

Diary Dates

27th June 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our newest families joined us for their first taste of life in Merlin on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. The Stay and Play sessions hosted by Miss Morris and her wonderful team were very successful and we are looking forward to seeing all of our new starters again next week!

Similarly, I know that all children across the school are looking forward to our whole-school transition event next Wednesday morning, when children will be with their new classes and staff for September.



Small-schools Cricket County Finalists 2025

Before then however, there is much to celebrate!

Kicking off (or should that be batting?) a week of sporting activities, Countess

Gytha proudly competed in the Cricket County Finals, taking on

some of the best school teams from across Somerset.

Our squad played four competitive matches, showing skill, teamwork, and determination throughout the day.

We secured two brilliant wins - one by an

impressive 44 runs and another by 24 runs. In the other two matches, the

team fought hard and narrowly missed out, losing by just 12 and then 6 runs. These results meant we finished a very respectable third overall!

There were standout performances across the pitch: Cooper showed fantastic leadership as captain; Tom delivered some outstanding fielding, and Jack and Wes treated the crowd to some explosive batting with huge hitting that thrilled the spectators.

A huge well done to our brilliant squad: Cooper, Wes,

and join Queen Camel Cricket Club! Learn amazing cricket skills, play fun games, and be part of a brilliant team, who have loads of fun every

Contact Catherine Robinson to find out more:

catherineleoniehill@hotmail.com

Race for Life 2025

Calling Year 3 and Year 4! Come week.

Archie, Wilf, Albie, Barnaby, Rothen, Jack, Tom and Alfie. You represented the school brilliantly and should be incredibly proud!



Following their success, our school proudly took part our Race for Life in the Race for Life, joining thousands across the country to raise money for cancer research. It was a fantastic event, with children, staff, and parents getting involved to walk, jog, or run in support of this vital cause.

We're thrilled to announce that, thanks to your generosity, so far we have already raised £1,100 in sponsorship! This is a brilliant achievement, and we are incredibly proud of everyone who took part or supported the



event in any way.

outstanding.

Thank you for helping us make a difference. All outstanding sponsorship money can be handed into the school office until Friday 4th July. Remember every step counts!

And as if that wasn't enough exercise for our children, Thursday hosted the crown-jewel in our sporting calendar - Sports Day 2025 ...

JOINT WINNERS - BLACKDOWNS and POLDENS!

Can you believe it? With a huge 142 points each, we have joint winners for the first time!

of teamwork, determination and fun! The day began with Key Stage 2 pupils taking part in Football, Cross Country and Netball tournaments - and what a morning it was! We were thrilled to see brilliant wins for Poldens in both Football and Netball, while Blackdowns stormed to victory in the Cross Country. A huge well done to all who took part - the effort and sportsmanship on display were

In the afternoon, the children launched into a rotation of exciting activity stations. From the





strength-testing Javelin and Welly Throw the giggles of the Obstacle Race, and the determination in Tug of War, to the balancing skills of the Egg and Spoon and the splashes of the Water Fun-Run — every child gave it their all and had a fantastic time.

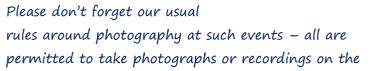
The energy kept going as our Preschool stars took to the track for their special race, followed by the much-anticipated Sprinting Races and the always entertaining Parent Races.



After an action-packed day, everyone enjoyed an icepop treat (thank you PTFA!) before returning to their classrooms, awash with a buzz of pride and excitement.



Thank you to all staff, volunteers and families for making the day such a success — we couldn't do it without you all!



school site or at school events off-site, but on the clear expectation that images are not posted to websites or uploaded to any storage facilities, as they are personal use only.

We look forward to announcing the totals raised from tonight's PTFA Summer Fair, as well as the Race for Life and Fiver Challenges in next week's edition of the Diary Dates – a big thank you to all who have supported our children and school over the course of this week!



Finally, I am delighted to announce that our Summer Parent Survey is now open and <u>can be</u> <u>completed here</u> or by scanning the QR codes below or around the school site.

Miss Morris and the Merlin team are delighted to celebrate the following children in reception.

