



Axbridge C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel



June

Monday 29th @ 9.30am - KS2 Sports Day
Tuesday 30th @ 2.30pm - Year 1 Hazel Class Assembly

July

Wednesday 1st - Transfer Day
Wednesday 2nd @ 2pm - Yr 2 Chestnut Class Assembly
Thursday 2nd @ 9.30am - EYF & KS1 Sports Day
Friday 3rd - MUFTI for Rainbow Raffle Day
Friday 3rd @ 2.30pm - Pine Class Assembly
Tuesday 7th @ 9.30am & 6pm - Celebration of Voices
Wednesday 8th @ 6pm - Celebration of Voices
Friday 10th @ 3.20 - PTA Summer Fair
Monday 13th - Yr 4 Wookey Hole singing event
Wednesday 15th @ 9am - Rocksteady Concert
Thursday 16th @ 4pm - Furlong Gathering - all families welcome
Friday 17th @ 9am - Leavers Service in Church

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

John 10:10

Issue # 33

19th June 2026

Dear Families,

After an exceptionally hot week, it has been lovely to welcome everyone safely back into school. Thank you, as always, for your support, patience and understanding while we responded to the heatwave and made decisions with the children's safety and wellbeing at the heart of it all. They've done so well today.

It is hard to believe that we now have just three weeks left of the school year, and what a busy, exciting three weeks they will be! We have Sports Day next week, class assemblies to look forward to, our Celebration of Our Voices event coming up, and Rainbow Raffle Mufti Day next Friday.

Tickets for Celebration of Our Voices can now be collected from the school office, so please do pop in if you would like to attend. It really is an incredible and uplifting event, don't miss out!

We are also delighted to share that we have a date for our Whole School Gathering on the Furlong, which will take place on the penultimate day of term. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the whole school community to come together, celebrate the year and enjoy time with one another before we head into the summer break.

We also have a few treats and surprises planned for the children during the final week too, which I am sure you will agree, they thoroughly deserve!

Finally, we are incredibly proud to share that Axbridge has achieved the Primary Science Quality Mark Gold Award. Nationally, 134 schools gained PSQM accreditation this year, with only a handful achieving the prestigious Gilt recognition. This is a fantastic achievement and a real reflection of the curiosity, enquiry and enthusiasm for science across our school.

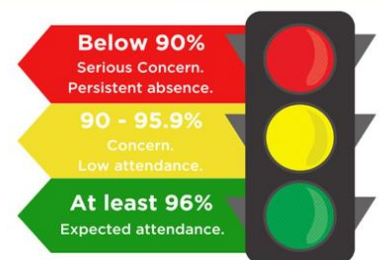
There is still so much to enjoy, celebrate and look forward to as we bring another wonderful year at Axbridge to a close. Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

Warmest wishes,

Dominic Shillabeer

ATTENDANCE

Every day counts!



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

Overall attendance for the school this week was a much improved 97.3%



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

Going for Gilt

We are delighted to share that Axbridge C of E First School Academy has been awarded the prestigious Primary Science Quality Mark Gilt Award.

This is a fantastic achievement for our school and a very proud moment within the Wessex Learning Trust, as Axbridge is the first primary or first school in the Trust to receive this recognition. It is also particularly special as only a small number of schools across the country have been awarded Gilt this year.

The Primary Science Quality Mark celebrates schools that demonstrate high-quality science leadership, teaching and learning. Achieving the Gilt Award reflects the strength of science at Axbridge and the rich opportunities our children have to ask questions, investigate, explore, explain and develop a genuine curiosity about the world around them.

It evidences a science curriculum that is ambitious, engaging and meaningful too.

A huge congratulations must go to Mrs Hector, our Science Lead, whose passion and commitment have driven this work forward. She has shared her love of science with staff and children alike, helping to make science such a key part of life at Axbridge.

We are incredibly proud of this achievement.

Well done, Mrs Hector, and well done Team Axbridge!



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IS A RESPONSIBILITY OF US ALL

Safeguarding Lead: Mr Dominic Shillabeer

Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Miss Kellie Nash and Mrs Kate Febrey

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Axbridge
C of E Academy
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Rainbow Raffle

≡ Mufti Day Reminder ≡

-  Dress Down Day
-  Friday 3rd July 2026
-  Please bring a donation for the Summer Raffle
-  Each class has their own colour





Axbridge
C of E Academy

Together We Inspire, Thrive & Excel

Celebration *of our* Voices

A joyful celebration of
music, singing and our amazing children.



TUESDAY 7TH
JULY
9:30AM



TUESDAY 7TH
JULY
6:00PM



WEDNESDAY 8TH
JULY
6:00PM



We can't wait to share our voices with you!



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Wessex
Learning Trust
We Learn Together!

Somerset Parent Carer Forum
Community Inclusion & Activity Team

Family Fun Day

Saturday 11th July
10am to 2pm

POLDEN BOWER SCHOOL,
BOWER LANE, BRIDGWATER
TA6 4GU

FREE
ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

MEET PROVIDERS AND TRY OUT INCLUSIVE
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS IN SOMERSET



FOOD STALLS, FACE PAINTING, INFLATABLE
ASSAULT COURSE, SPORTS, LEGO, ARTS &
CRAFTS, ANIMALS, SENSORY
TOYS, BOARD GAMES
AND MUCH MORE!



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.

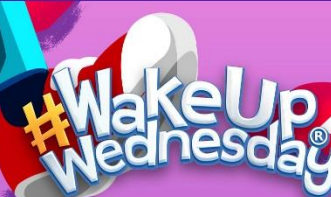
WATCH TOGETHER



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



@wake_up_weds



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