

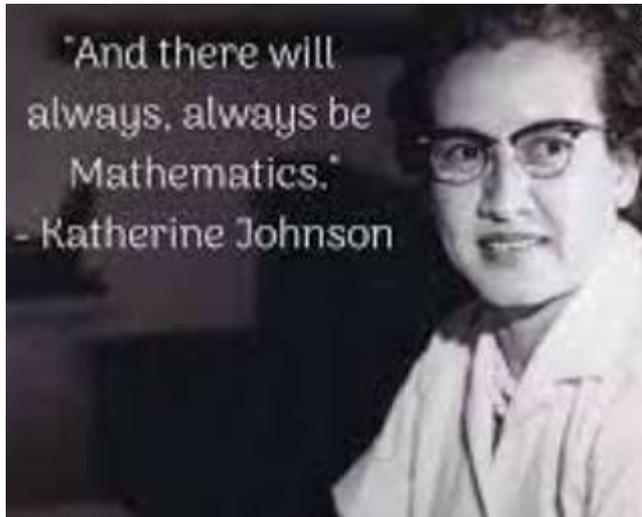
The Topsham School

Newsletter 10



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 19th November 2021



Yesterday I spent time with Miss White talking to children across the school about their maths learning. We have invested in Power Maths this year and we wanted to find out how our children were finding it.

It was so interesting to hear their thoughts and listen to them explain how they had worked through different challenges and how drawing and explaining their thinking helped them to understand the maths they were doing.

It seems that, overall, Power Maths is working really well for our children. They like how it is set out, how it builds up each day in tiny steps and they like the visual representations that books have to support their understanding.

We spoke to one child and what she said was just brilliant to hear:

"I didn't used to like maths but now I do. I can have a go and do what I think I need to and if I get it wrong, well that's OK, I can look at the pictures, or read the explanations again and then try again. Pictures really help me to see what is going on in the maths. I use Managing Distractions and Perseverance to help me. I now say; I CAN do this, I am not going to give up, I CAN do it, and I can!"

Another Katherine Johnson in the making maybe?

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Pipe

Achievers

As a school, we promote positive behaviour and we have numerous incentives to support this. Some of the recipients of our half-termly achiever awards are pictured below:

Achievers:

Big Acorns Igor and Charlie
Year 1 Freddie and Jaime
Year 2 Maja and Max
Year 3 James and Pippa
Year 4 Theo and Ellery
Year 5 Sofia and Samson
Year 6 Martha and Annabelle



NHS Threadworm Advice

We have been informed of a case of threadworm. This is very 'normal' for children of Primary School age and is treatable but is also very contagious. NHS advice can be found at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

As this advice highlights, simple hygiene steps can keep threadworm at bay and it is not a reason for pupils to stay off school.

Threadworms are common in children

Threadworms are a very common problem, particularly in children. It is estimated that half of all children below the age of 10 years get threadworm at some time, but not all will have the 'itching' symptoms

What are threadworms?

Threadworms live in the bowel and around the bottom. They are tiny white worms about half an inch long that look like threads of cotton.

Are threadworms harmful?

Threadworms are generally harmless. They can cause irritation around the bottom, which can be distressing. Threadworms are easily treated.

What are the signs of threadworms?

The most common sign is scratching around the bottom, particularly at night. This may be associated with disturbed sleep and irritability. The threadworms may be seen in the stools and around the bottom. Some children show no symptoms at all.

How do you get threadworms?

Threadworm eggs may be found in house dust, they stick to clothing, carpets towels and bed linen; they can also be picked up in garden soil, on unwashed vegetable and salads or from contact with someone who already has worms. Because the eggs are small and so widespread it is easy for them to be swallowed.

When swallowed the eggs pass into the bowel where they hatch into worms. The female threadworm lays her eggs at night around the bottom which causes the itching. Bottom scratching means eggs stick under the fingernails which can then be transferred to the mouth by nail biting. Eggs can be spread to other members of the family by direct contact or via food, towels and bed linen.

What should I do if I suspect threadworms?

There is no reason to keep a child off school or nursery as long as the child is treated and the general hygiene measures outlined below are followed. Effective treatment is available from the pharmacist. It is important to treat the whole family if one person develops symptoms.

How can I prevent threadworm?

- Keep children's nails short
- Remind children not to bite nails or suck fingers
- Ensure your child wears pyjamas or underpants in bed to prevent scratching
- Bathe daily, washing thoroughly around the bottom, and keep separate towels for each family member.
- Change clothes and bed linen regularly
- Make sure everyone in the family is treated at the same time
- Wash hands after each visit to the toilet, before eating and before handling food
- Clean the toilet seat, toilet handle and door handle regularly
- Vacuum and dust bedrooms thoroughly

Remember threadworms are very common and easily treated. If you would like any further information, please contact your GP or visit the NHS weblink above.

SAFEGUARDING



Safeguarding Leads and Contact Information

Members of staff who are safeguarding leads are as follows:

- Mrs Emma Pipe: 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.
- Miss Maria White: Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Headteacher and Online Safety Leader mwhite@topsham.devon.sch.uk
- Mrs Hartmann: Deputy Safeguarding Lead, SENDCO and Early Help Leader nhartmann@topsham.devon.sch.uk

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 safe guarding 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. Again their details are on our website. We are in the process of having more staff trained to this level.

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.*

Was your child born between
1st September 2017 and
31st August 2018?

How to Apply for a Primary School Place in Devon

You can apply online at
www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline
from 15th November 2021 to 15th January 2022

If you cannot access the school
admissions website you can get
more information by calling our
Education Helpline on

0345 155 1019

or email: admissions@devon.gov.uk



Even if you have already given
details to a primary school, you
must apply for a place through the
Admissions Team. This is the only
way to apply; other forms or lists
held by schools will not count.

Devon
County Council 

PTA NEWS

As the school is experiencing an increase in Covid cases, we are currently reviewing our Christmas fundraising plans to make sure they are in line with the school's risk assessment and are flexible enough to change should the need arise. Our class reps and Facebook group are the best source of contact for PTA updates. Our next planned event is the Year 4 Bake Sale, which, all being well, will take place on Friday 26th November. So please remember to bring some cash along and maybe even a Tupperware box to take home a stash of goodies!

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 endorse any products or events in this section.*



GLOW IN THE DARK DODGEBALL

MONDAY 22ND NOV @ TOPSHAM SCHOOL
(AGES 5 - 7) 5:15PM - 6:15PM (AGES 8 - 11) 6:30PM - 7:30PM
£6 PER CHILD
BOOKINGS ONLINE: SPORTYSTARS.CO.UK

FACE PAINT **MUSIC** **LIGHTS** **FUN!**





XMAS HOLIDAY CAMP

Topsham



ZORBING | DODGEBALL | NERF WARS
BOUNCY CASTLE | ARCHERY | & MORE

Topsham Primary Academy
Mon 20th - Thurs 23rd December
8:15am - 5:15pm
Ages 4 - 12
Book Online: Sportystars.co.uk

£35
Per Day





Date	Event
Friday 19 th November	Children in Need
Friday 26 th November	Year 4 PTA Bake Sale
Friday 3 rd December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 10 th December	Year 5 and 6 Tudor Banquet
Monday 13 th December	Year 3 and 4 Roman Celebration Day
Thursday 16 th December	Children break up for Christmas 2.30pm finish time. Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm
Friday 17 th December	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 4 th January	School Closed (additional day off in lieu of extra Bank Holiday for the Queen's Jubilee)
Wednesday 5 th January	Return to school after the Christmas Holiday
Saturday 15 th January	Deadline for applying for Reception (Big Acorns) class places for September 2022