

A message from Mrs Collins

Welcome back to what has already been an exciting autumn term! We hope you had a restful summer and are ready for a fantastic year ahead. It has been wonderful to see our children return with such

enthusiasm, and we are especially pleased with how well our Reception children have settled in. It's heartwarming to watch them make new friends and start their journey of learning about life in school.

At our school, as part of the CLF Trust, we are committed to our core values, which focus on improving all children's life chances. An important indicator of success in achieving this is regular attendance at school. I urge all parents to prioritise your child's attendance this term. Please note that there is no entitlement to term-time holidays, and any absences for this reason are likely to be marked as unauthorised.

If you do choose to go away during the term, I kindly ask that you don't encourage your children to lie about their absence. Honesty is one of our key values, and we want to instil this principle in our pupils.

As you know, the children's safety is of utmost priority, so I need to address an important issue regarding parking and driving in our local area.

Recently, there have been some near misses with children almost being hit by cars around the school. I'm sure you can imagine how distressing an incident like this would be for the whole school community. It is imperative all drviers exercise a high degree of care whilst driving.

To ensure the safety of our children, I kindly ask all parents and guardians to adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1. **Park Responsibly:** Please avoid parking on double yellow lines and ensure that you do not block driveways or obstruct traffic.
- 2. **Be Mindful of Speed Limits:** Always observe the speed limits in our school zone. Slower speeds allow for better reaction times and help protect our children.
- 3. Watch for Pedestrians: Please be extra vigilant for children crossing the road, especially during peak times.
- 4. **Encourage Walking or Cycling:** If possible, consider walking or cycling with your child to school. This not only promotes physical health but also reduces traffic congestion.
- 5. **Communicate with Other Drivers:** If you see any unsafe behavior, kindly remind fellow parents and drivers of our collective responsibility to keep our children safe

Together, we can create a safer environment for our children. Your cooperation and support in following these guidelines are greatly appreciated.

Value: honesty

Quote: "Honesty is the cornerstone of all success, without which confidence and ability to perform shall cease to exist." — Mary Kay Ash (American author and founder of Mary Kay cosmetics)

The Photo of the Week





Redstart Primary School, Redstart Road, Chard, Somerset, TA20 1SD 01460 67457

www.theredstartprimaryschool.clf.uk

E-mail:info@rps.clf.uk



Nursery

The nursery children have settled in well to the nursery provision and we will continue to welcome more children next term. Our returning children have made new friendships and continue to make steady progress.

All the children have engaged with enthusiasm into our new Topic 'All about me/Into the woods.' We have been focusing on our core books 'Owl Babies' 'Going on a bear hunt,' 'Goldilocks and the three bears' and 'So much.' which the children have been engaged in a variety of activities both inside and outside. They have learnt core songs and rhymes to support their understanding. We have explored concepts of big, medium, small, numbers, names, colours, and shapes. We have been talking in depth about families and feelings and reflecting on learning through various new displays.

We continue to immerse the children in various activities and have linked in the season of Autumn and the changing environment around them, getting them to explore and notice, through walks and collecting leaves.

Parent's please continue to upload photos and experiences at home, your child's key worker will share with your observations so far and will discuss progress soon at set meetings.

As the weather gets colder, please can you provide wellington boots, waterproof all in ones, coats, hats, and plenty of spare clothes for the red bags.

Thank you to all the parents who have provided a family photograph which has been a lovely starting point to talk about the importance of our families and significant people in our families. The children have made a lovely display with all their comments about their family. Thank you for continuing to upload experiences at home so we can share within the nursery.











Reception

We have been so impressed with how the children have settled into their new routines in Reception. Since starting school, the children have made friends, become familiar with all of our resources, enjoyed painting, cooking, learning new games, they have begun reading and the list goes on! Our focus story this half term is The Little Red Hen. The children have acted out the story, made puppets to retell the story, learnt key vocabulary and made a bakery to sell their own playdough creations. Leading on from this story focus, we have learnt about harvest and autumn. The children are enjoying exploring the areas of our Forest School. Remember to check on Tapestry for more detailed information about what we have been doing in class. If you are having trouble logging in, please let us know.

