



## Weekly Update: 29th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Dates for your diary

<b>Monday 2nd December</b>	Launch of PTA Christmas Raffle; Christingle Making (Fundraiser for the Children's Society)
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	Assessment Week
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Panto (Gifted by the PTA)
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Huish Academy Year 7 Head of Year visiting Year 6 for initial talk
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9.15</b>	Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Spatial Reasoning Maths session for parents/carers (NEW DATE)
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 5.30pm</b>	Carols on the Green- all welcome
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Year 6 SATs information evening for parents
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Camelot Sharing Morning
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	PTA Elfridges Stall
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Afternoon Nativity performance to parents
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Evening Nativity performance to parents
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (Non-Uniform)
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am</b>	Carol Service at St Andrew's Church; Last Day of term
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b>	INSET Training Day (School Closed to Children)
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	First day of Spring Term
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Water workshops for Discovery, Camelot & Blenheim
<b>Wednesday 2nd April 6-7.30pm</b>	Information Session for Parents/Carers: Online Safety & Social Media. Book via: <a href="https://forms.gle/6ZT7kJBEgD5h8Xk17">https://forms.gle/6ZT7kJBEgD5h8Xk17</a>

### Dates and INSET Days for Academic Year 2024/25

- INSET Day: Monday 6th January 2025 (Same as Huish Academy)
- Spring Term (First half): Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February
- INSET Day: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (Community Learning Partnership Joint INSET)
- HALF TERM BREAK: 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February
- Spring Term (Second half): Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April
- INSET Day: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (Same as Huish Academy)
- EASTER BREAK: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April
- Summer Term (First half): Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- HALF TERM BREAK: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May
- Summer Term (Second half): Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

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Alongside amazing curriculum learning, there have been so many opportunities for the children to experience wider learning and enrichment: This week all classes met local Artist 'Sarah', who shared her creative energy and ideas, inspiring the children to create pieces of work using a range of media- we were very grateful to Sarah for the time she gave us voluntarily. In worship, we have been learning about the meaning of 'Advent' and the symbolism of the Advent Wreath and Candles (Thank you Noah in Year 6 for making this for us). On Saturday 30th November, it is St Andrew's Day and of course with our link with St Andrew's church this has been an opportunity to learn about the life of the Patron Saint of Scotland and the Saltire flag. Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School's Primary Futures programme continues with a visit to Gala and Maigold from Helicopter Pilot Simon Hall. The children are all learning the Carols for our special Christmas Service, and we are excited to see the development of the Reception and Key Stage one Nativity!

### **Gal Trip**

Gala class had a wonderful day on Wednesday visiting the Fleet Air Arm museum which linked to the class's History topic of World War 2. The children explored different types of WW2 aircraft and had the task of finding hidden boxes across the museum, working out the padlock code and exploring the different items in the boxes. The children found a WW2 child's suitcase which they took when evacuated from their home, WW2 rations and much more.

Sonny - "My favourite part was sitting in the aircraft in Hall 2, I felt like an actual pilot!"

Frazer - "I enjoyed searching for the boxes around the museum and waiting to see what was inside."

Honor - "My favourite part was when we went into the simulator and watched the cartoons about different aircraft."

### **Message from Mrs Monk, SENDCo**

Our PFSA, Victoria Gould, has informed us of when the next Tuning into Kids/Teens (TINK) programme will be running.

Please find information below outlining what this entails:

'Tuning into Kids is an evidence-based parenting programme that focuses on the emotional connection between parents and children. In particular, the programme teaches parents skills in emotion coaching, which is to recognise, understand and respond to children's emotions in an accepting, supportive way. This approach helps the child to understand and manage their emotions. The programme has been shown to improve parenting, parent-child relationships and children's emotional competence and behaviour.'

[Parenting programmes in Somerset](#)

The dates for the next TINK programme are as follows:

**Thursday 27.02.25, 06.03.25, 13.03.25, 20.03.25, 27.03.25, 03.04.25.**

Location and timings of these sessions to be confirmed.

If you are interested in attending this course, please let us know and we can pass on your details to Victoria, who will be in contact in the new year.

### **Sustainable Somerset- Report from Mrs Davies**

Our school council have been working over the past 2 years in making a difference to the future of our school and specifically how we can help minimise impact of Climate Change at home, at school and in the working environment.

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We attended the Somerset Sustainable Futures launch event on 26 November at Taunton Rugby Club which was run in partnership with the National Centre for Computing Excellence, Dorset and Somerset Training Provider Network, Ministry of Eco Education and Somerset Council.

Our school was represented by Paige, Sienna, Anna, Dylan, Bella and Dot with Mrs Davies. Our Governor, Mrs Pead, also attended with us.

We took part in discussions and interactive sessions with large employers about roles in the construction industry, the National Trust, Environment Agency, Wessex Water, the Hydrographic Office and Yeovil College.

There was a Key Note speech from 14 year old James Lawson who represents Somerset in the National Youth Parliament. He is campaigning about 'Young People and the Fragile Environment'. His speech highlighted the climate crisis, raising awareness of environmental challenges, encouraged people to treasure the natural world around us, and supporting projects to identify ways in which we can do our part locally to create a positive impact globally.

There was also a youth voice session where we were asked for our views about Climate Change and Climate Action in Somerset. The intention is for the responses from these sessions to influence and shape the vision for Somerset Sustainable Futures and guide priority actions.

The children were really interested and involved and represented the school beautifully.



## Christmas Notices

The Curry Rivel Primary School Christmas Postal system will be operating from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December- please can you ensure children write pupil name and class on their envelopes.

Sometimes children like to wear Christmas hats and hair decorations- please can these be saved until the last two days of term (As we do not want children to be losing these precious items).

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December is Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day- this is a non-uniform day, but please no make-up, face paint or hair dye.

Next week, we are looking forward to a real treat, gifted to us by the PTA- a Panto performance of Cinderella

## Starting School: How to apply for your school place

Please apply using the online application form.

The closing date for starting school applications is 15 January 2024.

## Message from Mrs Dance:



## Message from Curry Rivel Village Hall

### *Join Us for our famous Curry Rivel Christmas Big Breakfast!*

The festive season is just around the corner, and what better way to kick off your holiday celebrations than by joining us at the Curry Rivel Christmas Big Breakfast! Mark your calendars for this special event, happening on Sunday 1st December, from 8:30am to 12:30am at Curry Rivel Village Hall.

### **What's on the Menu?**

Indulge in a delicious full English breakfast (or build your own), featuring all your morning favorites—local crispy bacon and sizzling sausages, fried eggs, baked beans, grilled tomatoes, hash browns, mushrooms and toast. Vegetarian/Vegan options will also be available to ensure everyone can enjoy a hearty start to their day. And, of course, no breakfast is complete without a steaming cup of tea or coffee!

### **Fun for the whole Family**

But that's not all! The Christmas Big Breakfast is more than just great food. Try your luck at our Tombola, where you could win prizes, perfect for stocking stuffers or treats for yourself or perhaps even win a Christmas Hamper. For the young we'll also have some free festive activities to keep everyone entertained.

### **Supporting Our Village Hall**

This event isn't just about enjoying good food and having fun—it's also about supporting our community space. All proceeds from the Big Breakfast will go directly towards keeping the Curry Rivel Village Hall running, ensuring that it remains a vibrant and well-maintained hub for our local activities and events.

### **Come Together as a Community**

The Curry Rivel Christmas Big Breakfast is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends, meet new people, and celebrate the festive season with your neighbours. Whether you come alone, with family, or bring along a group of friends, we promise a warm welcome and a joyful atmosphere.

So, don your coziest Christmas jumper, bring along your festive cheer, and join us for a morning of delicious food, fun, and festive goodwill. We look forward to seeing you there!

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## PTA Message

**PTA events for December - don't forget PTA bus are valid for all PTA events inside and outside of school.**

🎄 *PTA Christmas Raffle Launch!* 🎄

Get ready for some festive fun and the chance to win amazing prizes in this year's PTA Christmas Raffle!

📅 **Draw Date: Thursday, 19th December**

🎫 Tickets: £1 each

Prizes:

✈️ **1st Prize:** A 1-hour flying lesson (for ages 6+)

🎁 **2nd Prize:** A luxury hamper from Blackdown Shepherd Huts

🎟️ **3rd Prize:** Six Flip Out passes

🎁 Plus many more fantastic prizes generously donated by local businesses and individuals!

How to Enter:

Raffle tickets will be sent home in book bags next week. To purchase:

1 Fill in the slips and return them in the provided envelope with the cash.

2 Alternatively, pay by bank transfer:

**Account Name:** Curry Rivel Primary School PTA

**Sort Code:** 09-01-54

**Account Number:** 20093281

**(Please include the number of the first ticket purchased as the reference.)**

💡 **Important:**

- Please note that if payment cannot be identified for the tickets, or if the stubs are not written clearly, they will not be included in the draw.
- Return any unused tickets so others have the chance to buy them.

Need more tickets? Extra tickets will be available at the school office or directly from the PTA.

Good luck!

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🎄 Join Us for Carols on Curry Rivel Village Green! 🎵

The festive season is upon us, and what better way to celebrate than coming together as a community to sing carols and seasonal songs! St. Andrew's Church and the Curry Rivel School PTA warmly invite you to a special evening of Carols on Curry Rivel Village Green, where music, laughter, and community spirit will fill the air.

