



## Weekly Update: 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Dates for your diary

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>        | Deadline for Christmas Shoe Boxes                                      |
| <b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 7pm</b>  | Free Parent Webinar: Creating a Safe Digital Playground for Your Child |
| <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>       | Stand Against Violence Workshop for Year 6                             |
| <b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>     | Mrs Robinson from Huish Academy visiting Year 6                        |
| <b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>      | Christingle Making (Fundraising for The Children's Society)            |
| <b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>         | Christmas Jumper day (Fundraising for Save the Children)               |
| <b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>       | Afternoon Nativity performance to parents                              |
| <b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>     | Christmas Dinner   |
| <b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>      | Panto, gifted by the PTA   |
| <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am</b> | Evening Nativity performance to parents                                |
| <b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>       | Carol Service at St Andrew's Church. Last Day of term                  |
| <b>Autumn INSET Days</b>                      | First day of the spring term   |
| <b>Autumn Half Term</b>                       | 4 September and 20 October   |
| <b>Spring term</b>                            | 21 October -29 October   |
| <b>Spring INSET Days</b>                      | 2 January- 28 March 2024   |
| <b>Spring Half Term</b>                       | 2 January and 9 February 2024  |
| <b>Summer term</b>                            | 10 February-18 February 2024   |
| <b>Summer INSET Day</b>                       | 15 April- 24 July 2024   |
| <b>Summer Half Term</b>                       | 15 April 2024  |
|   | 25 May- 2 June 2023  |

### Anti-Bullying Week

The children learned a lot in their 'Anti-Bullying Week' activities where the focus was on what 'banter' is and when banter can become bullying behaviour. The children were reminded to 'tell a trusted adult' when they have concerns about themselves and others. 'Odd socks day' reminded us that we are all different and unique, and that we respect one another.

### Remembrance

Poppy wreaths were presented at the village remembrance service on Sunday at St Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel- thank you to all the pupils who joined me. I also know many children joined other services in the area, including representing Scouts and Cadet groups.

### Fire Service Visit

Lee from the Fire Service held two great sessions with Years 2 and 5 this week. This was an opportunity to be inspired for a future in the service, and formed part of our 'Primary Futures' career programme.

The Fire Service offer a Free Home Fire Safety Visit to all households in Somerset. They are trying to educate people to prevent house fires as these are the reason for majority of their callouts. To arrange a free visit please call 0800 050 2999.

## English Homes Competition

Attached is a competition work sheet for the children to do if they would like to. Winners across local schools will win a Cadburys hamper 😊. The winning pictures will be displayed in their office window in Langport during the festive break.

### Message from Mr Bridgeman

Between Tuesday and Thursday, Blenheim, Camelot, Discovery and Gala took part in a Nationwide Maths competition on Times Table Rockstars called 'England Rocks!' Over 4,000 schools took part, with the winners being the school with the highest average of correct answers per child during the competition period. Our children got thoroughly involved, with teachers showing classes live updated leader boards showing our school competing against schools from London, Liverpool and many other places across England. Due to the commitment of our children, Curry Rivel achieved some amazing results:

- Our school finished 130th out of 4400 schools.
- Curry Rivel was the 8th best school in the South of England.
- Blenheim Class finished 93rd out of 30,000 classes taking part, putting them in the top 0.4% across the country!

Congratulations to the top scoring students:

1. Joseph C - Blenheim
2. Casper B - Blenheim
3. Holly T – Blenheim

Well done to all children involved – a fun, exciting way to represent our school on a national scale and to practise the vital skill of times tables.

### Potential Governors Needed

The Governing Board of Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School is looking to plan for succession and change and we would like to know whether any parents/carers would be interested in this role.

So what does the Board of Governors do? Governing boards work together to:

- develop a vision and strategy for the school or trust
- oversee the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent
- hold the school leaders to account to ensure that every pupil has the best possible education
- engage with pupils, staff, parents and the school community to understand their views

Reasons to volunteer as a governor:

- Help ensure voices are heard
- A rewarding experience
- Leadership development
- Improve the lives of children and young people
- Make a difference in the communities your organisation is connected to
- Build professional skills and networks

We are looking for potential future governors for our board. You would be joining the board at an exciting time in our development, where we are striving for excellence. If you'd like to contribute to the development of our school, we would love to hear from you! Please get in touch with me, Ali Pook, if you would like to talk further about the role.

Headteacher:  
Mrs Ali Pook

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## Digital Leaders: Message from Miss Carnie

Work with school staff to identify opportunities for improving computing and computing equipment within school.