Congratulations Jacob, you are Merlin's Star of the Week for being very sensible during break and lunch times this week, as well as being a great role model to your friends too – fantastic news, Jacob! Congratulations Florence, you are Merlin's Worker of the Week for writing very impressive sentences during your morning work all week – keep it up and you'll be ready to wow Mrs King next week too!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Poppy, who is Pendragon's Star of the Week for her great efforts during the Race for Life event – a true standout achievement, Poppy – well done! Well done to Roma, Pendragon's Worker of the Week for her great focus and concentration throughout her maths quizzes – lovely news, Roma!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Henry L as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for working hard to practise and prepare for his Talent Show audition – I'm sure Miss Bridge speaks for us all when she says that she cannot wait to see the finished piece! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Hattie for writing an excellent alternative version of the fairy tale – Snow White – but set on a beach with blue hair and surf vibes! Keep up the great writing and imaginative work, Hattie!

Excalibur — Nevaeh is the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for being supportive and helpful to her peers and the younger children around the school — so crucial at this time of year, Nevaeh! Mrs Trusson's Worker of the Week is awarded to Olivia, for producing an outstanding formal letter in her extended write — it truly captured the essence of the task. Great to hear, Olivia!

Lancelot — Jack has been recognised as Lancelot's Stars of the Week for being a fantastic leader during Sports Day — setting a fine example to all in King Arthur — thank you for your assistance, Jack! Mr Gallagher's Worker of the Week goes to Rothen, who similarly was extremely helpful during Sports Day, this time alongside Pendragon Class — thank you, Rothen!

A special mention this week goes to Eliza in Pendragon, who recently completed her Level 1 certificate and medal in her Gymnastic Foundations. Eliza loves her sport and is a proud advocate for taking part in all and any opportunities given to her.

Congratulations to Phoebe F in Excalibur, whose photograph was published in the Western Gazette recently, after watching the opening of the Mayoral Year at St John's Church in Yeovil — I'm sure a fascinating spectacle, Phoebe!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday	FRIDAY TUCKSHOP
COUNTESS GYTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL	Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p
Monday 30 th June	Merlin Class swimming session 4
Tuesday 1 st July	Year 1 Ansford Sports Festival. Letter sent 6.5.25 Parents to collect at 3pm at Ansford Sports Hall.
Wednesday 2 nd July	Somerset Transition Day – Year 6's to attend Somerset secondary schools; all year groups work in their September 2025 classes for the morning session.
Wednesday 2 nd July	Online Safety Workshop 2- 3.30pm see poster below.
Thursday 3 rd July	Merlin Class visit to Puxton Park.
Thursday 3 rd July	Football tournament at Ilchester Primary School 3.45pm – selected pupils.
Monday 7 th July	Merlin Class swimming session 5
Tuesday 8 th July	Tulip Photography in school for class photos and Year 6 Leavers photos
Thursday 10 th July	Year 6 Ansford Sports Day
Monday 14 th July	Merlin Class swimming session 6
Friday 18 th July	PTFA Summer School Disco – details to follow
Monday 21 st July	Countess Gytha's Got Talent Show
Monday 21st July	Year 6 Leavers' assembly – 2:00pm
Monday 21st July	Year 6 Kayaking at Sutton Bingham – details to follow
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last day of the summer term.

If anyone has a surplus of homegrown plants that we can sell or use in our garden, we would be happy to receive them.



Thank you for your support.

Mrs Hewlett or Mrs Feierabend





Race for Life - Wednesday 25th June 2025

Please return all sponsorship money by Monday
30th June 2025
Thank you.





Charles Harrison
Composer, Sound Designer, Musician
tuition@charlesevanharrison.com
www.charlesevanharrison.com



We are delighted to announce we now have a drum set and Charles is available for drum lessons in school each week.

If your child is interested, please email Charles above to arrange lessons.

Tuition will be weekly on a one-to-one basis and will cost £10 per 20 minute lesson.

You will be invoiced privately at the end of each term and only for lessons attended.

If any children aged 9 and above are interested in the Autumn 2025 National Youth Choir – please speak to Mr Gordon or Mrs Sherry for further details or visit the <u>National Youth Choir Webpage here.</u>



Joining the National Youth Choir is a wonderful opportunity for young singers to develop their voices and musicianship and expand their horizons in a wonderfully supportive environment.









