



## Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2025-26/35

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026

[www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Hams-Federation-61556768462697/>

<https://www.instagram.com/southhamsfederation2025/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week at school and after a rather foggy start to the week, the weather did improve slightly for a while. The children have been swimming, our Year 5 class were selected to take part in a National Reading assessment, we celebrated all our staff on Wednesday with National Teachers Day and our Year 4 had an absolute blast at the zoo!

### Sleepover with the Tigers!

This week our Year 4s made the most of a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend the night at Dartmoor Zoo and finding out what the animals get up to once all the other visitors have gone. After a packed day of conservation workshops where we could handle zoo objects and met a Black Beauty Stick Insect and a Bearded Dragon lizard, a zoo treasure hunt trail, and a delicious dinner, we were able to walk around the zoo and saw the animals up close with keeper Andy.

Some of the quotes from the children:

*"I really enjoyed the workshops and seeing all the animals and the food. I liked seeing the big cats, especially the lynx, and the treasure hunt."*

*"I really enjoyed it because the staff were really nice and sleeping overnight. My favourite animals were the cloud rat and the Scottish wild cat because it was the first time I had ever seen them."*

*"It was really fun! I'd never seen a tiger in my whole entire life and I saw a capybara for the first time."*

*"I really liked it because there were lots of exotic animals and they were really cool to watch. I really like the leopard because it came really close to the fence and just looked at us."*



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## **Year 6 Residential – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

### **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

- Please be at school at 8.30am
- The coach will leave school at **9.00am**. It will not wait for anyone who is not here!
- **Each child will need to bring a packed lunch and drink for the first day only.**
- Please pack trousers **not** jeans for your child.
- Please have **two pairs** of trainers, one for dry activities and one for wet activities.
- Do not tie items to the outside of your bag as they can get separated from one another in the hold of the coach!
- Remember a **strong** bin liner for wet clothes (or a dry bag if you have one)

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

- The coach is due back at 3.10pm – in time to go home as normal.

A suggested kit list has been sent out home as a reminder of what the children need to bring. We know the children will all have an unforgettable experience and make some truly wonderful memories.

### Cuddly Toys at the Ready - Monday 22 June

We ask that our Year 1 class to bring an old cuddly toy or a photo of one to school. Please ensure it is clearly named. This will all be part of their classroom learning for their new English text. Thank you from Mrs Page



### SEND Coffee Afternoon – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

The next coffee afternoon will be a whole federation event based at Loddiswell Primary school on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June from 2pm to 3pm**. We are excited to have Linda Willmott, who previously worked for the Devon Social, Emotional, Mental Health team, joining us to share information on: supporting children with worries, anxiety, emotional regulation and emotional based school avoidance. This will be a really informative session with opportunities to ask questions. We hope to see lots of you there.



### Reception Pirate Day – Thursdy 25<sup>th</sup> June

Ahoy me hearties! Please can the Reception children come to school dressed as a pirate on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June for a day full of pirate fun, treasure hunts and adventure. Please do not feel you have to buy a costume unless you want to, as there are many simple homemade pirate costume ideas online and the children can wear a pair of old trousers/leggings (which you may wish to cut the bottom) perhaps with a stripy top.



### Year 6 Careers Day – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

What was your dream career when you were at primary school? As part of our Year 6 transition to senior school and their PSHE curriculum, we would like to give pupils some ideas and inspiration about the wide range of careers available to them. We ask any parents or family member to come into school and talk to the Year 6 children about their career. We welcome parents from across all year groups. The talk to last as long as you wish even if it is 5 minutes or 15 to 20 minutes. If you are available to come in on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July to talk about your career, whether current or previous, please speak to Mrs Wibberley (Edwin), Mrs Lewis, or myself, and we can arrange a timetable. Thank you for your support.

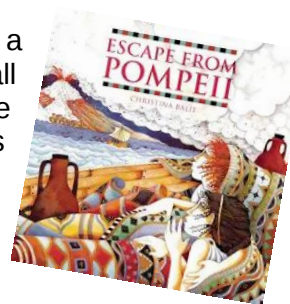
### This week in School

The Reception children have been developing their mathematical spatial vocabulary in the forest this week, directing each 'pirate' to find the treasure chest using positional and directional language. They are very excited about their Pirate Day next Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June and we look forward sharing photos next week of their fun pirate-themed adventures.



### Reading Ambassadors Recommendation

This week, our Year 3 reading ambassadors Zofia and Zeth told us about a non fiction story: *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit. As we are all aware, Pompeii is a real place and there was a huge volcanic eruption. The story is about two of the children, Tranio and Livia who, as the volcano is erupting they run away to the harbour and hide on a boat. Its rather scary and they both agreed that they probably would NOT like to be in Pompeii when the volcano erupted!



