



Axbridge C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel

5th September 2025

"A Life in All Its Fullness" (John 10:10)

Dear Families,

Welcome Back

We are delighted to welcome you all back to Axbridge C of E Academy for the start of the new school year. We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to an exciting and successful term ahead. A very warm welcome also goes to our new Reception children and their families, who are joining us for the first time. Starting school is such an important milestone, and we are thrilled to have you as part of our Axbridge community.

This is always a special time of year as we reset our expectations, remind ourselves of what it means to Thrive, Inspire and Excel, and look forward to the opportunities that the term will bring. We will continue to focus on our Christian values of Community, Love and Courage, and encourage every child to live out our vision of *"A Life in All Its Fullness."*

Our Christian value in Term 1 and 2 is *Community*. In the spirit of this, we are delighted to be supporting the Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September. This will be a wonderful opportunity to bring people together, celebrate our community spirit, and raise funds for a vital charity. More details will follow soon.

For your information, I share the following important updates:

New Staff:

We are pleased to be welcoming two new members of staff this term. Mr Newland will be working predominantly in Hazel Class as a teaching assistant, and Miss Hole will be joining us as a trainee teacher, also based in Hazel Class. We are delighted they are part of the Axbridge team and know they will make a great contribution to school life.

Rocksteady Music

We are also excited that this term will see the launch of Rocksteady Music at Axbridge. Specialist music coaches will be working with our children in small bands, developing their

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A: Axbridge C of E Academy, Moorland Street, Axbridge, Somerset, BS26 2BA

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confidence and creativity through music-making. These sessions will take place on Wednesdays during school hours, and we look forward to sharing performances with you later in the year.

Piano and Singing Lessons

We are currently in talks with a new piano and singing teacher, who we hope will be in the position to start offering lessons later in Term 1. Further details will be shared once this has been finalised.

Nut Free Setting

A reminder that Axbridge C of E Academy is a nut-free setting. This means that no nuts or nut products should be brought into school at any time. We have children in our care with severe allergies, and we thank you for your support in helping keep these children safe.

Walking Bus

Unfortunately, the Walking Bus will not be running this year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Page for all of her hard work over the years in meeting and greeting families, and in ensuring our children arrived safely to school each day.

Uniform

School uniform can be purchased from [Deanes of Cheddar](#). While children are welcome to continue wearing uniform with the old school logo during this year, we are gradually moving towards full adoption of our new branded uniform. This will become the expectation from September 2026.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind families over the uniform expectations, found in our [Uniform Policy](#). Some of the key areas:

- Please put your child's name in all uniform.
- Please ensure your child does not wear jewellery to school - such as necklaces or rings.
- Stud earrings can be worn, but no hooped or dangle earrings.
- Watches can be worn to school, but these cannot be smartwatches with the capability of taking photos or 5G or messaging. This is to safeguard all children.
- Letters will advise you of the days your child will have PE. Children are welcome to wear their Axbridge Hoodies for PE days, but we request that they are not worn on non-PE days.

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After School Clubs

Information regarding clubs for the Autumn term will be sent out next week, with clubs commencing the week beginning 22nd September. We always strive to offer a good mix of clubs for our pupils, that allow them to explore different hobbies, interests and passions.

Communications

Finally, a quick note about communication: if your query is urgent or requires actioning the same day (such as illness, late to school, lunches etc), please phone the school office directly so that we can ensure it is dealt with promptly - 01934 732391.

Parents are welcome to send non-urgent messages to their class teacher via ClassDojo, such as photos of a children's work or out of school accomplishments. You can also message staff on ClassDojo if you would like to arrange a meeting or discuss your child's progress at any point. Staff will respond as soon as they are able to around their teaching commitments and during their working hours.

As ever, my staff and I look forward to working closely with you this year and to celebrating the achievements of all our children. Thank you for your continued support in making Axbridge C of E Academy such a vibrant, caring and ambitious school community. Here's to a wonderful year ahead!

Yours sincerely,



Mr Dominic Shillabeer
Headteacher

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