

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 17th November 2023

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: Millie
Year 1 Pearl and Indiana
Year 2, Isobel and Cedric
Year 3 Cleo and Robyn
Year 4 Losi
Year 5 Oscar and Jack
Year 6 Elsie and Eliza



School Leader Awards:

Otto and Harriet



Key Stage 2 Cross Country at Killerton

On Friday 10th November, 32 children from Key Stage 2 represented the school at a Cross Country event at Killerton. There were smiles all round as the children put in strong performances in all their races, despite the muddy conditions.



Term Dates

Term dates have now been set for the academic year 2024-2025 and copies have been sent to all parents. Term dates for both 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 can also be viewed and downloaded from our school website: <https://www.topsham.devon.sch.uk/term-dates.html>

Lost Property

We have lots of lost property items in the foyer by the office, please come and check if any of these belong to your child. Please can we also ask parents to ensure all items brought in to school are clearly labelled with the child's name. Every few weeks, any unnamed items will be recycled/donated to the PTA second hand uniform sale.

Applying for a Reception (Big Acorns) place for September 2024

Devon County Council application process is now open for Reception September 2024, it will remain open until 15th January 2024. The link below contains a step-by-step guide tab and also an apply now tab.

[Apply for a reception or year 3 place at a primary school \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk/apply-for-a-reception-or-year-3-place-at-a-primary-school)

Advent Countdown Calendar - Christmas 2023



All parents should now have received a copy of our 'Advent Countdown Calendar.'

The Advent Countdown Calendar shares our key dates for Christmas and outline arrangements for the festive season. Please read this carefully as ordering tickets etc. after the dates required may result in disappointment.

The Advent Countdown Calendar is also available to view on our website:

<https://www.topsham.devon.sch.uk/newsletters-and-letters.html>

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

This week's news is all about our Christmas plans and needs! We are super excited about the **Christmas Bazaar on Friday 1st December**. There are lots of exciting activities and stalls planned, music, hot food, a bar – it is going to be a great way to kick off the festive season. In our meeting this week we made a list of all the little extras that are needed. If you have and can spare any of the following, please drop off **donations to the PTA shed**:

- Christmas Jumpers (needed before Thursday, 23rd November). Please dig out last year's festive tops to see if they still fit! If they don't, we would LOVE them!
- Pre-loved books and toys in good condition
- Lucky dip treats - Party bag filler/small toys amnesty, best time to donate any small toys unwanted and let's recycle/reuse them.
- Nail varnish – especially Christmassy colours

Please contact your Year Rep to understand what your Year Group is planning for this Christmas Bazaar and how you can **volunteer** to be part of the rota to run the stall.

Pre-Ordering Tokens – We will once again be using tokens only for all PTA stalls. Tokens will be available to buy during the Bazaar and just before it's start. Or you can get ahead of the game by pre-ordering your tokens. It's easy to do – please transfer the amount of money you would like to exchange for tokens (most stalls cost 50p or £1). The PTA account is:

Friends of The Topsham School

30-93-14

02699047

Please put your child's name and year as the reference.

Please note there will be no refunds on tokens. The bar, food and external vendors will be accepting cash and cards (minimum spend applies).

Hopefully, you will have found the **raffle tickets** at the bottom of the school bag. The raffle hampers are filling up nicely and we would be so grateful if you could try to sell as many raffle tickets as possible. Remember, all the money raised goes back into the school to buy extras and essentials, like books, playground equipment and IT kit, for your children to use and enjoy. Please **return** sold slips and money to the front office **as well as any unsold tickets**. The deadline for ticket sales is Monday, 27th November. The draw will be made during the Christmas Bazaar at 6pm. **Donations to the hampers** can be made to the front office. Here is a little reminder of the colour themes for each class:

- **Acorns** **Gold**
- **Year 1** **Red**
- **Year 2** **Yellow**
- **Year 3** **Green**
- **Year 4** **White**

- Year 5 Silver
- Year 6 Blue

On Thursday, 23rd November we will be holding a pre-loved uniform and Christmas jumper sale. We will run a stall after school until 4.30pm so there is plenty of time to browse even if your child has an afterschool club. With all the donations, hopefully you can grab a bargain and notch up some planet loving sustainability points.

