



Headteachers Message

It's been lovely to welcome everyone back for the Summer Term and to enjoy some warmer weather together. The children have settled back in really well, and we're all looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead with lots of events coming up.

As the weather gets warmer, please can we make sure children are bringing a named water bottle into school every day to keep them hydrated. Sun hats and sun cream are also really important at this time of year.

We are also looking for more volunteers to hear readers. If any parents, carers, grandparents or family friends have some time to offer, we would love to hear from you. Listening to children read is such a valuable experience and really helps build their confidence and enjoyment of reading. Please contact the school office if you're interested.

Finally, please keep an eye on the school diary for any upcoming dates and updates.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dates for your Diary

May

Mon 11th-Friday 15th- Year 6 SATS

Weds 13th-Year 5 Girls Football

Thurs 14th- Mental Health Awareness- Wear green

Mon 18th- PTA Meeting

June

Tues 16th- Yr 5 Wadham Taster Day

Weds 17th- Year 6 Moving Up Service

Thurs 18th- Class and Year 6 Leavers Photos

Thurs 18th-School Disco

July

Weds 1st- Yr 6 Wadham Transition Day

Mon 6th- South Somerset Singing Festival

Mon 6th & Tues 7th- Beaminster Transition days

Mon 13th-Fri 17th- Year 6 Residential

Dates TBC- Sports day

A Musical Masterpiece: KS1 and Reception Visit the BSO!

Last Thursday, our Reception and KS1 classes headed off on a musical adventure to see the **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** in action. It was a spectacular day filled with rhythm, melody, and plenty of excitement!

The theme, "**From Dawn till Dusk**," took us on a journey through a full day of music. The children were absolutely mesmerized as they watched the different sections of the orchestra work together to create such powerful sounds.

Highlights of the Day

- **A Grand Performance:** We performed the song we've been practicing so hard in class, to a wider audience accompanied by the full live orchestra!
- **Exploring the Sections:** The children learned how the strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion all play their part in the "big picture."
- **Musical Contrast:** From peaceful morning melodies to high-energy anthems, the variety of songs kept everyone on the edge of their seats.

What Our Mini-Musicians Had to Say: "I loved the songs!" — **Fred** "I loved the scary song." — **Reuben** "I enjoyed performing our song." — **Elsie** "I liked hearing the higher and lower sounds and the new songs." — **Ada**



Year 4 Opera

On the 1st April, 9 Year 4's went to Wadham to take part in an amazing Opera performance provided by the Jackdaws Music Company. Our children joined up with pupils from Merriott, Haselbury and Wadham Schools to sing in an opera about football and their team mascot. Everyone performed so well with lots of enthusiasm and enjoyed the story that was being told at the same time. Many thanks to all the parents who helped and came to support us for this activity, it was a great evening. —Mrs Bryant



Dance Festival

This month, the children who performed at the Primary Festival of Dance truly amazed me. Watching their performance from the audience filled me with immense pride and even brought tears of joy.



In April, a wonderful group of Ashlands children took part in the Primary Festival of Dance at the Westlands Entertainment Venue. Organised by Keri Hill Dance, this event continues to provide a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the talent and dedication of local primary schools. Our children represented Ashlands beautifully, performing with confidence and enthusiasm. It was a memorable occasion for parents, families, and friends to see the children shine on stage beneath the bright lights.

The festival represented far more than a dance performance. It played an important role in developing the children's confidence and teamwork. Through rehearsals and practice, they learned to work together, support one another, and perform with growing self assurance. Their synchronisation and commitment resulted in a truly wonderful performance.

Performing in front of an audience always requires a great deal of bravery, especially for young children, and I could not have been prouder of everyone who took part.



Year 5 Girls Shine at Football Training Programme

Our Year 5 girls have recently had the fantastic opportunity to take part in a series of football training sessions designed to encourage greater participation and build confidence in team sports.