Countess Gytha Primary School West Camel Road, Queen Camel, Yeovil, BA22 7FF Tel: 01935 850345

Email: office@countessgytha.ppat365.org

1:1 LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT Full-time and Part-time options considered

- · Starting salary is currently £12.45 per hour, with a pay award pending
- Fixed Term Contract (contracts run 1st September 31st August annually)
- Paid on a pro-rata basis working term time only
- Employers' Pension contribution 24.4%

We are looking to appoint a committed and enthusiastic 1:1 SEN Learning Support Assistant to join our friendly and supportive team at Countess Gytha Primary School. The ideal candidate will:

- Have a passion for supporting the education and well-being of all our wonderful children.
- · Be enthusiastic about the development and aspirations of all learners.
- Have the ability to think on their feet, using their initiative whilst working collaboratively.
- Be motivated, passionate and reflective about their work.
- Experience of autism and/or non-verbal communication is preferred but not essential.
- Participate in ongoing professional development to ensure best practice is followed and shared.

Please apply in writing by completing the application form available from the school website: https://www.countessqythaprimary.co.uk/staff-vacancies/ indicating any preferences regarding working hours on a covering letter or email.

Applications should be returned by post to the school address above, or emailed to: office@countessgytha.ppat365.org

Visits to our school are welcome; please telephone the office to make an appointment.

Closing date: Wednesday 9th July 2025

Interviews will be held on: Monday 14th July 2025

Preston Primary Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All positions require a criminal background check via the disclosure procedure before any post is confirmed.



COUNTESS GYTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL



AUDITION!

OPEN TO ALL

HOW

WHEN

MUSICIANS, SINGERS, DANCERS, RAPPERS, ACTORS, COMEDIANS, MAGICIANS, ETC.

SEE MISS BRIDGE AT LUNCHTIMES TO AUDITION

SHOW ON MONDAY 21ST JULY 2025 AT 10AM











Queen Camel Tennis Club OPEN DAY

Saturday 12th July: 9am - 2pm

Join us for some FREE tennis activities and coaching!

Fun coaching sessions for all ages, skill games for Juniors, social and family tennis.

Whatever your age come and have a go!

9.00am - 9.45am - Red Ball (ages 5-8 yrs) 9.45am - 10.30am - Orange Ball (ages 8 - 10yrs) 10.30am - 11.15am - Green Ball/Yellow Ball (ages 11+) 11.15am - 2pm open courts for social & family tennis

* Children under 14 years must be accompanied. Rackets are available to borrow.

Refreshments available throughout

Queen Camel Tennis Club is a friendly and sociable two-court Club with floodlights. We enjoy competitive & social play and have a great coaching programme including Saturday mornings for children from 5 upwards and for adults Wednesday evenings.

In addition to our regular Club Night on Tuesday evenings, we also have Club morning sessions on the first and third Sunday of every month at 10am until noon.

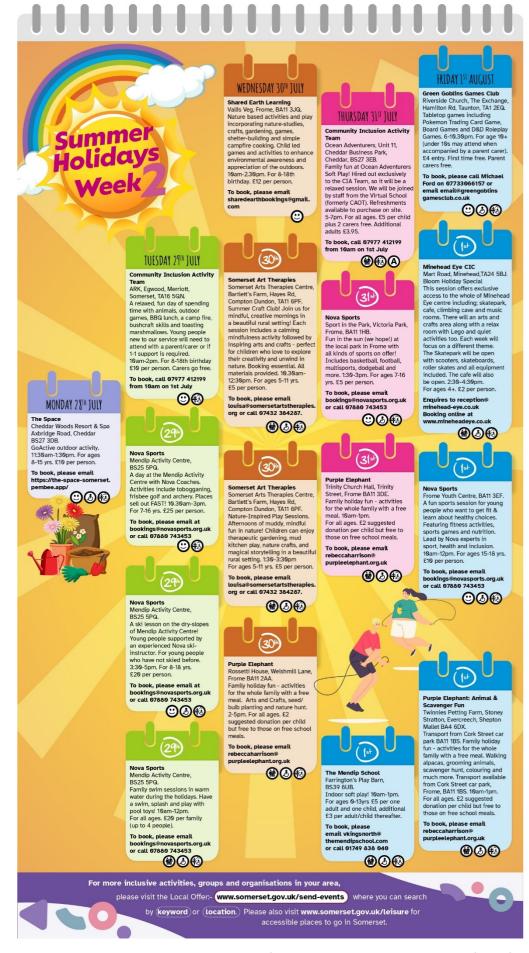
All members welcome.



