00am

You are invited to come and see our students in action

School Tours will take place during the morning — no need to book in advance

“At Ansford we are aiming high and dreaming big”— Year 11 Head Students

We are celebrating our best GCSE results in recent years, marking a significant milestone in our school's academic journey. We are committed to creating a great place to learn, work and grow;
learning together to lead our lives

Ansford Academy, Maggs Lane, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7JJ - 01963 350895 - admissions@ansford.mnsp.org.uk - www.ansford.org.uk

Singing Lessons

Available from September

- ★ Fun and engaging lessons!
- ★ Learn to sing your favourite songs with confidence
- ★ Work towards Rockschoo grades
- ★ Improve vocal & breathing techniques
- ★ Grow musicianship skills
- ★ Suitable for Year 3 and above

Free 15 minute session available before starting regular lessons (£18 per half hour thereafter)

Please contact
janebaileymusic@gmail.com to book in!



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TRY RUGBYTOTS FREE*



rugbytots.co.uk

The world's favourite rugby play programme



TRY RUGBYTOTS FREE*



Rugbytots is the world's favourite rugby play programme. Our dynamic weekly classes enable **boys and girls aged 2-7** to develop their social and physical skills in a fun, positive environment. To book a **FREE** taster session, email or call us, mention **NURSERYOFFER** and tell us your preferred class location (scan the QR code or visit rugbytots.co.uk to find this, or just tell us your postcode).

freetaster@rugbytots.co.uk
0345 313 3242

* Subject to availability



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CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL, AND CAN I LODGE MORE THAN ONE APPEAL?

There aren't any places at my preferred school, what can I do now?

I'VE MOVED INTO THE AREA AND NEED HELP FINDING A SCHOOL FOR MY CHILD.

IS THERE ANYONE THAT CAN SUPPORT ME PREPARING FOR MY APPEAL?

CHOICE ADVICE

Advice and support on school admissions and appeals



Call us on **01823 356 903**



Fill in our online form
www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice



Contact us via email
choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk
or scan the QR code



Somerset
Council



Somerset Choice Advice Service

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 *North Cadbury Primary*

ACTIVE CAMP

➔ OCTOBER HALF TERM (27TH TO 31ST)

MONDAY

Nerf Battles and Laser Tag Day

TUESDAY

Target Day

WEDNESDAY

Tournament Day

THURSDAY

Inflatable Day

FRIDAY

Olympic and Paralympic Day



WWW.TLESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK

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Ilchester Warriors

U11's

We're looking for a player to complete our talented U11 Girls Squad as we move to 9v9 football!

- ★ **Playing in the Dorset girls league**
- ★ **Matches played Saturday mornings**
- ★ **Training Monday & Wednesday's in Yeovil.**
- ★ **UEFA C & FA Qualified coaches**

Interested?

To find out more, get in touch with Aaron

☎ 07583 925136

Girls in school years 5 & 6