The programme, hosted at Yeovil Town Football Club at Huish Park, has been organised by SAPH (Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership) and delivered by Yeovil Town Coaching Staff. Across the sessions, the girls have developed their skills, teamwork and, most importantly, their confidence in playing football.



The coaches and players leading the sessions have been truly outstanding. Their enthusiasm, encouragement and expertise have created a welcoming and supportive environment, enabling all the girls to feel included and motivated to give their best.

This experience has strongly supported our school's commitment to ensuring that sport is accessible to all pupils. It also reflects our core values of a *love of learning, love of life and love of one another*, as the girls have supported and encouraged each other every step of the way.

We are incredibly proud of the determination and positivity shown by all the participants, and we hope this is just the beginning of their journey in sport. Well done to Kyra, Evie, Annie-Rae, Sophie, Wren, Bella, Maisey and Fleur.

Easter Bonnet parade and Service

Our Easter Bonnet Parade was a wonderful success once again. With the sun shining, we enjoyed a lovely route around town, where residents from The Orchards Nursing Home and the children from Jigsaw pre-school came out to cheer us on. The children looked fantastic in their creative and colourful bonnets, bringing plenty of Easter joy along the way.



A special highlight of the day was being greeted by the Easter Bunny outside Sheila's Café, which brought huge smiles to the children's faces. Our Easter Service at St Bartholomew's Church was equally special and truly memorable. Parents and carers thoroughly enjoyed the service, with many commenting on how beautifully the children sang and played.



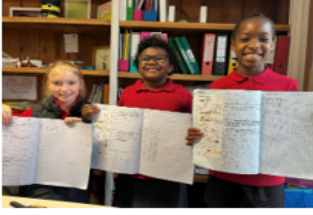
The choir, recorders, violinists, and Ashlee on the piano all performed brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who walked with us and supported the day — we couldn't have done it without you.

#love of one another



Miss Ball's Proud Wall

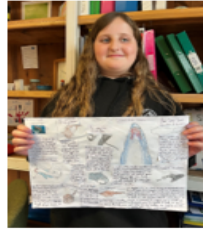
Miss Ball's Proud Wall



I was very proud when Blessing, Tupou and Bethany came to share their maths learning with me. They had been problem-solving with division and confidently explained how their answers moved from whole numbers to decimals. This was a challenging task, and all three showed excellent resilience and determination, taking real pride in completing the work successfully. Well done to all!

#Aspiration
1st May 2026

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



I was delighted with Evelyn's double-page spread produced as part of her English learning this week. She talked proudly about her work and clearly valued what she had created. Her thoughtful use of key vocabulary, combined with a high level of care in her presentation, made the piece particularly impressive. Great work!

#Trust #Respect
1st May 2026

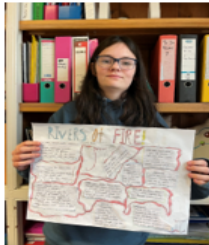
Miss Ball's Proud Wall



I was very impressed with Felix's double-page spread completed as part of his English work this week. He spoke enthusiastically about his work and showed real pride in what he had produced. His strong focus on key vocabulary, along with clear and careful presentation, made his piece particularly effective. Well done!

#Trust #Respect
1st May 2026

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



I was very proud of Chloe's double-page spread completed as part of her English work this week. She spoke confidently and with pride about her piece, and her attention to detail was excellent. The careful use of key vocabulary and the high standard of presentation really stood out.

#Trust #Respect
1st May 2026

Miss Ball's Proud Wall



Otis was incredibly proud of himself when he was awarded his next swimming level certificate. He was eager to show me his certificate and badge, and we talked confidently about the actions he needed to complete to achieve it. Well done, Otis!

#Aspiration
1st May 2026

Out of School Achievement



Here come the sun!



With the warmer months approaching please make sure your child is dressed appropriately and comes to school with a sun hat, sunscreen and a water bottle. All must be labelled please.

