



COUNTESS
GYTHA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Diary Dates

10th October 2025



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We wait with bated breath to find out whether our Carnival entrants will be enjoying parading in the dry with the amazing creations; if you're coming to watch, please give our team a wave and a cheer as we look to clean sweep the schools category three years running!

The children themselves brought the sunshine today, with the school celebrating this year's Hello Yellow event in aid of Young Minds. From Pikachu to golden princesses, yellow onesies to the brightest sunnies, the children looked incredible and raised over £150 – a brilliant effort and on behalf of Young Minds – thank you!

Monday saw round 2 of the school's Cross Country race calendar and what a fantastic effort from the runners to follow up on round 1's successes! The showground track is a challenging course, with plenty of hills and muddy stretches to test everyone's stamina – but our pupils showed incredible determination from start to finish.

A huge well done to Emily who won her race, Grace, who ran brilliantly to achieve 2nd place, and to Molly, who finished strongly in 6th place. All demonstrated fantastic perseverance and team spirit throughout. Every member of the team should be extremely proud of their performance; their encouragement for one another and positive attitude truly reflected our school values and is often commented upon by parents and peer



Carnival Entrants 2025!



XC Race 2



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school staff alike.

Our Year 6 netball team had a fantastic day representing the school at the recent Westfield Academy netball tournament! Across six exciting matches, the children gave it their all, winning two games and losing four in some very close contests. They finished on a real high, ending the tournament with an impressive 2-0 victory in their final match. Some amazing shots from Rosie.



Netball Team

The team showed brilliant teamwork, effort and positive attitudes – they represented the school brilliantly, and we're all very proud of you!

Parents may have spotted the posters advertising this year's Scholastic Book Fair. From Tuesday to Thursday, there will be an opportunity to visit the fair, with classes visiting together during the day as well. Much of the proceeds goes towards ensuring the school continues to offer relevant, engaging and inspiring books for all our classes.



Merlin Christmas Card Design

To round out next week, the PTFA have organised a UV-themed disco, with the group also assisting Merlin and Pendragon with their Christmas Card designs this week. Please see further details of the event on the poster below or speak to Nicki or Heidi from the committee for more information.



Hello Yellow 2025



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Hello Yellow
2025

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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:

Pendragon – Congratulations to Dylan, Pendragon's Star of the Week – for his brilliant contributions in English and for sharing his wonderfully imaginative ideas – great to hear, young man! Pendragon's Worker of the Week this week goes to Teddy, for his fantastic efforts and skill during his DT project of creating picture frames – lovely to hear, Teddy!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Bella as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for her excellent concentration and listening skills throughout all of her lessons – two weeks in a row is very impressive, Bella! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Anna, for writing an excellent description which included lots of expanded noun phrases – very impressive, Anna!

Excalibur – Emily is the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for being a super help in the classroom – especially tidying up around the room for the class – tidy space = tidy minds! Excalibur's Worker of the Week is awarded to Noah, for working hard with the mental addition and subtraction questions in maths – great work, Noah – keep it up!

Lancelot – Alex has been recognised as Lancelot's Star of the Week for writing an excellent narrative, full of action-packed description and short, snappy sentences to build tension – a brilliant read, highly recommended! Mr Gallagher's Worker of the Week goes to William, for always being a supportive peer as well as an outstanding WWII propaganda posters – excellent work, Will!

A special mention this week goes to William, who represented Yeovil District Swimming Club at the West Dorset Qualifier last weekend. He swam 5 races across freestyle, backstroke and fly and achieved 5 pb's, 5 County Championship qualifying times and 2 medals to add to his collection – all incredible achievements, Will – outstanding!



XC entrants –
Race 2

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Important Safeguarding Information

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

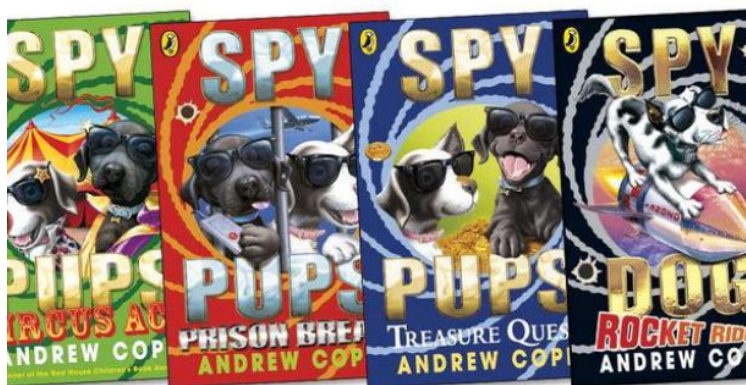


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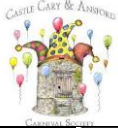
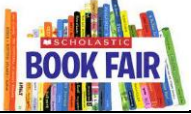
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news>

