

# Diary Dates

# PPAT

**PSHE** 

Workshops

### 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

With the fabulous sunny weather, I think it is safe to say the summer term is now well underway! Each class's curriculum letters outlining topics and learning for the term have now been published. All classes are available to view on our school website, by following this link.

We were delighted to be joined by Katie and Harold from Coram SCARF education, who provide the school's Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) resources. Children from Year 1 onwards took part in workshops, designed to allow all the chance to learn about their mental health, the impact they and their friends have on one another and how the brain develops in preparation for adolescents. Older children also had the opportunity to discuss social choices that they may face and how to best navigate these. As ever, if you



Year 3 enjoyed their Body
Control workshop at Ansford
Academy on Tuesday. The
year group was put through
its paces with balance,
coordination, agility and

fitness activities — all led by the Year 9 sports leaders of Ansford. The group really enjoyed their sessions and are looking forward to putting their refined skills to the test come Sports Day, later this term!

sford
ne
ugh

Y3 - Body
Control



Katie and Harold joined us for our PSHE workshops this week!

On the topic of sport, we are incredibly proud to announce that Countess Gytha pupils shone brightly in the YPSGA Cross Country League 2024-25, especially in the Year 2/3 Girls' category, where our school were crowned team champions! This brilliant achievement is a testament to the hard work, determination, and team spirit shown by our young runners throughout the season.

A special congratulations goes to Emily Board, who was named the Individual League Winner for the Year 2/3

son. Y3 – Body Control



Emily – Y2/3 Cross Country League Individual Winner

Girls. Emily's outstanding commitment, stamina, and focus across all the races earned her top place in the standings — an amazing accomplishment! She will receive a well-deserved trophy to recognise her achievement.

We are so proud of every pupil who took part and represented Countess Gytha with such enthusiasm; we cannot wait to report on our inter-area finalists, who are representing Yeovil in their races next week — good luck to Molly, Emily, Grace and Ruby.

Bookman wishes to thank all those who have completed the recent Bookman Easter Challenge. Children

tackled ten exciting tasks – from reading in the garden and sharing stories with family to experimenting with funny voices and reading in extreme spots. Many completed the bronze, silver, or golden levels by ticking off five, eight, or all ten challenges. Well done to the raffle winners: Evie, Seb, Lydia and Dylan.

Thank you to the PTFA who judged our poetry competition this week; we can't wait to announce the Poetry Week's competition winners in the next Diary Dates!





Countess Gytha played host to over

180 Preston Primary Academy Trust
staff on Thursday evening, as we held
the 2025 Education Conference. Mr
Gallagher did a fantastic job of putting
together guest speakers, including alumni
of Countess Gytha to inspire school and
trust staff on the theme of, 'Belonging.'

PPAT Education Conference
2025 - Belonging

AUDIENCE DUESTIONS

Next week, Thursday 8th May, marks the

80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day. There will be celebrations at St Barnabas Church in Queen Camel this Sunday 4th May, with the opportunity to hear first-hand what it was like to be an evacuee from London to Queen Camel too! The service starts at 9:30am.

RI READING MUSEUM

We are inviting all children to come to school on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May in red, white and blue or any combination thereof! For those really wanting to get into the 1945 swing, please see some themed ideas below which would also be welcomed.

The children have been busy sowing and growing plants for our school garden. We will be selling our surplus plants to raise money to further develop our outdoor environments.

We hope to enhance our garden area with the addition of a rainwater collection station and a polytunnel/outdoor classroom. If anyone has a surplus of homegrown plants that we can sell or use in our garden, Mrs Hewlett or Mrs Feierabend would be

LAND GIRLS

LONG HAIR TIED BACK

A SCARF OR BANDANA TIED AROUND YOUR HEAD

DUNGAREES WITH A PLAIN, CHECKED OR FLORAL
BLOUSE UNDERNEATH

PLAIN WELLIES OR BOOTS

IF YOU'RE HAVING YOUR OWN AT-HOME VE DAY PARTY, YOU MIGHT WANT TO DRESS UP LIKE SOMEONE FROM 1945. HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR WARTIME-INSPIRED OUTFITS:

1940s Factory Worker

A plain shirt, trousers and an apron (preferably brown or grey!)

