



Achieving excellence through the pursuit of good

Bathwick St. Mary Church School

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www.bathwickstmary.org

Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter Seven: March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are always thrilled when we see how the school Christian Values are lived and breathed by our children. It is a joy to witness children growing and understanding what it really means to live out **love**, **perseverance**, **joyfulness**, **respect**, **fairness** & **forgiveness**.

A few weeks ago, we learned about the important work of [Julian House](#), who support vulnerable and at-risk individuals in Bath and across the South West, including adults and young people experiencing homelessness. **Tamsin (Y3)** was inspired to support the charity and took part in the 'Big Bath Sleep-Out'. After collecting cardboard boxes and getting her sponsorship organised, she and her dad set off for Alice Park with 96 other Bath residents. She slept out overnight – throughout all the rain and even



snow, showing amazing character and perseverance throughout! In doing so, Tasmin serves as an



inspiration to us all, and raised an incredible £600 for Julian House. We are all so proud of her achievement especially in such testing weather conditions!

Congratulations to Clark!

Clark (Y6) entered an art competition held by the Royal Commonwealth



Society Bath and his artwork has been selected to be exhibited in the 'Moon Gazers and Star Finders' exhibition at 44AD gallery in Bath. Winners are announced on 8th March and then it will be open to the public between 9-16th March. If you would like to view Clark's brilliant art work, please [find details here](#).

Welcome to new children

A very warm welcome to Linshen in Reception. We hope you will be very happy here!

Welcome back to Mrs McHugh

A special welcome back to Mrs Ellie McHugh who returned to her class teaching role after maternity leave. Mrs McHugh is teaching Year 3 Monday to Wednesday, and Mr Wooding on part of Wednesday, and all day Thursday and Friday.

World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character!

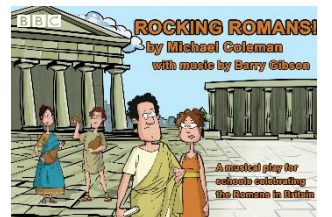
A reminder that we are celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 7th March**. Thank you to Miss Bowman and Mrs Turner who have organised several exciting events coming up around World Book Day.



The **Scholastic Book Fair** will take place on **Thursday 14th, Friday 15th and Monday 18th March, from 3.20-4.00 each day in the Wheatley Room**. All books sold earn rewards for the school, enabling us to buy new books. We look forward to seeing you there!

'Rocking Romans'!

We are looking forward to the Year 3 and 4 production of 'Rocking Romans' at the end of this month. The performing arts are a key part of our curriculum offer and we plan to give each child, every year, the chance to star on stage and perform to a live audience. The show dates and times are Monday 25th March, 1.45 p.m. and Tuesday 26th March, 9.15 a.m.



PTA events coming up...

Thanks to the PTA team for organising the legendary DJ Infinity to return for the discos on Friday 8th March. The Infant disco is 3.30-4.30pm and Junior 4.45-5.45pm. Tickets cost £6.00, available NOW on Parent Pay, to be purchased by Wednesday 6th March. The ticket price covers entrance to the disco, a snack and a drink. Please see the email sent on 27th February for full details.



Perseverance & passion for football and swimming teams!

We are proud of Freddie, George, Joe, Leo B, Leo S, Leonard, Luca and Oliver who played a friendly against St. Stephens Church School in February. Thanks to Ben



Jenkins, Y6 parent and Co-Chair of Governors who kindly coached beforehand and accompanied them at the match in Lansdown. **Equally well done** to all children who participated in the swimming gala in February - Y6: Constance, Ella, Freddie, George, Jacob,



Leo, Sophie L, Sophie O; Y5: Daniel, Isabella L, Keri, Layla, Lizzie, Luke, Lyra, Poppy, Sky; Y4: Fred, Ruben. Children in both these events gave their all and demonstrated great perseverance, teamwork and attitude!

Smartphone free childhood?

