The Topsham School
Newsletter 12

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 29th November 2024

Pantomime

What a way to start Christmas! On Tuesday we had M and M Productions in to perform Sleeping Beauty for us. The show was simply incredible! A huge amount of singing, dancing, laughing and 'oh no it isn't...!'

The whole school, from Pre-School to Year 6, watched, and actively took part as an audience. Our Pre-school and Reception sat and enjoyed the show with Year 6 and were all transfixed on Aurora, Prince Eric and Maleficent.

We need to thank the PTA who donated the funds for this wonderful experience for all the children across the school. We hope to enjoy a repeat next year!

Key Christmas dates for next week…

Monday 2nd December – Deadline for ordering tickets for the FSU/Key Stage 1 Christmas performances - To be ordered via Schoolcomms. A maximum of 2 tickets per family, per show can be ordered initially. We will advise if any extra tickets are available next week.

Wednesday 4th December – Deadline for ordering a Christmas Dinner - If you would like your child to have a Christmas Dinner on 18th December, please ensure you have booked online via Schoolcomms **by 8.15am** on Wednesday 4th December at the latest.

Friday 6th December – Costumes to be in school - Please can all costumes be in school by this date. Class teachers will be communicating with parents as to what is required. If there are any concerns or issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. For Key Stage 2, smart school uniform and a Christmas hat/headband will be their costume this year.

Friday 6th December – Christmas Craft - A fun filled craft morning. Children will create a variety of Christmas crafts – glitter at the ready!

Friday 6th December – Christmas Jumper Day – Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school, in return for bringing an item for the chocolate tombola, which will be held during the Christmas Bazaar. Please do not go to the trouble of buying a Christmas jumper if you do not have one, adding tinsel to a coloured jumper for example or some other decoration is just as good.

Friday 6th December 3.45pm – 6.30pm – PTA Christmas Bazaar Get into the mood with the PTA Bazaar, mulled wine, carols, Santa's grotto, games and stalls makes this a really festive occasion that helps get everyone in the Christmas mood! See the PTA section of the newsletter for more information about this event.

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:

Big Acorns Myla
Year 1 Kit and Otis
Year 2 Dylan and Jasmine
Year 3 Maddie
Year 4 Arthur and Harvey
Year 5 Harriet and Willow
Year 6 The whole class

Top of the Rocks!

Applying for a Reception (Big Acorns) place for September 2025

The application system to apply for a reception place at primary/infant schools in September 2025 opens on **15 November 2024**. Apply online at the Citizens Portal.

The closing date is **15 January 2025**. You can apply after this date but applications will be considered late and may be at a disadvantage. Please see the 'Late applications' tab for more information.

If you cannot apply online, please contact the Education helpline on 0345 155 1019 and ask for a paper copy of the form to be sent to you.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Leads and Contact Information

Miss Maria White: Designated Safeguarding Lead and Head of School. 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.

Miss Amy Greygoose is our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

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 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

As we officially head towards December this weekend, it's time to get your Christmas bells on!

Christmas Hamper raffle

- Don't forget to bring a coloured gift for the Christmas Hampers, waiting by the school office to be filled with goodies...

- Please bring your sold raffle ticket stubs and money (and any unsold tickets) to the school office by Monday 2nd December.

- We will be selling tickets at Matthews Hall tomorrow, Saturday 30th November - if you have a spare hour please come along! Just contact your year rep if you're available to help out.

Volunteering for PTA Stalls
If you can spare some time to help us run the food, prize or token stalls, let us know and sign up using this link:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E44A9A62DA3F85-53508308-christmas

And finally...

🎄👧🎄 Only 1 week to go until the Christmas Bazaar!👧🎄🎄

Don't forget to pre-order your tokens by transferring your payment to the PTA account:

Friends of the Topsham School

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Please put your child's name and year as the reference.

Most stalls cost 1 or 2 tokens (50p/£1); Santa's Grotto is 7 tokens (£3.50).

For more details go to https://www.topshampta.co.uk/event/christmas-bazaar/

And don't forget, you can contact the PTA any time via email - thetopshamschoolpta@outlook.com, through the website - https://www.topshampta.co.uk/contact-us/, or by speaking to your class rep.

YOUR GUIDE TO THE Christmas Bazaar

PRE-ORDER TOKENS

1 token = 50p

Most games cost 1 or 2 tokens, some may cost more. Transfer your payment in advance and collect on the day to skip the queue.

BRING CASH

Catch up on your Christmas shopping - some market stalls may be cash-only.

STAR TICKETS

Win star tickets by playing the game stalls - save them up and head over to the Prize Table to exchange them for a range of prizes.

WHAT'S ON

First stop - chocolate tombola! This sells out fast!

Head to Santa's Grotto to meet the man himself!

Play games to win Star Tickets

Add some festive sparkle at the glitter and nail bar

Enjoy delicious food and drink while you browse the market stalls

and much more...

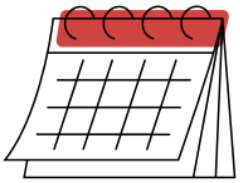
GET INVOLVED!

- Donate a gift to your class hamper
- Buy/sell raffle tickets
- Volunteer for your class stall
- On the day, children can wear a Christmas jumper in exchange for a chocolate tombola donation (no nuts please!)

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.*

Dates for the diary



Date	Event
Monday 2nd December	Deadline for ordering tickets for the FSU/Key Stage 1 Christmas performances
Wednesday 4th December	Deadline for ordering a Christmas Dinner – order by 8.15am
Friday 6th December	Children's costumes to be in school
Friday 6th December	Christmas Craft and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 6th December	PTA Christmas Bazaar 3.45pm – 6.30pm
Monday 9th December	Christmas postboxes in school until 19th December
Monday 9th December	Christmas cards for the community until 13th December
Friday 13th December	Community Xmas Party (led by Year 6)
Friday 13th December	KS1 dress rehearsal performance for the rest of the school pm
Monday 16th December	Vision Screening for Big Acorns
Monday 16th December	KS1 and Foundation Stage Xmas performances @2pm and 6pm
Monday 16th December	KS2 church rehearsal pm
Tuesday 17th December	KS2 church services @2pm and 6pm
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 19th December	Christmas class celebrations
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 15th January	Deadline for applying for a Reception (Big Acorns) place for September 2025
Thursday 13th February	Children break up for half-term at 3.30pm
Friday 14th February	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 24th February	Return to school after half-term
Wednesday 5th March	Year 4 Eden Project Trip
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
Tuesday 3rd June	Children return to school after half-term
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)