

24 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that everyone has enjoyed their first week of the Summer Term. Hopefully, you all enjoyed a restful break and are ready for what promises to be another busy and rewarding term in school.

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Parents' Evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you attend, celebrating your children's achievements and recognising the progress they have made over the past two terms. These conversations are invaluable in helping us work together to support each child, particularly in focusing on any areas they may still find challenging as we all work towards them being well prepared for their next class.

I would like to share some updates regarding staffing. As you are aware, Mrs Cloud has taken on the offer of extending her hours in her role of assistant SENDCo at Axe Valley Academy. We are all extremely pleased that the work and training she completed whilst working at St Andrew's supported her to achieve this new role and wish her continued success with this. To replace Mrs Cloud, we have been able to extend the hours of Mrs Hewett and Ms Trinder, who have been working with us since the autumn term. They have proven to be valuable members of our team and we look forward to them being in school with us more often to support the children further with their learning.

A huge thank you to our wonderful Friends of School (FoS) for organising such a fantastic range of Easter events. The Easter Bingo was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by the children and families alike. This event raised an incredible £751.72. Thank you to all who helped to organise this event. We are also very grateful for the special visit from the Easter Bunny, which brought lots of smiles and excitement across the school and everyone was delighted to receive some early Easter chocolate!

A special thank you must go to Simon and Georgina Burrough, who provided us with a fantastic insight into the life of lambing on the farm and turned this into a thrilling fundraising event for our school and the amazing charity Biff's Battle. Their Lambing Bingo event was so well organised and had many of us thoroughly invested in the lives and wellbeing of the flock! Thank you to the sponsors of this event who enabled an incredible profit of £1155, with £577.50 being donated to each charity.

As we move into the summer term, the school are taking stock of our computing equipment as we aim to purchase some new laptops. Your support with fundraising goes directly back into school to support the children's education and the experiences they have throughout their time in school with us so thank you for your continued support with this. It is greatly appreciated.

As the weather begins to improve (hopefully!), a reminder that children can now attend school in the correct summer uniform. This is:

- Grey skirt, pinafore, trousers, skorts or shorts
- Green polo shirt (branded with school label optional)
- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (branded with school logo)
- Optional navy fleece (branded with school logo)
- Socks - plain grey, black or white
- Sensible black school shoes (no trainers or heels)
- Blue checked summer dress (small gingham check)

The children continue to tell us that they like to wear their PE kit into school on the days when they have PE. On PE days children must wear the correct PE uniform and not items which are heavily logoed or of a different colour. Please may I also remind everyone that trainers should only be worn on PE days. Our PE uniform is:

- Navy blue shorts or leggings
- Green T-shirt (branded with school label optional)
- Plain tracksuit trousers and a sweatshirt may be worn during colder weather (plain navy or black)
- Trainers or plimsolls

In the interest of hygiene and safety, children's hair should be tied back if it is long enough to reach the shoulders. Hairstyles should be smart and not extreme in nature.

Please ensure that jewellery is not worn to school, with the exception of one set of studs and a watch. As our climate is so changeable, please ensure that all children have a waterproof coat in school each day. We also request that children do not attend school with temporary tattoos, make up or nail varnish.

Children may bring in sunscreen, in a named bottle please, which they can apply to themselves before going outside for activities. All children need a refillable water bottle every day.

The Summer Term is always full of exciting opportunities. We have a wide range of events and trips planned, which enrich the curriculum and provide memorable experiences for the children. We are also pleased to see that the village playpark is open again for families to enjoy and that the community garden beside the village hall has significantly enhanced this space. The village Eco Group have worked incredibly hard to raise funds and bring this project to life for all to enjoy. Gill and Ian Keam continue to work tirelessly with the school Eco Team and they have secured

a raised bed for the school to maintain within this area. We shall be working with a group of children from school to plant the bed over the coming weeks. We aim to make this a bed of edible soft fruits, herbs and edible flowers. The aim being that should anyone need herbs or ingredients they can help themselves from the bed. If any families are keen to help with planting after school one day, or have any plants they are able to donate for the bed, please let me or the school office know. We shall aim to start planting after school on Thursday 30th April.

As we move through the summer term, we shall have many formal and informal opportunities for the children to transition into their next classes or year groups. On Wednesday 1st July and Monday 6th July, the children will spend some time in their new classrooms getting to know their new teachers and mixing with their new classmates.

We look forward to several key events in the coming weeks, including Sports Day, Owls Class worship for parents and carers to attend, the Year 5 and 6 class play and Friends of the School activities. Our Leavers' Service will be on Wednesday 22nd July, which will be a special occasion for our Year 6 pupils.

We have many sporting events booked for this term which will offer opportunities from maypole dancing, a cricket tournament, a swimming gala and sports day. Sports day is planned for the afternoon of Monday 22nd June with the reserve date being Monday 29th June.

Year 5 and 6 will be going to Chard Leisure Centre for a series of swimming lessons in June and Year 5 will have the opportunity to visit The Axe Valley Academy for a STEM Science day on Wednesday 24th June and they will also be visiting the Waffle House during this term.

Just a reminder that our school class photo day is Tuesday 5th May. We are hoping that there is fine weather on the day so that we can also use the school field to have a whole school photograph taken.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We shall keep you updated as other events are finalised.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Donna Butler
Head of School