



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

In this issue:

- ⇒ Head teacher's Blog
- ⇒ Little Oaks
- ⇒ Eco News
- ⇒ Key Dates
- ⇒ Safeguarding
- ⇒ Thought for the Week
- ⇒ Awards
- ⇒ Wellbeing
- ⇒ Term Dates

Head Teacher's Blog

Dear Parents and Carers

Finally, I have been allowed out after my period of isolation! Thank you for the well wishes. It was truly a magical feeling to be back onsite today. We genuinely hope that our positive cases will continue to remain low and that our enhanced measures, which we intend to keep in place until the half term at the earliest, will provide an ongoing level of safety against infections.

Thank you also to those of you who messaged to pass on congratulations for my new role. It was a role that was too exciting to pass up. I love Timberscombe CoE First School and Dunster First School, so to be able to be part of securing an exciting future for my schools and three more amazing schools in our federation was a truly wonderful opportunity. Some of you asked me if I was leaving, I am not leaving Timberscombe or Dunster, simply moving into a post from January that will enable us greater capacity to ensure our pupils all get the absolute best education possible. Our federation can lead the way in education from our beautiful rural location.

In other news: I have staff awards this week: Hannah Sparks for leading so brilliantly. Miss Hunter for her adaptability and resilience covering and stepping in.

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

We have continued with the theme of "Ourselves" this week. The children have labelled the parts of the face, working as a team together. We have also identified and used our senses. The children were really good at identifying different smells and we have also tried some fruits and talked about how they taste and feel in their mouth. Next week we will be changing our theme and will be thinking about the season of Autumn, until the half term.



ECO NEWS

Did you know there is a special day to celebrate apples?

Apple Day is traditionally celebrated in the UK on 21st October. In our area, this year celebrations will be held at Dunster and Carhampton orchards on Saturday 16th October.

Dunster's Buttercross Community Orchard committee will be celebrating with their annual demonstration of apple pressing in the High Street, starting at 12 noon. If you have a bumper crop of apples and are wondering what to do with them, bring them along and watch them being transformed into delicious



apple juice. If you don't have any apples, go along anyway - if you bring your own bottle you can sample juice for free. Bottles of pasteurised apple juice from the orchard will be available for sale too. Apples for pressing will need to be brought along before 3pm to allow time to complete the process.



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Key Dates

- 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
- Please see Term Dates 2021-2022 on Page 4

Safeguarding—Online Safety

Social Media Apps

What age should my child be to use these apps?

 Discord 13+	 Facebook 13+	 Instagram 13+	 Snapchat 13+
 TikTok 13+	 Twitch 13+	 Twitter 13+	 YouTube 13+

What risks are there of my child using these apps?

Whilst there are benefits to being online, there are risks too regardless of your child's age. Risks include your child viewing inappropriate content, sharing personal information, cyberbullying and grooming.

Reporting functions

If your child is using any of the above apps then make sure you show them how to use the reporting facilities within each app and ensure your child knows that they must tell you or another trusted adult if they see anything upsetting online. Use the apps together and explore the different security and privacy settings.

Further information - Is your child too young to use the above apps but is still asking you if they can join social media? Then you could suggest an alternative option. Internet Matters list several apps that have been created for younger children, they are grouped for ages 6 – 10 and ages 11 – 13:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-networks-made-for-kids/>

Net Aware provide further information about the most popular apps, games and social media sites: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/>

An Extract from Thought for the Week

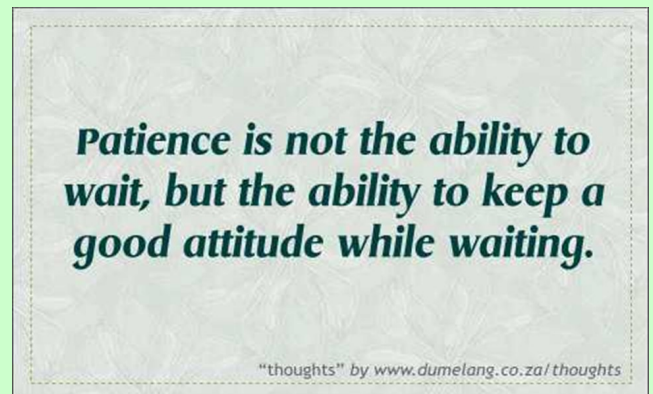
Ed Gregory
Director of Education, Diocese of Bath and Wells

The last of the five virtues that St Paul lists, after compassion, kindness, humility, and gentleness is



patience. Like all the virtues mentioned in Paul's letter to the Colossians, patience is an essential ingredient in schools and parishes across our diocese. Patience has been defined as 'The capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.' The past two years have demonstrated just how much patience you have had to draw upon and reflect to others.

