THE TOPSHAM SCHOOL

A love of learning and commitment to the success of every child at the heart of all we do.

Orchard Way, Topsham, Exeter, Devon, EX3 0DN admin@topsham.devon.sch.uk 01392 874498

Newsletter

June 2025

Head's Message

We have now had 8 weeks of this 13 week summer term, and my goodness has it been busy!

In our newsletter this month, you will find updates on all the exciting trips and events the school has been up to, including... an incredibly successful Science Week and Fair, the Year 6 trip to Naples, Year 1 visited the recycling centre (and are about to visit Powderham Castle), Year 4 have visited Exeter Historic Guildhall and Year 3 enjoyed a train ride to Exmouth for beach investigations. We even have a Big Acorn farm trip, a Year 2 trip to Teignmouth and residential trips for Years 4 and 6 still to come this term!

Key Stage 2 took part in Walkability, learning all aspects of crossing roads safely and have had an author visit this week to share a new book and learn what it takes to be an author.

Sports Day was a hot one! But our children competed brilliantly and showed such wonderful sportsmanship and collaboration. Well done to Sapphire House for winning the event this- I wonder which team will take the win in the KS2 Swimming Gala on 14th July.

In amongst all of this, the children have continued to work really hard in the learning in the classroom. So many of our children have taken part in national tests and assessments over the last few weeks, included the KS2 SATs tests, the Year Multiplication Check and the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.

Phew..... What a term it has been so far!

Maria White, Head of School

Key Dates

- Thursday 19th June - Sports Day 1.30pm - 3.30pm
- Wednesday 25th June - Tempest class photos
- Tuesday 1st July 2025 - Year 4 Day Trip to Exmouth (Watersports)
- Wednesday 2nd - Thursday 3rd July - Year 4 overnight stay at Sid Vale Scout Hut
- Thursday 3rd July - Big Acorns trip to Amazing Grazing
- Thursday 3rd July - Year 2 Sleepover
- Friday 4th July - Non-uniform day and 'Jolly Jars' *(see PTA section of the newsletter for more info)*
- Friday 4th July - PTA Summer Fair 3.45pm - 6.30pm
- Monday 7th July - Reports out to parents
- Tuesday 8th July- Big Acorns Parents' Evening
- Tuesday 8th July - Summer Music Concert 6.00pm
- Wednesday 9th July - Year 1 trip to Powderham Castle
- Sunday 13th July - Exe Valley Challenge
- Monday 14th July - KS2 Swimming Gala 10.00am - 12.00pm
- Monday 14th July - Drum Assembly 2.45pm
- Wednesday 16th July - Year 2 trip to Teignmouth (information will be sent to parents very soon)
- Friday 18th July - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly pm
- Monday 21st - Wednesday 23rd July - Year 6 Skern Lodge Residential
- Wednesday 23rd July - Break Up for summer holiday 2.30pm finish. Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm
- Tuesday 2nd September - Non Pupil Day
- Wednesday 3rd September - Children return to school after summer holiday

Science Week

Science Fair

- A huge thank you to everyone involved in making this year's Science Week and Science Fair a huge success! The children had a fantastic week learning about all things SCIENCE, focusing on the enquiry skills, especially 'Observing Over Time'. We had trips, visitors and special guest scientists to learn from and immerse ourselves in.

  Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported the Science Fair and joined in with their children.

  A special thank you to Mrs Watts who, again, planned and organised a hugely rewarding and successful week, and Fair- well done Mrs Watts!

Year 6 Naples Trip May 2025

Our amazing Year 6 pupils have recently returned from an unforgettable adventure to Naples, Italy. This was part of the Turing Scheme and was mostly funded by a grant. From Climbing Mount Vesuvius, to exploring Pompeii, to sailing around Capri- not to mention plenty of pizza and gelato- it was a week full of discovery and delight. The highlight of the trip was two days collaborating with a Nepalese school, building friendships and learning together across cultures.

Summer Holiday Club

Thank you to everyone who booked into the trial holiday clubs over Easter and Half Term. We have had some positive feedback and Achieve4All are running days over the summer holiday, which are up and running to book.
You can log in to book spaces straight away so, follow the link below:

https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/achieve4all-the-topsham-school-sports-camps-summer-exeter-4fa1f939-dd4f-4a79-8d3b-ea2540dea466?_gl=1*ckynlx*_gcl_au*ODcxMDI5NzYzLjE3NDk0MTMwNDk.*_ga*MjA0MTA2NzgyNC4xNzQ5NDEzMDUw*_ga_Q91F0PQ6V3*czE3NDk0MTMwNDkkbzEkZzEkdDE3NDk0MTMwODEkajI4JGwwJGgw

Class Photos are coming up soon!

