

**Head Teacher:**  
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3 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

This week has been a little calmer than last week, but I have loved visiting the classes to see all the amazing learning going on. Kite class have been planning an investigation about how roots group, the excitement around this was infectious, they are clearly loving their science. Cygnets were learning all about the body and why we have bones and what is under the skin. It was lovely to see them pretending to have no bones! I joined Kingfisher class to do their writing and was amazed by the creativity and ideas they had, beautiful similes, for example 'her eyes were as blue as forget me nots'. Lastly, I visited Harriers for history, they were learning about life in Viking times, their knowledge is really strong and the links they made to previous learning about the Anglo Saxons was really good. They produced some excellent present and creative work from their research on this.

I want to say a huge thank you to all the families in Toy Box, and Cygnet class for the amazing amount of money they have raised from the sponsored Trike ride. Funds have been added to a grant we have received from WPA to purchase our Bikes and Balance Bikes. They have raised £1,340 and it is still rising. This will mean we can buy all the trikes and vehicles we wanted for Toy Box, as well as safe storage for the bikes, and possibly a mud kitchen for Cygnets. All this money will be spent directly on the resources the 2 classes need to support their learning and play.

Thank you for recently completing our Parent Questionnaire, it was brilliant to have so many responses. It is lovely to have the positive feedback but probably more useful to have your thoughts and ideas where things are not so good, so thank you for these. I have and am still following up with a few where concerns were raised. Please can I ask that if you do have worries about your child, especially around bullying or their learning, you do not wait until the questionnaire to tell us but come into school as soon as you have a concern, so we can deal with it and support your child in the best way possible. See an overview of the results below.

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Parent survey April 2023 41 Responses this year (55 last, 52 previous )	Agree strongly + agree	Strong agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unable to Comment	Total response					
1 My child feels happy at school	93%	21	53%	16	40%	3	8%				0%	40
2 My child feels safe at this school	100%	28	68%	13	32%		0%				0%	41
3 The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	100%	30	73%	11	27%		0%				0%	41
4 My child has been bullied and the school has dealt with this quickly and effectively	37%	8	20%	7	17%	3	7%	1	2%	22	54%	41
5 This school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	98%	29	73%	10	25%	1	3%				0%	40
6 When I have raised concerns they have been dealt with promptly	85%	25	61%	10	24%		0%			6	15%	41
7 The school has high expectations for my child	98%	23	56%	17	41%		0%			1	2%	41
8 My child does well at this school	100%	28	70%	12	30%		0%				0%	40
9 The school lets me know how my child is doing	98%	25	61%	15	37%	1	2%				0%	41
10 There is a good range of subjects for my child	98%	29	71%	11	27%	1	2%				0%	41
11 The school supports my child's wider personal development	98%	28	68%	12	29%	1	2%				0%	41
12 The school reflects the ethos / practice of a C of E school	100%	32	80%	8	20%		0%				0%	40
13 The school caters well for children with SEND	63%	19	48%	6	15%		0%			15	38%	40
14 I know where to go if my child has a special educational need	76%	21	51%	10	24%		0%			10	24%	41
15 I would recommend this school to another parent	100%	32	78%	9	22%		0%				0%	41
16 The school supports my child to develop, positive mental health	95%	24	59%	15	37%		0%			2	5%	41
17 The school supports me to support my child if they are struggling with mental health	80%	27	66%	6	15%		0%			8	20%	41
<b>Total responses this year</b>	89%	<b>429</b>	62%	<b>188</b>	27%	<b>10</b>	1%	<b>1</b>	0%	<b>64</b>	9%	692
Last year	86%	512	55%	290	31%	5	1%	0		128	14%	935
Previous year	89%	575	66%	198	23%	9	1%	0		80	9%	872

## PTFA Updates

### LONG SUTTON SCARECROW TRAIL

A little reminder that you've only got until Saturday 11th May to enter your Scarecrow into this years trail!

This May Half Term, the PTFA are hosting the Long Sutton Scarecrow Trail! But first... Scarecrow makers we need you!

- It's FREE to enter a Scarecrow
- Open to everyone - tell your friends, family & neighbours
- Scarecrows can be displayed at addresses within the trail area of Long Sutton, Upton & Knole
- Scarecrows should link to this years theme of 'Nursery Rhymes'
- Scarecrows can be made from any material, & can be any shape or size
- And if you'd like to enter a Scarecrow but don't live in the trail area, don't worry, we'll try & find you a host!



If you would like to enter a Scarecrow for the trail, just click the link below & head to our online entry form, you'll find all the T&C's there too. CLICK HERE <https://forms.gle/jTGN2HE6Bjp8UZ8K7>

If you have any questions or need more information, please pop us a message or email us at [lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com](mailto:lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com).

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A trail map will be available to buy from Saturday 25th May & participants will be able to vote for their favourite Scarecrow... there will be a prize for the winner!

### **THE BIG POOL CLEAN UP!**

We're almost ready to open the school swimming pool again (when the weather improves!) but there's a few jobs to do before we can welcome the children back with a splash! We need to give the pool area a good spring clean, with sweeping, wedging, scrubbing and tidying!

So, if you'd like to lend a hand then come and join us on **Saturday 11th May from 10.00am** onwards at the school pool. (Adults only please - no children due to pool safety). If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

### **PTFA dates for your diary**

The Big Pool Clean Up - Saturday 11th May  
Scarecrow Entry Deadline - Saturday 11th May  
Playground Treats - Thursday 23rd May  
Scarecrow Trail - Saturday 25th May until Sunday 2nd June  
PTFA Meeting - Thursday 6th June

### **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 9<sup>th</sup> May AM**

9.30am – 11am

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

#### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July PM**

3.30pm – 5pm

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[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, 20<sup>th</sup> 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>

### 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](#)

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## **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.

### **Dates for the diary**

Y6 SATs week	w/c Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May
Arts week celebration	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May at 3pm
INSET	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
Sports Day	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June
Transition Day	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July
Information Evening for new parents and those moving classes	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July
Summer Fair (New Date)	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> July
Harrier Show	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July
Leavers' Service	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> 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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