A few reminders: please make sure your child has a spare set of clothes. If you borrow any of our clothes, please send them back in as soon as possible. With all the rainy weather, our supplies are running low! Please help your child learn how to put on and zip up their coat - there have been some chilly days. Please make sure all shoes are velcro so children can independently put on their shoes.

The Reception Team



We have had a fantastic start to Year 1 and we are so impressed with the effort from the children. They have settled really well into a more formal style of learning. We start each day with a morning activity at our tables; writing, colouring, maths and drawing. In Science, our topic has been all about Animals and the children have learnt about animal groups, what they look like, where they live and what they eat. In our Art, we have been practising a range of skills to create animal pictures – painting, collage and drawing. Reading is the main focus in Y1 and children complete phonics and reading activities daily. Please support your child by reading their book at home with them; this really supports their progress. PE continues to be on Wednesday and Friday and Forest School is alternate Wednesdays. We have really enjoyed getting to know your children and we are looking forward to another busy half term.









Welcome to Year 2! The adults are very excited about the year ahead and we are looking forward to seeing all that the children can do. The children have settled in quickly and are showing how they are honest, hard working, kind and can follow instructions.

We have already worked incredibly hard in all areas of the curriculum. The children have learnt all about Beegu, an alien from outer space who crashed on Earth. They have been writing sentences describing how Beegu looks and have even retold the story in their own words.

In Maths we have been comparing numbers and seeing if we can order them from the smallest amount to the largest amount. The children know to check the tens and ones to compare. They have also learnt to find ten more and less of a number.

In our afternoons we have been investigating materials and their properties in Science and have been creating lovely pieces of Art work. We hope if you were able to come and see the children's after school last Wednesday you were impressed.

A reminder that it is a continuing expectation that the children will read four times a week at home. We will check their reading logs each week, on a Friday, and will be congratulating those children who have achieved this target. Thank you to those who are logging in and practising their spellings on Spelling Shed too! You will have received an email about our Year 2 'Forest School Evening' taking place on the 22nd October; we look forward to seeing the children there!

Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 2 Team











We have been blown away by the fantastic learning the children have already learnt in such a small time. They settled back into school very well.

In our writing lessons, we delved into the fiction unit featuring the book *Leon and the Place Between*. The children have worked hard to create vivid settings and character descriptions. In Maths, we have been focusing on place value and working with numbers up to 1000. Coming up, we will be introducing the formal method of column addition and column subtraction. Our topic lessons have taken us on a journey around the globe, where we explored various settlements, including continents, countries, counties, towns, cities, and villages. It's been brilliant to see the children engage with geography and get to know the world around them. A gentle reminder to please keep reading with your child at least 4 times a week. If this is not met, your child will be asked to attend reading club on a Friday lunchtime.

We have had an absolutely fantastic start to the new school year and we are all really enjoying getting to know your children. We have been hugely impressed with their keenness to learn and positive attitudes at the start of Year 4.

Our overarching topic this half term is called 'Exploring Europe' where we are starting to learn more about some of the countries in Europe. So far, we have looked at atlases to locate countries in Europe, started to learn some capital cities and identified some other physical features, for example mountain ranges and rivers. We will be comparing Chard to a town in southern Poland looking at similarities and differences between the areas. We will also be writing letters to a child in a Polish school and creating some Polish Paper Cutting artwork too.

In Literacy we have been reading some Polish Folktales and have linked this with some of our guided reading texts. In our writing, we are learning to use fronted adverbials to make our writing more interesting to read; see if your child can remember any of these at home. We are also learning about how to use inverted commas (speech marks) correctly in our written work. See if your child can spot these in their reading books as they read with you at home (We have been super impressed by the number of children who read at least 4 times a week. Please do try to continue this all year, it makes a huge difference to the progress the children make!). The children enjoyed creating their own paintings exploring colour mixing by adding white to explore different tones. They then decorated these with their own 'Dragon from Krakow' silhouettes from one of our Polish Folktales.

