

150
years



Newsletter 26-27 - Autumn 1 - 4th
September

The Week Ahead

No Clubs This Week

Monday 7th September:

PE: 1 Donaldson and 5 Leonard

Tuesday 8th September:

PE: 2 Jeffers, 4 Morpurgo, 6 Anderson

Wednesday 9th September:

PE: Reception Ladybirds, 1 Donaldson, 3 Dahl, 5 Leonard

Thursday 10th September:

PE: 2 Jeffers, 4 Morpurgo

Friday 11th September:

PE: 3 Dahl, 6 Anderson

In This Edition

Welcome to our weekly school newsletter.

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Awards and Certificates



Values Awards

Thomas P, Edwin B, Lylah B, 4 Morpurgo, Phoebe M, Arlow T, Senna A, Isabelle H,

PE Stars

Nicole P, Emin B, Wynter O

Welcome Back!

We hope all of our families enjoyed a wonderful summer break and had the opportunity to relax, recharge and make special memories together. It has been lovely to welcome our pupils back to school and see their smiling faces as they begin an exciting new term. We are looking forward to a year filled with learning, achievement, creativity and fun. A special welcome goes to our new pupils and families joining our school community this term. We are delighted to have you with us.

Thank you all for your continued support, and we look forward to working together to make this a successful and enjoyable year for all our children.

Reminders

Lunches

Please ensure you order on the Arbor app if your child requires lunches from the school kitchen. Orders close 2 weeks before the date of the meal, so please do ensure you make these orders in a timely fashion.

Labelling Property

Do ensure you label any item that comes to school with your child. This includes uniform, school bags, coats, water bottles and lunch boxes. Items can and do get mislaid frequently and they are much likely to be returned with a name on!

Arbor App

If you need to add or edit contact details, you can do this via the Arbor App

Wraparound Care

If you wish for your child to attend Early Birds (breakfast club) or Planet Play after school, bookings must be made on the Arbor App. You will need to add funds to your account before booking your sessions. If it is your child's first time attending any wraparound care, you will need to fill in a wraparound care form - please see the office for this.

After School Clubs



Booking for some of our clubs is now open, and we are awaiting confirmation for a further club. A full clubs letter will be sent home next week, with clubs commencing the week beginning 14th September. Please see below for booking links:

Monday

Mini-Athletics - Reception to Year 2 - 3:15pm-4:15pm - [Mini Athletics Salisbury, Wincanton and Blandford Forum | Mini Athletics - Mini Athletics](#)

Tuesday

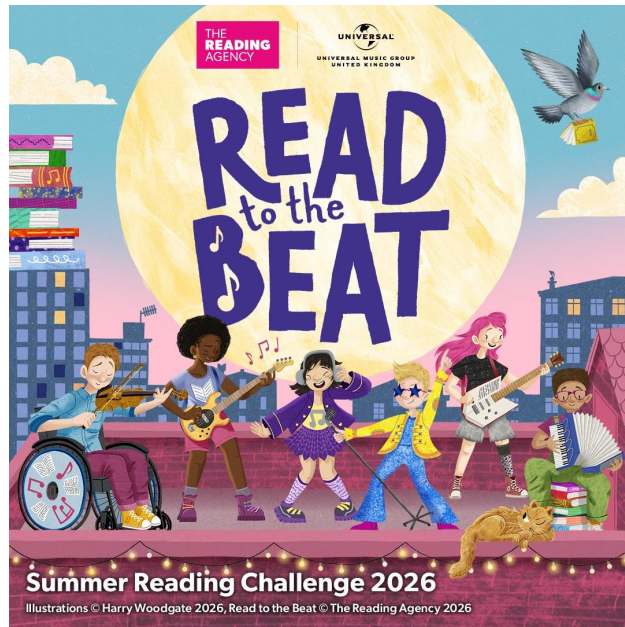
Artikids - Year 2 and above - 3:15pm-4:15pm - <https://www.artikids.co.uk/>

Wednesday

Cookstars - 3:15pm-4:30pm: portal.cookstars.franscape.io/class-overview/5204

Minecraft Club - Year 3 and above - 3:15pm-4:15pm - [Mi Little Pad Ltd](#)

Summer Reading Challenge



The library service have asked us to let you know that the last date for children finishing the Summer Reading Challenge is Saturday 12th September.

Dates For Your Diary



Here you will find information regarding upcoming dates to be aware of. Further dates for later in the year can be found on our website calendar.

