

April 2023

50p

Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield.
Hollybush and Birtsmorton



Parish Magazine

UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK ELDERSFIELD HOLLYBUSH AND
BIRTSMORTON

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector:	The Rev Julie James, Thistledown, Pendock, Glos, GL19 3PW (Day Off-Monday)	Tel: 01531 651795 julie.m.james@btinternet.com
Associate Priest:	The Rev. Anthea Elston The Plough, Eight Oaks, Castlemorton WR13 6BU (Day Off - Friday)	01684 833278 revanth@eightoaks.com
Licensed Lay Minister	Mr David Allen ALM	01531 650495
Benefice Administrator:	Mrs. Mel Roberts The Parish Office, Berrow WR13 6JN email: berrowbenefice@btinternet.com	01684 833866 Wed and Thu 1.30 - 4.00 p.m.
Pastoral Visitor:	Mrs. Cathy Powell-Chandler	01531 635794
Benefice Choir:	Mrs Mel Roberts	01684 833866

BERROW WITH PENDOCK

Churchwarden:	Mrs. E. Rambridge	01531 650230
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mr. M. Knott	01531 650837
Treasurer:	Mr. A. Rambridge	01531 650230

ELDERSFIELD

Churchwardens:	Mrs. M. Williams Miss. J. Peters	01452 780320 01452 840211
Deputy Churchwarden:	Mr. A Holt	01452 780429
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mrs C Powell-Chandler	01531 635794
Treasurer:	Mr. D. Braund	01684 830099
Tower Captain:	Miss. J. Peters	01452 840211

BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Churchwardens:	Mrs. R. Bolton	01684 833287
Birtsmorton:	POST VACANT	
Hollybush:	POST VACANT	
P.C.C. Secretary:	POST VACANT	
Treasurer:	Mrs. S. Williams	01531 650431

BERROW VILLAGE HALL

Bookings:	Mrs. D. Shail	01531 650261
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MAGAZINE EDITORS & MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENTS

Brian and Leta Woodcock, 'The Larches,' Poolhay Close, Link End Road, Corse Lawn, GL19 4NY

New Advertisers: Please write or email (BANDL@POOLHAY.PLUS.COM) to the Magazine Editors
Copy Deadline: Please have all copy to the Editors by 10th of the month preceding publication

Dear Friends,

As I look at the snow covered Malverns, the tiny narcissus and the snowdrops, with the daffodils glowing yellow against the bleakness of the day, I give thanks for all those budding signs of Spring and the hope each day brings with more daylight and those promises of warmer weather.

Christians have never shied away from the realities of life because throughout history Christians have faced, and walked alongside, all those who have faced some of the worst experiences life can throw at us and we are called to do the same today. At times in human history like we face today, Christians are called to be brave, prophetic and honest. We are not called to bury our heads in the sand and pretend everything is wonderful.

During Holy Week, we will have walked the journey of Jesus Christ in his own final week, through the pain and horror that humanity reflects on itself. God walks with us as we continue to live with uncertainty, as our news is filled with pain of war. God walks with all who suffer and experiences the same things that they do. God never abandons us; being the light in any darkness, however awful the place we sit might be.

At the end of the Holy Week, we celebrate the rising of Christ and the new life which is offered to us all. We do this knowing that light will always overcome the darkness; the hope that Easter brings. We hope for a better future, for peace, for a time when every person is treated with dignity, has enough food and is safe from evil.

Holy week is consciously a little like a Retreat, but without going away. A space to feel for yourself the energy of God, the Holy Spirit, in the universe; 'you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise'. We may think that our national culture is being eroded and other religious and cultural traditions in some areas are taking over. However, for Christians, Jesus won for us forgiveness and eternity for all.

The Gospel is 'the hope of glory' (Colossians 1:27). Faith is a 'living hope' (1 Peter 1:3) that promises never to disappoint (Romans 5:5). Out of everyone in the world, Christians should be the most hopeful-confident that our future is secured by our Saviour Jesus Christ.

