



Axbridge C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel

"I have come so that you may have life, a life in all its fullness"

John 10:10

Issue # 11

24th November 2025

Dear Families,

We've had another brilliant week of learning, exploration and community spirit across the school. A highlight for me has been the strengthening bonds I observe in the playground, between the Year 4s and their new Reception 'buddies'. They support, play and have fun together in a genuinely wholesome fashion. It's these moments when we sense our school Christian vision, *"I have come so that you may have life, a life in all its fullness"* (John 10:10), really coming alive.

The end of last week culminated in an incredible whole-school experience as we all came together, including our Busy Bees, to enjoy The Greatest Robot Show. The performance was fast-paced, interactive and full of fun, with a wonderful message about being yourself. The children were captivated from start to finish, and it was a fantastic way to end the week on a high.

- Tickets for the EYFS Nativity will be available from the office from Wednesday morning. The nativity takes place next Wednesday and Thursday.
- It is getting colder, so please make sure children are sent in with coats, hats, scarves etc so that they can enjoy being outside in this wonderful, wintery weather!
- Don't forget that it is our monthly church service this Friday too, as always, your support and attendance is warmly invited.
- The PTA are needing your help to make sure the Christmas Fair is another great success. We would love any additional helping hands. Please let us know if you can give up an hour or two before or on Friday 12th December.

With warmest wishes for the week ahead; the final week of November and the beginning of the festive period.....we can't wait!

Mr Dominic Shillabeer



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November

Monday 24th - Year 1 visit the Church

Friday 28th @ 9am - Church Service - everyone is welcome

December

Wednesday 3rd @ 2pm - Early Years Nativity

Thursday 4th @ 10.15am - Early Years Nativity

Friday 5th - PTA Chocolate Mufti Day

Tuesday 9th - PTA Film Night

Tuesday 9th @ 7pm - PTA meeting @ The Lamb

Wednesday 10th @ 9am -

Rocksteady Christmas Concert

Friday 12th @ 3.30 to 5pm - PTA Xmas Fair

Monday 15th @ 6pm - Carol Service

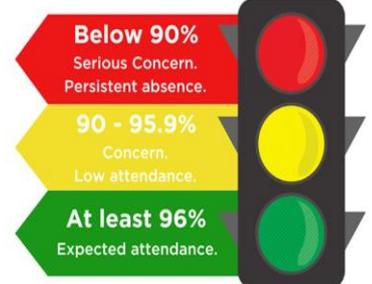
Tuesday 16th - Christmas Lunch

Thursday 18th - PTA Craft Session

Friday 19th @ 9am - Church Service

ATTENDANCE

Every day counts!



Expected attendance means having no more than seven days off this school year!

Attendance was 96.8% last week for the whole school, with Oak Class having the highest attendance across all classes, at 98.1%!



Wessex
Learning Trust
We Learn Together!

Our Christian Values are:
Community
Courage
Love

Our Christian Vision is;
"I have come so that you may have life, a life in all its fullness"
John 10:10

Our Learning Skills are:
Thinking
Social
Self-management
Communication
Research

Congratulations to our certificate winners this week, we are so proud of you!

	Pine	Hazel	Chestnut	Redwood	Oak
Star of the Week	Piotr	Bertie	Ziggy	Hermione	Teddy
Christian Values	Alfie	Ottilie	Charlie	Elsie W.	Freddie
Learning Skills	Efelyn	Archie	Leo	Reuben	Max

Headteacher's Awards

Star of the Week	t.b.c	Christian Values	t.b.c	Learning Skills	t.b.c
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House Points

	Black Rock	Crook Peak	King's Wood	Strawberry Line
This week	306	285	300	287



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IS A RESPONSIBILITY OF US ALL

Safeguarding Lead: Mr Dominic Shillabeer

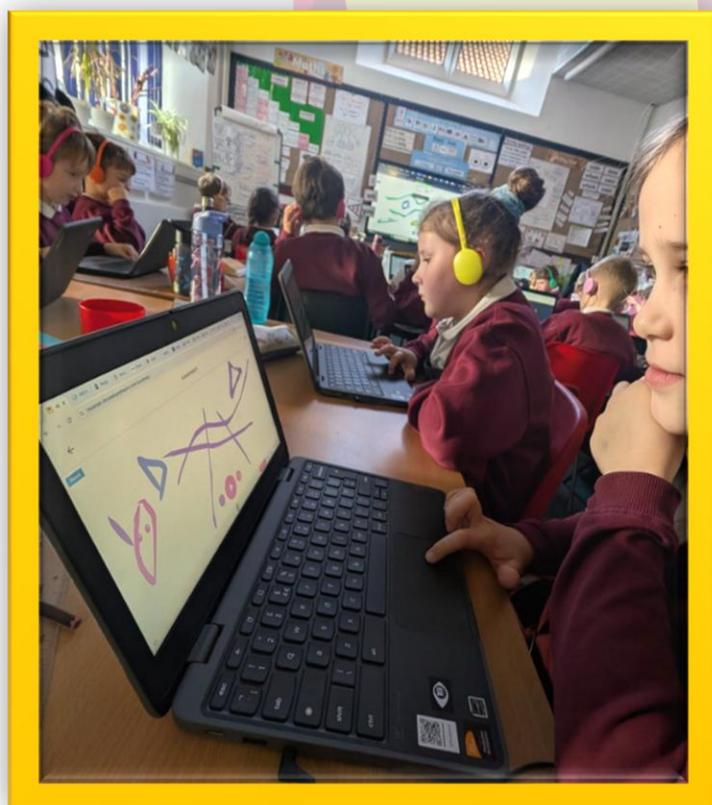
Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Miss Kellie Nash and Mrs Kate Febrey

EXCEL

Well done to our Year 3 and 4 Cross Country participants! They excelled and showed great teamwork last week at the Hugh Sexey's festival!



