



31<sup>st</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Wednesday heralded in the Lunar New Year, celebrated across the world, but is particularly associated with China. Children were greeted into school by our dazzling dragon!



Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their sports festival at Ansford this week. The combination of team games, mixed with problem-solving activities were enjoyed by all. It was lovely to see the children work collaboratively together throughout each of the activities planned – well done Year 4!



Much enthused by this event, Year 4 and the remainder of Key Stage 2 were delighted to be visited by Kate French, a gold-winning Modern Pentathlete, competing in the Rio, Tokyo and Paris games last year! Children listened intently to her personal journey and were able to ask plenty of questions about what it takes to be the best at something in the world!



In other sporting news, the athletics squad travelled to Westfield Academy to compete in an indoor athletics festival. They took part in different events, with contributing to the overall points total of the school. Well done to the team: Hunter, Jack, Cooper, Albie, Wilf, Ruby, Frayer, Phoebe, Emily and Emelia. A special congratulations must go to Emily and Wilf who both participated brilliantly after only finding out about the festival a few hours beforehand!



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Miss Morris and the Merlin team are delighted to celebrate the following children in reception. Congratulations Keira, you are Merlin's Star of the Week for helping Miss Morris keep the classroom spotlessly tidy this week – great news! Well done Arthur, you are Merlin's Worker of the Week, for trying really hard with your handwriting and letter formation this week – wonderful to hear young man!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Hero, who is Pendragon's Star of the Week for contributing his ideas in lessons throughout the week – brilliant to hear, Hero! Well done to Eric, who has been chosen as Pendragon's Worker of the Week for writing excellent sentences describing his alien in English work – keep up the great effort, Eric!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Molly M as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for trying really hard in maths, even when a concept is tricky – great work, Molly! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Freddie, for working hard in English, including lots of expanded noun phrases in his descriptive writing – keep up the hard work, Freddie!

Excalibur – Freddie L has been awarded the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for listening to and responding to advice given about his work, including greater detail when reasoning in maths – fantastic news, Freddie! Mrs Trusson's Worker of the Week is Phoebe C for writing a great series of diary entries for the eruption around Mount Vesuvius in 79AD and creating a timeline of this event, which was all presented beautifully – keep up the amazing work, Phoebe!

Lancelot – The Star in Lancelot class this week is Wesley, for demonstrating a fantastic attitude; showing he can work with super presentation and being helpful to adults – brilliant effort, Wes! Mr. Gallagher's Worker of the Week is awarded to Sam, for showing a willingness to come into class with a smile on his face and a hardworking attitude – brilliant to hear, Sam!

A special mention this week goes to Ella H, who has completed her level 7 swimming award and has now moved up to squad level! Well done to Darcy in Pendragon, who has achieved her level 1 swimming award – a brilliant first step (or should that be stroke!) As part of his swimming squad, William M qualified for the county championships, which took place last weekend at Millfield – being one of the youngest in his category, he came third in his heat – we wish him the best of luck for his Bristol races this weekend!

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## Payment Reminders

Swimming for:

*Pendragon Class and Year 2's in King Arthur Class - £22.50*

*Legoland*

*Excalibur Class and Year 5's in Lancelot Class - £27.50*

*Year 6*

*Year 6 Residential*

*Balance to be paid by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025*

*Payments to be made via BACS – see school office if details required.*

**Girlguiding**  
Wyndham district

♥ Volunteers Needed  
♥ Spaces Available

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st Somerton Rainbows ♥	1st Ilchester Rainbows ♥	12th Yeovil Brownies	2nd Lyde Rainbows	6th Yeovil (St Michaels) Brownies ♥
1st Somerton Brownies ♥	1st Queen Camel Brownies ♥	13th Yeovil Guides ♥		Saturday
2nd Ilchester Brownies	1st Queen Camel Guides ♥	Rangers COMING SOON ♥		1st Wyndham Rainbows ♥
13th Yeovil Brownies ♥	Yeovil Division Rangers			
1st Somerton Guides				
1st Somerton Rangers ♥				

Rainbows ages 4-7  
 Guides ages 10-14  
 Brownies ages 7-10  
 Rangers ages 14-18

Please be aware that it is up to our individual Rainbows units if they accept 4 year olds, it maybe they accept them from 4 years 6 months or once they have started school. They may also have a long waiting list.

