



# St Andrew's Church of England

## Junior School

### St Andrew's Signpost

Issue 1

Week Commencing 6<sup>th</sup> January



#### Notes for the week: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

##### Monday

Year 3 Swimming from

**13.01.25 – 24.03.25**

PE Heron Class 6GK

PE Magpie Class 4M

##### Tuesday

PE Otter Class 6H

PE Bramble Class 5L

PE Willow Class 5D

PE Kingfisher Class 4B

##### Wednesday

Year 4 Swimming from

**15.01.25 – 26.03.25**

PE Heron Class 6GK

PE Raven Class 5K

PE Wren Class 3N

Forest School – Otter Class, 6H

##### Thursday

PE Newt Class 6G

PE Willow Class 5D

PE Bramble Class 5L

PE Raven Class 5K

##### Friday

PE Dandelion Class 3P

PE Acorn Class 3GD

PE Weasel Class 4S

PE Newt Class 6G

#### Headteacher Information

As we wrap up the Autumn term, what an exhilarating week it has been! From the festive Christmas Fair to Christmas Jumper Day and a spectacular Christmas Concert, the celebrations truly brought the spirit of the season alive. Ending the week with a beautiful Christmas Service at St. Andrew's Church was the perfect culmination of all the festive joy.

Heartfelt thanks for the thoughtful gifts we've received. On behalf of the entire staff, I extend warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our families.

Please note that school resumes on Monday, January 6, 2025.

Enjoy the holiday season, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for a fantastic Spring term! 🌲

#### PE and Sports

PE and Sports News – First Term Highlights

What an incredible first term we've had in PE and sports! Our students have been enthusiastically involved in a variety of activities, showcasing their skills, determination, and team spirit.

**Football Tournaments:** We competed in exciting football tournaments, displaying great teamwork and effort.

**Sportshall Athletics:** Students excelled in indoor athletics events, demonstrating their speed and agility.

**Cross Country Races:** Our runners gave their all in cross country races, achieving personal bests and making us proud.

**SASP Skills Sessions:** Two skills sessions, organised by SASP, provided students with opportunities to develop and refine their sporting abilities.

**Rugby Workshop:** The whole school enjoyed a fantastic rugby workshop, sparking interest and enthusiasm for the sport.

**Cricket Coaching:** Five classes received seven weeks of top-quality cricket coaching, building on their skills and confidence in the game.


Looking Ahead – Next Term

We're already gearing up for another action-packed term:

**Year 4 Sportshall Athletics:** Our Year 4 team will compete in a Sportshall Athletics event during the second week back.

**Year 5 SASP Event:** A Year 5 class will participate in a SASP-organised activity.

**Final Cross Country Race:** The season finale will take place at King Alfred's, where the area team selections will be determined.

