



30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Days like Tuesday are always very difficult and our thoughts are particularly with those affected once again by flooding in the area. The support of the school and local community is, as ever, incredibly strong and despite the alarming regularity (it was a year to the day we had to close due to flooding) – the strength of our community endures.

In far more positive news, I am delighted to announce that Mr Gallagher is now a proud father! He and his wife welcomed Ned Thomas Gallagher into our world on Monday. I think it fair to say a little earlier than expected, but most importantly is that baby and mother are both doing really well and the staff (and children) can't wait to give Ned his first school cuddles!

It was a shame that Year 4 had to miss their sports festival, but we hope to arrange an alternative in the near future. In more pleasing sporting news, the Year 4 basketball team were fantastic on Thursday evening, at Bucklers' Mead. The team won the first three matches with no scores against them! We went on to draw our final two games with brilliant performances from each of our team members Harrison, Riley, Harry, Will and Albert – all demonstrating teamwork, tenacity and skill.

Selected pupils from Year 6 attended an exciting event exploring the future of green and digital careers. They met local employers and educators and explored a careers exhibition focused on real-world sustainability challenges.



Baby Ned – 26<sup>th</sup>  
Jan – 5lbs 13oz



Basketball at  
Bucklers' Mead

Sustainable  
Futures Event

The children also shared their own presentation to their peers about how artificial intelligence could support sustainability, considering both its benefits and challenges (this can be viewed on the Lancelot class page) The event encouraged thoughtful discussion, creativity, and reinforced our commitment to preparing children for the careers of tomorrow while encouraging them to think responsibly about the world they will help to shape.



to build strategies to talk and understand your child and their emotions and as well as tips in how to manage these, from both the child and the parent perspective.

These courses are always very positively received with great feedback from our families; if you are interested in signing up, please see the flyer below.



Countess Gytha Primary and Preschool is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young persons. We will ensure that the highest priority is given safeguarding our children. Mr Gordon is the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead and in his absence, Mrs Trusson, Miss Bridge, Ms Flagg and Mrs Gillman.

Congratulations Barney, you are Merlin's Star of the Week – for being a curious learner and bringing a great, cheerful attitude to the classroom – exactly what was called for this week, Barney! Well done Ezra, you are Merlin's Worker of the Week for engaging in some fantastic number talk during maths lessons. Miss Morris is particularly impressed with your subitising skills – spotting and recognising an amount without having to count each time – top work, young man!

Pendragon – Congratulations Eric, you are Pendragon's Star of the Week – for fantastic effort and focus during your lessons – great to hear, Eric – keep it up! Pendragon's Worker of the Week this week goes to Ari, for his superb maths and improved number formation – keep up the great work, Ari!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Sophie as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for working hard on her handwriting presentation across all of her subject books – lovely to hear, young lady! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Hollie-Grace, for writing an excellent set of instruction, detailing how to mummify a body – the Board of Brilliance awaits this brilliant piece, well done!

Excalibur – Luke is the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for his increased pace in maths recording and responding positively to advice. Luke gave an incredible portrayal as Moses during his recent RE drama lesson – sounds like a brilliant and varied week, Luke! Excalibur's Worker of the Week is awarded to Adley, for his positive, independent approach to his writing, as well as making brilliant progress towards learning his 7x tables!

Lancelot – Albie has been recognised as Lancelot's Star of the Week for showing great determination and resilience when delivering a well-rehearsed presentation in front of his peers from across the locality! A brilliant representative of our school, thank you Albie. Mr Gordon's Worker of the Week goes to Enes, for participating fully in all lessons as well as writing a brilliant descriptive setting piece taken from the class book, 'Holes.'

A special mention to Harriet in King Arthur, who has completed her Level 5 swimming as well as a recent time trial for front and back stroke, clocking in at 25 and 30 seconds respectively for a length which is hugely impressive!

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The Big Schools' Birdwatch 2026, part of our ongoing commitment to sustaining our Green Flag Environmental Award.

Please return these to class teachers by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026.



Big Schools'  
Birdwatch

**Please do not park on the hashed or yellow zig zags around the school entrances or in the surgery opposite, when collecting children from school. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.**



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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Q Every Friday	<b>FRIDAY TUCKSHOP</b> Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Lancelot Class Trip to Shepton Mallet Prison.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2026. Completed booking forms can be emailed to <a href="mailto:wraparoundcare@countessgytha.ppat365.org">wraparoundcare@countessgytha.ppat365.org</a>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	PTFA Film Night – slips sent home last week or available at the school office.
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Cross Country Event @ Bucklers Mead
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	School Council – Year 5 & Year 6 only. School in a bag prep with Mrs Sherry.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Lunar New Year (falls in half-term) marked with a Lion Dance
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Early Years & KS1 Pancake Making with Mr Gordon (Shrove Tuesday falls in half-term) – details to follow
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Half Term</b>	
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026.</b>	
Completed booking forms can be emailed to <a href="mailto:wraparoundcare@countessgytha.ppat365.org">wraparoundcare@countessgytha.ppat365.org</a>	
Monday 23rd February	Pendragon Class and Year 2 King Arthur Swimming at Wincanton Leisure Centre. Letter sent home and emailed last week.
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	King Arthur Egyptian Topic Day – Details to follow
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 and Year 6 visiting Houses of Parliament, London – letter sent home this week.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Pendragon Class and Year 2 King Arthur Swimming at Wincanton Leisure Centre.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March and Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Bikeability for Year 6's – Group 1

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Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Bikeability for Year 6's – Group 2
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Pendragon Class and Year 2 King Arthur Swimming at Wincanton Leisure Centre.
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Step into the NHS Day 2026 – Details to follow
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Pendragon Class and Year 2 King Arthur Swimming at Wincanton Leisure Centre.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day 2026
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Pendragon Class and Year 2 King Arthur Swimming at Wincanton Leisure Centre.
Week commencing Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	 Schools' Football Week
Week commencing Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	No enrichment clubs due to parent meetings.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	PTFA Easter Bingo – details to follow shortly.
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Pendragon Class and Year 2 King Arthur Swimming at Wincanton Leisure Centre.

West Camel Theatre Group invite you to

# A Night At The Musicals

Davis Hall, West Camel  
7pm start, Doors at 6:30pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January**  
include a  
of tasty nibbles

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January**  
£25pp to include curry  
by Dorset Delights

**Sold Out!**

To book a table, contact Rich Hooper on 07890 969313

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COUNTESS GYTHA  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

20  
26

# UPCOMING EVENTS



FILM NIGHT

6TH  
FEB

27 TH  
MAR

EASTER BINGO



COLOUR RUN

15TH  
MAY

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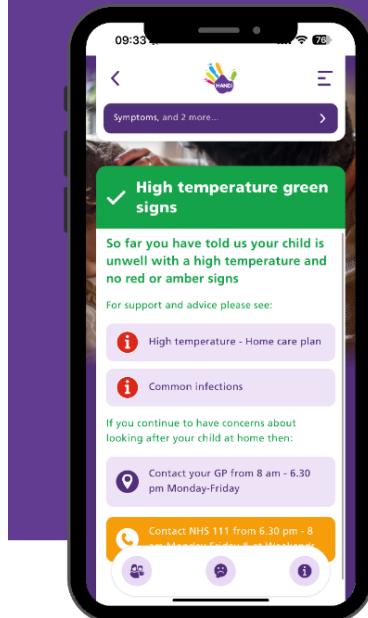
**Parent and Carer Workshops: Talking to your Children and Teens About Their Bodies, Feelings and Relationships for mainstream settings** - A relaxed and informative session for parents and carers of SEND children) of all ages with an additional focus on teenage years. The 2-hour session focuses on Talking about bodies, boundaries, feelings, and relationships. Dates: In person: 26th February 2026 at Albemarle Centre, Taunton, TA1 1BA, 1pm – 2:45pm or Online (live only): 11th February 2026, 7pm-9pm

Book your place here: [Talking to your children and Teens about their bodies, feelings and Relationships – Fill in form](#)



## Not sure what to do when your child is unwell?

The HANDi app gives expert NHS advice for common childhood conditions - right at your fingertips. Get fast, trusted guidance and peace of mind.