Parents and carers may be interested in a movement which is gaining momentum. We know the value of online technology, but recognise it can be a minefield in keeping children safe and the impact it can have on wellbeing. The aim of 'Smartphone free childhood' is to reduce peer pressure that sees 97% of children aged 12 owning smartphones. They hope to connect local communities to share a commitment not to give children smartphones until they're at least 14, and not to be on social media until 16. [Here's the link](#) if you would like to find out more.

Comic Relief: Red (Nose) Day

Comic Relief supports incredible projects and organisations that are making a difference for people across the UK and around the world. **This year, we are inviting all children to dress up in a 'comic' way on Friday 15th March.** You could wear a completely **red outfit**, wear **something** that will share a laugh with your class, wear a (recyclable) **red nose**, dress up as a **comic superhero**... We don't mind! Just be as creative as you like and if you would like to please bring in a donation to support this charity on Friday 15th March. There will be **red buckets** in the playground for any donations.

96% sounds impressive, right?

Our current whole school attendance figure for the academic year so far is 96%. Whilst this may sound impressive, **that missing 4% actually equates to over 900 missed school days since September.** Children make progress in their learning when they know more, remember more and are able to do more. Our carefully sequenced curriculum is built around this pedagogy – and this is one of the key reasons why school attendance matters so much. **Congratulations to Years 1, 2 and 3 who had 100% attendance** (which includes authorised absence) for the month of February. A polite reminder to also request medical absences in advance where possible – thank you.

Important safeguarding updates

Next week, a new door entry system will be installed on the main school entrance doors to enhance site security. While this works takes place, there may be a delay in speaking with office staff – please bear with us. Once the work is complete, expect to find a new video call entry system on the main school doors.

Two key illness reminders

- If your child is unwell, please give brief details about their illness and not just state 'unwell' in an email or phone message, as we are obliged to keep a record.
- Please contact school every day of an illness to inform us if your child is unwell, apart from physical sickness or diarrhoea due to the 48 hour rule.

Wraparound bookings

A reminder to double check your child has been booked into wraparound by viewing the Wraparound Calendar on iPAL. This will show you all your confirmed bookings.

Safer routes to schools and through-traffic restriction

The 'Safer Routes to School' working party met in January 2024 and discussed the school's travel plan and aims of the working party. We also discussed the new liveable neighbourhood scheme proposed for Sydney Road which may impact how you are able to travel to school, the number of cars on the A36, and the crossing on the main road by Sydney Road itself.

For more information please see the attached letter from B&NES with this newsletter.

Keeping clubs safe

We lock the school playground gates as close to 3.30 p.m. as possible to enable the many after school clubs to start on time. Unless there are specific events such as uniform or other after school sales, please support us by vacating the playground quickly after you've collected your child or children – thank you.

Your voice counts – please share your views

At Bathwick St. Mary, we seek to be the best we can be across all aspects of your child's education. We are seeking feedback specifically on how we engage with and communicate with our parents and carers. Please kindly take a little time to respond to this questionnaire that will help us shape what we can offer in terms of our communication and engagement with our school community. **The [questionnaire is here](#) and will remain live until Friday.** Thank you.

Easter Service – Thursday 28th March

We look forward to our Easter Service at St. Mary's, Bathwick on Thursday 28th. Please do join us for 1:30pm. All children take part in the Service, so please collect your child from the Church at the end (around 2.30 p.m.) If you are unable to collect your child, we will take children back to school for the usual end of the day collection. **There is no Wraparound Care or any clubs that evening.**

Important safety notice

We have children in school who have **life-threatening allergies**. We take all our children's safety extremely seriously and as such **the following foods and foods containing these ingredients are banned from the school site** (this includes bringing snacks after school for your children or during clubs time):

- ⊘ **Sesame seeds and food containing sesame** (sesame can be found on or in a variety of food, including on rolls, bread, oil, hummus)
- ⊘ **Nuts and food containing nuts**
 - ✗ All 'Tree nuts' - this includes cashew, hazelnuts, almonds, walnuts, pistachio, macadamia, pecan and Brazil nuts
 - ✗ Peanuts and chestnuts
 - ✗ Pine nuts and Pesto

Some food packing uses wording such as, 'This product has been produced in a factory that handles nuts and/or sesame' or 'May contain nuts and/or sesame'. We only ban foods that state nuts or sesame in the ingredient list.



