



Abbas & Templecombe Church School

Newsletter (1) Friday 11th September 2026

It is lovely to see everyone back after the summer break. All the children have been very keen and settled really quickly into being back in school. A special welcome to our new pupils, not just in Year Reception, but across the school. We hope you all had a good first week.



Collective Worship Reflections



This week's worship focused on the story of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. Pupils reflected on why rules are important and how the first commandments guide us in loving God, while the others help us live well with one another. Children shared ideas about who helps them know right from wrong—parents, teachers, friends and faith leaders, agreeing that rules can protect us, guide our choices and help our community live in peace. Hope said "Teachers teach us what is right and wrong" and Jack explained that "without rules the World would be a bad place and it would start wars".

REMINDERS

Full Diary Dates will be on next week's newsletter, but please see below for details of upcoming events or refer to Class Curriculum Maps which have been emailed to parents today.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 16 th	7pm PTA AGM in school – all welcome
Monday 21 st	Meet the Teacher / Stay & Play
Thursday 24 th	SENCO drop in afternoon (see email from Mrs Wicks)
Tuesday 29 th	Whole School Flu vaccinations

OCTOBER

Friday 9 th	Hello Yellow Day – Young Minds Charity raising awareness of young mental health
Tuesday 13 th	2pm Harvest Service in Church



Celebrating Our Core Values

NIGHTINGALE

Ava - **Respect** – for tidying our classroom beautifully after every session and being a fabulous role model.

BOWIE

Charlie - **Respect** – for setting a good example and following instructions.

Oskar - Inspire – for being inspirational during our Worship. Oskar was able to retell the story of Moses in front of the whole school.	Harper - Inspire – for showing great creativity in her work.
ANNING Nelly - Love - for showing love to her classmates and offering support and encouragement, especially to her learning partner. Violet - Inspire – for an inspiring start to the term. Violet has shown perseverance in her work and initiative when making notes to remind herself about the story we are reading.	ZEPHANIAH Jaydee – Inspire – for coming back to school this week picking up a pen and writing a beautifully presented short story. Well done, Jaydee! Theodore - Respect - for showing me that you are ready to learn by sitting SHARP! Well done, Theodore!
 Congratulations go to: ➤ Clark for sitting at the table nicely. ➤ Jaydee for helping to tidy up after lunch.	Out of School Achievements Congratulations to: ➤ Harper in Bowie for achieving 3rd place for her marching at a Majorettes Competition. ➤ Dottie for receiving a certificate of Recognition from RiversMeet Gymnastics. ➤ Lacey in Anning for achieving her Level 6 Learn to Swim Award.

A big well done to all of you!

If your child achieves an award, medal or trophy through participating in an outside-of-school club or activity, we would love to hear about it and congratulate them at our weekly Wednesday worship. Please bring certificates etc to the school office.



Updates

Flu Vaccination for All School Aged Children

You will have received an email today with all the information around the upcoming flu vaccinations in school which form part of the NHS routine immunisation programme for your child. Please complete the decision form on the link shown in the NHS letter **even if you do not consent to the vaccination**.

Communication

This year, we will continue with our established communication arrangements, but we wanted to provide a little reminder. If you need to communicate something to your child's class teacher, please email them by 8:30am if it is something that requires an urgent response or needs attention quickly. You are also welcome to email at any other point during the day. Our staff will always do their best to respond to you on the same day, however with the demands of teaching and supporting our children throughout the day, this is not always possible. Please be assured that we will respond as soon as we can.

For **urgent** or **safeguarding matters**, please contact or visit the school office. The office team will ensure that your concern is passed on to an available member of the Senior Leadership Team as quickly as possible. A reminder of staff emails:

Nightingale Molly.wicks@at.bwmat.org

Anning Jacqueline.Mintern@at.bwmat.org

Headteacher Melissa.brazier@at.bwmat.org

Bowie Marie.hardiman@at.bwmat.org

Zephaniah Molly.edwards@at.bwmat.org

School Office Enquiries@at.bwmat.org

Attendance

If your child will be away from school through illness, please let the school office know by phoning in before 9.15am on the first day of absence. Please do leave an answerphone message if school staff aren't available to answer your

call. Please see the infographic below about our attendance procedures this year – it is so important that we work together to ensure children are in school 'All day, Every day!'