OR DUNGAREES

A FLAT CAP

PLAIN BOOTS

A BOILERSUIT OR JUMPSUIT (IF YOU HAVE ONE).

LONG HAIR TIED UP IN A HEADSCARF

1911

GOGGLES (USE SWIMMING GOGGLES OR GET INVENTIVE AND MAKE YOUR OWN OUT OF OLD TOILET PAPER ROLLS) WORN ON TOP OF YOUR HEAD

A CLOSE-FITTING HAT THAT COVERS YOUR EARS

A LEATHER BOMBER JACKET

PLAIN BLUE OR BROWN TROUSERS

PLAIN BOOTS

PILOTS



happy to receive them.

Miss Morris and the Merlin team are delighted to celebrate the following children in reception. Congratulations Florence, you are Merlin's Star of the Week for always including others in your play, making sure that nobody is left out — lovely news to hear, Florence! Congratulations Imogen, you are Merlin's Worker of the Week for beautiful letter formation — you have worked really hard to form all letters correctly across all tasks — keep it up, young lady!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Lily, who is Pendragon's Star of the Week for working so hard in all of her English tasks – amazing news, Lily! Well done to November, who has been chosen as Pendragon's Worker of the Week for working hard to remember all key number bond facts – keep practising, November!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Harriet A as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for always demonstrating excellent listening skills in all of her class subjects – well done, Harriet. King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Emily, for having an excellent understanding of 3D shapes and their properties – great work, Emily!

Excalibur – Henry has been awarded the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for being a polite member of the class who settles to his work and is increasingly putting his hand up to offer his unique insights – keep it up, Henry! Mrs Trusson's Worker of the Week is awarded to Edmund, for his approach to his work both in class and his homework – great to hear, Edmund!

Lancelot — The Star in Lancelot class this week is Sam, for his much-improved progress measures — Mr Gallagher is very proud and you should be too, Sam! Mr. Gallagher's Worker of the Week is awarded to Layton, for completing all of his assessments so efficiently and achieving greater depth in each and every one too — an incredible effort, Layton!

A special mention this week goes to George for completing his season at Sherborne Rugby Club — he has been awarded a medal in recognition of his teamwork all year. Hattie and Emelia both have achieved their Level 5 and 7 swimming certificates respectively, great work girls! Finally, Emily deserves a special mention for 'completing swimming' — she has achieved her final stage 10 certification and no doubt is looking forward to participating and completing more swimming challenges in the future!



At last, it almost feels like the summer is on its way. For this reason, you may wish to apply sun cream to your child at home before leaving for school. An appropriate sun hat would be useful to provide the best protection when your child is outside.

### Please make sure sun hats are labelled with your child's name.



Sun creams cannot be applied by our staff, or shared with other children, so please ensure that the sun cream you use will give them the protection they need during the school day.

The children have been really busy sowing and growing plants for our school garden. We will be selling our surplus plants to raise money to further develop our outdoor environments.

We hope to enhance our garden area with the addition of a rainwater collection station and a polytunnel/ outdoor classroom.

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.





### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday  COUNTESS GYTHA  PRIMARY SCHOOL	FRIDAY TUCKSHOP  Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May ParentPay	Deadline to book school meals and breakfast club via ParentPay for week commencing 12 <sup>th</sup> May. Deadline to book After School Childcare via booking forms for week commencing 12 <sup>th</sup> May.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Yeovil Area Cross Country Teams Races at Mudford Recreation Centre – invited pupils only.
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	VE Day Celebrations – email sent 1.5.2025 See details above
Week commencing 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 Assessment Week (SATs) 8am Breakfast Club in the school hall for Year 6 children.
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Pendragon Class and King Arthur Class trip to Westlands Entertainment Venue to watch Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May ParentPay	Deadline to book school meals and breakfast club via ParentPay for week commencing 19 <sup>th</sup> May. Deadline to book After School Childcare via booking forms for week commencing 19 <sup>th</sup> May.
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	PTFA Rainbow Run — see poster attached.  Forms to be sent out next week.
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Half Term
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Merlin Class swimming session 1
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Animals 2U South West