From our Easter Candle we light our own candles, signs that we're called to shine with the light of Christ, reflecting his light in our own lives. We renew our baptismal vows. As we celebrate Easter, may you have much joy and happiness; to be as sweet as those chocolate eggs. Wishing you a blessed and happy Easter.

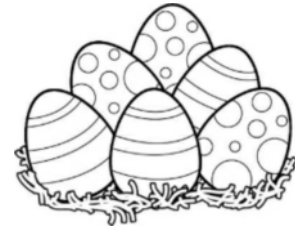
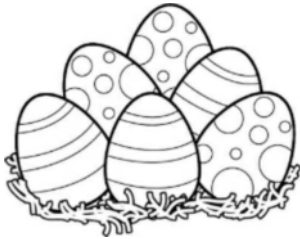


Rev'd Julie James

Easter Day Walk & Quiz

9th April Eldersfield Church

11am – 1pm



Easter Egg Hunt around the churchyard.

Easter Egg prizes for taking part in the walk & quiz.

Family Easter craft activities. Hot Cross Buns. Hot Chocolate.

Raffle and donations in aid of Syria/Turkish earthquake appeal

A Lenten Prayer

Dear God,

Free us from anything that obstructs our clear thinking.
Remove any clutter of petty grudges, resentment or
bitterness.

Cleanse our thoughts of any anger, envy or self-
pity. Create space in our lives for more kindness,
generosity and a stronger compassion.

Enlarge our hearts and be thankful and grateful for the
simple gifts we have that surround us all in abundance.

Amen.

Lent and Easter 2023;



Heavenly Father. During this Lenten season, give me a new and expanded vision for my life. Help me to live full of faith. Teach me to find hope in the face of adversity. **Amen.**

Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. Nowadays, people often 'give up' something. In this time during Lent, we are giving to someone with food or funds to the Food Banks to support those families struggling to feed their families.

Details of other services in this magazine

Palm Sunday: 2nd April-Birtsmorton- join us and the Donkeys

Easter Sunday: 9th April:-

Sunrise 6.30am Holy Communion at Pendock Old Church

10.30am Holy Communion St. Faith, Berrow.

All Welcome

Church of England Confirmation

We are offering some preparation time for some youngsters in the Benefice for a Confirmation service to be held probably at St John the Baptist, Eldersfield, at a date yet to be booked with a Bishop presiding.

Confirmation is a special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made when they were baptized. If you were baptized at a christening when you were a child, your parents and godparents made these promises on your behalf.

Confirmation consists of the renewal of baptismal promises and the laying on of hands and anointing with the oil of Chrism by a Bishop. You can also be baptized and confirmed in this service. After confirmation, you are then encouraged to attend church and partake in receiving the bread and wine at a Communion Service.

At confirmation, there are no godparents because you make your own promises, but you would probably be asked for a sponsor to stand with you as a supporting friend in your journey of faith.

Please contact me if anyone would like to be part of this preparation towards Confirmation into the Church of England.

Rev'd Julie James



Benefice Diary

Please note that all meetings planned below are in person unless otherwise arranged.

Tuesday's during Term Time	Community 'Drop in'	9.30-11.30am Pendock CE Primary School Hall
Wed 19th April	Standing Committee	2.30pm Pendock Cross
Thurs 20th April	Eldersfield PCC	2pm at Holt's home

If you have any additional dates, please contact Mel Roberts or Rev'd Julie James.



Bible Study

Tuesday: - Thistledown, Pendock

Tuesday: 18th April, 9th May 2023,

10.30am Cuppa and biscuit!

Bible reflections, depart 12 noon

Rev. Julie James



Community 'Drop In'

ALL welcome!

Pendock C.E. Primary School Hall

Refreshments and Books to exchange.

Chat and catch-up

Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help and attended.

Can you think of any way the 'Drop In' sessions could incorporate any useful:-

hobby/discussion/business venture?

Do let us know!

