



UPCOMING EVENTS

December

- Tuesday 3rd** - KS1 Christmas disco.
- Wednesday 4th** - Moles & Mini Moles Nativity Performance at 9:30am. Parents are invited to join us for coffee and cake after the performance in the main school hall.
- Wednesday 4th** - Year 4 Badminton Festival at NAC.
- Thursday 5th** - KS2 Christmas disco.
- Thursday 5th** - 25 year 5 pupils attending a Lantern Making Workshop.
- Tuesday 10th** - Singing club performing
- Tuesday 10th** - Winter Wonderland lunch. Christmas songs at Tesco at 2pm.
- Wednesday 11th** - Last day to order the Christmas lunch.
- Wednesday 11th** - Tiny Taws Christmas Singalong. 2:30pm - 3pm.
- Wednesday 11th** - Newton Abbot late night shopping Lantern Parade.
- Wednesday 11th** - Singing club performing Christmas songs at Asda 1:30pm.
- Wednesday 11th** - Tiny Taws Christmas singalong at 2:30pm in the EYFS building.
- Thursday 12th** - Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children & Year 5/6 Anglo Saxon Day.
- Friday 13th** - Rudolph Run in school.
- Monday 16th** - Singing club performing Christmas songs in the town centre at 2pm.
- Monday 16th** - Tiny Taws coffee & cake morning, parents are invited to join us at 9am in the EYFS building.
- Tuesday 17th** - KS1 Christmas Performance at 9am in the school hall. Parents are invited to join us for coffee and cake after the performance at 9am.
- Tuesday 17th** - KS1 Evening Christmas Performance at 5pm in the school hall. Pupils to be in school at 4:30pm.
- Wednesday 18th** - Christmas Dinner Day.
- Wednesday 18th** - Deadline for handing in Rudolph Run sponsorship money.
- Wednesday 18th** - Year 5 & 6 coffee & cake morning, parents are invited to join us at 9:30am in the main school hall.
- Thursday 19th** - Year 3/4 Jack & the Beanstalk Panto in Torquay.
- Friday 20th** - We have a special visitor coming into school.
- Friday 20th** - School closes for the Christmas break.



NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2024

Friday 29th November



Dear Parent/Carers,

School visit

Yesterday, we hosted a number of headteachers at Highweek. They were very impressed with how calm the school felt, even with multiple staff absences, and how engaged the children were in their learning. Well done Highweek!

Drinks, Snacks and rubbish

DRINKS We encourage children to keep hydrated during the school day, preferably with water. Please could you ensure that your child brings in their own water bottle every day. Children can have these in the classroom and are able to drink throughout the day, in accordance with class routines. Please ensure that the bottle is a type that won't spill if it is knocked over. School water bottles are available to purchase at the office. The content of the water bottles should be water. By choosing water, children are not drinking sugary drinks which contribute to many preventable health conditions like obesity, tooth decay and type 2 diabetes. **In exceptional circumstances, we can agree to a child having squash, for example, if they need to be encouraged to drink for medical reasons.** We are very grateful for parents supporting this rule, as it can cause a lot of upset amongst children if some have squash and others don't.



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SNACKS Children are able to bring a snack in to eat during the morning break. The following snacks are encouraged at Highweek:

Whole or sliced fruit

Vegetable sticks like celery, carrot and cucumber.

Some vegetables are naturally baton-shaped which can save you time preparing, for example: sugar snap peas and baby corn

Bag of plain popcorn (over 5's only)

Breadsticks

Rice or corn cakes

A small sandwich or bagel with cheese, hummus or vegetable filling. **Please DO NOT send your child in with crisps, chocolate items or sweets for snack time.**

Full Guidelines can be found here:

https://www.highweekprimary.co.uk/files/ugd/7cad2_4f55a12ad3514b438cbfdd251cc05012.pdf



We continue to see an increased amount of plastic litter in school.

In fact, Mr. Rogers collected **62 crisp bags** from our school playground yesterday. This is a significant concern, as picking up litter takes valuable time that could be better spent enhancing our school environment in other ways.

Let's work together to keep our school grounds clean and tidy. Please remind students to use the bins provided and encourage responsible habits. Together, we can make a difference!

Please think about how you can help by cutting down on the amount of single use plastics brought into school. For ideas, please click on the links below:

<https://www.unpackaged.com.au/blog/how-to-pack-an-ecofriendly-lunch-box>

<https://myzerowaste.com/2008/08/how-to-pack-a-reduced-waste-lunch-box/>

We will be looking at this topic in school council meetings next term.

