

28th Nov 25

KEPS Courier



Success Through Teamwork

How have we arrived at December already?

It's hard to believe we're almost at the end of the Autumn Term. This is the longest term of the school year, yet it's been wonderful to see our children working so hard and enjoying themselves along the way. Their enthusiasm and resilience have truly shone through.



As we step into December, the school is starting to fizz with Christmas excitement for what is always a magical time of year. There's so much to look forward to! Beech Class is preparing their Nativity performance, which is always a highlight. We'll also be enjoying the PTA's Secret Santa morning and settling down for a festive Christmas film afternoon. Our talented choir will be performing at Huish Academy, the Kingsbury Christmas Fayre, and the Wells Cathedral Christmas Schools Concert—what an incredible opportunity for them!

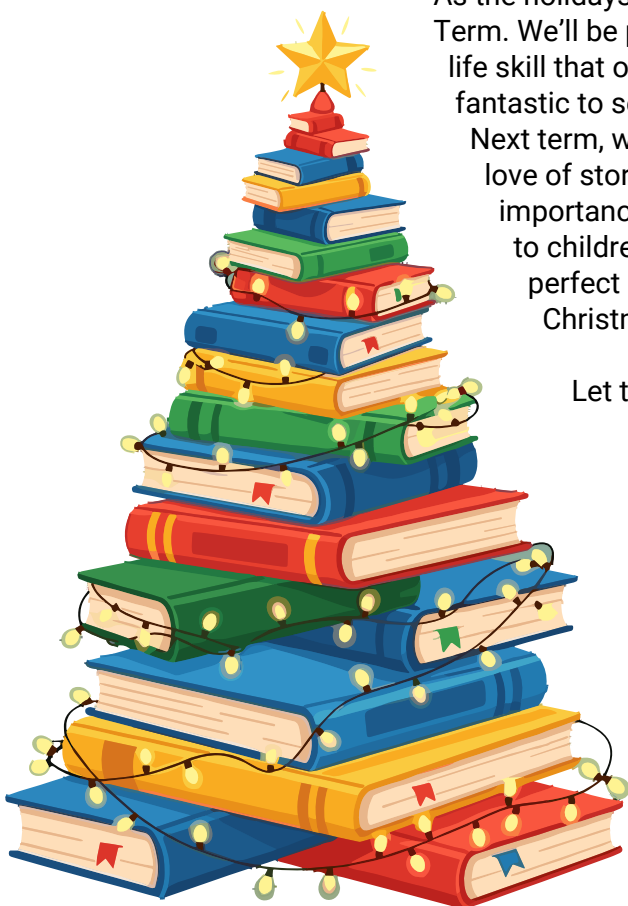
Looking Ahead to Next Term

As the holidays fast approach, we're already planning for the Spring Term. We'll be placing a big emphasis on reading. This is a fundamental life skill that opens doors to learning and imagination. It's already fantastic to see some of our older pupils becoming "word millionaires"! Next term, we'll be introducing and developing initiatives to foster a love of stories and reading across the school. A big part of this is the importance of daily reading at home, which makes a huge difference to children's progress and confidence. Christmas provides the perfect opportunity to discover great stories and curl up next to the Christmas tree and share a book.

Let the Christmas madness begin!

Kind regards

Mr T



Football Stars

We are so proud of our children who took part in two fantastic events last week.

Our girls' team competed in a Football Tournament at Huish Academy, playing a total of six games and coming third overall - **Well done girls!**

At Westonzoyland Primary School, our team played in a Year 4/5 Football Tournament. They beat Kingsmoor Primary School 2-0 (Mr Thompson's previous school - yay!) and drew 1-1 against Westonzoyland Primary. It was good to see many children taking part, who hadn't done so before. **Great effort everyone!**



On **Thursday 11th December**, **children** can wear Christmas jumpers to school in return for £1, for **Christmas Jumper Day** in aid of **Save the Children**.

We can't wait to see what they all look like!