Rev'd Julie James

Walking Church – Sunday 30th April

You may have noticed a new item on the timetable of Sunday services on the back of this edition of the Parish Magazine. We have a fifth Sunday at the end of this month, a chance to try out something a little different, something not in the usual pattern of services and this fifth Sunday I've opted for Walking Church.

What is Walking Church you may be asking? Me too. From the research I have done it is different in each and every place it happens – which makes sense because everyone will have a different environment in which to walk. My interpretation is that walking church is taking church out into our community, and is inspired by the experience of standing in the middle of a housing estate in Redditch, praying for that community. So I am proposing that as we walk, we pause from time to time to hear the bible readings set for the day and to pray for the community surrounding us. I'm aiming to begin with the community around Pendock Cross and St Faith's Berrow, and, if people enjoy the experience, extend to our other churches and communities.

I am aware that walking for between 30 and 45 minutes isn't possible for all, so on arrival at St Faith's at 11am there will be a short communion service for those unable to be part of the walking bit of Walking Church. And if, as we are in glorious England, the weather should turn inclement, we will walk, talk and pray around St Faiths!



Thames Walk in aid of **The Children's Society**

If you could support me in my challenge I'd be very grateful. On May 11th I plan to walk from the source of the Thames near Cirencester following the river to Lechlade, around 23 miles downstream. This aim is to raise much needed funds for The Children's Society - and I hope to complete it in one day (if my knees survive!)

Progress is being made in helping young vulnerable people in the UK who are uncared for, unloved and often unwanted escape from abuse. The often dangerous work of rescuing hundreds of children from the clutches of County Lines drug gangs continues, returning children, often as young as 7 years old to their families. Please will you help The Society continue its important work and end the abuse? Your support will change children's lives and restore hope.

I have set up a Justgiving page at: [justgiving.com/page/andrew-holt-1678702892071](https://www.justgiving.com/page/andrew-holt-1678702892071) or if you prefer to use cash/cheques rather than go online, let me know and I will sort it for you. Anything you can do will help our young people escape from a life of misery. Thank you. Andy Holt. awholt36@gmail.com

www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Hollybush Plant Sale

Saturday 29th April

10.30am – 12 noon

**Plants galore and a
specialist book stall –
free pack of seeds with
every book purchased!**

All are very welcome.

Recipe of the month - April

Easter Bavarois

A light dessert; would be suitable to follow a roast main course. Taking a basic vanilla Bavarois, it is given an Easter finish.

Ingredients (for 3 - 4 helpings)

1 pint milk
Vanilla essence
4 large eggs separated into yolks and whites
3 - 4 oz castor sugar
½ pint double/whipping cream
Gelatine – 1 leaf or powder to set 1 pint
Fruit purée (apricot, peach or mango, not too runny)

Method

If using leaf gelatine, first soak in cold water to soften, then squeeze out water. Heat milk and vanilla essence and add softened gelatine or gelatine powder; dissolve thoroughly, making sure that there are no lumps of gelatine. Beat egg yolks and sugar to a thick cream consistency, then beat in the gelatine thickened milk and allow to cool. Separately, beat the cream to a thick custard consistency. With a clean whisk, beat the egg whites to stiffen. Gently combine all three, yolks, whites and cream. Prepare a mould or dish(es) by rinsing with cold water and covering the bottom with a generous helping of fruit purée. Then spoon over vanilla bavarois and place in fridge to set. Before serving, decorate with mini chocolate Easter eggs. If set in large mould, ease away from edge and turn out into a dish, allowing the purée to run down, then decorate with chocolate eggs.

Note

The bavarois recipe is a basic classic and can be adapted with different flavours, e.g.,

1. coffee (+ liqueur sauce such as Tia Maria)
2. raspberry coulis and fresh raspberries
3. rhubarb – compote to accompany
4. lemon/lemon curd

Eldersfield Cricket Club Notes

by Dereck Hartland

There was a good turn out of players and supporters when Eldersfield held their awards evening at the "Hunters Inn", Longdon. Following a fine meal enjoyed by all, captain James Green did the honours of presenting the trophies, a job he did very well, combining humour with a knowledge of last season's averages, proving he had done his homework!

