

## Diary Dates

## 17th October 2025



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to share the news that once again, Countess Gytha came first place in the school's category as part of the Castle Cary and Ansford Carnival 2025!

Children danced their way through the streets to the smiles and cheers of many — if you would like to see the highlights of the event, please visit our Gallery webpage here. A big thank you to all who came out to support us!

Year 2 were also at Ansford this week, travelling there to participate in the first sports festival this year. Children enjoyed taking part in a range of running, jumping and throwing activities, alongside other Year 2 peers from local schools.



Yr 2 Ansford Sports Festival



Maths Tournament – Queen's College

At the other end of our school, eight Year 6 children represented the school at Queen's College Taunton in a maths challenge event. From solving cryptic crossnumber puzzles, to shuttle sprinting answers between team members across the hall, our mathematicians represented the school brilliantly, holding their own against some tough competition from the likes of Port Regis, Sunninghill Prep and of course, Queen's themselves.

Children in Lancelot have also enjoyed a virtual author visit this week. In conjunction with Waterstones bookshops, our pupils were thrilled to take part in a very special virtual event with award-winning author Piers Torday, who introduced his spectacular new gothic treasure hunt novel, Midnight Treasure. From clues and spells to imprisonments, escapes, fights, betrayals, and above all, courage and hope, Piers excited us all with his incredible storytelling and wealth of knowledge about writing.

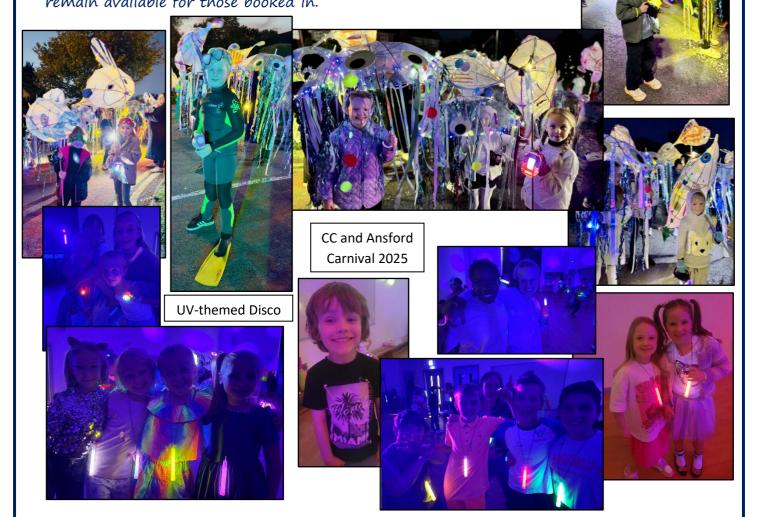
Continuing the reading theme, thank you to all who visited this year's Scholastic Book Fair. Your enthusiasm and generosity have helped us earn £450 of free books. This will be shared between each class and our school library, ensuring every child continues to have access to a wide variety of engaging reads.

To round up a busy week, the children tonight have enjoyed their UV-themed disco, organised by the PTFA. The pictures speak for themselves as to how much enjoyment was had by all – thank you to the committee members and volunteers for tonight's fun

and smiles!

Book Fair 2025

Parents' evening meetings are due to take place next week - if you need to check or amend your booking, please speak to Mrs Annetts in the school office as soon as possible. Please note, that there will be no enrichment clubs running during the week; after school care will remain available for those booked in.



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 Lily, Pendragon's Star of the Week – for fantastic listening and all her efforts in every lesson – you really are somebody who makes the most of every opportunity – very impressive, Lily! Pendragon's Worker of the Week this week goes to Imogen, for succeeding in writing her days of the week so confidently – lovely to hear, Imogen!

King Arthur — This week, we are celebrating Charlotte as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for her perseverance in maths — even when finding something a bit tricky — a great skill to celebrate, Charlotte! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Henry, for his excellent understanding on column calculations — a true number—cruncher — great work, Henry!

Excalibur – Jack is the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for showing maturity in hockey and being a brilliant role-model to peers with his collaboration in maths – wonderful to hear, Jack! Excalibur's Worker of the Week is awarded to Toby, for being a super-star in his maths – his problem solving and pace have really improved this term – great work, Toby – keep it up!

Lancelot — Ella has been recognised as Lancelot's Star of the Week for her outstanding results in her assessments but particularly in her maths assessments. What a superstar! Mr Gallagher's Worker of the Week goes to Wilf, for using excellent vocabulary in the postcard as an evacuee; for always working hard and being ready to help others. Keep it up Wilf!

A special mention this week goes to Louis in Pendragon, who we celebrated in assembly for completing his Summer Reading Challenge — well done, Louis!

Next year's academic calendar is now available on our school website — a copy has also been attached to the end of this edition of the Diary Dates.