Food and Drink in school

A reminder that we operate a "no nuts" policy due to concerns over undiagnosed nut allergies. We encourage healthy balanced meals with both our hot and packed lunches. In packed lunches we do ask that there are no glass bottles, cans of fizzy drinks or chocolate bars/sweets/chewing gum. It is important to keep hydrated, i.e. not being thirsty,

throughout the day as this is good for health and concentration levels. For this reason, children are encouraged to bring reusable “sports type” bottles of water with them into the classroom. All bottles should be clearly named.

Your child can bring a **Healthy Snack** for playtime which should be brought into the classroom with them (please pack and label it separately from their lunch). This could include: fruit, vegetables, cheese, rice cakes, breadsticks. **Please do not pack chocolate, sugary snacks or crisps.** Staff will always encourage children to choose a healthy option. If staff feel the snack does not meet our 'Healthy Snack' criteria, children will be asked to eat it as part of their lunch, and an alternative will be offered. Class staff will contact parents if this situation has occurred.

Medication in School

Please ensure you complete a new administration of medication form (available from the office) if your child requires any form of medication to be administered in school. This includes asthma inhalers. Please check on the Arbor portal that your child's medical information is up to date, to include any allergies and necessary medication. School staff are happy to administer medicines during school time but cannot do so without a completed form.

Uniform

A reminder that we expect full school uniform/school PE kit on PE days, to be worn. Hoodies and jumpers can be worn over uniform for travelling to and from school as we head into the autumn, but these must be removed whilst in class. We have a supply of preloved uniform which parents can obtain by enquiring at the school office. Please remember too that long hair should be tied back.

Collection Arrangements / Permission to Walk Home

If collection arrangements need to change during the school day, please telephone the office so that we are able to update class staff. If you wish your Year 5 or Year 6 child to walk home from school unaccompanied or to be released from their class to walk to meet you at another classroom on a regular basis, please provide written permission (an email to the office is fine) and this permission will be valid for the current school year or until you inform us of alternative arrangements.

Secondary School Open Events

Please see the end of this newsletter for details of our local secondary schools' upcoming open events for parents of current Year 5 and 6 children.



AGM – 7pm on Wednesday 16th September 2026

Our PTA does amazing work organising events and raising money to purchase equipment and resources for all pupils to benefit from, we simply wouldn't be able to provide these due to our funding levels. For these events to take place a very dedicated team of volunteers meet regularly to discuss ideas, plan and agree spending with school staff. As the PTA is a registered charity it must meet annually for an AGM to appoint key positions (Chair/Treasurer/Secretary), report on the past year and plan for the year ahead. This meeting is taking place on **Wednesday 16th September at 7pm** in school. A letter was sent home with your child yesterday which includes a nomination slip. Please complete and return the slip to the PTA postbox by the school office on or before the meeting, or bring it along with you if you are attending in person. If you are new to our school this is an excellent way to get to know some of your fellow parents and school staff.

The PTA need your help if they are to continue with their vital work. Please do come to this meeting, meet the team and consider how you might be able to support, in whatever way you can – without a growth in this leadership team, many events will simply not be able to take place this year.

In the meantime, there are other ways you can continue to help with our fundraising efforts through various avenues: **My School Fund** is an exciting initiative which combines the spending power of parents, guardians, school staff and other individuals to help boost school budgets. It's free for schools to register and individuals connected to the school can earn cashback rewards on their behalf as well as pocketing some for themselves when they spend with participating retailers, including Sainsbury's and Argos. Please do register using this link: <https://www.myschoolfund.org/#/>

And finally...