Sporting Dates for the Diary



20th January - Year 5/6 Hockey Tournament - Huish Academy 3G Astro Pitch 4 - 6pm
3rd February - Year 3/4/5/6 Swimming Gala - Huish Leisure 2 - 3.30pm
10th March - Cross Country 2 - Huish Academy 3 - 4pm
24th March - Cross Country 3 - Huish Academy 4pm start

Beech Class Nativity

The wonderful children from Beech class will be performing their Nativity play for their parents and carers on **Thursday 11th December 2025 at 5.30pm**. Please could we ask that a maximum of two people per child come along to watch - as you will understand, our school hall has limited space - Many thanks.



PTA News

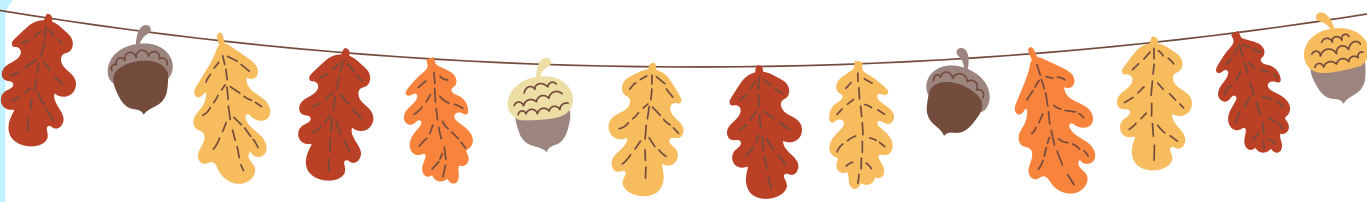
Just over a week until our PTA elves and helpers set up our pop up Christmas shop!

All gift order forms and monies to be returned to the school office no later than **Monday 1st December**.
Donations of wrapping paper/tape welcome.

If you would like to be part of this year's secret Santa, we need helpers to wrap and help children select their gifts.
This is a truly memorable day for the children and helpers.

Thank you for your support, it means a lot.

Tracey



Autumn Term PTA Fundraising Events

Fri 5th Dec - Secret Santa - please return your forms by 1st December at the latest.

Sat 6th Dec - 10am and 7pm - Wreath making workshops at 10am and 7pm in the Church Rooms. £35 per person, to include drinks and nibbles. See www.kepspta.co.uk/events to book.

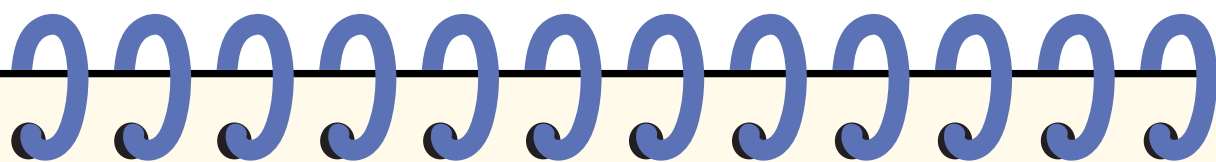
School Governor Vacancy

KEPS has a vacancy for a Co-opted Governor – could this be you?

The position is open to anyone with suitable qualities – you do not have to be a parent or staff member at the school.

If you are interested in applying, please email sfaull@keps.school or contact the school office.





Dates for your Diary...

3rd December - 5pm - KEPS Choir singing at Christmas Celebration
at Huish Academy

5th December - 6-8pm - KEPS Choir at Christmas Fair at KE Community Centre

8th December - KEPS Choir singing at Wells Cathedral

11th December - Christmas Jumper Day

11th December - 17.30pm - Beech Class Nativity

12th December - Christmas Story Day

(Children come to school in PJs for an afternoon of stories and hot chocolate)

16th December - School Christmas Lunch

17th December - Commendation Assembly

17th December - Showcase - 3.30pm (Children's work will be on display in
classrooms for parents and carers to view)

18th December - Whole school Christmas film in the hall - Pupils to bring their own
small popcorn/cinema treat. No nuts please!