Tempest photography will be visiting us on **Wednesday 25th June** to take class group photographs. Please make sure that your children are wearing their full school uniform on the day, even if it is normally a PE kit day. If your child has PE, please send them with their kit to change in to after the photographs have been taken.

Staff news

This term has seen some new faces join our school. Miss Spiller has joined our Early Years Reception Team and Mr McClay has joined KS2 while Miss Greygoose is on Maternity Leave.

Miss Spiller

The whole school would like to say congratulations to Miss Greygoose who welcomed a baby boy to the world earlier this week. Miss Greygoose and her son Arthur are doing brilliantly well at home.

Mr McClay

Information on your child's teacher for next year will be sent out to parents with their school report at the start of July.

The sun is very definitely out and temperatures are high. Please remember to send your child to school with sun cream already applied, a sun hat and a full bottle of water.

Y1 trip to the Enviro HUb

Year 1 had a brilliant time at the Enviro HUb (DCW Polymers) to finish off their Geography topic 'What is recycling?'. They learnt about the whole process of how the business recycle rubbish into furniture. They had a tour of the factory and got to watch different stages of the process and then finished off their trip completing recycling worksheets on the finished furniture that they create!

Sports Day

Well done to all the children for taking part in Sports Day and congratulations to Sapphire for the win. Sports Day is an opportunity for the children to display our school values and it was great to see these being displayed, whether children finished 1st or not. Thank you to all the parents who were in attendance and well done to the huge number of parents that took part in the races.

A special thanks to the PTA for providing refreshments for the adults and ice pops for the children.

Author Visit

This week we have welcomed Becca Rogers, a debut children's author, to our school. Becca spent some time working with our Year 4, 5, and 6 pupils, sharing her journey as a writer, discussing the process of creating a book, and inspiring the children with creative writing workshops.

Year 3 trip to Exmouth

On Tuesday 10th June, Year 3 vsiited Exmouth to take part in a Guided Fieldwork session on the river shore.

Mental Health - Joyful June

Why not think about some of these daily activities to make your June a joyful one!

Mental Health As the end of the Summer term approaches, you and your child may be thinking about transitions into new year groups, including secondary school and this can affect both our and our children's emotions. Young Minds offers some great advice for coping with this exciting, but potentially unsettling time. Please find below a link for a video called Find Your Feet, reassuring your child that they are not alone in any worries they may have about the move from primary to secondary! https://youtu.be/xT6ctrk3pVQ

Please also find below a link to a useful document with top tips for parents and carers to help manage change and transition to new classes and year groups. Page 5 of 6 https://www.youngminds.org.uk/media/20djlktz/top-ten-tips-for-parents.pdf

PTA Update - June 2025

We have some exciting events coming up and would love your support to help make them a success. Your involvement truly makes a difference!

Summer Fair - Friday 4th July, 3:45-6:30 PM

Preparations are underway for our much-loved Summer Fair, and we'd love your help to make it a fantastic afternoon!

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Run a year group stall (e.g. Jolly Jars, Hook a Duck, Nerf Shots) - speak to your year rep to get involved
- Help at the prize or token stalls
- Support the bar and BBQ
- Assist with set-up and pack-down

Click here to sign up for a stall and time slot:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E44A9A62DA3F85-summer2

Jolly Jar Reminder:

Children are invited to bring in a Jolly Jar - a decorated jar filled with small toys, sweets, or fun items.
Each child who brings one in will enjoy a non-uniform day on Friday 4th July!

Presale Tokens:

Available until 2nd July at 50p each.
To pre-order via bank transfer:

- Account Name: Friends of the Topsham School
- Sort Code: 30-93-14
- Account Number: 02699047
- Reference: Your child's name and year group

Everyone is welcome - please invite family and friends to join the fun!

Acorns Induction Event - Wednesday 10th July, 5 PM

We'll be running a pre-loved uniform stall to welcome new families.
If you have any uniform to donate - especially from last year's Big Acorns - please drop it in a bag at the PTA shed.

PTA Committee - Volunteers Needed for September

As this academic year comes to a close, our current PTA Committee will be stepping down. To keep the PTA active and continue contributing to enriching learning experiences and improving school conditions for every child at Topsham School we need new volunteers to take on key roles.

The election of new committee members will take place at our PTA AGM in early September (date to be confirmed).

Here's a brief overview of the roles available:

- Chair - Leads the PTA, sets meeting agendas, and works closely with the school to coordinate events and initiatives.

- Secretary - Records meeting minutes, manages communications, and helps keep everything organised.

- Treasurer - Oversees the PTA's finances, including budgeting, tracking income and expenses, and preparing financial reports.

Interested or want to learn more?

Email us at thetopshamschoolpta@outlook.com or speak to any current PTA committee member.

Thank you for your continued support - together we're building a vibrant school community!