Staff training

We re currently working in partnership with a number of local schools (including: Decoy, Bradley Barton, Haytor view and Canada Hill) to share best practice. Mrs Fran Toms is leading Literacy across the schools to look at literacy in the early years (nursery and reception).

This week, some of our staff went to visit Bradley Barton School Nursery. We look forward to hosting teachers from other schools in the new year.

Important Reminder: KS1 Gate Policy

Despite several reminders, we are still seeing parents/carers entering the school through the **KS1 gate before 8:40 am**. We kindly ask that you **refrain from entering the school premises before this time**.

Once you have dropped your child at the school door, we request that you **swiftly leave the premises** to ensure the smooth running of our morning routine. Please note that the **KS1 gate will be locked at 8:50 am** in preparation for assembly, and no further entry will be permitted after this time.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and organised start to the school day.



Advent

Next week's assembly will focus on ADVENT.

What is Advent?

Advent is an important part of the Christian calendar.

It means '*coming*' and it's the period before Christmas which celebrates the birth of Jesus. It is all about preparing for Christmas Day. Advent starts on the Sunday nearest to 30 November - four weekends before Christmas.

We look forward to getting all Christmassy next week!

As always, if you have any concerns or you would like to come and talk to me about any school issues, please do not hesitate to see me on the gate in the mornings or arrange an appointment through the school office.

Ms Redwood



This week has been **Mrs Walker's** final week with us before she moves on to begin an exciting new career in Torbay. We are incredibly grateful for all the support and dedication Mrs Walker has given to our children and school community, and we wish her every success in her new role. She will be truly missed.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Stevens as our new Family Liaison Officer who started with us on Monday. Miss Stevens brings a wealth of experience working with children and families in Devon, and we are confident she will be a great asset to our school.

We will miss you

Well done to our Accelerated Readers



100,000 words

Sophie Gater, Mati Kiezun, Freya Curran,
Sylvie Yonkova & Tilly Milton.

500,000 words

Kai Smith, Lily Hannigan-Train &
Sam Palmer.



Last week at school, the students got their hands (and faces!) covered in chocolate as they crafted festive cake pops!

The classroom turned into a merry mess of melted chocolate, sprinkles, and laughter. While the cake pops looked delightful in the end, it's safe to say the real highlight for the children was licking out the bowls and sneaking a taste of those leftover sprinkles. Who could blame them?

Next week, we're turning up the festive fun even further with festive pizzas! Will a brussel sprout find its way onto a cheesy creation? Only time will tell!

Stay tuned for more delicious (and possibly messy) adventures in our kitchen.



We will be holding a few Coffee & Cake mornings to help raise important funds for the school. It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible at the following events.

Wednesday 4th December: Following the Moles & Mini Moles nativity performance at 9:30am in the main school hall.

Monday 16th December: Tiny Taws Coffee morning at 9am in the nursery.

Tuesday 17th December: Following the KS1 Christmas performance 9am in the main school hall.

Wednesday 18th December: Year 5 & 6 Coffee morning, parents are invited to join us at 9:30am in the main school hall.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the grandparents who have joined us for lunch over the past two weeks. It has been absolutely wonderful welcoming you to our school and sharing this special time together.

As we move into the festive season, we warmly invite families to join us at our upcoming coffee mornings.

Please see above

It's a lovely opportunity to spread some holiday cheer and connect with our school community.

If anyone would like to donate a cake or baked goods for the coffee mornings, your generosity would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you there!



Well done to our Friday Flyers.
Our Friday Flyers promote our work around
developing Growth Mindset and a can do attitude.

Theme	Effort as the path to mastery		Find lessons and inspiration in the success of others	
Date	Weekending Friday 22nd November		Weekending Friday 29th November	
Bovey	Claude-Gray Conway	Leo Kucuk	George Davis	James Milton
Dart	Madison Smith	Oakley Maghaireh	Ethan Herbert	Jimmy Mead
Exe	Logan Simmons	Freya Hubbard	Jorgie-Mae Sharrock	Theo Fairweather
Mardle	Ravenna-Rae Spence	Alyssia Broad	Ziron Waris	Reuben Blackmore
Plym	Sophie Gater	Sylvie Yonkova	Samuel Heywood	Talia Rhodes
Tamar	Alex Fairweather	Ufedo Audu	Alfred Smith	Isla Steer
Tavy	Georgie-Ray Stevens	Jeorgia Vickery-Turner	Blue Carter	Phoebe Mansfield
Teign	Lily-Hannigan Train	Lewis Seal	Rosie-Mae Spence	Alexa Kopinski
Torridge	Alfie Mitchell	Paige Payton	Paige Smith	Kane Walker

Mardle class had **100%** attendance for the period of **11th - 15th November 2024.**

Plym class had **97.2%** attendance for the period of **18th - 22nd November 2024.**

Remember our whole school attendance target for the year we are working towards is 96.2%.