EXCEL



Last week, our Year 4 excelled as learners, when they stepped into the world of digital media creation by exploring Chrome Music Lab. As part of their computing curriculum, the children discovered how technology allows us not only to access information, but also to create and share our own content online.

Using the Kandinsky tool in Chrome Music Lab, the children experimented with shapes, colours and patterns to produce their own original pieces of digital music. They explored how different visual choices resulted in different sounds, building their understanding of how digital tools can turn ideas into creative outcomes.

SMC *Christmas* **CAMP**

WHERE? CHURCHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHEN? 22ND, 23RD, 29TH & 30TH DECEMBER

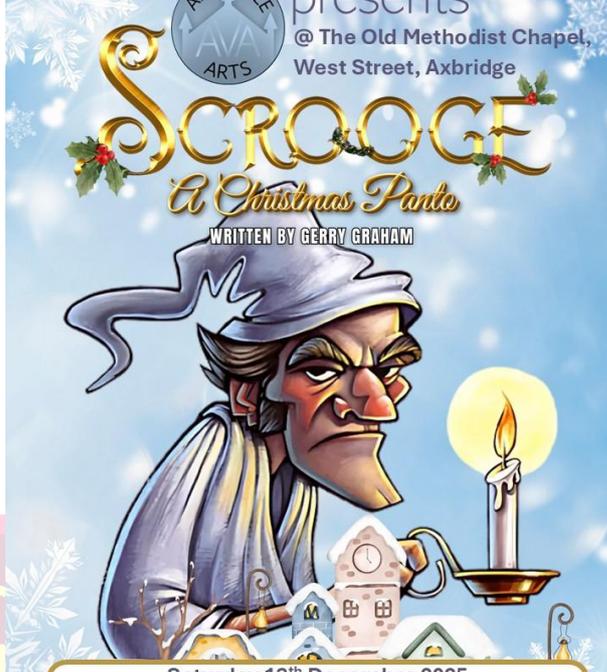
We are now taking HAF Bookings

HAF NORTH SOMERSET
Holiday Activities & Food



AXE VALE presents
 @ The Old Methodist Chapel,
 West Street, Axbridge

SCROOGE
A Christmas Panto
 WRITTEN BY GERRY GRAHAM



Saturday 13th December 2025
 Performances at 3pm and 6pm
 £13.50 adults, £9 children, £11 adult concessions,
 £37 family ticket (2 adults + 2 children)
 Call AVA Box Office (07933 879552) or book online at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/axe-vale-arts

TOURINGPANTOS.CO.UK

Every 4th Wednesday of the month
 Axe Vale Arts Centre (former Methodist Church),
 West Street, Axbridge BS26 2AA
Sign up from 7PM for a 7:30 start



**Axe Vale
 Acoustic**

Inclusive music night. All welcome to play or listen.
 Singers, musicians, songwriters, bands, soloists... all
 formats and styles welcome to come along and enjoy the
 acoustics of our amazing venue

An Axe Vale
 Arts production

Facebook: Axe
 Vale Arts



**Parent carer Drop-In
 Cheddar**

The Space Hub , 10am -12-pm
 No need to book.

Come and meet our SEND Navigator who is here to help families of children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities in Somerset to:

- Access good quality information.
- Signpost to people who can help.
- Support parents to prepare for meetings and appointments.
- Help parent carers understand what help is available.
- Help parent carers by supporting with completion of forms such as DLA, PIP and applications for funding from grants.
- Help parent carers build confidence in understanding and supporting their child's needs.

2025 Dates

- Tuesday 15th July
- Tuesday 16th Sept
- Tuesday 21st October
- Tuesday 18th Nov
- Tuesday 16th Dec
- Tuesday 20th Jan 26

Personal recommendations make such a difference, and we'd love more families to discover what makes **Axbridge C of E Academy** such a special place to learn, grow and flourish. If you've had a positive experience with our school, whether it's the warm welcome, your child's experiences or the wonderful sense of community you feel, please do **spread the word!**



Axbridge
C of E Academy

www.axbridgefirstschool.co.uk



OPEN AUTUMN 2025-26

We believe that every day is special at Axbridge, so we don't offer open days like other schools. Instead, we invite you to join us for our 'Open Autumn', where you can enjoy a tour of the school with the headteacher at a time that is convenient for you and your family. You'll have the chance to meet our inspiring teachers, enjoy the joyous atmosphere and see our wonderful children who make our school so special. Email or phone the office to book in a date. We look forward to hearing from you!

STARTS
15
SEP

ABOUT US

'Rooted in Community: Growing in Excellence'

- We provide a safe, nurturing, and aspirational environment where all children thrive and flourish.
- We offer a wide range of clubs, events, experiences and visits, allowing all children the space to discover and explore their passions in life.
- Five straight year group classes for ages 4-9 and a welcoming Nursery for ages 2-4.
- Follow us on Facebook to see what an incredible start in life looks like



Contact Us

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces - like home - that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location - whether in person or hinted at online - it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it - this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®