



Headteachers Message

The Easter holidays have quite literally bounced up this week. It certainly doesn't feel like we are winding down to the end of the Spring term. This month, we have celebrated children's successes across the school. I have been impressed with the children's responses to the performances that they have been invited to observe. During the Year Three Recorder recital, it was lovely to hear the comments from the other children about how proud they were of their friends. I was definitely in awe of their playing. A very special thank you to Sephi Williams from Somerset Music and Alice Wines for their dedication with the recorders. Getting fingers in the right place at the right time is incredibly tricky and they have both shown amazing patience and compassion as the Year Three's have progressed.

The children who put themselves forward for the Young Voices also made an impact this month. Creating opportunities for their friends to reflect on the 'changes they would make in the world for a day' if they could. We loved the variety of ideas which included 'letting people have a day off to spend with family and friends' #love of one another, ensuring the 'homeless had homes' #love of one another, 'removing plastic from the oceans' #love of life. We are lucky to have such great thinkers who will change the world for the better!

PFSA Coffee Morning

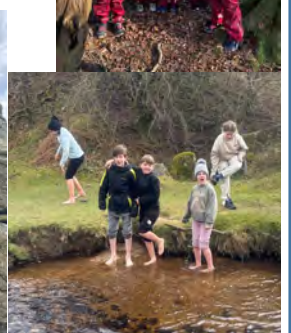
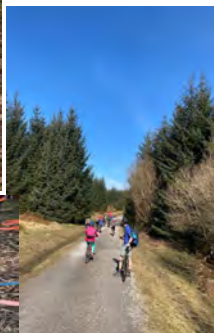
Thank you to those who attended our PFSA coffee morning on 27th February. This meeting was a lovely opportunity to meet our team of PFSA ladies, discuss their support offer and to hear your thoughts. We will have another meeting soon, please remember, you do not have to need support to attend, it is also a great opportunity to extend our community network.

Parent Visitors for Careers exploration #aspiration

Thank you to all those parents who have supported our People Who Help Us Careers focus in Butterfly Class. It is so important for our children to learn about a range of careers to support their aspirations for the future.

Heatree Residentials

Heatree provided another year of amazing opportunities. The memories made on the Year 6 and Year 4 Residential will provide moments of happy reflection for years to come. The staff at Heatree are fabulous and the Christian ethos of the centre really makes each day a day to be marvelled at and appreciated. There were plenty of opportunities for reflection on our own characters and how we want to grow and shape our world. The Year 6 kept the instructors smiling with their impromptu requests for heavenly support to succeed with challenging tasks and their happiness when sharing their favourite Daniel England songs. Thank you to both groups of children for their good company.



Heatree Year 6 continued...

Kenzie: At Heatree it was really fun, my favourite activity was probably mountain biking. I also really enjoyed staying in the same room with my friends.

Jimmy: I really enjoyed Heatree as it was better than going to school for a week. My favourite activities were mountain biking and climbing Big Doug. I also enjoyed the food.

Alfie: I really enjoyed Heatree because we got to do mountain biking and we got to build dens. I built dens with Mason and William. I loved the food.



Heatree Year 4

The Year 4 Residential was a great success. The children enjoyed completing a range of outdoor activities from Archery, a walk on Dartmoor, low adventure and Tree climbing. The most enjoyed activity was the river walk which included walking up a river and using the slide in the river! - Miss Wines



Butterfly Class

Butterflies were very lucky to have a visit from a PCSO. We learned about how they help people on the community. We were also very lucky that they brought their police car for us to have a look at!

Lilliana said she liked the police officers jacket.

Walter liked the fact that she gave us all torches!

Butterflies are enjoying having visitors in telling us all about how they help our community.



Butterfly Class

Mrs Edwards came in to tell us about her job as a teacher. Mrs Edwards worked in a school with children who had additional needs. She told us about the children she worked with who couldn't see or hear and how they used other senses to communicate. Mrs Edwards had made some activities for the children so they could explore objects using touch and smell. the children really enjoyed this, although they weren't keen on all the smells!



Thank you for coming into to share how you help the community!



