



Shipham Church of England First School

Turnpike Road, Shipham BS25 1TX

01934 843485 www.shiphamfirstschool.co.uk

Newsletter No. 5

Friday 3rd October 2025

Dear families,

It's been another busy and exciting week in school, and we're pleased to share some of the highlights with you.

Stay and Read – Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for our Stay and Read session this morning. It was lovely to see so many of you enjoying books with your children and supporting our focus on reading for pleasure. Your presence makes a real difference and helps us to foster a lifelong love of reading.

School Council – First Meeting of the Year

Our School Council met for the first time this week, and it was a very productive gathering. The children are already showing great enthusiasm and leadership. One of their first decisions was to support *Young Minds' Wear It Yellow Day* next **Friday, 10th October**. Children are encouraged to wear something yellow to school, to support this important cause focused on children's mental health.

Eco Council – Taking Action

Our Eco Council has also been busy and helped lead a powerful worship on the themes of recycling, reusing, and reducing waste. One of the key messages they'd like to promote is reducing the use of single-use plastics in lunchboxes. We kindly ask for your support in this – small changes like switching to reusable containers or avoiding cling film can make a big difference.

FOSS Film Night – Tonight!

We're looking forward to seeing many of you at **the FOSS Film Night** after school today. It promises to be a fun evening for the children. Please remember to collect your child promptly at **5:00pm**. A huge thank you to the FOSS team for organising this event.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and involvement in school life. We look forward to another great week ahead!

Mrs Netto

Parents Consultation Meetings

Details for booking a slot with your child's class teacher will be shared very soon.

Could You Be Our New School Governor (Local Partner)?

We currently have a vacancy for a new governor—known within the Wessex Learning Trust as a Local Partner—to join our supportive and dedicated local board.

This is a co-opted (voluntary) role, open to parents and members of the wider community who are passionate about education and helping children thrive. We would especially welcome interest from anyone with experience in premises management, legal work, or HR, but most importantly, we are looking for someone who is committed to supporting our schools and making a positive impact.

If you, or someone you know, might be interested in this rewarding opportunity, please do get in touch office@shiphamfirstschool.co.uk

We'd love to hear from you.



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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)

Dates for your diary

TERM 1	
Friday 10 th October	Parents 'Stay & Read' 8.45am – 9.15am
Tuesday 14 th October	Flu vaccinations for pupils
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)
Thursday 23 rd October	Harvest Service 2.30pm – all 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) plus a visit from the author Emily Lloyd Gale (see below for more information)
Friday 14 th November	Great Athletes – Sponsored event (more details to follow)
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

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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.

Other information that may be of interest



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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