- Expert local advice - created by Somerset's paediatric specialists.
- Built around Somerset pathways - the right care, first time.
- Always up to date - refreshed within 24 hours if guidance changes.
- Clear, complete care pathways - from home care to GP and hospital advice.

Download the HANDi app today.



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Jan/Feb/March 2026



Somerset  
Council

## Somerset School Nurse Team Newsletter

### Welcome to the new Somerset School Nurse Team newsletter!

The school nurse team is made up of Specialist Community Public Health Nurses, and Assistant Practitioners. We specialise in promoting the health and wellbeing of children and young people aged 5–19 years and cover primary and secondary schools across Somerset.

This newsletter will be delivered termly, and is intended to keep you up-to-date on all the things we are doing as a service, and will include topics and links relevant to physical and mental health.

We hope you find this newsletter helpful but please do feedback anything you would like to be added.

[Somerset children & young people : Health & Wellbeing : Phn School Nursing](#)



Feedback QR code

**SAINT**  
School Aged Immunisation Nursing Team

**NHS**  
Somerset  
NHS Foundation Trust

School aged vaccinations

**Did you know they will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?**

- FLU
- MMR
- HPV
- MENINGITIS ACWY
- DIPHTHERIA, TETANUS, POLIO (DTP)

**Did you miss us?**  
We also have community clinics across somerset for:

- Home Educated Children
- Anxious Children
- Children who missed the session at School

For further information scan the QR code or please speak with a member of the team.

Call us on **0300 323 0032**

Kindness, Respect, Teamwork  
Everyone, Every day

### Children's Mental Health Week 2026

9—15 February 2026



If your child is struggling with their mental health speak with a school nurse or your GP.

Further support can be found:

[Mental Health Issues | Young Somerset](#)

**shout**  
**85258**  
here for you 24/7

[YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | Young Minds](#)

### Are you looking for support with your child's bedwetting?

If so please contact your school nurse team for advice or make contact via the Chat Health Text service.

For more information regarding this topic please visit the following website:

**ERIC**

Free helpline:  
**0808 801 0343**



Somerset Parent Carer Forum C.I.C.

Do you have a child with additional needs/and or disabilities?

Are you looking for advice and support?

The Somerset Parent Carer Forum provides a range of information and support for parents and carers in Somerset. They run a range of support groups and workshops for parents/carers to attend, and also provide a phoneline where you can speak to a parent representative.

For more information click on the link below:

[Somerset Parent Carer Forum CIC Ltd \(not for profit\) company](#)

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# Tuning in to Kids®

## Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

**A parenting program for parents of children aged 3 - 12 years**

**Learn how to be better at:**

- talking with your child
- understanding your child
- helping your child manage their emotions
- preventing behaviour problems in your child
- teaching your child to deal with conflict

**Tuning in to Kids® shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence.**

**Children with higher emotional intelligence:**

- have greater success with making and keeping friends
- have better concentration at school
- are more able to calm down when upset or angry
- tend to have fewer childhood illnesses

**Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!**

Where: Countess Gytha Primary School

When: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> April 09.00-11.00

Contact: Countess Gytha school office



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**COMMUNITY SPORTS TRUST**

# MULTISPORT HOLIDAY CAMP

FOR STUDENTS AT NORTH CADBURY,  
COUNTESS GYTHA, LOVINGTON,  
EVERCREECH, ILCHESTER

**DATES:**  
TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026

**NORTH CADBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Cary Road, North Cadbury,  
Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7DE

