



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to the second half of the term and as ever in the summer term, things are already moving at such a pace! Please keep a keen eye on upcoming dates as we move through the term and continue to try to pack in as many opportunities as possible!

Speaking of which, Miss Bridge is delighted to announce that Emily B, Henry G and Lily S have all been selected as this year's regional winners of the Primary Engineer Competition and have been invited to attend the awards ceremony at UWE in Bristol at the end of June. A special mention must also be given to Barnaby, who received a Highly Commended Award for his design.



The theme for this year's competition was 'If you were an engineer, what would you do?'. The children met with engineer Daniel Innes in February for inspiration, before coming up with their own designs. The detailed sketches were to be accompanied by a letter, explaining the function and purpose of their designs. Each child who took part has received a certificate with a grading for their design; it would definitely appear we have many budding engineers at Countess Gytha Primary School!



From engineering to energy – something which was shown in bundles this week as there are plenty of sporting updates too!

Countess Gytha boys' football team recently took to the pitch to face Keinton in what proved to be a challenging, but spirited match. For some it was their first time playing in a competitive game, with all showing real courage



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and perseverance throughout. A special mention goes to Noah, who was outstanding in defence and put in a solid performance from start to finish. Well done to all the other players too: Wesley, Jack, Cooper, Hunter, Barnaby, Alex, Archie, Alex, Rothen, Tom, and Enes.

This week, our girls' football team made school history by playing their very first match — and what a brilliant game it was! Taking on Ilchester, the team showed incredible determination, teamwork, and resilience from the first whistle to the last. A special mention must go to Ruby and Rosie, who both gave heroic performances and led by example throughout the match. Well done also to Lucy, Rosie, Evie, Phoebe, and Grace, who gave it their all and made us all proud.



What a fantastic start for our girls' team — we can't wait to see what they do next!



A group of Year 4 and 5 boys enjoyed a brilliant cricket training session this week, led by Somerset cricket coach, Shaun. Well done to Albie, Alfie W, Alfie C, Freddie, Rupert, Wilf and William for representing the school so well and making the most of this exciting opportunity. We're sure we'll be seeing some future cricket stars in action again soon!

Today the whole school took part in the Childhood Day Mile, raising over £50 in support of the NSPCC — thank you for your generous donations! The playground and field were full of energy and excitement as children from all classes ran, danced, hopped, jumped, and skipped their way around the track. It was wonderful to see pupils encouraging each other, smiling from ear to ear, and getting active for such an important cause.



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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 Worker of the Week for keeping herself focused and on task in all her lessons and activities – keep up the brilliant work, Keira! Congratulations Imogen, you are Merlin's Star of the Week for being a very supportive friend and encouraging peers to keep trying their best in times of challenge – high praise indeed, Imogen!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Koby, who is Pendragon's Star of the Week for presenting his parable recount in RE with such confidence – two star certificates in a row Koby, that's a rare achievement young man! Well done to Alice, who has shown brilliant focus during phonics – great to hear, Alice!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Freddie W as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for his excellent concentration within the 'time' unit in maths – fantastic to hear, Freddie! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Noah, for writing a great recount of a traditional tale in English – great work, Noah!

Excalibur – Arlow has been awarded the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for persevering with some challenging multi-step word problems within his maths – keep it up, Arlow! Mrs Trusson's Worker of the Week is awarded to Emelia, for working super-hard and challenging herself to complete the whole selection of reasoning and problem solving questions – in every lesson – outstanding work, Emelia!

Lancelot – Betsy has been recognised as Lancelot's Star of the Week for bringing her character to life in all of her rehearsals and setting a brilliant example to all in her singing and vocal projection – I'm sure I speak for all when I say that we are really looking forward to your production this year! Mr. Gallagher's Worker of the Week is Jenson, for his outstanding extended write on an action-packed chase scene – Mr Gallagher was totally enthralled by your tempo and vocabulary choices, Jenson!



A special mention this week goes to Molly S, Harriet and Emelia for completing their Level 1 Gymnastics Foundations. The girls proudly shared their certificates and medals, explaining some of the skills they have been developing. We also celebrate Jett from Pendragon, who this week participated in

his first motocross event and thoroughly enjoyed himself, picking up a medal in the process! Finally, a big well done to Alice and Rosie, who have walked their way to a marathon over a month, raising over £2000 for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance – a cause close to the family's heart – an inspirational achievement girls!










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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



| <div>Every Friday</div> <div>  </div> |   | <div>FRIDAY TUCKSHOP</div> <div>Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p</div>            |
|--|---|---|
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June  | Merlin Class swimming session 1   |    |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June  | Art Day – Mr Plumbley in for Year 6 making props for their show – a large shirt or other similar item of clothing would be helpful to avoid getting uniforms dirty! |   |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June  | Handball event at Westfield Academy for selected pupils.  |   |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June  | Cricket training session at Westfield Academy for selected pupils.  |   |
| Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June  | Quantocks Cake sale from 3.20pm   |    |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June   | King Arthur Class and Pendragon Class visit from Animals 2U South West. Letter sent home 7.5.2025   |   |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June   | AIM High Writing Day for selected pupils.   |   |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June   | Cricket Tournament at Chard Cricket Club for selected pupils.   |   |
| Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June   | Welcome meeting for parents of new starters at 4.30pm in the school hall.   |   |
| Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June   | Mufti Day for children in Blackdown House   |  |
| 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 for selected pupils.  |   |
| Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June   | Mufti day in exchange for Summer Fair donations – details to follow 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.   |   |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June   | Sports Day – please see letter emailed out 1.5.2025   |   |
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June   | PTFA Summer Fayre – poster below  |  |

