



September Newsletter

## September 2025 - In This Issue...



- **Attendance**
- **Roles of responsibility**
- **PTA thanks**
- **National TA day**
- **Sporting success**
- **Harvest festival**
- **Christmas shoe boxes**
- **Applying for school places**
- **Childcare survey**
- **Children's achievements**

# ATTENDANCE

## WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

# 1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

# £160



# 2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

## IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

# 10 IN 10

# 5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = 2 Sessions

# 3

## FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents =  
**£1280**

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

# 4

### 2ND TIME

2 parents and  
1 child = £320  
2 children = 640  
3 children = 960  
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



### 3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child  
**1 parent & 4 children = £10,000**  
**2 parents & 4 children = £20,000**

### Attendance

This poster explains the rules around term time absence.

There is a direct link between the amount of time your child spends in school and their academic outcomes. Children need to be in school to achieve the best they possibly can.

Sometimes, term time leave is unavoidable but please do speak to Mrs Chesterton first. She will be able to talk you through options that have the least impact academically and financially.

**Your support in ensuring your child is at school and on time every day is greatly appreciated.**

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### *Roles of responsibility*

*A big congratulations to all of the children who have been given roles this year.*

*We can now introduce our House Captains and Vice House Captains, School Councillors, Digital Leaders, Play Leaders and Reading Ambassadors. Congratulations to you all!*

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*1 - House Captains and Vice Captains*



2 - School Council



3 - Digital Leaders



*4 - Reading Ambassadors*



5 - Play Leaders

## Our new benches



A big thanks to the PTA for funding the two new covered benches you see in the playground. I don't think I've been to the playground at any point through the school day and found them empty – they are being very well used at play time and at work!

Of course, the PTA couldn't fund things like this, and our recent new iPads, without your support so thank you!

## National TA day



We celebrated all of our wonderful support staff last week ahead of National TA day. We don't just celebrate our wonderful TAs, we celebrate all of our 'Totally Awesome' support staff. We're so grateful to all of them for everything they do for our school!

Don't worry, we don't forget the teachers – Thank a Teacher day is in June every year.

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### ***Sporting success!***

*We've started the year strongly with our sport with 5 top 10 finishes at the first cross country race and some great football by both boys and girls. A group of children have competed in a bench ball tournament and had a go at dance. Do encourage your child/ren to get involved, there's a whole variety of stuff on offer!*

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YEOVIL AND DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

.....

