



# St. Andrew's Newsletter 01 25-26

No: 01 || Thursday 11th September 2025



**National Nurturing**  
School Award  
2025

## Christian Value



This term's Christian value is Generosity. Please see this term's Values newsletter for more details.

## St Andrew's Primary School



Dear Parents and carers,

Firstly, welcome back to everyone! Whether you are returning after the summer break or joining us for the first time you are all very welcome. Mrs Dyson has been making home visits to our Robin crew and their family/carers this week and we look forward to welcoming Robin pupils next week.

We would also like to warmly welcome Mrs Stevens to our Y6 teaching team job sharing with Mr Quinton for Eagle crew. Mrs Caldwell has been appointed as Falcon's class teacher, Miss Slee for Jays and Mr Collins for Kestrel crew.

In addition, we have a number of newly appointed Learning Partners that have started with us this week: Mrs White and Mrs Davies. We also have a newly appointed member of our office

team – Mrs Lewis. I am sure they will become familiar faces over the next few weeks of the academic term.

It has been wonderful watching the children coming back to school and developing new relationships with the adults in their classrooms. It has been a real pleasure to see the children excited in their learning and equally excited to be together again. We understand that for some children the start of a new year can be overwhelming but hopefully everyone is beginning to adjust now. If your child is struggling, please do not hesitate to contact their teacher or our Pastoral Leader, Mrs Mayo.

As you can imagine at the start of the school year there is lots of school “housekeeping” for new parents and reminders for existing parents re school procedures. Hopefully all of the information in the remaining newsletter is supportive. As always, we have an open door policy and so please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher(s) via email or at pick up in the first instance, if there is anything you need clarifying further.

Fran Martin

## **Contact Data and Consent**

If you have any changes to your emergency contacts, address or contact details please let us know as soon as possible so we can ensure our system is up to date. Please also remember that you can review and change your preferences for areas of consent at any time. Just get in touch with the office and we can help.

## **Privacy Notices and Data Protection Policy**

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing ‘privacy notices’ to individuals where we are processing their personal data. Privacy notices have been circulated to all parents previously but please remember if you would ever like a copy then either call into the school office or refer to the information within the Policies section on the school website. This privacy notice explains how we collect, store and use personal data about pupils. Please also refer to school website to read all our policies including Data Protection Policy.

## **Walking home from school**

It is school policy that only children in Year 5 and 6 can walk home on their own if we have parent's permission in writing. If you provided us with such a permission last year, we assume that you are still happy for your child to walk home on their own this year. Please let the office know if anything has changed.

## **Medical Matters**

If your child requires medication in school at any time please ask for a 'Request for School to Administer Medication' form to be sent home/emailed from the office. Any medicine will need to be handed into the office. We cannot administer medicine without having received this form. Please can any medical or dental appointments be made after school or during the school holidays. We do appreciate that this is not always possible, especially with hospital appointments.

## **Inhalers**

Please can we gently remind you that it is the parent's responsibility to check that any inhalers held in school are in date. All inhalers sent in to school must be in their original box and clearly labelled with the dosage. Thank you.

## **Break time snacks**

Please can we remind parents that children should only be bringing in a piece of fresh fruit or some dried fruit for their break time snack. Cereal bars, fruit bars (including fruit winders) or fruit covered in yoghurt etc. are not allowed.

## **Newsletters**

Newsletters are published every other Thursday. It is e-mailed out and is also available to view on our website.

## **Backpacks**

Unfortunately, we do not have the room to store these during the school day so would ask that they come into school with the minimum amount of luggage possible!

## Transfer to Secondary School in September 2026



Please find below information from North Somerset Council in regards to applications for places in secondary school. This information is meant for Y6 pupils as well as to Y5 pupils with an agreed delay, as they will also need to get permission to continue the delay with their preferred secondary school.

Your child is due to transfer to secondary school in Year 7 in September 2026.

Applications open by **12 September 2025** and close at **11:59pm** on the National Closing Date, **31 October 2025**. Please ensure we receive your completed application before the closing date.

Any applications that are received before the closing date have a higher chance of being offered a place at their preference schools than those received late. This is due to the fact that schools are often full after the first round of allocations.

**Before you complete your application form, please read the Parents' Guide**, which will be available by 12 September at: <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/schooladmissions/apply-school-place>. The guide details the oversubscription criteria for each North Somerset school, dates of further allocation rounds and information you will find necessary in order to complete your application.

You can submit your application on our online application service which is available at: <https://nsomerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/school-admissions/apply-school-place/submit-yourapplication-school-place>. A guide on how to apply for a school place is also available on this website.

The online application service is secure, and you will receive an e-mail receipt once your application has been submitted. If you have previously registered on the online service, you can login using your existing e-mail address and password. Make sure that all details listed under 'My Account' are up to date, if you have moved address since you last made an application, update the address for you and your child(ren).

