# THE TOPSHAM SCHOOL

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

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# Newsletter
## January 2026

## Head's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of a new term. I hope you all enjoyed a restful and joyful break over the Christmas period.

I would like to begin by thanking you very much for the kind cards and generous gifts received at the end of last term. They were greatly appreciated by all staff and were a lovely way to end a busy and successful autumn term.

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school, and I am delighted with how well they have settled since returning last week. They have come back ready to learn, and there has already been a real sense of enthusiasm and positivity around the school.

We have an exciting term ahead, with a range of planned trips and experiences to enrich the children's learning. Further details will be shared with you in class letters closer to the time. Please also take a moment to check the term dates as they currently stand to help with forward planning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to another great year of learning and working together as a school community.

## Welcome back

This term we have welcomed back two members of staff returning from Maternity Leave: Mrs Whitehead has returned, joining Miss O'Malley as a job share in Year 2. Mrs Mowday has retuned and as SENDCo; her work days are Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs Whitehead

Mrs Mowday

## Key Dates

Friday 16th January - Year 4 PTA Cake Sale 3.30pm

Tuesday 20th January - National Child Measurement Programme visit for Reception and Year 6

Wednesday 21st January - Year 2 Trip to Paignton Zoo

Tuesday 27th January - Young Voices

Friday 23rd January - Climbing session at Quay Climbing (Year 5/6 group)

Friday 6th February - Outdoor climbing session for group of children in Year 6

Thursday 12th February - Break up for half-term (3.30pm finish)

Friday 13th February - Non Pupil Day

Monday 23rd February - Return to school after half-term break

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Friday 6th March - Year 2 PTA Bake Sale 3.30pm

Wednesday 11th March - Year 4 Trip to The Eden Project

Friday 27th March - Year 1 PTA Bake Sale

Thursday 2nd April - Break up for Easter holiday (2.30pm finish and Twiglets finishes at 4.20pm)

Monday 20th April - Return to school after Easter holiday

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday (school closed)

Friday 8th May - Big Acorns PTA Bake Sale 3.30pm

Friday 22nd May - Break up for half-term (3.30pm finish)

Monday 1st June - Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday 2nd June - Pupils return to school after half-term break

Friday 3rd July - Summer Fair

Thursday 23rd July - Break up for Summer Holiday (2.30pm finish and Twiglets finishes at 4.20pm)

Friday 24th July - Occasional Day (school closed)

# Clubs this term:

Bookings for clubs run by school staff will go live at 7.00pm on Friday 16th January. Please see the clubs list for more information about booking places in clubs.

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| Monday | Sporty Stars Multi-sports Years 1, 2 and 3<br>Exeter City Football KS2<br>Achieve4All Key Stage 2 Gymnastics |
| Tuesday | Running Club Year 2 -6 |
| Wednesday | Achieve 4All Key Stage 1 Gymnastics |
| Thursday | Sporty Stars Dodgeball Years 2-6<br>Science Club for Years 1 and 2 |
| Friday | Chess Club KS2 (lunchtimes)<br>Choir KS2<br>Exeter City Football KS1 |

## Coats

Please can we remind parents to send children in to school with a coat every day. Even if it looks sunny, it is still important that children have a coat with them.

## Nut-Free School

Just a polite reminder, we are a nut-free school, so therefore please do not include nuts, or any traces of nuts, in packed lunches – this includes peanut butter and Nutella as sandwich fillings.

# PE Days

Please check your child's PE as there have been a couple of changes this term.

Year 1 - Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 2 Wednesday and Friday

Year 3 Monday and Thursday

Year 4 Monday and Thursday

Year 5 Monday and Friday

Year 6 Wednesday (X2 sessions)

# Mental Health Matters

As winter settles in after the excitement of Christmas, it's a good time to slow down and take extra care of ourselves.

Ask your child about the 10 a Day ways to physical and mental wellbeing - we talk about this at school.

We can support our minds and bodies by staying active, getting fresh air and daylight, eating nourishing food, keeping hydrated, resting well, connecting with others, and enjoying small moments of calm and creativity. Gentle routines, kindness to ourselves, and noticing what helps us feel warm, safe, and settled can make a big difference during the colder, darker months.

# 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.