



## Weekly Update: 29th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Dates for your diary

<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	Open Morning for prospective parents 9-10.30am
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Live Harvest lessons from the NFU
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9.15am</b>	Harvest Festival at St Andrew's Church- Families welcome (Donations for the Curry Rivel Foodbank)
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> &amp; Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Parents' Evenings
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Book Fair
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	PTA Break the Rules Non-Uniform Day
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b>	PTA Bags2School
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	PTA Disco
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	INSET training day- school closed- staff training day
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Half term holiday (PTA Pumpkin Trail)
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 8.45-9.30am</b>	PFSA Coffee Morning- Open to all
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Anti-Bullying Week
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Odd Socks day
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Children in Need Non-School Uniform
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christingle Making (Fundraising for The Children's Society)
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7-9pm</b>	PTA Wreath Making
<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
	Evening Nativity performance to parents
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Panto, gifted by the PTA
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am</b>	Carol Service at St Andrew's Church
<b>Autumn INSET Days</b>	4 September and 20 October
<b>Autumn Half Term</b>	21 October -29 October
<b>Spring term</b>	2 January- 28 March 2024
<b>Spring INSET Days</b>	2 January and 9 February 2024
<b>Spring Half Term</b>	10 February-18 February 2024
<b>Summer term</b>	15 April- 24 July 2024
<b>Summer INSET Day</b>	15 April 2024
<b>Summer Half Term</b>	25 May- 2 June 2023

Headteacher:  
Mrs Ali Pook

Curry Rivel C of E VC Primary School, Church Street, Curry Rivel, Langport, Somerset TA10 0HD  
Telephone: 01458 251404

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## Democracy Day

The children enjoyed visiting the school's Polling Station (set up by Mr Silver) yesterday to make their secret vote on class ballot papers for the school council- over 60 children put their names forward and made posters to persuade others to vote for them. Six school councillors have been elected and will be announced next week!

## Harvest Festival

Harvest is a wonderful opportunity for all schools and nurseries to help children and young people to think about how food reaches their plates and to say thank you for all they have received, as well as giving to those in need. Our harvest festival service will take place on Thursday 5th October at St Andrew's Church, at 9.15am. Parents/carers will be welcome to join us- there may be standing room only if this is a popular event. We will be demonstrating 'courageous advocacy' by supporting the important work of the Curry Rivel Foodbank, and ask that children bring dried foodstuffs (tins or packets) to the Harvest service. Pupils from the school have made a wonderful Harvest display, having worked with flower arranging experts at St Andrew's- we look forward to seeing their creations. The PTA will also be serving tea and coffee.

## Parents' Evenings

You are warmly invited to your child's parents' evening. We are pleased that these meetings will be 'face to face' and 'in person'. Parents' evenings will be held on Monday 9th October and Thursday 12 October. The timing of the meeting is 10 minutes, and teachers will be providing you with some feedback on your child's start to the new school year and progress. The teacher will also answer any questions you may have and you will have a chance to look at your child's work. Please be aware that the length of the meeting will be rigidly adhered to and if, in the meantime or after the meeting, you wish to discuss any issues or concerns please remember that your child's class teacher will be pleased to make an appointment to see you to discuss the matters further.

We have sent you a link via email which should make booking really easy. If it is impossible for you to attend on one of these evenings, please see your child's class teacher to make an alternative arrangement. For some families, where parents are separated, we hope you can attend these meetings together – please contact the school office if an additional appointment is needed. During the parents' evening, the school's parent teacher association (PTA) will be providing free refreshments and pre-loved uniform in the hall where you can also view your child's books. The PTA will also be selling Disco tickets and we will have a Book Fair. The school SENDCo, Mrs Monk, will be in the hall on Monday 9th October and we hope to have the Parish Council present too. The Year 6 House Captains will be available to take you to your child's classroom for your appointment.



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## 'Open Door' Policy

Curry Rivel School staff ensure that they are present at the beginning/end of everyday; this enables you to pass on information and ask quick questions. If you have a concern that may require a longer conversation, please email the school office ([office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk](mailto:office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk)) and we will get back to you. We would ask you to communicate with us whenever you have a concern regarding your child so that we can discuss the matter and hopefully resolve it at an early stage. In the first instance, you may want to talk over a concern with the class teacher. The headteacher is also keen to know if you have any worries and is happy to talk in person or over the phone if that is easier.

## Fidget Toys

At the end of last term, we noticed an influx of fidget toys and games like 'Pop Its' coming into school. We are aware that some fidget toys can help children calm and focus but in some cases they can actually distract themselves and others from learning. If a child requires a fidget toy, they will have a plan and contract they have to sign and agree to. In most cases, the school will provide approved fidget toys for children.

## Book Fair Competition

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to school from the 10<sup>th</sup> October. As part of this wonderful event, the PTA are offering the children a chance to win a £5 book voucher to spend at the Fair. To be in with a chance of winning, all the children need to do is create a picture of their favourite book character and hand it into their class teacher. Entries need to be in by Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. A winner from each class will be chosen at random.

**BOOK FAIR**  
Tuesday 10th October - Monday 16th October

- Tuesday 10th  
Front playground
- Wednesday 11th  
Back playground
- Thursday 12th  
At parents evening
- Monday 16th  
Front playground

Curry Rivel PTA  
CRPTA.co.uk

## Music Opportunity

The Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and tickets are now on sale from Westlands. It's a rare chance to see outstanding performance locally: <https://www.westlandsyevovil.co.uk/whats-on/all-shows/bso-on-your-doorstep-from-the-hebrides-to-padstow-family-concert#tickets>

## Lates

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

Class	Number of lates last week	Number of lates this week
Pippin	1	3
Maigold	2	1
Gala	3	3
Discovery	1	1
Camelot	2	3
Blenheim	3	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>

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

## Overall attendance this week:

Highest attendance: Maigold 96.4% (Target 96%)

Most improved: Maigold

## Celebration

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

### Class Cup Awards

Pippin: Rosie  
Maigold: Mason  
Gala: Finley  
Discovery: Ruth  
Camelot: James  
Blenheim: Ronnie

### Lunchtime stars

Pippin: Eddie  
Gala: Bella  
Discovery: Evie  
Camelot: Ashton  
Blenheim: Holly

## Newly Appointed Librarians:

**Discovery:** Lilly, Freddie & Ellie-Mai

**Camelot:** Finley, Beth & Belle

**Blenheim:** Sophie, Poppy & Jamie

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I hope you have a restful weekend.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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