- Promote how to use ICT and computing safely and responsibly.
- Ensure that all devices are charging at the end of the day
- To monitor devices in classrooms, ensuring that each class has the correct ipads and chrome books.
- To promote e-safety to other pupils within school.
- Assist Miss Carnie with organising, tidying and maintaining the computing equipment.

If you would like to apply, please can pupils complete the simple application form available in classes from today.

## Message from The PTA

### Christmas Fair

Join us for a festive extravaganza at Curry Rivel School PTA fair! Immerse yourself in a winter wonderland featuring a magical grotto, charming stalls adorned with Christmas decorations, offering a delightful array of sweets, gifts, dazzling jewellery, and the first-time addition of a milkshake bar sponsored by Daisy vending with festive flavours. Plus, enjoy the culinary delights of the upgraded PTA food hut, generously loaned by Blackdown Shepherd Huts, offering hot food, epic hot chocolates, and mulled wine. The Firehouse adds to the excitement with their shiny new rocket, serving both sweet and savoury pizzas. The festivities unfold from 11 am to 2 pm on 2nd December – bring family and friends for a joyous day of community spirit!



### Santa's Grotto!

Thursday 30th November from 3.30pm

Friday 1st December from 3.30pm

Saturday 2nd December from 11am

Step into the enchanting world of Santa's Grotto, where joy fills the air and holiday magic comes to life! We have gone even bigger this year so get ready to immerse yourself in a festive adventure with Santa Claus, complete with delightful gifts, heartwarming story, and the perfect photo op with the jolly man in red.

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Don't forget to arrive 10 minutes early to let the cheerful PTA Elves welcome you. We will have refreshment to warm you up served from our PTA shepherd hut kindly lent to us by Blackdown Shepherd Huts. Thursday and Friday use the School back gates via water street, and on Saturday, follow the festive path through our Christmas Fair via the front gates. Merry moments await!

Open to all. £5 a ticket.

Prebook your tickets on our website [www.CRPTA.co.uk](http://www.CRPTA.co.uk)



### Wreath making

We still have a few spaces at our wreath making night so please visit our website shop for a lovely evening of chat, craft and festive cheer.

### PTA Bux

Get ready for December events by buying all your PTA Bux at once! 1 PTA Bux is worth 50p. We will still accept cash at events but the following will accept Bux too.

- Christmas Fair 2nd Dec: PTA games, food, and drink stalls. You will be able to purchase PTA Bux at the fair using card or cash.
- Elfridges on 8th Dec: In-school shop with gifts starting from £1.
- Kids Raffle on 15th Dec: Win exciting gifts in class for 50p or £2 a strip.

PTA Bux orders will be delivered to classrooms as they come in.

### Lates

We are aiming to reduce the number of pupils who arrive late.

| Class        | Number of last week | Number of lates this week |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Pippin       | 3                   | 3                         |
| Maigold      | 4                   | 2                         |
| Gala         | 5                   | 4                         |
| Discovery    | 4                   | 2                         |
| Camelot      | 6                   | 3                         |
| Blenheim     | 10                  | 4                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>32</b>           | <b>18</b>                 |

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Please remember that being late can lead to your child:

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss of learning time.

| Minutes late per day during the school year | Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year |
|---|--|
| 5 mins                                      | 3.4 days                                     |
| 10 mins                                     | 6.9 days                                     |
| 15 mins                                     | 10.3 days                                    |
| 20 mins                                     | 13.8 days                                    |
| 30 mins                                     | 20.7 days                                    |

## Attendance

**Class attendance award: Discovery (97.7%)**

**Most improved class attendance: Camelot (92.8%)**

## Celebration

We were able to welcome parents/carers to our celebration assembly today. Well done to the following pupils:

### Class Cup Awards

Pippin: Charlie  
Maigold: Finlo  
Gala: Azalea  
Discovery: Oscar  
Camelot: Billy  
Blenheim: Rupert

### Lunchtime stars

Pippin: Razan  
Maigold: Ava  
Gala: Rosie  
Discovery: Grisha  
Camelot: Leo  
Blenheim: Alfie

There were so many impressive pieces of writing, and artwork for the flood day- well done to all those pupils who submitted their creations. The most impressive work were:

Pippin: Jacob  
Maigold: Lily HB  
Gala: Bella  
Discovery: Arya  
Camelot: Finley  
Blenheim: Jasper

### 50 Merit (Dojo) Certificates:

Gala: Eli C, Dot, Bella, Oliver  
Discovery: Dylan, Emily, Lily

### Achievements outside of school:

Writing a Children in Need Poem: Ellie-Mai

Grade 5 Gymnastics: Rosie

Have a good weekend.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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