The Topsham School
Newsletter 08

A love of learning and commitment to the success of every child at the heart of all we do.
Tel: 01392 874498 Website: www.topsham.devon.sch.uk

Friday 25th October 2024

Thank you to everyone for all your support with making our Arts Week such a success.

We are excited to share the children's work with you at our **Art Show** which takes place **today in the hall from 3.15pm to 4.15pm.**

The children have been exceptional in their discussions around their learning and so enthusiastic.

We are enjoying seeing all the fabulous costumes across the school today for our Dress up as ART Day. A lot of thought and effort has gone in to these wonderful costumes, we have been really blown away. Thank you for all the donations received for the school. If you still wish to donate, you are able to do so via the payments section of your child's Schoolcomms account.

World Mental Health Day – Kindness Challenges
The MHAs have been very busy this week supporting children in the Kindness Challenges. The pebbles they have created are wonderful, so look out for them in school and the community and we hope they bring a smile to everyone.

It would be lovely if this is something that could be continued by encouraging children to pass acts of kindness forward.

Thank you to everyone who helped us to raise money for Childline!

Achievers
As a school, we promote positive behaviour and we have numerous incentives to support this.

The recipients of last week's achiever awards are listed below:

Achiever Awards:

Year 1 Jaxon and Lokni
Year 2 Ruby and Pearl
Year 3 Fynley and Isobel
Year 4 Anabella and Ivy
Year 5 Millie and Flora
Year 6 Sophia and Luca

Winning House:

Reading Awards:

Congratulations to the following children who achieved their **reading target** last week:

William, Ned, Helena, Erin, Alina, Willow, Sara, Sienna, Osian, Cora, Amelia, Louis D, Luca S, Louis B, Grace, Sophia and Felix.

Congratulations to the following children who achieved a **reading award** last week:

Year 4 Lawrence
Year 5 Alina, Hollie, Millie, Osian, Holly and Sienna.

School Leaders Certificates:

KS1 Elliot
KS2 Oscar

Applying for a secondary school place for September 2025
The closing date for applications for a Year 7 secondary school place for September 2025 **is 31st October 2024.**

The easiest way for families to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline If families don't wish to or can't apply online, they can also complete a hard copy application form which can be obtained by calling 0345 155 1019.

Children in Need

On Friday 15th November the children at The Topsham School will be celebrating Children in Need.

We ask that the children come to school dressed in pyjamas. These of course need to be school appropriate but can also include dressing gowns, slippers and such like. Please note, with the weather that bit colder we ask that children wear appropriate clothing and footwear to ensure they are warm enough and can go outside (slippers can be brought in bags to wear within school, but outdoor shoes such as trainers must be worn to and from).

After school the School Leaders will be holding a Bake sale. If you are able to donate any cakes, we would greatly appreciate it. We highly rely on these donations, so please do get those aprons on! But please remember: no nuts.
During the day each class will be participating in a 'team building challenge' whereby they will need to keep Pudsey off the ground…!

Donations of 50p/£1 to the cause would be kindly received.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Leads and Contact Information

Miss Maria White: Designated Safeguarding Lead and Headteacher. For any urgent safeguarding matters please email: safeguarding@topsham.devon.sch.uk. Please do not use this email for any other matters apart from safeguarding.

Safeguarding our children will always be a priority for everyone in the school. All staff are trained in how to keep children safe and alongside this we have our safeguarding team. Anyone of our staff can be contacted in relation to Safeguarding.

Level 3 trained staff are qualified to the same level as the Safeguarding Leads. In our school this includes our Admin Team, Miss Greygoose and Mrs Whitehead. Again, their details are on our website.

Safeguarding is EVERYONE'S business and we will always do our very best to keep our children safe.

If **any** parent has a safeguarding concern or query about ANY child within our community, please email for advice.

IF ANY ADULT FEELS A CHILD OR ADULT MAY BE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER YOU MUST CALL MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) OR 999

"If you are worried about a child or young person in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child or young person worried about your own safety, please contact the MASH on ***0345 155 1071*** *or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk and give as much information as you can.*

PTA NEWS

Friends of
The Topsham School
The Topsham School PTA

The First Bake Sale, last Friday was a success! Thanks to Year 5 and 6 bakers and volunteers, and all the professional Cake eaters we raised **£122**! Much needed funds to support the school, for example on contributing for coach travels.

