



# Ditchheat Primary School

*Inspiring a Love of Learning for Life*

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September**



Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back to the Autumn Term - it certainly feels a bit chilly compared to glorious sunny weather of the holidays! We hope you have all had an enjoyable summer with your families.

We welcome several new members of staff at school this academic year - we hope you managed to get to meet some of them at the 'Meet the Teacher' open evening. We hope this evening gave you a chance to see the classroom where your child learns, as well as meet the staff. Full parent evenings will be on October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, to speak more at length with your child's teacher.

The children have returned to school with enthusiasm and have settled in to the school routines over the last few weeks. Reception children have managed well with whole days, assemblies and playing with the rest of the school on the playground. Well done to Mrs Cooper, Mrs Bates and the Year 6 Buddies. The Year 6 children have been allocated a Reception Buddy and have really enjoyed working/ playing/ helping their buddies at playtimes and around school.

Year 6 have now completed their Bikeability 2 day course with Somerset County Council and received their badges and certificates in last week's Star assembly. They spent the first day practising skills on the playground and then moved to the roads near to school and once they all passed, they did a run ride out to Alhampton. Well done Year 6.

Mr Large has started his whole class ukelele lessons with Year 2 and 3 in Maple class this week. They have started really well and thank you to FODS for funding this opportunity for every child in the school.

Topics this term are as follows:

Cherry and Maple Class: Farming in Somerset

Holly Class: Stone and Iron age

Willow Class : WW2 and its effect on the West Country.

There are already several trips booked for this term: Holly class are going to Carymoor to study Stone age, Willow are going to the Fleet Air Arm Museum and Nothe fort, Weymouth for their WW2 work and Key Stage One are going to the Rural life museum in Glastonbury to find out about Farming in Somerset. Again, thank you to FODs for subsidising these coach trips.

Do support FODs (Friends of Ditchheat School) with their various events this year as all money collected enriches school life with extra resources and opportunities. Their first event is the Colour Run next Friday 2.45pm - see you there to spectate or throw paint! Remember to sponsor your child!

Best wishes for a fantastic term ahead.

**Mrs Cosser     and     Mrs Bisset**

**Head of School             Executive Headteacher**

## Welcome to our new Cherry Class Children

Reception children have settled in well and have been busy pairing up with their year 6 buddies who have helped them find their way around. They are already immersed in learning their phonics and practicing their reading skill as well as engaging in lots of learning through play. Year 1s have become great role models in class and they have also been supporting the new children guiding them through our day. They too have started the year well demonstrating positive learning attitudes when faced with the new year 1 challenges.



Please remember to book your lunches on Scopay

## Year 6 Bikeability

Year 6 received level 1 and 1 certificates of competence over a 2 day intensive course. You may have seen them cycling the local lanes! So important to know the rules of the road to stay safe as Ditchat must be one of the busiest villages about!



## Maple Class Ukuleles

Mr Large from Somerset Music has been teaching Maple class how to play the ukulele.





## Wellbeing tip of the week

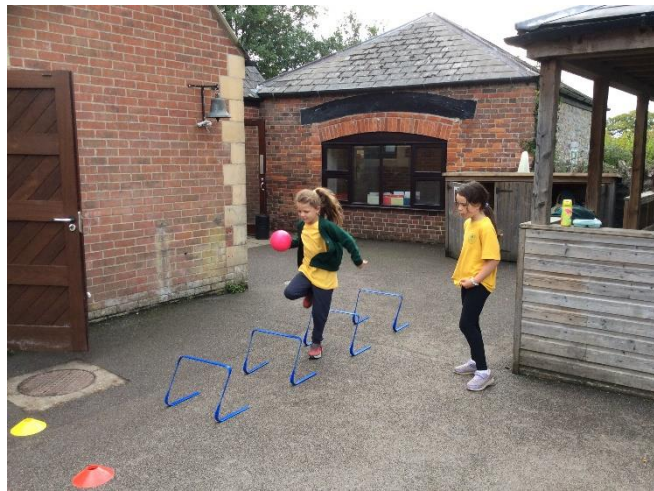


Try different seasonal foods

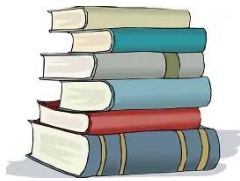
Autumn is a brilliant time for children to explore the shapes, colours, tastes and smells of interesting foods like pumpkins and squash.

### Holly Class

As part of their PHSE Holly class have been planning their own exercises for PE.



If your child took part in a local library's summer reading challenge and they have a certificate, please could they bring it into school so that it can be presented to them in star assembly.  
Thank you.



Please remember to return your data collection forms to the office.  
Thank you.

### Singing Lessons

Available from September

- ★ Fun and engaging lessons!
- ★ Learn to sing your favourite songs with confidence
- ★ Work towards Rockschool grades
- ★ Improve vocal & breathing techniques
- ★ Grow musicianship skills
- ★ Suitable for Year 3 and above

Free 15 minute session available before starting regular lessons (£18 per half hour thereafter)

Please contact  
janebaileymusic@gmail.com to book in!



### ChatHealth



Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

Emotional health



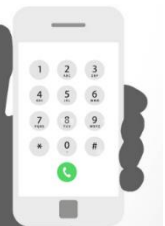
**is your child 5-19 and are you looking for confidential help and support?**

A safe and easy way to contact your School Nursing Team

Just send a text

**07480 635 515**

Disclaimer: This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.



Improving LIVES

FODS PRESENTS

# COLOUR FUN RUN!

**BBQ & CAKE SALE POST RUN**

**FRI 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 2:45PM SPORTS FIELD**

**SPONSORSHIP LINK;**

**[HTTPS://WWW.CROWDFUNDER.CO.UK/P/COLOUR-FUN-RUN-2025-1](https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/colour-fun-run-2025-1)**



## Ansford Academy

### Open Evening and Open Morning

Year 6 and Year 5 families are warmly invited to attend our open events

#### OPEN EVENING

Thursday 2nd October: 5.00pm until 7.30pm

Please join us to hear from our Head of School and take a tour around our school. Presentations will take place in PA2 at: 5.15pm and 6.00pm—no need to book in advance

#### OPEN MORNING

Wednesday 8th October: 9.30am until 11.00am

You are invited to come and see our students in action. School Tours will take place during the morning — no need to book in advance

"At Ansford we are aiming high and dreaming big"— Year 11 Head Students

We are celebrating our best GCSE results in recent years, marking a significant milestone in our school's academic journey. We are committed to creating a great place to learn, work and grow;

*learning together to lead our lives*

Ansford Academy, Maggs Lane, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7JJ - 01963 350895 - admissions@ansford.mnsp.org.uk - www.ansford.org.uk

**Free Family Exhibition Tour at Hauser & Wirth Somerset  
Saturday 11 October, 11am**

A family-friendly exhibition tour of 'Niki de Saint Phalle & Jean Tinguely. Myths & Machines' at Hauser & Wirth Somerset before the gallery opens to the public.

The guided tour is open to all ages, led by Bloum Cardenas, Niki de Saint Phalle's granddaughter and Trustee of the Niki Charitable Art Foundation.

The Education Lab: 'Our Imaginary World' will be hosting a drop-in creative workshop between 10 am – 12 pm. The interactive session will invite visitors of all ages to reflect on art as a form of healing and empowerment.

Roth Bar will be serving brunch from 9 am, including a special menu of American pancakes and kids hot chocolates.

Tickets are free, but advance booking is essential: <https://www.hauserwirth.com/events/exhibition-tour-niki-de-saint-phalle-and-jean-tinguely-myths-and-machines/>