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*Please ensure we receive your completed application before the closing date.*

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Alternatively, you can submit a paper application form, which will be available on the same website as above.

You can name up to three preferences on your application form, the schools can be inside or outside North Somerset. Using all three preferences will not reduce the chance of being offered a place at your first preference school. For more information, please read the Parent Guide referenced above.

Although most secondary schools in North Somerset operate with Catchment Areas, living in a Catchment Area will not guarantee you a place at a particular school. It will, however, give you a priority over children who do not live in the Catchment Area. To find out which Catchment Area your home address is in, please go to: [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/secondaryschoolfga](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/secondaryschoolfga).

Outcomes for on time applications will be available on 2 March 2026.

- If you applied online you will receive an email with your outcome.
- If you applied using a paper form (by post or by emailing a Word version of the application form to us) and included an email address you will receive an email with your outcome.
- If you applied using a paper form (by post or by emailing a Word version of the application form to us) and did not include an email address an outcome letter will be posted to you on 2 March by second class post and could take several days to be delivered.

Please check schools' websites for the details of open days/evenings.

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please check our website and the parent guide before contacting the School Admissions Team.

Yours sincerely

**School Admissions Officers**

School Admissions Team

North Somerset Council

# Churchill Academy Open Evening



Kindness • Curiosity • Determination  
[www.churchill-academy.org](http://www.churchill-academy.org)

## Open Evening - Wednesday 24th September

We invite you to our Open Evening, where you can tour the site, hear from the Headteacher and speak to staff members about subjects, the transition from primary school to the Academy, and ask any other questions you may have.

Follow the link or scan the QR code below for event details and ticket booking:  
<https://churchill-academy-openevening-2025.eventbrite.co.uk>



## Open Mornings

We are also holding **Open Mornings on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> September and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October from 9 am - 12 pm** for anyone who would like to see how the Academy operates during a normal school day. For details about the Open Morning and to book tickets, scan the QR code below or visit the below website:  
<https://churchillacademy-openmornings.eventbrite.co.uk>



## Open Evening 2025

Wednesday 24th September 2025  
5 pm - 8 pm

Scan the QR code or visit the website address below for event details and ticket booking.

<https://churchill-academy-openevening-2025.eventbrite.co.uk>



# Backwell School Open Evening

# BACKWELL SCHOOL OPEN EVENING



**THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2025**

5.00pm to 7.30pm

**Headteacher Presentation 5pm Visit subject areas 5.15pm - 7pm  
Headteacher Presentation 7pm**



*The education provided has been outstanding, and we are deeply impressed by the breadth of the curriculum, the level of academic challenge, and the wide range of enriching extracurricular activities available. It is truly remarkable.  
(Year 7 Parent 2025)*



*Pupils enjoy attending Backwell School. They feel safe and have trusted adults who they know will help them if they are experiencing difficulties.*

*The school provides a vast array of opportunities for pupils to develop their talents and interests.*



## SCHOOL TOURS

Tours during the school day will run from Monday 22 September.

Online booking for a tour of the school will be available during the open evening and via the school website (from 10.00am on Friday 19 September).

**Visit [www.backwellschool.net](http://www.backwellschool.net) to find out more!  
Backwell School, Station Road, Backwell, BS48 3BX**

## Flu Immunisation -16th September 2025

Sirona Health Team are offering your child (Reception to Year 11) a free flu vaccine at school this autumn.

**Please complete the consent form as soon as possible:**

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2025/consent?v=4>

Flu can be an unpleasant illness and some people can get very unwell; some children even end up in hospital because of flu.

### **Why get the vaccine?**

The flu vaccine helps protect your child and your family from getting flu, reduces the spread of the virus in winter, and keeps them in school learning.

### **How is the vaccine given?**

The flu vaccine is usually given using a quick and easy nasal spray, this is the best flu vaccine for children. If your child cannot have the nasal spray due to the porcine gelatine content or for medical reasons, you can consent for your child to have an injection instead. If we cannot offer the injection at your child's school, you will be able to book a clinic appointment.

### **Are there any side effects?**

Most children do not have any side effects after the vaccine; however some might get a blocked or runny nose, lose their appetite, feel tired or get a headache, this will not last long.

### **Important deadlines:**

- The consent system closes 2 working days before the vaccination session at school.
- If you complete your form after the deadline we may not be able to see your child at the school session

### **No internet access?**

If you can't access the internet, ask your child's school for a paper consent form, or call us for help on 0300 1245515.

### **What if I do not want my child to receive the vaccine?**

Please complete the form to let us know

***Your child's school will tell you the date of the vaccination session.***

**What if my child misses the session?**

Catch-up clinics will be available for children who miss the school session. Your child's school will send information about these clinics after the school session.

