



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of another wonderful academic year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure to watch the children learn, grow, and achieve so much.

To our Year 6 pupils, as you prepare to move on to the next stage of your education, we wish you every success and happiness in your new schools. Be proud of all you have accomplished, embrace the opportunities ahead, and remember that you will always be a valued part of our school community. We know you will go on to achieve great things.

We hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved summer holiday, filled with fun, relaxation, and special memories. We look forward to welcoming many of you back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year.

Have a fantastic Summer!

'Together we are proud, together we are **STOKE'**
Successful, Trustworthy, Original, Kind, Equal



A message from our Head of School – Mrs. Massey-Sturgess

As we reach the end of another school year, I found myself wondering how best to sum up everything that has happened at Stoke St Michael Primary School. Of course, I could write about the journey we've been on, the challenges we've faced and the progress we've made. However, to end the year, I'd like to do something a little different. Rather than ending with my own reflections, I want to share what others have said about our school.

Throughout the year we have welcomed colleagues from across Wessex Learning Trust, our school improvement partner and external advisers into our classrooms. Their role has been to challenge us, support us and help us become an even better school. They have looked closely at our teaching, spoken with our pupils and scrutinised children's.

As I reflected on their reports, I realised there was one message that kept appearing. They saw a school where children are happy, safe and eager to learn. They saw classrooms where relationships are warm, respectful and built on trust. They saw high expectations, calm learning environments and pupils who work hard, behave well and are proud of their school. These themes appear consistently throughout the year,



with reviewers commenting on pupils' strong behaviour for learning, respectful relationships and the positive culture that has been created across the school.

They recognised the tremendous work that has gone into rebuilding and strengthening our curriculum, noting that it is now well sequenced, ambitious and clear about what children need to learn as they move through the school. They also recognised that teachers understand what needs to be taught and when, giving children a much stronger learning journey than ever before.

They commented on the way our staff adapt learning so that every child can succeed, recognising the strong provision for children with SEND and the inclusive ethos that runs through every classroom.

Perhaps most importantly, they recognised the culture that has grown within our school. One review noted that pupils consistently demonstrate our values, while another described children as kind, respectful and proud of their school, adding that this positive culture "should not be underestimated."

Of course, every report also included next steps. Schools should never stand still, and we certainly won't. We remain ambitious, reflective and determined to keep improving.

As Head of School, I could not ask for a stronger way to end the year than by sharing the voices of those who have spent time in our school this year. Their words tell a story of a school that is continually improving, a team that never stops striving to be better and children who are at the heart of every decision we make.

Thank you for the trust, encouragement and support you have shown us throughout this year. Together we have continued to build something very special here at Stoke St Michael Primary School.

I wish every member of our school community a wonderful, restful summer break and look forward to getting back in September and continuing the next chapter of our journey together.



A message from our Executive Head – Mr. Chris Partridge

As we come to the end of another wonderful school year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly successful year at Stoke St Michael Primary School. Our children have achieved so much, and I am immensely proud of all they have accomplished. Throughout the year, they have embraced every opportunity to learn, challenge themselves and grow, demonstrating the values that make our school such a special place.



We have seen excellent outcomes in our Early Years provision, with children making strong progress and developing the confidence and curiosity that provide such an important foundation for their future learning. Our phonics outcomes continue to improve year on year, reflecting the dedication, expertise and commitment of both staff and pupils. Our Year 4 children have also celebrated excellent success in the Multiplication Tables Check, demonstrating the perseverance, determination and positive attitudes they have shown throughout the year. It has been particularly pleasing to receive such positive feedback from our School Improvement Partners and colleagues from the Wessex Learning Trust, who have recognised the significant progress the school continues to make and the high-quality learning experiences taking place every day.

Alongside these academic successes, there have been many exciting developments across our school environment. Classrooms and shared spaces have been refreshed to create bright, welcoming places where children feel inspired to learn, while the beautiful artwork displayed throughout the school is a wonderful celebration of our pupils' creativity, imagination and individuality. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our fantastic PTA, whose generosity, enthusiasm and continued fundraising have supported every class and helped provide so many additional opportunities and resources for our children.