Next Pre-Loved Uniform Sale – 22nd November!
Check your uniform needs during Half Term, please donate whatever is not fitting anymore (the rate at which these kids grow up it always amaze us) and do a list of you need for the cold months.

Christmas Hampers
For 2024 Christmas Raffles we are having again the year groups coloured hampers. Donations will start after the half term, so please start thinking on what you can donate:
Acorns → **Purple**
Year 1 → **White**
Year 2 → **Green**
Year 3 → **Orange**
Year 4 → **Yellow/Gold**
Year 5 → **Grey/Silver**
Year 6 → **Red**
You can be literal when choosing your donation or creative (you can always wrap the donation or add a colour bow)!

Match Funding
If you work for an organisation that has a match funding policy, any money you raise could be matched by your employer. Companies may match the fundraising total for an event, or for the stall that their employee is working on. Usually, the employee will need to supply them with a letter from the PTA detailing the date and nature of the event, together with the total raised.

We understand that the high street banks, building societies, supermarkets and large corporations are likely to do match funding, but these schemes are not exclusive to the major corporate giants. If you work for an independent company, they may be interested in charitable giving through match funding too.

We would be grateful if you could see if your employer has a match funding scheme, or if they are willing to match fund any of our events. If you can't help out this time, but you know the company you work for has a match funding policy, please let us know. This could be a really large source of income for the PTA and help us raise money.

If you are able to help us this way, please let us know and we can discuss your companies' requirements.

Have a lovely Half Term, with a lot of treats 😉

Community News*

**Please be aware that clicking on links/following web addresses in this section may take you to sites that require payment for the activities advertised. The Topsham School does not endorse any products or events in this section.*

Sporty Stars Holiday Camp at St Peter's Lympstone

Dates: Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November
Ages: 3-12
Location: St Peter's Prep School, Lympstone
We have an exciting program planned for children, packed with activities that will keep them active, entertained, and having fun!

Activities for Ages 5-12 Include:

⚽ Football
🏉 Rugby
🎾 Racket Sports
🏐 Dodgeball
⚽ Bubble Football
🎯 Inflatable Games
🏕️ Den Building
🏀 Bench Ball
🏐 Netball
...and much more!

Limited Places Available!

We encourage parents to book soon, as places are limited! To secure a spot, visit: https://sportystars.co.uk/st-peters.html

Date	Event
Friday 25th October	Dress Up as ART day (donations for school) and Parents invited to The Topsham Gallery @3.15-4.15pm
Friday 25th October	Break up for half-term (3.30pm finish)
Thursday 31st October	Closing date for applying for a secondary school place for September 2025
Monday 4th November	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 5th November	Non-Pupil Day
Wednesday 6th November	Children return to school after half-term
Thursday 7th November	Topaz House Party 2.00pm-3.15pm
Friday 8th November	Cross Country event at Killerton
Tuesday 12th November	Year 1 Animal Encounter Experience
Tuesday 12th November	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 12th November	Drop in Open Evening for Little Acorn parents 3.45pm – 4.45pm
Thursday 14th November	Parents' Evening
Thursday 14th November	Drop in Open Evening for Little Acorn parents 3.45pm – 4.45pm
Friday 15th November	Children in Need
Friday 22nd November	PTA Pre-loved Uniform Sale
Friday 6th December	Christmas Craft and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 6th December	PTA Christmas Bazaar
Friday 13th December	Community Xmas Party (led by Year 6)
Monday 16th December	Vision Screening for Big Acorns
Monday 16th December	KS1 and Foundation Stage Xmas performance @2pm and 6pm
Tuesday 17th December	KS2 church service @2pm and 6pm
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Parties
Friday 20th December	Break up for Christmas Holiday (2.30pm finish and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)
Monday 6th January	Return to school after Christmas Holiday
Friday 14th February	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 4th April	Break up for Easter Holiday (2.30pm finish and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)
Tuesday 22nd April	Return to school after Easter Holiday
Monday 5th May	May Bank Holiday – School closed
Friday 23rd May	Break up for half-term (3.30pm finish)
Monday 2nd June	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd July	Year 6 Skern Lodge Residential
Wednesday 23rd July	Break Up for Summer Holidays (2.30pm finish and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)