



Golden Valley Primary School

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*'Sharing Kindness,
Challenging Ourselves and Others,
Achieving Excellence'*

Headteacher: Mr R Riordan BA (QTS) Hons., NPQH

26th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thanks for your patience and understanding over the last few days. I am sure that our Trust will be reflecting on lessons learned from this week given that it is entirely possible this extreme weather could become a regular occurrence. My thanks to our staff and children who have approached the time in school during this hot weather with real resilience and care for each other.

Sports Days (Expect snow?)

Hopefully FOURTH time lucky and thanks for your patience and understanding. Please ensure you apply suncream to your child/ren before school starts and that they have a hat / water bottle with them.

Thursday 16 th July:	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	9.30am – 11.30am (parents/carers can arrive from 9.15am)
Friday 17 th July:	Years R, 1 and 2	9.30am – 11.30am (parents/carers can arrive from 9.15am)

For the safety of pupils taking part and those still in lessons the gates will be locked once the events begin. Please only enter and exit from these gates.

Nailsea Carnival

Thank you to those of you that have signed up for Nailsea Carnival! Procession entrants should assemble at Clevedon Road car park anytime from 12pm to be ready for the procession to leave at 12:30 (not 1pm as previously advised). Judging will now take place as entries move out of the car park and along the route. Please don't feel you have to dress up in hot Christmas jumpers. Christmas PJs, colours/tinsel or headwear e.g santa/elf hat would be much appreciated! Santa is coming - see if you can spot him!

Class Photos

Tulip Photography will be visiting us on Friday 3rd July to take class photos. Please ensure your child is wearing their school uniform and has their school jumper/cardigan/hoodie with them on this day.

Year 3 can wear their school uniform for PE on this day (as it is in the hall). If your child has a reason that they can't do PE in bare feet please send your child in with their trainers in a bag.

GVSA

We can't take the credit for the ice pops on Tuesday. These were kindly donated by the GVSA who offered them out after our sports days were cancelled. A big thank you to them! They were very much appreciated!



HAF Summer Activities

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme is back this summer, offering a wide range of fun activities and healthy meals for eligible children and young people. Bookings are now open, with more opportunities and locations available than ever before. Families receiving benefits-related Free School Meals can access free sessions, and additional support may be available where needed. Spaces are filling quickly, so early booking is encouraged: [Equu HAF programme](#)

Free School Meals Eligibility

From September, the DfE is expanding Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility to include all families on Universal Credit. If you would like to apply for Free School Meals for September, please apply **in the summer holidays** at: [NSC FSM](#)

In addition to this, any child who was awarded FSM entitlement over 2 years ago would have applied via an old system. These parents/carers will need to reapply via their North Somerset Citizen's account.

For more information please see the following poster and dedicated LSP webpage: [FSM Changes](#)

In other News

- Tomorrow is National Armed Forces Day. Thank you to those serving in our community and to their families. Thanks also to our veterans. Glass raised. TTK.
- Next week sees the end of Pride month. At Golden Valley we are proud to celebrate diversity in all its forms. Love is a beautiful thing and should have no limits.

Yours sincerely,



R Riordan
Headteacher



DIARY DATES

Please be aware that this list of dates is subject to change, and additional dates will be included when other events/activities have been finalised.

You can view the school calendar online; this contains planned dates for the whole school year: [School Calendar](#)

June 2026	
Tues 30	Y6 Backwell School Transition Day Y3 Westonbirt Trip Choir Trip to Bristol Beacon
July 2026	
Fri 3	Class Photo Day
Tues 7	Y6 Play (afternoon performance)
Weds 8	Y6 Play (evening performance)
Thurs 9	Moving Up Day Y6 Nailsea School Transition Day
Fri 10	Y2 The Matthew & MShed Trip GVSA Uniform Sale School Reports Home
Mon 13	Y5+6 Author Visit
Tues 14	Y6 Forest School
Thurs 16	KS2 Sports Day Y1 Nowhere Woods Trip (more details to follow)
Fri 17	EYFS & KS1 Sports Day
Mon 20	Share a Tray
Tues 21	Y6 Forest School
Weds 22	Y6 Leavers Service Last day of term
September 2026	
Thurs 3	INSET Day
Fri 4	INSET Day
Mon 7	First day of term

Further details about most of the events will be given nearer the time where appropriate.

CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP



From September 2026, more families will be eligible for Free School Meals



Applying could save you up to £495 per child, per year, on school lunches

FREE SCHOOL MEAL EXPANSION

More families may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) from September 2026, when families receiving Universal Credit will be able to access free school meals. There will be two types of Free School Meal eligibility from September 2026:



TARGETED FSM

Continues to be based on the existing £7,400 income threshold.



EXPANDED FSM (NEW)

Applies to meals only. Covers pupils whose households are in receipt of Universal Credit



IMPORTANT: While eligibility to Expanded FSM will be automatically granted to all recipients of Universal Credit, families will still need to apply to receive this benefit.

RECHECKS FOR ALL PUPILS CURRENTLY IN RECEIPT OF FSM

Since 2018, there has been a Free School Meal transitional protection policy to ensure that children didn't lose their free school meals if their family's income increased. This meant that free school meals entitlement has been typically locked in until the end of the child's current phase of education (e.g. end of primary or secondary school).

This protection is ending at the end of the 2025-26 academic year.

This means that all existing pupils in receipt of free school meals will need to have their entitlement rechecked before the start of September 2026. If your family's earnings exceed the FSM threshold, your child(ren) will lose their eligibility and pay for school meals from September 2026.



In most cases, these rechecks will be automatic and no action will be required by parents



NORTH SOMERSET SCHOOLS ONLY

Anyone who was awarded FSMs over 2 years ago would have applied via an old system. These parents/carers will need to reapply via their North Somerset Citizen's account.



ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS THAT BENEFITS PUPILS

Pupil Premium is extra funding given to schools for every child whose family is entitled for Targeted Free School Meals. This money makes a big difference to schools and the eligible pupils. It is often used for extra resources, school trips and additional staff. Pupil Premium will continue to be paid to schools for those pupils who have been covered by the transitional protection arrangements outlined above.

FIND OUT MORE: WWW.LSP.ORG.UK/FSM-CHANGES



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP