

The Topsham School

Newsletter 14



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 December 2023

Happy Christmas to all of our parents, families and children...

What an incredibly festive and busy week we have had in the run up to the end of term. We are still in awe of the talent of the children in the nativity and KS2 service, the hard work they, and all our staff put in to make them the most fun and sparkling they could be.

Since December 1st, the school community has used this Christmas period to celebrate everything that we at Topsham have....

Christmas craft, Christmas jumpers, the Christmas Fair, Carols in the playground, Carols at Watermeadow Grange for the residents, Food Bank collections, Christmas Cards for the Estuary League of Friends elderly community, Christmas dinner, the Community Christmas party, class Christmas parties.... Phew! It's no wonder we are all ready for a break!

But what this has shown is the generosity, compassion, skill and enthusiasm that our whole community has. The children, staff, parents, the PTA, and beyond, relentlessly put so much in to making sure we all, whether within school or the wider community, have a fun, special and memorable Christmas.

We break up for the Christmas Holidays today (Friday 15th December) **at the earlier time of 2.30pm and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm today.**

We hope you all have a fabulous Christmas and a restful New Year. And we look forward to welcoming you back on Thursday 4th January 2024.

KS2 Christmas Performances

It was so wonderful to see all the family members who were able to join us for our Christmas performances this week. Thank you to the staff for all the hard work behind the scenes that goes into making these performances so successful and enjoyable. Thank you also to parents for your support with costumes.



Key Stage 1 Christmas Performances

Wow! What a performance...or two shall we say! We are so so very proud of all of the children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One for their incredible singing, acting, dancing during their Nativity; It's a Party.

The witty lines, catchy infectious songs, glittering costumes, props and music couldn't be done without the hard work from the staff, so for this I am sure you will join me in saying a huge thank you to all of the adults involved. Thank you also to the parents for your help with costumes. Until next year...!



Year 3 visit to Watermeadow Grange

On Wednesday, Year 3 visited residents at Watermeadow Grange. The children took the designs they have created for a sleigh for Santa. It was fantastic to see how confidently the children spoke to residents about their learning; there were smiles all round!

Santa Run

Running Club finished the term with their annual Santa Run. Santa hats and Christmas jumpers sparkled as the children ran around the Rec and then back to school for a small festive treat. A huge thank you to all our parent volunteers who have helped marshal this term.



Christmas Dinner

The children enjoyed having Christmas Dinner with their classmates on 6th December. The children all looked fabulously festive wearing their novelty Christmas glasses.



End of Term Achievers

The recipients of our end of term achiever awards from are listed below:

Achiever Awards:

Year 1 - Aaravi

Year 2 - Ed

Year 3 – Merryn

Year 4 - Erin

Year 5 – Isaac

Year 6 – Tilly



Reading Progress Awards:

FSU – Zara

KS1 – Joel

KS2 – Harriet



School Values Trophy:

Ezra



Anti-Bullying Poster Winners

Zac, Charlie T and Joel



Achievers from Friday 8th December

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

Achiever Awards:

Big Acorns – The whole Class for having a great week

Year 1 - Astrid and Casey

Year 2 – Livvi and Evan

Year 3 – Annabella and Olivia

Year 4 - Alina and Syd

Year 5 – Charlie and Mitchell

Year 6 – Eliza, Diogo, Jowan and Pippa



School Leader Awards:

KS1 Imogen

KS2 Alina and Robyn



**NEW
MENU**

New Menu

Copies of the new menu for January - March 2024 have been sent to parents via email today.

This menu is also available on our school

website: <https://www.topsham.devon.sch.uk/school-lunch.html>

Please can we remind parents that school dinners need to be paid for at the point of booking (unless your child is entitled to Universal Free School Meals or Free School Meals).

Bookings can be made in advance and the cut-off point for booking is 8.15am on the day the meal is required.

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

Was your child born between
1st September 2019 and
31st August 2020?

How to Apply for a Primary School Place in Devon

You can apply online at
www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline
from 15th November 2023 to the 15th January 2024

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 

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

Thank You and Well Done!

During the final week of term, the cards for The Estuary League of Friends Christmas boxes have been delivered by Miss Greygoose and our School Leaders. Thank you to everyone that took the time to write or make a card.

A big THANK YOU and Well Done to everyone that has contributed or supported a PTA event this term. It has been an incredibly successful term of fundraising. From Bake Sales, Pre-Loved uniform sales, to taking part in the Christmas Bazaar – we really do appreciate the time, effort and money spent by all of our wonderful school community.

These funds go towards "extras" that cannot be funded directly by the school and also towards much needed equipment that requires our additional input. We support trips, swimming lessons and other activities for pupils.

Save the Date!

Our next PTA Meeting will be via Zoom on **Tuesday 30th January**. Everyone is welcome and we are always interested in hearing new ideas for fundraising. We are a really friendly group of parents and would love to see some new faces.

Have great Christmas Break and see you in 2024!

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.*

Exeter City Community Trust will be running after school clubs again in the Spring Term. Please see the links below for more information or to book a place:

Monday: Year 3 - 6 ONLY Club

[The Topsham School Years 3-6 After School Club - Exeter City Community Trust \(exetercct.org\)](https://www.exetercct.org/)

Friday: Year 1 and 2 ONLY Club

[The Topsham School Years 1 and 2 After School Club - Exeter City Community Trust \(exetercct.org\)](https://www.exetercct.org/)

They are also running Christmas holiday courses in Exeter from Monday 18th December- Friday 22nd December. Please follow the link below for more information:

[Christmas Holiday Courses - Exeter City Community Trust \(exetercct.org\)](https://www.exetercct.org/)



Date	Event
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
Tuesday 30 th January	PTA Meeting via Zoom