Pancake Day

Pancake Day was a great success in Butterfly Class. Mrs Collicutt invited all the children to come along and share pancakes at different times in the day. The reception children loved welcoming in the other classes. What a super example of connecting across our community #love of one another. Toby said he like putting the decorations on the pancakes and Elodie liked eating the pancakes.

A big 'WELL DONE' to Butterfly Class for their kindness and compassion – the staff and children were very thankful. #compassion



Young Voices Public Speaking Competition auditions

On the 3rd March, children from across the school took part in the auditions for the Young Voices Public Speaking Competition.

The competition invited the children to talk for 2 minutes on the exciting subject of, 'If I could change the world for a day, I would ...'

The Year 6 pupils who did not attend the residential supported Mrs Radford in the tricky job of judging the event.

The children wowed us with their amazing ideas from giving everyone the day off to play Lego, to improving the local park to taking away televisions!



Our winner from the EYFS / KS1 category who went through to the final at Herne View Primary was Pharrell from Red Squirrel Class. Pharrell talked about improving nature and the natural world and spoke confidently using a clear voice and had good eye contact with his audience.

The winner selected for the Year 3 to 5 category was Willow from Owl Class who showed great compassion in describing how she would ensure that all homeless people had a warm and safe home for the night.

After the Easter holidays, I will be announcing details of the Ilminster Literary Festival Poetry Recital competition, and I hope that lots of children from across the school will be inspired to take part.

Our entrants for EYFS and KS1



Our entrants for KS2



Finals of the Ilminster Rotary Club 'Young Voices' Public Speaking Competition

On the evening of Tuesday 18th March, Pharrell and Willow represented the school as our finalists in the 'Young Voices' public speaking competition. Here, they completed alongside the other 16 finalists selected from other schools in the local area. They both spoke confidently for two minutes about how they would change the world for a day, in front of an audience of family, friends, school staff and Ilminster Rotary Club Members. I am incredibly proud of both Willow and Pharrell for representing our school so brilliantly. They both confidently shared their ideas clearly and confidently.

A spokesperson from Herne View Primary School who hosted the event said, "The standard was higher than ever, and every young person spoke with confidence."

"The judges were left with some very difficult decisions, and whilst there were some very worthy winners and runners-up, all the children who performed did extremely well."

I am super excited to announce that Pharrell was picked as the winner of the EYFS/ KS1 category and therefore received a beautiful poetry book as his prize. Great work Pharrell!

A massive well done and thank you to both Willow and Pharrell; you both made me incredibly proud. - Mrs Radford



Free Trees for Forest School

In November 2024, Mrs Hooper put in an application for: 'free **tree** packs from the **Woodland Trust** and plant the saplings of change. Let's nurture our environment together'. We were successful in this application and received 100 saplings at the beginning of March. Owl Class have been busy helping Mrs Hooper plant the saplings in our forest school area, creating a new hedge line around the edge of our pond.

Ten years ago, the then Year 4 children helped Mrs Hooper plant 50 trees in our forest school, these trees are now a thriving hedgeline - legacy in action.



New trees planted around the pond

Trees planted 10 years ago



Cross Country

These 4 pupils represented the school beautifully. Aldon Hill race is a hard route, with bumpy fields and a long steep hill to reach the finishing line. Not only did they run their hearts out, but they supported each other by cheering and running alongside them at the final stage. What a fabulous group of children! We are very proud of William and Ben who have been selected to represent Somerset in the **Somerset Inter-area Primary Schools Cross Country**.



Crewkerne Museum Trip

On Monday 31st March 2025, Mole Class and Red Squirrel Class took a trip to Crewkerne Museum to further their knowledge about toys through time. They participated in a range of games with the toys from the ages. They took turns on tricycles, completed puzzles, played card games and even made their own spinners. We also talked to Janet about all of the different toys she would play with as a little girl compared to some of the children's favourite toys nowadays!



House Points

The House Captains and Vice Captains have been working hard to support the Leadership Team with a fair and consistent approach to awarding House Points.

We will soon be sending an email about the house point winners of this term. Please keep an eye on your messages to see who will be awarded a non-uniform day when we return after Easter.



World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day, we asked the children to come to school dressed in an outfit in which they were 'ready to read! Some came wearing comfortable sporty outfits as reading 'exercises' our minds whilst others wore colours that made them happy to celebrate how books brighten our world.

Here are a few quotes from the children explaining their clothing choices:

Ashlee: I'm wearing my Puma clothes because they make me happy just like reading does.

Franklin: I'm dressed as Harry Potter as I love the Harry Potter books.

Kian: My favourite book is The Practically Complete Guide to Dragons. In the book there are lots of dragons and I'm dressed as the black one, but the silver dragon is my favourite.

Willow: I'm wearing a baggy t shirt and leggings as they are comfortable to read in.

Dolly: I'm wearing my pyjamas as I like to be comfy and warm when I read.

As usual, the children visited the Green Dragon Bookshop in Crewkerne to exchange their £1 World Book Day Token for one of the wonderful titles selected by the Book Trust. On their return from the book shop, the children settled down to read their new books with a cup of juice and a yummy cake.

Next Stage Somerset, a charity working to help people make the best of their futures within Somerset, arranged for Karen Duffett from the Highways Agency to attend an online session with each class where she read aloud an extract from her son's favourite story, The Boy Who Grew Dragons. Karen fed back that she really enjoyed the workshop and was impressed by the intelligent and thought-provoking questions that the children asked. Hopefully the workshop inspired some future highway engineers, ecologists and archaeologists!



Comic Relief Red Nose Day- 40 Years Old!

For Red Nose day this year the School Council organised a day of activities. The children came to school dressed in party clothes or a red outfit.

The School Council held a joke telling competition, with each class having a winner for the best joke.

Winners:

Butterfly Class: Evelyn

Mole Class: Harriet

Red Squirrel Class: Leon

Hedgehog Class: Tupou

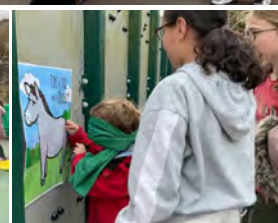
Dormice Class: Scarlett

Fox Class: Coco

Owl Class: Joseph

At Lunchtime, the Playground leaders ran a range of activities and games for everyone to play. From Limbo, to parachute games and even pin the tail on the donkey.

Thank you to all those who donated for this great cause.



Miss Balls Proud Wall

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



We are very proud of Wren and Prue who both ran in the Slay the Dragon event, running an impressive 2K.

The girls ran their socks off!

Well done ladies.

#Aspiration #Respect

Out of School Achievement

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



We are very proud of Phoebe who received a highly commended certificate for her beautiful performance in her ballet exam.

Phoebe was well prepared and carefully executed her steps in her dance.

Well done Phoebe.

#Aspiration #Respect

Out of School Achievement

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Otis was so proud to share his swimming certificate with his class. Mrs Collicutt used the celebration as an opportunity to extend the children's understanding of measurement and Otis was a super helping hand during the session. Thank you for sharing your achievement and for helping others to learn!

#aspiration

24th March 2025

Out of School Achievement

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Aaden made me proud with his respectful behaviour in Collective Worship. Mrs Dawson shared that Aaden listened carefully and his response to a question was wonderfully thought out. He was thoughtful to others and was a real credit to Dormice Class. Well done young man.

#respect #compassion
28th March 2025

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Darcy made Mrs Bentham very proud when she was a helping hand to one of her friends in PE. She supported her friends learning and consistently made sure she was on track and enjoying her game. This was great to see.

Thank you for your friendship and compassion Darcy.

#friendship #compassion
28th March 2025

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Our group of three boys have reminded me that earlier in the year they blew me away with their commitment to learning at home through the IXL program. IXL is a great learning platform, but to make a difference the commitment and aspiration to practising has to be there – these boys had that in abundance! Well done 😊

#respect

19th March 2025

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



I was so proud to be approached by a member of our school community regarding the behaviour of three of our girls as they walked home from school. Willow, Arabella and Isabelle were a joy to walk behind. They were full of happiness and respect for others around them and were really living our values and vision – well done ladies – this was so great to hear.

#respect #community
19th March 2025

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Reverend CJ and I were very proud of the respectful way that Franklin phrased his reflective questions in Collective Worship. His question was well thought out and clearly reflected on his growing curiosity and understanding of the Holy Trinity.

