



COUNTESS
GYTHA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Diary Dates

2nd October 2026



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to all who supported the Quantock's House cake sale yesterday. House Captains, Lincoln and Seb and pleased to report that £75 was raised, which will be put towards the school council's budget this year!

It seems difficult to believe that now we are past the half-way point in the term, parents' evening is just around the corner. Parents' Evening slots for children in Year 1 - 6 will be held in classrooms on week beginning Monday 19th October (Please note, Lancelot parents have been written to separately).

You are invited to book an appointment using our online booking system; invitations to book your time slot will be sent out via email early next week. If you would prefer, parents can also book through Mrs Annetts in the school office. If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. Please note, there will be no enrichment clubs during this week – **after school care will still be available.**

Before then, we will be celebrating the importance of mental health with our Hello Yellow celebrations on Friday 9th (suggested donation 50p) and then our annual Harvest Celebrations at St Barnabas on Tuesday 13th. Once again, we will be accepting any food donations for the Lords Larder food bank in Yeovil and any donation is greatly appreciated. We would love for families to join us in church at 11am – [please can you indicate whether you plan to attend via this sign up form to help with numbers.](#)

Also on the 13th, Reception and Year 1 and 2 parents are invited to join Miss Morris, Mr Gallagher and Mrs King from 3pm in the school hall to discuss the school's approach to phonics, using the Little Wandle scheme and early reading more generally.

Following this, on Saturday 17th October it's carnival time! An email was sent out this afternoon

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Quantocks Cake Sale



Please don't forget to name all items – we have a lot of un-named lost property in the school office

with more details regarding the event, but we are aiming to meet at Ansford for 6:30pm, before starting our procession at 7pm and finishing at the base of Churchfield Drive for 8pm. If your child is interested, but not yet signed up to the carnival, [please complete this brief Microsoft Form.](#)

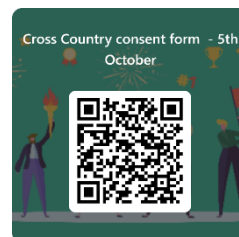
Returning to this week and our Year 5/6 pupils had a fantastic time at their first netball tournament of the year at Preston Secondary School! The team played four matches, winning one, drawing two and losing one.

For some of our players, this was their first experience of competitive netball, making it a brilliant learning opportunity. The team showed great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the tournament, with everyone developing their skills and growing in confidence as the matches progressed.



Well done to Olivia, Fin, Emelia, Emily, Freddie and Harrison for representing the school so brilliantly. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and a great start to the netball season!

For those keen listeners to BBC Radio Somerset, you may have heard a certain headteacher announcing that the school will be participating in the Run Pudsey challenge in November this year! More details will follow closer to the time, but before then our keen runners will be participating on Monday in the second round of the Cross Country series at Yeovil Showground. The sign up is to the right (simply click on the box) or speak to Mrs Annetts or Mr Gallagher – we would love to encourage runners of all abilities to join us this time – we are so close to making a full team in all categories!



Thank you to all families, who have now completed their [External Visit forms returned which were emailed out last week.](#) Separately, data forms should also be returned as quickly as possible the school office, particularly as the SAINT Flu Immunisation team are visiting school on Thursday 15th October and will require the data form permissions to complete any immunisations. **You can check or change your permissions at any time at the school office.**

If you have not received these emails or are unsure about them in any way, please do not hesitate to discuss with myself or Mrs Annetts in the school office as soon as possible.

This is a reminder to those who have not already completed the online form for external visits.

This is a new form this year which must be completed for your child to attend school trips.

[Parent/Carer Consent Form for External Visits](#)

The paper consent and data collection form sent home for children in Year 1 – 6 need to be returned to the school office.

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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 (Reception) children will be joining the praise assembly after half term.

