



Nurturing our unique acorns, for the infinite possibilities of the mighty oaks they shall become.

Inspired by John 10:10, Gideon 6:11 and Corinthians 13:4

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Head Teacher's Blog

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a challenging time for schools across the country as we have seen covid cases rise. For the first time in the pandemic our schools have been directly affected, with members of our close community contracting Covid-19. I cannot thank you all enough for how you have responded - isolating, testing, communicating and supporting us to allow us to manage staffing, online education (whilst also managing in school learning) additional cleaning and all manner of measures to enhance our approach to containing infection spread. In amongst all of this have been our children, coping so beautifully. I am so proud of all of them both in school and at home. It shows the importance of the learning and work we have done with them and yourselves on mental health and well-being. 'Talking' about our emotions is fully accepted, allowing us to process our negative feelings in a challenging situation. Fear, anger and confusion are all things many of you have spoken to me about personally and together we have navigated our way through. Our positive cases have slowed as a result of the partnership working between us, thank you. Much love and well wishes to all those isolating and recovering from Covid-19. Stay safe and well, Mrs Naomi Philp

Our school is about kindness, caring for others, ourselves, and our world.

Our school values our faith, our location, our community and most of all each other.

We aim to instill a life long love of learning.

Little Oaks News

This week in Little Oaks we have been thinking about our body and how to look after it. We started by labelling the main parts of the body and then talked about the importance of washing and keeping clean. Now we have started to find out about how to look after our teeth. The children really enjoyed using toothbrushes to clean our pretend teeth! We also talked about which foods are sugary and should only be eaten as a treat.



ECO NEWS

Yesterday, class 2 had their 2nd beach visit and this time it was with the Wild Beach team. The Wild Beach team's aim is to help children learn more about coastal wildlife, local geology and local history as well as learning how to explore and play on the beach safely. Amongst many other activities, the children will take part in a beach clean as part of the scheme.



Mrs Waygood captured this gorgeous photo



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Key Dates

04.10.21—School Photo Day
 21.10.21—Last day of half term
 22.10.21—School Holiday for the Platinum Jubilee (in lieu of the extra bank holiday in June 2022)
 01.11.21—Back to school

Middle School Transfers—Information for Year 4 Parents

Please apply for a middle school place using the online application form: https://emsonline.somerset.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

The closing date for middle school applications is 15th January 2022 and on 19 April 2022 you will be sent an email outcome. If, during the application process, you prompted for a Unique Identification Number (UID) - please choose the 'NO UID' button. Before applying, you are advised to read the admission guide here: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/primary-admissions->

Safeguarding

What are the signs of child abuse?

The signs of child abuse aren't always obvious, and a child might not feel able to tell anyone what's happening to them. Sometimes, children don't even realise that what's happening to them is abuse.

Some common signs that there may be something concerning happening in a child's life include:

- unexplained changes in behaviour or personality
- becoming withdrawn
- seeming anxious
- becoming uncharacteristically aggressive
- lacks social skills and has few friends, if any
- poor bond or relationship with a parent
- knowledge of adult issues inappropriate for age
- running away or going missing
- always choosing to wear clothes which cover their body.

Worried about a child?

You can contact:

The Designated Safeguarding Lead at school (NP)

Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800500

Children can contact CHILDLINE at any time to get support for themselves 0800 1111

Don't think, "What if I'm wrong?"

Think, "What if I'm right!"



An Extract from Thought for the Week

Ed Gregory

Director of Education, Diocese of Bath and Wells

'Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience...' the virtues that St Paul was encouraging communities to clothe themselves in when he was writing 2000 years ago. He didn't include in his list that you need to be strong, however he did use the word 'gentle'.

St Frances De Sales said, 'Nothing is so strong as gentleness and nothing is so gentle as real strength.' Gentleness in this context can be seen as 'sensitivity of disposition and kindness of behaviour, founded on strength and prompted by love.'

Have a look at **Gentleness is Strength: The 7 Habits of Highly Gentle People.**

<https://www.andymort.com/gentleness-is-strength/>



Lunch Menus and Payment Reminder

Please complete and submit the weekly menus by 8.00 am on a Wednesday morning at the latest. To avoid mistakes, please could we ask that you read it carefully and take a few seconds to check it before submitting. If possible, please complete the menus with your child(ren) so they know what you have ordered—and as they see the meals and what other children are eating, they may tell you that they would like to try something new.

Please remember to pay for lunches in advance—thank you.