The player who scooped the most awards was opening bat Jack McCracken, winning three trophies: "Batsman of the Year", "Player's Player of the Year" and the "Highlight of the Year" for the century he scored at Stanway. George Bunn won the trophy for "Best All-Rounder", while old Eldersfield favourite James Bullock picked up the "Best Bowler" trophy.

Finally, it was good to see Spike Jones back on the scene after missing a season and a half through injury. He sounded confident that he would be able to play again this season, and if his batting is as good as his eating he could be in for a good summer!

Fixture

April 29th Down Hatherley Away

A Thank-You From Wendy Burndred

I would like to express a huge thank you to all across the Parishes for their kind and thoughtful prayers and messages, lovely cards and visits during my stay in hospital and subsequently at Deer Park.

Pleased to say I am now feeling much improved and eager to return to my usual activities. All of your love and best wishes have helped tremendously to recuperate me, which is so very much appreciated.

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Notification re forthcoming local elections - Thursday 4 May 2023

A reminder that following the Boundary Commission review there has been an adjustment to some of the Malvern Hills District Council wards with a reduction in the number of district councillors.

Birtsmorton Parish is now in the Longdon Ward

In the event there are local contested elections and for those who like to vote in person at the polling station

for Birtsmorton Parish this will be Berrow & Pendock Village Hall

a change from Castlemorton Parish Hall

If you are voting at any polling station, please also remember to take a photo ID with you otherwise you will not be able to vote.

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Wednesday 17 May 2022

Castlemorton Parish Hall 7pm

Annual Parish Meeting

To be followed by

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Contact Details:

Chairman: 01684 833662 Clerk: Christina Leake 01684 310409

23 Gainsborough Close, Welland, Malvern WR13 6SH

Email: birtsmortonpc@gmail.com Website: e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish

Staunton & Corse Community Hub

Opening hours:

Wednesdays 11am - 3pm
Thursdays 11am - 3pm
Fridays 10am - 3pm
5.30 - 10.30pm
Saturdays 5.30 - 10.30pm

Forest Voluntary Action Forum Advice Hub - Every other Thursday, started 16th March, 12.30 - 3pm.

Daytime activities

Rhyme Time - Wednesdays, 11.00 - 11.30am
Knitting group - Thursdays, 11am - 12.30.
Book Club - first Friday of the month, 11am
Card Making - first Thursday of the month 11.00am - 12.30pm

Quiz Night

Friday 21st April 7.00pm

Gardening Club coming soon

The village **book exchange** has moved from the phone box to the Hub. Please come and help yourself, we have a wide range of books and jigsaws.

Food Vans

Every Friday night we host a different food van in the hub car park. Everyone is welcome to eat their food in the Hub whilst enjoying a drink. Details of all Friday night food vans booked from April will be on Facebook, website, village noticeboards and in the next parish magazine.

Daytime menu

Paninis & Jacket Potatoes with various fillings.
Homemade soup of the day.
Homemade cakes & snacks.

Please keep an eye out for updates on our garden party for the coronation of King Charles on the 6th May.

Update from Extraordinary Community public meeting held on 2nd March

The committee welcomed around 30 members of the public to the meeting and explained their roles and responsibilities.

Our Chair Sarah Lewis, shared the hub's successes to include: achieving Community Benefits Society status, negotiating a lease until the end of 2023. She thanked our landlords Chamberlayne Farms Ltd for their continued help and support.

We have also been awarded a warm space grant from the Forest Voluntary Action Forum, to enable the hub to offer a warm place for our community.

Sarah reiterated that we are wholly run by an amazing family of volunteers. We are always looking for additional volunteers and have several roles available. This includes a Communications Officer, to manage social media, the website & local publications. Please contact us if you are able to give some of your time or would like to run a group or event to help keep our hub open.

Ideas from the community of what they wanted from our Hub, included a gardening club, bridge club, carers cafe, bingo, activities for children and regular lunch clubs.

