



Shipham Church of England First School

Turnpike Road, Shipham BS25 1TX

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Newsletter No. 10

Friday 14th November 2025

Dear families,

It's been another busy and exciting week.

This week we kicked off Anti-Bullying Week by taking part in Odd Socks Day. The children (and staff!) proudly wore their mismatched socks to celebrate what makes each of us unique. It was a wonderful reminder that our differences are what make us special.

On Armistice Day, we came together as a school community to pay our respects and remember those who gave their lives in service. The children showed great maturity and reflection during our remembrance services, and we are very proud of them.

We were delighted to welcome author Emily Lloyd-Gale to school this week! The visit, kindly funded by our FOSS, inspired the children to think creatively and reminded us all of the joy and importance of stories. A huge thank you to Emily and to our FOSS for making this possible.

We also welcomed the charity, Trigger, to school on Thursday who led a fantastic workshop on nature and music for our youngest learners. They were enthralled!

Today, we'll be celebrating Children in Need Day. We're looking forward to a fun-filled day supporting this brilliant cause—thank you in advance for your generosity and enthusiasm!

We are so proud of all our pupils as they begin their assessments this week. These are being carried out in a fun and informal way, and the children have been taking them completely in their stride. It's been lovely to see their confidence and positive attitudes shining through.

Good wishes for the weekend, be sure to wrap up!

Mrs Netto

The importance of reading at home. A message from Mrs Brabbins –

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading with your child is one of the most valuable ways you can support their learning at home. When you take time to listen to your child read, you're not only helping them practise their reading skills — you're building their confidence, fluency, and love of stories.

Children thrive when they know that what they're reading matters to someone. Asking simple questions about the story, talking about new words, and celebrating their effort all make a huge difference.

Even just 10 minutes a day of shared reading helps develop stronger vocabulary, better comprehension, and a lifelong enjoyment of books.

Thank you for making reading a special part of your child's day — your encouragement truly helps them grow as confident, happy readers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Brabbins

Inspiring Growth Through Nature and Community

FOSS Film Night – Friday 21st November

The next FOSS Film Club event is coming soon! Join us on **Friday 21st November** for a screening of *The Wild Robot*.

Tickets are available now at:

buytickets.at/friendsofshiphamschools/1862457



Attendance Matters

Please can I remind you that term-time leave will not be authorised. Let's work together to ensure each child has a school attendance of **95%** above.

The impact of absence on learners at Shipham CofE First School

Learners are able to access their full entitlement and curriculum		Education is compromised		Managing attendance meetings required	
190 school days in each school year	10 days / 2 weeks of absence 180 school days	20 days / 4 weeks of absence 170 school days	30 days / 6 weeks / 1 term of absence 160 school days	40 days / 8 weeks of absence 150 school days	50 days / 10 weeks of absence 140 school days
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%

Christian Values

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

"My God is my strength in whom I trust." (Psalm 18:2)

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Uniform expectations

Our uniform comprises:

- white polo shirt
- grey skirt/pinafore/trousers/shorts/summer checked dress
- royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with logo)
- grey or white socks/tights
- sensible and safe shoes or sandals: These should not be trainers, boots or open-toed sandals and should be black

School uniform can be purchased direct from [Deanes of Cheddar](#). Second hand uniform, when available, can be purchased from the school or FOSS

Parents should ensure that children have outdoor clothing in school e.g. waterproof and/or warm coat, sunhat that is appropriate to the weather and time of year.

Dates for your diary

TERM 2	
Friday 28 th November	St. Andrew's celebrations and cake sale
Friday 28 th November (until 3 rd December)	Book Fair in School
Sunday 30 th November	FOSS Wreath making – SOLD OUT
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
Friday 12 th December	FOSS Film Club
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas class parties
Sunday 11 th January	FOSS Film Event in the Village Hall

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 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.




HOLIDAY CLUB

At Kings Fitness & Leisure

- 
 For ages 5-13 years
 from £23* per day
 9.00am-4.00pm.
- 
 Extend the day with early
 drop-off and late pick-up
 from £4.50 per session
- 
 Have Fun playing Christmas
 games, sports, going swimming,
 and doing festive arts and crafts!
- 
 Bring packed lunch, snacks,
 refillable drinks bottle, swimming
 kit, weather dependant items
 (sun cream, waterproofs etc).




Visit our Junior Activities Page here:

Contact Kings Fitness & Leisure at
 01934 744939 to sign up NOW!



*£23 if booked 3 weeks in advance, alternatively, £28 per day, if booked after this time frame

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.

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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://sometersafeguardingchildren.org.uk>



care.connect@n-somerset.gov.uk