19th December - Last day of Autumn Term - a Festive Fun morning for the children
followed by optional 1.15pm pick-up.

Members of the Winning House (to be announced) to wear Mufti on this day.



After School Clubs

The After School Clubs for Autumn Term 2 are on Wisepay and available to book. Please log in and book as normal.

Day	Club	Open to	Taken by	Location	Cost for Half Term	Max Number
Monday	Dodgeball	Yr 4 - 6	Mrs Cleasby	School Hall	£21.00	15
Tuesday	Christmas Crafts	Yr 1 - 6	Mrs Carson	Willow Class	£14.00	12
Tuesday	KS2 Sports	Yr 3 - 6	Mr Thompson	School Field	£15.00	25
Due to two CLP Sports Events being held on Tuesdays, KS2 Sports Club will not run on 18th Nov or 2nd Dec, as will plan to enter KS2 teams into these events - this has been reflected in the price.						
Wednesday	Cricket	Yr 3 - 6	Somerset County Cricket Club	School Field	FREE due to Grant received by KEPS	20
Thursday	Choir	Yr 2 - 6	Mrs Sowter & Mrs Colton	School Hall	ongoing	

Please be aware that there will be no After School Clubs on the last week before Christmas - w/c 15th December.

Class Updates

The below links are for each class, these will take you to the KEPS website for their updates.

Preschool [Pre School Updates | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Beech Class [Reception/Year 1 - Beech Mr Bell | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Willow Class [Year 1/2 - Willow Mrs Carson | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Ash Class [Year 4/5 Ash - Mrs Cleasby | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Oak Class [Year 5/6 Oak - Mrs Lane | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)



Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are **Mr Thompson** and **Mrs Carson**.
Our safeguarding governor is **Mr Simon Faull**.

If you have concerns about your child at home or school, contact the office to book an appointment. Alternatively, if you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224, by email at childrens@somerset.gov.uk or the police.

You can contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care what action should be taken. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999. If you would like to speak to a social worker outside office hours, please phone the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0300 123 2327.

KEPS Preschool Update

What a big change in the weather! Prompting lots of discussion about the cold and how to keep warm.

We made gloop with ginger and cornflour a relaxing and sensory experience promoting conversations and using or introducing descriptive language for texture, appearance and movement. At snack time we practice counting skills as the children select pieces of fruit they'd like to eat.

We listened to the Colour Monster story and talked about our feelings and emotions, using the coloured cubes to think about what circumstances prompt these feelings. The main message is that all emotions are OK, and that talking helps us to understand how we feel. Big issues in a great story.





Alternative Collection

Please could we politely remind you - if your child is being collected from school by someone other than the usual person, please do let the school office know as early in the day/days before as possible, so that we can ensure the safety of everyone.

Thank you!

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine a week before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school: whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently: so, it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education easier possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Updated Attendance Policy – Important Information for Parents

As part of our statutory responsibilities, we have updated the **KEPS Attendance Policy**. The full policy is available on the school website and we encourage all parents to read it carefully.

Key Updates to Note:

1. Unauthorised Absences and Penalty Notices

Unauthorised absences include:

- Arriving after registration closes
- Term-time holidays without approval
- Absences without a valid explanation

If a pupil has **10 or more unauthorised sessions** (equivalent to 5 days) within a rolling 10-school-week period, the school is required to consider issuing a **penalty notice**.

Penalty notices are issued **per parent, per child**, and carry a fine of **£160** (or **£80 if paid within 21 days**). Repeat offences may lead to prosecution.