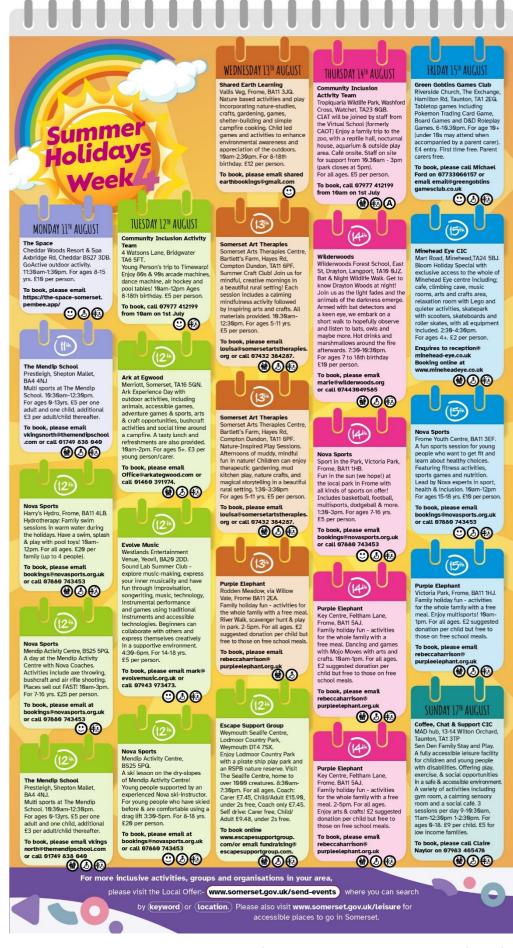
Queen Camel Tennis Club, The Playing Fields, Green Lane, Queen Camel BA22 7NW www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/QueenCamelTennis Club

















Key for activities:



Family Activity - for all members of the family to attend and enjoy



Child/Young person can attend on their own under group supervision or with parent/carer if additional 1:1 support is required - please call the organisation to have a chat



Child/young person must attend with a parent or carer



Staff provided by the organisation to support the child/young person 1:1 if required - please call the organisation to see what they can provide as this may not include personal care



Some parts of the activity are wheelchair accessible please call the organisation to find out more



Accessible changing facilities are available please call the venue to find out more

Activities aimed at young people/teenagers/young adults

Autism friendly session with staff from the Virtual School (formerly CAOT) available for light support

Useful Information

Who are the people offering the activities? Organisations who have experience of working with children and young people with a disability or additional need and their families. Activities can be adapted to suit the children and young people who would like to attend. Please call them to chat about your child / young person's needs.

Activities offered by the Community Inclusion and Activity Team
Dependant on the child / young person needs, we can provide a day out
without parent / carer as we offer group supervision. If it is the first time
your child / young person has accessed a trip with our team, a parent/
carer will need to attend. We require payment a minimum of 2 weeks prior
to the day. Please note, spaces for children and young people with a
disability or additional need will be prioritised first, with spaces offered
to siblings once bookings have closed if we have room.
Online payment at www.somerset.gov.uk/cwd

Don't forget our Activity Day Passes - Available to ALL families in Somerset with a child or young person with a disability or additional need - Puxton Park, Noah's Ark, The Bristol Zoo Project, Abbotsbury, Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Hestercombe gardens, Court farm. Email ciateam@somerset./gov.uk to find out more or visit **www.somerset.gov.uk/activity-passes** to view the flyer.

Max Card - A FREE card for all children and young people with a disability or additional need in Somerset aged 0-25 years. This card can be used at many places all over the UK offering discounts and special rates when you show the card. Visit www.somerset.gov.uk/max-card for more information on how to access this card. Cards can ONLY be issued by Somerset Council to people living in Somerset.

If you would like help with the calendar and how to access activities, please email ciateam@somerset.gov.uk and someone will be in touch to support you.