



Axbridge C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel



May

Monday 18th - Chance to Shine
Cricket Day for Years 1 to 4

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

Friday 22nd @ 9am - Church
Service and Junior Dukes
presentations

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

**Monday 1st June - return to
school**

June

Monday 1st @ 3.30 to 4.30 - PTA
Scrunchie making

Monday 1st @ 7pm - September
26 New starters welcome session

Tuesday 2nd @ 9.30 to 10.30 -
EYFS Stay & Play session

Wednesday 3rd @ 1.30 to 2.30 -
EYFS Stay & Play session

Friday 5th @ 3.30 to 4.30 - PTA
Scrunchie making

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 # 30

15th May 2026

Dear Families,

We finished last Friday by celebrating David Attenborough's birthday across the school, and it was lovely to see all the wonderful land-art, bug-hotels, water-saving pledges and acts for nature that took place. Our children's passion and action even attracted the attention of BBC Somerset Radio, with the school featuring on the airwaves! We also welcomed back our Year 4 children from Kilve Residential, where they had an incredible time discovering hidden talents, trying new foods, strengthening friendships and making memories to cherish. We were incredibly proud of their conduct and the way in which they represented the school, well done Year 4s!

This week, Our Year 1 children enjoyed a fantastic trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm, understanding more about animals and the natural world. These experiences link directly to their learning in the classroom, helping them classify animals, recall key information and even begin to create artwork inspired by their visit.

In exciting news, the PTA have set a date for our next fundraiser, the Axbridge School 'Takeover' of Ocean Adventurers, taking place on Friday 12th June 2026. More details on this to follow, but keep the date free if you can!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Dominic Shillabeer

THRIVE

Thanks to our PTA, our Gardening Club have been able to get outside and use our new amazing greenhouse! We can't wait to use this more over the summer months.



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**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, 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	Flora	Eadie	Tahlia	Kobe	Freddie
Christian Values	Piotr	Cara	Nelle	Hermione	Aubree
Learning Skills	Rosie	James	Mollie	Dylan	Aaliyah

Headteacher's Awards

Star of the Week	Ottilie Hazel	Christian Values	Chloe Redwood	Learning Skills	Leyla Chestnut
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House Points

	Black Rock	Crook Peak	King's Wood	Strawberry Line
This week	191	167	181	147



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IS A RESPONSIBILITY OF US ALL

Safeguarding Lead: Mr Dominic Shillabeer

Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Miss Kellie Nash and Mrs Kate Febrey

Our fantastic **PTA** do an amazing job raising funds that provide rich experiences and opportunities for all children across the school. They are currently running the tea-towel fund-raiser, please scan the QR code to make your orders.



Pre-order your 2026 keepsake

Tea towels are just £5 each. **Scan the code to pay** and enter the total amount (e.g. £5 for 1, £10 for 2...) and add your child's name and class in the reference. Don't forget to order a couple for the grandparents and extended family!

Pre-orders close on Friday, June 5.

All proceeds benefit the amazing projects made possible by the Axbridge First School PTA.



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



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Bringing High Quality Portraiture into Nurseries & Schools at Affordable Prices
SCHOOLS NURSERIES FAMILY CORPORATE & MARKETING PHOTOGRAPHY

We will be taking GROUP images on
Tuesday 9th June

Prints, Frames, Mounts and Canvases available

VIEWING AND ORDERING

You will receive a contact sheet via your school with your Gallery Name, Code and sample images.

www.imagophotography.co.uk

1. Create/Login to your account
2. Add your Gallery(s)
3. Click View Images
4. Click Create Order to purchase your images

A **SAFWORD** will be sent to you from your school, please use this if you lose your login.

FREE Delivery period: We offer a free delivery period, after this time orders can still be placed but a delivery charge will apply.

01252 728457

www.imagophotography.co.uk

 @imago_PS

Have a family shoot with imago at our studio in Farnham or in the comfort of your home. See our website or call us on 01252 728457



 **Leo Lion Foundation**
leolionfoundation.org

PART OWNED BY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
Helping disadvantaged children to help themselves





Come and join Weare and District Scouts for a
Big Birthday fun day
and plant fair to celebrate the **110th**
birthday of Cubs and
40th birthday of Beavers

Sunday 17th May 11am – 3pm

Badgworth School Room and
village playground

Free entry



Fundraising for World Scout Jamboree and Somertrek

10-16 May 2026

Christian Aid Week

Your faith. Make it count. 7 days to make a difference – what will you do?

In Touch

in Axbridge, Shipham & Rowberrow Benefice & Crook Peak Parish
Sunday 10 May
Easter 6

Sunday 10 May

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

Taking place this week – Christian Aid Week

Monday 11 May

1100	Axbridge Warm Spot, Church Rooms (ends 1300)
1700	Crook Peak Special Choir Practice, Badgworth (ends 1830)
1930	ASR Homegroup, Sue's, 29 Beech Road (ends 2100)

Tuesday 12 May

1930	CP Homegroup, Crooklands, Old Coach Rd, Cross (ends 2100)
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Wednesday 13 May

1945	Christian Meditation Group, Axbridge Church
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Thursday 14 May – Ascension Day

1930	SHIPHAM	Joint Benefice Communion
0900	Crook Peak online morning prayer	

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/01-125BH/service-and-events/>

Friday 15 May

1800	COMPTON BISHOP	Thy Kingdom Come Evening Prayer
1930	ASR Benefice Choir Practice (ends 2030)	

Saturday 16 May

1800	BIDDISHAM	Thy Kingdom Come Evening Prayer
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Next Sunday, 17 May, Easter 7

0800	BIDDISHAM	Holy Communion
1000	AXBRIDGE	Holy Communion
1000	LOXTON	Morning Prayer
1000	SHIPHAM	Together in Worship
1600	ROWBERROW	Evensong
1800	SHIPHAM	Thy Kingdom Come Evening Prayer

The Friends of Axbridge Church



OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND 2026

6th and 7th June
1.00pm until 5.00pm

Find some Axbridge gems!
Admittance to all gardens,
both days by programme
£5 per person [Children FREE]

ARE YOU A GARDENER?

Just curious about gardens?

All profits to maintain the church building

WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN SOME WAY?

THEN MAKE CONTACT WITH US
“The Friends of Axbridge Church”

Phone Paul Passey – 01934 733373

Email paul.passey@yahoo.com

AXE VALE ARTS

is proud to present a unique evening of award winning folk from both UK and Daria's Russian, Ingushetian roots



Tristan Seume

Acclaimed acoustic guitarist touring all over Europe. Leading guitar workshops in Somerset and the legendary Ullapool guitar festival.

Daria Kulesh

Multi instrumentalist, wonderfully rich vocalist with rave reviews fearlessly exploring her heritage and turbulent family history



Sunday 17 May 2026, 7.30 pm

Doors open 7.00pm
Tickets £10 (£8 concession)
axevalearts.org.uk

AXEVALE ARTS CENTRE
THE OLD METHODIST CHAPEL
WEST STREET, AXBRIDGE, BS26 2AA

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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.

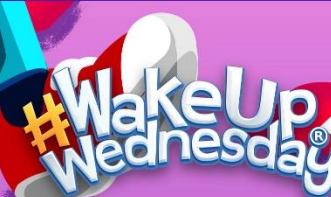
WATCH TOGETHER



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.



The National College®

See full reference list on our website