	<p>Gymnastics Competition: We hope to enter this exciting event as soon as the dates are confirmed.</p> <p>Get Involved! If your child is interested in being considered for any upcoming events, please email the school office with their name and the activity they'd like to join. The details will be passed on to Miss Sylvester.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support in making PE and sports a vital and vibrant part of our school life!</p>
<p><b>Christmas Fair</b></p>	<p>Thank You for Your Support!</p> <p>A huge thank you to everyone for their generous donations and support for the Christmas Fair. The event was a great success, raising an incredible £884.83 profit! This money will go towards supporting and enriching our school, providing the children with fantastic opportunities—something that is especially important when budgets are so tight.</p> <p>We truly appreciate your generosity, particularly at what we know is an expensive time of year. Your support makes a real difference, and we are so grateful for our wonderful school community.</p> <p>Thank you again and wishing you all a joyful festive season!</p>
<p><b>Christmas Lunch</b></p>	<p>On Wednesday, we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch together. It was so heart-warming to see the children filled with excitement and festive cheer. A big thank you to everyone who helped make it such a special occasion for the whole school community!</p> 
<p><b>Head Lice</b></p>	<p>We are writing to inform you that there have been cases of head lice reported in school. As we head into the Christmas break, this is a great opportunity to check and treat your child's hair if needed. While lice are nothing more than a nuisance, regular checks are essential to ensure that any head lice are quickly treated before they can spread.</p> <p>How You Can Help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check your child's hair once a week using a proper detection comb.</li> <li>• If live lice are found, consult a pharmacist for treatment advice immediately.</li> <li>• Examine the hair of all family members if head lice are spotted.</li> </ul> <p>In many cases, lice and nits can be removed using the wet-combing method.</p> <p>Wet Combing Instructions:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wash hair with ordinary shampoo.</li> <li>2. Apply plenty of conditioner.</li> <li>3. Comb the entire head of hair from roots to ends using a fine-toothed detection comb.</li> </ol> <p>Detection combs can be purchased from pharmacies or online. If wet combing has not worked or is not suitable, please consult your local pharmacist for alternative treatments.</p> <p>To minimize outbreaks, it's crucial to continue checking for head lice on a regular weekly basis. For further information, speak to your pharmacist or visit <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/</a>.</p> <p>Thank you for your support in keeping head lice at bay and ensuring the well-being of our school community.</p>
<b>Christmas Jumper Day</b>	<p>A big thank you to everyone who participated in the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day on Wednesday! Your festive spirit and generosity have made a significant impact. We're thrilled to share that together, we managed to raise over £185.00 This contribution will undoubtedly make a difference in supporting Save the Children's important work. Thank you for making this initiative a success and for embodying the true spirit of giving during this holiday season.</p>
<b>Christmas Concert</b>	<p>On Tuesday evening, we held our Christmas Concert in front of a full house, and what a spectacular event it was! The children delivered a wonderful celebration of Christmas through song, dance, drama, music, and poetry. It was truly special to see both staff and children performing together on stage. We've been delighted to hear such positive comments from parents and families—it's clear the evening was enjoyed by all. A huge well done to all the children and staff who took part and worked so hard to make this such a memorable and joyful event for our school community. Thank you for your support!</p>
<b>Christmas Service</b>	<p>Today, we held our Christmas Service at St. Andrew's Church, and it was a truly lovely way to end the term, filling us all with Christmas spirit. A huge well done to all our readers, who did an amazing job speaking so confidently in front of a full church. The singing was wonderful, with a special mention to our choir for their beautiful performance.</p> <p>A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who helped us walk the children to and from the church. Coordinating 330 children is no small task, but with your support, it was made possible. We deeply appreciate your help in making this event such a success.</p>
<b>Extended School Provision</b>	<p>Sunrise and Sunset Club are now available on Scopay for bookings in January 2024 only</p> <p>As we are joining The Priory Learning Trust on 1st February 2025, bookings from February 2025 will be made through a different payment system. Details to follow in the New Year.</p> <p>With this in mind, please only make payment for those sessions booked, as it is unlikely that any balances will be able to be carried forward.</p> <p><b>Childcare Vouchers</b></p>

	<p>If you use Childcare Vouchers to pay for Extended School Provision, information will be sent to you directly.</p>
<p><b>Information on Measles</b></p>	<p><b>**Important notice from Public Health**</b></p> <p>There has been a recent increase in measles cases in Somerset. Measles is one of the most highly communicable infectious diseases and can cause severe illness, especially in certain at-risk groups including babies and small children, pregnant people, and those with weak immunity.</p> <p>As we are coming up to the Christmas holidays, we thought it would be helpful to remind parents and guardians of the signs and symptoms of measles so that they can take appropriate action should their child become unwell over the holidays.</p> <p>What you need to do if you think your child has measles  If your child develops the <a href="#">symptoms of measles</a> (see below and follow link)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See your doctor if you are worried: You should speak to your GP or NHS 111 if you or your child get a high temperature with a cough, runny nose, sore red eyes or rash. You should call your GP or NHS 111 before visiting them in person. This is to avoid spreading measles to others.</li> <li>2. Avoid spreading measles: If someone is thought to have measles, they should stay away from their education or childcare setting, or work, for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears.</li> <li>3. Avoid vulnerable people: They should also avoid close contact with infants under 12 months, people who are pregnant and people with weakened immune systems.</li> </ol> <p>People who have not had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine  If you are unsure if you or your child have had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine, which will protect you against measles, contact your GP to arrange vaccination. If you have missed a dose you can still be vaccinated at any age. Please see further information on the MMR vaccine in the factsheet below You can find further information at <a href="#">Measles - NHS</a>.</p>
<p><b>School Choir</b></p>	<p>On Thursday, the older children from our wonderful school choir took their musical talents into the wider community, visiting local care homes to spread joy through song.</p> <p>It was a truly heart-warming experience, and we couldn't be prouder of those choir members for representing our school so beautifully. The smiles and heartfelt appreciation from the residents showed just how much their performance was enjoyed and how music can create such a positive connection.</p> <p>A huge thank you to the them for their enthusiasm, kindness, and dedication, as well as to the staff and parents who continue to support these important opportunities. This was a fantastic example of the values we hold dear—community, compassion, and sharing our gifts with others.</p> <p>Well done to our talented choir for making a real difference and bringing so much joy to others over the past few weeks!</p>
<p><b>House Cup Winners</b></p>	<p>We are thrilled to celebrate Foley House for their fantastic victory in winning the House Cup this term! It has been an exciting and closely fought competition, with Foley House just edging past Macmillan in a thrilling final push.</p>

