



September Newsletter

Welcome Back!

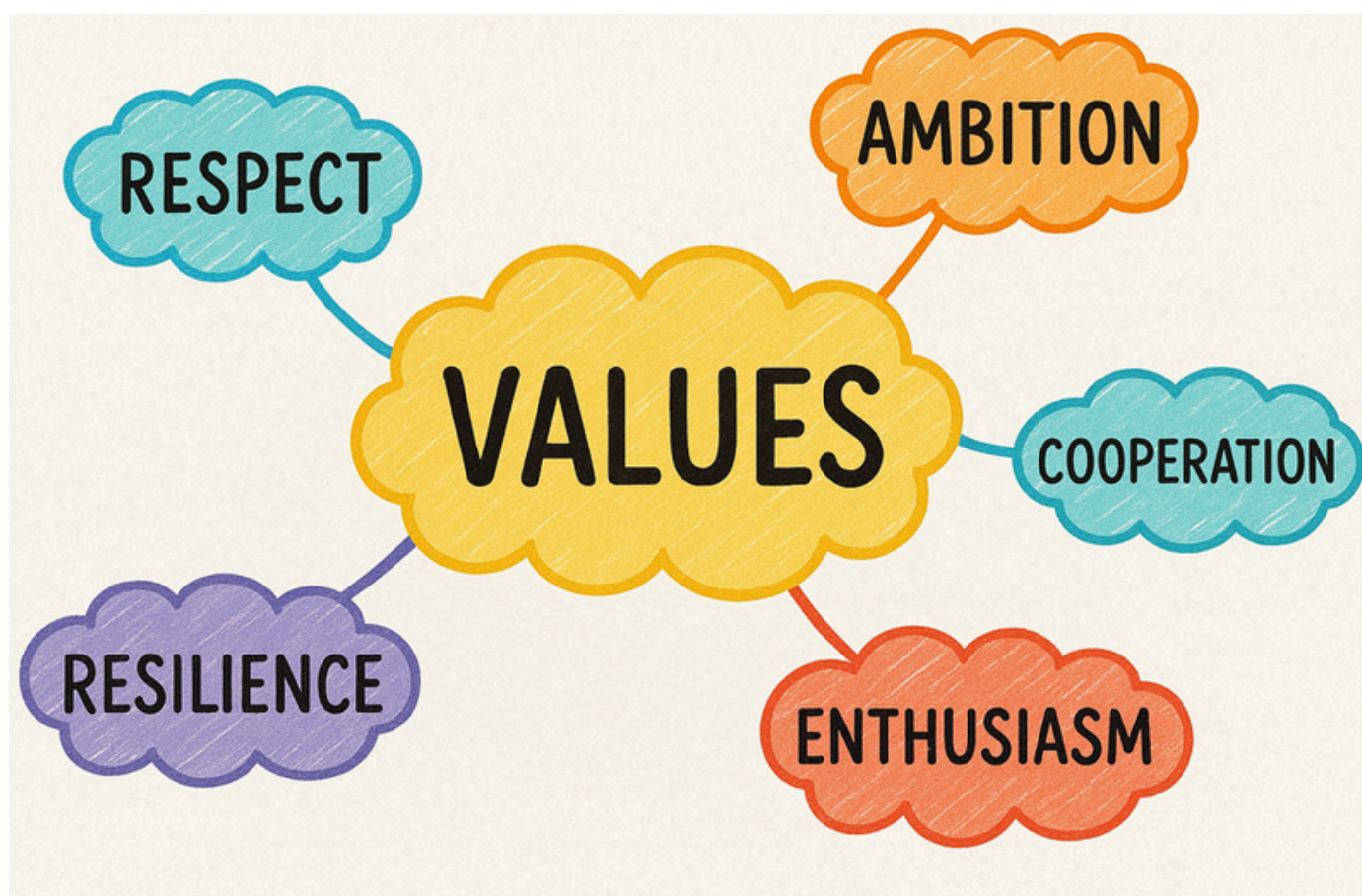
A very warm welcome back to all of our children and families as we begin another exciting school year at Ludgershall Castle Primary School.

We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer holiday and had the opportunity to relax, have fun, and make special memories with family and friends.

We would also like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined our school community this year. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

The school has been full of smiles, excitement, and enthusiasm as the children have returned, and we are looking forward to a fantastic year of learning, achievement, and memorable experiences together.

A reminder of our values here at Ludgershall Castle Primary School:



Thank you for your continued support. Here's to a successful and enjoyable year ahead!