2. Changes to Signing In/Out Procedures (Effective After Half Term)

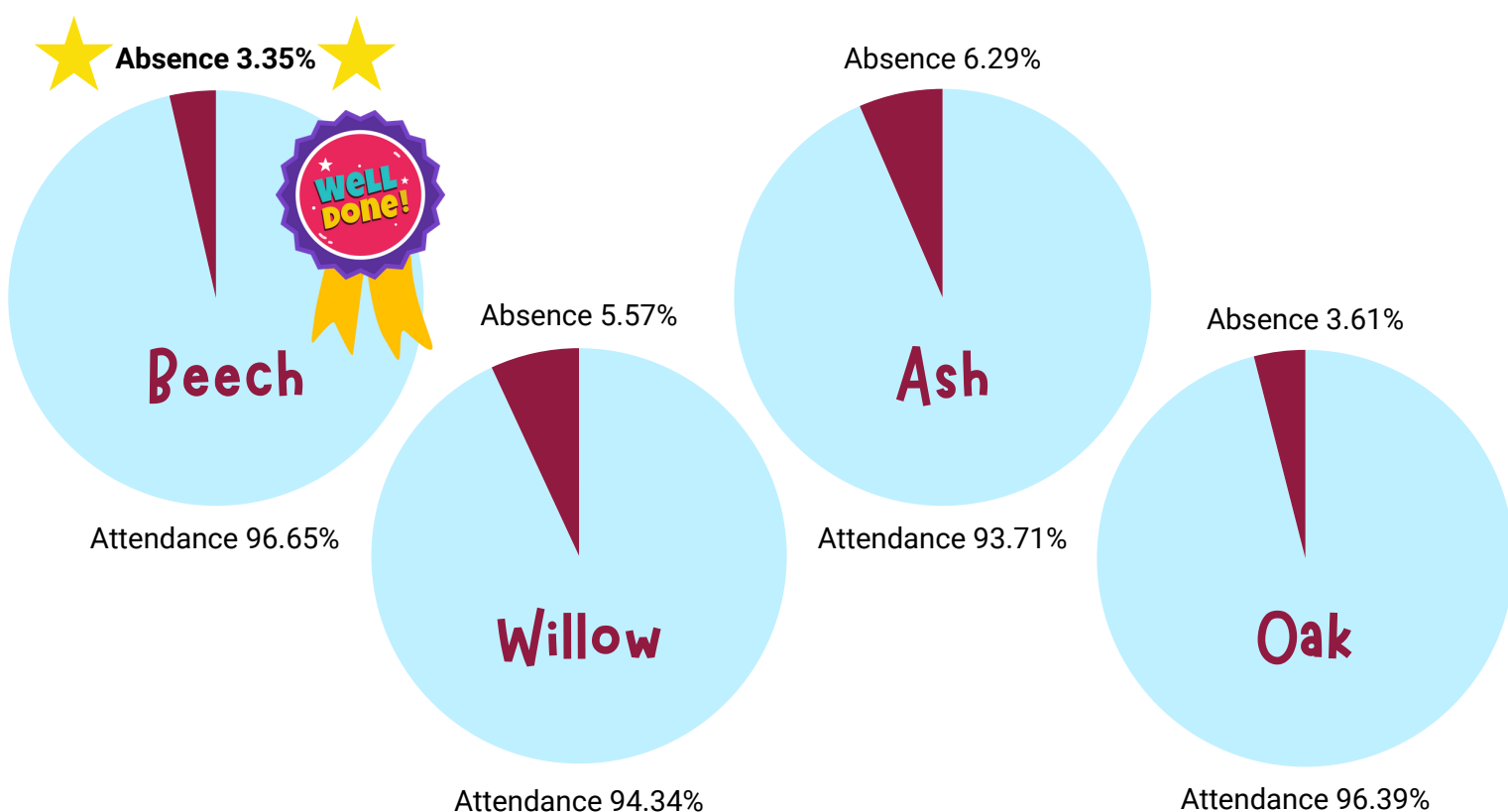
To support accurate attendance recording and safeguarding:

- Pupils arriving after the gates close at **9:00am** must be signed in by a parent or guardian at the school office.
- This includes late arrivals due to medical appointments.
- Parents must also sign their child out at the office if collecting them during the school day.

These changes are being introduced to ensure we meet statutory guidance and continue to prioritise **safeguarding and punctuality**.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

KEPS Class Attendance Figures so far This School Year



School Tours

Is your child starting school in September 2026?