FINISHED AS  
**3<sup>RD</sup>** YEAR **213** BOY

In the  
CROSS COUNTRY RACE

at  
YEOVIL RUGBY CLUB



22nd SEPTEMBER 2025

Adam D Hawkins



YEOVIL AND DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

FINISHED AS

3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR 2/3 GIRL

In the  
CROSS COUNTRY RACE

at  
YEOVIL RUGBY CLUB



22nd SEPTEMBER 2025

Adam D Hawkins



YEOVIL AND DISTRICT PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

FINISHED AS

**6<sup>TH</sup>** YEAR **5/6** GIRL

In the  
CROSS COUNTRY RACE

at  
YEOVIL RUGBY CLUB



22nd SEPTEMBER 2025

Adam D Hawkins



YEOVIL AND DISTRICT PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

FINISHED AS  
**3<sup>RD</sup>** YEAR 5/6 BOY  
In the  
CROSS COUNTRY RACE  
at  
YEOVIL RUGBY CLUB



22nd SEPTEMBER 2025

Adam D Hawkins



YEOVIL AND DISTRICT PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

FINISHED AS

**10<sup>th</sup>** YEAR 5/6 BOY

In the  
CROSS COUNTRY RACE

at  
YEOVIL RUGBY CLUB

22nd SEPTEMBER 2023

Adam D Hawkins



## Harvest Festival

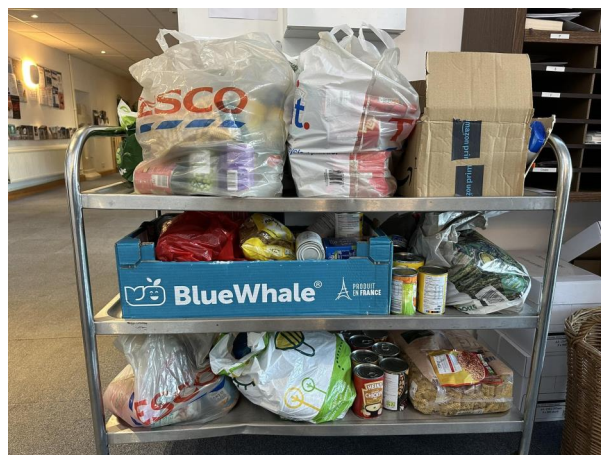
We will be holding our Harvest Festival in Church on Wednesday 8th October. As part of our service we will be collecting donations for the Lord's Larder. The Lord's Larder Food Bank is a local 'bank' of non-perishable in life ambient food operated by volunteers from churches in and around Yeovil. Last year in 2024, over 163,000 items of food were given out via 70 different agencies to help over 9,342 local people, (5,678 adults and 3,684 children.).

Please find below a list of suggested items that the Lord's Larder are short of at the moment. Of course, they can accept any in date tins/packets/not perishable items:

- Tinned Mince, Tins of Hot Dogs,
- Tinned Tuna, Tinned Meat Pies,
- Tins of Stewed Steak,
- Tins of Meatballs, Tins of Curry, Tins of Chilli Con Carne,
- Tins of Corned Beef, Tins of Ham,
- Jars of Pasta Sauce, Packets of Instant Potato,
- 80 Teabags, Coffee,

- Cereal Bars, Packets of Biscuits, Packets of Biscuits for Cheese,
- Porridge Oats, Boxes of Cereal
- Bags of Sugar - small and large,
- Cartons Long Life Milk,
- Cartons of Fruit Juice, Squash,
- Tins of Mixed Vegetables,
- Tins of Sweet Corn, Meat Paste,
- Tins of Peas, Tinned Carrots,
- Tins of Potato, Tinned Ravioli, Tins of Spaghetti
- Tins of Beans and Sausages,
- Packets of Noodles, Packets of Savoury Rice, Couscous,
- Cup a Soup, Tins of Soup
- Tins of Fruit, Rice Pudding, Jelly, Jars of Jam, & Instant Custard.

Please be aware they do not accept any donations of fresh fruit or vegetables, any frozen product or out of life food items. Please can we ask that, if you are able to donate, your child brings in their donation for the Lord's Larder on our Harvest Festival day, Wednesday 8th October. These items need to be taken by the children to their class where they will be collated and delivered to the Lord's Larder at the end of next week.



*6 - Last year's Lord's Larder donations*



Yeovil Christian Support Trust  
The GateWay  
Addlewell Lane  
Yeovil  
Somerset  
BA20 1QN  
Tel: 01935 479398  
Email: lordslarderyeovil@gmail.com  
Web: [www.ycslyeovil.org.uk](http://www.ycslyeovil.org.uk)  
Charity No: 1052843

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Chilthorne Domer Church School

October 2024

Dear children, parents and staff at Chilthorne Domer Church School,

Thank you to everyone who brought in tins and packets of food as part of your Harvest Celebration. Your donations of food will go to those who are hungry and in need in our local area

On behalf of Lord's Larder, I would like to thank you for choosing to support the work of the food bank with your donation. **This Harvest, the school has donated a total of 130 food items to the Lord's Larder Food Bank, which is a very kind donation, thank you.** This is much appreciated by all the people we are able to help by providing emergency food parcels for those in crisis. Your donations of food will go to those who are hungry and in need in our local area.

Last year we were able to give out **170,000 items of food** which went into **4202 emergency food parcels** to help a total of **9684 local people** (this figure breaks down as 5651 adults and 4033 children in a total of 2160 families).

Already this year, up to the end of September 2024, the **Lord's Larder has helped 4,185 adults and 2,647 children in need, covering towns and villages in South Somerset and North West Dorset, an area including Yeovil, Martock, Crewkerne, Ilminster, Somerton, Henstridge and Templecombe**, working with agencies who request and then deliver the emergency food parcels to their clients. Your donation will make a real difference to help to meet the continued demand for food parcels, now and into 2024. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Jo Smith – Deputy  
Operations Manager of  
Lord's Larder Food Bank  
& Lord's Larder Community Fund.

## Shoe Box Appeal

Each year, the school community supports different charities and the Shoe Box Appeal is one of them. This provides those hardest hit families across the world with the simplest of gifts at Christmas. We will work with other people from our local community to provide as many shoe boxes as possible ready to head overseas and make it to their destination in time for Christmas.