Attendance Matters

At Ludershall Castle Primary School, we know that promoting good attendance to our students is hugely important. Parents/carers must inform the school before 9.15 am whenever their child is absent. You may telephone 01264 790375 and press 1 to leave a message on the absence line. Alternatively, you can email reception@ludershallcastle.wilts.sch.uk or send a message to Miss Hindson on ClassDojo or by using the absence notification on Parentmail.

Please do not message the class teacher directly regarding absences.

Attendance Guide for Families



AUTHORISED ABSENCE

- ✓ Genuine illness, such as high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea
- ✓ Doctor-advised absence
- ✓ Medical appointments



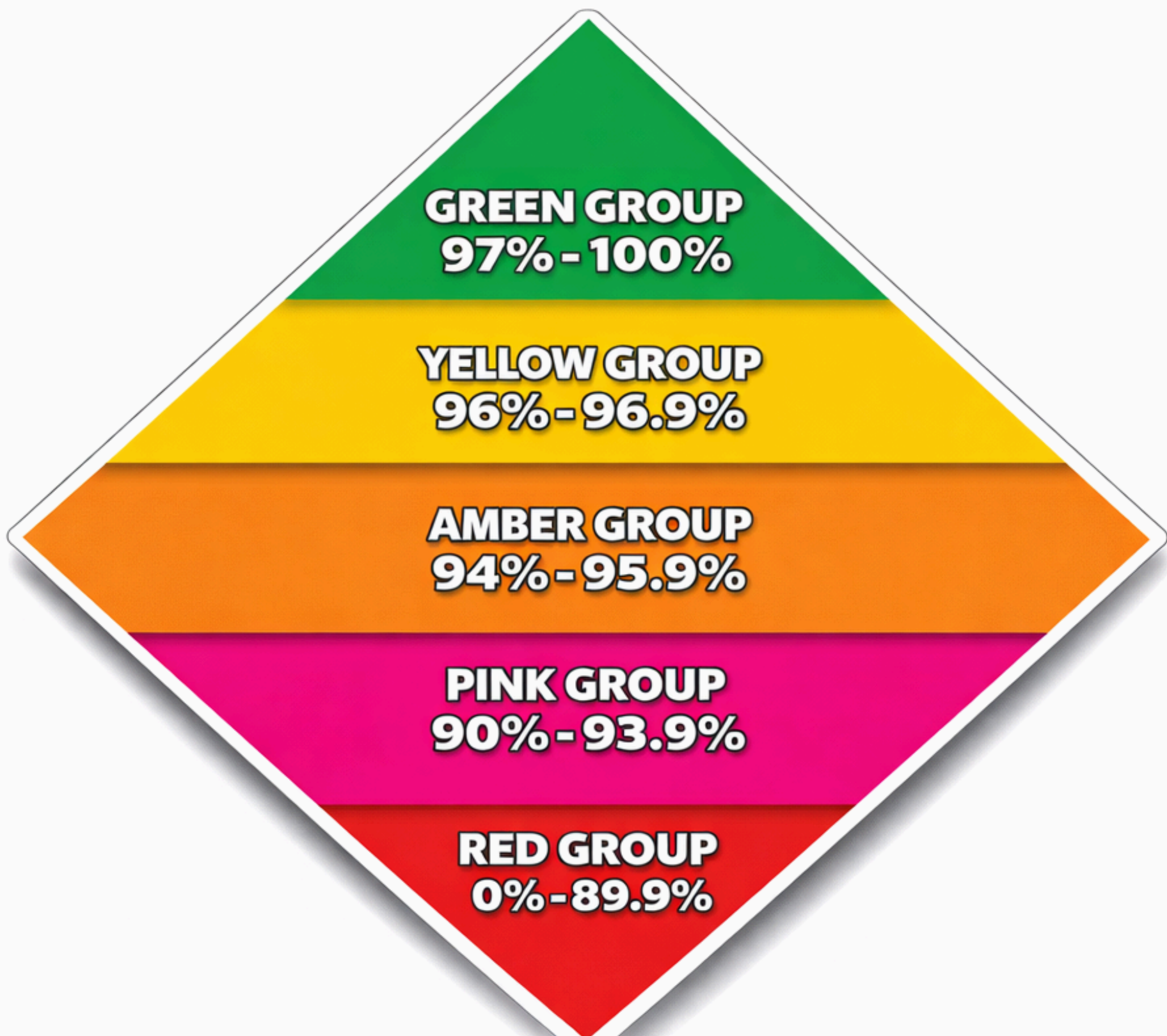
UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

- Overslept
- Too tired
- Birthday
- Days out
- Holidays not agreed by school



Ludgershall Castle Primary School

Attendance Matters



ATTENDANCE GROUPS

GREEN	BEST CHANCE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS
YELLOW	RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
AMBER	SERIOUS RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
PINK	SEVERE RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT
RED	EXTREME RISK - PERSISTENT ABSENTEE

Learning at Ludgershall

This term, our children are beginning an exciting journey of learning through a range of engaging topics across the school. In EYFS, our youngest pupils are exploring People Who Help Us, learning about the important roles that different people play in our community.

In Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2), children are venturing Into the Forest, discovering woodland habitats, plants, animals and the wonders of nature.

Our Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) pupils are stepping back in time to study Ancient Egypt, learning about the fascinating civilisation of the pharaohs, the importance of the River Nile, ancient Egyptian beliefs and customs, and the lasting impact this remarkable civilisation has had on the world today.

Meanwhile, our Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) children are delving into the fascinating world of Myths and Legends, exploring legendary tales, heroic characters and the powerful themes that have captivated audiences for generations.

We encourage parents and carers to ask their children each day what they have been learning in school, as talking about their learning helps children to reflect, build confidence and share their enthusiasm for the exciting discoveries they are making.



A few reminders:

Dojo Messages

Teachers are focused on teaching during the day, so they may not see Class Dojo messages until after school. If your message is urgent or important, please contact the school office by phone.

Names in Clothing and Belongings

Please label all jumpers, coats, bags, and other belongings with either a sewn-in label or permanent marker. This makes it much easier to return lost items to their owners. A big thank you to everyone who has already done this!

Polite Parking Request

At drop-off and pick-up times, please park with consideration for others. Always choose safe places to park to help keep our children safe. Your cooperation makes a big difference to the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

Uniform Expectations

We are proud of our school uniform and ask all children to come to school dressed appropriately and ready to learn. Our school uniform consists of grey or black trousers, skirts or pinafores, white, blue or grey shirts/blouses, and a royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, with grey or black socks/tights and black school shoes.

During the summer months, children may wear blue gingham dresses or grey/black shorts. For PE, children should wear a plain white t-shirt with grey, black or navy joggers, leggings or shorts, along with a plain grey, black or navy sweatshirt or zip-up top and suitable trainers or sports shoes. Please note that football kits are not permitted for PE lessons.

Thank you for your support in helping our children look smart and feel part of our school community.

Uniform	PE Kit	Jewellery
• Grey or black trousers, skirt, or pinafore dress • Blue gingham dresses or grey/black shorts in summer • White, blue, or grey shirts/blouses • Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan • Grey or black socks/tights • Black school shoes	• White t-shirt • Grey, black, or navy joggers, leggings, or shorts • Plain sweatshirt or zip-up top (grey, black, or navy) • Trainers/sports shoes • No football kits	• Only stud earrings allowed • Must be removed or taped for PE (micropore tape provided by parents) • Staff cannot remove earrings • Watches allowed (no smart watches)

Hair and Makeup

- Hair accessories should be plain blue or black
- No hair dye, makeup, or nail varnish



Open Classrooms

We are excited to be welcoming families back into school for our Open Classroom sessions this year. These special opportunities allow parents and carers to visit their child's classroom, meet the staff, and celebrate the wonderful learning and achievements that have taken place throughout the term.

To support families with children in different year groups, each Key Stage will be allocated a separate date, enabling parents and carers to attend every session and share in their children's learning journey. We look forward to opening our classroom doors and showcasing all the fantastic work our pupils have been doing.

Please find the first sessions and times below:

Monday 12th October - EYFS (yr R) Open Classroom 2.45-3.15pm.

Tuesday 13th October - KS1 (yr 1/2) Open Classrooms 2.45-3.15pm.

Wednesday 14th October - UKS2 (yr5/6) Open Classrooms 2.45pm-3.15pm.

Thursday 15th October - LKS2 (yr 3/4) Open Classroom 2.45-3.15pm

Exciting News!

We have updated our behaviour rewards procedures at school!

Children will still earn their Castle Points for demonstrating our school values, but they can now choose whether to save or spend their points in our very own Castle Shop.

The children have already been busy exploring the rewards available and deciding what they would like to save up for! 🎉

The Castle Shop will be updated regularly with lots of exciting items to choose from

We can't wait to see our pupils earning, saving and spending their Castle Points!

★ Earn • Save • Spend • Celebrate! ★

HOW DO CHILDREN EARN CASTLE POINTS?



SPEND OR SAVE



FAMILIES CAN HELP!



Chat with your child about what they are saving for and how they are progressing. We hope the Castle Shop will empower and inspire our children while making positive choices fun and rewarding!