Well done Franklin!

#respect
19th March 2025

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



This is a very belated proud Wall! Mackenzie and Alfie made me super proud at Christmas.

They took their own Golden time in Forest School to create a star from natural resources for my office. The star is still up on my wall and gives me a daily opportunity to reflect on how lucky we are with our outdoor environment, how creative our children can be with natural materials and how

#respect

28th March 2025

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Reverend CJ and I were very proud of the respectful way that Emmie phrased her reflective questions in Collective Worship. Her question was well thought out and clearly reflected on her growing curiosity and understanding of the Holy Trinity. Well done Emmie!

#respect
19th March 2025

Amelia made me so proud when she responded to our shared question of 'what does life in all its fullness mean to you?'. She was passionate about this being spending time with her gran. The children loved the phrase she used and this has started a brand new display which the children are adding to.

#life in all its fullness
28th March 2025

Hosted by Crewkerne Timebank

FREE Easter ARTS & CRAFTS SESSION

MAKE YOUR OWN:

- EASTER EGGS & CHICKS
- HANDPRINT BUNNY CARDS
- FLOWER SUNCATCHERS

PLUS GOODY BAGS TO TAKE AWAY & A SPECIAL VIP EASTER GUEST!

Saturday 5th April
12-2pm
Henhayes Centre

Refreshments available on site
Call Holly on 07361755015 for more info

Family Holiday Activities at Wells Cathedral

Easter Excitement

7, 9, and 11 April 2025

Get ready to celebrate the joy of Easter with our seasonal trail, and crafts to make and take home!

Monday 7: Cross Creations

Collect beads on our Easter crosses trail and make a necklace or keyring

Wednesday 9: Glorious Gardens

Discover the Easter story as you follow our Cathedral map, then make an Easter garden

Friday 11: Card Crafts

Follow our Easter story trail and make a card or decoration

FREE with adult entry.

No need to book – simply drop in on the day!

Sessions in the Education Room / Wells Cathedral

10.30am–3.30pm

There is no charge for children. Booked adult admission tickets include re-entry for 12 months from date of purchase, so you can enjoy access to a number of seasonal events, including exhibitions and Family Holiday Activities beyond your initial visit. Only assistance dogs are allowed at this activity.

EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER

It all starts with... **ALL STARS CRICKET**

All Stars Cricket is the best cricket experience for **5-8 year-olds**

All kids are guaranteed to develop **new skills** while **having fun** and **making friends**

Participants receive a **personalised backpack of goodies** including a bat, ball and t-shirt!

Sign up today at allstarscricket.co.uk

DYNAMOS CRICKET

This is our game.

Calling all 8-11 year olds!

Whether a graduate from All Stars or new to the sport, **Dynamo Cricket** is an exciting way for kids to **play, learn** cricket skills and make **new friends**.

Participants receive a personalised New Balance shirt with their name and chosen number.

Sign up today

dynamicscricket.co.uk

Active Learning & Skills

FUN TIME

For School Years 1 - 6 / ages 5 - 11: Regular entry £3
1st Time = half price + pre-pay & sibling discount available

Great creativity, energy & fun through the week

Crewkerne Weds 6.30 - 8.30 George Reynolds Centre	Chard Fri 6.30 - 8.30 Chard Young People's Centre
--	--

@FunTime.als for regular updates & details

Funky Food & Brilliant Baking

LAZER TAG
#CAPTURE THE FLAG

Loads of awesome activities changing each week with:
2 crafts / creative / science activities + 2 sports & games
+ 1 special activity or snack bar treat at each session!

+ options for some volunteers aged 11-18 to help staff run services
For details, contact Corey 07795 183133 corey.white@alsyouth.org.uk

Delivered by Active Learning & Skills - with funding & support towards their local services from Crewkerne & Chard Town Councils & Chard Area Youth Committee

MUSEUM & DISTRICT Crewkerne & District
Registered charity in England and Wales 1075615

Easter fun!

Hunt for objects in the galleries
Springtime crafty makes. Decorate an egg



FREE ACTIVITIES

No need to book, just drop in!