At Stoke St Michael, we are proud of our caring and inclusive community, where children are encouraged to be kind, respectful, resilient and ambitious. These values are evident every day in the way our children support one another, embrace new challenges and take pride in their learning. They truly live out the spirit of our school, and it is a privilege to see them flourish.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Tracy and the entire Stoke St Michael team for their unwavering commitment, professionalism and hard work throughout the year, particularly during periods of staff absence. Their dedication and teamwork have ensured that every child has continued to receive the high-quality education, care and support they deserve. Most importantly, thank you to our wonderful children, who continue to impress us every day with their kindness, resilience, curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. You are what makes Stoke St Michael such a warm, welcoming and inspiring school.

To our Year 6 pupils, we wish you every success as you move on to the next stage of your education. We are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved and know that you will continue to make us proud wherever your journey takes you. Remember that you will always be part of the Stoke St Michael family, and we look forward to hearing about all that you achieve in the years ahead.

On behalf of everyone at Stoke St Michael Primary School, I would like to wish all of our families a safe, happy and restful summer break. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, friendship and success.



Highlights from around the school

Sports Day

What an incredible Sports Day! Well done to every student who took part, gave their best effort. What an incredible Sports Day! Well done to every student who took part, gave their best effort, showed fantastic determination, and demonstrated wonderful sportsmanship throughout the day. Your enthusiasm, teamwork, and resilience made the event a great success.

Also congratulations to Birch House for their outstanding performance and for winning the Sports Day Cup!



Colour Run

We had an incredible PTA Summer Colour Run!

The event was filled with excitement, laughter, and a spectacular burst of colour, creating wonderful memories for everyone involved.

A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA for organising such a fun-filled day and for all the hard work, dedication and planning that went into making it such a success. Not only did they create a memorable experience for our school community, but they also helped raise valuable funds that will directly benefit our pupils and support future school projects and opportunities.



Thank you as well to all the families, friends and supporters who attended, donated and cheered on the runners. Your enthusiasm and generosity helped make the event even more special.



Staff Favourite Moments from the year



*"Choosing just one favourite memory from this year has been almost impossible. But if I had to choose, it would simply be our Year 6 children. Watching them grow over the year has been a privilege. As our oldest pupils, they have embraced the responsibility that comes with being role models for our younger children, showing them what it means to be **Together at STOKE!** Year 6, thank you for everything you have brought to our school. We are incredibly proud of you and cannot wait to see all that you go on to achieve."*

Mrs Massey-Sturgess

Goldfinches

"My favourite memory of this year is getting to know everyone in Goldfinches Class. I am so proud of the progress they have made in their learning. The class's inquisitive nature shone through in our Sunshine and Sunflowers and the Big Wide World topics."

Mrs Conolly





Stoke St. Michael Primary School

Together We Are Proud, Together We Are STOKE

The monthly Newsletter from Stoke St Michael

Monday 20th July 2026

Woodpeckers

"It has been such a wonderful year, with so many special moments to look back on. One of my favourite memories was our exciting Space Day, where all the children had the chance to experience the Wonder Dome. Their excitement was contagious, and it was a joy to hear the fantastic questions they asked as they discovered more about space.

I also loved our Friendship Afternoon, where it was lovely to see the children showing such kindness and care towards one another while making happy memories with both new and old friends.

Another highlight of my year has been our weekly singing assemblies. It has been a real privilege to watch the children grow in confidence, come out of their shells, and perform so brilliantly in our Loud and Proud Showcases. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of them, and I feel very lucky to have shared these wonderful experiences together."

Miss Miell



Ravens



*"My favourite memories from this year have to be our residential trip to Kilve Court and our Loud and Proud performance of **Wade in the Water***

At Kilve Court, the children approached every challenge with enthusiasm and determination. They encouraged one another, worked well as a team and were willing to step outside their comfort zones. It was lovely to see their confidence grow over the course of the trip.



Stoke St. Michael Primary School

Together We Are Proud, Together We Are STOKE

The monthly Newsletter from Stoke St Michael

Monday 20th July 2026



Performing **Wade in the Water** at Loud and Proud was another real highlight. The children performed with confidence and commitment, and it was rewarding to see all of their hard work come together on stage.

What stands out most about both of these experiences is the way the children demonstrated the Stoke St Michael School values throughout. They showed kindness, respect, resilience and pride in all they did, making both occasions memorable for everyone involved."