Please see below for the 2023/2024 Calendar AND the new **2024/2025 Bathwick St. Mary Calendar** on the final page. A reminder – do not book ANY holiday during term time. Thank you!

Rainbow Resource Scheme

If you are a parent of a child with special educational needs or a disability then you are able to access the BANES Rainbow Resource Scheme which may entitle you to access an existing concession on offer at venues across B&NES and the wider area. Eligibility criteria, how to apply and a full list of venues in B&NES that support the scheme are [available here](#).

And finally...

A quick reminder to complete the parent and carer questionnaire. As ever, please do stop me in the playground or make contact to share ideas, concerns or questions. Bathwick is a great school, but there are always things we can do to improve and develop – and I am always willing to hear your ideas and comments. It is by working in positive partnership that our children will continue to thrive!

With best wishes, Kevin Purkiss, Headteacher

Term 4 Dates for the Diary	
March 2024	
7	World Book Day
8	Y2 trip to Mr B's Reading Emporium of Delights PTA Discos
11	11-15 Science Week 11-14 New door entry system installed
12	TUESDAY - OWL Year R
14	Book Fair – Wheatley Room 3.20-4.00 p.m.
15	Book Fair – Wheatley Room 3.20-4.00 p.m. Comic Relief – Non Uniform
18	Y2 to Assembly Rooms 'Hear My Voice' Festival Book Fair – Wheatley Room 3.20-4.00 p.m.
19	Class Photos Day Dean Field Y5 meeting 3.30 in classroom
20	Choir to Bridgecare Residential – Easter Service Girls Football match after school @ Meadows Pri.
22	Rocking Romans Y3/4 Dress Rehearsal Year 2 PTA Cake Sale and Uniform Sale
25	Rocking Romans Y3/4 1.45 p.m.
26	Rocking Romans Y3/4 9.15 a.m. Dance Umbrella @ The Forum
28	Easter Service, St. Mary's Church, 1.30 p.m.

Save the date(s)

In addition to the dates above, here are some key events in the year ahead:

- 24th – 26th **April**, Year 5 to Deanfield
- 3rd - 7th **June**, Year 6 to Isle of Wight
- 19th - 21st **June**, Year 4 to Magdalen Farm
- 12th **July** – Year 6 Show (evening)
- Thursday 18th **July**, Leavers' Service, 1.30 pm.

You may also be interested in...



Easter Pop Up

April 1st - 12th

Pop Up fun and fitness for children and young people with disabilities!



Venturers Academy, Hareclive Road,
Withywood, BS13 9JW

Gympanzees sessions are for children and young people (0-25 years) with sensory, physical, learning difficulties, SEN and any mild to profound disability.

You do not need a diagnosis to use Gympanzees.

Visit gympanzees.org to book
Or scan the QR code




Charity No 1189375



23 - 24 MARCH 2024

FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL



Make your own Cress Head

KIDS GO FREE!

- British Cheese Awards
- Farmhouse Tavern
- Farmhouse Kitchen - Featuring Celebrity Chefs and Food & Drink Pairings
- Over 100 Trade Stands
- Kids Zone
- Roaming Entertainment
- Great Food & Drink from the South West

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW

Featuring the British Cheese Awards

bathandwest.com/tickets

2024

15 & under



EARLY BOOKING OFFER NOW ON!

GET SET FOR ULTIMATE HOLIDAY FUN!



