



# Newsletter: Summer 2, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a half-term it has been—certainly one to remember! I do hope you were all able to safely enjoy the unusually warm weather we experienced. It has given us a wonderful taste of summer as we move into our **final half-term of the academic year**.

This term, we launch the value of **self-control and patience**—two attributes that will stand our children in good stead, not only in school but throughout life. In Collective Worship this week, we explored the story of Paul in Corinthians, reflecting on how self-control is also about self-discipline, and how developing this helps us all to achieve our full potential.

As we approach the end of the year, this is always a special time to **celebrate the many achievements of our children**. Over the coming weeks, we will be showcasing the progress they have made across the curriculum and beyond, taking time to recognise just how far each and every child has come.

For me personally, this term marks my **final chapter** at the school. I will cherish every moment, continuing to build on the abundance of fond memories I already hold and will take with me.

## A Fond Farewell

Next week, we also say goodbye to our wonderful **Mr Beale**—or *Marc*, as many know him. Since joining the school in 2018 as our Premises Manager, he made his mark (excuse the pun!) quickly and made a lasting impression on us all, but most especially on the children, with whom he has built such strong and meaningful relationships.

A wonderful presence around the school—somewhere between Dora the Explorer and a character from Jurassic Park (don't worry he loves a joke!)—Marc has gone far beyond his role. From supporting school trips and fundraising events, to ensuring the staffroom never runs out of milk (something we all know should never be underestimated!), to being one of the most skilled *flat-pack experts* I have ever known—he has been an invaluable part of our community.

Marc, thank you for everything you have given to our school. You will be truly missed, but we wish you every success and happiness in your new venture.

As many of you know, this term is filled with **key events**, so please do keep an eye on dates for your diaries. We very much look forward to welcoming you into school, including at our upcoming **PTA fete**—a highlight of the term!

Over the coming weeks, we will also continue to share updates regarding staffing for September. Please be assured that we are working closely with the Trust to move this forward and greatly appreciate your continued support and understanding during this time.

In the meantime, I hope you are able to enjoy the longer, summer days, and take time to celebrate with your child(ren) what has been a very successful year.

Warmest wishes,

Helen Newstead

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



11<sup>th</sup> June

Year 2 Multi Skills Sports Festival

20<sup>th</sup> June

PTA Summer Fayre

26<sup>th</sup> June

Year 5 Trip to National Marine Aquarium

8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July

Year 6 Residential

14<sup>th</sup> July

EYFS and KS1 Festival of Sports

15<sup>th</sup> July

KS2 Festival of Sports

17<sup>th</sup> July

PTA Disco

# CLASSROOM NEWS

## SNOWY & TAWNY OWLS

I can't believe it is the last few weeks with the Snowy and Tawny owls but we have a fun topic to learn about which is 'Life is an adventure'. We started off our journey by going on a plane to Brazil where we have learnt about some animals that live there. Each week we will visit somewhere new and find out about the animals that we might find.

Within CLL and maths, it is all about consolidating all the learning from this year and showing off all of the amazing skills they now have.

I am already so proud of the children and I can't wait to see the last bit of their progress throughout the next few weeks!

## PELICAN & YELLOW WAGTAILS

We finished last half term with a fabulous art showcase where parents came in to see our wonderful art work! (see picture below)

This half term we will be building our knowledge of History by learning about 'Excellent Explorers'. We will continue to plot events and significant people on a time line and build an understanding of history and the importance events have on the world we live in today.

We will also be planning, making and evaluating in DT by sewing puppets and making sandwiches. We will continue our work on sentence structure, spelling and grammar in English, while working on measure and multiplication and division in maths.

We are looking forward to a fun half term and encourage all families to check Tapestry regularly to see what we are learning!

## ROBIN & PUFFIN

Firstly Year 2 pupils and staff would like to thank all those adults who were able to attend our flower show last half term. It was a lovely way to end the half term and even better that the sun was shining! We recognise it is not always easy to have the time to attend these things so we really do appreciate it!

For our final (and perhaps busiest) half term, Puffins and Robins will be studying how the seaside has changed over time, dating back from Victorian times to present day. We will be studying old photographs and making comparisons of beaches that are local to us. As always there will be lots of creative, hands-on learning; we're really happy to welcome back Mrs Heap for music.

We will have a large PE focus this half term which will include an exciting trip to Blackbrook Leisure Centre to join other schools in some multisports and we will be practising for our upcoming Festival of Sports in July.

Please continue to support your child with reading and spellings at home in readiness for Year 3.