Sarah finished by thanking everyone for coming and showing their continued support to the hub. She asked for everyone to complete a pledge form to tell us how they are able to support our hub and support us to keep this valuable community resource going. Support could be made by volunteering, arranging a club or event, donating, buying shares (in the future) and being a regular customer.

If you would like a copy of the full minutes please contact us (details below).

If you would like to know how you could join our volunteers to have some fun and meet new people please call 01452 840323, email theswancommunitygroup@gmail.com or message us via Facebook Messenger.

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Fri 12 May, Fri 9 June, Fri 14 July

♥ 2.30 - 4.30pm ♥

Castlemorton Parish Hall

**SPECIAL OFFER: bring a local neighbour, friend
or relative who cannot attend by themselves
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Any profits towards Parish Hall projects

CASTLEMORTON COMMON ASSOCIATION

NOTE THIS DATE

SUMMER SHINDIG

SATURDAY 8TH JULY 2023

PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY !
MORE DETAIL TO FOLLOW



Thursday 20th April at 7:30pm

Living

(12A-2022-102mins)

In 1950's London, a humourless civil servant decides to take time off work to experience life after receiving a grim diagnosis. A quiet, note-perfect, performance from Bill Nighy.

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Grass Keep & Mowing Grass Tenders Open

GRASS KEEP

The Trustees of Eldersfield Allotments invite tenders for the purchase of the grass keep on the Park Field, Corse Lawn from 1st May 2023 to 31 October 2023. The field, extending to an area of about two acres, may be mown and/or grazed. The successful bidder will be responsible for ensuring that the fencing is adequate for their needs.

Offers in writing (sealed bids) should reach the undersigned **not later than 5pm Friday 28th April 2023**. Please include an email address.

Mrs Tracy Owen, East Leigh, Corse Lawn, Gloucestershire, GL19 4LY

MOWING GRASS

The Trustees of Eldersfield Allotments invite tenders for the purchase of the mowing grass on the Allotment Field, Corse Lawn, to be used only for the production of hay or silage, from 1st May 2023 to 31st October 2023. The field extends in total to approximately 2.2 acres, but an area may be reserved as an allotment garden and for this reason grazing by livestock will not be permitted.

Offers in writing (sealed bids) should reach the undersigned **not later than 5pm Friday 28th April 2023**. Please include an email address.

Mrs Tracy Owen, East Leigh, Corse Lawn, Gloucestershire, GL19 4LY



PLUS Upton-upon-Severn Foodbank, The Baptist Church, Old Street, Tewkesbury and Ledbury.

Many thanks to all those who continue to donate food for the Food Bank during these tough times. It was most gratefully received. Money donations are also accepted.

Please continue your generous contributions in these times of rising costs for everyone. People really appreciate both food, toiletries and money. The referral of families to the food banks is unfortunately greater in numbers, so please support.

Rev'd Julie James



Pastoral care is one aspect of a priest's role. The word *pastor* comes from the Latin word for "shepherd." Caring for a person who is struggling with a difficulty, being present during a time of pain, praying with someone in a crisis—these are the moments when we need to know someone can come alongside us from the church community.

Most people only visualise a priest working on a Sunday. The reality is that preparing for Sunday services, Bible Study, and daily prayers are only a small part of my role. Looking after several churches, being on many different committees including being a school governor for our two local schools, engaging in a large wedding ministry, plus occasional offices like funerals and baptisms, means that my working week is very busy.

The Pastoral Visitor is Mrs Cathy Powell-Chandler. Part of her role is to co-ordinate pastoral visitors within our church communities. If you would specifically like me to visit you, then please indicate this by contacting me direct or via one of the church officers, all details of which are in the magazine. In a caring community, we all look to see whether our neighbours need or wish to accept our help.

Rev'd Julie James

SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
7th May	Eldersfield Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Acts 7. 55 – End 1 Peter 2. 2 – 10	Janet Peters	----
5th Sunday of Easter	Berrow Village Hall	10.30am	Coronation Café Church!	TBA	TBA	TBA
14th May	Berrow Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Acts 17. 22 – 31 1 Peter 3. 13 – End	Mel Roberts	Doug Braund
6th Sunday of Easter	Hollybush Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Zechariah 8. 1 – 13 Rev'n 21.22 – 22.5	Liz Lean	Celia Greatwood
21st May	Pendock Cross Church	8.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Acts 1. 6 – 14 1 Peter 4.12-14; 5. 6-11	Andrew Rambridge	—
7th Sunday of Easter	Berrow Church	10.30am	All Age Worship	TBA	TBA	TBA
28th May	Hollybush Church	10.30am	Holy Communion	Acts 2. 1 – 21 1 Corinth 12. 3b—13	Bob James	David Allen
Pentecost	Eldersfield Church	6.30pm	Evensong	Joel 2. 21 – End Acts 2. 14 – 21	Fiona Collins	Brian Woodcock

Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Please Note: Compline will be held on Zoom Every Friday at 7.00 pm
 Details of how to join Zoom services are published on the Berrow Benefice website
<https://berrowbenefice.org.uk/using-phone-church>

SERVICES IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK, ELDERSFIELD AND BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
16 th April 2 nd Sunday of Easter	Pendock Cross Church Eldersfield Church	8.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion All Age Worship	Acts 2. 14a, 22—32 1 Peter 1. 3 -- 9 TBA	Andrew Rambridge TBA	----- TBA
23 rd April 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Birtsmorton Church Eldersfield Church	10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evensong	Acts 2. 14a, 36 -- 41 1 Peter 1. 17 -- 23 Haggai 1. 13 — 2. v9 1 Corinthians 3. 10-17	Bob James Matthew Collins	Doug Braund Brian Woodcock
30 th April 4 th Sunday of Easter	Start at Pendock Cross, finish at St Faith's Berrow	10am start, 11am at St Faith's	Walking Church with Holy Communion	Acts 2. 42 -- End 1 Peter 2. 19 -- End	TBA	TBA

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Would readers and intercessors themselves please arrange an appropriate replacement if they are unable to be present on the dates shown

Date	Venue	Time	Service	Reading	Reader	Intercessor
2 nd April Palm Sunday	Eldersfield Church Birtmorton Church	8.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Palm Sunday Communion with donkeys!	Isaiah 50. 4 – 9a Philippians 2. 5 – 11 Passion Narrative	Janet Peters TBA	---- TBA
3 rd April Monday of Holy Week	Zoom Service	7.30pm	Compline	Matthew 14. 1 -- 12	Anthea Elston	----
4 th April Tuesday of Holy Week	Zoom Service	7.30pm	Compline	Matthew 14.13 - End	Doug Braund	----
5 th April Wednesday of Holy Week	Zoom Service	7.30pm	Compline	Matthew 15. 1 – 20	David Allen	----
6 th April Maundy Thursday	Pendock Cross Church	7.30pm	Holy Communion	Exodus 12. 1-4, 11-14 1 Corinthians 11.23-26	Andrew Rambridge	Martin Knott
7 th April Good Friday	Hollybush Church	2.00 pm	Good Friday Meditation	TBA	TBA	TBA
9 th April Easter Sunday	Pendock Old Church Berrow Church	6.30am 10.30am	Sunrise Service Holy Communion	Acts 10. 34 -- 43 Colossians 3. 1 -- 4 Acts 10. 34 – 43 Colossians 3. 1 -- 4	Mel Roberts Elisabeth Rambridge	---- Ann Ward

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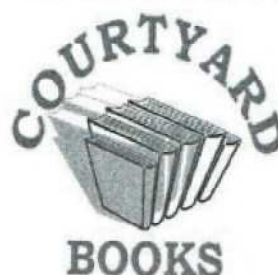
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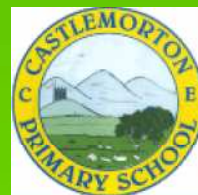


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