Thank you for the patience, the endurance, that you show which empowers yourself and others to grow, to achieve incredible goals, to flourish.



Middle School Transfers—Info for Y4 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-guide/>



Star of the Week is Louisa, nominated by office staff, for being consistently cheerful, polite and helpful when delivering the morning registers.

Class 1 The Kindness Award goes to Max for being a tidying up champion! Mrs Hall has chosen Victoria for this weeks Achievement Award for some excellent sounding out in her reading.

Class 2 The Achievement Award goes to Oscar T for working really hard in maths. Noah gets the Kindness Award this week for being such a kind friend by helping others at beach school.

Wellbeing

By Kelly Twiss



The Importance of Recognising our Emotions

People who are good at noticing how they feel and can calm themselves down or can adjust their behaviour accordingly will manage the everyday stresses of life better and enjoy healthy relationships and manage difficulties and setbacks more responsibly

Recognising your emotions and learning to manage them is one of the most important skills you



Our emotions are like our internal compass, helping us to figure out how a situation makes us feel. We need to be able to recognise when we have an emotion and what it might be telling us.

If children feel unhappy about a situation they are in - perhaps a friend that they hang out with makes them feel unhappy about themselves or they feel under pressure - it is important for them to realise that their feelings are telling them the situation isn't right for them.

Children who appear worried may be experiencing an inner dialogue of negative thoughts such as "no one likes me" or "I am not good enough." This will really affect their mindset and the way they see situations they find themselves in.

The message children need to hear is that if they believe they can do things - then they can! All they have to do is to believe it. The first step to positive mental health and wellbeing is noticing when we are feeling unhappy and changing the negative thoughts.

Children need ongoing guidance and support with their emotions to help them understand how to calm down.

Often children just need a cuddle from someone they trust when they feel overwhelmed with their feelings. Or someone to listen to them without judgment, where focus is on their feelings and not the situation

Learning to communicate with the people around them and identifying what they need in order to help them is how children develop healthy ways to regulate their emotions.

the brewhouse

Half term Offer on some Fabulous Family shows at Taunton Brewhouse.

This October half term, keep the kids entertained by coming to see some fabulous family shows at Taunton Brewhouse! Take advantage of our special half term offer (runs from 17 – 29 Oct). Come to **TWO** or more shows and receive a discount of **20%** off the total cost! Offer restricted to Shark in the Park, Comedy Club, Jay Foreman's Disgusting Songs for Revolting Children (and grown-ups!) and The Selfish Giant. When contacting the Box Office please quote offer code WILDWOOD or RIVERBANK.

24 – 25 Oct Times vary

Shark in the Park (Suitable for All Ages)

Timothy Pope is looking through his telescope – but wait, is that a Shark, in the Park!?

From the creative team behind *The Hairy Maclary Show* – see all 3 of Nick Sharratt's *Shark in the Park* books live on Stage!



26 Oct 2pm

Comedy Club for Kids (Suitable for 6+)

Comedy Club 4 Kids brings the best stand-ups and sketch acts from the international circuit together for an audience of children and their families... but without the rude bits

29 October 2pm

Jay Foreman's Disgusting Songs for Revolting Children (and grown-ups!)(Suitable for 6+)

Laugh your way through this devilishly cheeky hour of songs, poems and comedy for children of all ages in this family friendly show which regularly sells out its entire runs at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

31 October 1pm and 3pm

The Selfish Giant (Suitable for 3+)

Inspired by the touching children's story *The Selfish Giant* by Oscar Wilde, Bristol's two leading family theatre experts are combining forces to explore an unusual friendship, and how even the grumpiest giant's heart can melt when Spring finally comes.

9 Dec – 2 Jan Times vary

Wind in the Willows (Suitable for All Ages)

For those schools coming to Wind in the Willows here is some more info about the show!

"There's nothing quite like messing around in boats."

Mole has never really left home before. But today, something is different. The world outside is calling, and he feels like it is time to answer...

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