In Maths, we are continuing with our Place Value Topic and have been looking at rounding 4 digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. At the end of Year 4, children are tested by a statutory government assessment for their times-table knowledge, so we have already started teaching and revising these in-depth. Please encourage your child to use online websites to support them at home 'Timestables.co.uk' is really good as is 'Hit the Button' on the 'Topmarks' website.

In Science, we have started our unit of work about Sound. See if your child can remember any of the sound experiments we have completed in class and what they learnt from them.

Both classes had a fantastic trip to Holyrood this week to take part in Gamelan Workshops, the children really enjoyed playing the instruments.

As always, we are just here if we can help with anything at all. Please do catch us at the end of the day or contact us via the school email address and we will endeavour to quickly answer any queries or questions you may have.





The children have had a great first month in Year 5 and have settled in brilliantly. It's been great getting to know them all.

In Maths, we have revised and developed our place value knowledge with units of rounding, negative numbers, and working with numbers up to a million. Last week, the children challenged themselves by working with a different number system of Roman Numerals! Please remind your child of our expectation of doing at least 10 minutes of Maths homework per week, which acts as revision from our lessons in school.

In our writing lessons, the enthusiasm has been fantastic! We've been using the book The Viewer as our springboard for creativity. The children have been mastering various grammar techniques while crafting a setting description and a diary entry from the character's perspective. They are just finishing off their persuasive letter in our non-fiction unit where they are incorporating facts about the environment.

In topic the children have learnt about biomes and how our planet is subjected to pollution, deforestation and climate change. Learning about this has encouraged us all to be mindful of how we can each play our part for the environment.

Thank you for your support with encouraging your child to read 4 times a week and continue to work hard with their homework.

Welcome to Year 6. Both classes have made a great start to their final year at Redstart, impressing us with their enthusiasm for learning.

We have already found out so much about our World War 2 history topic. The children have been debating the causes of the war as well as looking in detail at the Battle of Britain. We have seen some incredible work in their books. In Art, we have been using shading and cross hatching techniques. We plan to create sketches of the Blitz and we will be finding out more about the war artist Graham Sutherland. After Kilve, we will be making sock monkeys as part of our Design and Technology project linked to 'make, do and mend'. There will also be a WW2 themed day after half term.

In Science lessons we have been exploring the circulatory system. The children really enjoyed having the opportunity to watch a pig heart and lungs being dissected live. There were also many brave candidates to handle the organs and getting a closer look at the inner workings of the heart. Another one of the highlights of the first few weeks has been meeting up with our Year 1 buddies to help them with their reading.

Thank you for your support in filling in Kilve letters and hoodie order forms. We are hoping for some dry and pleasant weather next week for our week away. A reminder that Holyrood have an open morning for Redstart pupils on Tuesday 22nd October. Children will need to be accompanied by an adult for this visit and returned to Redstart once the visit is over.

A quick reminder that the school expectation is to read at least 4 times a week at home and to learn the weekly spellings. Maths homework is set on a Tuesday to be handed in by Friday. We thank you with your support with these areas of home learning.







Forest School

It has been fantastic to have all the children back at Forest School. The weather has been predictably unpredictable! We have had downpours, and we have had extraordinarily warm, sunny days. By now the leaves should have dropped an awful lot, but because it has been such a wet year there are still many, many green leaves on the trees.

We have been proud of the way our new Year 6 children have embraced the extra responsibility of being in Year 6. They learn about the importance for the environment of recycling and they actually go out and do recycling every Friday. As well as this, the Year 6s have worked tirelessly

cutting back the brambles and reestablishing our meadow pathways.

Mr Robinson has been introducing other classes to the joys of toolwork, using bowsaws and drills to make Forest School name badges. Hopefully, some of these have made their way home so you can see what they have done. The Key Stage 1 children have made a great start to Forest School learning all about the Redstart site and the delights of the pond, Willow Wood, Hazel Corner, Rabbit Hill and the Swamp!

We still have some older children coming to Forest School without wellies. Welly boots really are essential for Forest School - having wellies means we can go out in any weather without worrying about getting wet, muddy shoes and without worrying we are going to bring mud and leaves into the classrooms. A waterproof coat is also essential. The weather is so changeable in Somerset that children need a coat in school every time they do Forest School. Even it the day starts sunny and bright, it can be pouring with rain by break time.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is high priority at The Redstart Primary School. We take every opportunity to ensure that our pupil's safety is paramount. We want our pupils to be healthy and happy and to develop well, both physically and mentally.

