The Topsham School
Newsletter 13

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 6th December 2024

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Christmas celebrations are in full swing today as the whole school enjoyed taking part in craft activities this morning. Everyone looks so festive in their jumpers, and Christmas songs have been filling the corridors!

We are looking forward to the rest of the day being full of Christmas cheer with the Christmas Bazaar starting at 3.45pm. Please see the PTA section of the newsletter for more information about the Bazaar.

Key Christmas dates for next week…

Monday 9th December until Friday 13th December
Christmas cards for the community
We would love the children to make a Christmas card at home for a member of the community. Then bring the card into school during this week. There will be a Community Christmas post box by the school office for the children to post their card in. The cards will be distributed by the Mental Health Ambassadors and School Leaders.
The card can have a Christmassy design, created by a computer or made by hand. Inside it should say Merry Christmas from everyone at Topsham School.

Monday 9th December until Thursday 19th December
Topsham Christmas post boxes
Post boxes will be out in school from Monday 9th December. If you would like your child to post Christmas cards to their friends, could you please ensure that you have written the **full name and class** on the envelope. The School Leaders will deliver to the classes.

Friday 13th December
School Community Party
We always enjoy our tradition of celebrating Christmas with members of the community and saying a big thank you to those who help to make our school the wonderful place it is. Year 6 organise and lead this, and send invites to our neighbours and particular members of the community. This is held in the morning within school.

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

Christmas Bazaar – TODAY 3.45pm-6.30pm

Here is what you need to know:

- **PERFORMANCES:** Piano and Drama on the Main Hall Stage from 4pm to 5pm.

- **TOKENS:** 1 token = 50p; most games cost 1 or 2 tokens, some may cost more. Buy your tokens at the Main Hall. If you have already purchased pre-sold tokens you can collect them from 3.20pm and during the Bazaar.
- **STAR TICKETS:** Win Star Tickets by playing game stalls - Save them up and head up over to Prize Stall (Y2 classroom, 17 on map) to exchange them for a range of prizes.

- **SANTA'S GROTTO:** HO! HO! HO! Head to the Specialist Room (20 on the map), prepare some Reindeer food while waiting to meet the man himself!!!

- **FOOD / BAR / CAKES:** Enjoy delicious food and drinks in the Main Hall (7 & 8 on the map). You can pay with cash, card or tokens.

- **GAMES & SPECIAL STALLS:** Snowman game, Lolly Lottery, Santa Pong, Wheel of Fortune, Chocolate Tombola, Lucky Dip, Splat Santa, Crafts, Nail Salon, Glitter Tattoos.

- **EXTERNAL STALLS:** Topsham Treats, Neal's Yard, Topsham Library, Tropic Vegan and Cruelty Free Skincare (these stalls don't accept tokens)

- **And at 6pm in the Main Hall we will have the highly anticipated Hamper Raffle ticket Draw!**

Please see the map on the next page showing the layout of the stalls for the Bazaar.

MAP

1 to 5	External stalls
6	Performances
7	Bar/Cafe/Cake stall
8	Hot food
9	Tokens
10	Wheel of Fortune/Raffle
11 to 13, 15	Games stalls
14	Nail Salon
16	Crafts
17	Prize Stall
18	Glitter Tattoos
19	Chocolate Tombola
20	Reindeer food
21	Santa's Grotto

21

20

Library

18

19

17

Year 2

5

Year 1

15

16

7

3

Main hall

10

2

- PERFORMANCES
- FOOD & DRINK
- EXTERNAL STALLS
- RAFFLE

1

4

8

9

6

Big Acorns

13

14

Little Acorns

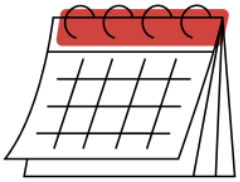
12

11

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
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
Tuesday 10th December	Running Club Santa Run
Thursday 12th December	D&T afternoon tea for Year 4 parents 3.00pm
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)