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday 	FRIDAY TUCKSHOP Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p
Saturday 11 th October	Castle Cary Carnival Event 
Monday 13 th October	Lancelot Class and Year 5 Excalibur Class swimming session 
Tuesday 14 th October	Year 2 Multi sports festival at Ansford Academy. Letters sent home 30.9.25.
Tuesday 14 th October, Wednesday 15 th October & Thursday 16 th October	Scholastic Book Fair in hall from 3.20pm 
Week commencing 20 th October	<i>Please note that there will be no enrichment clubs this week.</i>
Thursday 16 th October	Cheerleading Festival at Westfield Academy. Selected pupils only.
Friday 17 th October	PTFA School UV Disco – slips available from the school office. Please sign up and make payment by Wednesday 15th October. 
Monday 20 th October	Lancelot Class and Year 5 Excalibur Class swimming session 
Monday 20 th October	Cross Country Event at Yeovil Town Football Club #3
Monday 20 th October	Parents' Evening Meetings
Thursday 23 rd October	Lancelot Class 1940s Day. Letter sent home 10.10.25.
Thursday 23 rd October	9.15am School Tour for New Intake 2026
Thursday 23 rd October	Parents' Evening Meetings
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Half Term – school closed
Friday 31 st October	Deadline for Secondary school applications.
Monday 3 rd November	Back to school
Monday 3 rd November	Year 4 Excalibur Class & Year 3 King Arthur Class swimming session 1 
Tuesday 4 th November	King Arthur Class Trip to Cheddar Gorge. Letter sent home 9.10.25.
Friday 7 th November	School & Preschool Photography by Imago – Individual & sibling photographs.
Monday 10 th November	1.30pm School Tour for New Intake 2026 – please see office to book a place.
Wednesday 12 th November	Year 1 & Year 2 Cinema Trip – letter sent home 1.10.25

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Friday 14 th November	Children in Need 2025 – details to follow shortly.	
Tuesday 18 th November	Year 5 Dance Festival at Ansford Academy. Letters sent home 9.10.25.	
Tuesday 18 th November	10am School Tour for New Intake 2026 – please see office to book a place.	
Wednesday 26 th November	Year 3 & Year 4 Cinema Trip – letter sent out 1.10.25.	

The School Meals Menu for 3rd November – 5th December 2025 is now available on ParentPay.

Meals for the week commencing 3rd November must be booked by Wednesday 29th October 2025. (In half term).

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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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.



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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



SCHOLASTIC

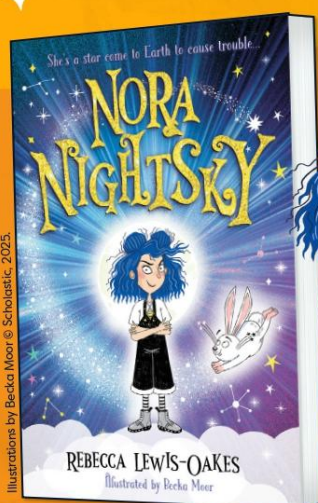
TRAVELLING BOOKS

Come to our

BOOK FAIR

to spot the books you'll
LOVE to read!

Every book
you buy earns
FREE
BOOKS
for our school*



Illustrations by Becka Moor © Scholastic, 2023.

Come and
find me!



My brand
new book!



Art © Dav Pilkey. DOG MAN TM/© Dav Pilkey.

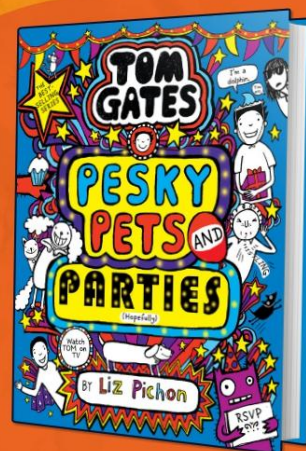


Illustration © Liz Pichon.

DATE:

TIME:

LOCATION:

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MORE NEW BOOKS

to look out for!



Books from
£2.99

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All books subject to availability.

Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You may pay by card at the Fair via card reader machines if your school has one or by using the online payment link at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in **£5, £10, £15, £20** and **£25**. Go to www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List – please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organiser or Scholastic Book Fairs for details.
All books subject to availability. Book range may vary. ⚠ Warning: Not suitable for children under 3. Small parts.

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PRIMARY SCHOOL



Christmas

WREATH WORKSHOP

SATURDAY

29TH NOVEMBER

7-9PM

SPARKFORD VILLAGE HALL

ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED TO CREATE YOUR OWN
WREATH TO TAKE HOME.

MULLED WINE (NON-ALCOHOLIC) & MINCE PIES.

£25 PER PERSON

BOOKING SLIPS AVAILABLE FROM SCHOOL OFFICE
OR EMAIL: COUNTESSGYTHAPTFA@YAHOO.COM

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

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NEW TIME, NEW PLACE



GAMES

CHRISTIAN STORIES



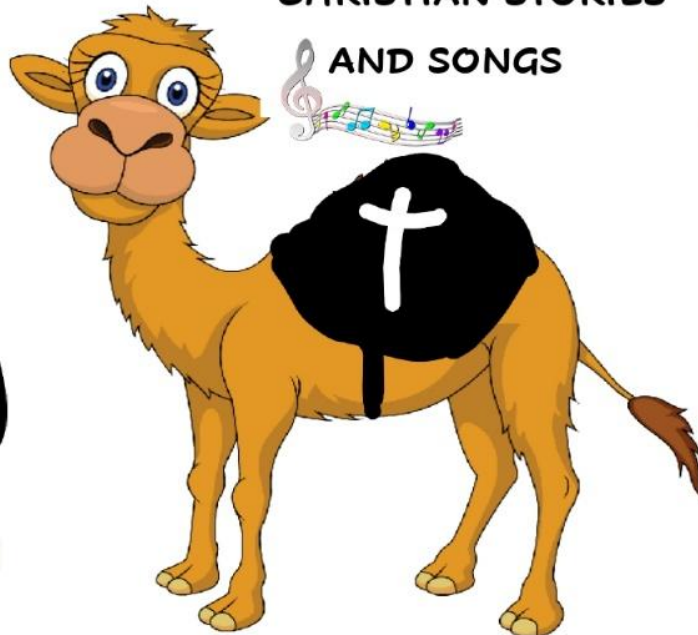
AND SONGS



COOKING



DRAMA



ART

CAMEL CLUB

WHERE?

COUNTRESS 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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