July Newsletter

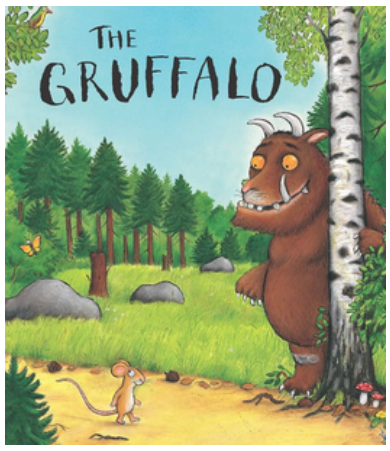
Thank You to Our Families

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our families for your continued support in making this such a successful and rewarding year of learning. Your encouragement and partnership with us have made a real difference to the children's progress and wellbeing.

Learning at Ludgershall

In the final weeks of term, our children have continued to engage in exciting learning across the school:

EYFS: This term EYFS topic has been journeys, this has been a fun topic where we have explored different stories based around journeys such as The Gruffalo, Lost and Found and The Train Ride. This topic has helped the children understand more about journeys and how they will be going on their own journey as they move up to year 1. We have also had lots of fun exploring old cartoons such as Road Runner, The Pink Panther and Fraggle Rock in our drawing club which the children have loved! I wonder which one was their favourite?



KS1: Year 1 & 2 have been learning about the Victorians and exploring what life was like during this period. In Design and Technology, the children have been building bridges, focusing on creating stable and strong structures. In Science, they have been classifying animals according to their diets, identifying herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. In English, the children have enjoyed studying I Want My Hat Back and have used it as inspiration to write their own imaginative stories.

Learning at Ludgershall

LKS2: Year 3 & 4 have enjoyed an exciting journey back in time as we explored the Stone Age. In English, Year 4 have been reading Stuck in the Stone Age, while Year 3 have been captivated by The Iron Man. Our History and Geography lessons have focused on Stonehenge and other fascinating Neolithic landmarks across Europe, helping us to understand what life was like thousands of years ago. In Art, we created our own cave paintings inspired by prehistoric artists, and in Design and Technology we designed and built roundhouses, developing practical skills such as weaving. In Science, we investigated different types of bridges and discussed which materials would be the strongest and most suitable for building them.

UKS2: In English, we have completed an instruction text, setting description and character description based on the poem Our Tower. The children produced some exceptional pieces of work, applying the skills they have learnt.In Science, we have been learning about famous inventors and scientists, such as Richard Attenborough and Stephen Hawking, and their contributions to their fields of expertise.During DT, we designed a cupcake based on A Midsummer Night’s Dream. We researched ingredients and quantities before bringing our ideas to life.In Geography, we learnt about the major differences between North and South America, including biomes, climates and time zones. The children used atlases to locate countries using lines of longitude and latitude.

Sports Mornings

A huge thank you to all the parents and families who were able to join us for our Sports Mornings on 7th and 8th July.

It was wonderful to see so many supporters cheering on the children as they took part in a range of events and races. We were incredibly proud of every pupil, who showed great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship throughout the mornings.

The children had a fantastic time challenging themselves, trying their very best and celebrating each other's successes. Thank you for helping to make the events such an enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone involved.

Well Done Year 5 & 6

A huge well done to our Year 5 and 6 pupils for their fantastic performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

You all worked incredibly hard, and it truly showed. Your acting was brilliant, your speaking was clear and confident, and your singing was beautiful.

CSI Investigation

On Tuesday 30th June the UKS2 children took part in CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) workshop. All pupils learnt to use magnetic powder to identify and recover latent marks and fingerprints. They also investigated Footwear Analysis, where they used footwear lifters to recover their own footwear impression. All pupils analysed their hair under a microscope as well as clothing fibres, the workshop also introduced the Criminal Justice System and how Forensic evidence is used in a court of law. In the afternoon session the children donned their SOCO suits, gloves, masks and overshoes and were given their CSI SOCO cases containing authentic CSI equipment. Using the skills gained from the morning session, pupils were then required to work within their teams to retrieve, preserve and document any evidence from their individual crime scenes. Once pupils had retrieved their evidence, they then had to examine the victim profile to determine the cause of death and review the suspect profiles to try to identify the perpetrator. It was a great workshop that was enjoyed by all!

Farewell and Welcome

As we come to the end of another wonderful year, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you and goodbye to Mrs Potter, Miss Bailey, Mrs Skelly and Mrs Wilks!

Your hard work, dedication, and care have made a lasting difference to our school community, and you will be greatly missed. We wish you all the very best for the future and every success in your next chapter.

At the same time, we are pleased to welcome Mrs Drury, who will be joining us in September as a new class teacher in Year 3 & 4. We are excited to have her as part of our team and look forward to all she will bring to our school.

Good luck to those moving on, and a warm welcome to Mrs Drury.

Good Luck Year 6

We would like to wish our Year 6 children the very best of luck as they move on to secondary school. You have been fantastic role models and we are so proud of all you have achieved. We wish you every success and happiness in your next adventures.

We also say goodbye to any families leaving us this academic year - thank you for being part of our school community, and we wish you all the very best for the future.

