

Upcoming events

Please find a list of diary dates:

- 20th Jan** – EYFS Curriculum Workshop (maths), 6.00pm
- 28th Jan** – Rags to Riches collection
- 12th Feb** – WOWSA Cake Sale (3.30pm, Grove hall)
- 13th Feb** – INSET day
- 13th Feb** – Last day of term
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- 23rd Feb** – Children return to school
- 27th Feb** – Book Fair opens
- 3rd Mar** – Parents' Evening
- 5th Mar** – Parents' Evening
- 17th Mar** – Year 3 performance to parents, 2.00pm
- 18th Mar** – Year 3 performance to parents, 4.00pm
- 2nd Apr** – Last day of term (Thursday)
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- 20th Apr** – Children return to school
- 4th May** – Bank Holiday Monday
- 11th May** – Year 6 SATS Week
- 22nd May** – Last day of term

What does my child learn at school?

We appreciate it can often be tricky to know exactly what your child is learning at school and the kinds of questions you could ask them to find out. Many children will often say 'nothing' if you ask them what they did today, which is obviously not true! Do remember that [the year group pages](#) of our school website contain termly overviews and knowledge organisers which will tell you all about the curriculum areas they are studying that term.

For example, below is the Year 2 geography knowledge organiser for this term which you could use to chat to your child about their learning each week.

How can humans survive in hot deserts?

<p>What is a desert?</p> <p>A desert is an area of land which receives less than 25cm of rain a year. There are different types of deserts.</p>	<p>Deserts have an extreme climate. Hot deserts reach temperatures of 50°C in the daytime but fall to 0°C once the sun sets.</p>	<p>Key Vocabulary</p> <p>desert: an area that receives less than 25cm of rainfall per year; the weather conditions in an area over a long period.</p> <p>climate: an imaginary line around the centre of the Earth.</p> <p>equator: an imaginary line around the centre of the Earth.</p> <p>tropics: areas of the Earth's surface that are closest to the equator.</p> <p>adapt: becoming better suited to an environment.</p> <p>extreme: very large in amount or going beyond a normal level.</p> <p>survive: to stay alive even in harsh or dangerous conditions.</p> <p>nomads: a group of people that move from one place to another rather than living in one place.</p>
<p>Where are the hot deserts?</p>	<p>People build tents from goat hair to give them shade and shelter.</p> <p>People look for plants, fish and mosquitoes to help them to find water.</p> <p>People keep animals like goats, sheep and cows to give them meat and milk.</p> <p>People move to find better land for their animals. Camels carry their belongings.</p>	

What do we do on INSET days?

Just in case you ever wonder what the teaching team get up to on INSET days, on Friday last week every teacher from all 26 primary schools in our Trust (Lighthouse Schools Partnership) spent the day together in Portishead looking at children's writing. The teachers sat together in year groups, sharing best practice and moderating each other's assessments in writing. It is such a great opportunity to learn from each other and ensure we are up to date in our knowledge and skills.

Back at school, the office team hosted colleagues from Whiteoak and other schools in emergency First Aid training, again ensuring we are up to date and able to keep everyone safe and well. Just in case you have ever wondered!

Smartphone Free Childhood

Many of you will be aware of the current conversations around young children and smartphones and may have completed the survey we sent out, in collaboration with our Trust and UWE, before Christmas. For those of you thinking about your child and their current (or future) phone use, and particularly the issue of what age they should have one, the [Smartphone Free Childhood website](#) is a great place to start and has a [very useful page for parents](#) with tips for every age and stage. Some of the questions this website could help you with are below:

- 'Are smartphones really that bad for kids?'
- 'How do I talk to other parents about delaying smartphones without sounding judgemental?'
- 'Is my child smartphone ready?'
- 'What is the right age to get my child a smartphone?'

National Year of Reading

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a DfE initiative and UK-wide campaign designed to help more people rediscover the joy of reading. Reading expands minds, builds confidence and fuels creativity. Yet with more distractions and less time, reading for pleasure is in decline across many groups.

The National Year of Reading 2026 is here to change that, by reconnecting reading with everyday culture.



We will be doing lots of things in school to celebrate this National Year of Reading but also wanted to share the useful resources for families that can be found on the website (click the link below):

[Get Involved – Families](#)

There is a particularly useful section called 'Make reading feel easy' which gives tips and advice for how to weave stories into every day family life in ways that are enjoyable and achievable.

Free tennis lessons

North Somerset Tennis Academy is offering 10 one-hour lessons for free as part of their 'Get Children Active' campaign.

To book your child's place for Saturdays, 10:00am – 11:00am, aged 5 - 7 click [here](#) and for Mondays, 4:00pm – 5:00pm, aged 5 – 7 click [here](#).

Priority Football Half Term Football Camps

Join us for 5 days of football fun this February Half Term, for boys and girls of all abilities!
Camp Dates: Monday 16th - Friday 20th February
Year 1 – 8 Times: 9.00am - 3.30pm (early drop-offs available)

Reception Times: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Nailsea School, BS48 2HN

Prices: £25.00 per day (multi-day discount)

Ages: Reception – Year 8

Girls Only: Our 'Puma' Group is available alongside our main football camp Tuesday & Friday!

Book: www.priorityfootball.co.uk/holidaycamps/

Contact: pete@priorityfootball.co.uk / 01275 261 004.

Reminders

Don't forget we have the WOWSA 'Rags to Riches' donation day on Wednesday 28th January. Please drop items from the list below to school on that morning:

Yes Please!

- CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY, DRY REUSABLE CLOTHING
- ADULTS, CHILDREN'S & BABIES CLOTHING
- PAIRED SHOES AND FOOTWEAR
- JEWELLERY AND ACCESSORIES
- BELTS AND HANDBAGS

We are trying a new system with lost property at school and aiming for it not to gather in large amounts in the school foyer! Everything that is named will make its way back to your child in their classroom within a couple of days, rather than be taken to the office. If an item does not reappear within a few days, please do catch the teacher at the end of the day and we can have a look for it in the classroom/year group area.

The key to this is to name everything! Thank you.

I hope you all have a great week.
Victoria Reyes, Headteacher