Our Safeguarding Team

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Rebecca Collins:



Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are:
Mrs Joanne Margetts, Early Intervention and Attendance Lead



Mrs Tara Duke, Nurture Lead



The DSL for Nursery is Mrs Caroline Miller:



Mrs Kerri Norma, Senco



Safeguarding

Our Policy

We follow the latest Government Guidance to ensure we are fulfilling our duties in this important area. Our Child Protection and Safeguarding policy is updated in line with the most recent Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance. You can find our policy on the website in the Safeguarding section. www.theredstartprimaryschool.co.uk/449/safeguarding This gives information regarding the measures we have in place to safeguard every child at The Redstart Primary School.

Online Safety

You can find online safety advice on our website – please follow this link to help keep your child safe. Also, please watch out for any online safety information from The National College shared on our social media page.

How we keep our pupils safe at school

All staff and volunteers are trained in how to recognise signs of abuse in children and the internal processes for the reporting of such concerns. Whilst all members of staff are on hand and willing to speak to children who may be upset or concerned, we also have child -friendly posters displayed around the school and on the main board in the school hall with photographs of the Designated Safeguarding Leads who the children may also ask to speak to. Every child will also be aware of the 'Worry Boxes' in their classrooms where they can write and post their concerns should they wish to do so. Please do remind them of this option

What to do if you have a concern

Should any of our parents/carers or members of our local community have a concern about any child, you may contact a member of the safeguarding team. Alternatively, you may report your concern directly to Somerset Children's Social Care on **0300 123 2224**.

Where parents and children become aware of abuse happening within a school setting, it is also possible to contact the NSPCC helplines:

Help for adults concerned about a child: **0808 800 5000**.

Help for children and young people: **0800 11 11**.

If you feel you or another child is in immediate danger, please call 999.

Attendance

School Attendance - information for parents/carers

As per our attendance policy, the school undertakes regular monitoring of attendance to ensure that, where required, help and support is offered at the earliest opportunity.

In order to ensure parent/carers are kept up to date with their child's attendance record, the school will send out letters at specific intervals, for example, where there have been frequent absences or where attendance has fallen below a certain percentage. This is regardless of whether absences are authorised or where the school has been kept fully updated with the reasons for absence.

We do appreciate that it can be frustrating to receive a letter when your child has suffered absences which could not be helped i.e. where there is a rule to stay at home for 48 hours. Where the school identifies concerns (unexplained, sporadic or lengthy absences or continued lateness) parents/carers will be invited in for a meeting to discuss what support the school can provide to improve attendance.

Descriptor	Attendance	Whole Days Absent	Lost Hours of Learn- ing
Excellent	100% - 99%	0 - 2	0 - 10
Good	98% - 96%	4 - 7.5	20-37.5
Requires Improvement	95% - 91%	9.5 - 17	47.5 - 85
Persistent Absentee	90% - 86%	19 - 27	95 - 135
Critical	85% - 80%	28.5 - 38	142.5 - 190

We thank all our parents/carers for continuing to update the school office where your child has been unable to come into school.

If your child is unable to attend school due to a medical appointment, please ensure you provide us with evidence of their appointment. This could be a letter from a hospital or GP or even a screenshot of an appointment email or text.

Also, please do not inform the school that your child has an appointment or is sick if you are, in fact, going on holiday. At Redstart we teach the children the importance of integrity and this is undermined if you ask them to lie about where they have been. It is most likely that we will find out anyway since children like to talk about their lives outside of school. We would rather you were honest and we can code your child's absence correctly and know that they are safe.

Food Parcel Support

If any of our families are in need of a food parcel, please contact the school office and ask to speak with our Early Intervention Lead, Mrs Margetts. The food parcel service is provided by the Community Hub in town. Referrals made are treated confidentially. It is a 'no questions asked' service. You do not need to explain your circumstances unless you wish to and there are no income thresholds to meet to qualify. Some families may require a little support for a short time or there may be reasons for longer lasting support.