It has been such a pleasure to welcome everyone back to school this week. The beginning of a new school year always brings a real sense of excitement and possibility and I have been delighted to see the children returning so positively. I have been particularly impressed by how smart the children are looking in their school uniforms and, more importantly, by the way they have settled back into school life. Our classroom and breaktime routines are already helping to create calm, purposeful and happy environments where children know what is expected of them and can feel successful.

As I have walked around school this week, I have seen lots of examples of children making positive choices, being ready to learn and supporting one another. I have also had the opportunity to look at some of the work they have completed and I have been particularly impressed by their presentation too. This is exactly the positive start to the year that we had hoped for.

Mrs Brazier

Enc: Stalbridge Library newsletter "The Bookworm" (attached)

Whilst we are happy to advertise events in our area provided by third parties, we make no representations or warranties about the suitability of such products or services referenced in these advertisements for any purpose. Our inclusion of such products and services does not constitute their recommendation or endorsement.

 The Gryphon School	 YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING For September 2027 entry Thursday 1st October 5-7.30pm Headteacher talks at 5.15pm / 7pm No need to book - just turn up.
 Open Events OPEN MORNINGS 23rd 24th 28th 29th SEPTEMBER 2026 9.15-10.45am OPEN EVENING 24th SEPTEMBER 2026 4.30-7.00pm No need to book! Book a spot via the QR code	 Gillingham School The best in everyone™ Part of United Learning We are arranging two evenings for pupils already in our pyramid of schools and families are invited to attend on either Wednesday 16th September or Thursday 1st October. Please could you arrive for a 18:00 start to the Main Hall for a welcome presentation followed by a student lead school tour.

Open Evening
Sturminster Newton High School
 Thursday 24th September 2026 5-7pm

For pupils currently in Years 5/6 and their Parents/Carers.

During the evening you are invited to tour the school and visit our subject departments.

There will be an opportunity to hear from
Michael Motteram, Headteacher




To manage demand for the Headteacher presentations please use the QR code to sign up for one of the slots

Head of School Presentation 1 - 5:15pm
Head of School Presentation 2 - 6pm

If you would like to see the school, other than during the open evening, we have some appointments available W/C Monday 14th September 2026. Please contact the school for an appointment - office@mysnhs.net



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Somerset School Terms and Holidays 2026/2027 Academic Year

September 2026				October 2026				November 2026			
M		7	14	21	28	Mo		5	12	19	26
T	1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27
W	2	9	16	23	30	We		7	14	21	28
Th	3	10	17	24		Th	1	8	15	22	29
F	4	11	18	25		Fr	2	9	16	23	30
Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	3	10	17	24	31
Su	6	13	20	27		Su	4	11	18	25	
December 2026				January 2027				February 2027			
M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu		5	12	19	26
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27
Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28
F	4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29
Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	2	9	16	23	30
Su	6	13	20	27		Su	3	10	17	24	31
March 2027				April 2027				May 2027			
M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26
Tu	2	9	16	23	30	Tu		6	13	20	27
W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28
Th	4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29
F	5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30
Sa	6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24	
Su	7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25	
June 2027				July 2027				August 2027			
M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28
Th	3	10	17	24		Th	1	8	15	22	29
F	4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30
Sa	5	12	19	26		Sa	3	10	17	24	31
Su	6	13	20	27		Su	4	11	18	25	

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Days

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 03 September – 23 October 2026 (37 days)
Term 2: 02 November – 18 December 2026 (35 days)
Term 3: 04 January – 12 February 2027 (30 days)
Term 4: 22 February – 25 March 2027 (24 days)
Term 5: 12 April – 28 May 2027 (34 days)
Term 6: 07 June – 23 July 2027 (35 days)
TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2026/27

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2026	Easter Monday	29 March 2027
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	28 December 2026*	May Day Bank Holiday	03 May 2027
New Year's Day Holiday	01 January 2027	Spring Bank Holiday	31 May 2027
Good Friday	26 March 2027	Summer Bank Holiday	30 August 2027

*Replacement Bank Holiday when Bank Holidays falls on a weekend.
 Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.