### News from Merry Go Round

Cathy from Tesco gave us lots of lovely plants this week, so we have been busy in the garden planting them. We are continuing to look at mini beasts this half term and enjoyed a messy, sensory tuff tray filled with soil and all different kinds of bugs for us to discover. At Forest school, we enjoyed our listening games, exploring the woods and then choosing leaves to make our own 'Very hungry caterpillars' "



### Pupil Attendance

Below is a table showing the attendance figures at school, for each class since September 2025. Our achievement of just **95.8%** is still just below the national average. The DfE and Devon County Council have a guide line that school attendance should equate to **97.0%**. Thank you to all our parents for your continued support.

#### **Attendance Data**

03 September 2025 to 19 June 2026

| <b>Class</b>        | <b>%</b>    |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Reception           | 95.7        |
| Year 1              | 95.5        |
| Year 2              | 96.0        |
| Year 3              | 96.4        |
| Year 4              | 95.7        |
| Year 5              | 95.3        |
| Year 6              | 95.0        |
| <b>Whole School</b> | <b>95.8</b> |

As part of DfE School Attendance monitoring – we have an obligation to publish weekly attendance data to our parents. It is really important that we accurately record our attendance data, as part of the DfE directive. If your child is absent, please telephone the school or email Mrs Lewis at [stokenham@southhamsfederation.org.uk](mailto:stokenham@southhamsfederation.org.uk) thank you.

### **End of Year Finance**

Please can I remind all parents that school trips, residentials and dinner money payments must be cleared before we break up in July. Although this is a few weeks away, time goes quickly. Whilst I appreciate that Bromcom/MCAS may not be the easier system to understand, debts should not accumulate.

Please check your child's dinner balances (including any transferred from pre-school) and any outstanding debts against their residentials etc and make the necessary payments as soon as possible. Messages are sent to parents who owe money by Mrs Lewis but some parents do seem to ignore these messages. This is awkward for all concerned but we ask that if you do receive a message, please make the necessary payments. If you are having difficulty in making payments and clearing debts, please speak with either myself or Mrs Lewis and a plan can be put in place.

All payments need to be with Devon County Council **by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July**. Please can you arrange for debts to be paid off either via your Bromcom account online or payment in cash or cheque payable to Devon County Council.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best Wishes



**Tess Coulthard**  
**Executive Headteacher**

### **The Week Ahead**

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June    | Year 6 Residential – See Above<br>New Reception Pupils Transition Afternoon<br>After School Choir with Abi Tucker                                                                                                      |
| Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June   | Lunchtime Yoga with Mrs Cowling<br>SEND Coffee Meet and Greet at Loddiswell Primary School – See Above                                                                                                                 |
| Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June | Year 6 back from Residential – See Above<br>Eco Therapy with Laura Darvell<br>After School Netball with Stokenham Explorers                                                                                            |
| Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June  | Reception Pirate Day – See Above<br>Lunchtime Recorder Club with Mrs Prescott<br>Lunchtime Athletics Club with Mrs Taylor<br>Music Lessons with Alan Inglis-Faulkner<br>After School Football with Stokenham Explorers |
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June    | HM Coastguard Assembly<br>Lunchtime Story Club with Miss Pears<br>Music lessons with Monica Chapman<br>Forest School Year 6 and Reception                                                                              |

### Dates for your Diary

| Day & Date           | Times                  | Year                  | Event                                                                                                               |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 29 June       | PM                     | <b>R &amp; 6</b>      | <b>Forest School</b><br>New Reception Pupils Transition Afternoon                                                   |
| Tuesday 30 June      | All Day                | 1 & 2                 | School Trip – letter sent out                                                                                       |
| Thursday 2 July      | All Day                | 6                     | KCC Induction Day<br>KCC Induction Evening for all Parents                                                          |
| Friday 3 July        | All Day<br>PM<br>PM    | <b>R &amp; 6</b><br>6 | <b>No Forest School</b><br>Careers Day – See above<br>Swimming Gala – details to follow<br>PTFA Meeting in bungalow |
| Monday 6 July        | PM<br>PM               |                       | New Reception Pupils Transition Afternoon<br>After School Choir Concert                                             |
| Wednesday 8 July     | All Day<br>PM          | R                     | Reception Class Trip – letter sent out                                                                              |
| Thursday 9 July      | AM                     | 2                     | Farm Visit                                                                                                          |
| Friday 10 July       | PM                     | All                   | PTFA Cake Raffle<br>PTFA Fair – Details to follow                                                                   |
| Tuesday 14 July      | All Day                | 4                     | School Trip – letter sent out                                                                                       |
| Wednesday 15 July    | PM                     |                       | Rounders Tournament – to be confirmed                                                                               |
| Thursday 16 July     | PM                     | 6                     | Leaver Performance                                                                                                  |
| Friday 17 July       | AM<br>PM               | 6<br>All              | Leavers Assembly<br>Last Day of Summer Term                                                                         |
|                      |                        |                       |                                                                                                                     |
|                      | <b>Autumn<br/>Term</b> | <b>2026</b>           |                                                                                                                     |
| Mon 7 September      | AM                     | All                   | Autumn Term 2026 starts                                                                                             |
| Mon 26 to Fri 30 Oct |                        | All                   | Half Term                                                                                                           |
| Fri 18 December      | PM                     | All                   | Autumn Term 2026 ends                                                                                               |