	<p>The dedication, teamwork, and incredible effort shown by all the Children in Foley House have truly paid off. Their spirit and enthusiasm have been a joy to witness, and we are so proud of this wonderful achievement.</p> <p>As a reward for their hard work, Foley House will enjoy a well-deserved Non-Uniform (Mufti) Day next term. The date for this celebration will be decided with the house captains at the start of the new year.</p> <p>Well done, Foley House—what a brilliant way to finish the term!</p>
<p><b>House Captains – Spring Term</b></p>	<p>A huge well done to our new house captains who will be taking on their roles for the Spring Term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Autumn Term house captains for their dedication and brilliant efforts—they have set a fantastic example for our school community.</p> <p>Our new House Captains are:</p> <p><b>Foley</b> - Lily-Mae Harvey, Abarnitha Nimalraj, Demi-Lee Rovira, Evie Wood  <b>Blackwell</b> - Oscar Laws, Oliver Waterfield, Laicey Fowler, Evie Channon-Reader  <b>Reed</b> - Vinnie Salter, Teddy Picton, Charlotte Duke, Jack Moore  <b>Macmillan</b> - Isla West, Reece Knight, Sam Ford, Anastasia Gayfer</p> <p>We wish them the very best as they take on their new responsibilities and look forward to seeing them lead their houses with pride, teamwork, and enthusiasm.</p>
<p><b>Festival Poetry Competition</b></p> <p><b>New for 2025</b></p>	<p><b>**Reminder**</b>  <b>**Attention St Andrews Poets**</b></p> <p>The Stuart Adams Trophy for original poetry  HIGHBRIDGE  FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS  Open to children of all ages  All entrants receive a certificate and written feedback from the judge  The winner will be presented with the Stuart Adams Trophy and receive a special medal  The poem can be in any style and written at home or in school  Find out more by visiting the Speech and Drama page of the Festival Website where you'll find a copy of the Syllabus—see page 9  Enter online via the website - entries close  17 January 2025  Performance of poems: Monday 10 or Tuesday 11 March 2025  <a href="http://www.highbridgefestival.org.uk">www.highbridgefestival.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>PFSA resources and Support</b></p>	<p>We're pleased to share that our local Parent Family Support Advisor, Chloe Steventon, has created a dedicated webpage for the PFSA service. This new resource provides valuable information about the support available to families and how Chloe can assist with any challenges you may be facing.</p> <p>We encourage you to take a look at the webpage to explore the range of support on offer. It's a great way to stay informed and access the help you need.</p> <p><a href="https://www.berrowprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Parent+and+Family+Support+%28PFSA%29&amp;pid=91">https://www.berrowprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Parent+and+Family+Support+%28PFSA%29&amp;pid=91</a></p>

**Rewarding Reading**

Star Quizzers – Passing AR Quizzes  
 This week receiving their 50 Quiz certificates:  
**Esme Tolley**

**Reading Champions**

Massive well done to **Jaxon Moon** for becoming a Reading Half Millionaire.

**Weekly Value Award**

This award is given by the Senior Leadership Team and the office staff for a child who has demonstrated one or more of the school values during the week.

This week's winner is:  
**Mia Course**

**Celebration and Praise**

There was no Celebration and Praise Assembly this week as it was our end of term Christmas Service. As part of the service we awarded the Headteacher Commendations. Well done to this term's winners. These children have consistently applied themselves everyday this term and made good progress:

- Acorn - Koby Hoff
- Wren - Rosie Hicks
- Dandelion - Ollie Dee
- Magpie - Lily Porteous
- Kingfisher - Josie Huang
- Weasel - Ella Knight
- Bramble - Flynn Phillips
- Willow - Jack Shipway
- Raven - Bai Clarke
- Otter - Mya Simpson
- Newt - Anastasia Barbu
- Heron - Alfie Ackroyd