- Friday 25th September - Flu Immunisations
- Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October - Autumn Half Term
- Monday 2nd November - INSET DAY
- Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January - Christmas Holidays
- Friday 12th February - INSET DAY
- Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February - Spring Half Term
- Friday 26th March - Bank Holiday
- Monday 29th March - Friday 9th April - Easter Holidays
- Monday 12th April - INSET Day
- Monday 3rd May - Bank Holiday
- Friday 28th May - INSET Day
- Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June - Summer Half Term
- Wednesday 21st July - Last day of school year

Safeguarding at Gillingham Primary School



Gillingham Primary school is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children, staff and visitors and promoting a climate where children and adults will feel confident about sharing any concerns, which they may have about their own safety or the well-being of others.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our school is the responsibility of the whole school community. All adults working in this School (including visiting staff, volunteers and students on placement) are required to report instances of actual or suspected child abuse or neglect to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who is a member of the school's leadership team.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is: Mrs Sue Preston (Headteacher)

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Mrs Ashlee Honeybourne (Deputy Head) Mrs Cathryn Cosh (Parent Support Worker) and Mrs Tamar Shanks (SENCO)

Resources and Information



Come and meet us !

New Access Wellbeing drop-in spaces are open in North Dorset offering free mental health and wellbeing support to anyone aged 18 and over, with no appointment needed.

The new drop-in services in North Dorset are provided by Dorset Mind, as part of a collaborative partnership with other charities and the NHS. Visit: [Access Wellbeing Dorset](#)

Whether you are looking for support or simply an informal chat, drop in and see how we can help you improve your wellbeing – completely free of charge. You can find us at the following venues:

Blandford - Contact Kat on mob: 07367 449737

Blandford Leisure Centre, Milldown Road DT11 7DB
Every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am till 3pm

Gillingham - Contact Clare on mob: 07366 686096

RiversMeet Leisure Centre, Hardings Lane SP8 4XH
Every Monday from 10am till 4pm
And at the Citizens Advice, Newbury Court SP8 4QX
Every Thursday from 10am till 4pm

Shaftesbury - Contact Laura on mob: 07367 465944

St Peter's Church Hall, 5 Gold Hill, Shaftesbury SP7 8LY
Every Wednesday from 10am till 4pm

Sherborne - Contact Alex on mob: 07366 687333

Digby Hall, Hound Street DT9 3AA
Every Tuesday from 10am till 4pm
Every Thursday from 10am till 1pm

Sturminster Newton - Contact Millie on mob: 07307 318124

The Vale Family Hub, 22a Butts Pond Industrial Estate DT10 1AZ
Every Tuesday from 10am till 4pm

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

You are the expert of your child

You Are Not Alone - Every 1st Tuesday of the month - 7.00pm - 8.30pm

A free monthly online drop-in for parents & carers

The **You Are Not Alone** community is a friendly and safe space run by Erik & Sally Wagter where you can come and learn about autism & PDA, ask questions, connect with like-minded people or simply listen and learn from other people's conversations.



In this community we talk about all sorts of things such as:

- helping your child regulate their emotions & feelings
- understanding autism and PDA
- navigating school and EHCPs
- Supporting your child with friendships
- understanding and managing challenging behaviour
- managing sensory needs
- developing a positive relationship with your child (family dynamics)
- exploring EOTAS or home education
- looking after your well being
- and so much more



Here's what parents have said:

"My husband Jamie was saying that in the last few sessions, he has learned so much more about autism and PDA than he has over the last year"

Jo (parent)

"Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel and I really do feel less alone and more validated. My hope is back"

Louise (parent)

"Thank you so much for your support. I nearly chicken out in speaking but I'm glad I did. These sessions have been really helpful and I don't feel so alone"

Emma (parent)

If you would like to join the **next drop-in on Tuesday 6th January**, please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link.



Additional Support Courses for Parents

Three new courses offered by FACE, separate from the school membership.

Full access to all three courses for £6.99/month

Complete at your own pace, cancel anytime.



Building Emotional Resilience

Work through six stages of directed exercises to help your child (and yourself) improve emotional resilience.



Facing Defiance

A specific strategy aimed at supporting parents of children aged 5 to 12 with ADHD, ODD or just very challenging behaviour.



You & Your Teen

A skills building course for one parent and one teen (12 years old and above) to learn how they can both improve their communication with each other.

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Online Courses for Parents page
info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk





September Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Facing Defiance	1 Sep 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	1 Sep 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	7 Sep 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	7 Sep 7pm
Introduction to OCD	8 Sep 10am
Decreasing Depression	8 Sep 7pm
What is ACT?	14 Sep 10am
Improving Family Communication	14 Sep 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	15 Sep 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 Sep 10am
Understanding Anger	21 Sep 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	22 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	22 Sep 7pm
FREE - Masking Awareness	24 Sep 7-8pm
Anxiety Explained	28 Sep 10am
School Anxiety	28 Sep 7pm

Gillingham
Family Hub
Network Point

✉ northchildrenscentres@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
🖱 dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/find-a-family-hub



📅 From 7th September term time only 📍 Gillingham Library SP8 4UA
📞 Book in advance FREE - donations welcome 📍 Riversmeet SP8 4HX

Autumn Term Programme

Tuesday

10am - 11.30am

Learning Together for 0 - 5's drop in at **Gillingham Library**

A play-based group based on PEEP principles, focusing on social interaction and school readiness, including language and speech development. Access to the building is via the garden through the car park at the back of the building.