*World Thinking Day – If your child is part of Girl guiding or Scouting movements, they are invited to wear their Rainbow, Brownie, Beavers or Cubs uniform to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Local guiding groups are signposted above.*










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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



<p>Every Friday</p> 	<h1>FRIDAY TUCKSHOP</h1> <p>Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p</p>	
<p>Yoga for King Arthur and Excalibur Classes – Our weekly Yoga sessions continue with Paula. Paula is an accredited Yoga Instructor and her Green Crow Yoga classes help children to find their own sense of calm and contentment, a key skill in all walks of life.</p>		
<p>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</p>	<p>Swimming for Pendragon Class Year 1 &amp; 2 and King Arthur Year 2's.</p> 	
<p>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</p>	<p>Handball tournament at Westfield Academy – selected pupils only.</p>	
<p>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>Excalibur Class Volcano Day – letter sent home 23<sup>rd</sup> January</p>	
<p>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>Vision screening for Reception Class. Opt out letters sent home.</p>	
<p>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February</p> 	<p>Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February.</p>	
<p>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>Basketball tournament at Bucklers Mead – selected pupils only.</p>	
<p>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>Swimming for Pendragon Class Year 1 &amp; 2 and King Arthur Year 2's.</p> 	
<p>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>Cross Country Event 4 at Bucklers Mead Academy. Please note change venue and date.</p>	
<p>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February</p> 	<p>HALF TERM</p> <p><b>NEW MENU AVAILABLE</b></p> <p>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.</p>	
<p>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>World Thinking Day</p> <p>If your child is part of Girl guiding or Scouting they are invited to wear their Rainbow, Brownie, Beavers or Cubs uniform to school.</p> 	
<p>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February</p>	<p>Swimming for Pendragon Class Year 1 &amp; 2 and King Arthur Year 2's.</p> 	

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New Menu Online for February – May 2025



Please remember to order school meals for after half term by  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

WORLD  
BOOK DAY  
MENU  
THURSDAY 6TH MARCH

MAIN COURSE



LADY AND THE TRAMP'S  
SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALLS

OR

MIKE TEAVEE'S MACARONI CHEESE

WITH

PETER RABBITS CARROTS



DESSERT

WILLY WONKA'S GOLDEN TICKET  
CHOCOLATE BROWNIES

OR

QUEEN OF HEARTS JAM TARTS

OR

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLARS FRUIT  
SALAD



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# COUNTESS GYTHA PTFA

## SMARTIES CHALLENGE

We are giving you some smarties to eat but the empty tube you must keep 20p you need to find, ask friends and family they won't mind!

Fill your tube right to the top.  
Return by 26th Feb for our fundraising pot.



The class with the most raised will win themselves cakes for the whole class.



COUNTESS GYTHA  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A six-session parenting program for  
parents

Would you like to learn how to:

- be better at talking with your child?
- be better at understanding your child?
- help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- teach your child to deal with conflict?

Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop *emotional intelligence*.  
Children with higher emotional intelligence:

- have greater success with making and keeping friends
- have better concentration at school
- are more able to calm down when upset or angry
- tend to have fewer childhood illnesses

Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success  
than IQ!

Where: Online

When: starting Tuesday 25th February 2025 **7.30pm**

Contact: Rachel Clements [rachel.clements@ansford.net](mailto:rachel.clements@ansford.net)



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## Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

A six-session parenting programme  
for parents of adolescents aged 10-18

*Would you like to learn how to:*

- *be better at talking with your teen?*
- *be better at understanding your teen?*
- *help your teen learn to manage their emotions?*
- *help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?*
- *teach your teen to deal with conflict?*

*'Tuning in to Teens' shows you how to help your teen develop emotional intelligence.*

*Adolescents with higher emotional intelligence:*

- *are more aware, assertive and strong in situations of peer pressure*
- *have greater success with making friends and are more able to manage conflict with peers*
- *are more able to cope when upset or angry*
- *have fewer mental health and substance abuse difficulties*
- *have more stable and satisfying relationships as adults*
- *have greater career success.*

*Emotional intelligence may be a better predictor of academic and career success than IQ!*

Starting 29<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am in person. Please contact

[rachel.clements@ansford.net](mailto:rachel.clements@ansford.net) to book a place.

Venue TBC (Ansford /Castle Cary area)



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All Saints Church, West Camel  
Wednesday 19th February

**ONE DAY ONLY**

10am–12.30pm

The  
  
**WINNING**  
**TEAM**

**HOLIDAY CLUB**

for children aged 4–11

Crafts, games, quizzes, Bible Stories, songs,  
videos and refreshments.

Lots of fun for everyone!

Free – but children must be registered – preferably  
in advance to help with catering.

For more information, or to register, please contact  
Geoff.mead@yahoo.com or phone 01935 850838.