Merlin (Year 1's) – Well done to Ariarna for working hard during her phonics inputs and reading groups this week – keep it up, young lady! Congratulations to Ronnie, who is Star of the Week for helping Miss Morris complete jobs around the classroom and always showing great care and consideration towards others – wonderful news, Ronnie!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Ollie, Pendragon's Star of the Week – for being kind and helpful to all of his classmates – fantastic to hear, Ollie! Pendragon's Worker of the Week this week goes to Matilda, for her fantastic sentences, presented beautifully with capital letters, full stops and all finger spaces – you should be very proud, Matilda!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Matthew as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for challenging himself to complete all tasks set – very impressive Matthew, well done! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Arthur, for his secure understanding of ordering numbers to 100, using place value knowledge – a brilliant skill, Arthur!

Excalibur – Sophie is the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for being a very kind and helpful member of Excalibur – great to hear how you are supporting your peers, Sophie! Excalibur's Worker of the Week is awarded to Layla, for working hard to produce some great pieces of writing in Year 5 – a brilliant start to the year, Layla!

Lancelot – Henry R has been recognised as Lancelot's Star of the Week for great investigating in science, with the mould experiment, as well as an excellent extended write too – a brilliant week, young man! Mr Gallagher's Worker of the Week goes to Eyup, for an excellent debate, showing both sides of an argument – great to read, Eyup! Kai receives a special class mention this week for a superb week, really impressing all of the staff and most importantly, himself!

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A special mention for Jack, who proudly shares that he won a silver medal in his category at the South West Open Kata Competition last weekend! Jack was the youngest participant at the event and did a fantastic job, showing lots of confidence, skill and determination throughout the competition.

Congratulations to Olivia and Henry in Pendragon, who were awarded their Level 2 swimming certificates this week, as well as Austin in Lancelot, achieving his Level 7!



Well done to the troupe of parents, who successfully scaled Snowdown last week, alongside school mascot – Chris the Camel! If you would like to take 'Chris the Camel' on an adventure please speak to the school office or Mr Gordon!

Flu Vaccination (Nasal Spray) from Somerset SAINT.

This is due to be held in school on Thursday 15th October.

One form must be completed for each child.

Please complete the decision form even if you do not consent to the vaccination.

[Flu Vaccination Form](#)

Unique School code: SM146446



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Wear Yellow on Friday 2nd October and raise vital funds for YoungMinds. We suggest a donation of 50p.



YOUNGMINDS

**Hello
Yellow**
FRIDAY 9 OCT

Wear yellow, say hello.

Join us for our 10th Hello Yellow! Wear yellow, start a conversation about mental health and raise money in your school – so we can be there when you need us most.

#HelloYellow

M&S | YOUNGMINDS

YoungMinds, registered Charity in England (1010668) and Scotland (SC038700)

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School Harvest Information – Tuesday 13th October

The Lord's Larder Food Bank Information

Last year in 2025, with your help we were able to help 4,947 adults and 3,325 children, a total of 8,572 people in need.

The Lord's Larder Food Bank supports and works alongside 70 statutory agencies that work with those to help alleviate local poverty, hardship, and despair.

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

Tinned Mince, Tins of Hot Dogs,
Tinned Tuna, Tinned Meat Pies,
Tins of Stewed Steak,
Tins of Meatballs, Tins of Curry, Tins of Chilli Con Carne,
Tins of Corned Beef, Tins of Ham,
Jars of Pasta Sauce,
Packets of Instant Potato,
80 Teabags, Coffee,
Cereal Bars, Packets of Biscuits, Packets of Biscuits for Cheese,
Porridge Oats, Boxes of Cereal
Bags of Sugar - small and large,
Cartons Long Life Milk,
Cartons of Fruit Juice, Squash,
Tins of Mixed Vegetables, Tins of Sweet Corn, Meat Paste,
Tins of Peas, Tinned Carrots,
Tins of Potato, Tinned Ravioli, Tins of Spaghetti
Tins of Beans and Sausages,
Packets of Noodles, Packets of Savoury Rice, Couscous,
Cup a Soup, Tins of Soup
Tins of Fruit, Rice Pudding, Jelly, Jars of Jam, & Instant Custard.

Please send in donations from Monday 5th October.

Collection boxes will be in the school hall and school reception area

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**Apply now for
Secondary School
places**



The online portal for applications for children to start secondary school in September 2027, or transfer to Upper school, is now OPEN.
The closing date is 31 October 2026.

