

The Topsham School

Newsletter 24



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 15th March 2024

Science Week Wednesday 20th - Wednesday 27th March

We are getting very excited about the whole school joining together for a week of all things science, exploring the role that enquiry plays in the subject, and investigating what science means to all of us throughout our community.

We will have a range of learning going on in the school, with lots of opportunities for hands-on investigation and exploration, visitors, specialists and parents getting involved and, very excitingly, we will be building towards a celebration Science Fair at the end of the week.



Topsham Science Fair

We would like to **invite all our parents, carers, grandparents and family to: The Topsham School Science Fair on Wednesday 27th March at 3.30pm**

Our Science Fair will be a celebration of all of the learning that the children have done in the week and an exciting range of display and hands-on science for our children to share with you. Please put this date in your diary!

Years 1 and 2 Trips to West Town Farm

This week, Years 1 and 2 have had fabulous visits to West Town Farm not only discovering where food comes from but also meeting some very sleepy new-born lambs!

The children were amazing and represented our school superbly, Kevin (our visit leader) has already commented on their curiosity and the ability to make connections in their learning. What a great reflection of our learning powers! These were also shown when we went on a very muddy walk around the farm, real resilience when squelching through the mud, luckily Year 2 were wearing waterproof trousers!

We would like to say a big thank you to our fantastic volunteers, we wouldn't have been able to have done this without you.



World Down Syndrome Day



On **Thursday 21st March 2024** we are inviting you to join us in raising awareness and celebrate World Down Syndrome Day by wearing ODD SOCKS to school. The brighter the better, the idea is to spark conversation. When people ask you why you are wearing odd socks you can help raise awareness and tell them about World Down Syndrome Day.

Each year World Down Syndrome Day is 21st March. The date signifies the three copies of Chromosome 21 which all people with Down's syndrome have. That extra copy is in every cell of the body. This is why Down's Syndrome is also known as 'Trisomy 21'. Each year the #LotsOfSocks campaign takes place to help spread awareness. The idea is to wear odd socks on 21st March. When our chromosomes are lined up, they look like lots of socks hanging on a washing line.



Reports

Mid-Year reports for children in Big Acorns – Year 6 will be sent out via Schoolcomms email later today. Parents will also receive a copy of their child's Registration Certificate showing their attendance and punctuality.

No Clubs run by Teachers in w/b 18th March

There will be no clubs led by Teachers in week beginning 18th March due to Parents' Evenings taking place during this week. Choir will still go ahead on Friday 22nd March as this club is run by Teaching Assistants rather than Teachers.



Parents' Evening Bookings

The parents' evening booking system is still live on the link below:
<https://topshamschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

The deadline for booking an appointment is 9am on Monday 18th March. Please see the letter sent by Schoolcomms email for more information.

Comic Relief

Thank to everyone for supporting Comic Relief today. So far, we have raised £107.46. We are hosting a red themed bake sale after school. If you are able to donate any cakes, we would greatly appreciate it. We highly rely on these donations, so please do get those aprons on! But please remember: no nuts.





Achievers

As a school, we promote positive behaviour and we have numerous incentives to support this. The recipients of our weekly achiever awards are listed below:

Achiever Awards:

Big Acorns Harry and Oscar

Year 1 Kaysie and Jasmine

Year 2 The Whole Year – For fantastic teamwork and great literacy work

Year 3 The Whole Year – For showing great respect to adults during their DT work.

Year 4 Erin, Aine and Syd

Year 5 Mitchell and Leo

Year 6 William and Ava



School Leader Awards:

KS1 Megan

KS2 Diogo

Winning House:



Reading Awards

Congratulations to the children listed overleaf who have reached one or more of their reading targets!



Year 3 Reading Target Badge (90000 words)	Year 4 Reading Target Badge (170000 words)	Year 5 Reading Target Badge (250000 words)	Year 6 Reading Target Badge (300000 words)	500000 words	1 million words	3 million words
Michelle	Millie	Luca B	Olive	Aaron Y6	Austin Y5	Alina Y4
	Sara		Eliza	Felix Y5		
	Holly			Luca S Y5		

Devon Performing Arts

Last week, many of the Speech and Drama pupils took part in the varied categories at the Devon Performing Arts Festival. The adjudicator commented on their ability to achieve vocal clarity in all their classes: Acting, Verse Speaking and Original Poetry.

This was a wonderful experience for the children to show all their hard work and for them to gain confidence in their performance skills.

The children that took part were: Felicity, Bonnie, Freddie, Austin, Oscar, Louis and Diogo.

Everyone had a written report and a certificate. Some were awarded cups and shield, making them and myself as a teacher, proud to see their enthusiasm and abilities shine!

Report written by Thalia Squire – Peripatetic Speech and Drama Teacher

Safeguarding



Safeguarding Leads and Contact Information

Miss Maria White: 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.