📅 **Date: Monday 9th December**

🕒 **Time: 5:30 PM**

📍 **Location: Curry Rivel Village Green**

Curry Rivel is known for its rich history, close-knit community, and welcoming spirit. Our village green, surrounded by historic cottages and the beautiful St. Andrew's Church, provides a perfect setting for celebrating the festive season. This event brings together residents of all ages to share in the joy of singing well-known carols and fun festive tunes, as we celebrate in true Curry Rivel style.

#### **What to Expect:**

Bring your singing voice and festive cheer! Our program includes a selection of traditional carols and favourite Christmas songs that everyone can join in on. Song sheets will be available so everyone can follow along, making it easy for all ages to participate. This year, we're thrilled to have the help of talented musicians from our community, who will lead us in the carols and add a joyful touch to the evening.

#### **Food and Festivities:**

To keep the winter chill at bay, hot food and drinks will be available for purchase. Enjoy a warm drink and a tasty treat while listening to the music, catching up with neighbours, and sharing in the festive cheer.

#### **Weather Plan:**

In the case of rain, snow, or unfavourable weather, we'll keep the festive spirit alive by moving the event indoors to St. Andrew's Church. Rain, snow, or shine, the carols will go on! Please keep an eye on social media for any last-minute updates on the day.

#### **Supporting Our Community:**

This event is hosted by St. Andrew's Church and the Curry Rivel School PTA, two cornerstones of our community. By attending, you're not only joining in the festive spirit, but you're also supporting local causes. Funds raised from food and drink purchases go directly back into the community, supporting our local school and church.

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So wrap up warm, bring your friends and family, and join us for this cherished tradition. With the sounds of carols led by local musicians, let's make this a magical evening filled with joy, laughter, and the timeless spirit of the season. We can't wait to see you there—together, let's light up Curry Rivel with the sounds of the festive season!



🎄 ✨ Elfridges is Coming to Town! ✨ 🎄

We're excited to announce the return of Elfridges – our PTA pop-up shop, where children can choose and buy special gifts during the school day for their family and friends!

 **Date: Friday, 13th December**

 **Gifts: Prices range from just 50p to £2.50**

 **Payment: Cash or PTA Bux**

Buy your PTA Bux online now at [www.curryrivelppta.co.uk](http://www.curryrivelppta.co.uk) to make shopping even easier for your little elves!

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to experience the joy of giving by selecting their own presents for loved ones. All funds raised will go towards supporting our school.

Get ready to spread some Christmas cheer – we can't wait to see the children shopping like little elves! 🧑‍🎄 ✨



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🎄🍷 Enjoy Refreshments at the Nativity and Carol Service! 🍷🎄

The PTA will be selling refreshments at this year's Nativity (17th and 18th December) and Carol Service (20th December) to help make the event even more festive!

☕ Hot drinks and mince pies

Join us for some seasonal cheer, and don't forget to stop by the refreshment stand before or after the performances! Every purchase helps support our school, and we're so grateful for your support.

🎁🎁 PTA Kids' Class Raffle! 🎁🎁

The PTA is bringing even more festive fun with the Kids' Class Raffle! Each child will have the chance to win fantastic prizes in their very own class raffle! 🎁

🎫 Tickets: 50p each or 5 for £2

💳 Payment: Cash or PTA Bux accepted

📅 Draw Date: Friday, 20th December (the last day of term)

Tickets will be sold in class, so your child could be in with a chance of winning some exciting goodies just in time for the Christmas holiday!



### 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	4	2
Maigold	6	3
Gala	4	2
Discovery	3	1
Camelot	3	5
Blenheim	6	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</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

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- *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.*
- *The wellbeing and progress of our pupils is our priority, and we know that absence from school is often a sign that additional support may be needed.*

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 (School target 96%): 94.89%**

Highest attendance: Camelot (99.2%)

Most improved: Gala

### **Celebration**

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

#### **Class Cup Awards**

Pippin: Abdullah  
 Maigold: Jacob  
 Gala: Mason  
 Discovery: Oliver  
 Camelot: Darcey  
 Blenheim: Miila-Louisa

#### **Lunchtime stars**

Pippin: Abdullah  
 Maigold: Elisha  
 Gala: Ethan  
 Discovery: Luca  
 Camelot: Grisha  
 Blenheim: Paige

### **50 Dojos**

Maigold: Mabel  
 Gala: Ella, Eli M  
 Blenheim: Beth, James, Belle, Sienna, George,

Have a wonderful weekend. Happy St Andrew's Day for any Scottish contingents!

Ali Pook, Head Teacher

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