



COUNTESS
GYTHA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Diary Dates

29th November 2024



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to all who attended our drop-in maths event on Monday afternoon. Teachers were pleased to show parents each year group's maths curriculum and techniques – if you were unable to attend, all of the information has been uploaded to Class Pages on the school website and printed copies will also be available at the Book Celebration event at the end of the term.



Thank you too, for all of the generous donations towards this year's PTFA Christmas Fayre tombola and raffle prizes. Children looked very colourful on Monday's Mufti event and the hampers made up of all of these donations looked just as spectacular in the hall window!

Representatives from Year 6 travelled to Taunton Rugby Club on Tuesday to participate in the inaugural Somerset Sustainable Futures Event. The group returned to school fully inspired through meeting local environmental champions, causes and businesses and you can read more about this in their own words below!

Year 5 visited Ansford Academy on Tuesday to participate in this year's Dance Festival. The group were put through their paces by Year 9 and 11 pupils, learning the routine to Revolting Children from Ansford's upcoming musical performance of Matilda. After practising in groups and together, all schools put on a final piece to celebrate a brilliant afternoon of sport.



Tuesday was a very busy day, with a special visitor dropping into school – Pudsey Bear! Visting preschool and all classes, children were delighted to be thanked for their Children in Need efforts earlier in November, raising a brilliant £220 for the charity.

Walking past the front of the school building, families cannot fail to have noticed this year's super-sized tree, which provided a wonderful backdrop to the PTFA's Christmas Fayre tonight. Featuring a grotto, snowball throwing as well as hook-an-elf and Christmas jumper stall, the mood was very festive and we look forward to publishing the total raised in next week's Diary Dates. A big thank you to Mrs Rowlands and the PTFA team who organised this year's event, much fun was had by all!

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Somerset Sustainable Futures Launch Event

By Alex F and Evie W



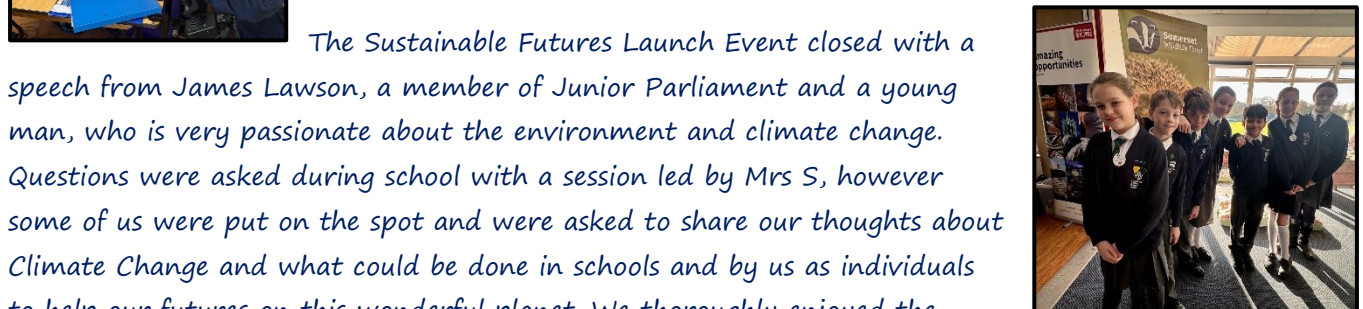
After a tricky car journey, our day began with a refreshment of squash as we settled at our two tables (a table for the girls and a table for the boys and Mrs Sherry). We had an introduction from the organisers of the event and then were introduced to our timetable for the morning. Excited and enthusiastic, we entered another room full of a variety of exhibitors to have a look at with the rest of our peers. The first stop was a shipping map, which used routes for cargo ships to stay out of building sites of power stations and firing zones. The girls started with The National Trust, which was a favourite family stop which they had all visited. Mrs Sherry even tried out VR (Virtual Reality) headset for the first time ever! She was very excited and immediately handed one of the girls her phone for a picture (or a few) to be taken!