Mrs Bell-Auge

PE

My favourite memory from this year has to be Sports Day! I am incredibly proud of each and every child who took part. Over several weeks, they practised all of the different events, sometimes finding the activities challenging, but they showed great determination and never gave up.

Their hard work really shone through on the day. They demonstrated fantastic resilience, excellent sportsmanship, and always tried their very best for their teams. Most importantly, they had lots of fun and supported one another throughout the day.

It was a wonderful event and a fantastic way to celebrate all of the children's effort, teamwork, and enthusiasm throughout this year. **TOGETHER WE ARE PROUD, TOGETHER WE ARE STOKE!**

Miss Grainger



Stoke St. Michael Primary School

Together We Are Proud, Together We Are STOKE

The monthly Newsletter from Stoke St Michael

Monday 20th July 2026



Change of School Meal Provider



SwiftKitchen

From September, we will be introducing a new school meal provider, Swift Kitchen, who will be delivering our daily lunch service.

As part of this change, all meal orders and payments will be managed through the SwiftKitchen app. This system will allow parents and carers to view menus, order meals and make payments conveniently online.

Your Child should have brought home a letter with information explaining how to register and set up your SwiftKitchen account. We encourage all families who use, or may wish to use, the school meal service to complete the registration process before the start of the new academic year.

You will be able to order meals from mid-August. A notification and reminders will be sent via Class Dojo.



CHANGE IN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free School Meals Update – September 2026

We would also like to make you aware of some important changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility that will come into effect from September 2026.

The Government has announced that, from September, all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household income.

This means that some families who may not previously have qualified could now be entitled to receive Free School Meals for their child.

If you currently receive Universal Credit, we encourage you to check your eligibility and, if appropriate, apply for Free School Meals. Even if your child already receives Universal Infant Free School Meals (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2), registering for Free School Meals may provide additional funding and support for the school through the Pupil Premium grant.

If you believe your child may now be eligible, or if your circumstances have changed recently, please visit the Somerset Council website and complete the online application form.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is a FREE holiday activity for children.

It's all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence. The Challenge runs every year throughout the summer holidays, and all children aged 4-11 are welcome to take part.

Children can read anything they like (really - anything!) and collect free rewards for their reading.

In the summer months (July-September) you can sign up at [your local library](#) and take part in person. A librarian will give you a special sticker booklet and help you find books to read. You'll collect special stickers and rewards for your reading.

Alternatively, you can take part **online** by signing up on the official Challenge website. You'll set up a profile with a reading goal and log your books. When you reach your goal, you will unlock a virtual badge and certificate.

Please note, the in-person and online Challenges are separate. Physical incentives like medals are only available via the library, for those taking part in the in-person Challenge.



Are you looking for a free, fun activity to do over the summer holidays?



What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The aim of the Summer Reading Challenge is to encourage children to read for pleasure. The challenge is to read six books over the summer holidays and children can sign up for free at any library in Somerset.

What do I have to do?

1. Visit the library and sign up with your library card – you will receive your free poster pack! If you don't have a library card you can join for free at the same time.
2. Every time you read two books, go back to the library and they will give you two stickers for your poster.
3. After you've read six books, you will receive a certificate and a badge!

When does the challenge run?

This year's challenge runs from Saturday 4th July until Saturday 12th September.

The challenge is completely free and is open to children of all ages.





Stoke St. Michael Primary School

Together We Are Proud, Together We Are STOKE

The monthly Newsletter from Stoke St Michael

Monday 20th July 2026

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLUB



Holly & Hawthorn CIC

A not-for-profit community group
delivering Forest School, Outdoor Play & Education



Wild Wednesdays!



Summer Holiday Club, suitable for children aged 5-10 years old.



Our holiday club, is a fantastic opportunity for children to enjoy the outdoors. Run with a forest school ethos, our club encourages children to explore, play, create, learn, and follow their own interests both independently and collaboratively. Activities include den building, natural art and crafts, and campfire cooking.

Every Wednesday throughout the school summer holidays
at the Somerset Earth Science Centre, Stoke St Michael
29th July, 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th August - 10am- 3pm (5hrs) or 10am-12.30pm (2.5hrs).



5hrs - £25.00 per session, concessions available on a sliding scale.
2.5hrs - £16.00 per session, concessions available on a sliding scale.

For more information or a booking form: Email: admin@hollyandhawthorn.org
or 07484768348 (text message is best!)



Find us on <http://hollyhawthorn.org>

Facebook www.facebook.com/HollyHawthornForestSchool

Instagram [hollyhawthorn2019](https://www.instagram.com/hollyhawthorn2019)



Attendance and Punctuality Reminder

Regular and punctual attendance is very important, and we need all families to make this a priority. Being in school every day has a direct impact on children's learning, confidence, and progress, and even small amounts of missed time quickly add up. Our current year-to-date attendance is 91%, and we must work together to move closer to the national expectation of 96%. Attendance letters will be sent to families below 90%—these are part of our duty and are intended to address concerns early.



*We ask you to please send your child to school even with minor symptoms, contact the school by **9.15am** for any absence, ensure prompt arrival between 8.40am and 9.00am, arrange routine appointments outside school hours where possible, and avoid term-time holidays. If anything is affecting your child's attendance, it's important that you speak with us so we can support you.*

If your child is absent, please remember that parents and carers must contact the school office every day their child is off — not just on the first day. You can do this by phone or email.

Tel: 01749 343114

E-mail: office@stokestmichaelprimary.co.uk

If there is no one in the office, please leave a message on the voicemail, and we will pick it up.



Free Webinars for Parents & Carers

Somerset's Mental Health Support Team are offering a series of free online webinars this term for any parent or carer in Somerset. Sessions include supporting children through exam stress, helping them manage big feelings, and preparing for school transitions. Each workshop lasts 90 minutes and is available on a range of dates throughout April, May and June. Families simply need to register and provide their child's school name if they wish to join.



Head Lice Reminder

We have been made aware of another case of head lice in our setting. Head lice are very common in children and can affect anyone, regardless of hygiene. They spread through close head-to-head contact and the eggs (nits) can be difficult to spot as they sit close to the scalp. We kindly ask all families to check their child's hair over the next week using a fine-toothed nit comb on wet hair. If you find live lice, please treat promptly and repeat the treatment as advised, and ensure all household members are checked so the cycle can be broken. Regular weekly checks at home are the best way to prevent head lice from spreading further, and we appreciate your support in helping us manage this quickly.



Supporting every child to look smart and feel confident

At Stoke St. Michael Primary, we believe that looking smart helps children feel confident, focused and ready to learn, and wearing the correct uniform gives every child a strong sense of belonging. We kindly remind families to ensure children come to school in the correct uniform each day. Both the current and previous school logos are absolutely fine to wear. Please click [here](#) to view our full uniform policy on the school website. Thank you for your continued support!

Together we are proud, together we are 'STOKE'



- Navy blue school jumper or cardigan with school logo
- Yellow polo shirt with school logo
- Grey trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt;
- Black or grey socks or tights
- Black school shoes
- Navy blue book bag with school logo (Reception - Yr2)
- Summer Uniform – Term 5 & 6 As above except a blue/white gingham dress or grey shorts may be worn.
- PE Uniform Navy blue hoodie with logo White polo shirt or t-shirt
- Navy jogging bottoms
- Navy Shorts
- Dark coloured trainers



Stoke St. Michael Primary School

Together We Are Proud, Together We Are STOKE

The monthly Newsletter from Stoke St Michael

Monday 20th July 2026

School Office



Don't forget that our school has an official Instagram page! This provides another great way to stay up to date with the latest school news, events, and updates. To keep in touch and see what's happening, simply follow us on both Facebook and/or Instagram.

We encourage you to **like, share, and spread the word** by sharing our posts on your own social media pages and groups. Your support helps us reach even more families and keep our community engaged!

- <https://www.facebook.com/StokeStMichaelSchool/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/stokestmichaelprimary/>

Term Dates

July

Friday 17 th	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 th	Last Day of Term 6
Monday 20 th – Wednesday 22 nd	Inset Days
Thursday 23 rd	Summer Holidays Begin

September

Thursday 3 - 4th	Inset Days
Monday 7th	Start of Term 1

October

Monday 14th	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 20th	School Photos
Thursday 22nd	Year 5 & 6 Wells Literacy Festival
Friday 23 rd	Inset day
Monday 26 th - 30th	Half Term
Monday 2 nd -3 rd	Inset days