FRESH AIR FUN

OSTED REGISTERED

INSPIRING CHILDREN'S PLAY

FLEXIBLE BOOKINGS

Outstanding holiday camps for 4 to 14 year olds from 8 am to 6 pm throughout the school Easter & summer holidays at

PRIOR PARK COLLEGE IN BATH

ULTIMATEACTIVITY.CO.UK

NEXT THING EDUCATION CAMPS PRESENTS

Easter 2024

Coding

Learning

Inventing

TECH HOLIDAY CAMP



Ofsted Registered

EASTER CAMPS 2024
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 5 - 11
25TH MARCH - 12TH APRIL 2024
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE



Scan me

www.nextthing.education

HAF PLACES AVAILABLE

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

Ages 4-12
9:00am - 4:00pm
2nd, 3rd, 4th April
9th, 10th, 11th, April

£17.50 per day
OR
£45 for all three days in same week

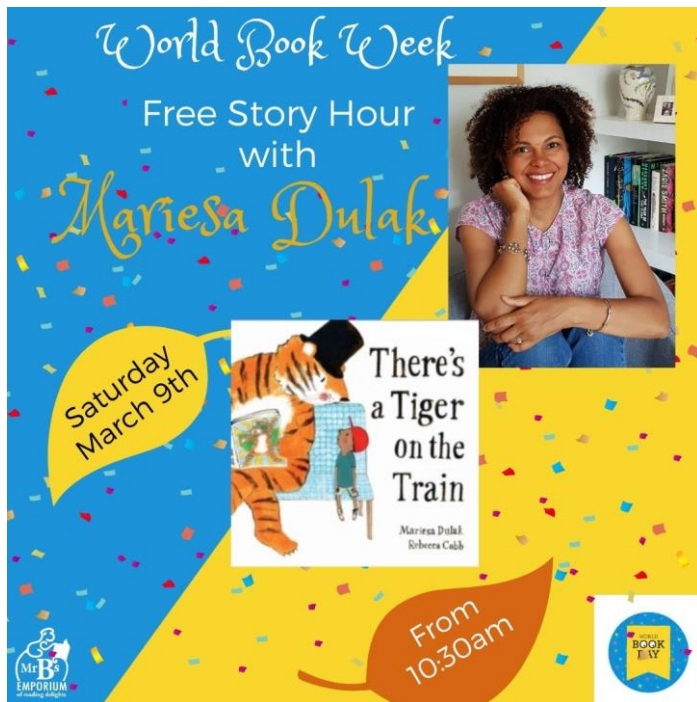
Bathampton Primary School
1896 Tynning Rd
Bathampton
BA2 6TQ

To book please visit
Bookwhen.com/nextgenerationcoaching

N.G.C
NEXT GENERATION COACHING



Next Generation Coaching | @nextgcoaching | nextgcoaching@gmail.com



Bath Rugby is extending an offer to our community, particularly families and children, to enjoy live rugby at The Recreation Ground this March.

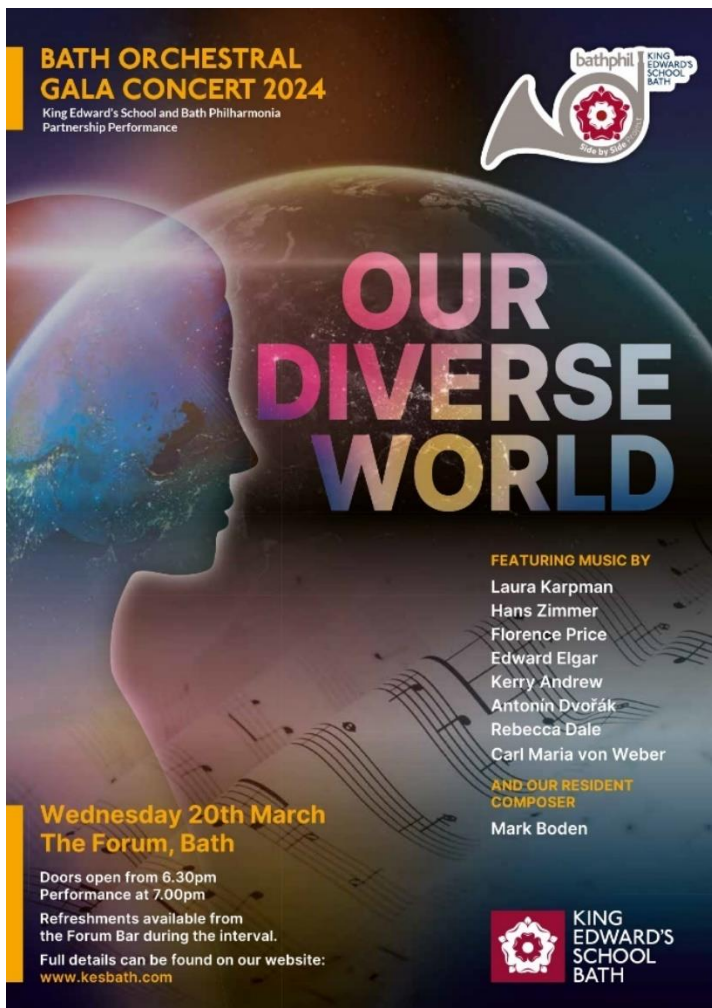
We are excited to offer junior tickets for just £5, adult tickets from £5, as well as a discounted family package. We would be extremely grateful if you could share details within your networks and among parents.