The rest of the morning consisted of visits to the exhibits of Wessex Water and The Environment Agency to find out how water waste was cleaned out, what can be found in rivers and what should and shouldn't go down the toilet! The girls had a stop at Kier who explained about the dangers of potholes and how it is their job to fill them in with sustainable resources and how they are planning to power their machines by electricity or vegetable oil. It was a fantastic stop at a quarry mining company where the boys were taught about what happens in the quarry, how they filter the rocks and also how they operate the vehicles. Then they let them have a go on a simulation machine - which had the real-life controls for an actual machine from the quarry.



Yeovil College was the next stop and we really enjoyed the experience. Tasks involved finding out what kind of soil it was by dipping a special detecting strip of paper that you had to colour coordinate so you could tell what was in the soil using a key.



The Sustainable Futures Launch Event closed with a speech from James Lawson, a member of Junior Parliament and a young man, who is very passionate about the environment and climate change. Questions were asked during school with a session led by Mrs S, however some of us were put on the spot and were asked to share our thoughts about Climate Change and what could be done in schools and by us as individuals to help our futures on this wonderful planet. We thoroughly enjoyed the event and think the rest of the year group would rate it 10/10. We hope that the school can take part in the event next year.

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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:

Miss Morris and the Merlin team are delighted to celebrate the following children in reception. Congratulations Charlie, you are Merlin's Star of the Week for listening so well to all of the adults you have been working with – wonderful to hear, young man! Well done Eliza, you are Merlin's Worker of the Week, for outstanding efforts in phonics all week. Eliza has worked hard on perfecting her letter formation and spelling her words independently – keep it up!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Noah, who is Pendragon's Star of the Week for keeping the reading corner very organised and tidy for all to use – great to hear, Noah! Well done to Alex, who has been chosen as Pendragon's Worker of the Week for working really hard on his handwriting – keep trying your hardest, Alex!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Holly as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for working hard on her multiplication and division skills in her maths – wonderful news, Holly! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Ella, for her lovely acrostic poem about Christmas, produced in her English lessons this week – well done, Ella!

Excalibur – Edmund has been awarded the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for demonstrating greater independence in completing extended writes and homework – great to hear, Edmund! Mrs Trusson's Worker of the Week is Finley, for working hard on halving numbers, which has resulted in him passing the 'Halves Club' from his Mental Maths Olympics!

Lancelot – The Star in Lancelot class this week is Imogen, for her excellent, thought-provoking contributions to the class's Computing session this week – great to hear, Imogen! Mr Gallagher's Worker of the Week is awarded to Barnaby, for showing an outstanding attitude towards all learning, particularly in English lessons, with his comprehension and grammar – keep it up, Barnaby!



A special mention to Maisie and Molly M for their awards in their Majorettes; congratulations to Phoebe F who has passed her latest levels in her Kumon learning and finally, well done to Anna for completing her Level 2 swim certificate!

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Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Concert



Please indicate your child's attendance and seating requests for this year's Christmas Carol Concert, hosted at St Barnabas Church on Wednesday 18th December – [Click Here to Sign Up!](#)

Christmas Postbox – From Monday 2nd December, the Christmas Post Box will be in the library. Please write names and classes clearly on the envelopes. Class photos are on the website class pages if children need to refer to them to remember all their friends!



Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 11th December.
Please order via ParentPay by Wednesday 4th December.



Beech Catering
Christmas Lunch

December 2024

Main

Roast Turkey Crown with a Pig in Blanket,
Sage and Onion Stuffing, Roast Potatoes,
Carrots, Brussels Sprouts
and Rich Gravy
Allergen Change - GF Pig in Blanket, GF Stuffing

Vegetarian

Vegetable Wellington with Sage and Onion Stuffing, Roast
Potatoes, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts and Rich Gravy
Allergen Change - GF Wellington, GF Stuffing

Pudding

Christmas Pudding served with Creamy Custard

Strawberry Gateau

Gluten Free Christmas Pudding with Dairy Free Custard

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Thank you to
Archie and
others who
continue to
support our
target!

