



Shipham Church of England First School

Turnpike Road, Shipham BS25 1TX

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Newsletter No. 1

Friday 5th September 2025



Dear families,

We are delighted to welcome you all back after the summer break. A special welcome goes to our new families who are joining us this year – we are so pleased to have you as part of our school community.

This term, our school value is **RESPECT**. Over the coming weeks, we will be exploring what respect looks like in our classrooms, around school, and in the wider community. We encourage you to continue these conversations at home too, as together we help our children grow into thoughtful and respectful individuals.

We have an exciting term ahead with lots of opportunities for families to get involved in school life:

Meet the Team – an opportunity for parents in **Chestnut and Oak Classes** to meet staff, find out more about routines, and ask any questions.

Stay and Read Events – we look forward to welcoming you into school to enjoy reading together.

Safety Drills – this term we will be holding our statutory fire drills and a lockdown practice to ensure that all children are confident and prepared in the event of an emergency.

Class-led Worships – we are delighted to introduce these this year. Our first will be led by **Oak Class** on **Friday 17th October**, and all Oak family members are warmly invited to attend.

Please see the diary dates section at the end of this newsletter for full details of these events.

We are very much looking forward to an inspiring and successful term ahead. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

With warm regards,

Mrs Netto

Christian Values

Each half term we focus on a Christian Value, this term it is **Respect**

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' (Matthew 7.12)

Uniform

Just a reminder, our new uniform is ready to be purchased from Deanes of Cheddar. deaneandsons.co.uk [Shipham First](#)

Parent Communications – A Friendly Reminder

We'd like to kindly remind parents and carers of the best ways to communicate with the school.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would simply like to talk something through, the most effective way is to contact the school directly. We're always happy to help and are committed to working in partnership with you to support your child's wellbeing and learning.

While platforms such as WhatsApp or social media can be helpful for general parent-to-parent chats, they are not appropriate for discussing sensitive or school-related issues. Messages shared in these forums may not remain private and can easily be circulated more widely.

We respectfully ask all parents to take care when posting or commenting online. Please consider whether the information is accurate, necessary, and in line with the respectful and inclusive values of our school community. In some cases, sharing false or harmful information online can have legal consequences.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a positive and respectful school environment.

Dates for your diary

TERM 1	
Monday 8 th September (for 2 weeks)	Reading age assessments taking place
Tuesday 9 th September	Meet the Team: 3.30pm – 4pm Chestnut Class (Years 1 & 2) 4pm – 4.30pm Oak Class (Years 3 & 4)
Saturday 13 th September	Shipham Village Show
Monday 15 th September	School 'Lockdown' critical incident drill taking place
Friday 3 rd October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Friday 10 th October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Tuesday 14 th October	Parent consultation meetings 3.30pm – 6pm (all classes)
Thursday 16 th October	Parent consultation meetings 3.30pm – 6pm (all classes)
Friday 17 th October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Friday 17 th October	Oak Worship Assembly 1pm (Oak family members welcome)
Friday 24 th October	INSET - School closed to learners
TERM 2	
Tuesday 4 th November	Open day for prospective new families 1.30pm – 3pm
Monday 10 th November (for 2 weeks)	School-based curriculum assessments taking place
Monday 10 th November	Odd Socks Day (to kickstart Anti-Bullying Week)
Friday 21 st November	Children in Need ('wear what you like' day)
Monday 8 th December	Willow Christmas – Dress rehearsal
Tuesday 9 th December	Willow Christmas – Performance to families 2pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Chestnut & Oak Christmas – Dress rehearsal
Thursday 11 th December	Chestnut & Oak Christmas – Performance to families 6pm
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas lunch and jumper day - TBC
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas class parties

Please also use the [school calendar](#) to keep up to date with all forthcoming events and activities

Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

Term 1	4 th September – 23 rd October 2025
Term 2	3 rd November – 19 th December 2025
Term 3	5 th January – 12 th February 2026
Term 4	23 rd February – 2 nd April 2026
Term 5	20 th April – 22 nd May 2026
Term 6	1 st June – 17 th July 2026

Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

Please see the dates for next academic year on the WLT [website](#).

Future INSET Days

Friday 24 th October 2025	INSET - School closed to learners
Friday 13 th February 2026	INSET - School closed to learners
Monday 20 th July, Tuesday 21 st July and Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	INSET - School closed to learners – Time for the summer holidays!
Full term dates can be found on our WLT website .	Please note, holidays during term time cannot be authorised.

Workshops for Families

[Wise up Calendar](#)

[Parenting Groups](#)

[NSPCWT](#)

Online Safety

[Internet Matters](#) and [Google Families](#) has lots of information, advice and support for all your concerns about your child and the internet. Why not take a look.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child and would like to talk to a member of staff in private, please make an appointment:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Netto

Deputy Designated Leads: Mrs Brabbins & Mrs Mary Watt

Safeguarding Governor: Adrian Warman

WLT Safeguarding and Educational Welfare Lead: Dawn Tomkies

As parents, you can contact support agencies directly on:

Inspiring Growth Through Nature and Community

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Somerset Direct: 0300 123 2224
- (North Somerset) Care Connect: 01275 888 808



For more information, along with regular safeguarding updates, you can also visit:

<https://sometersafeguardingchildren.org.uk>



care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk