



St Anne's Church Primary School @Hewish & @West Wick



Newsletter 2
Term 1
Friday 25th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

We have had another very busy week across our school this week. We really missed our year 6 children last week and are delighted that they are back with us this week. Our new Busy Bees Reception children are in school full time now and they are a wonderful addition to the school.

September is flying by already – next week is week 4 of this term and October will be upon us – how on earth did that happen?



All the children are working incredibly hard and showing wonderful learning behaviours in all of our classes. They are making it very difficult for teachers to choose just one learning champion for the celebration worship – which is making us all very proud. Well done everyone!

Have a lovely weekend everyone. See you on all on Monday.

Emma Hardy-Smith

Mailbox@SACA.theplt.org.uk

Follow me on Twitter @StAnnes_EHS

YEAR 6 CAMP

A huge thank you to all the staff that accompanied our year 6 children on their 4-night residential last week. We hold this camp at the beginning of the year for a number of reasons but the main reason is to allow the children and staff to build relationships and for the children to develop resilience and independence at the beginning of their final year of primary school. It has proved to be very successful in the past few years.

It is an absolutely fantastic experience for our children, but we rely on the goodwill of our staff to give up their time to supervise the children. It is a very rewarding experience for everyone but also very tiring. Staff do not receive any extra pay for attending camp. They choose to give up their time so that the children can have this amazing experience. Some of the staff are not even part of the year 6 team but still wanted to go to support.

A big **Thank You** to all of them: Mrs English, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Poole, Mrs Hortop, Miss Ford, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Kelly and a really special thank you to Mr Phillips who worked his socks off as camp coordinator and camp leader.

We are incredibly grateful to all of the staff. The children behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school and to their parents and carers. They overcame challenges and built new friendships.

A big thank you to the staff at Mendip Outdoor pursuits who yet again provided the school with an excellent camp.

MATERNITY LEAVE

Miss Telford, one half of our Reception team at Hewish has now started her maternity leave. We wish her lots of luck with the birth of her baby shortly.

We have a new teacher starting with us to cover the maternity leave. Her name is Mrs Julie Chadi. She is unable to start straight away and in the meantime, the class will be fully supported and taught by a supply teacher with support from our very experienced teaching assistants Mrs Sharni Potter and Mrs Lynne Hortop and lots of support from our other teacher Mrs Poole. Hopefully, it will not be too long before Mrs Chadi is able to start with the class.

PICKING CHILDREN UP EARLY

A reminder that children should not be picked up early from school. We have an increasing number of parents asking to pick their children up early. We acknowledge that on rare occasions, your child may have a medical appointment that requires an early pick up but this will need to be agreed by the school in advance and proof of medical appointments will be asked for.

Children should not be picked up early on a regular basis just for convenience e.g. because you need to pick up a sibling from another school or to avoid traffic. We ask that you please make alternative arrangements so that your child does not regularly miss the end of the school day. West Wick finishes at 3pm and Hewish at 3:15pm.

Keeping Children Safe: The Dangers of Entering Derelict and Unused Buildings

Important Safety Message from the Local Authority safeguarding team.

The Local Authority has recently become aware of an increase in reports of children and young people accessing derelict, abandoned and unused buildings. In particular, locations such as The Grand Atlantic Hotel in Weston have attracted attention and may be viewed by some as places to explore or visit. We understand that social media platforms, including TikTok and other online channels, have popularised activities sometimes referred to as urban exploring urbex. Whilst these videos can make such locations appear exciting or harmless, the reality is that abandoned buildings present significant dangers and can place children and young people at serious risk of injury.

Derelict and disused buildings can contain a wide range of hazards, including:

- Unstable floors, staircases, walls and roofs that may collapse without warning.
- Broken glass, exposed metal and sharp debris that can cause serious injuries.
- Open lift shafts, basements, holes and concealed drops.
- Unsafe structures that have deteriorated over time and have not been maintained.
- Hazardous materials such as asbestos, chemicals, mould, contaminated water or other substances that can cause long-term health issues.
- Fire risks, electrical hazards and unsafe machinery or equipment.
- Areas that may have limited mobile phone signal or restricted access, making it difficult to call for help in an emergency. Many of these dangers are not immediately visible, meaning that buildings that appear safe from the outside can be extremely unsafe once entered.

Children and young people should also be aware that entering private property without permission may constitute trespassing and, where entry is gained by forcing access or causing damage, may involve criminal offences such as criminal damage or breaking and entering. Such incidents may result in police involvement and can place young people at further risk.

We encourage parents and carers to:

- Talk openly with their children about the dangers associated with abandoned or derelict buildings.
- Discuss the influence of social media challenges and trends, and remind young people that videos posted online often do not show the real risks involved.
- Encourage children to meet friends and spend time in safe, supervised environments.
- Report concerns to the police or local authority if they become aware of children regularly accessing unsafe sites.
- Remind children that if they see others entering unsafe premises, they should not follow them and should leave the area immediately.

Keeping children safe requires the support of schools, families and the wider community. We ask everyone to reinforce the message that no social media trend, online challenge or exploration activity is worth the risk of serious injury or harm. Please speak to your child about making safe choices and avoiding derelict, abandoned or unsecured buildings.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Like all schools, we encourage strong school attendance for all children. Our current whole school attendance is 96.7%. We would love to achieve whole school attendance of at least 97% by the end of term 1.

Please support the school in encouraging strong attendance from your children. All learning is planned in sequences and children who regularly miss a day or days of school find it very difficult to catch up learning and follow the sequence of learning and can fall behind in their learning despite staff supporting them to catch up missed learning. Children who are regularly late to school also miss important learning. If children are late after the gates have closed, this is marked as late and arrivals after the registers have closed are marked as unauthorised absences. We are seeing an increase in traffic congestion every morning especially around Priory school, the West Wick area and the dual carriageway out of Weston, so we ask that you please allow for this and ensure that you leave enough time for your journeys.

We are receiving an increasing number of term time holiday requests. We do not authorise any term time holidays unless in very exceptional circumstances. Term time holidays will incur a penalty notice of £80 per parent per child.

CONTACT DETAILS



Please ensure that all contact details we hold for you are up-to-date. This includes home addresses, emails and phone numbers. If you are unsure whether any changes have been updated on our records, please ask the office staff to check our system for you. To comply with safeguarding guidance, please ensure we have at least two contacts on our system for you in case we cannot reach you.

It is very important that we can contact you in case of emergencies.

UNIFORM

An urgent reminder to please label **all** uniform and equipment including coats. We already have a growing collection of unnamed lost property especially jumpers and lunchboxes and bottles across the sites. We do our best to return clothing and equipment to children but we can only do this if it is named. Please check regularly as written name labels fade and wash off.

We aim to keep unnamed lost property items for a short while but if uncollected, they will be added to our preloved collection or given to charity as we are at capacity for storage.

SCHOOL LUNCHES



Please make sure you book your child's school dinner in advance or at least before 9.00am each day. If you need a reminder of your activation codes or how to use the booking system, please ask in the office and we will be happy to help.

Use this link to login: <https://select.aspens-services.com>

Meal prices are £2.85 per meal but free of charge to all Busy Bees and Key Stage 1 (This is called Universal Free School Meals)

Children eligible for Free School Meals (This is called Free School Meals). You can check to see if you are eligible for free school meals via this link <https://fsm.lgfl.net/>

Please do check your eligibility as you and your child may be entitled to other support including additional funding in school.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

The application process to apply for reception places for September 2026 opens on 12th September 2026 and closes at 11.59pm on 15th January 2027.

The application process to apply for secondary school places for September 2026 opens on 12th September 2026 and closes at 11.59pm on 31st October 2026.

Follow this link for more information: <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/school-admissions/apply-school-place/applying-school-place>

In the coming weeks, there will be open evenings and days at all the local secondary schools. We highly recommend you visit these open days. Please see information below. Parents and carers of year 5 children will be sent further information shortly.

NUT-FREE & HEALTHY EATING SCHOOL



Please can we remind everyone that we are a completely **nut-free school** and that snacks and lunch boxes must **not** contain anything nutty, including chocolate hazelnut spreads like Nutella and peanut butter. This is to ensure the safety of our children who can have severe allergic reactions to **all nuts and peanuts**.

Snacks and lunch boxes should be nutritionally as well-balanced as possible, according to your child's preferences, but we ask that they don't include sweets or chocolate bars. Your consideration and co-operation is greatly appreciated. Breaktime snacks should be fruit or cereal based if possible.



Please only send water in water bottles rather than squash. Not only is water healthy, squash spillages damage books and equipment in classrooms and attract ants in the summer.

SAFEGUARDING

The Designated Safeguarding lead at our school is our principal, **Emma Hardy Smith**. Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Rachel Few (Learning mentor @ Hewish) and Rachel Atkinson (Learning mentors @ WW). Our Nursery Deputy Safeguarding leads are Natalie Blower and Charlotte Bowden.