TESCO
Community Grants







Visit any Tesco Store in the local Yeovil
area to help the school be in with a
chance of receiving additional funding
from Tesco's Community Grant!

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday		<h1>FRIDAY TUCKSHOP</h1> <p>Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p</p>	
			
Tuesday 3 rd December	Deadline to order school photographs with free delivery back to school.		
Tuesday 3 rd December	Christingle Making – all children to bring in an orange to decorate in school.		
Wednesday 4 th December	Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 9 th December 2024. <i>This includes the school Christmas Lunch on 11th December.</i>		
Wednesday 4 th December	11am Christingle Service at St Barnabas Church.		
Wednesday 4 th December	Cross Country event at Ansford. Selected pupils only.		
Tuesday 10 th December	Village Café Choir Performance		
Tuesday 10 th December	Nativity Performance 1 (afternoon performance) Details to follow shortly		
Wednesday 11 th December	School Christmas Lunch – Book via ParentPay by 4th November. Children may wear a Christmas jumper or t-shirt with their uniform.		
Wednesday 11 th December	Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 16th December 2024.		
Wednesday 11 th December	Nativity Performance 2 (evening performance) Details to follow shortly.		
Thursday 12 th December	Lancelot Class children vs Parents Quiz 'Are you smarter than your 10-year-old?'.		
Friday 13 th December	Dick Whittington Pantomime in school.		
Week Commencing 16th December – No enrichment clubs this week			
Wednesday 18 th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert at St Barnabas Church – Arrival from 4:30pm to start for 5pm – Please confirm attendance and seating requests via this link.		
Friday 20 th December	Last day of school term.		
Monday 23 rd December – Monday 6 th January – Christmas Holiday and INSET			
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Children return to school		
Monday 10 th February	Cross Country Event 4 – Yeovil Showground Please note change of date.		

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Creative Writing Competition For 7-12 Year-Olds

WHERE
WILL YOUR
IMAGINATION
TAKE YOU?

You could win a creative writing goody bag!

Your story could be published in a book!

Name: Surname: Age:
Teacher's Name:
School Name:
School Postcode:

Title:

Title isn't included in 100-word limit!

Write your mini saga here (one word per box).

There are 100 boxes below, so if you stick to one word per box you won't exceed the maximum length.

TIP: Abbreviating saves words - e.g. 'it is' can become 'it's'.

Start here! (Write across from left to right!) I

[illegible]

Details are required for competition purposes only and will not be passed on to any third parties.
Young Writers is an imprint of 'Bonacio Ltd' VAT No. 102781343 Reg No. 03368980 | Full competition T&Cs are available at our website.
You've reached 100 words!

11

and Mrs Gillman.

WHERE WILL YOUR MAGICAL MAP TAKE YOU?

*It can take you anywhere! A place, a journey, a quest,
the past or future, a new world, to meet a mythical creature...*

Setting Ideas



Draw where your magical map takes you.

Who is the main character?

What is your mini saga about?
(Think about the beginning, middle and end.)

The Impossible Maze

It was getting dark. I started to panic. I stumbled through the maze, frightened. It all looked the same. Hopeless. I sat on the damp, cold floor and started to cry. Suddenly, I felt warmth and a purple glow lit the path. I looked up to see an extraordinarily tall wizard in purple robes. Beside him, a blue door floated in mid-air. "This portal will return you home," declared the wizard. "But if you go, you can never return." I stood quickly and ran to the door, overjoyed! I never found the treasure, but I had something better, home.

By Cooper Miller (9)

YOU COULD WIN...



AND HAVE YOUR
WORK PUBLISHED IN A
REAL BOOK!



Any other ideas? Draw or write them here!

FUN-filled, Action-packed Active- Camps

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Christmas Holidays



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For more information visit: www.tlesportscoaching.co.uk or call 07951 291471

<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yeoviltown/>

CHRISTMAS SOCCER SCHOOLS



23rd and 24th December
3rd and 4th January



 **COMMUNITY
SPORT'S
TRUST**

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