Star of the Week is Oscar T. He has impressed us all with how amazingly hard he has worked!

Class 1- Olivia gate the Kindness Award for helping her friends with their coats. Double Achievement Awards this week for Emme and Hermione for excellent tens and ones learning

Class 2—An Achievement Award for Edward for working hard on his beautiful handwriting. Noah gets the Kindness Award for sharing his precious WW2 artefacts with class 2

Wellbeing

By Kelly Twiss



Meditation is Fun!!!



Meditation works as a stress management tool by switching off the fight or flight response to stress and allowing the body to switch on the relaxation response.

When children and adults meditate, they become less reactive to stress

There are lots of myths that surround meditation with some people believing that it relates to spiritual or religious beliefs, but the truth is anyone can meditate.

Another myth I would like to leave behind is that you only accomplish meditation by sitting cross legged with your fingers and thumbs touching and your mind must be cleared of all thoughts????

Nope! Absolutely not! That sounds all far too stressful and uncomfortable for me!!

The point of meditation is to become aware of your thoughts, to give your mind some space from all the noise of the world, it can be a sensory overload out there for many adults and children.

Meditation is different for each one of us, listening to music is meditation for some, personally my favourite as I stomp over the hills of Exmoor!

Colouring, knitting or Lego for some, focusing on brick by brick or stitch by stitch if the mind wanders, bring it back to the next stitch.

Your child will be meditating if they are absorbed in a book you are reading to them (distraction free) make it fun because you will be in the present time with your child and trust me, there is nothing a child wants or needs more than your presence in the 'now'

"If your mind wanders at any point, know that its okay. It's the nature of the mind to wander. Simply bring your attention back to the breath. Notice how your thoughts come and go, whether positive or negative, and simply allow them to pass on by like clouds floating in the sky."

SEND

Local
Area
Improvement

4

Special Educational Needs and/or Disability

Somerset Early Help for Inclusion Service Framework

When?

Thursday 7 October
10:00 - 12:00 or
18:00 - 20:00

Where?

Microsoft Teams
If you would like to attend please
register at
[https://forms.office.com/r/
kfeQM7R1hQ](https://forms.office.com/r/kfeQM7R1hQ)

These workshops are for parent carers, and all staff across education, health, social care & voluntary sector, to discuss together early help in Somerset.

We are working with the Institute of Public Care at Oxford Brookes University, to design a structure to support services to coordinate their offer, and we want to hear your views.

**The right support
in the right place
at the right time**







Somerset School Terms and Holidays – WSEP/ Moorland/ KT 2021/2022 Academic Year

WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK



September 2021					October 2021					November 2021								
M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		5	12	19	26	Tu		2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	
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		
Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa		6	13	20	27		
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su		7	14	21	28		
December 2021					January 2022					February 2022								
M		6	13	20	27	M	3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	Tu		1	8	15	22	
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	W		2	9	16	23	
Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	Th		3	10	17	24	
F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	F		4	11	18	25	
Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	1	8	15	22	29	Sa		5	12	19	26		
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	2	9	16	23	30	Su		6	13	20	27		
March 2022					April 2022					May 2022								
M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25	M	2	9	16	23	30	
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	Tu		5	12	19	26	Tu		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		
Sa	5	12	19	26	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa		7	14	21	28		
Su	6	13	20	27	Su	3	10	17	24	Su	1	8	15	22	29			
June 2022					July 2022					August 2022								
M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	
Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		5	12	19	26	Tu	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			
Sa	4	11	18	25	Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	6	13	20	27			
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	7	14	21	28			

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Day

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 06 September – 22 October 2021 (35 days)
 Term 2: 01 November – 17 December 2021 (35 days)
 Term 3: 04 January – 18 February 2022 (34 days)
 Term 4: 28 February – 08 April 2022 (30 days)
 Term 5: 25 April – 27 May 2022 (24 days)
 Term 6: 06 June – 26 July 2022 (37 days)

TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2021/22 – Revised to include the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	27 December 2021*	Easter Monday	18 April 2022
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	28 December 2021*	Early May Day Bank Holiday	02 May 2022
New Year's Day Holiday	03 January 2022*	Spring Bank Holiday	02 June 2022
Good Friday	15 April 2022	Platinum Jubilee	03 June 2022
		Summer Bank Holiday	29 August 2022

*Replacement Bank Holiday day when the bank holiday falls on a weekend

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with individual schools for their term dates