SAFE-GUARDING: Our Club leaders have been DBS checked



**FUN-filled, Action-packed Active-Camps**

During The

**February Holidays**



**Five Action Packed Days**

**9:00—3:00pm**

**£18.00**

**Per Day**

February 17th to 21st 2025 from 9—3

Xtra Time available

Countess Gytha Primary School, West Camel Road, Queen Camel, Yeovil. BA22 7FF

For more information visit: [www.tlesportscoaching.co.uk](http://www.tlesportscoaching.co.uk) or call **07951 291471**

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# HAPPY HEALTHY HOLIDAYS

## FEBRUARY HALF TERM PROVISION

Exciting activity clubs for children aged 5 - 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals across Somerset

5 DAYS  
PER CHILD

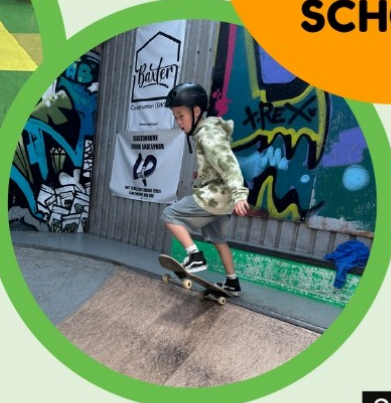


GET A  
BOOKING  
CODE FROM  
YOUR  
SCHOOL

BOOKINGS  
OPEN ON  
20TH  
JANUARY



FOOD  
INCLUDED!



Find and book **FREE** local activities by visiting:  
[www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays](http://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays)  
or scan the QR code!

SCAN ME



This provision is funded by The Household Support Fund 'Help Through Winter' programme by Somerset Council, who are working alongside partners across education and the VCFSE sector to deliver essential support to families and residents.

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# Key information for Happy Healthy Holidays



**Need help with booking?  
Watch this video**



**Bookings open on  
Monday 20th January at 10am**



**LOG IN**

**Login to Playwaze  
(same login as used at Winter)**



**Enter the code your school  
has given you**

**5**

**5 days of provision per child only**



**Need help? Call or email our  
HHH team**

 [hhh@sasp.co.uk](mailto:hhh@sasp.co.uk)  07843 816168 / 01823 653992 (Open 9am - 1pm)

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# Key information for Happy Healthy Holidays

- Before bookings go live take a look at our 'how to make a bookings video' using this link [www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fInPPFjSbU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fInPPFjSbU)
- Bookings open on Monday 20th January at 10am which you can access using [www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays](http://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays)
- To book onto activities you will need to login into Playwaze, and enter the code your school should have given you
- Your Playwaze login is the same you used for the Winter programme, if you have forgotten your password you can reset it by clicking the reset button
- Book your desired activities, you can book up to 5 days of provision per individual child
- If you need assistance you can email our HHH team or call between 9am-1pm Monday- Friday



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SCAN TO BOOK!



# LEWESTON ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMP

4-14 YEARS OLD

LASER TAG, NERF GUN BATTLES, INFLATABLES, CRICKET, FOOTBALL,  
GLOW IN THE DARK DODGEBALL, ARTS & CRAFTS, AND MORE!



Cost

STANDARD: £30.00  
EXTENDED: £35.00

Times

STANDARD: 9.00AM-3.30PM  
EXTENDED: 8.00AM-5.30PM

## Leweston

Leweston School, Sherborne,  
Dorset, DT9 6EN

## February Half Term

Monday 17th of February  
Tuesday 18th of February  
Wednesday 19th of February  
Thursday 20th of February

## Booking Link

<https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2025/02/17/leweston-ultimate-activity-camps-february-half-term>

**More Information:** [ed.doble@primary-sports.co.uk](mailto:ed.doble@primary-sports.co.uk) / 07903347412





## FREE WINTER PLAYDAYS: YEOVIL

### Save the dates (10am – 2pm):

- Magical Music Making
- Diva Dancing
- Creative Crafts
- Fabulous Face Painting
- Artistic Creations
- Plus a whole host more!

Monday 17th February 2025 | Westlands  
Entertainment Venue, **YEOVIL**, BA20 2DD

Tuesday 18th February 2025 | Wincanton Memorial  
Hall, **WINCANTON**, BA9 9JF

Wednesday 19th February 2025 | Ridgway  
Hall, **LANGPORT**, TA10 9PQ

Thursday 20th February 2025 | Chard  
Guildhall, **CHARD**, TA20 1PP

All for free at a venue near you!

*Thank you to all who have returned their Big Schools' Birdwatch data sheets. this weekend as part of our Green Flag Environmental Award. If they are yet to be completed, we are asking that you record how many bird species are spotted within one hour. The final collection deadline is Monday!*



**Big Schools'  
Birdwatch**

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