**TT Rock Stars****Results from this week's tournament:**

## Year 6 Tournament

1	Harley	Mark Been	6H Otter	7506
2	Sufyan	Jayden Jorgensen	6GK Heron	6294
3	Isaac	Win Gravidicious	6GK Heron	5488
4	Mollie	Grace Dederer	6H Otter	4544
5	Hadley	Velda Rocket	6H Otter	4241
6	Finley	Aiden Bauer	6GK Heron	3722
7	Oliver	Nika Lightspeed	6GK Heron	2392
8	Mason	Irock Night	6G Newt	2305
9	Archie	Blue Cavaliere	6G Newt	2115
10	Freya	Bella Bell	6GK Heron	1966

## Year 5 Tournament

1	Nancy	Angelo White	5K Raven	5023
2	Lucas	Jed Boy	5L Bramble	2135
3	Jesse	Maynard Howe	5D Willow	1697
4	Alfie	Freddy Robinson	5D Willow	1335
5	Emily	Lauren Wagler	5L Bramble	1335
6	Reuben	M. A. Hendrix	5D Willow	1066
7	Jenson	Josh Anderson	5L Bramble	835
8	Amelia	Joel Jules	5L Bramble	812

9	Cain	Ryan Bottum	5L Bramble	786
10	Rory	Mikal Powers	5L Bramble	715

#### Year 4 Tournament

1	Codie	Toryn McKeon	4S Weasel	2991
2	Eliza	Sunshine Dunn	4B Kingfisher	2567
3	Yusuf	Beau Ramirez	4B Kingfisher	2065
4	Elijah	Nick Preciado	4B Kingfisher	2009
5	Lily	Susan Andrews	4M Magpie	1725
6	Sofia	Stacy Bazzell	4B Kingfisher	1243
7	Eliza	Sean Daly	4S Weasel	1197
8	Demi-Mae	Mad Bruno	4M Magpie	988
9	Morayo	Pearl Comstock	4S Weasel	926
10	Frankie	Chad Riley	4M Magpie	918

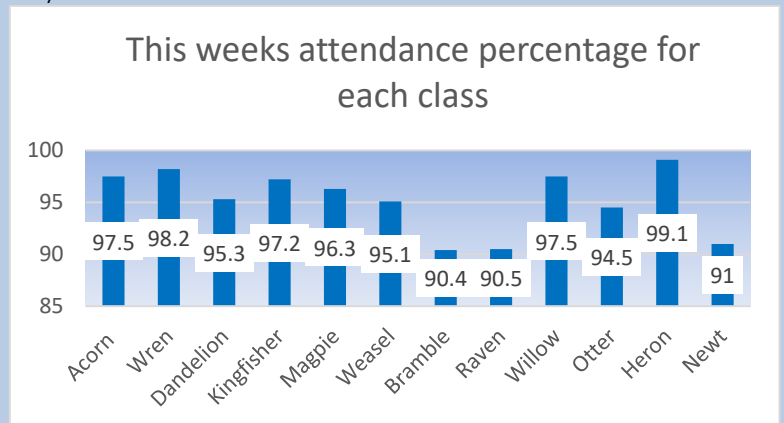
#### Year 3 Tournament

1	Lucas	Chuck Manga	3P Dandelion	2290
2	Charlie	Thomas Berry	3DG Acorn	954
3	Molly	Christy Kay	3DG Acorn	669
4	Freddie	V V Cox	3N Wren	643
5	Elijah	Todd Lightrock	3P Dandelion	638
6	Harrison	Rippy Martin	3N Wren	635
7	Ava	Mindy DiFulvio	3N Wren	611
8	Hugo	Win Hart	3P Dandelion	571
9	Ezra	Axle Telle	3N Wren	565
10	Braxton	Wilf Patton	3N Wren	351

#### Promoting Attendance at St. Andrew's School

#### Current Attendance Overview:

To keep you informed, we have included a chart below, displaying our overall attendance percentage and a breakdown by class. This transparency allows us to collectively work towards our attendance target and celebrate our successes along the way.



#### Lateness

This week, we've noticed a very slight reduction in lateness, which is a step in the right direction—thank you! Being on time sets a positive tone for the day and ensures that children don't miss out on valuable learning or important routines. Let's keep aiming for even greater improvements in the term ahead.

