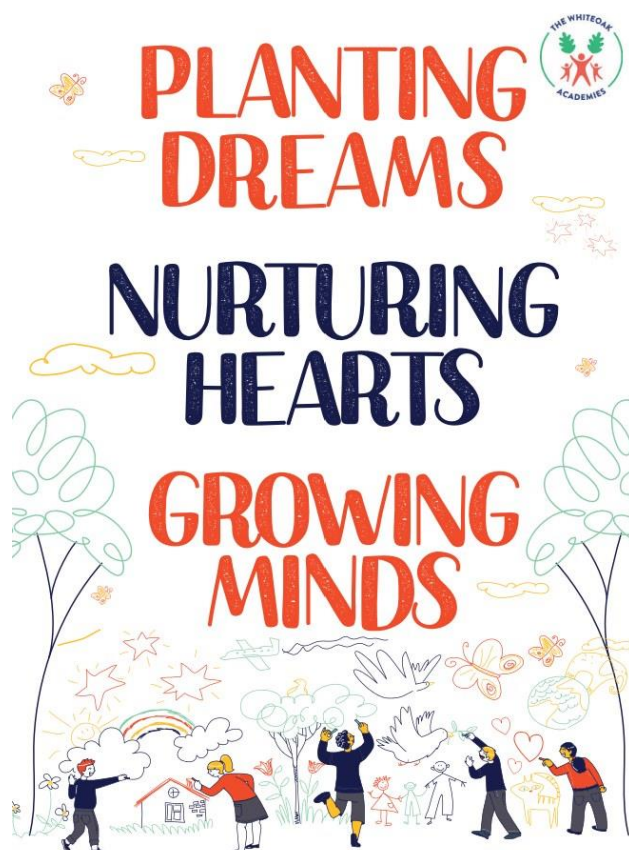




The Whiteoak Academies - Newsletter 35

19th July 2026

Headteacher's Message



As we come to the end of another school year, I just wanted to say thank you. It is a real privilege to be part of the Whiteoak community and I feel incredibly proud of everything we have achieved together. Thank you to our amazing children, who continue to impress us every day with their enthusiasm, resilience and kindness; to our dedicated staff, who go above and beyond for our pupils; to our parents and families for your ongoing support and encouragement; and to our governors for their commitment to helping our school continue to thrive. Thank you also to WOWSA who really do work tirelessly to raise additional funds for our school but also to provide events and opportunities that enhance the children's school experience.

Whiteoak really is a very special place, and I feel incredibly lucky to be part of it. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 7th September**, ready for another exciting year together.

What you need to do this week:



1. Don't forget to come and enjoy the children's art, craft, design and technology work in our **Creative Arts Afternoon straight after school tomorrow**. Children will be dismissed to you as normal and then you are welcome to come back in with them and visit any of the classrooms. If you are unable to come along, please don't worry, the children enjoy all the art work with their class on Tuesday morning and we will ensure plenty of photos are taken of the displays.
2. If your child is in Year 6, please note that their **Leavers' disco starts at 5.30pm on Monday 20th July (tomorrow)**.
3. Don't forget WOWSA are holding an **end of term sale** in the Hannah More playground straight after school on Tuesday. More details can be seen in the poster below.

Celebration for winning house of 2026!

In our final whole school Celebration Assembly of the year tomorrow morning, we will be announcing the winning house for 2026! This house will receive a fantastic treat on Wednesday morning for which we will need your permission. If your child brings home a permission form tomorrow, please do ensure this is **filled in and brought back to school by Wednesday morning** at the latest. Thank you and good luck to our four houses!



TITHE
TIGERS



GLASSWORK
GRIZZLIES



TRENDLEWOOD
WOLVES



MOOREND
EAGLES

Congratulations Year 6 - we are going to miss you!

Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils on their fantastic SATs results. Every one of you should feel incredibly proud of what you have achieved through your hard work, determination and resilience. These results reflect not only your academic success, but also the positive attitudes and perseverance you have shown throughout your time at Whiteoak. All of the staff are immensely proud of you and everything you have accomplished.

As we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we do so with enormous pride and every confidence in the bright futures that lie ahead. Thank you for the energy, kindness, humour and enthusiasm you have brought to Whiteoak over the years. As you begin your next adventure in Year 7, remember to be the very best version of yourselves—be kind, be curious, work hard, and always believe in what you can achieve. Take with you the friendships, memories and experiences that have shaped your time at Whiteoak, knowing that you will always be a valued part of our school community. We wish each and every one of you happiness, success and exciting opportunities in the years ahead.

