November Newsletter 2026

Thank you to all those parents who came to parent's evening. It is incredibly beneficial when parents work closely with the school. The children make more progress and they feel positive about coming to school. If you missed the parent's evening please speak to your child's class teacher and arrange a time to come in.

The run up to Christmas

We have lots of learning, trips and exciting things happening this half term. Please be sure to look at the dates at the bottom of the newsletter.

Oak Class and the Reception children will be going to Yeovilton Fleet Air Arm Museum. Children in Need on Friday 13th November is a non-uniform day in return for donations. The Junior Governors will also be selling Pudsey badges and wristbands.

We have the community coffee mornings, a maths enrichment day, the nativity play performed by Oak Class, a special Christmas event for Chestnut parents, Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children, Christmas tree decorating in the church, our Christmas lunch, a book fair and our end of term nativity service in the church.

All of this alongside end of term assessments and some interesting learning topics.

Attendance - our school expectations

Pupil attendance and punctuality is a key focus and priority within our school. Individual attendance will be monitored and reviewed on a bi-weekly basis. We would like to kindly remind parents that the school's expectations on individual pupil attendance is 95% and above, with the aim of having 100% pupil attendance. Should your child fall behind the school's expectations a monitoring process is triggered, and we may ask you to come into school to discuss your child's attendance with us. Should you have any questions or concerns relating to your child's attendance please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sporting Opportunities

The cross-country running has now stopped and will restart in the spring when we have lighter evenings. Our team came an impressive 8th out of nearly 30 local schools. A brilliant result when you think about us competing against very large town schools and a number of private schools. Our cricket club was a great success and Yeovil Town Football continue to run a club every Thursday after school.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of everybody. In terms of keeping children safe, please don't think 'What if I am wrong Think… 'What if I am right'. If you have any concerns about a pupil, you should report this to a member of staff immediately. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Cawley and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Firth. The school Safeguarding and Child Protection Governor is Mrs Ryall.

What will your child be learning

This is shown on the school website. Please take a look, so you are able to support your children with their learning.

Clubs for the Autumn Term

After school:

Tuesday – SATS and Treats Year 6

Craft Club for Years 3/ 4/ 5

Wednesday - Zumba – All year groups

Table Top Games – Reception, Year 1 and 2

Thursday - Film Club – All year groups

Yeovil Town Multi-Skills – Years 3/ 4/ 5/ 6

These clubs are all on the school app, where you can sign your child up.

Online Safety News

Please make sure you are monitoring your child's online activity. Following a number of incidents that have been reported nationally, it highlights the importance of keeping our children safe online. Please also read your online newsletter for up to date information.

Free Computers – Who wants a free home computer? Contact the school office as a local company are giving away computers.

Reading expectations

Children are expected to read at home five times a week, ideally daily, as this helps to develop confident and fluent readers. We would recommend 20 minutes of reading a day. Children's reading logs are checked to ensure this is taking place. Where children are not reading the required amount at home, they are invited to attend a lunchtime reading club.

There is an opportunity to buy some books at the book fair running from 25th November to 30th November. Doors will open at 3pm, so parents can pop in and buy some Christmas presents without children knowing! The children will get to view the books and make a wish list. This will then be shared with parents.

Lunches

After the February half term we are changing to a different lunch provider. Whilst our existing lunches are quite good, we have to go and collect them, which takes staff away from supporting the children for an hour every day. Our new provider will deliver the meals.

To assess the quality of the food we invited our governors and junior governors to taste test a sample menu. It was a big thumbs up from all the tasting crew.

New Member of Staff

A very warm welcome to Mrs Holly Shayler who will be joining us as a teaching assistant in Oak Class next week. Mrs Mo Wright will move to Sycamore Class from Oak. Mrs Shayler has many years of experience with children and has already completed much of the training required to be able to start with us next week.

Donation of Toys

The Junior Governors are running a second-hand toy sale at the Christmas Fair. They are looking for donations of old toys, so before you send things to the charity shop please think about donating them to school. Many thanks.

Dates for the calendar – more dates will be added as we finalise further activities!

Friday 13th November -	Children in Need non-school uniform in return for donations to this charity. The Junior Governors are also selling a limited supply of Pudsey badges, pens and wristbands for £1 each.
Tuesday 17th November -	Revd. Dan Crouch assembly
Thursday 19th November –	Community Coffee Morning
	Maths Enrichment Day for selected children
Wednesday 25th November -	Oak and Reception children to Yeovilton Fleet Air Arm Museum
Wednesday 25th November -	Book Fair – Doors open at 3pm each day – 25th November to 30th November.
Tuesday 1st December -	Assembly – Daniel England
FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER -	INSET DAY
Monday 7th December –	Oak Class nativity dress rehearsal
Tuesday 8th December –	Oak Class nativity performance at 3.15pm in the school hall
Wednesday 9th December -	Revd. Dan Crouch assembly
Friday 11th December -	Chestnut Class Trip to the garden centre
Monday 14th December –	Year 6 to decorate the tree in church
Tuesday 15th December –	Chestnut Class (reception and preschool) Christmas carols and cake – All Chestnut friends and family welcome
Wednesday 16th December -	Christmas Lunch

Thursday 17th December –	Community Coffee Morning
Friday 18th December –	Last day of term – 9.15am End of term nativity service in church – All welcome
	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children on the last day of term.