Open 5 - 17 April
Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

STAGE COACH
YEovil



ENROL TODAY

EASTER MAD ON MUSICALS

EASTER WORKSHOP

7th - 9th April for 5-18 year olds
At Holy Trinity School, Yeovil



Scan the QR code or visit www.stagecoach.co.uk/yeovil to enrol.

FOR KIDS WHO LOVE TO ACT, SING & DANCE

✿ Exciting Easter Holiday Camps all are welcome! ✿

SPORTS CAMP (Ages 5-11)

📅 14th – 18th April | ⌚ 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM
💰 £28 per day

📍 Chard Prep School, Fore Street, CHARD. Somerset TA20 1QA

🔗 Book here: <https://forms.office.com/e/6Nx41XjTKR>



STEM CAMP: Next Thing Education - Easter Tech Camp (Ages 5-11)

📅 14th – 17th April | ⌚ 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
💰 £39.99 per day

📍 Chard Prep School, Fore Street, CHARD. Somerset TA20 1QA

🔗 Book here: www.nextthing.education

Rama Life Holiday Club

Frogmary Green Farm
Easter Holidays 2025
Reception – Yr 7



rama LIFE

Mon 7th April	Lights, Camera, Action Design your own award, add your handprints to our "Ramalife Walk of Fame" and join in some fun drama games and movie quiz!
Tues 8th April	Around the World: Argentina Bingo, Paper Llamas, Cooking and Fun Facts about the Country famous for the Tango and Football (and much more!)
Weds 9th April	Paddington in South Petherton Follow his journey from Peru to London, learn about bears in the wild and make some orange flavoured delights!
Thurs 10th April	Spring Fling Come along to celebrate Springtime with painting, crafting and outdoor games!
Fri 11th Feb	Harry Potter A magical day of spells, potions, mythical creatures and broomstick training!
Mon 14th April	Outer Space Help us to create the solar system, make a rocket and learn some galactic facts! Space games finish off a very fun day.
Tues 15th April	Ancient Egypt Write in Hieroglyphics, help us create a massive outdoors map and learn about some of the famous Pharaohs and history of Egypt.
Weds 16th April	Bushcraft Den building, cook on the fire, nature art and adventure!
Thurs 17th April	Easter-Eggstravaganza Egg Hunting, Creative Activities, Games and lots of fun!



8:45am - 3:30pm (8am-5pm available)
From £35
ramalife.co.uk/holidayclub

Congratulations to the following children who received a green leaf this month:

Butterfly

Ruby, Liliana, Rory, Ashleigha, Lena, Prue, Angel

Otis

Red Squirrel

Archie, Max, Arrietty, Elise, Zachary, Hannah

Dormice

Aaden, Bella, Chloe, Whole Class, Fleur, Wren, Tomika

Fox

Hermione, Dolly, Coco, Jack, Kai

Bronze Certificate

Harriett, Ella, Arlo, Darcie M, Hanna, Elsie-Rose, Lexy, Jessica, Ada, Alice, Darcy P, Felix P, Harper, Junior, Jake, Evelyn, Kian, Sara M, Josh K

Silver Certificate

Bethany, Rilo, Amos, Charlee, Lawrence, Sam, Tupou, Fleur, Wren, Tomika, Johnny, Owen, Lorna, Meadow, Mackenzie

Mole

Darcy P x2, Jessica, Ada, Alice, Whole Class

Sara, Henry, Junior, Harper, Harriet, Elsie,

Darcie, Josh

Hedgehog

Tupou, Felix, Sam, Chloe, Eric, Blessing, Noah

Owl

Kian, Jake, Johnny, Felix, Arabella, Willow,

Isabelle, Evelyn, Owen, Chloe C-H, Poppy

Ollie-Oscar, Meadow, Mackenzie, Evie T, Lorna

William H, Mason

Attendance

Over the last four school weeks Butterflies, Hedgehogs and Dormice (twice) have celebrated being the top attending classes. They have enjoyed their biscuit break with Mrs Lawrence.

Congratulations to the 88 children who achieved 100% attendance for March. Mrs Lawrence is negotiating an extra break to celebrate this achievement.