Good luck—you've got this!

Do enjoy a selection of photos from last week's Year 6 musical production, 'Let Loose'. It was a brilliant performance that allowed every child to shine in their own way!









WOWSA End of Term Sale

END OF TERM SALE!

AFTER SCHOOL!

IN THE HANNAH MORE PLAYGROUND

TUESDAY 21ST JULY

SWEETS!

CANS OF POP!

BOOZE!

18+ ONLY

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

POCKET MONEY STALL!

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

BRANDED ITEMS - £3

NON BRANDED - £1

£1 EACH

ALL ITEMS 50P EACH

COME ALONG AND GRAB A BARGAIN TO END THE TERM IN STYLE!

Summer Reading Challenge

We were really excited to welcome Nailsea library for a special assembly last week to launch their summer reading challenge. This year the theme is '**Read to the Beat**' so there are lots of resources linked to music and artists. Children will receive an activity booklet, bookmark and reading record.

Excitingly, North Somerset are running a competition to win a wall mural and the school with the most children signed up will win a personalised mural! We are obviously very excited to have this opportunity and would love to win this for our library space. If your child would like to take part in this summer library challenge, all details are on the website here:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Happy reading!



Summer Times Tables Challenge for Years 3 - 6



This summer, we're encouraging all children in Years 3–5 to take part in our Whiteoak Summer Times Table Challenge and build confidence with their multiplication facts ready for September. Children should practise the times tables for their current year group, aiming to recall each fact quickly and accurately. Every time they can confidently remember a fact, they can colour it in on their challenge sheet. Those who complete all of the times tables for their year group will receive a certificate in September.

Regular practice for just a few minutes each day can make a huge difference to confidence and fluency in maths. We'd love your support in helping your child take on the challenge over the summer – and they might even like to have a go at learning some of the next year's tables too!

Good luck, and happy practising!

Welcome to your new school!

Over the past three months, we have hosted a variety of events and welcome sessions to help our new Reception children get to know their school and to feel ready for this September. Last

week saw our very first Teddy Bears' Picnic on the field where children, families and staff spent some time together hunting for bears and enjoying a picnic.

Thank you to all the families who were able to join us, it really was a lovely event and we know it will have helped the children to feel even more at ease for September.



Reception Outdoor Area - thank you

We just wanted to say a quick thank you to the families who have contributed to the work we are doing to spruce up Reception's outdoor play and learning area. It is already starting to look fantastic and the children are loving the improved space and resources! Thank you.



Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026

The government is changing the way Free School Meals (FSM) work from September 2026.

There will now be **two types of Free School Meals**:

- **Targeted Free School Meals** – for families who meet the existing income criteria. Children who qualify will also attract additional Pupil Premium funding, which helps schools provide extra support.

- **Expanded Free School Meals** – for families who receive **Universal Credit** but do not meet the income threshold for Targeted FSM. Children will receive free school meals, but schools will not receive Pupil Premium funding.

What do parents need to do?

The temporary protection that has been in place while Universal Credit was introduced is ending this summer. This means that **most families who currently receive Free School Meals must reapply over the summer holidays through North Somerset Council.**

You do not need to reapply if your child **qualified for Free School Meals within the last two years**, as North Somerset Council will check your eligibility automatically.

You do need to reapply if your child qualified **more than two years ago**. This can be done through your **North Somerset Citizens Account**.

Please read the attached posters for more information about the changes and how to apply.

Why is this important?

If you do not reapply when required, your child will lose their Free School Meal eligibility. If your child is in **Key Stage 2** from September, you will need to pay for school meals. Eligibility cannot be backdated.

If your child attends **Hannah More Infant School**, they will still receive **Universal Infant Free School Meals** as normal. However, if you are eligible for Targeted Free School Meals, it is still important to apply, as this helps the school receive additional Pupil Premium funding to support your child's education.

If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the Office Team, who will be happy to help.

CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP



From September 2026, more families will be eligible for Free School Meals



Applying could save you up to £495 per child, per year, on school lunches

FREE SCHOOL MEAL EXPANSION

More families may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) from September 2026, when families receiving Universal Credit will be able to access free school meals. There will be two types of Free School Meal eligibility from September 2026:



TARGETED FSM

Continues to be based on the existing £7,400 income threshold.