The Secondary School Admissions Guide is now live on our website Secondary admissions guide (somerset.gov.uk) We strongly encourage you to read this before making your application.

We recommend you always include your catchment school as one of your preferences. If you don't and it becomes oversubscribed, we can't guarantee your child a place there and if you don't get offered one of the schools you have chosen, your child might be offered a school further away with no travel assistance.

PLEASE NOTE FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE DUE TO START SCHOOL IN RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER 2027 OR TRANSFER TO JUNIOR OR MIDDLE SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027, THE ON LINE PORTAL WILL BE OPEN ON 28th SEPTEMBER 2026.

A few tips before you start;

1. If you previously applied for a child starting or transferring school in 2017 or earlier you will need to re-register on the portal as a new system was introduced at this time.
2. If you do not receive your registration or forgotten password email please check your junk mail. If you still do not received an email please contact schooladmissions@somerset.gov.uk

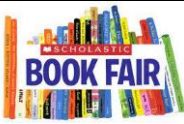
[Primary Admissions Guide](#)

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



FRIDAY TUCKSHOP - Every Friday morning breaktime – 20p

Monday 5 th October	Swimming for Year 5 & Year 6 session 4	
Monday 5 th October	Cross Country Event 2 at Yeovil Showground – QR code above to sign up.	
Wednesday 7 th October	Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 12 th October 2026.	
Wednesday 7 th October	SATs and Residential meeting for parents of Year 6 children. 3.30pm in Lancelot Classroom. Letter sent home 25.9.26.	
Thursday 8 th October	School tour for new intake 2027 at 9.30am. Please book a place at the school office. All welcome.	
Friday 9 th October	Hello Yellow Day 2026 – see details above.	
Monday 12 th October	Swimming for Year 5 & Year 6 session 5	
Tuesday 13 th October	Harvest Service at St Barnabus Church, Queen Camel at 11am. All welcome, please see link above to sign up for a seat.	
Tuesday 13 th October	Meet the Teacher and Phonics Information drop in meeting in the school hall 3pm – 3.45pm. For Merlin Class and Pendragon Class parents.	
Wednesday 14 th October	School tour for new intake 2027 at 1.45pm. Please book a place at the school office. All welcome.	
Wednesday 14 th October – Monday 19 th October	Book Fair to be held in school hall. Dates and times to be confirmed shortly.	
Wednesday 14 th October	Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 12 th October 2026.	
Thursday 15 th October	School Nurse team in school to give Flu vaccine (nasal spray) to all children with consent. See link above or email sent out 22.9.2026.	
Friday 16 th October	PTFA Disco – details below	
Saturday 17 th October	Castle Cary Carnival Event See sign up details above	
Monday 19 th October	Swimming for Year 5 & Year 6 session 6	
Week Commencing Monday 19 th October	Parents' Evening Events – Details to follow shortly. <u>Please note that there will be no enrichment clubs this week</u>	
Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October	Half Term – school closed	
Friday 31 st October	Deadline for Secondary school applications.	

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BBC 500 WORDS



A fun, creative story writing competition.
Opens for entries
Tuesday 29 September – Friday 6 November 2026

No need to worry about spelling,
punctuation or grammar!

Prizes for
the bronze, silver
and gold winners!!

Write a
STORY
you would
love to read

Ages
5 – 11



Find out more and enter at
bbc.co.uk/500words

BBC
BITESIZE
FOR TEACHERS

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COUNTESS GYTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL

★ SCHOOL TOURS FOR SEPTEMBER 2027 STARTERS ★

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT PRIMARY SCHOOL?

Visit our friendly, welcoming school and discover how children learn, grow and thrive.

TOUR DATES

Thursday 8 October 2026 • 9.30am

Wednesday 14 October 2026 • 1.45pm

BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!

01935 850345

office@countessgytha.ppat365.org

www.countessgythaprimary.co.uk

West Camel Road, Queen Camel, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 7FF

We look forward to welcoming you and showing you around our school!