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# HOLIDAY FOOTBALL

FOR STUDENTS AT NORTH  
CADBURY, COUNTESS GYTHA,  
LOVINGTON, EVERCREECH,  
ILCHESTER

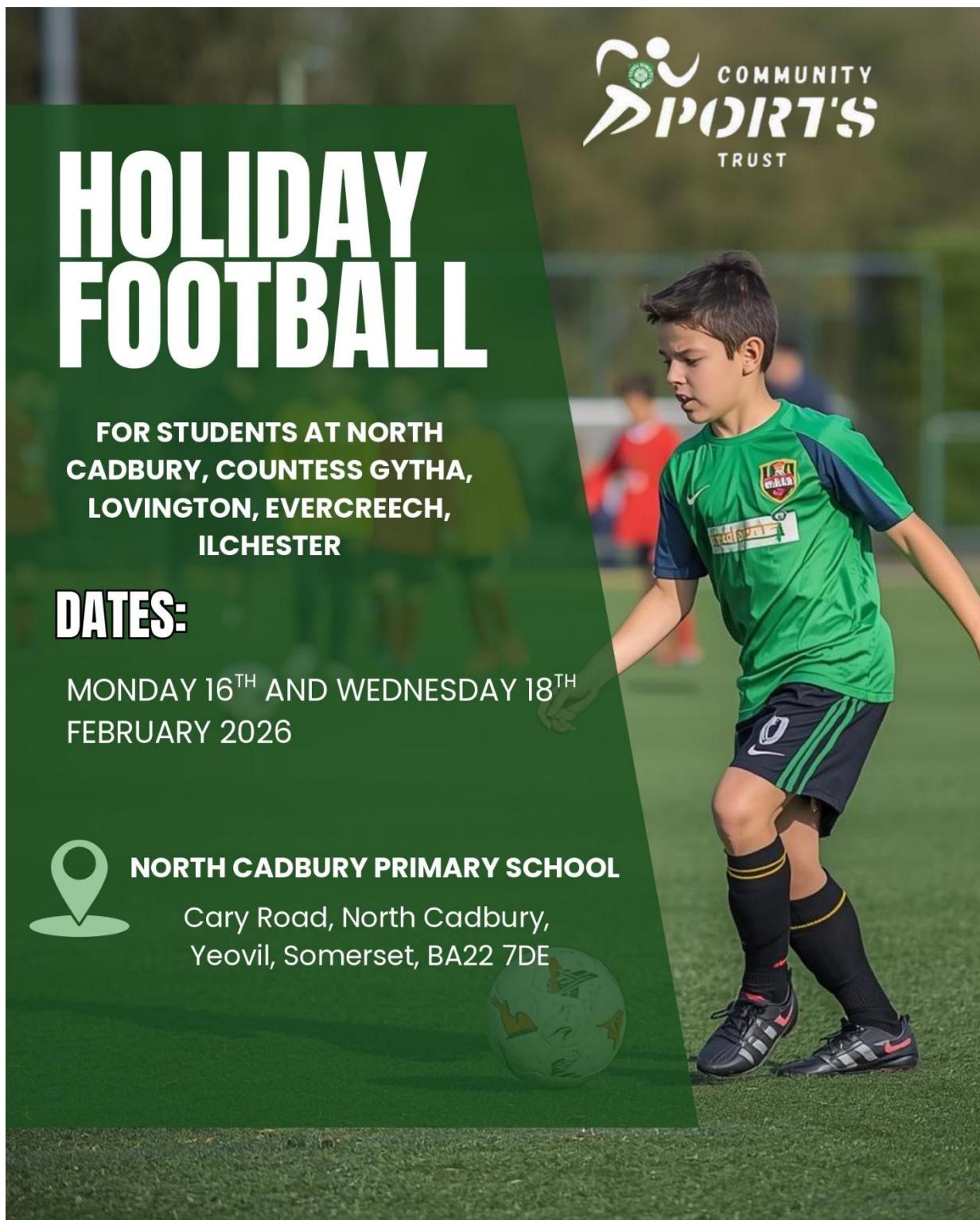
## DATES:

MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> AND WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2026



### NORTH CADBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cary Road, North Cadbury,  
Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7DE



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