EXPANDED FSM (NEW)

Applies to meals only. Covers pupils whose households are in receipt of Universal Credit



IMPORTANT: While eligibility to Expanded FSM will be automatically granted to all recipients of Universal Credit, families will still need to apply to receive this benefit.

RECHECKS FOR ALL PUPILS CURRENTLY IN RECEIPT OF FSM

Since 2018, there has been a Free School Meal transitional protection policy to ensure that children didn't lose their free school meals if their family's income increased. This meant that free school meals entitlement has been typically locked in until the end of the child's current phase of education (e.g. end of primary or secondary school).

This protection is ending at the end of the 2025-26 academic year.

This means that all existing pupils in receipt of free school meals will need to have their entitlement rechecked before the start of September 2026. If your family's earnings exceed the FSM threshold, your child(ren) will lose their eligibility and pay for school meals from September 2026.



In most cases, these rechecks will be automatic and no action will be required by parents



NORTH SOMERSET SCHOOLS ONLY

Anyone who was awarded FSMs over 2 years ago would have applied via an old system. These parents/carers will need to reapply via their North Somerset Citizen's account.



ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS THAT BENEFITS PUPILS

Pupil Premium is extra funding given to schools for every child whose family is entitled for Targeted Free School Meals. This money makes a big difference to schools and the eligible pupils. It is often used for extra resources, school trips and additional staff.

Pupil Premium will continue to be paid to schools for those pupils who have been covered by the transitional protection arrangements outlined above.

FIND OUT MORE: WWW.LSP.ORG.UK/FSM-CHANGES

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

HOW TO APPLY

Applying is quick, easy and could save you up to £495 per child, per year on school lunches



1 CHECK IF YOU COULD BE ELIGIBLE

From September 2026, more families may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM):

- TARGETED FSM - based on low household income (see benefits listed below)
- EXPANDED FSM - if you receive Universal Credit, you may be eligible



MY CHILD IS IN RECEPTION OR KS1 - DO I STILL NEED TO APPLY?

Yes, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive Universal Infant Free School Meals automatically. However, registering for Free School Meals may provide access to additional funding and support for the school and your child.



YOU COULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR FSM IF:

- Your household receives Universal Credit

OR

- You receive any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act*
- Child Tax Credit*
- Working Tax Credit*

*further details apply - [see full list here](#).

2 HOW TO APPLY - You can apply using the following methods:



APPLY ONLINE (recommended)

Apply before the end of the summer break, via your local council website:

- North Somerset Council - [apply here](#)
- BANES Council - [apply here](#)
- Bristol City Council - [apply here](#)



APPLY USING A PAPER FORM

Complete the paper application form and return it to your school office before the end of July 2026.

- You can find the [form here](#)
- Hard copies are available from the school office
- If your child is moving to a new school in September, please pass the form to the new school before the end of term

3 WHEN TO APPLY

Apply online over the summer break, or return the paper form to your school office by the end of the summer term, to ensure your paper work is processed in time for the start of September.

4 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

You will be notified of the outcome of your application.
Important to note: parents will need to reapply every year

FIND OUT MORE

Follow the QR code to find further details



FIND OUT MORE: WWW.LSP.ORG.UK/FSM-CHANGES

School Uniform for September

If you are replacing any items of uniform over the summer, please remember to check the [uniform page of our website](#) for what is required and what is allowed. Shoes and PE shorts need a careful check as these are often not the correct ones. Please do use the image here to support you in conversations with your child about shoes, in particular!

Shoe Style Guide

Acceptable styles	Unacceptable styles
  	  
  	  

A selection of summer holiday activities nearby



The poster features a blue background with pink and white abstract shapes. At the top left is an illustration of five girls in Girlguiding uniforms. At the top center is the Girlguiding logo, a stylized 'G' with a star. At the top right is an illustration of a scarecrow in a yellow coat and hat. The text 'Girlguiding Nailsea District' is centered below the logo. The main title 'SCARECROW TRAIL' is in large, bold, white letters. Below it, 'ALL AROUND NAILSEA' and '1ST-23RD AUGUST' are also in white. A QR code is on the right side. A pink wavy line separates the date from the text 'Trail maps available from the end of July:'. Below this is a list of locations: Butterfly Travel, Maynews, Moorend Spout, Nailsea Library, No 65 High Street, and Tithe Barn. To the right of this list is a pink speech bubble containing the text 'JOIN US FOR A FUN FAMILY TRAIL'. Below the list of locations is the text 'Also available to buy: From Girlguiding Leaders, July Farmers Market, August Nailsea Community Market'. At the bottom left is a Facebook logo, and at the bottom right is the text 'Girlguiding Nailsea Scarecrow Trail 2026'.