School council

Congratulations to Our New School Councillors

Congratulations to all of our newly elected School Councillors for this academic year! We are looking forward to holding our first School Council meeting soon and seeing our representatives begin their important role within the school community. We know they will represent their classes with enthusiasm, share ideas thoughtfully, listen respectfully to others, and demonstrate excellent leadership qualities.

Our School Councillors for this year are:

Ella and Isaac (Hedgehog Class), Ollie & Sanaayah (Fox Class), Owen & Sophie (Badger Class), Harry and Emmelyn (Otter Class), Carlee and Millie (Kestrel Class), Henry and Antonina (Buzzard Class), and Piper, Valentin & Harvey (Kingfisher Class).

Supporting our Service Families

At Ludgershall Castle Primary School, we are proud to support our Service families and recognise the unique experiences, challenges and strengths that come with Service life. Throughout the year, we will be providing opportunities for Service children and families to connect through our Service Family Mornings and sharing updates about our Dandelion Club, which offers a space for children to meet others with similar experiences and build friendships.

If you ever need support or advice, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Our Service Champion, Mrs Ormerod, is always happy to support Service families and help signpost any additional guidance or assistance that may be needed.

You may also notice some members of staff wearing a purple lanyard. This is part of our Purple Lanyard initiative, which identifies staff who have personal experience of Service life, either through their own military background or as part of a Service family. The lanyards help children and families easily identify trusted adults who understand the unique aspects of Service life and can offer a listening ear, support and guidance when needed.

Good news! Our new wraparound care, JAG offer a 15% for blue light or MOD90 holders.



Key dates Term 1 & 2

Term 1

Monday 14th September – swimming starts for Yr 4 pupils.

Saturday 26th September – European day of languages.

Monday 5th-9th October – Dyslexia Awareness Week

Tuesday 6th October – New EYFS 2027 starters open afternoon 2-3pm.

Wednesday 7th October – New EYFS 2027 starters open morning 10-11am.

Monday 12th October - EYFS (yr R) Open Classroom 2.45-3.15pm.

Tuesday 13th October - KS1 (yr 1/2) Open Classrooms 2.45-3.15pm.

Wednesday 14th October - UKS2 (yr5/6) Open Classrooms 2.45pm-3.15pm.

Thursday 15th October - LKS2 (yr 3/4) Open Classroom 2.45-3.15pm

Friday 16th October- Break up at 3.15pm for October Break.

Non-uniform day for pupils who bring in £1 voluntary contribution each for School Fund.

Term 2

Monday 2nd November - Children return to school.

Thursday 5th November - Year 3/4 Parent workshop 2.30pm - multiplication times table check.

Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th November - Yr 6 Bikeability

Wednesday 11th November – Phonics Party morning 9-9.30 for EYFS and KS1 parents.

Monday 16th November – Odd socks day.

Monday 16th - Friday 20th November - Anti-bullying week.

Tuesday 17th November – KS2 Parent Meetings

Wednesday 18th November – EYFS/KS1 Parent Meetings.

Monday 23rd November - Individual School Photographs.

Wednesday 25th November – Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 8th December – EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance

9.30am - adults only **2pm** - children & siblings welcome.

Thursday 10th December - Christmas Jumper Day.

Wednesday 16th December – Church Christmas Service.

EYFS/KS1 – 9.30pm KS2 – 2pm

Thursday 17th December – Christmas disco & parties in school.

Friday 19th December - Break up at 2pm.

Non-uniform day for pupils who bring in £1 voluntary contribution each for School Fund.

Term 3

Monday 4th January - Children return to school.

Please note some of these dates may be subject to change if needed.

Wraparound Care at Ludgershall Castle Primary School

We are delighted to share that Junior Adventures Group (JAG) has successfully launched at Ludgershall Castle Primary School and is now providing our Breakfast and After School Club provision.

JAG offers a range of fun, active and creative experiences for children, delivered by caring and qualified staff in a safe and welcoming environment. We are pleased to be able to provide families with flexible childcare options before and after the school day

Sessions available:

- Breakfast Club: 7:30am - 8:35am
- After School Club: 3:15pm - 4:30pm
- After School Club: 3:15pm - 6:00pm
-

Families can find out more about the activities on offer, view pricing information and make bookings by visiting:

<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/find-us/ludgershall-castle-primary-school/>

The advertisement features a bright blue background with the text "Choose your ADVENTURE" in white and yellow. In the center, a group of seven children are shown in various costumes: a girl in a purple vest holding a purple ball, a boy in a red shirt, a girl in a white lab coat, a boy in a brown hat and vest, a girl in a yellow shirt, a boy in a red cape, and a girl in a green dress. Below them is a row of seven circular icons representing different activities: Power Teams, Creative Invention, Mindful Meditation, Super Sports, Flavour Fest, Brain Boosting, and Global Kids. At the bottom, the text "RISE THEN SHINE STAY AND PLAY" is displayed in a stylized font, followed by "Welcome to Before and After School Care".

