



Shipham Church of England First School

Turnpike Road, Shipham BS25 1TX

01934 843485 www.shiphamfirstschool.co.uk

Newsletter No. 17

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear families,

It has been a wonderful week in school, full of learning, reflection, and excitement.

Our new inquiry curriculum topics are now well underway and are already sparking great enthusiasm across the classrooms. The children have shown fantastic curiosity, thoughtful questioning, and real engagement as they begin exploring their new lines of inquiry.

We were also delighted to enjoy a very special time of worship led by Reverend Sue. Together, we reflected on our new school value, Courage, and what it means to show bravery, kindness, and confidence in our daily lives. It was a meaningful and inspiring worship that gave everyone plenty to think about.

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who took part in filming our new school video, which we hope to use to promote our school to new families. The students from Weston College were fantastic to work with—professional, enthusiastic, and a real pleasure to welcome into school. We are very grateful to all who contributed their time and energy to this exciting project.

In addition, our wonderful **FOSS are busy planning an upcoming disco**. Tickets can be booked via the link included in this newsletter, and we are sure it will be a fantastic event for the children to enjoy. A big thank you to their most recent film event, which was a huge success. Thank you to everyone in the community for supporting us raise funds for the school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We wish everyone a very happy and relaxing weekend and look forward to welcoming you back next week.

Mrs Netto

FOSS New Year DISCO!

Our wonderful FOSS are putting on another disco on Friday 23rd January. You can buy tickets here:

<https://buytickets.at/friendsofshiphamschools/1945714>



Christian Values

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

'Be strong and courageous' (Joshua 1.9)

Inspiring Growth Through Nature and Community

Tell Us What You Think?

Your input is crucial! We're running four important surveys across our Trust schools to help us understand what matters most and enhance the overall experience for students, parents, and staff. We'd greatly appreciate your time.

03

Parent Survey

The purpose of this questionnaire is to find out what matters to you most about food at your Child's school and how satisfied you are with the service.



[CLICK HERE](#)



Wessex
Learning Trust

Dates for your diary

Term 3	
Friday 23 rd January	FOSS Disco
Tuesday 27 th January	Stay and read 8.45am-9.15am
Tuesday 3 rd February	Stay and read 8.45am-9.15am
Friday 6 th February	Number Day Mufti day / clothes with numbers / dots
Tuesday 10 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 4 th March	St David's Team Bake Sale 3.15pm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 6 th March	Whole School Trip We The Curious
Monday 9 th – 13 th March	Science Week in school
Friday 20 th – Wednesday 25 th March	Book Fair in hall
Friday 20 th March	Red Nose Day
Friday 20 th March	St Patrick's Team Bake Sale 3.15pm
Tuesday 31 st March and Wednesday 1 st April	Parent meetings
Thursday 2 nd April	Easter Service 2pm St. Leonard's Church

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.

Other information that may be of interest

Wessex Learning Trust Admission Arrangements for Somerset Schools (2027/28) Consultation

The Wessex Learning Trust are consulting on their 2027/28 admission arrangements. It is statutory to consult every 7 years or when a change is made. To view and comment on the arrangements please click here

<https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/2027-arrangements>

Our consultation will start on 1 December 2025 and end on 19 January 2026 and the final determined arrangements will be published on the Trust and our School website by 15 March 2026.

WESSEX LEARNING TRUST POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION

Poster theme about - Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI

COMPETITION RULES:

1. The design should promote Safer Internet Day on February 10th 2026
2. Poster size - A4 Portrait
3. Posters must be submitted to your school by Monday 19th January
4. Winning posters will be shared across all Wessex Learning Trust Schools



Wessex Learning Trust

On the back of your poster, we need your:
First NAME only
AGE
Name of SCHOOL

THE SPACE

Parent Club

Being a parent is HARD! Do you sometimes just want to talk to like-minded people without judgement?
Does your child experience school avoidance or have SEN? Or maybe you just need a gentle chat with someone **Attachment** stands?

New Evening Sessions
Evening sessions available by appointment only
If Monday is busy with your kids, coffee @ The Hub
Please email Yvonne Wilson@thehubparentclub.co.uk to book your spot
Monday 7th January available for booking only

We are here for YOU!
Parent Club offers a safe, welcoming space with:
☕ Hot coffee ☺ Friendly faces 🤝 Support, advice & signposting
📺 Every Wednesday 🕒 8am-10:30am

No need to book — just drop in!
Prefer to reserve a spot? Text 07940 177399
We also have activities to keep little ones occupied!

COFFEE @ THE HUB, 1-2 LOWER NORTH STREET, CHEDDAR, BS27 3HA (OPPOSITE TESCO EXPRESS)

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 games, sports, going swimming, and doing 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, alternative £24 and £25 if booked after this time frame

WEDMORE HOLIDAY CLUB

For ages 5-13 years, from £23* per day, 9.00am-4.00pm, at Wedmore First School grounds

- In the winter, have fun doing outdoor adventure activities in the forest school grounds, and enjoy our outdoor swimming pool in the summer!**
- Enjoy a jam packed day of playing games, sports, and arts and crafts!
- Bring packed lunch, snacks, refillable drinks bottle, outdoor adventure clothing, and 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, alternative £24 and £25 if booked after this time frame
**This is a seasonal, weather dependant activity



The Mid Somerset
Consortium

BACK TO SCHOOL... AS A TEACHER

*Train to Teach Primary with Mid
Somerset Consortium – Inspire the
Next Generation*

- Flexible training designed for busy parents.
- Make a real difference in children's lives.
- Start a meaningful career in your community.
- Earn while you learn with hands-on classroom experience.

Client Testimonials

'I couldn't have wished for a more supportive group of staff and fellow trainees... The MSC team have all been incredible and there is always someone there to talk to should you need it.'

— **Danni**

'The primary training course has been supportive and practical, allowing me to build confidence and develop invaluable classroom skills. Importantly, it has worked well around being a parent, allowing me to successfully balance training alongside a busy family life.'

— **Sarah**

'A real strength of the course is the opportunity for primary and secondary trainees to work together'

— **Millie**

'Placement schools are varied and well chosen, including first schools, middle schools, and primary schools. Being placed locally has helped us build strong networks across the area, which feels invaluable for future job opportunities and professional connections.'

— **Millie**

Ready to take the next step?

JOIN MSC TEACHER TRAINING TODAY!

e: office@mscitt.org.uk | w: www.mscitt.org.uk | t: 01458 449418

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