**Want to learn more?**

[Flu vaccination for children: leaflets and posters - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

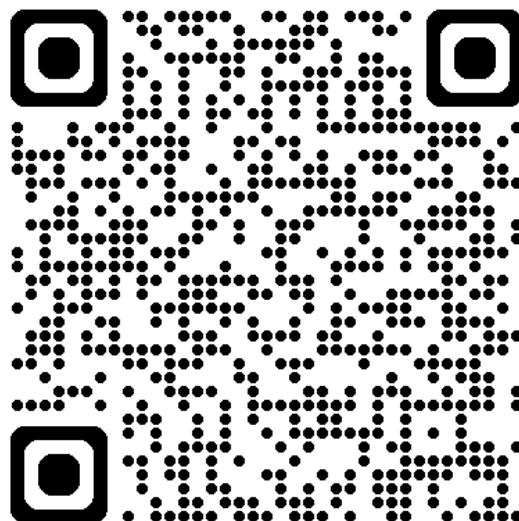
**Questions?**

Contact the School Immunisation Team: 0300 124 5515 or email [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net)

Yours faithfully,

Karen Evans

Head of Specialist Services for Children and Sirona Integrated Immunisation Services



## Scan the QR code above to give consent for the Autumn/ Winter 2025 school Flu programme

- For children in Reception – Year 11 in September 2025 (all children in SEND schools)
- Any questions Please contact [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net) or 0300 1245515

Service provided by



## Free Schools Meals – September 2025 – you might be eligible for a £100 voucher

As you are probably aware, all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free hot school lunch. This initiative was introduced by the Government in 2014 and aims to ensure that all children can benefit from a hot meal at lunchtime.

However, we would just like to point out the importance of still registering for free school meals because of your income or personal circumstances. Children may be eligible for a free school meal, if parents are in receipt of one or more of these benefits:

- Income support
- Child tax credit (provided your annual income does not exceed certain amount)
- Income based Job seeker's allowance
- Income related Employment support allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you believe that you are entitled to claim for a free school meal because you are in receipt of one or more of the above benefits, it is **essential** that you still apply for this benefit.

This is important because Pupil Premium funding to schools is relevant to the number of pupils who are entitled to receive free school meals. If parents who receive such benefits do not apply for free school meals, then the school will not receive the maximum funding to re-invest into the education of your child.

Additionally, if you are not currently entitled but your circumstances change, it is really important that you still submit an application. Please call into the office and speak to one of the team, who will be pleased to help you with any questions you may have.

To apply please use this link: [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) and read the guidance. You will need to apply through your Citizen's Account (which is the same as the one used for School Admissions applications). You will need to have your NI number ready.

If parents already have an Entitled result for their child via their Free School Meals North Somerset Citizen's account (the system the local authority have been using for the past 18 months) then their entitled result will show onscreen and the system won't let them submit a new application – as no further applications are required.

If you apply and North Somerset Council **confirms** your eligibility **before 21st September 2025** you might be receiving a **£100 food voucher per child funded by DWP**.

The vouchers are only for those parents on benefits based Free School Meals, and not Universal Infant Free School Meals.

If you have any queries, please contact the local authority on email address: [FSM@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:FSM@n-somerset.gov.uk)

There will be no further vouchers for the remainder of the financial year.

## North Somerset Holiday Activities & Food



Holiday, Activities and Food Programme  
Strategy & Policy Team – Town Hall – Weston-super-Mare – BS23 1UJ

[Holiday, activities and food \(HAF\) programme | North Somerset Council \(n-somerset.gov.uk\)](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/holiday-activities-and-food)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are getting ready for the festive Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, which provides free holiday activities (including a meal) for children who are eligible.

To make sure your child doesn't miss out, we want to remind you about free school meals and how they link to HAF:

- **Universal Infant Free School Meals** – All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically receive free school meals. However, this does not mean they are eligible for HAF.
- **Benefits-Related Free School Meals** – If you receive certain benefits, your child may qualify for free school meals. This is the scheme that gives access to HAF activities.

👉 If you think you may be eligible, please apply for benefits-related free school meals as soon as possible. You can find more information and apply here: [Free school meals | North Somerset Council](#)

Children who are entitled to benefits-related free school meals can take part in HAF activities during **Easter, Summer, and Christmas (Winter) holidays**. Please note **there are no HAF activities running during October and February half term**.

Bookings for Christmas HAF activities will open on **Friday 7 November 2025**. You'll be able to book here: [Eegu · After school. In place of school. Beyond school.](#)

Thank you for taking the time to apply — it really helps us make sure that as many children as possible can benefit from these fantastic opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact the HAF team at [HAF@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@n-somerset.gov.uk) and they will be happy to help.

Kind regards,

Thank you so much for your continued support in helping us reach the families who will benefit most.

