Herne View Church of England Primary School including Apple Orchard Pre-School

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'…. let your light shine…'

"You've got a lot of energy in your school"



That's what Prince William told Mr Whitfield on Tuesday during the Prince of Wales' visit to Ilminster!

A total of 55 pupils, including our student councillors, children from forces families, members of our Ethos Committee and two further randomly selected pupils from each class between Years 1 and 6, were privileged to meet Prince William when he was in the town centre to visit Sweet Surprise.

It was lovely to be part of such an exciting occasion, and have the chance to meet our future King!

Thank you to the Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, Avon and Somerset Police, our local PCSOs and Ilminster Town Council, who all helped us be part of this historic day. Thank you also to the townsfolk who not only allowed us to take up a prime viewing spot but who also spoke so kindly to (and about) our pupils.

During his visit, Prince William launched the Ready Together initiative, which provides communities across the UK with practical guidance to help them prepare for and respond to emergencies. He also visited the inclusive town café Sweet Surprise and Ilminster Fire Station.

It's not every day the future King visits our town, and it's fair to say that it was an exciting honour to be a part of it all.



Harvest at Herne View

A message from our school Ethos Committee:

This year we will be celebrating Harvest as a school, with our internal school service led by Rev Nigel Candelent. This will be on Wednesday October 14th.

We are asking each child to bring in at least ONE TIN of food as a donation to build a square-based pyramid as tall as can be! Additional donations most welcome.

We will then be donating the tins to Ilminster Food Bank and hope to break our record donation from last year.

Please bring your Harvest gift BEFORE Wednesday October 14th, 2026.

Thank you very much for your act of courageous advocacy!

End of Staff Governor Tenure

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Vernon Higgins for his time as a Staff Governor, a role which he conducted with diligence and commitment. Vernon's time as Staff Governor included the merger of Greenfylde First School and Swanmead Community School into Herne View, and the movement of Silver Street and Ditton Street onto one site. We wish Vernon a well-deserved break from his duties, and look forward to announcing our next Staff Governor following the conclusion of the election process.

Helping All Children Feel Safe at School

To support a positive start and end to the school day for all pupils, we would like to remind families that dogs are not permitted on the school site.

We also ask parents and carers to be mindful of where dogs are waiting at drop-off and collection times. Some children can find being close to dogs unsettling and may feel worried or anxious when entering or leaving school.

By keeping dogs away from the school gates and entrances, you can help us ensure that every child feels safe, relaxed and ready for their day of learning.

Another way to ensure children and families feel safe in school is to stick to the path from the Tesco gate, both on your way in and out. We appreciate it may be easier to walk across the grass, but please help set the correct example for all our school users by sticking to the path. Work on the additional path is still expected to take place soon.

We would like to encourage children in Year 1 and above, who feel ready to, to walk up from the Tesco gate by themselves. Children in Reception should still be accompanied by an adult.

Thank you for your continued support and consideration for all members of our school community.

Reading: The Key That Unlocks Life 🔑

Reading is not simply something children need to learn at school, or something that supports wellbeing. It is one of the things that makes us human. As classicist Mary Beard puts it, *"Reading is about how to be you and how to think about the world."*

Through books, children step into other people's lives, explore unfamiliar worlds, discover new ideas and develop the language to make sense of their own. Reading gives children knowledge, imagination, empathy and, ultimately, greater freedom to understand and shape the world around them.

This is why reading at home matters so much. Our expectation that children read five times a week is about building the regular practice that creates confident, fluent readers — not adding another chore to family life. The Education Endowment Foundation finds that parental engagement has a positive impact on children's learning, with much of the evidence focused specifically on home reading.

So, five times a week, please make space for a story, a chapter, a few pages or a conversation about a book. **You are not just helping your child learn to read; you are helping them discover what it means to be human** .

Reading with Ilminster Rotary

Each week we are fortunate to welcome members of Ilminster Rotary, who come to read with children in Years 2 and 3. Rotary have read with children at Silver Street for many years, but last week we had the first session at Ditton Street. Thank you to Ilminster Rotary for their long-standing support of reading here at Herne View.





Celebrating Children's Work

Each week we will celebrate some of the wonderful work created by Herne View's children. This week we are sharing a colourful flag created by Lotti in Tadpole class.