The Community Fridge food has been donated by local businesses and individuals, reducing food waste. This is available to everyone, no questions asked and no referral needed. The Pantry scheme is a referral service. Individuals and families pay £5 per week for £15 to £25 worth of groceries. For more information contact: cmorrison@holyrood.bep.ac or 07971 373831



Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



Find us here:

Chard Community Hub The Boden Centre Boden Street Chard Somerset TA20 2AX

www.chardcommunityhub.com

Get in touch:

01460 923149

secretary@chardcommunityhub.com

Follow us:





chardcommunityhub

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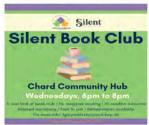


Chard Community Hub in partnership with HOLYROOD

Chard Community Hub is a dedicated space for the community of Chard to meet up, drop-in or join in with groups and activities. We are self-funded, all-inclusive, with a heart to help and serve those who need us. We strive to benefit and reduce inequalities to the people in our town and surrounding areas.

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We aim to make school shopping as affordable and sustainable as possible. We have pre-loved uniform for lots of local schools, on a 'pay as you can' or swap basis.



Wednesday Closed Thursday 10am to midday Friday Midday to 4pm 9am to midday Saturday Sunday Closed

Want to be part of our team? We're always looking for new volunteers. · Add to your CV · Give back to your community

· Make new friends

Email secretaryechardcommunityhub.com Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity



Room on the Broom



Chard Community Hub

Thursday 17 October, 3.30pm to 4.30pm Friday 18 October, 10am to 11.30am

A fun and interactive book focused, play session for children to attend with their parents/carers.

A free event with refreshments included.

For more info: mparfoot@holyrood.bep.ac



Stick Man



Chard Community Hub

Thursday 5 December, 3.30pm to 4.30pm Friday 20 December, 10am to 11.30am

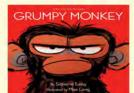
A fun and interactive book focused, play session for children to attend with their parents/carers.

A free event with refreshments included.

For more info: mparfoot@holyrood.bep.ac



Grumpy Monkey



Chard Community Hub

Thursday 14 November, 3.30pm to 4.30pm Friday 22 November, 10am to 11.30am

A fun and interactive book focused, play session for children to attend with their parents/carers.

A free event with refreshments included.

For more info: mparfoot@holyrood.bep.ac



Well-Being Drop In Looking for some guidance

Looking for some guidance and support to help you navigate the challenges of your child's mental health?

Monday During Term Time 11.30AM -12.30PM

- 11.50AM = 12.501 M
- Make new connections
- Peer support- 'you are not alone
- Mental health information/techniques responsite
- Tea/coffee/sweet treats



Boden Centre | Boden St | Chara | Somerser | TAZO ZAX | T: 0773) 4826

HOLYROOD



Hubble Bubble Halloween



Thursday 31 October 6pm to 8pm No.9 Fore Street

Make your own bubble potion | Everyone welcome | Free to attend For more info: tgreynoldseholyrood.bep.ac

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Festive Fun

Community Christmas Event



Chard Community Hub Boden Street

Friday 13 December 4pm to 7pm

Santa's Grotto | Refreshments | Craft activities | Carol singing Companionship | All welcome | Free event RSVP if possible: tgreynolds@holyrood.bep.ac 07871 913004

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18 months

FREE taster session

Our classes

0900-09L0 18 - 36 months

09L0-1020 3 - 4 years

1020-1100 4 - 6 years

Sundays

didi rugby has been devised to get young children active, teach them lots of new skills, help them grow in confidence and to make friends, all while having fun in a safe environment!

To find out more or for details on how to book please email:

ella.thomasedidirugby.com



didirugby Somerset



didirugbysomerset



Tues 29th October

10am-12pm

hosted by First Lego League National Finalists

Just the Chillis

Come and see their Lego robot at work, have a go at coding and make your own Lego creations

Free tea, coffee and snacks. Families welcome.