***“Learn continuously! There is always one more thing to learn.”***

**PEACOCK & FALCON**

This term, we are learning about the Tudors, exploring the lives of rich and poor people, the Reformation, and the events of the Spanish Armada.

In Maths, we will be moving on to shape, developing our understanding of properties, angles, lines and 3D shapes.

In Writing, we will be focusing on narrative writing, using our creativity to plan and write our version of a traditional tale.

**CRANE & RED KITE**

In Maths, Year 4 have been building on their place value knowledge to explore decimals and discover how they connect to fractions — a real step up in mathematical thinking! Alongside this, pupils have been working hard every day on their times tables, and it has been fantastic to see the progress they are making. Times table checks are currently underway, and the dedication shown has been brilliant.

In Time and Place, Year 4 have reached the end of their engaging 'Journey through the Decades' unit. They are now embarking on an exciting new topic all about animals and plants — we can't wait to see their curiosity and enthusiasm shine through!

In CLL, pupils have been busy writing holiday brochures for their chosen destinations, and the results have been wonderful to read. It is great to see so many of the skills developed throughout the Summer 1 term coming together in their writing. Finished pieces will be published early next week — keep an eye out for those!

A huge well done to all of Year 4 for their hard work and positive attitudes this term.

**BUZZARD & MAGPIE**

This half term, Year 5 will be exploring our fascinating circulatory system in science; learning about the vital role of the heart, blood, and blood vessels in keeping our bodies healthy and functioning. We will investigate how nutrients and oxygen are transported around the body and consider the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

In CLL, we will be reading *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman, a thought-provoking novel that follows Cameron, a boy awaiting a life-saving heart transplant. Through the story, pupils will explore themes of friendship, family, ethics and medical advances while developing their debating, reading and writing skills.

In geography, we will be answering the question, 'What is life like in the Alps?' Children will discover the physical and human features of this famous mountain region; compare Alpine life with their own experiences and learn how people adapt to living and working in such a unique environment.

What a busy half-term we have ahead of us!

**KESTREL & EAGLE**

This term, we have lots of exciting learning taking place across the curriculum!

We are busy practicing for our upcoming production of *Shrek* and cannot wait to share all our hard work with you when we perform.

In Place and Time, we are exploring the Monmouth Rebellion and discovering its importance in history. We also have a huge focus on writing this term, where we will be developing our creativity, confidence and skills across a range of different writing opportunities.

## Safeguarding Information

### Safeguarding your child

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please direct to one of our safeguarding team members:

Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Newstead, Mrs. Paling, Mrs. Merrick & Mrs. Samways  
Nadia Connor (Little Herons Nursery)

If you are worried a child is at risk of harm or in danger, please contact:

Children's Social Care on:

0300 123 2224 or by email at: [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)

### What parents need to know about Harmful Sexualised Behaviour

#### Understanding Harmful Sexual Behaviour in Children

Many parents hear the term harmful sexual behaviour and immediately feel worried or unsure what it means. In schools, this term is used to describe sexual behaviours shown by children that may be unsafe, inappropriate, upsetting or harmful to themselves or others.

It is important to remember that children are still learning about bodies, privacy, relationships and boundaries. This is why calm, age-appropriate conversations at home are so important.

#### What is harmful sexual behaviour?

Harmful sexual behaviour can include:

- touching another child in a way that makes them uncomfortable
- trying to look at private body parts
- using sexual words or language they do not fully understand
- showing sexual images to other children
- pressuring other children into games or behaviours they do not want to join in with
- copying behaviours they may have seen online, in videos, games or from older children.

Some behaviours may seem 'childish' or 'just joking' but children still need help to understand safe boundaries, consent and respect.

#### How can children learn these behaviours?

Children may copy things they have:

- seen online, including through social media
- heard from older children
- watched in videos, films or games
- overheard in conversations
- been sent via group chats on gaming platforms.

Young children are naturally curious, but they often do not fully understand what they are seeing or repeating.

## HELPFUL THINGS PARENTS CAN DO

### Use the correct names for body parts

This helps children communicate clearly if they ever need help or support.



### Teach children about consent in everyday life

Simple examples such as asking before hugging or respecting when someone says "stop" can help children understand boundaries.



### Supervise online activity where possible

Many children are exposed to inappropriate content accidentally through apps, games or videos.



### Stay calm if your child says something worrying

Children are more likely to speak honestly when adults respond calmly rather than with anger or panic.



### Encourage open communication

Children should know they can always come to trusted adults if something feels confusing, upsetting or unsafe.



**Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility**



### How to talk to your child in an age-appropriate way

Helpful messages for children include:

"Your body belongs to you."

"It is okay to say no if something makes you uncomfortable."

"Other people's bodies belong to them too."

"We should respect other people's space and boundaries."

"If something confuses or worries you, you can always tell a trusted adult."

Simple, everyday conversations are often best. You do not need to have one big 'serious talk'.



## WEST MONKTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

**SUMMER FAYRE**

West Monkton Primary School

**20TH JUNE 1-4PM**

**FREE ENTRY**

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- Inflatables -
- Games -
- Toy Tombola -
- Ice Cream Van -
- Cake & hot drink stall -
- Stall Holders -
- Sweet Tombolas -
- Bucket - of - booze -
- Rainbow raffle -
- and much more!

For more information keep an eye on our Facebook page: West Monkton P.T.A

**SCHOOL DISCO**

RECEPTION & KS1  
16:00 - 17:00PM  
YEAR 3 & YEAR 4  
17:15 - 18:15PM  
YEAR 5 & YEAR 6  
18:30 - 19:30PM

FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY

**BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT:**  
[WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/WESTMONKTON](http://WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/WESTMONKTON)  
OR SCAN THE QR CODE

### West Monkton PTA

✉ [westmonktonpta@outlook.com](mailto:westmonktonpta@outlook.com)

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/WestMonktonPTA>

📍 @ west\_monkton\_pta

📍 West Monkton PTA, Bridgwater Road, Bathpool,  
Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8FT

👍 Registered with the Charity Commission as  
277944



## SOUTH QUANTOCK BENEFICE

Contact us: 01823 451257 [office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@southquantockbenefice.org.uk)  
Office usually opens: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9am – 2pm  
Rev Jim Cox: 01823 802790: (07967817337) [jimcox11@gmail.com](mailto:jimcox11@gmail.com)

# Coffee & more

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Guest Speaker  
Andrew Pitman  
from Monkton Elm  
Garden Centre.

10am  
West Monkton  
Church.

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

## WEST MONKTON CHURCH

# PLANT SALE

2PM SUN  
7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

If you have plants to donate, drop off at the church the day before

Sounds @ St Augustine's present

# The TRINITY Entertainers

An evening with a variety of music, fun & laughter

7pm Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July

West Monkton Church

Somerset Parent Carer Forum  
Community Inclusion & Activity Team

# Family Fun Day

Saturday 11th July  
10am to 2pm

POLDEN BOWER SCHOOL,  
BOWER LANE, BRIDGWATER  
TA6 4GU

FREE  
ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

MEET PROVIDERS AND TRY OUT INCLUSIVE  
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES  
AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS IN SOMERSET



FOOD STALLS, FACE PAINTING, INFLATABLE  
ASSAULT COURSE, SPORTS, LEGO, ARTS &  
CRAFTS, ANIMALS, SENSORY  
TOYS, BOARD GAMES  
AND MUCH MORE!



Somerset Parent Carer Forum  
Community Inclusion & Activity Team

# Family Fun Day

Saturday 27th June  
10am to 2pm

THE MENDIP SCHOOL, PRESTLEIGH,  
EDMUND RACK ROAD,  
SHEPTON MALLET, BA4 4FZ

FREE  
ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

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**From Friday 5th June, Taunton town centre will come alive with a pride of 48 Lions prowling in shop windows from the Station to East Reach, from Bath Place to the Independent Quarter**

48 local businesses are taking part by hosting a lion, in this exciting celebration of international football

### Follow the Lion Trail

- Take the Lion Trail and identify each country taking part in the World Cup by following the Trail Map
- Download the Trail Map or pick up a map at Taunton Library, Taunton Visitor Centre and the GoCreate Gallery in the Orchard Centre
- Enter the competition to win Taunton Town merch.
- Art students from Bishop Fox's School, GoCreate, King's College, Monkton Wood Academy and Taunton College UCS painted the gorgeous lions

### Closing Ceremony

We will be auctioning the lions at a charity football match to be held at our ground at Wordsworth Drive

### Wednesday 23 September

All proceeds from the auction of the lions and other sporting memorabilia will go to the BARNABY WEBBER FOUNDATION. Watch this space for more details

**Trail Maps available from 5 June at Taunton Library, Taunton Visitor Centre and the GoCreate Gallery in the Orchard Centre**

Thanks to Our Partners Carly Press, Taunton Chamber of Commerce and Go Create

### Meet the Lions

Click on the link below each lion photo for information on all 48 teams in the World Cup