

**Head Teacher:**  
Mrs E Reynolds



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29 November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I can't believe it will be December next week with all that that brings. There is certainly starting to be plenty going on in school. Next week the Choir have a Christmas Concert at Huish Academy with the other CLP schools and there is the school Disco on Friday.

Please do remember 'Parents to share work' next week – Monday is Kite Class, Tuesday is Cygnet and Harrier Class and Wednesday is Kingfisher Class, and make sure you have signed up for Parents Evening. If you haven't pop into the office or call them to book an appointment.

This week I have really enjoyed talking to the children about this terms science learning, their enthusiasm was incredible, and they knew so many facts. We also looked at the science books as a staff and were amazed at the standard of learning. Particularly what Harrier Class had been doing, things around classification that I remember doing at Secondary school. The other thing I noticed was the beautiful handwriting and how proud the children are of their books, wanting to show and talk about particular pieces of work. I hope you enjoy sharing your child's book with them.

You will probably be aware that we put an advert out for a school cleaner a few weeks ago. As yet we have not been able to fill the post and I wanted to draw your attention to it. If you, or someone you know might be interested in this roll, please come and talk to me.

## **VACANCY – CLEANER**

**Salary SPC Grade 17 – Point 2 - £11.59 per hour**

We require a cleaner to join our friendly Village School and become part of our team. The vacancy is for 3 hours per day, Monday to Friday during term time outside school teaching hours plus 5 additional cleaning weeks during the school holidays. Applications are invited from honest, enthusiastic, flexible and self-motivated individuals to undertake and take pride in a range of cleaning duties to keep our school clean, tidy and safe for all. The successful applicant will be responsible for developing and maintaining excellent standards of cleanliness.

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## Staff Car Park

Can all parents and carers please refrain from using the staff car park unless you have been given prior permission to do so. This applies to anytime of day, the car park is in constant use which puts children at risk.

I thought I would share with you the self care Advent Calendar sent from the MHST – we will be having a go in school but thought you might want to join in as a family!

# SELF CARE ADVENT CALENDAR 2024

1 Create a December Bucket List	2 Try Christmas star breathing	3 Spend time with the people you love	4 Dance to your favourite music	5 Create winter crafts	6 Write a card for someone
7 Go on a Christmas light walk	8 Clear out old items and donate to charity	9 Try a guided meditation	10 Make time to talk to a friend	11 Try hot chocolate breathing	12 Write down 3 things you are grateful for
13 Write down or share your worries	14 Bake something tasty	15 Watch a feel good movie	16 Complete a random act of kindness	17 Smile at someone and spread some cheer	18 Do some Christmas colouring
19 Eat some chocolate (or something that is yummy)	20 Leave a happy note for someone	21 Donate to a food bank	22 Have a PJ Day and switch off from social media	23 Do something nice for yourself	24 Have a relaxing evening (if you can!)



## PTFA UPDATES

### PTFA FESTIVE EVENTS - TICKETS ON SALE NOW

**Christmas Disco** ~ Friday 6th December

**Wreath Workshop** ~ Friday 6th December

**Santa's Grotto** ~ Friday 20th December

Tickets for all of these events are ON SALE NOW! Just click the link below for full details & buy your tickets online!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/longsuttonprimary/>

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## Santa & the PTFA need your help!

Unfortunately customs won't allow Santa to bring some of his treasured items with him from the North Pole, so we've put together a little list of everything he needs for his grotto, & we'd be really grateful if you could help us find them.

- Fairy lights
- Good condition Christmas decorations
- Tinsel
- Christmas stockings

If you are able to donate or lend any of these items, or have something else that you think might be useful, please send us a message on Facebook, email [lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com](mailto:lsprimaryptfa@gmail.com) or speak to Chloe Austin in the playground. Thank you!

## Guitar Lessons

We still have spaces if any children in KS2 would like to have weekly guitar lessons. Contact the office for more information.

## The MHST (Mental Health Support Team) are offering a series of free helpful webinars this Autumn.

- Supporting your child's mental health & wellbeing
- Supporting your child's big feelings
- Understanding & supporting anxiety & low mood

Find out more & register here: <https://bit.ly/mhstwebinars2024>

## Apply now for your child's 2025 school place

Somerset parents and carers of children due to start school or move on to their next school in September 2025 are being urged to apply for their place online and on time.