Junior Adventures Group

Choose your ADVENTURE

POWER TEAMS
CREATIVE INVENTION
MINDFUL MEDITATION
SUPER SPORTS
FLAVOUR FEST
BRAIN BOOSTING
GLOBAL KIDS

RISE THEN SHINE STAY AND PLAY

Welcome to **Before and After School Care**

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026						
M		7	14	21	28		M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30
Tu	1	8	15	22	29		Tu		6	13	20	27		Tu		3	10	17	24	
W	2	9	16	23	30		W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25	
Th	3	10	17	24			Th	1	8	15	22	29		Th		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25			F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27	
Sa	5	12	19	26			Sa	3	10	17	24	31		Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su	6	13	20	27			Su	4	11	18	25			Su	1	8	15	22	29	

December 2026							January 2027							February 2027						
M		7	14	21	28		M		4	11	18	25		M		1	8	15	22	
Tu	1	8	15	22	29		Tu		5	12	19	26		Tu		2	9	16	23	
W	2	9	16	23	30		W		6	13	20	27		W		3	10	17	24	
Th	3	10	17	24	31		Th		7	14	21	28		Th		4	11	18	25	
F	4	11	18	25			F	1	8	15	22	29		F		5	12	19	26	
Sa	5	12	19	26			Sa	2	9	16	23	30		Sa		6	13	20	27	
Su	6	13	20	27			Su	3	10	17	24	31		Su		7	14	21	28	

March 2027							April 2027							May 2027						
M	1	8	15	22	29		M		5	12	19	26		M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu	2	9	16	23	30		Tu		6	13	20	27		Tu		4	11	18	25	
W	3	10	17	24	31		W		7	14	21	28		W		5	12	19	26	
Th	4	11	18	25			Th	1	8	15	22	29		Th		6	13	20	27	
F	5	12	19	26			F	2	9	16	23	30		F		7	14	21	28	
Sa	6	13	20	27			Sa	3	10	17	24			Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su	7	14	21	28			Su	4	11	18	25			Su	2	9	16	23	30	

June 2027							July 2027							August 2027						
M			7	14	21	28	M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30
Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27		Tu		3	10	17	24	31
W		2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25	
Th		3	10	17	24		Th	1	8	15	22	29		Th		5	12	19	26	
F		4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa	3	10	17	24	31		Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su		6	13	20	27		Su	4	11	18	25			Su	1	8	15	22	29	

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time

 TD day

Term dates summary:

Term 1	01 September to 21 October 2026	37 days
Term 2	02 November to 18 December 2026	35 days
Term 3	04 January to 12 February 2027	30 days
Term 4	22 February to 25 March 2027	24 days
Term 5	12 April to 28 May 2027	34 days
Term 6	07 June to 23 July 2027	35 days
TOTAL		195 Days

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.

5 days are also available for professional training day closures during term time, set by the Headteacher and Governors of each school.

Bank and Public Holidays 2026/2027

Christmas Day Holiday	Fri 25th December 2026
Boxing Day Holiday	Sat 26th December 2026
Boxing Day Holiday (substitute day)	Mon 28th December 2026
New Years Holiday	Fri 1st January 2027
Good Friday	Fri 26th March 2027
Easter Monday	Mon 29th March 2027
May Day Holiday	Mon 03rd May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	Mon 31st May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday	Mon 30th August 2027

School Book Club

We really enjoyed reading *The Shapeshifter 1: Finding the Fox* by Ali Sparkes at our recent School Book Club meeting.



Our next Book Club meeting will be on Tuesday 6th October 3.15–4.15pm, where we will be reading *Six Weeks* by Matt Goodfellow. We will ensure copies of the book are available in each Key Stage 2 classroom, but children are also welcome to borrow a copy from the library or bring their own.

Help Us Reduce Traffic on Short Street

We're asking all parents and carers to avoid travelling by car whenever possible to help reduce congestion on Short Street during drop-off and pick-up times.

If you can, please walk, cycle, or scoot to school - it's healthier for everyone and helps keep our school community safer and our environment cleaner. Thank you for doing your part to make our school a calmer, greener place!

Thank you Tesco!

A big thank you to Tidworth Tesco who have donated lots of goodies for our castle shop as well as lot of lovely fresh fruit for the children at our school.



**Thank you for your continued support.
It makes such a difference to our school community.**