It's easy to choose gifts for people who have so little. Shampoo, a pair of socks, a notepad, a small toy, a bag of sweets – things we take for granted will seem like luxuries to people living in poverty. There are a number of essential items that need to be packed in each of the shoe boxes (the full list of items suitable can be found on the attachment with this letter) so we are asking for those families that can, to pack a shoe box together and bring it in to school ready to be sent abroad. Alternatively, you may want to group together with some friends and pack a box between you.

Because these boxes are travelling abroad, we need to have the Christmas wrapped and packed shoe boxes in school by Monday 3rd November (the first day back after half term). More details can be found here<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup><https://blythswood.org/donate-to-shoe-box-appeal/>



7 - 2024 collection of shoe boxes!

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***Well done to all of our children and their achievements:***

***George, Vinnie and Sonny*** have all had player of the match/trainer of the session for their football recently, well done!

A whole group of Chilthorne girls also took part in a recent Spirit Gymnastics competition. Well done to ***Amelia*** for winning a gold medal with her trio and to ***Alyssia, Hallie and Grace*** for their fabulous performances.

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**Applying for school places – Year 6 and new Reception starters**

**For parents of children moving to secondary and upper schools:**

The application website for parents and carers of children moving to Secondary and Upper Schools is now open and parents and carers can apply for places for their children from now until 31 October 2024. Please visit:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september/>

**For parents and carers of children who are new starters at their first school:**

The application website for parents and carers of children starting school for the first time opens on 30th September until 15 January 2025. Please visit:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/>


Parents and carers of new starters are advised to read the Primary Admissions Guide before making an application. The guide can be accessed at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/primary-admissions-guide/>

 **Have Your Say – Childcare Survey from Somerset Council**     

Somerset Council is seeking feedback from families across the county about wraparound and holiday childcare needs. Whether you use these services or not, your views matter!

 The survey asks about:

- Current and future childcare needs
- Reasons families may not use existing provision
- Barriers or challenges you face accessing childcare

 Where 10 or more responses are received, an anonymised summary will be shared with your child's school.

 Please complete the survey by midday on 14th November 2025:

 <https://forms.office.com/e/5wZtEjuYqP>

Thank you for helping shape childcare services in Somerset! 

# Children's eye health

**Your child's sight is precious. Good vision helps them learn, play and communicate with the world around them.**

Yet, there are more than a million children in the UK with undetected vision problems (source: Eye health UK)

Children's vision continues to develop until they reach the age of eight, so caring for a child's eyes in the early years can help lay the foundations for good vision that lasts a lifetime.

**There are lots of simple things that you can do to help keep children's eyes healthy.**

## Essential Eye Checks

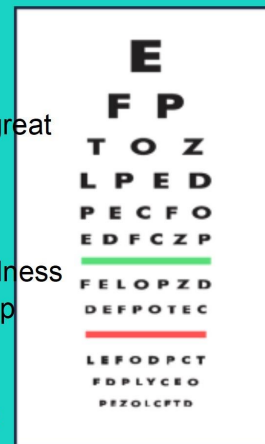
Having regular sight tests as advised by your optician is a great place to start.

Sight tests will ensure any problems such as childhood conditions like squint and lazy eye (amblyopia), longsightedness (hypermetropia) or short sightedness (myopia) are picked up early.

The sooner problems are identified the better the treatment outcomes.

Remember sight tests are free on the NHS if children under 16 years or 18 in education or training. If they require vision correction (glasses or contact lenses) you'll be entitled to an optical voucher towards the cost of this too!

**In Somerset there is access to reception aged vision screening at school.**



## Eat a rainbow

Eating a rainbow of colourful fruit and vegetables helps ensure young eyes get the nutrients they need to grow healthily.

Food like tomatoes, grapes and blueberries as well as fish, eggs and whole grains are packed with eye-friendly nutrients.



## Spend time outside

There is evidence that spending two hours or more a day outdoors can reduce the risk of myopia or shortsightedness, even if there is a history of the condition, so time spent outside can benefit your children in many ways.