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.



Free School Meals

We encourage all families to check their entitlement to free school meals/Pupil Premium. We have a PP offer for all children who are benefit-related FSM. Please click on the link below to access the application. <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/free-school-meals/>

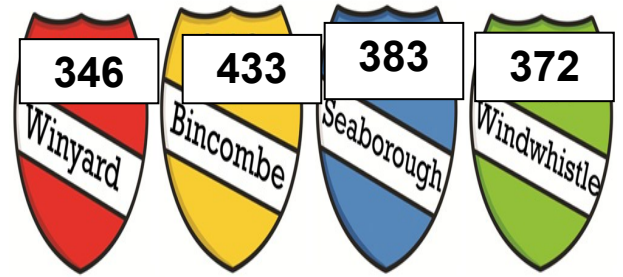
If you have recently become unemployed but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals. Please phone 0300 123 2224 for advice.

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 be booked via the Scopay app.

House Points - House Captains and Vice Captains

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. Last half term Seaborough House won the most house points, so got to celebrate by having a non-uniform day. Which House team will be next?



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

Willow – Henley, KS1

Wild Cherry— Callum, Leon, Christopher, Marselis, Nieve, Zachary, Leon

Apple – Tomika, Charlee, Joseph

Maple – Hermione, Isabelle K



Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date is **92.8%**, which is slightly below our target of **96%**. We will continue working closely with all our families to help improve this.

Lateness and Its Impact

Arriving at school on time is very important for children's learning, confidence, and daily routines. Please be aware of how lateness is recorded:

- **Children arriving between 8:55am and 9:00am are marked as late.**
- **Children arriving after 9:00am are recorded as 'late after the register has closed'.** This is classed as an **unauthorised absence** and will therefore impact your child's overall attendance record.

Regular lateness impacts on our children's learning, they will be missing valuable learning time, morning instructions, and opportunities to settle into the school day calmly.

All pupils arriving after 8:55am must be signed in at the office by a parent or carer. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring children arrive on time.

	School Attendance %
Attendance	93.1%
Authorised absences	2.0%
Unauthorised absence	4.9%
Lates	1.7%

The children that achieved 100% attendance in the Spring Term are:

Leon, Rilo, Aaden, Olivia, Jack, Walter, Sam, Lexy, Hannah, Oliver, Rory, Amos, Evie S-W, Mollie, Arrietty, Zachary, Pharrell, Ada, Mason



Swimming Lessons

Sweet Chestnut – 17th, 24th, 31st March 21st, 28th April 5th, 12th May

Maple– 19th May 2nd, 9th 16th, 23rd, 30th June 7th, 14th July



Forest School - Summer Term

Sweet Chestnut Class– Every Wednesday

Willow Class– Every Wednesday

Wild Cherry Class– Every other from Monday (20th April, 18th May, 15th, 29th June, 13th July)

Apple Class- Every other Monday (20th April, 18th May, 15th, 29th June, 13th July)

Maple Class– Every other Monday (27th April, 11th May, 8th, 22nd June, 6th, 20th July)



Forest school clothing– Please ensure your child is wearing a long sleeved top, trousers and wellies in a bag. If your child has Forest School in the morning, they will need school uniform for the afternoon, or PE kit if they have PE.

PE Days- Summer Term

EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 – Monday

Year 3 & 4 – Wednesday

Year 5 & 6 – Thursday



Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead - Miss Nicola Ball

Deputy Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Kay Dawson & Tracey Lawrence

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



Headteacher

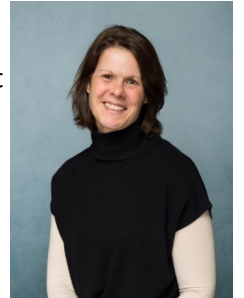
If there is ever a time where you feel you need to pass information onto me directly and would prefer not to go through the school office then please do not hesitate to contact me on my school email address which is:

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



Whats On...