### Payment Reminders

Pendragon and King Arthur Class - BSO Orchestra at Westlands

Merlin Class - Puxton Park

Thursday 12th June	Welcome meeting for new intake at 4.30pm in the school hall.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June – Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential to Land & Wave, Swanage.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Merlin Class swimming session 2
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Children's Parliament – details to be sent out shortly.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Preschool Trip to Axe Valley
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Merlin Class Art Specialist Day
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Merlin Class swimming session 3
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Race for Life Charity Event – Whole school and preschool – details to follow.
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day – letter emailed out 1.5.2025
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	PTFA Summer Fayre – Details to follow
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Somerset Transition Day – Year 6's to attend Somerset secondary schools; all years to move up to new groups – details of classes will be sent in June. Please note, for Year 6 children, the individual secondary schools will write to families.
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Merlin Class visit to Puxton Park.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Tulip Photography in school for class photos and Year 6 Leavers photos
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Ansford Sports Day – details to follow
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	PTFA Summer School Disco – details to follow
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day of the summer term.





# #Help4All



## Get free support and advice on:



**Money -** including cost of living, debt, energy costs, jobs, benefits and transport.



**Food -** find your local food bank, Happy Healthy Holidays, and more.



**Home -** housing support and advice, including help with your rent or mortgage.



**Health and Wellbeing -** find local support and toolkits for adults, young people and children.



**Domestic abuse -** help if you or your family are affected by domestic abuse or violence.



**Problems with drugs or alcohol -** for young people and adults affected by substance abuse.



**Parenting -** tools and guides for parents, carers and grandparents.



Scan the QR code or visit: www.connectsomerset.org.uk/help4all



YNC will be looking for new members for Sept 2025 and will be holding an open taster session on 30th June for members and non members (current year R to year 5) to come and give YNC a go!

Please see the details attached - if these sessions are of interest please sign up using the googleform link - <a href="https://forms.gle/HdKLnMk6AHYCJFjd9">https://forms.gle/HdKLnMk6AHYCJFjd9</a>

By signing up to these sessions we will also use this as a basis for communications for the new season starting in September.













## Get into Teaching with Somerset SCITT

### Want to be a Primary School teacher?

#### Want to inspire, motivate and encourage pupils to be the best they can?

Somerset SCITT are hosting a series of open events to find out more about becoming a teacher

- School Experience spend the morning in one of our partnership schools, meet current trainees, current Early Career Teachers and Senior Leaders, observe a lesson and get all your questions answered regarding the application and interview process.
- Trainee Experience spend the morning at Somerset SCITT (Broughton House, TA1 2PX), meet current trainees, join in with a taught session and get all your questions answered regarding the application and interview process.
- Drop in meet member's of the team, find out about all our routes into teaching and get all your questions answered regarding the application and interview process.



#### May 2025 Events:

- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May: 9:30am 12pm: School Experience in a Taunton based school; Booking essential.
- Thursday 1st May: 4pm 5pm: Drop in at Broughton House, Taunton, TA1 2PX

#### June 2025 Events:

- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June: 9:30am 12pm: School Experience in a Taunton based school; Booking essential.
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June: 4:30pm 5:30pm: Drop in at Broughton House, Taunton, TA1 2PX.

### July 2025 Events:

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July: 9:30am 12pm: School Experience in a Taunton based school; Booking essential.
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July: 4pm 5pm: Drop in at Broughton House, Taunton, TA1 2PX

Book by calling: 0300 123 1967 or emailing: <a href="mailto:scil@somerset.gov.uk">scil@somerset.gov.uk</a>
Check out our website: <a href="mailto:www.sciltraining.co.uk/scitt">www.sciltraining.co.uk/scitt</a>