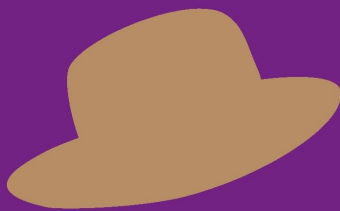
**Try walking to school, playing outside, sports, PE lessons or going for a bike or scooter ride.**

## Cover up

It's really important to protect your eyes from the sun. When you're young the lens at the front of the eye is really clear so can let even more of the damaging sunlight in.



Protect children's eyes whenever the UV Index rises to three or more even on cloudy days and check that their sunglasses have a CE; UV 400 or British Standard Mark to ensure they provide the right level of protection.



A hat with a wide brim can also help protect against damaging UV.

Visit the [Met Office](#) website for information on UV levels.

**A good rule to follow is the 20, 20, 20 rule which suggests taking a break of at least 20 seconds, every 20 minutes and to look 20 feet (6 metres) away.**

**Teenagers viewing smart phones should hold the screen at least 30cms away from their face to avoid eye strain.**

## **Signs of reduced vision**

It's often difficult to tell if your child is having problems with their eyes but some tell-tale signs that there could be something wrong include:

- **struggling to recognise colours and shapes**
- **not showing any interest in learning to read**
- **complaining about headaches**
- **sitting very close to the TV.**

If you recognise any of these symptoms you should arrange for your child to have a sight test.

**Developed by the Orthoptic Team at Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and the Public Health Team at Somerset Council**



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- ***Our Stay and Play sessions start this week** – tell your friends with children who are due to start school in September 2026. We'd love to see them!*
  - ***Open Day is 15th October** - this is also aimed at those with children starting school in September 2026*
  - ***Cake raffle has returned on a Friday** - £1 raffle tickets can be bought from class teachers.*
- ***INSET dates for 25-26** - Can be found here.<sup>2</sup>*
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**Tea Time club phone number for collection** - Please call this number rather than ring the doorbell to collect your child from Tea-time club Monday to Friday - 07714523811

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.chilthornedomerchurchschool.co.uk/term-dates-1/>



# CHILTHORNE DOMER CHURCH SCHOOL



## OPEN DAY TOURS WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2025

Are you looking for a great start in your child's educational journey in a nurturing environment?

Come and have a look around our wonderful school, meet our fabulous children and teachers and see all the amazing things our village school can offer your child.



If you would like to visit, please call 01935 840407 or email [office@cdcs.uk](mailto:office@cdcs.uk) to book your preferred time. [www.chilthornedomerchurchschool.co.uk](http://www.chilthornedomerchurchschool.co.uk)





# Chilthorne Domer Church School Invites You To Stay And Play With Us!



Are you looking for a great start in your child's educational journey in a nurturing environment?

Then come and visit us with your child (aged 3 - 4 years) for our exciting 'Stay and Play' sessions. You will have the opportunity to explore our setting, meet the staff and have a wonderful time!

Join us for fun in the classroom, exploration in our forest school area or a spot of gardening at our school allotment.

Please come dressed appropriately with your wellies for our forest school and gardening sessions!

#### Dates to come and play with us:

- 03/10/2025 Gardening Fun - 1.15pm - 2.15pm
- 08/10/2025 Forest School Fun - 2.30pm - 3.15pm
- 15/10/2025 OPEN DAY - Book a Tour!
- 20/10/2025 Classroom Fun - 2pm - 3pm
- 12/11/2025 Forest School Fun - 2.30pm - 3.15pm
- 24/11/2025 Classroom Fun - 2pm - 3pm
- 12/12/2025 Gardening Fun 1.15pm - 2.15pm



To book a play date with your child please call: 01935 840407 or email [office@cdcs.uk](mailto:office@cdcs.uk) to book your preferred session(s).

Chilthorne Domer BA22 8RD  
[www.chilthornedomerchurchschool.co.uk](http://www.chilthornedomerchurchschool.co.uk)



And finally...

## Chilthorne Domer



Get your wellies out and join in the fun!