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Could you tell if your child was being **exploited** **online?**



Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer **Andri Nicolaou**

29 September 19:00 - 20:30pm **06 October** 13:00 - 14:30pm

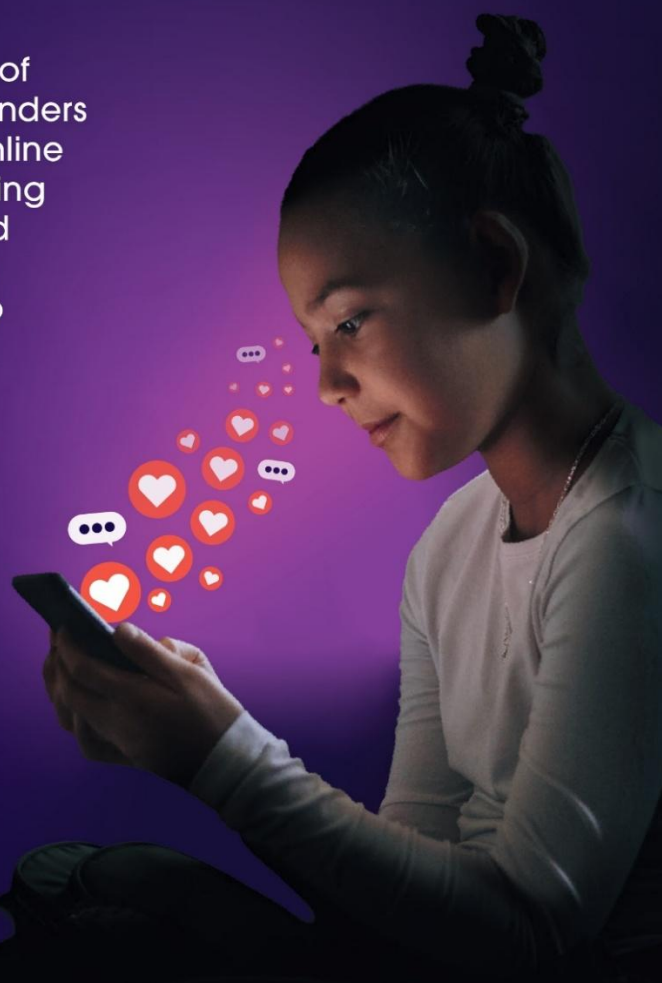
Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/exploit children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the **Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page** or scan the QR codes below

29 Sept

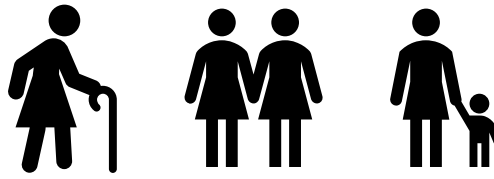


06 Oct



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Fore and Aft Church



fun worship time



For **G**od and **A**ll **F**amily **T**ogether

All ages welcome - tea and cake

Sunday 4pm

at St. Barnabas, Queen Camel

**October 11th Noah's Ark and
Pet Blessing**

**Bring your pet, pet photograph,
or your favourite animal toy**

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A vibrant promotional poster for Pen Mill F.C. Wildcats. At the top, the text 'PEN MILL F.C.' is arched over a central illustration of a young girl with long brown hair, wearing a green and black soccer jersey, sitting and holding a soccer ball with a tiger cub. The background is a lush green field with a goalpost visible in the distance. The word 'WILDCATS' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, white font with a green outline, set within a shield-like shape. Below this, three circular icons represent 'SCHOOL YEARS' (a graduation cap), 'TRAINING' (a clock), and 'LOCATION' (a location pin). Each icon is followed by its respective details: '2-6', 'MONDAY 5-6 PM', and 'WESTFIELD'. A large, stylized text 'FIRST SESSION FREE!' is written in white and green across the middle. At the bottom, the text 'INTERESTED?' is followed by 'CONTACT OUR FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM FOR MORE INFORMATION'. Below this, there are social media icons for Facebook and Instagram, with the text 'Pen Mill Girls' and 'Pen Mill Youth' respectively. The entire poster is decorated with green paw prints and hearts.

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