The deadline for Primary School applications is **15th January 2026**. Even though our Open Events have passed, we still welcome prospective parents and children to explore our wonderful school ahead of admissions for September 2026.

Come and meet our dedicated staff, see our vibrant classrooms in action, and discover what makes Kingsbury Episcopi Primary such a special place to learn and grow. Please **call 01460 240507** or **e-mail office@keps.school** to register interest.



'Tuning into Kids' Course

**Dates for the Tuning into Kids course
run by Victoria Gould – PFSA**

Tuesday 9th December
9.30-11.30 at Somerton Library

If you are interested in joining,
please contact the school office
and we will pass your details to the organisers



Wraparound Provision

We are aware the The Willows Childcare is sadly closing.

The school is currently working on a plan to continue this wraparound provision and we will send out details before the end of this term, in order to ensure as little disruption as possible.

Thank you for your support - it is much appreciated.

PE Days for 2025/26

Please send your child/children to school in their PE kits on PE Days. PE kits should be burgundy shorts/ black leggings/tracksuit bottoms, white house coloured t shirt. A school jumper, cardigan or KEPS PE hoody (hoody is optional).

PE days for 2025/26 are:

Monday – Beech and Willow
Tuesday – Ash & Oak

Rapunzel ROCKS!



JANUARY 2ND - 4TH 2026

KINGSBURY COMMUNITY CENTRE

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [SEATY.CO.UK](https://www.seaty.co.uk)

OR FROM OUR TICKET HOTLINE

07375889716

**FOR MORE DETAILS, CHECK OUT THE PAGE
LEVELS AMATEUR SHOW COMPANY**



KEPS Choir at KE Christmas Market

Our wonderful KEPS Choir will be singing at this below. Please go along and support them! We look forward to seeing you there.

KINGSBURY EPISCOPI COMMUNITY CENTRE

 CHRISTMAS 
 CRAFT MARKET 

 **FRIDAY 6th DECEMBER**

 **6pm – 8pm**  

 Lots of Festive craft stalls, 
Hog roast, licensed bar, mulled wine,
 hot refreshments and 

KINGSBURY SCHOOL CHOIR

KINGSBURY BAND

FATHER CHRISTMAS

 Come and find unique, 
locally crafted Christmas gifts!

Free admission, large car park





Success Through Teamwork

School Calendar for 2025/26



Somersexton
Council

KEPS School Terms and Holidays 2025/2026 Academic Year

September 2025						October 2025						November 2025							
M		1	8	15	22	29	Mo		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		3	10	17	24		We	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		5	12	19	26		Fr	3	10	17	24	31	Fr		7	14	21	28	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su	5	12	19	26		Su	2	9	16	23	30	
December 2025						January 2026						February 2026							
M		1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26	M		2	9	16	23	
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu		6	13	20	27	Tu		3	10	17	24	
W		3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28	W		4	11	18	25	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29	Th		5	12	19	26	
F		5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30	F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24	31	Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25		Su	1	8	15	22		
March 2026						April 2026						May 2026							
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24		F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		Su	3	10	17	24	31	
June 2026						July 2026						August 2026							
M		1	8	15	22	29	M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu		7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		3	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th	2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa	4	11	18	25		Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su	5	12	19	26		Su	2	9	16	23	30	

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Days

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 02 September – 24 October 2025 (39 days)	
Term 2: 03 November – 19 December 2025 (35 days)	
Term 3: 05 January – 13 February 2026 (30 days)	
Term 4: 23 February – 02 April 2026 (29 days)	
Term 5: 20 April – 22 May 2026 (24 days)	
Term 6: 01 June – 22 July 2026 (38 days)	TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2025/26

Christmas Day	25 December 2025	Easter Monday	06 April 2026
Boxing Day	26 December 2025	May Day Bank Holiday	04 May 2026
New Year's Day	01 January 2026	Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2026
Good Friday	03 April 2026	Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2026

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.