This year's whole school attendance to date is 94.31%. This is slightly below our target of **96%** and we will continue to work with our families to achieve this.

Late into school: Any pupils arriving late (after 8.55am) need to be signed in at the office by parent/carers on arrival. Thank you for your efforts.

	School Attendance %
Attendance	94.31%
Authorised absences	4.96%
Unauthorised absence	0.73%
Lates	0.49%



10 days absent = 95% attendance
19 days absent = 90% attendance
29 days absent = 85% attendance
38 days absent = 80% attendance
47 days absent = 75% attendance



School Dinners

Our new menu begins after Easter and we will be starting on Week one.



No Nuts

Please be reminded we are a no nut school. Please do not send in any snacks or lunch with products containing nuts. Thank you.



Contacting Your Teacher

Class teachers are happy to be contacted using their school emails. Teachers ensure their emails are checked every 48 hours, so parents may wait up to three days to receive a response. If your enquiry or message is urgent please send this to the school office and they will ensure these are seen as a matter priority. The school office review all emails between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday. Any emails sent after 3pm may not be seen until the following working day.



Wrap Around Care

If your child requires Breakfast Club or After School care please ensure they are booked in by Friday 9am the week before. These can also be found on our website under the 'Parents' tab.

Breakfast/Early Drop Off-

<https://forms.office.com/e/U8Es970t9x>

After School Care-

<https://forms.office.com/e/3ezannQS4k>

Reminder

Please ensure all items of clothing, footwear, water bottles and lunchboxes are labelled with your child's name. Thank you



Staff Car Park



Parking Considerately in the Staff Car Park

We are once again experiencing issues with early drop off and parent parking in the Staff carpark. Staff are increasingly unable to park safely and enter school to start their working day due to parents parking across more than one bay, or leaving their cars in the middle of the car park.

We do like to communicate in person wherever possible and staff are therefore reminding parents of considerate parking if they are made aware of it whilst it is happening. We hope this is helpful.

We hope you will continue to support us in our efforts to ensure the car park remains accessible to all.

Swimming Lessons

Butterfly Class- 8th, 15th, 22nd July

Mole Class- 25th March, 1st, 22nd, 29th April 6th, 13th May

Year 6 from Owl & Fox Classes- 20th May 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th June 1st July



Dates for your Diary

April

Tuesday 22nd– First Day of Summer Term

May

Monday 5th– Bank Holiday

May 12th-15th– Year 6 SATs

Friday 23rd– Last Day of Summer Term 1

June

Tuesday 3rd– First Day of Summer Term 2

Monday 9th -13th– Year 1 Phonics Screening

July

Wednesday 23rd– Last Day of Summer Term

Forest School - Spring Term

Butterfly Class– Every Thursday

Mole Class– Every Wednesday

Red Squirrel Class– Every other Tuesday (22nd April, 6th, 20th May)

Hedgehog Class– Every other Wednesday- (23rd April, 7th, 21st May)

Dormice Class– Every other Wednesday- (30th April, 14th, May)

Fox and Owl Class– TBC



PE Days– Spring Term

Butterfly Class – Tuesday **Please note change of day**

Mole Class – Monday

Red Squirrel Class – Monday

Hedgehog Class – Wednesday

Year Four pupils – Wednesday

Year Four – Wednesday

Year Five – Thursday

Year Six – Thursday



Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead - Miss Nicola Ball

Deputy Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Kay Dawson

Online Safety Lead – Miss Alice Wines

Governor responsible for Safeguarding –Mr David Harvey

If you have any concerns about a child, please see one of the staff above.

Helpful contacts:

Children's Social Care: 0300 123 2224

Local Authority Designated Officer: Anthony Goble: c/o above

Childline: 0800 1111

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000



Please remember to refer to our website for details on online safety.

Headteacher

If there is ever a time where you feel you need to pass information onto me directly and would prefer not to go through the school office then please do not hesitate to contact me on my school email address which is:

nball@ashlandsprimary.school

Miss Nicola Ball

If you wish to contact your child's class teacher you can find the contact details on our website by following the link below :

[Meet The Team | Ashlands Church of England Primary School](#)
ashlandsprimaryschool.co.uk