It is essential for children to attend as much school as possible if they are to get the most from their education and achieve their full potential.

Class	W/C 11th November	W/C 18th November
Taw	93.2%	85.1%
Mole	93.7%	83.4%
Mardle	100%	92.3%
Bovey	85.9%	84.1%
Tavy	94.3%	87.1%
Plym	95.6%	97.2%
Exe	95.7%	92.9%
Dart	93.3%	87.5%
Tamar	94.4%	89.3%
Torridge	94.5%	90%
Teign	96.1%	91.8%



KS1 Christmas School Disco Tuesday 3rd December 2024

3:45pm - 5pm
£5 per ticket

This includes entry,
sandwiches, fruit,
crisps & a drink.

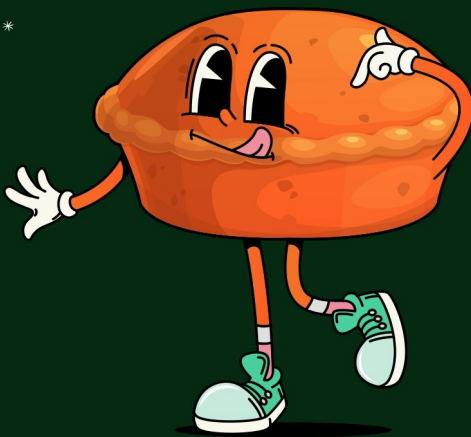
KS2 Christmas Disco Thursday 5th December 2024



3:45pm - 5pm
Tickets are £2
per child
Refreshments
will be
available to
purchase.

WINTER Wonderland

Tuesday 10th December



**CHICKEN &
WINTER VEG PIE**

**LENTIL & CHUNKY VEG STEW
AND HERBY DUMPLINGS**

Jacket Potatoes, Baguettes and
Hot Pasta Bar are still available

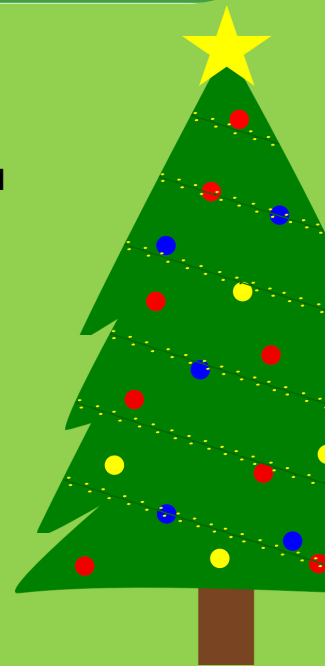
SCAN ME FOR
ALLERGENS



A Heartfelt Thank You

We would like to extend a huge thank you to **Freddy and Franny Johnson's mum** for her incredibly generous donation of a beautiful Christmas tree for our school. This thoughtful contribution is greatly appreciated and adds a festive touch to our holiday season.

Thank you for your kindness and support!



Just a quick reminder to complete your sponsorship forms in preparation for the Rudolph Run! Let's come together to support Rowcroft, an amazing charity doing incredible work.

Thank you for your participation, and let's make this event another great success!

Please ensure that we receive your sponsorship forms and money in the school office by Wednesday 18th December.

**RUDOLPH
RUN**

Free school meals

If you're struggling to pay food bills, we encourage you to check your eligibility and apply for free school meals for your child. All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. From year 3 onwards, just children whose parents are receiving certain benefits are entitled to free school meals during term time. However, parents are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child's school to attract additional 'pupil premium' funding to support their learning.

Some children whose parents meet the eligibility criteria and whose child attends a school nursery all day can also get a free school meal when they are two, three or four years old. You can apply for free school meals for your child on our [website](#), and you'll get an instant decision. Or you can call our education helpline on **0345 155 1019**.

If you have applied unsuccessfully before and your financial circumstances have since changed, please apply again.