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

- 4.15pm** – A short service in St Mary's Church
- 4.30pm** – Meet in the Churchyard to start a cross country ramble
- 5.30pm** – Harvest Thanksgiving Supper @ The Rec  
(soup, sausages, cheese & fruit pudding)

All welcome / Dogs on leads please  
Join for all parts or any part that suits  
Please message Angie to book supper – 07531 524276

\*Hosted by St Mary's Church\*

Donations to Children In Need on the day, either cash or on Just Giving page

The poster for 'ACTIVE CAMP' at Bucklers Mead Leisure Centre is set against a light blue background with decorative elements. At the top, it says 'Bucklers Mead Leisure Centre' and 'ACTIVE CAMP' in large, bold letters. Below this, it indicates the dates 'OCTOBER HALF TERM (27<sup>TH</sup> TO 31<sup>ST</sup>)'. A list of activities is provided for each day of the week: Monday (Olympic and Paralympic Day), Tuesday (Nerf Battles and Laser Tag Day), Wednesday (Target Day), Thursday (Tournament Day), and Friday (Inflatable Day). At the bottom, there is a photo of the leisure centre building, the 'TLE ACTIVE' logo, and the website 'WWW.TLESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK'.

**Bucklers Mead Leisure Centre**

# ACTIVE CAMP

➔ OCTOBER HALF TERM (27<sup>TH</sup> TO 31<sup>ST</sup>)

- MONDAY** Olympic and Paralympic Day
- TUESDAY** Nerf Battles and Laser Tag Day
- WEDNESDAY** Target Day
- THURSDAY** Tournament Day
- FRIDAY** Inflatable Day

 **TLE ACTIVE**

[WWW.TLESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK](http://WWW.TLESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK)

# OCTOBER TENNIS CAMP

Join us at Yeovil Tennis Club for our  
October Half-Term Tennis Camp!

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October | 9am - 3pm**  
Ages 5-16 | £29 per person

**Secure your spot today:**  
Contact Luke Andrews on 07437 404242 / Latennis@hotmail.com

“ Providing a fun and professional learning environment for sports development. ”

**BOURNE SPORTS COACHING FOOTBALL CAMP: OCTOBER HALF TERM 2025**

Dear Parent / Guardian:

I am delighted to announce that Bourne Sports Coaching will be running a football camp in the upcoming October Half Term. As a qualified F.A Coach I would like to offer your child the chance to attend our camp for 2 days and experience some top quality football coaching, led by myself and other F.A and UEFA qualified coaches. The children will take part in warm up games, skill & technical sessions and play football matches.

The football camp is for children aged between 4-11 years and is open to all abilities. The children will be playing against others of a similar age and ability during the camp. There are lots of medals and prizes given out at the end of each day for awards such as most improved, player of the day etc.

As the World Cup takes place next year, to embrace the tournament, we will be finishing the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the camp with our own mini World Cup competition, to give the children a chance to play for different countries and emulate their footballing icons. This is a great chance to put into practice all of the skills they have learned over the course of the camp. The coaching sessions will be held on our three grass pitches, playground or indoor hall (if wet).

Venue: Kingfisher Primary School, Kingfisher Drive, Yeovil, BA22 8FL.  
Camp Details: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025 Times: 9.00am - 3.15pm  
Cost: £59.00 for 2 days. Students must wear appropriate clothing and bring a packed lunch.

\*\*\*\*\*Early Drop Off available: £10 extra (£69.00 total) for both mornings (drop off from 8am, please note that breakfast is not provided so please ensure your child has eaten beforehand).\*\*\*\*\*

Please return the permission slip below with cash or a cheque made payable to 'Bourne Sports Coaching' to: Bourne Sports Coaching, Conkers, Melplash, Dorset, DT6 3UD. BACS payments to: Bourne Sports Coaching, Sort code 30-99-98, Acc no 41480560 (please put your child's name and year group as the reference).  
Online signup also available by scanning the QR Code below or visit: <https://bourne-sports-coaching.pembee.app>

Please register by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards



Colin Bourne - Bourne Sports Coaching

Tel: 07894 801 209

Kingfisher Football Camp: October Half Term 2025

Child name..... Date of Birth..... School..... Year group.....

Emergency contact name..... Daytime telephone number.....

Any allergies/medical conditions (e.g. Asthma).....

Early Drop off? (£10 extra) Y / N Do you consent to your child being photographed during the camp for sole use in BSC social media advertising etc? Yes / No (please circle)

Fee enclosed £..... Parent / Guardian Signature..... Date.....

Data Protection Act 2018 - The information you have provided will be held for the purposes of registration for the coaching sessions and will be disclosed only to the organisers at Bourne Sports Coaching.



Bournesportscoaching

T: 07894 801209

E: bournesports@hotmail.co.uk