Kind regards

The HAF Team

## Attendance for this academic year so far

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
98.85%	97.92%	99.60%	97.50%	95.17%	96.51%	98.00%

## Community News



West of England  
**MUSIC  
& ARTS**

# DISCOVERY DAYS

**at WEMA Music Centres**

Our free-of-charge Discovery Days take place each term and are the perfect chance to try out our Music Centres, meet new friends, and experience the fun of playing in an ensemble. Bring your enthusiasm and see where music can take you!

Ensembles available for a wide variety of instruments, ages and playing levels.



Sign up using the QR code or  
visit [wema.org.uk/discoveryday](https://wema.org.uk/discoveryday)



### **A Reminder from Congresbury Parish Council**

This is a polite reminder from Congresbury Parish Council that the Old School Rooms car park is for the paying users of the Old School Rooms, Parish Council Staff and those visiting/volunteering at the library. It is not for use by the general public. Thank you for understanding.

## School Calendar Dates

### **Term Dates 2025 - 2026**

Term 1 - Tuesday 02 September 2025 to Friday 24 October 2025

Term 2 - Monday 03 November 2025 to Friday 19 December

Term 3 - Monday 05 January 2026 to Friday 13 February 2026

Term 4 - Monday 23 February 2026 to Thursday 02 April 2026

Term 5 - Monday 20 April 2026 to Friday 22 May 2026

Term 6 - Monday 01 June 2026 to Wednesday 22 July 2026

### **INSET days 2025 – 2026**

Tuesday 02 September 2025

Wednesday 03 September 2025

Monday 03 November 2025

Friday 16 January 2026

Friday 13 February 2026

Friday 27 March 2026

### **Annual Planner - Dates to Remember**

Y3 Meet the Teacher: Monday 15th September @ 2:45pm

Y2 Meet the Teacher: Tuesday 16th September @2:45pm

Y6 Meet the Teacher: Wednesday 17th September@ 2:45pm

Y1 Meet the Teacher: Wednesday 17th September @ 2:45pm

Y4 Meet the Teacher: Thursday 18th September @ 2:45pm

Y5 Meet the Teacher: Friday 19th September @ 2:45pm

PTA Used Uniform Sale KS1 Playground: Friday 19th September @ 3:15

Worship for Parents Eagles: Monday 22nd September @ 2:45pm

Supporting Your Child with Reading Parent Session: Wednesday 24th September @ 2:30-3:15

Supporting Your Child with Reading Parent Session: Thursday 25th September @ 5:00-5:45

Book Fair Delivered: Thursday 2nd October

Parents Evening: Tuesday 14th October @ 4:00-7:00pm

Parents Evening: Thursday 16th October @ 3:40-6:40pm

Robins Stay & Play: Saturday 18th October

PTA Mufti Day: Friday 24th October

Bikeability Level 2 Y6: Tuesday 25th November @ AM and PM

Bikeability Level 2 Y6: Wednesday 26th November @ AM or PM

Bikeability Level 1 Y4: Wednesday 26th November @ AM or PM

PTA Christmas Shopping: Friday 5th December

Worship for Parents Falcons: Monday 8th December @ 2:45pm

Nativity Performance to Parents: Wednesday 10th December @ PM

Nativity Performance to Parents: Thursday 11th December @ AM

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day: **TBC**

PTA Christmas Fair: Friday 12th December

Fish N Chip Disco for Y6: **TBC**

Rocksteady Concert for Parents & KS2: Thursday 18th December @ 9:30am

PTA Mufti Day: Friday 19th December

Worship for Parents Owls: Monday 9th February @ 2:45pm

PTA Mufti Day: Thursday 12th February

World Book Day: Thursday 5th March

Family Breakfast: **TBC**

Parents Evening: Tuesday 24th March @ 4:00-7:00pm

Parents Evening: Thursday 26th March @ 3:40-6:40pm

Worship for Parents Kingfishers: Monday 30th March @ 2:45pm

Y6 Lifeskills: Tuesday 31st March @ PM

Rocksteady Concert for Parents & KS1: Thursday 2nd April

PTA Mufti Day: Thursday 2nd April

PTA Easter Egg Hunt: Thursday 2nd April

SATs Week & SATs Breakfast: Monday 11th – Friday 15th May

Worship for Parents Kestrels: Monday 18th May @ 2:45pm

Y6 Camp: Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May

PTA Mufti Day: Friday 22nd May

Sports Day KS2 – Wednesday 17th June

Permission to Play: Friday 3rd July

Worship for Parents Jays: Monday 6th July @ 2:45pm

Rocksteady Concert for Parents & KS2: Thursday 16th July

Y6 Leavers Service: **TBC**

PTA Mufti Day: Wednesday 22nd July

## Contacts

School Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Education-Website/St-Andrews-Primary-School-Congresbury-631401120595092/>

School Office e-mail Address: [office@standrewsprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewsprimary.org.uk)

School Phone Number: 01934 832505