Parents and carers of children due to start school for the first time or transfer to Junior or Middle School can apply for places for their children from 30 September 2024 until 15 January 2025. Please visit:

[Apply to start school for the first time \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk)

There is also information on these pages from [Somerset's SEND Local Offer](https://www.somerset.gov.uk) on Starting school or changing schools if your child has an Education Health and Care Plan: [Education, Health and Care plans and school placements \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk)

The webpage [www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions) holds a wealth of related information including a directory of schools, catchment areas and admissions policies.

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## Attendance – Unauthorised Term-Time Leave

All children have a legal right to suitable, full-time education. There is no entitlement for children to have time off from school during term-time for the purposes of a holiday, recreational or protest activity.

The School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 set out the statutory requirements for schools:

- all references to family holidays and extended leave have been removed, including the removal of the H code for approved leave,
- headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are "exceptional circumstances",
- headteachers do not have any discretion to authorise up to ten days of absence each academic year.

We expect all pupils to attend regularly. As such, any requests for term-time leave will be considered but only approved if the reasons and circumstances for that leave are exceptional and unavoidable.

[See policy for more details.](#)

## Is my child too ill for school?

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. Further guidance can be found here - [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

**Article 28** The right to education

Children and young people said:

- School is a place where we access support and other services. It's a place which supports our physical, emotional and mental health.
- Health services and schools should work together to help us with school attendance.

We are looking at improving the ways healthcare, education and other services for children and young people work together to better meet their needs:

- **We would like to hear your views on healthcare related school absence and how our services could be improved**
- If you would like to help, please scan the QR codes opposite for links to anonymously complete our surveys!

**Please share your views on health-related school absence...**

Scan for parent or carer questionnaire:

Scan for young person's questionnaire:

**RCPCH & Us** Find out more... For useful links and tips on participation on children's rights go to [www.rcpch.ac.uk/rightsmatter](http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/rightsmatter)

**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND** ARTSMARK GOLD 2014/15

## Nut free school (inc. Toy Box)

We have multiple children in school at present with a nut allergy. Please do not give your child food/snacks to bring into school containing any type of nut or nut product, e.g. Nutella and Peanut Butter. Thank you for your support.

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## Dates for the diary

Parents to Share Work – Kite Class	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> December at 3.15pm
Parents to Share Work – Cygnet Class	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> December at 3.15pm
Yr4/5/6 Badminton Tournament	Monday 02 <sup>nd</sup> December at 4pm
Parents to Share Work – Harrier Class	Tuesday 03 <sup>rd</sup> December at 3.15pm
YR 4/5/6 Trip to Numatic	Wednesday 04 <sup>th</sup> December
Parents to Share Work – Kingfisher Class	Wednesday 04 <sup>th</sup> December at 3.15pm
Parents Evening	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm - 6pm
Parents Evening	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm - 6pm
Nativity for Senior Citizens	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December
Cygnet Nativity – Matinee	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm
Kingfisher Nativity – Evening	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm
Kite Class Trip – We The Curious	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
Kingfisher Nativity – Matinee	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm
Cygnet Nativity – Evening	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm
School Christmas Lunch	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Carol Service	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm
Mufti Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December
Children’s Christmas Fair	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December at 2.15pm
Christmas Holiday	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec – Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Inset Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January
Start of Spring Term	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January

**If you have concerns about your children’s well being or mental health please contact me (Lizzie Reynolds) as the schools Senior Mental Health Lead.**

## Safeguarding (Protecting children from harm/keeping them safe)

In school we have a duty to ensure that all children are safe and protect from harm or abuse. If we have concerns about a child’s wellbeing it is our duty to look into this, talk to the family, and if need be, report it to Somerset Direct.

**If you have any concerns about your child, or another, please come and speak to me. Safeguarding is everyone’s business and cannot be ignored. Somerset Direct (0300 123 2224) or the NSPCC are useful points of contact, should you wish to share or discuss any Safeguarding concerns you have.**

**Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lizzie Reynolds).**

[SOMERSETDIRECT](http://www.somersetdirect.co.uk)

Best wishes  
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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