Wednesday

1.30pm - 2.30pm

New Baby group for 0 - 6 months at **Riversmeet** 📍

If this is your first baby or your third, come along, meet other parents/carers and learn about different topics each week to support you and your little one. **Email us with your phone number to book a place.**



Part of Dorset's
Family Hub
network



Shaftesbury
Family Hub
Network Point

✉ northchildrenscentres@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
🖱 dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/find-a-family-hub



BEING A PARENT COURSE

Being a Parent is a new FREE feel-good programme for parents of 3 - 8 year olds who want to understand their child's behaviour.

It supports parents/carers to build skills and confidence, improve family resilience and give children the best start in life. This is an 8 week term time course and there is no creche.

Places are limited so book now with the QR code or go to <https://forms.office.com/e/czqZ6UXa5c>



Scan to book



24TH SEPT | 9.30AM - 12

📍 Wincombe Lane SP7 8PZ



Part of Dorset's
Family Hub
network



EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES



Community News and Events

St Mary's Church Fun Day

September 5th 11am- 2pm

In and around the church and in the VSR

With Little Cherubs Toddler Group



Teddy Bear drop from the tower
Games in the churchyard
Crafts in church



In the VSR:

Tea, coffee and cake
Teddy tombola
Other stalls

**All money raised goes
towards Little Cherubs and
St Mary's Church!
Come and have fun!**



 **Jeanette & Friends** 
invite you to a

Coffee   **Morning** 

Including Raffle

Sunday 6th September 2026

10am - 12noon
Gillingham Social Club

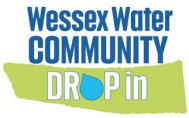
*Funds raised will go to the
Salisbury District Hospital Stars Appeal*

**COME AND MEET
WESSEX WATER**

Chat to us in person if
you have a query about:

- Your water bill**
- Your water and sewerage services**
- How to save water and prevent sewer blockages**

 **Gillingham Library**
10am-2pm
10 September & 5 November

Warrior Academy

OPEN MONTH

AT THE **WARRIOR ACADEMY**
ALL THROUGH **SEPTEMBER!**

COME AND TRIAL ANY
OF OUR CLASSES AND
DISCOVER THE **CHARACTER**
BENEFITS OF PRACTICING
MARTIAL ARTS



**BUILD CONFIDENCE
AND SELF-BELIEF**



**MAKE NEW FRIENDS
AND HAVE FUN**



**LEARN VALUABLE
SKILLS FOR LIFE**

SPACES ARE LIMITED
**CONTACT US TODAY TO
SECURE YOUR PLACE!**



EMAIL US
contact@warrioracademy.co.uk



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.warrioracademy.co.uk

BUILD CONFIDENCE. HAVE FUN. ACHIEVE GOALS. TOGETHER.

FREE **TLW Dance** — EST. 2010 —

TRIAL WEEK

★ **7th - 12th September**

MINI DANCE AGE 1.8 MOS. - 3YRS
PRE-SCHOOL BALLET AGE 3YRS+

★ **BALLET** ALL LEVELS
ACRO AGE 4YRS+
STREET JAZZ AGE 4YRS+
MUSICAL THEATRE AGE 4YRS+
TAP DANCE AGE 4YRS+
CONTEMPORARY AGE 4YRS+

SHAFTESBURY • TLWDANCE@GOOGLEMAIL.COM • WWW.TLWDANCE.CO.UK

HOW TO BOOK A TRIAL

TLW Dance — EST. 2010 —

PLEASE MAKE AN ACCOUNT ON OUR PARENT PORTAL

[HTTPS://APP.GOSTUDIOPRO.COM/ONLINE/TLWDANCE](https://app.gostudiopro.com/online/tlwdance)

- 1) GO TO FIRST TIME HERE AND CLICK CREATE ACCOUNT
- 2) ADD YOUR DETAILS
- 3) CLICK REGISTER
- 4) CHOOSE YOUR PREFERRED CLASS
- 5) CLICK SCHEDULE A TRIAL OR JOIN THE WAITLIST
- 6) SCROLL DOWN AND CLICK SUBMIT TO SECURE YOUR PLACE.

OR GET IN CONTACT

SHAFTESBURY • TLWDANCE@GOOGLEMAIL.COM • WWW.TLWDANCE.CO.UK

Contact Us



If you need to contact the school, there are several ways to do so. You can drop into reception when you drop your child off in the morning, or you may find it easier to contact via phone or email as it can get busy at drop-off and pick-up.

Gillingham Primary School

School Road

Gillingham

Dorset

SP8 4QR

01747 823245

office@gillinghamprimary.dorset.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at www.gillinghamprimary.dorset.sch.uk