Wiltshire Libraries - Summer Reading Challenge

We're excited to invite your child to take part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge – Read to the Beat! - completely free at your local library!

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?
The Summer Reading Challenge is a fun, free way for children aged 4–11 to stay motivated to read during the summer holidays. Children set their own reading goal and can read anything they enjoy – all books count!

What will my child read?
Anything they like! We've also curated a special booklist featuring 55 titles for all reading levels, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and graphic novels, with dyslexia-friendly options too. From rap and K-pop to orchestras and opera, there's a music-inspired story for every child.

How can my child take part? (Library or online)
At the library:
· Visit your local library to sign up – it starts on Super Sign-Up Saturday 4 July!
· Set a summer reading goal and choose from books, eBooks, or audiobooks. Check out the Read to the Beat Collection for suggestions
· Receive a special sticker booklet and collect rewards for reading
Or online · Visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
· Sign up, set a reading goal, and get book recommendations
· Unlock digital badges and earn a printable certificate

Don't miss out – head to your local library and sign up this summer!
If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tidworth Library 01980 843460

Yours faithfully, Diane Ratcliffe

https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/

School council

A Special Thank You to Our School Councillors

A big thank you to all our school councillors for your hard work and dedication this year: Violette, Jenson, Matthew, Orson, Millicent, Lilah, Eden, Dahlia, Julia, Beau, Reef and Amelia. You have represented your classmates brilliantly, shared great ideas, and helped make our school a better place for everyone.

We are very proud of you - well done and thank you!

Service Families

We are proud to support our service families and are part of the Service Pupil in Education Hub - a network of like-minded professionals across Wiltshire working together to share good practice and strengthen support, transitions and partnerships for service children and their families.

We also have a dedicated ‘Service Families’ page on our school website with further information and helpful links.

Thank you to all families who completed our recent Service Families Survey - your feedback provides valuable insight into your experiences and will help shape our approach moving forward.

We have a dedicated email address that you can use to contact us should you like to or to give us any feedback support@ludgershallcastle.wilts.sch.uk.

Certificate of Participation

This is to certify that

Ludgershall Castle Primary School

Participated in the 2025/26 *Festival of Friends* project aimed at enhancing its support for its Service children and their families.

In partnership with

ARMED FORCES EDUCATION TRUST

Wiltshire Council

Key Dates

Term 6

Monday 20th July - Year 6 Leavers assembly for parents at 9am.

Tuesday 21st July - Year 6 Leavers Forest School Party 1.30-3pm.

Wednesday 22nd July - Last day of Term 6. School breaks up at 2pm. Non - uniform £1 voluntary contribution to the school fund.

2026-2027 Academic Year

Term 1

Tuesday 1st September – Staff development day. No school for children.

Wednesday 2nd September – First day back of Term 1 for Year 1-Year 6.

Thursday 3rd September – First day back for new EYFS starters.

Please note some of these dates may be subject to change if needed and we may add more throughout the term.

Wraparound Care at Ludgershall Castle Primary School

Exciting news for families at Ludgershall Castle Primary School!

We're delighted to announce that Junior Adventures Group (JAG) will be our new Breakfast & After School Club provider from Wednesday 2nd September 2026!
JAG's clubs offer fun, active, and creative experiences for children - all delivered by caring, qualified staff in a safe environment.

More information and booking to follow!
Sessions available will be:
7:30am-8:35am
3:15pm - 4:30pm
3:15pm - 6:00pm

Discover more about our new clubs and what's on offer:
https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/find-us/ludgershall-castle-primary-school/

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2026 -27

Wiltshire Council

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Key:

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Term Time
- TD day

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.

Term dates summary:

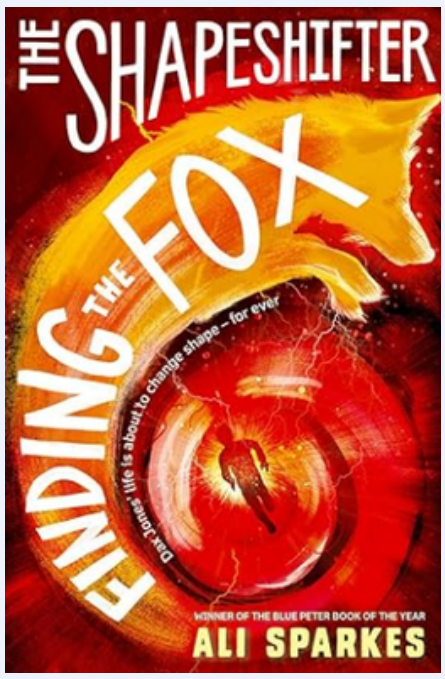
Term 1	01 September to 21 October 2026	37 days
Term 2	02 November to 18 December 2026	35 days
Term 3	04 January to 12 February 2027	30 days
Term 4	22 February to 25 March 2027	24 days
Term 5	12 April to 28 May 2027	34 days
Term 6	07 June to 23 July 2027	35 days
TOTAL		195 Days

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.

Summer Holidays

We wish all our families a wonderful summer holiday!
As usual, we'd love to hear about your summer adventures. Please let your new class teacher know what you've been up to by sending in a Dojo message over the holidays.
Have a fantastic summer, and we look forward to hearing all about your adventures when you return on Wednesday 2nd September.

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