House	Nos of Lates	
	W/C 16/12/24	W/C 09/12/24
Blackwell	10	5
Foley	5	8
Macmillan	9	14
Reed	6	4
Total	30	31

Please remember that being late can lead to your child:

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss in learning time:

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

### Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Wayne Higgins and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) are Tamsin Thomson, Chrissie Collett. Our safeguarding governor is Kerry Andrews

Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL;  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/>  
<https://getsetsomerset.org.uk/>  
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

If you have concerns about your child at home or school, see the office to book an appointment. Alternatively, if you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger please contact Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224, by email at [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk) or the police. You can contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care what action should be taken. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999. If you would like to speak to a social worker outside of office hours please phone the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0300 123 23 27.

### Change of Numbers and email addresses

**\*\*Important\*\***

If you have changed your telephone number or email address can you please let the school office know so that we can update our records. We need to have at least 3 contact numbers for your children in the event that we are unable to reach the main contacts.

### Online safety

With many children getting phones and tablets for Christmas, click on the guides below to find out how to set up parental controls to ensure that children are able to game, message and interact safely online.

[how-to-set-up-parental-controls-for-iphone-apps-parents-guide.pdf](#)

[how-to-set-up-parental-controls-for-android-apps-parents-guide.pdf](#)

**SEND Newsletter**

This week's SEND weekly newsletter is now available – please click on the link below or the following [SEND News](#) to read the latest stories.

Please click on the link below to find out more about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Somerset.  
[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\)](#)

**For your Information**

**Christmas Holidays - Inspired Camps Burnham**

**30th, 31st December & - 2nd, 3rd January**

- BASC Ground
- Active Camps (Multi-sports)

Medals for all

Presentation ceremony on the final day

£20 Per day

10% Whole week discount

15% Sibling discount

Inspired Schools  
01278 550945  
hello@inspiredschools.co.uk  
inspiredschools.co.uk/parents

<https://inspiredschools.schoolipal.co.uk/>

SCAN ME

For paid places

Limited free places available for children on benefit related free school meals

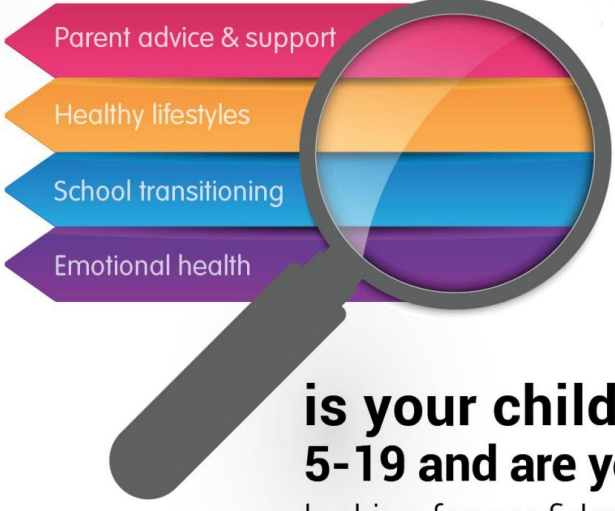
**Happy Healthy Holidays FREE Places**

- Bookable on **18th November**
- Register for our community now

SCAN ME



ChatHealth



**is your child  
5-19 and are you**  
looking for confidential  
help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact  
your School Nursing Team

Just send a text

**07480 635 515**



Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.

Improving  
LIVES

Term Dates for  
2024-25

Please see below our term dates for 2024-25 including our school INSET days.



September 2024					October 2024					November 2024										
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25		
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W		2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	
December 2024					January 2025					February 2025										
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24		
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25		
W		4	11	18	25		W		1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		6	13	20	27		F		3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	
March 2025					April 2025					May 2025										
M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26		
Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27	
W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28	
Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25		F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25	
June 2025					July 2025					August 2025										
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25		
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W		2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	31

Key:	
<span style="background-color: #f08080; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	School Holiday
<span style="background-color: #add8e6; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	Bank Holiday
<span style="background-color: #9370db; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	Staff Training Day
<span style="background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	Term Time

Term Date Summary	
Term 1:	2 September 2024 – 18 October 2024
Term 2:	4 November 2024 – 20 December 2024
Term 3:	6 January 2025 – 14 February 2025
Term 4:	24 February 2025 – 4 April 2025
Term 5:	22 April 2025 – 23 May 2025
Term 6:	2 June 2025 – 22 July 2025

Bank Holidays and public Holiday 2024-2025			
Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2024	May Day Bank Holiday	5 May 2025
New Year's Day Holiday	1 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Friday	18 April 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25 August 2025