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|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July   | Year 1 Ansford Sports Festival. Letter sent 6.5.25<br>Parents to collect at 3pm at Ansford Sports Hall.   |
| 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 next week. 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.  |

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



#### Payment Reminders

Merlin Class – swimming £22.50

Pendragon and King Arthur Class – Animals 2U SouthWest visit £2.00

Merlin Class – Puxton Park

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# CAKE SALE



Please support your House  
and bring some cakes in.

## Quantocks Cake Sale



**WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025**

**50P A CAKE**

**SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND BUY SOME DELICIOUS AND YUMMY CAKES**

**ALL MONIES RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE SCHOOL**

**THANK YOU**

**THE SCHOOL COUNCIL**

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# SOFT TOY DONATIONS

We are looking for donations of good  
quality, pre-loved soft toys for our  
Summer fair



**Please drop off at:  
Main school reception  
BY 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

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# SUMMER FAIR

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June  
3.30 – 5.30pm

COUNTESS GYTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- Twinnies petting farm •
- Hook a duck •
- Splat the rat •
- Ice cream van •
- YFW bloodbikes •
- Raffle •
- Tombola •
- Craft area •
- and much more!

RAFFLE



COUNTESS GYTHA  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Visit a farm & discover  
the world of farming!**

# **The Slow Farming Company**

**Clanville Manor Farm, Castle Cary, BA7 7PJ**

## **Saturday 7th June - Sunset on the Farm**

Bring your friends and soak up the atmosphere with an unforgettable evening of live music, BBQ delights and local drinks under open skies.

## **Sunday 8th June - Family Farm Day**

A fun-packed day for all ages! Climb aboard our tractor & trailer safari, marvel at our vintage tractor parade, meet the animals up close, and let the kids bounce to their hearts' content on the bouncy castle. With delicious BBQ, refreshing drinks, this is real farm fun at its finest.



For more **details** and to book free **tickets**, please use the QR code/link:



[www.bit.ly/OpenFarm2025](http://www.bit.ly/OpenFarm2025)

 [slowfarmingco](https://www.facebook.com/slowfarmingco)

 [slowfarmingcompany](https://www.instagram.com/slowfarmingcompany)

[#SlowFarmingWeekend](https://twitter.com/SlowFarmingWeekend)

[www.SlowFarming.co.uk](http://www.SlowFarming.co.uk)



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**SUMMER 2025**

**TECH & STEM CAMP**

WITH TAKE HOME INVENTIONS!

Orsted Registered

Childcare Vouchers  
WE ALSO ACCEPT  
**TAX-FREE**  
CHILDREN

**21st July - 22nd August**

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MULTI DAY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE, FROM JUST £35 PER DAY!  
AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY

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PLACES  
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TECH FUN

MOVIE MAKING

LASER TAG

SCIENCE DAY

INVENTIONS

ROBOTS

**SUMMER CAMPS 2025**

Every day at Tech Camp is an adventure with hands-on **tech fun**, **iPad creativity**, and **take-home inventions!**

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

At Next Thing Education, our goal is to ignite curiosity, fuel creativity, and empower young minds for the future!

Through hands-on coding & STEM experiences, we inspire the next generation of inventors, creators, and tech leaders. Led by DBS checked, friendly and supportive instructors, kids will explore STEM through exciting activities and challenges.

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"The best camp we've tried! A perfect mix of fun and learning!"

★★★★★

"My child loved every minute - already asking to come back!"

★★★★★

"Fun, engaging, and highly educational - highly recommend!"

Only **£199** for 5 DAYS or **£349** for 10 DAYS!

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**WEEK 1 / WEEK 3**

| Day 1         | Day 2         | Day 3                | Day 4             | Day 5             |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| KINETIC K'NEX | LEGO MACHINES | Strawbees Structures | 3D CREATIONS      | LASER TAG         |
| MICRO ROBOTS  | COOL CODING   | MOVIE MAKING         | AUGMENTED REALITY | MINECRAFT ROCKETS |
| Electric      | Conductive    | Motorised            | Aquatic           | Wind              |

Take Home Inventions

**WEEK 2 / WEEK 4**

| Day 1          | Day 2             | Day 3                  | Day 4               | Day 5               |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| CRAZY CIRCUITS | LEGO CONTRACTIONS | Little Bits INVENTIONS | VIRTUAL REALITY     | SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS |
| BIG BOTS       | VIDEO GAME DESIGN | ANIMATION              | MINECRAFT VS MARVEL | STEM CHALLENGES     |
| Electric       | Hydraulics        | Microbot               | Solar               | Light               |

Take Home Inventions

Please note, the above schedules are for reference only—please check our website for the accurate schedule of your local camp.

**LIMITED SPACES, BOOK NOW!**

**E: info@nextthing.education T: 01442 873150**

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