Forefront Community Centre 42 Fore Street



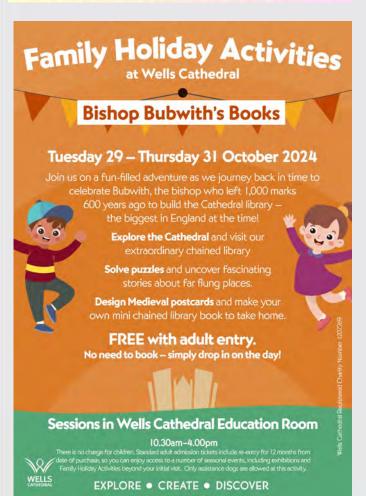




+ options for some volunteers aged 11-18 to help staff run services For details, contact Corey 07795 183133 corey.white@alsyouth.org.uk

Delivered by Active Learning & Skills - with funding & support towards local services by: Tatworth & Forton Parish Council, Crewkerne Town Council, Chard Town Council & Chard Area Youth Committee





ECOWEEK+ 11 - 20 OCT

ECOWEEK+ at WELLS CATHEDRAL

11 TO 20 OCTOBER 2024



EARTH EXPLORER TRAIL THROUGHOUT ECOWEEK+

Re-use a free Earth Explorer Trail from our 2022 Gaia Exhibition explorer trails and discover some of the Cathedral's special places with your family. Find the matching fact boards with tips on how to be a Steward of the Earth. Can you collect letters from each board to make a word and earn a sticker?



THE MOSSY CARPET 12 OCTOBER

Did you know that mosses are climate superheroes? Join us on a mossy adventure when we'll learn about this tiny but hugely important plant. Watch a short film, look at mosses under the lens and get creative with wool to help us make a mossy carpet! Suitable for all ages and abilities.



ENVIRONMENTAL STORYTIME 15 AND 18 OCTOBER

Join us at Wells Cathedral in Wells Environment Week to hear fun, engaging stories about the importance of nature and caring for the environment around us. Storytime will take place in the Lady Chapel, where we can enjoy the bright, colourful stained-glass windows.



PRAYERS FOR THE PLANET THROUGHOUT ECOWEEK+

Come and tie your hopes and wishes to our prayer tree in the Cathedral Undercroft with sustainable seed paper. At the end of the project, the prayers will then be planted by volunteer Open to all ages.



60 STEPS TOWARDS BEING GREEN THROUGHOUT ECOWEEK+

Visit the Cathedral's Environment and Sustainability page to download our 60 steps Towards Doing Grown leaflet — a straightforward guide listing simple changes you can make to your dayto-day life which will protect our planet.



Find out more at wellscathedral.org.uk/ecoweek



Monday

5.10pm - Beginner Junior TKD 5.40pm - Int & Adv Junior TKD 6.25pm - TeenTKD 7.25pm - Adult TKD

Tuesday

5.30pm - 5-6yrs - Ninjas 5.30pm - 7-10yrs - Ninjas 6.20pm - Female Only 14yrs+ Pad work, Fitness & Self Defence 7.15pm - Open TKD

Thursday

3.40pm - 3-4yrs - Ninjas 4.15pm - 5-6yrs - Ninjas 5.05pm - Junior TKD 6.05pm - Beginner TKD 6.20pm - Intermediate TKD 7.20pm - Black Belts Only

Friday

6.15pm - Open TKD



077969 50134



WWW.CHARDTKD.CO.UK

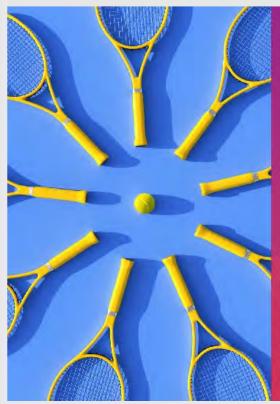


BUCK HOUSE ACADEMY, HOLYROOD STREET









CHARD TENNIS CLUB JUNIOR SESSIONS 1-3PM

MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER

TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER

THURSDAY 31 ST OCTOBER

FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

£40 for all five sessions. £10 for one session. Sessions must be booked in advance. Email the coach Roy Collins roy_collins@hotmail.co.uk

Only 16 spaces available for Y3-Y6: first come, first served!

