



COUNTESS
GYTHA
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Diary Dates

7th February 2025



Dear Parents & Guardians,

Excalibur's week went off with a bang as they enjoyed their Volcano Day as part of their natural hazards and disasters

topic! The children created papier mâché models of famous volcanoes from across the world and once decorated, the class 'erupted' all 10 volcanoes - it was all very exciting!



Following our recent successes in athletics and badminton tournaments, Mr Gallagher was delighted with the participants in handball and basketball this week.



In handball, the team was introduced to the basics and rules of the sport before playing a match to finish, which Countess Gytha won! Well done to Barnaby, Alfie C, Alfie W, Albie, Jack, and Cooper.

The boys participated in basketball tournament on Thursday against local primary schools. Jack, Cooper, Tom, Noah and Barnaby all

played brilliantly in the group stages. We won our first match 12 - 0, with some great shots from Tom, Cooper and Jack. Winning one and drawing one in our final two matches meant Countess Gytha were top of the group and progressed to the final again. This time, the team drew with Kingfisher, even after extra time, meaning that we shared the top prize - well done all!



Lancelot were thrilled to have the opportunity to listen to a published author this week.

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Lucy Strange is a children's author that has written many books inspired by folklore and fairytales. The children discovered that she loves to combine historical settings with touches of magic and fantasy to create worlds in which anything could happen...We were so taken with her ideas and the way she writes that we have ordered some of her books for our ever-growing bookshelf!



Our KS2 pupils were invited to write mini sagas (of up to 100 words) about any time, in any place, with an opportunity to become a published author! This exciting national competition took place last term and entries were given to their teachers by many of our aspiring writers. Excitingly, we have now had the results back and the following children are all winners



and are set to be published! Congratulations to: Austin, Harriet, Jenson, Layton, Harrison, Albert, Isabelle F, Phoebe C, Molly S, Elsie, Emily B, Barnaby and Evie.



Thank you to Pendragon families for sending in their cardboard; the children had immense fun modelling their own transport builds, with plenty of pictures of the workshop [on the school website here!](#)

A position on the local governing body has become available. Governors work in partnership with school staff to shape the future of the school; to decide the key issues that will help staff to raise standards and to determine how the school will best spend school funds to achieve these aims. This is a wonderful opportunity for any parent and those interested should see the information emailed separately today (printed copies available in the school office) or speak to Mr. Gordon or other [serving governors.](#)



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Miss Morris and the Merlin team are delighted to celebrate the following children in reception. Congratulations Dylan, you are Merlin's Star of the Week for his superb focus on the carpet all week and trying his very best in all learning tasks – you have been a superstar this week! Well done Henry, you are Merlin's Worker of the Week, for your outstanding determination and focus in maths this week – wonderful to hear young man!

Pendragon – Congratulations to Lydia, who is Pendragon's Star of the Week for showing outstanding kindness to all classmates – brilliant news, Lydia! Well done to Hollie-Grace, who has been chosen as Pendragon's Worker of the Week for the fantastic effort that she puts in to all of her lessons – keep up the great effort, Hollie-Grace!

King Arthur – This week, we are celebrating Harrison as Miss Bridge's Star of the Week, for always being kind, polite and courteous to both staff and peers around the school – you are a brilliant role-model, Harrison well done! King Arthur's Worker of the Week goes to Mason, for writing an interesting and factual non-chronological report about the Roman Army – keep up the hard work, Mason!

Excalibur – Rupert has been awarded the Star of the Week in Excalibur, for a successful week including writing an instruction text using a great deal of 'Top Tips' and passing his 1/6ths fractions club too – fantastic news, Rupert! Mrs Trusson's Worker of the Week is Adley for working really hard to learn his 10x (which he passed on his first go) and scoring 25/25 on his MTC with the 2s, 5s and 10s – keep up the hard work, Adley!

Lancelot – The Star in Lancelot class this week is Alfie W, for planning, writing and presenting an excellent information PowerPoint on The Stone Age – brilliant effort, Alfie! Mr. Gallagher's Worker of the Week is awarded to Imogen this week, for showing an amazing effort in her maths assessments this week, particularly Paper 3 – a perfect, score – well done, Imogen!

A special mention this week goes to Emily, Freddie, Emelia and Alfie, who all played for Sherborne and Yeovil Hockey team on 2nd February. Their team won several of their games all were proud to have a photo as the "Countess Gytha" representatives! Congratulations go to Jenson in Lancelot, who has received his Reading Blue Peter badge, wearing it daily with pride!



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Payment Reminders

Pendragon Class and Year 2's in King Arthur Class – Swimming

King Arthur Class – The Newt


























Excalibur Class and Year 5's in Lancelot Class – Legoland

Lancelot Class – Sutton Bingham

Year 6 Residential – Land & Wave, Dorset

Balance to be paid by 1st 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 24th February. Local guiding groups are signposted above.



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Every Friday 	<h3 style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY TUCKSHOP</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Every Friday morning breaktime - 20p</p>
Monday 10 th February	Wessex Water in school for educational workshops with King Arthur, Excalibur and Lancelot Class.
Monday 10 th February	Swimming for Pendragon Class Year 1 & 2 and King Arthur Year 2's. 
Monday 10 th February	Cross Country Event 4 at Bucklers Mead Academy.
Thursday 13 th February	Bugfest visit in school for Merlin Class and Preschool
Thursday 13 th February	Netball Tournament to be held at Countess Gytha – selected pupils only.
Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February 	HALF TERM NEW MENU AVAILABLE Wednesday 19 th February – Deadline for ordering lunches, booking Breakfast Club and After School Childcare for the week beginning Monday 24 th February.
Monday 24 th February	World Thinking Day If your child is part of Girl guiding or Scouting they are invited to wear their Rainbow, Brownie, Beavers or Cubs uniform to school. 
Monday 24 th February	Swimming for Pendragon Class Year 1 & 2 and King Arthur Year 2's. 
Monday 3 rd March	Swimming for Pendragon Class Year 1 & 2 and King Arthur Year 2's.  Extra session due to missed day due to school closure.
Tuesday 4 th March	Lancelot Class trip to Sutton Bingham Reservoir
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day 2025
Wednesday 19 th March	Blackdown House Cake sale after school.
Friday 21 st March	Red Nose Day 2025
Tuesday 25 th March	King Arthur Class trip to The Newt

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New Menu Online for February – May 2025



Please remember to order school meals for after half term by
Wednesday 19th 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



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



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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 29th April 9.30am in person. Please contact

rachel.clements@ansford.net to book a place.

Venue TBC (Ansford /Castle Cary area)



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LEWESTON ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMP

SCAN TO BOOK!



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 / 07903347412

YEOVIL TOWN COMMUNITY SPORTS TRUST



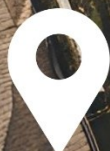
FEBRUARY HALF-TERM SOCCER SCHOOL



17TH - 21ST FEBRUARY



9:30 - 16:00



HUISH PARK

**BOOK
NOW**

[HTTPS://OFFICIALSOCCERSCHOOLS.CO.UK/YEOVILTOWN/](https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/yeoviltown/)

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