This week we had an exciting visitor to Ilminster. Prince William came to town and in Tadpole we were decorating and making flags. Lotti made a flag for the future King and we are very proud of how hard she worked.

Mr Langdon

PTA AGM and Film Club

This is a friendly reminder that without the superb volunteers that run so many extraordinary PTA events, which in turn raise funds for our school, your young person's time at primary school becomes a much duller affair.

Please support your PTA by coming along to our AGM on Thursday 15th October 2026 at 6.30pm or by offering your support to help manage and facilitate our events, or by ensuring that the events are well supported by your child(ren) and their wider family!

The PTA always welcome offers of help at events. Our next event is PTA Film Club on Monday 19th October, with screenings of *Shaun the Sheep: The Movie* *(for Reception and KS1) and* *Toy Story 5* *(for KS2). If you can help support the event, please contact the PTA directly at pta@herneviewschool.co.uk*



Star of the Week Awards

Congratulations to this week's Stars!

Tadpole	Elsie G
Dragonfly	Amelia L
Otter	Bodie L
Hedgehog	Maisie F
Deer	Elijah C
Fox	Mason V
Squirrel	Ivy D-M
Hare	Maisy T
Owl	Courtney E
Kite	Rosie D-B
Robin	Dylan C
Wren	Claudia S
Kestrel	Louis S
Buzzard	Troy B

Trophies and certificates will be presented on **Tuesday 13th October at 2.30pm** .

Families of the recipients are welcome to attend via Zoom and a link will be sent out to the contact emails we have for our pupils. We encourage all family members to stay until the end of the celebration if possible.

Please note if joining via Zoom no recordings or screen shots should be taken of the sessions for safeguarding and we ask you to remain on mute. **Please also be aware of your screen name and we ask that this is changed to your child's name. If we cannot see your child's name and your camera on we may have to remove you from the session.**

Soak a (Y6) Teacher!

Year 6's Courageous Advocacy Fundraiser!

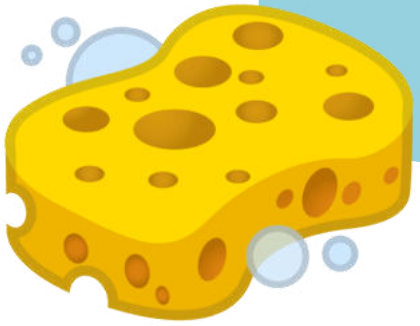
Money raised will be split between a charity of Year 6's choice (to be confirmed) and Herne View's PTA

£1 for 2 sponges

The lucky teachers are:

Back by popular demand - Ms Elliott (10 minutes)
Making his long-awaited debut - Mr Musgrave (10 minutes)

Weather permitting, and children only, please!



Where: Herne View Church of England Primary School - Lower Playground

When: 15th October 2026 at 3.20-3.40pm

Leading to a brighter future

Kindness | Collaboration | Positivity

Chard Community Hub

in partnership with HOLYROOD





Coffee and Catch-up

Monday 19 October 2026, 9.30-11.00am

Chard Community Hub

Boden Centre, Chard TA20 2AX

Come along for a relaxed and informal opportunity to meet the SENDIAS team, enjoy a free tea or coffee and find out how we can support children and young people with SEND and their families.

No appointment needed. All parents, carers and families are welcome.

WELLS CATHEDRAL

Capture the Cathedral in a Drawing

Saturday 10 October, 10.30am–3.30pm

Pick up free art materials and sketch whatever inspires you – windows, carvings, tiny details, or your own unique view, with the option to have your sketch displayed in an online exhibition!
All ages and abilities welcome.

Admission FREE with entry to the Cathedral.
No need to book – simply drop in on the day!

Images: Submissions from *Capture the Cathedral in a Drawing* (2025)

In association with:
WELLS ART CONTEMPORARY

Find out more at:
www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on

Wells Cathedral is a Registered Charity, no. 1207269



Half-Term Holiday Activities: Taking Time

27–29 October, 10.30am–3.30pm

Have fun exploring the time-themed installations from Wells Art Contemporary, and join us to fashion your own creations!

Discover optical illusions, learn about the Cathedral's incredible Astronomical Clock, and make your own spinning seasons wheel. Suitable for children and families.

Admission included with entry to Wells Cathedral.
No need to book – simply drop in on the day! More info at:
wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on

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