A welcoming space for parents/carers to connect, share, and find support. Practical advice, signposting, and helpful resources. All in one friendly drop-in session.

Every Wednesday 9am-11am INCLUDING HALF TERM

A NEW community project run by your friendly Parent Family Support Advisors:

- Jemma Henwood
- Rebecca Larcombe
- Suzanne Morris

- Children welcome
- Refreshments provided
- Spotlight sessions with other professionals
- Parenting resources
- Signposting and form filling support
- Healthy snacks for all

Be A Good Neighbour - Community Church, Barn Street, Crewkerne, TA18 8BP

Keep up to date via our Social Media - search 'The Parent Place'

Scan the QR code to find out more and register your interest.
<https://forms.office.com/e/EeZrBvhm7v>



Join Us Squirrels

Squirrel Scouts are the youngest of the world wide scouting group at age 4 and 5

EVERY THURSDAY IN TERM TIME 4.30 - 5.30PM

1st Crewkerne Scout Hut, Furland Road, Crewkerne

Once invested, the subs are £48 a term and £42 for siblings - Paid for 9 months of the year at £16 and £14 a month

Contact Swift on 07577444141 or dr.adriana.albert@gmail.com about your young person joining Squirrel Scouts in Crewkerne

scouts.org.uk/squirrels

Whats On...

BEAVERS

1st Crewkerne Beaver Scouts need you!



Beavers are for Boys and Girls, aged 6 and 7

They meet every Thursday during term-time, from 5:45 to 7pm at The Scout Hut in Furland Road, Crewkerne

Beavers normally work in teams of up to 6 called Lodges, with 4 Lodges – Willow; Oak; Beech and Ash

They take part in team building games; crafts and other activities that go towards earning Badges. They also have a chance to go to at least 2 residential camps per year

Beaver Scouts help young people grow, helps them develop social skills and skills for life. It helps them make life-long friendships, all whilst having fun

We have spaces for more young people to have these wonderful experiences, if they would like to join us, then please contact Ian Stewart (Mr Toad to the Beavers), on 07946 092277, or email me at ian.13@hotmail.co.uk

Scouting is for everyone, so no young person that wishes to join will be turned away if we have space for them

1st Crewkerne Beaver Scouts are here for you

CREWKERNE CRICKET CLUB

BE PART OF THE TEAM!



Crewkerne Cricket Club is starting new youth teams for the 2026 season: under 10s and under 12s

Training will be on Thursdays starting on the 8th January, 2026 5 P.M. to 5:55 P.M.

@ the Old Sports Hall, Wadham School

Training led by an ECB Core Coach

If you're interested, please contact Tom Briggs at tomdbiggs85@gmail.com



CREATIVE COURAGE FOR LIFE! SING DANCE ACT

Stagecoach Yeovil - Show Term

Delve into the creative arts with our combined singing, dancing and drama sessions.

JOIN US FOR A TWO-WEEK TRIAL

As we move into Show Term, students will begin rehearsals for our production of **Annie JR**, making this a particularly exciting time to join us. This Show will be performed at The Strode Theatre, Yeovil so students get the full experience of performing on stage.

A two week trial costs £25 for Early Stages (4-6 yrs) & £50 for Main Stages (6-18 yrs). Weekly classes are available on Saturdays at Holy Trinity School. All teachers are fully trained and DBS checked.

STAGE COACH

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

stagecoach.co.uk/yeovil

07842 944 697

yeovil@stagecoach.co.uk

FIRST 2 SESSIONS FREE

COME SCORE YOUR TRY!

SUNDAYS FROM 10AM
YEARS: RECEPTION - YEAR 6

CHARD RFC
ESSEX CLOSE
CHARD
TA20 1RH

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST CONTACT:
GORDON HICKTON, MINIS LEAD
TEL- 07710 231862
EMAIL- minislead@chardrfc.co.uk

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **star**