Girlguiding
Nailsea District

SCARECROW TRAIL

ALL AROUND NAILSEA
1ST-23RD AUGUST

Trail maps available from
the end of July:
Butterfly Travel
Maynews
Moorend Spout
Nailsea Library
No 65 High Street
Tithe Barn

Trail maps
cost £3 in
cash

**JOIN US FOR A
FUN FAMILY
TRAIL**

Also available to buy:
From Girlguiding Leaders
July Farmers Market
August Nailsea Community Market

 Girlguiding Nailsea Scarecrow Trail 2026

NORTH SOMERSET
TENNIS ACADEMY

SUMMER TENNIS CAMP

Just £15 Per Camp Session

15% OFF
for Siblings and
Multiple Bookings

- Fun With Friends
- Lots Of Fun
- Learn a New Skill
- From Tennis Drills to Team Events
- All Players Welcome

**Available To All Children
From 4 – 16 Years Of Age**

**From Monday
20th July – Thursday 27th August
9am – 12.30pm**

All camp sessions are held at Clevedon Seafront
Tennis Courts

For more information, contact Stuart
07593456869 – stuart@n-somersettennis.com

**To Book
Scan The
QR Code**



**Life
Cycle**



**Gordano School
August 2026
Bikeability
Level 1
Price: Free**

Bikeability Holiday Courses

Unlock your child's cycling potential!

Cycling confidence, road safety, and planning skills –
taught by Life Cycle's qualified, DBS-checked instructors.



Scan to
book

Book now!
<https://bit.ly/4p5tMn2>

Registered Charity Number: 1077575


**Active
Travel
England**

SUMMER HOLIDAY
PRIORITY FOOTBALL
FOOTBALL CAMPS

25 DAYS OF FOOTBALL DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Nailsea School | Reception - Year 8 | 9AM - 3:30PM | £25 Per Day

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Day 1 Mon 27 th July	Day 2 Plus Puma Camp Tues 28 th July	Day 3 Wed 29 th July	Day 4 Thurs 30 th July	World Cup Day Plus Puma Camp Fri 31 st July
Day 6 Mon 3 rd August	Day 7 Plus Puma Camp Tues 4 th August	Day 8 Wed 5 th August	Day 9 Thurs 6 th August	Striker Day Plus Puma Camp Fri 7 th August
Day 11 Mon 10 th August	Day 12 Plus Puma Camp Tues 11 th August	Day 13 Wed 12 th August	Day 14 Thurs 13 th August	England Day Plus Puma Camp Fri 14 th August
Day 16 Mon 17 th August	Day 17 Plus Puma Camp Tues 18 th August	Day 18 Wed 19 th August	Day 19 Thurs 20 th August	Strikers VS Goalies Day Plus Puma Camp Fri 21 st August
Day 21 Mon 24 th August	Day 22 Plus Puma Camp Tues 25 th August	Day 23 Wed 26 th August	Day 24 Thurs 27 th August	Champions T-Shirt Day Plus Puma Camp Fri 28 th August

SCAN HERE TO BOOK!!

MULTI-DAY DISCOUNTS FROM £15.60 PER DAY | 10 PUMA CAMPS THIS SUMMER! (GIRLS YEAR 3 - YEAR 8)

Book & Pay Online: www.priorityfootball.co.uk/holidaycamps
pete@priorityfootball.co.uk | 01275 261 004

Upcoming Events

Term 6

- 20 July - Creative Arts Afternoon, 3.20pm
- 20 July - Year 6 Leavers' Disco
- 21 July - WOWSA End of term sale
- 22 July - Year 6 Leavers' Service to families, 9.30am
- 22 July - Year 6 'red carpet' departure from school, 3.00pm
- 22 July - Last day of term and treat for winning house!

Term 1 2026-2027

- 3 September - INSET day (school closed to pupils)
- 4 September - INSET day (school closed to pupils)

- 7 September - children return to school