The first match, a highly anticipated encounter against West Country rivals Gloucester, will take place on 9th March at 2.30pm. The following week, on St Patrick's weekend, Bath Rugby will face Irish and European giants Leinster Rugby on Friday 15th March at 7:15pm.

Tickets can be purchased at: <http://bit.ly/3I6sIL7>

If you have any queries please let us know. We look forward to welcoming members of your school community to The Rec!

Kind regards, Bath Rugby Community Team



KES Bath Orchestral Gala Concert entitled *Our Diverse World* at The Forum, Bath on **Wednesday 20th March, 2024**, in partnership with Bath Philharmonia. Doors open at 6.30pm. Concert starts at 7.00pm, with the event expected to finish at 9.30pm (including interval).

Free tickets are available on a first-come-first-served basis. We have some reserved seating for your school in the front rows of the Circle at the Forum (**up to 6 free tickets per family/group**). Please follow the booking instructions below:

Special discount for primary school families:

- Access Bath Box Office via bathboxoffice.org.uk/whats-on/kes-bath-phil-gala-concert-2024 then after clicking **BOOK NOW**, this takes you to the Dates and Times webpage.
 - Now enter the code **KESOFFER** in the **APPLY CODE** box provided, then click the purple **BOOK NOW** button.
 - On the next page, you will see the seating plan of The Forum.
 - In the Circle, the front half will now show **orange stars**. **These are the seats you can book with your offer.**
 - Discount will apply at checkout.
- If you have any queries whilst making your booking, please contact the Bath Box Office directly on 01225 463362 / info@bathboxoffice.org.uk

Relate – the UK’s most trusted provider of relationship support
£20 off initial session - or £20 donation to your school - quote “School”

We know that parenting can put a strain on adult relationships. We're here to help. Whether you're facing difficulties, looking to strengthen your relationship, or want help talking things through.

Whatever your circumstances, whatever your background, no matter how big or small the issues. Whether you're in a relationship, straight or gay, young or old.

Relate Avon offers adult relationship counselling: either online at your convenience or face-to-face from our premises in Bath or Bristol.

Adult Relationship Counselling

www.relate-avon.org.uk / enquiries@relate-avon.org.uk
 21 Milsom Street, Bath BA1 1DE, tel: 01225 465593



Relate
 Avon

U16’s FREE ENTRY TO BATH CITY FC VOUCHER WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT TO CELEBRATE HER GAME TOO

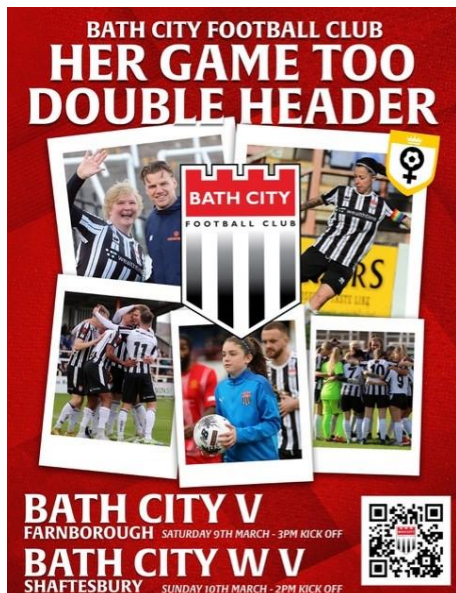
To celebrate International Women’s Day and to launch a new partnership with Her Game Too, Bath City FC are warmly inviting daughters, sisters, wives, mums, aunts, grandmas and nieces to Twerton Park on the 9th March for the Men’s first team fixture against Farnborough and / or the 10th March for the Women’s First team match against Shaftesbury.