If you have any concerns, please share them with any of the safeguarding team.

Our school website has lots of safeguarding information and many links to other helpful sites.

The North Somerset safeguarding partnership has lots of useful information for parents and carers available. Please click on the link below for additional support.

<https://www.nsscp.co.uk/resources-parents-carers>

FOODBANK VOUCHERS



If you are experiencing any hardship, Weston-super-Mare Foodbank are able to offer support. In order to access this help you need to be given vouchers. As a school, we are able to issue these vouchers so please speak to us or follow this link for more information: <https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk/>

If you would like to make a donation to Foodbank we have collection points in both of our foyers. This link will have a list of current most wanted items:

<https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

DIARY DATES

We are just collating our school diary including Christmas dates and we will get them out to you very shortly.

Monday 5th October – Year 1 phonics information and workshop for parents and carers – Both at Hewish and WW at 5pm in the Year 1 classrooms (This is on both sites)

Wednesday 7th October – Reception phonics and numeracy information session for parents and carers – both classes at WW in the hall @ 5pm

Friday 9th October – Wear something yellow for Mental health day

Wednesday 14th October – PTFA meet and greet coffee afternoon @ WW after school – more details to follow.

Thursday 15th October – Year 4 trip to Caerleon

Tuesday 20th October and Thursday 22nd October – Parent / carer learning review meetings.

Friday 23rd October – End of Term 1

Monday 2nd November – INSET day

Friday 4th December – PTFA Christmas fair

TERM DATES 2026 – 2027

Term 1	Start Monday 7 th September 2026 (Thurs 3 rd & Fri 4 th September 2026 INSET DAYS) End Friday 23 rd October 2026
Term 2	Start Monday 2nd November 2026 (INSET DAY) End Friday 18 th December 2026
Term 3	Start Monday 4 th January 2027 (INSET DAY) End Friday 12 th February 2027
Term 4	Start Monday 22 nd February 2027 End Thursday 25 th March 2027
Term 5	Start Monday 12th April 2027 (INSET DAY) End Friday 28 th May 2027
Term 6	Start Monday 7th June 2027 (INSET DAY) End Friday 23 rd July 2027

Please be aware that holidays in term time cannot be authorised and will incur a penalty fine, which is issued by North Somerset Council, if absence exceeds 10 sessions in a ten-week rolling period (10 sessions is a total of 5 days. The 5 days do not need to be consecutive). The penalty fine is now £80 per parent per child, which is payable within 21 days, this rises to £160 if paid between 22 and 28 days. Failure to pay will result in prosecution.

If you do need to take your child out of school, please ensure you complete an absence request form which is available from the office.

Please be mindful that a second term time holiday automatically incurs a penalty notice of £160 per child, per parent. We do not want anyone to be caught out by this large sum of money.

Please be mindful that if a school believes a child has been on holiday even after receiving sickness messages, schools are still obliged to recommend a penalty notice.

Please see the parent information below.

North Somerset Council Open, Fair, Green

Understanding and Supporting Neurodivergent Children and Young People

Free videos and printable guides for parents and carers

A free, evidence-informed parent support resource for families of neurodivergent children and young people in North Somerset.

Topics include:

- 1 What Do We Mean by Neurodiversity and Neurodivergence?
- 2 How Neurodivergence Can Affect Everyday Life
- 3 Masking: Why School and Home Can Feel So Different
- 4 Coming to Terms with the Idea of ADHD or Autism
- 5 Supporting Your Child Without Waiting for an Assessment
- 6 Supporting Big Emotions, Meltdowns, and Shutdowns
- 7 Everyday Challenges: Sleep, Eating, Transitions, and Independence
- 8 Looking After Yourself as a Parent

Practical, easy-to-understand videos with one-page "Fridge Guides" you can print and keep.

SCAN HERE TO ACCESS THE SERIES

Free to access • Share with others who may find it helpful

Or search North Somerset EPS on YouTube

Created to support, not replace, professional advice. If you have concerns about your child, please speak to your GP, school or local support services.

West of England MUSIC & ARTS

DISCOVERY DAYS

at WEMA Music Centres

Our free-of-charge Discovery Days 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/wema-music-centres

DISCOVERY DAYS
PLAYING TOGETHER

WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL

PLAY & SPORTS STRATEGY

PLANNING THE FUTURE OF PLAY
In Weston-super-Mare

Have Your Say!

YOUR FEEDBACK WILL HELP US UNDERSTAND

- What works well
- What additions can be made
- What could be improved
- What needs maintaining
- What matters most