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Dear Parents and Carers

We were very impressed with all the children during the three Sports Day events last week. They were really encouraging towards each other and took part with great enthusiasm and athletic skills from Reception right up to Year 6. Thank you to Katie and the PTFA, and to the staff, for all their help. Well done to Mrs Ferre for arranging it all.

On Friday evening the PTFA and staff put on a fabulous day and evening on the inflatables. The Bouncathon during the day raised a very impressive total for the PTFA, thank you to everyone who sponsored the children. Ms Dymock organised it all, thank you to her and her brilliant team for putting it on.

This week we have two classes going out on school trips (Year 3 to Longleat on Tuesday, Year 2 to Stourhead on Thursday). As always, the PTFA help with the cost of the trips, making sure every class has one free coach every year if they need it for their visits.

**Transition Day Tuesday 1st July**

This is the day when all the children move up a class for the day to meet their new teacher and spend time getting used to their new classroom before the summer break. All the children should go straight to their new classroom for this special day, we will be on hand to guide them in the right direction and help you pick them up from the right places! To help with this process, here’s a reminder of the drop off and pick up points for each year group:

Year 1 – They go in through the door at the back of the Hall and come out from their door, just to the left of the door at the back of the Hall at 3.10pm.

Year 2 – They go in through the door at the back of the Hall and come out of the same door at 3.10pm.

Year 3 – As above, coming out at 3.15-3.20pm

Year 4 – They go in through their door (up the little ramp down the side path) and come out of the door at the top of the school at 3.20pm

Year 5 and 6 – In and out of the top door, finishing at 3.20pm.

We will also welcome the new Reception children in small groups during the day, and have most of our Year 6 children at their new secondary schools that day.

**Year 5 and 6 Summer Performance**

The Summer Performance, showcasing the talents of our Year 6 children, supported by our Year 5 class, will take place on Tuesday 8th July at 2pm and Wednesday 9th July at 6pm. Tickets are on sale from the school office at £1 a ticket.

**Coffee Morning – Speech and Language – Tuesday 15th July – School Hall**

Please come into school for a drink and biscuit and a chat with our lovely, link Speech and Language Therapists. If you have any questions at all about Speech and Language, whether or not your child has been seen by this service, please feel free to join us.

Please could you let Mrs Howard know if you think you might be able to come – either by email [showard@shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:showard@shaftesburyabbey.dorset.sch.uk) or have a word – thank you.

**PTFA**

The PTFA have arranged for our school to be in the Tesco Tokens scheme from the first week of July until September. We hope to get some money to improve the Reception class outdoor area with a new artificial grass surface and play equipment. Please put your blue tokens into our slot and encourage others to do the same.

Please come to these two events and help with them if you can, the money raised is all used to improve the environment and experiences for all the children in our school.

**Summer Fair – Friday 4th July at 3.20pm**

Please sign up to help with the Summer Fair in July.  It will need your help to set up, run stalls and clear up at the end.

If you have any children’s books in good condition, the Rotakids would love to have them for their stall. Please send them in to the school office anytime from today onwards.

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Year 1 have two weeks of Forest School on 25th June and 2nd July, followed by Year 5 on 9th and 16th July.

Children need to have trousers and long-sleeved tops, wellies and a waterproof coat (with over-trousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

**Shaftesbury Fringe – 18th - 20th July**

A message from the organisers of this fantastic local event:

The biggest, open-access arts festival in Dorset, with over 300  
performances, takes place from 18th to 20th July. With music of all genres,  
childrens’ theatre, a bubbleologist, magicians, a comedy game-show and a  
Punch and Judy, there’s more for families at this year’s Fringe than  
ever before.  
After a show, there’s the abbey gardens open as the perfect space to  
chill out, the recently revamped St James’s park to burn off some excess  
energy and our food and drink hub on Park Walk, so you can make the day  
as busy or relaxed as you like.  
  
Head to [www.shaftesburyfringe.co.uk](http://www.shaftesburyfringe.co.uk/) or download the app on google and  
apple to plan your visit!

**Semley Music Festival – 4th – 6th July**



**Term Dates**

Please see next year’s term dates below for your info.

**TERM DATES 2024 – 2025**

Summer Term ends                                     Tuesday 22nd July 2025

INSET DAY                                                       Wednesday 23rd July 2025

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**TERM DATES 2025 – 2026**

**Autumn Term**

INSET DAY                                                      Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Children start back                                     Thursday 4th September 2025

Autumn Half Term                                        Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025

Autumn Term ends                                      Friday 19th December 2025

Christmas Holidays                                     Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

**Spring Term**

INSET DAY                                                      Monday 5th January 2026

Children start back                                   Tuesday 6th January 2026

Spring half term                                          Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Spring Term ends                                       Friday 27th March 2026

Easter holidays                                            Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

**Summer Term**

INSET DAY                                                       Monday 13th April 2026

Children start back                                     Tuesday 14th April 2026

MAY DAY Bank Holiday                                Monday 4th May 2026

INSET DAY                                                        Friday 22nd May 2026

Summer half term                                        Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Summer Term ends                                      Tuesday 21st July 2026

INSET DAY                                                         Wednesday 22nd July 2026