

South Petherton Junior, South Petherton C of E Infants and Pre-School
'Achieving the best'
'Embracing the Fullness of Life' John 10:10

Federation Newsletter 5

Autumn Term 2026

Focus Value: FRIENDSHIP
'Share your smile with the world.
It's a symbol of friendship and peace'.

Reminder: INSET Day and Half Term

A reminder to all families that **Friday 23rd October** is an **INSET Day**, and the Pre-School, Infant School and Junior School will be closed to pupils.

As a Federation, all teaching staff and teaching assistants will be in school for the day taking part in essential professional development and training. These opportunities help us to continue developing our practice and ensure we provide the very best education, support and care for all our children.

This will be followed by the half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on **Monday 2nd November.**

Safeguarding During the School Holiday

As we approach the school holiday, we would like to remind all families that safeguarding remains everyone's responsibility. We hope you enjoy a happy, restful, and safe break together.

If you are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a child, young person, or vulnerable adult during the holiday, please do not wait until school reopens to seek help.

If a child or adult is in immediate danger, always call 999.

For safeguarding concerns that require advice or support, you can contact:

- Somerset Council Children's Social Care: 0300 123 2224
- Somerset Direct (out of hours Emergency Duty Team): 0300 123 2327
- Police (non-emergency): 101
- NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Thank You for Your Harvest Donations



A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our Harvest celebrations this year. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity shown by our school community.
Thanks to your kindness and thoughtful donations, our local church food bank has been restocked and is better able to support individuals and families within our community who may be facing challenging circumstances. Your contributions will make a real difference to those who need it most.
Harvest is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the importance of caring for one another, and this year we have seen some truly amazing acts of friendship, compassion and generosity. Our children have once again demonstrated our values in action, showing that even small acts of kindness can have a significant impact.
Thank you for helping us support our local community. We are incredibly proud to be part of such a caring and generous federation. Together, we are making a difference.

Congratulations Weekly Stars

Saplings
Grayson & Amaya

Elm
Indie, Rupert & Rosa

Birch
India, Havey & Drue

Cedar
Bonnie, Jayden Reeva & Remi

Oak
Everyone, Sophia & Oscar

Rowan
Charelle & Ozzie

Willow
Grace, Charlotte W, Feddie, Sophie P & Rupert

Hazel
Ted & Amelia

Chestnut
Jason, Ben & Beatrice



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The Importance of Good School Attendance



At school, every day really does count.

Regular attendance is one of the biggest factors in helping children achieve their full potential, both academically and socially. While we all understand that children will occasionally be absent due to illness, attending school every day helps them build strong learning habits, develop friendships and gain confidence in the classroom.

Learning takes place in small steps each day. Missing lessons can make it harder for children to keep up with new concepts and can sometimes leave gaps in learning that become more difficult to address over time. Good attendance helps children maintain routines, engage fully in their learning and feel connected to their school community.

Attendance is about much more than academic success. Being in school allows children to take part in clubs, sporting activities, educational visits, performances and the many memorable experiences that make school life so special. It also helps children develop important life skills such as resilience, responsibility and teamwork.

Even small reductions in attendance can have a significant impact over the course of a school year. For example, a child with 95% attendance misses around two weeks of learning across the academic year. These lost days can quickly add up.

As a federation, we are incredibly grateful for the support families provide in ensuring children arrive on time and ready to learn each day. By working together, we can give every child the best possible opportunity to thrive, achieve and enjoy all that school has to offer.

Thank you for your continued support in making attendance a priority. Every single day matters, and every child matters.



NUT FREE ZONE REMINDER

As a gentle reminder, we try to remain a nut-free site as much as we can. To help keep all children safe, please ensure that any snacks or packed lunches brought onto school premises do not contain nuts or nut products.

SAFEGUARDING

At South Petherton Schools Federation, we take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously. If you have a concern, please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Shan Weston or one of our Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Miss Charlotte White, Mrs Cath Hudson, Mrs Ali Chapple, Miss Lucy May or Miss Hannah Wakely. Alternatively, you can telephone Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224.

DATA

Please can all parents and carers ensure that the data held at the schools is accurate. Please send any changes in writing to the School Office.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Shan Weston - Excutive Headteacher