With free entry for all children under 16 when accompanied by a full paying adult, there will be plenty going on for all the family including an ice cream van, penalty shoot-out in Charlie’s, face-painting, Design-A-Kit competition and flag waving on the pitch for under 12s.

The Romans will be accompanied onto the pitch just before 3pm KO on Saturday by an all-female team of Mascots from Bath City Youth Girls U12s team, there will be a penalty shootout on the pitch at half time with players from the Women’s first team and the club is expecting a very special visit from Somerset FA’s mascot Blaze.

Sunday will then see Bath City Women’s First team take on Shaftesbury at Twerton Park. With free entry for all, what better way to spend Mother’s Day than cheering on from the terraces in the final BCFC women’s fixture of the season. Kick off at 2pm.

Her Game Too is an award winning campaign that was started in 2021 and aims to create a safe and inclusive environment for all female supporters, where they feel empowered to engage with the game and are treated with respect both on and off the pitch. They aim to promote the visibility of women’s football and encourage its growth through championing the women’s game and supporting grassroots girls’ football development.



Easter Discovery Day at Royal High Prep School. On **Saturday 16 March** we are delighted to be holding an Easter-themed morning at our school in Lower Weston. There is **no charge** for this event but *places are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis*. If you are interested to read more about it, the link to the event is on our website is below.

16 March – Easter Discovery Day for boys and girls aged 6-11
[Easter Discovery Day | 16 March 2024 - Royal High School Bath \(gdst.net\)](https://www.gdst.net)

Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2023-2024

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2023						SEPTEMBER 2023					OCTOBER 2023							
M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25	M		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	T		3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	W		4	11	18	25	
TH	3	10	17	24	31	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25	F	1	8	15	22	29	F		6	13	20	27		
S	5	12	19	26	S	2	9	16	23	30	S		7	14	21	28		
SU	6	13	20	27	SU	3	10	17	24	SU	1	8	15	22	29			
NOVEMBER 2023						DECEMBER 2023					JANUARY 2024							
M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	31
TH	2	9	16	23	30	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		4	11	18	25	
F	3	10	17	24	F	1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26		
S	4	11	18	25	S	2	9	16	23	30	S		6	13	20	27		
SU	5	12	19	26	SU	3	10	17	24	31	SU	1	7	14	21	28		
FEBRUARY 2024						MARCH 2024					APRIL 2024							
M		5	12	19	26	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29
T		6	13	20	27	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	30
W		7	14	21	28	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	
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MAY 2024						JUNE 2024					JULY 2024							
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School Term Dates:	
Holiday Dates:	(Children not in school)
Inset Days:	(Children not in school)
Bank holidays:	(Children not in school)

The 24/25 academic year begins on Monday 02 September 2024.

Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2024-2025

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2024						SEPTEMBER 2024						OCTOBER 2024						
M			5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28
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TH		7	14	21	28		TH	5	12	19	26		TH	2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29		F	6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30		S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25	
SU	3	10	17	24	1		SU	8	15	22	29		SU	5	12	19	26	
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F		7	14	21	28		F	7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25	
S	1	8	15	22	1		S	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26	
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F	2	9	16	23	30		F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	1
S	3	10	17	24	31		S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	2
SU	4	11	18	25	1		SU	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27	3

School Term Dates:		
Holiday Dates:		(Children not in school)
Inset Days:		(Children not in school)
Bank holidays:		(Children not in school)

The 25/26 academic year begins on Monday 1st September 2025.