Our Deputy Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Amanda Lacey, Headteacher.

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 Miss Greygoose. 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



SILENT AUCTION – Last week to bid

Check out the amazing lots on our Auction thanks to the generosity of parents and local businesses, from massages and treats to meals and gifts! Bids until 22nd March.

<https://www.topshampta.co.uk/the-great-big-silent-auction-2024/>

QUIZ NIGHT – the funniest night at school

Quiz Night is next Friday, 22nd March. Dress up as your favourite literary character for the Topsham School quiz. It might be general knowledge but the dress code is strictly literary! Bring your own food. Bar available. Plus, last chance to bid in the PTA Great Big Silent Auction!

<https://www.topshampta.co.uk/event/world-book-themed-quiz-night/>

Date: Friday, 22nd March

Doors open at 7.30pm

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE

The PTA will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale on Friday 22nd March at 3.30pm

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.*

OrganicARTS at West Town Farm

OrganicARTS run monthly family focused seasonal celebrations at West Town with farm exploring, creativity with natural materials and fireside cooking and storytelling. Our next event is this Sunday 17th March and tickets can be found here:

<https://fixr.co/event/family-spring-celebration-tickets-227707005>

Belongings – Exeter Northcott Theatre

Award winning theatre company, Tangled Feet, are bringing a show for 7–11 year-olds (Belongings) to the Northcott Theatre in Exeter on April 3rd. It's been nominated for two Off West End Awards & had lots of lovely reviews "inspiring, beautifully evocative" "highlights the importance of play as a positive force".

The show is about finding your feet, finding your playmates & forging your future when you don't know

your past. It was inspired by working with children in foster care. It's very visual with lots of movement & great design (soundtrack by band Clock Opera).

<https://exeternorthcott.co.uk/events/belongings/>



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Exeter Consortium Schools Alliance

Please see the brochure attached to this email with information about training to teach with Exeter Consortium Schools Alliance.

Easter Event at Watermeadow Grange

Watermeadow Grange are holding an Easter event on Good Friday. Everything is free for everyone to take part in, apart from the Easter Raffle which is raising money for the school's PTA.

The poster features a background image of several hands holding colorful Easter eggs. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with a teal and white color scheme.

W WATERMEADOW GRANGE
CINNAMON LUXURY CARE

Easter

COFFEE MORNING

You are welcome to join us at Watermeadow Grange
Friday 29th March 10.30am - 12.30
for some Easter fun!

Take part in our Easter colouring competition, raffle,
free face painting with Easter themed photo opportunity.
Complimentary Easter refreshments will be available,
all ages welcome.

For more information please call the team on 01392 328 433
or email: watermeadow.enquiries@cinnamoncc.com

RESIDENTIAL CARE | DEMENTIA CARE | RESPITE CARE

Luxury Care Home in Topsham, Exeter
Watermeadow Grange Care Home Bewick Avenue, Topsham, Exeter EX3 0FF
www.cinnamoncc.com/watermeadow

TOP 20
CARE HOME GROUP
2019/2020

W WATERMEADOW GRANGE
CINNAMON LUXURY CARE

YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION

Luxury Care Home in Topsham, Exeter
Watermeadow Grange Care Home Bewick Avenue, Topsham, Exeter EX3 0FF
www.cinnamoncc.com/watermeadow

A decorative graphic of a leafy branch in the bottom right corner.

Dates for
the Diary:

Date	Event
Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief
Tuesday 19 th March	Parents' Evening for Little Acorns, Big Acorns, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6
Wednesday 20 th March	Year 3/4 Comic Con at 3.00pm
Wednesday 20 th - Wednesday 27 th March	Science Week
Thursday 21 st March	Down's Syndrome Awareness Day – Wear odd socks
Thursday 21 st March	Parents' Evening for Little Acorns, Big Acorns, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y5 and Y6
Friday 22 nd March	PTA Pre-loved school uniform sale
Friday 22 nd March	Parents' Evening for Y4
Friday 22 nd March	PTA Quiz Night
Friday 22 nd March	End of the Silent Auction
Wednesday 27 th March	Science Fair 3.30pm
Thursday 28 th March	Break up for Easter Holiday (school finishes at 2.30pm and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)
Monday 15 th April	Return to school after Easter Holidays
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Friday 24 th May	Break up for half-term (3.30pm finish)
Monday 3 rd June	Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 4 th June	Children return to school after half-term
Tuesday 2 nd July	Year 4 Day Trip to Exmouth – Water sports
Wednesday 3 rd July to Thursday 4 th July	Year 4 overnight stay at Sid Vale Scout Hut
Wednesday 24 th July	Break up for Summer Holiday (school finishes at 2.30pm and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)