

Head Teacher:
Mrs E Reynolds



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19 April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I am sure most have you have seen our amazing new vegetable beds that have been made by the PTFA and other amazing parents. A huge thank you to them for their work on this over the holidays and I can't wait to see what we can grow. Please if you see weeds appearing, pull them out! Many hands make light work!



On Wednesday Year 1 and 2 were lucky enough to go to see the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in Yeovil. The music was all linked to films and the children enjoyed this as they recognised much of it, they also learnt so much about the instruments. It was a great opportunity for them to hear live music being played and I know they appreciated going.

Donations needed:

With summer beginning, most classes are learning about plants and will be growing their own, we would really like your help with some donations of seeds and compost. The seed packs can be ones you have left over, they don't need to be full or brand new. The key seeds we would like are: runner beans, sunflowers, wildflower mix, mustard, any herbs or any other seeds that you have no use for. Also any small plug plants for example geraniums.

We would really appreciate this. If you have any, please give them to me at the gate or drop into the office.

Choir

Please could any outstanding Choir t-shirts and school recorders be returned to school ASAP. Recorder club stopped due to the difficulty of teaching such a wide range of abilities. Mrs Brading will look at ways of teaching the recorder in smaller groups in future.

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Easter Fair

Thank you so much to everyone who attended and contributed with time, effort and money. We have raised over £500 some of which will be used to buy art resources for Arts Week, as well as some books and other extras that the children need but that we are unable to purchase due to the very tight school budget.

PTFA Updates

PTFA Meeting

The next PTFA meeting is on Monday 22nd April at 7.00pm at the school. We will be discussing plans for upcoming events and future spending. Everyone is welcome.

Playground Treats

The PTFA will be selling treats on the playground after school next Friday 26th April. All items will be 50p each, cash only. We will be encouraging the children to queue up to one side of the stall to ensure it is fair for all.

Summer Second-Hand Uniform

Before you head to the shops for summer essentials, we do have stock of good condition summer dresses, shorts & more. Please check out our Facebook page or pop us a message if you need anything.

Parent Information Sessions

Would you like to understand more about children & young people and self-injury? Joining our free 90-minute self-harm awareness training, for parents, carers and family members in somerset will help you to –

- Understand self harm and who it can affect
- Identify reasons that can lead a young person to self-harm
- Recognise the stigma surrounding self-harm and the impact this can have
- Understand the wider impact self-harm has on friends and family, with a focus on parents/carers
- Raise confidence in responding to/supporting young people who self-harm
- Establish how to maintain your own self-care and wellbeing
- Identify a range of local and national resources/services/information to support young people who self-harm
- Understand the importance of recovery
- Q & A

The training dates below offer mixed training for people who want to understand about self-injury, including for children and young people or adults

Thursday 9th May AM

9.30am – 11am

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[FREE Somerset - Self Harm Awareness Training Tickets, Thu 9 May 2024 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Monday 1st July PM

3.30pm – 5pm

[FREE Somerset - Self Harm Awareness Training Tickets, Mon 1 Jul 2024 at 15:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Friday 16th August AM

9.30am – 11am

[FREE Somerset - Self Harm Awareness Training Tickets, Fri 16 Aug 2024 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Child Exploitation by County Lines with Escapeline

Date: Monday, 20th May 2024

Time: Starting at 6pm with an estimated end time of 7:30pm

Venue: Room H1, Huish Sixth building, Huish Episcopi Academy, Langport, TA10 9SS

Child Exploitation by County Lines - In the South West of the UK, including all areas of Somerset, there is a significant rise in county lines drug crime, whereby a large amount of young people as young as **6 years old**, are being criminally and sexually exploited by gangs. County lines are illegal business models, in which drug gangs expand their operations from their big city bases, such as London, Birmingham and Liverpool, to smaller cities, towns, coastal and rural areas across Britain. These gangs use their power and position to groom, recruit and exploit children and young people for the purpose of criminal gain.

These gangs proactively recruit young people to drug run in and around the South West, as well as outside the area. The gangs and criminal networks use extreme violence and intimidation towards these young people, which result in these young people feeling trapped and scared. Some of these gangs are forcing vulnerable children from their homes to be trafficked to other parts of the country. As well as criminal exploitation, young people, both girls and boys, are also being sexually exploited by these gangs.

This session will raise awareness of the signs of Child Exploitation by County Lines and guide you in teaching children and young people about healthy relationships.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/YVj1EpvbRqJKQzoF8>

Tuning in to Kids – back by popular demand!

A FREE six-session programme for parents of toddlers to teens.

This programme shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence.

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?

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Where: Long Sutton C of E Primary School

When: Monday 29th April, Monday 13th May, Monday 20th May, Monday 3rd June, Monday 10th June and Monday 17th June

Time: 1.30 – 3.30

Contact: Mrs Reynolds or the Office

OR

The school PFSA (Parent Family Support Advisor) is also running this programme at Somerton Library

On Tuesday 30th April, Tuesday 7th May, Tuesday 14th May, Tuesday 21st May, Tuesday 4th June, Tuesday 11th June.

Time 10 – 12

Click this link to book a space:

<https://form.jotform.com/240703159731049>

Attendance – Unauthorised Term-Time Leave

Please be aware that when a parent or carer chooses to take their child out of school for a period of leave, which has not been authorised by the Head Teacher it may result in a Penalty Notice being issued. Term-time leave of absence is not an automatic right and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. You can find the school's attendance policy and letter of intention to take term-time leave request form on the school website.

Is my child too ill for school?

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. Further guidance can be found here - [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

Nut free school (inc. Toy Box)

We have multiple children in school at present with a nut allergy. Please do not give your child food/snacks to bring into school containing any type of nut or nut product, e.g. Nutella and Peanut Butter. Thank you for your support.

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Dates for the diary

Parents to share work – Kite Class	Monday 29 th April
Parents to share work – Cygnet and Harrier Class	Tuesday 30 th April
Parents to share work – Kingfisher Class	Wednesday 1 st May
Y6 SATs week	w/c Monday 13 th May
INSET	Friday 24 th May
Sports Day	Wednesday 12 th June
Transition Day	Wednesday 3 rd July
Information Evening for new parents and those moving classes	Wednesday 3 rd July
Summer Fair (New Date)	Saturday 13 th July
Harrier Show	Wednesday 17 th July
Leavers' Service	Wednesday 24 th July

Safeguarding (Protecting children from harm/keeping them safe)

In school we have a duty to ensure that all children are safe and protect from harm or abuse. If we have concerns about a child's wellbeing it is our duty to look into this, talk to the family, and if need be, report it to Somerset Direct.

If you have any concerns about your child, or another, please come and speak to me. Safeguarding is everyone's business and cannot be ignored. Somerset Direct (0300 123 2224) or the NSPCC are useful points of contact, should you wish to share or discuss any Safeguarding concerns you have.

Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lizzie Reynolds).

[NSPCC](#) [SOMERSETDIRECT](#)

Best wishes
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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