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday  COUNTESS GYTHA  PRIMARY SCHOOL	FRIDAY TUCKSHOP  Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Lancelot Class and Year 5 Excalibur Class swimming session
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Cross Country Event at Yeovil Town Football Club #3
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening Meetings
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Lancelot Class 1940s Day. Letter sent home 10.10.25.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	9.15am School Tour for New Intake 2026
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Cheerleading Festival at Westfield Academy. Selected pupils only.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents' Evening Meetings
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term – school closed
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Deadline to book school meals via ParentPay for week commencing Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November.
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Deadline for Secondary school applications.
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Back to school
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Year 4 Excalibur Class & Year 3 King Arthur Class swimming session 1
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	King Arthur Class Trip to Cheddar Gorge. Letter sent home 9.10.25.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	School & Preschool Photography by Imago – Individual & sibling photographs.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Mr Gordon's Tea Party. Selected pupils only.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	1.30pm School Tour for New Intake 2026 – please see office to book a place.
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 & Year 2 Cinema Trip – letter sent home 1.10.25
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need 2025 – details to follow shortly.
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 Dance Festival at Ansford Academy. Letters sent home 9.10.25.
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	10am School Tour for New Intake 2026– please see office to book a place.
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 & Year 4 Cinema Trip – letter sent out 1.10.25.

All Enrichment clubs will remain the same until Christmas except for Taskmaster Club and Tag Rugby Club which have now finished.

All clubs return week commencing 3rd November 2025.

Mr Gordon will be running a Computing Club for Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3.

Mr Gallagher will be running a Basketball Club for Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.

Please complete the form below if you child would like to join one of the new clubs.

Breakfast and After School childcare, is available Monday to Thursday to all - but must be booked in advanced. There may be occasions when enrichment after school clubs cannot run due to staff absence or additional training/meetings. We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible if we are required to cancel clubs.

There will be no clubs on the last week of term - week commencing 15th December 2025.

Please complete this form by 9am Monday 20th September 2025. You will be notified if your child has been successful or not in gaining a place in a club via email.

Camel Club will now be run in the school hall on a Monday 3:30-4:30pm. However, please note this is an external club and to places should be booked with Rev Caroline Walker on carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

**Link to Request Form for New Enrichment Clubs** 

### **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: <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/5wZtEjuYqP">https://forms.office.com/e/5wZtEjuYqP</a>



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.

The School Meals Menu for 3<sup>rd</sup> November - 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 is now available on ParentPay.

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





# We will be taking individual images on Friday 7th November





























VIEW & PURCHASE ONLINE: A few weeks after your shoot you will receive a contact sheet via your school with your login details on (not all of your images are on your contact sheet). Please login to view/purchase your images.

#### LOST LOGINS:

A SAFEWORD will be sent to you from your school, please use this if you lose your login.

#### FREE Delivery period:

We offer a free delivery period, after this time orders can still be placed but a delivery charge will apply.

Have a family shoot with imago the comfort of your home. See our website or call us on 01252 728457













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# 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.

(NON-ALCOHOLIC) & MINCE PIES.

£25 PER PERSON

OR EMAIL: COUNTESSGYTHAPTFA@YAHOO.COM

**LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE** 

# NEW TIME, NEW PLACE



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









## Somerset School Terms and Holidays 2026/2027 Academic Year

September 2026							October 2026								November 2026								
М			7	14	21	28	Мо			5	12	19	26	М		2	9	16	23	30			
Т		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27	Т		3	10	17	24				
W		2	9	16	23	30	We			7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25				
Th		3	10	17	24		<u>Th</u>		1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26				
F		4	11	18	25		Fr		2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27				
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31	S		7	14	21	28				
Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29				
December 2026							January 2027								February 2027								
M			7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25	М			1	8	15	22			
Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26	Tu			2	9	16	23			
W		2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27	W			3	10	17	24			
Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28	Th			4	11	18	25			
F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29	F			5	12	19	26			
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30	Sa			6	13	20	27			
Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	31	Su			7	14	21	28			
March 2027							April 2027								May 2027								
M		1	8	15	22	29	M			5	12	19	26	M		3	10	17	24	31			
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		4	11	18	25				
W		3	10	17	24	31	W			7	14	21	28	W		5	12	19	26				
Th		4	11	18	25		Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		6	13	20	27				
F		5	12	19	26		F		2	9	16	23	30	F		7	14	21	28				
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa		3	10	17	24		Sa	1	8	15	22	29				
Su		7	14	21	28		Su		4	11	18	25		Su	2	9	16	23	30				
June 2027								July 2027								August 2027							
M			7	14	21	28	M			5	12	19	26	М		2	9	16	23	30			
Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu		3	10	17	24	31			
W		2	9	16	23	30	W			7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25				
Th		3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26				
F		4	11	18	25		F		2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27				
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31	Sa		7	14	21	28				
Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22	29				



#### Term dates summary:

**Term 1:** 03 September – 23 October 2026 (37 days)

**Term 2:** 02 November – 18 December 2026 (35 days) **Term 3:** 04 January – 12 February 2027 (30 days)

**Term 3:** 04 January – 12 February 2027 (30 days) **Term 4:** 22 February – 25 March 2027 (24 days)

**Term 5:** 12 April – 28 May 2027 (34 days)

**Term 6:** 07 June – 23 July 2027 (35 days) **TOTAL = 195** 

#### Bank and public holidays 2026/27

Christmas Day Bank Holiday 25 December 2026 Easter Monday 29 March 2027 Boxing Day Bank Holiday 28 December 2026\* May Day Bank Holiday 03 May 2027 New Year's Day Holiday 01 January 2027 Spring Bank Holiday 31 May 2027 Good Friday 26 March 2027 Summer Bank Holiday 30 August 2027 \*Replacement Bank Holiday when Bank Holidays falls on a weekend.

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.