Christmas Cards for ELoF – it is now a tradition that Topsham School children create cards to include in the Christmas Boxes that Estuary League of Friends send to vulnerable members of our community. This year we have the goal of producing 150 cards. These can be completed at home and/or in school and will be collected between 4th December and 8th December.

Foodbank donation – Monday, 4th December

We are also organising a Christmas Foodbank donation collection and more details will follow.

As always, if you have any questions or can help us in any way, please email thetopshamschoolpta@outlook.com



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.*

JUMPING JELLY TOTS

AT NANCY POTTER HOUSE

**A music and movement group aimed at children ages
0-5yrs**

**A fun environment for your little ones to be able to develop
motor skills and senses relating to music**

**Rhymes, action songs and activities form each 45 minute
session**

Taster session: £5.00

**Full term sign up (7 weeks): £38.50 for a single child
50% discount for additional siblings**

To book your space

Call us on 01392 879009

<https://bookwhen.com/jumpingjellytots>

EVERY MONDAY 11.45 TILL 12.30



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The HAF website is now live!

The programme of events for
Winter has now gone live in
Devon

<http://devon.cc/haf-winter-23>

Please share far and wide!
Places are limited

Places are available for children who are
accessing benefit related free school
meals

<https://devon.cc/haf-parents-info>

MERRY XMAS



Date	Event
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need – ‘Bearpees’ Challenge, Wear Pyjamas and Bake Sale
Tuesday 21 st November	Open Session for children starting Reception class in September 2024 1.30pm-2.30pm
Wednesday 22 nd November	Year 3 and 4 Roman Celebration
Thursday 23 rd November	PTA pre-loved uniform and Christmas jumper sale. 3.30-4.30pm
Monday 27 th November	Drum Assembly 2.45pm
Wednesday 29 th November	Costumes to be in school
Friday 1 st December	Christmas Craft morning: Wear Christmas Jumpers!
Friday 1 st December	Children from Year 6 Climbing at Exeter Quay in the afternoon
Friday 1 st December	PTA Christmas Bazaar 3.45pm
Friday 1 st December	Choir Performing at the Christmas Bazaar
Monday 4 th December	PTA Christmas Foodbank Collection
Monday 4 th – Friday 8 th December	Christmas cards for the community
Wednesday 6 th December	Christmas Dinner
Thursday 7 th December	10.00am School choir to sing at Water Meadow Grange
Thursday 7 th December	KS2 Rehearsals in the Church 1.30-3.15pm
Friday 8 th December	Community Christmas Party (morning), led by Year 6
Friday 8 th December	School Choir singing at the Community Christmas Party
Friday 8 th December	Watermeadow Grange visit – Year 3
Friday 8 th December	Choir performing Christmas Carols in the playground at 3.30pm. Mince pies and mulled wine.
Monday 11 th December	KS2 Rehearsals in the Church 1.30-3.15pm
Tuesday 12 th December	KS2 Christmas Service in the Church 2pm and 6pm
Wednesday 13 th December	KS1 and FSU Christmas Service 2pm and 6pm
Thursday 14 th December	Topsham School Christmas post boxes close
Thursday 14 th December	KS1 and FSU Christmas Parties
Thursday 14 th December	KS2 Christmas Parties
Friday 15 th December	Break up for Christmas Finish at the earlier time of 2.30pm (Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)
Tuesday 2 nd January	Occasional Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 3 rd January	Non-Pupil Day
Thursday 4 th January	Children return to school after Christmas holiday
Monday 15 th January	Deadline for applying for a Reception (Big Acorns) place for September 2024

