



Axbridge C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel



May

Tuesday 5th - Year 3 activity day at Mendip Outdoor

Tuesday 5th - Fairlands staff to visit Yr 4 pupils going to Fairlands

Wednesday 6th to Friday 8th - Year 4 residential trip at Kilve Court

Friday 8th May - 100 acts for nature day, celebrating David Attenborough's 100th Birthday

Monday 11th May - Year 1 Visit to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

Tuesday 12th - NHS National Weight/Height Check for Reception children

Tuesday 19th - Fairlands staff to visit Yr 4 pupils going to Fairlands

Friday 22nd @ 9am - Church Service

Friday 22nd May - school closes for Half-Term at 3:20pm

Monday 1st June - return to school

ATTENDANCE

Every day counts!



Below 90%

Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%

Concern.
Low attendance.

At least 96%

Expected attendance.



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

Attendance was 97.3% last week, an excellent start to term!

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

John 10:10

Issue # 29

4th May 2026

Dear Families,

We have launched a new initiative outside of Hazel and Chestnut Classes, a new 'Pre-loved Book Shelf Swap'. There will be lots of books that we encourage you to keep, take home and enjoy. If you would like to donate any books, then there is a box next to the bookshelf for any donations, however there is no expectation of this and the real emphasis is on your child/children picking up a book and enjoying it.

A further reminder that we are looking forward to our upcoming Future Me Week (week beginning 8th June). If any parents, carers or family members are able to come in and share something about their job or experiences, please sign up using the form below: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/xZ2qEdzhSn>

In other news, future school bulletins will be sent out on Fridays.

Finally, we wish our wonderful Year 4 children the best of luck as they embark on their residential trip tomorrow. We know that they will have the best of times and bring back memories of time well spent together.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Dominic Shillabeer

EXCEL

A huge congratulations to our young runners, representing Reception through to Year 4, who took part in the Cheddar Park Run last week.



Our Christian Values are:
Community
Courage
Love

Our Christian Vision is;
"I have come so that you may have life, 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	Efelyn	Clover	Ethan	Albie	Max
Christian Values	Rafferty	Gracie	Ziggy	Delilah	Oliver
Learning Skills	Chloe	Kitty	Max	Isla	India

House Points

	Black Rock	Crook Peak	King's Wood	Strawberry Line
This week	160	104	132	100



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IS A RESPONSIBILITY OF US ALL

Safeguarding Lead: Mr Dominic Shillabeer

Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Miss Kellie Nash and Mrs Kate Febrey

Axbridge's 100 Acts for Nature

Celebrating David Attenborough's 100th Birthday



Axbridge
C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel

David Attenborough – 100 Acts for Nature

This Friday, children across the school will take part in our '100 Acts for Nature' challenge to celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday.



Throughout the day, each class will complete small actions to care for and notice the natural world. Activities may include minibeast hunts, nature walks, planting, litter picking, creating posters, writing pledges, and exploring how we can protect wildlife and the world around us.



**Together, we hope to complete
100 small acts for nature across the school.**



Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel



Our fantastic **PTA** do an amazing job raising funds that provide rich experiences and opportunities for all children across the school. They now need your support for the upcoming Summer Fair – even a few hours of your time can make a huge difference.

Please do get involved where you can and help make this brilliant community event happen for our children. Follow the Axbridge PTA on Facebook or contact the school office for more details.

AXBRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL PTA
IMPACT SO FAR 2026

Together we raised over **£4,000!**

YOUR IMPACT
Because of you, we've funded:

- Class Wish Lists** £600
- Mini Dukes Award** £343
- Silent Disco** £175
- Storytelling** £18
- Space Explorer Dome** £1,000
- Greenhouse & Outdoor Learning** £1,550

HOW WE RAISED IT

- £1,635 Christmas Fair**
- £489 Quiz Night**
- £462 Film Nights**
- £391 Break the Rules Day**
- £297 Friday Bakes**

EVERY LITTLE HELPS

- £100+ Uniform Sales**
- £95 Clothing Bank**
- £140 Christmas Cards**
- £136 Crafternoon**
- £24 Easyfundraising**

WANT TO HELP MORE?

- ✓ Sign up to Easyfundraising
- ✓ Try round-up donation apps
- ✓ Order Stikins Labels – Use code **1046**
— We receive **30%** commission —

THANK YOU

You've made a **BIG** difference for our children!
More exciting events coming soon!

☎ Check class WhatsApps for updates!
PTA@axbridgefirstschool.co.uk



In Touch

in Axbridge, Shipham &
Rowberrow Benefice
& Crook Peak Parish
Sunday 3 May
Easter 5

Sunday 3 May

- 0900 WEARE Agape Meal
1000 WEARE Praise & Worship
1000 AXBRIDGE/ZOOM United Benefice Communion

Zoom Meeting ID: 893 5983 8684 Passcode: 294593

Taking place this week

Monday 4 May

- 1100 Axbridge Warm Spot, Church Rooms (ends 1300)
There is no CP Special Choir Practice or ASR Homegroup this week

Tuesday 5 May

- 1930 CP Homegroup, Crooklands, Old Coach Rd, Cross (ends 2100)

Wednesday 6 May

- 1130 Funeral for Kelly Simmons, Axbridge Church
1930 Crook Peak Women's Fellowship, Cross Memorial Hall (ends 2130)
1945 Christian Meditation Group, Axbridge Church

Thursday 7 May

- 0900 Crook Peak online morning prayer
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/01-125BH/service-and-events/>

Friday 8 May

- 1100 Lenny's Community Café, Shipham Church (ends 1400)
1930 ASR Benefice Choir Practice (ends 2030)

Saturday 9 May

- 1000 Prayer Hub, Shipham Church (ends 1100)
1400 Crafternoon, Axbridge Church Rooms (ends 1600)
1930 Weston Light Orchestra concert, Axbridge Church – see *News & Events*

Next Sunday, 10 May, Easter 6

- 1000 WEARE Holy Communion
1600 ROWBERROW Holy Communion
1800 SHIPHAM Evening Praise
1800 CHRISTON Evening Prayer



Weare & District Scout **FUNDRAISING FUN DAY & PLANT SALE**

SATURDAY 9TH MAY, 2-4PM

The Old Vicarage next to St Andrew's Church, Cheddar,
just off Church Street

**PLANT
STALL**

**CRAFTS
FOR SALE**

**TUCK
SHOP**

**FUN FAMILY
ACTIVITIES
WITH PRIZES!**

**GARDEN
GAMES**

**TEA, COFFEE
& CAKES**

AND MUCH MORE!



All proceeds will support scouts attending
the World Scout Jamboree and Somertrek expedition.

FREE ENTRY

but small charge for
some activities

CHEDDAR TENNIS CLUB OPEN DAY

SUNDAY
10TH MAY

10AM – 4PM



**COME AND TRY
TENNIS FOR FREE**



**BALLS AND RACKETS
AVAILABLE TO BORROW**



**EXPERT COACHING
AVAILABLE**



**25% OFF MEMBERSHIP
ON THE DAY**



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

STEPHEN PEARCE

LTA SENIOR CLUB COACH

07904061301

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

AUTOPLAY

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS



YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES



Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.

SUGGESTED CONTENT



YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.

EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT



The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.

SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT



YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS



YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS



If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.

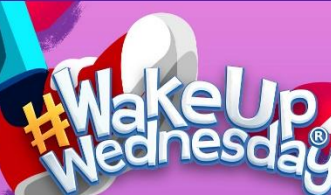
WATCH TOGETHER



Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



See full reference list on our website



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