



## Newsletter 2

### 19th September 2025

Dear all,

We are well and truly back underway! On the Monday morning after my last newsletter to you I received a call from SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). Their chief purpose is to evaluate how effectively a school's Christian vision enables pupils and adults to flourish. While the phone call at the earliest possible opportunity wasn't necessarily what we were intending to focus on in the first week of term, it did give us a fantastic opportunity to showcase our school and all the wonderful things we are doing together. (And our school vision morning at the start of term was nicely timed as well).

Our inspector spoke to staff, governors, pupils, parents, representatives from the Oak Partnership and from the Diocese of Bath and Wells and what came through strongly throughout the day was the strength of the support, collaboration and partnership that runs through the school, trust, Local School Committee, parent body and wider community. This collaboration is why the school continues to thrive and grow.

Until we receive our report any judgements made remain provisional so I can't share them with you now, but I'm looking forward to sharing the report with you in a couple of weeks.

### Open Morning

Our Open Morning was originally scheduled for next Thursday but this has now moved to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Please share the news widely (as I know some of you already have either on Facebook or by dropping flyers!), especially if you know of parents in the local area who have school-aged children in September 2026.

### Facebook

Talking of Facebook, I've got no idea how the algorithm works but our video of the mural being revealed to the children has to date received more than 10,000 views! Unless one of you is watching it again and again I can only imagine that it is being shared which is great to see. We will continue to publish news and pictures so please let families and friends know and encourage them to like our page.

<https://www.facebook.com/ssgprimaryschool>

### Somerset Gazette Tokens Competition

Some more amazing news came when we had a call from the Somerset Gazette to let us know we had won their tokens competition from the summer term! Adjusted for the number of children in the school, we



collected more tokens than any other school in Somerset and have been presented with £1000 of Amazon tokens! This makes a huge difference to a small school like Stoke and we are looking forward to working with the children and community to ensure we spend the money wisely. Thank you to everybody who brought tokens in - another example of how we are supported by a wonderful community

**Shine Time**

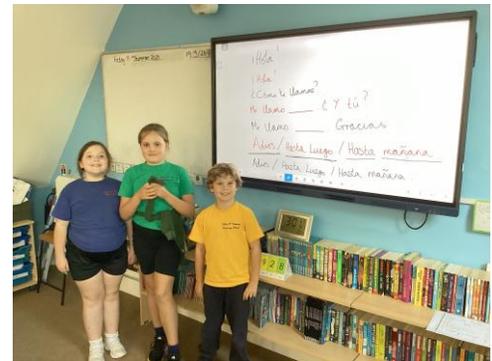
Finally, our Shine Time initiative for Kingfisher and Raven class began this afternoon. Taking place weekly on Friday afternoons across Key Stage 2, Shine Time offers children opportunities to explore their gifts and passions in sports, the arts, STEM, and community service, empowering them to flourish and make a difference.

Three groups started this afternoon, all of which add valuable enrichment opportunities on top of our already-bursting curriculum: eight children engaged in a rugby group with Miss Sully, who has recently completed a rugby coaching qualification; fourteen children had a wonderful introduction to Spanish with Mr Flint; and fifteen began planning our new Community Heroes project with Mrs Daniels. The ideas they were coming out with were wonderful and we have a whole range of ways in which we are looking to let our light shine within the village!

If your child is in Kingfisher or Raven class, ask them about their afternoon. If your child is in Otter class, we will be looking into ways for them to be part of Shine Time as we move through the year.

So yes, a busy start to term...

Best wishes,  
David Rowland  
Headteacher



**Key dates:**

Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Flu vaccinations (pm)
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Harvest Service – 9.15am in the church. All welcome.
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 9.00-12.00</b>	<b>Open Morning</b>
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual and sibling photos
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Coffee Morning/EYFS Phonics Meeting
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Evening

## **All Age Worship in North Curry Church**

The local churches are organising a new time to worship, one that is for all ages and especially if you're exploring what being Christian actually is...

A New Way to Explore Faith: All are welcome!

We'd love to see you at our new All Age Worship service on Sunday September 21st at 10am in North Curry Parish Church

What to expect:

- 10am to 10.30am: A short, simple, informal service that is engaging for adults and children alike.
- Then, from 10.30: An invitation to linger over coffee and cake with crafts and activities on the theme of the day.

When: 10am Sunday 21 September

Where: North Curry Parish Church

Find out more from Revd Simon Bale, [vicar@athelneybenefice.com](mailto:vicar@athelneybenefice.com), 07970 936325



ChatHealth



- Parent advice & support
- Healthy lifestyles
- School transitioning
- Emotional health

**is your child 5-19 and are you**  
 looking for confidential help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact your School Nursing Team

Just send a text  
**07480 635 515**



Improving LIVES

Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.

There aren't any places at my preferred school, what can I do now?

I'VE MOVED INTO THE AREA AND NEED HELP FINDING A SCHOOL FOR MY CHILD.

IS THERE ANYONE THAT CAN SUPPORT ME PREPARING FOR MY APPEAL?

# CHOICE ADVICE

Somerset Choice Advice is a free and impartial service which supports families with advice and practical support through the school admission and appeals processes. This service exists to ensure that parents can play an active and informed role in securing a school place for their child

Call us on **01823 356 903**

Fill in our online form [www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choice-advice)

Contact us via email [choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:choiceadvice@somerset.gov.uk) or scan the QR code



Somerset Council



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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



For FoS to hold events, we require volunteers to help the small but mighty committee.

No need to attend meetings, just to help at events.

Please see a member of the committee to put your name down.