



# Shipham Church of England First School

Turnpike Road, Shipham BS25 1TX

01934 843485 [www.shiphamfirstschool.co.uk](http://www.shiphamfirstschool.co.uk)

Newsletter No. 4

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear families,

## Celebrating the European Day of Languages

This week, we proudly marked the European Day of Languages with a range of exciting activities planned by our enthusiastic language teacher, Mr Sage. The children had a fantastic time exploring different languages and cultures through games, songs and creative tasks. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the diversity of languages spoken across Europe.

## Family 'Stay and Read' Sessions – Starting Friday 3rd October

We're excited to launch our Family 'Stay and Read' sessions, starting next Friday, 3rd October. Families are warmly invited into school from 8:45am until approximately 9:00am to share a book with their child. This could be their school phonics book or a favourite storybook of choice. These sessions are a lovely way to celebrate our love of reading and enjoy a few calm and cosy moments of story time together. If you have more than one child in school, you are welcome to join them together. We hope to see many of you there.

## FOSS Film Night – Friday 3rd October (After School)

We're excited to announce our first film night of the year, happening after school on Friday 3rd October! It's a great opportunity for the children to relax with their friends and enjoy a fun movie together. More details, including the film choice, pick-up times and how to book can be found below.

## House Competition – Scarecrow Building Challenge!

Get ready for some creative fun! On the afternoon of Monday 20th October, children will work together in their house teams ([St. Andrew](#), [St. David](#), [St. George](#), and [St. Patrick](#)) for our first exciting House Competition: a Scarecrow Making Challenge!

Each team will be building a scarecrow – and we would be so grateful for any donations of hay, straw, old clothes or accessories to help bring our scarecrows to life. If these could be in house colours, even better! House team lead teachers may be in touch soon to gather supplies – thank you in advance for your support!

Thank you for your continued support in working together to achieve the very best for the children.

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)

## Wraparound Care

### 📣 **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! 💬

## FOSS Film Nights – They're Back!

Please join us for our first after school film night of the year.

### 🎟️ **Tickets Now Available! BAD GUYS 2**

Tickets are now on sale for the **Afterschool Film Club** on **Friday, 3rd October**.

👉 **Open to: Reception – Year 4 children only** (Sorry, no Pre-School places this time).

🎟️ **Tickets: £5.80** (includes booking fee & snacks!)

🕒 **Pick-up time: 5pm sharp, please**

**Purchase tickets here:**

<https://buytickets.at/friendsofshiphamschools/1862456>



## Dates for your diary

TERM 1	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Flu vaccinations for pupils
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent consultation meetings 3.30pm – 6pm (all classes)
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent consultation meetings 3.30pm – 6pm (all classes)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Oak Worship Assembly 1pm (Oak family members welcome)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harvest Service 2.30pm – all welcome!
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET - School closed to learners
TERM 2	
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Open day for prospective new families 1.30pm – 3pm
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November (for 2 weeks)	School-based curriculum assessments taking place
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Socks Day (to kickstart Anti-Bullying Week) plus a visit from the author Emily Lloyd Gale (see below for more information)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Great Athletes – Sponsored event (more details to follow)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Children in Need ('wear what you like' day)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Willow Christmas – Dress rehearsal
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Willow Christmas – Performance to families 2pm
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Chestnut & Oak Christmas – Dress rehearsal
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Chestnut & Oak Christmas – Performance to families 6pm
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch and jumper day - TBC
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> September – 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025
Term 2	3 <sup>rd</sup> November – 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Term 3	5 <sup>th</sup> January – 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Term 4	23 <sup>rd</sup> February – 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026
Term 5	20 <sup>th</sup> April – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
Term 6	1 <sup>st</sup> June – 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Somerset Term Dates – 2025 / 2026

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

## Future INSET Days

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

### Author Visit – Kindly supported by our wonderful FOSS

We are excited to announce that on Monday 10th November, our school will be visited by award-winning children's author Emily Lloyd-Gale. She is the author of 'Mighty Maurice' and 'The Moose That Saved Christmas'. These books are based around the theme of anti-bullying with an emphasis on the importance of self belief, friendship, teamwork, and love. In her session, the students will get to meet Emily, talk to her about her books, find out why she decided to become an author and take part in a Q&A. Having been bullied in school, Emily hopes to bring a little more joy into children's lives and make something good out of her bad experiences. Hopefully inspiring the next generation of writers in the process.



### Other information that may be of interest

**SHIPHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
FIRST SCHOOL**

# OPEN AFTERNOON

*Inspiring Growth Through  
Nature and Community*

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>  
November 2025**

**1.30 pm**

Turnpike Road, Shipham,  
Wincoboe BB20 1TX

- Tour the school
- Meet teachers
- Hear about our offer
- Ask questions

For more info:  
**01934 843485**

Visit us:  
**www.shiphamfirstschool.co.uk**

**Inspiring Growth Through Nature and Community**



Are you struggling with a defiant child?



### Facing Defiance

A six part online course for parents that you can complete in your own time. A step by step guide through a specific strategy aimed to support parents of children aged between 5 to 12 who are displaying very challenging behaviour, including children with ADHD, ODD and PDA.

go to [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)  
Book online £48  
on the **Online Parenting Courses** page

 <b>October Timetable</b> <small>All sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long</small> <b>£24 each or FREE with School Membership</b> <small>Book online at <a href="https://facefamilyadvice.co.uk">facefamilyadvice.co.uk</a></small> <small>Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)</small>	
Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm
Supporting A Child With ADHD	13 Oct 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 7pm
Autism Improving Communication	14 Oct 10am
Improving Family Communication	14 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Facing Defiance	20 Oct 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	21 Oct 10am
Understanding Anger	21 Oct 7pm
<b>FREE - Raising Self-Esteem</b>	<b>23 Oct 7-8pm</b>
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	27 Oct 7pm
What Is ACT?	28 Oct 10am

## 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:

- 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://somensetsafeguardingchildren.org.uk>



[care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk)