



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2026-27/03

Friday 25th September 2026

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

School life with all its routines is back in full swing! There is an energetic buzz about the place as we all settle down to the Autumn term. Weather wise - Autumn is quietly arriving with the misty mornings and a little chill in the air.

The Year 2 children had a wonderful afternoon being 'history detectives' around Stokenham this week as an introduction to their local history topic. They enjoyed finding the various historical buildings and clues from the past and ticking them off the visual checklist, including dates and names on buildings, the church, thatched cottages, historical pubs, war memorials and the decommissioned telephone exchange. They also drew sketches of the local historical buildings and recorded key facts. The children are very much looking forward to learning more about how the local area has changed over the rest of the term, and welcome any local knowledge or artefacts to enhance their topic.



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



Cake Sale –

Well done to some of our Year 5 girls who organised a scrumptious cake sale yesterday to help raise funds towards school PE equipment. There were delicious biscuits, creamed cakes and shortbread and much more for us all to buy. They raised £72 which is wonderful – well done girls!



Harvest Festival – Friday 2nd October

You will see from the diary dates below that next week the whole school will celebrate **Harvest Festival at St Michaels Stokenham on Friday morning 2nd October**. Our celebration will start at 10am and all parents and carers, family and friends are very welcome to join us. There is ample parking at the church. The children will walk down to church from school after registration. This is always a wonderful service with fantastic singing by all the children. Definitely not to be missed!

We will also be taking a collection for Kingsbridge Food Bank – please bring any items you wish to donate in to school -we will then be able to take to the Food Bank in Kingsbridge afterwards.

PTFA AGM – Wednesday 30th September

The school PTFA is having its AGM next Wednesday morning in the school bungalow, straight from drop off. It would be great to see old and new faces there to help with sorting out events for the children during the year, fresh ideas, new ways of thinking are all welcomed as it only remains the same without new ideas!

If you can't make the meeting but would like to help out that's not a problem, let me know and I would be extremely thankful! Having taken the job on suddenly myself any help is gratefully received!

All money raised by the PTFA is fed back into the school life, it pays for the buses for the children's trips, any new materials or exciting equipment the school needs, building costs including the bungalow so beautifully converted for the children. So, any help, will be helping your children out.

We are all busy I appreciate but any help, one event or more will be a great hand! See you all soon

Sadie Darke - Chair - 07557444802



Swimarathon – Friday 16th October

Stokenham have always done extremely well at this event raising £1000 of pounds towards the various charities and school. This year we would like to enter 8 teams from year groups 4 through to 6 for the Annual Swimarathon. The event takes place during the school day on Friday 16th October. Each team take it in turns to swim as many lengths as possible in 55 minutes and your child **MUST** be able to swim a length of the Quayside pool.

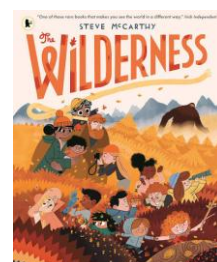
If your child would like to take part, details regarding the event are on Bromcom and the letters and sponsorship forms have been sent via email. Please confirm your child's attendance via the Bromcom system as soon as possible so we can sort out teams and travel arrangements. Thank you.

Christmas Card Designs

Completed designs should have been returned to school today. If your child did not submit theirs, they need to be in school on Monday morning. After that there is no guarantee that they will be printed. All submissions will be collected by the PTFA for checking. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a member of the PTFA.

Reading Ambassadors

Imagine being afraid of the outside? Jake and Grace from Year 3 told us about their class book – The Wilderness by Steve McCarthy. It's about a boy called Oktober who is afraid of the outdoors! The rest of his family love going outside but Oktober prefers being inside in the warm. One day he goes outside on an adventure with his family – meeting everything that is outside, the smells, the mud, the weather and it changes his feelings about being outside... or does it? Jake and Grace recommend the book for our KS1 children.



News from Merry Go Round

"We picked Blackberries on our way to Forest School this week and after a busy morning in the woods, we chopped apples to go with our blackberries and baked delicious mini crumbles, our pre-school smelt amazing! We also found a conker tree on our walk, and we couldn't believe how big and shiny they were! This week we welcomed a new little adventurer to our MGR family and we are thrilled with how well he has settled in and is already busy making lots of new friends"



News from Stokenham Explorers

Another great after school football session on Thursday. It's so wonderful to see all the children progressing each week, enjoying themselves and developing their fitness, and football skills along the way. A special mention to our Star Players this week:

KS1 ★

Phoebe - for listening really well, trying super hard and successfully doing all the activities

Jamie – for being confident and getting stuck in trying his best at everything.

Finley - For consistently being a strong, confident and skilful player.

KS2 ★

Theo - for listening really well and for being the most improved player.

Marley – For being a great team player and helping the younger children.

Well done to all of you! 🍌 If you would like learn more about our after school football club or the wrap around care service we offer please contact Georgia on 07940 585886 or e-mail stokenhamexplorers@outlook.com

Pupil Attendance

Below is a table showing the attendance figures at school, for each class since the start of this academic Year 2026 to 2027. Our achievement of **96.8%** is a possible but is slightly below the guide line set by Devon County Council. 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

07th September 2026 to 25th September 2026

Class	%
Reception	98.7
Year 1	97.7
Year 2	94.1
Year 3	97.6
Year 4	96.6
Year 5	97.1
Year 6	95.6
Whole School	96.8

From a safeguarding point of view – if your child is absent, please telephone the school or email Mrs Lewis at stokenham@southhamsfederation.org.uk If we are not aware of the reason for your child's absence, they may be classed as **missing from education**. Thank you for your cooperation. 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.

They're back!



We aren't even going to say exactly what they are, because we all know. Those pesky things are making a comeback! Please can we ask that all parents check their child's hair on a regular basis and wash, comb and condition accordingly. It's an annoying and tedious thing to do but we ask that if all parents keep on top of checking we can hopefully get rid of **them** soon – thank you.



Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine!

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

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher

The Week Ahead

Monday 28 th Sept	After-school choir Club with Abi
Tuesday 29 th Sept	Lunchtime Drawing Club
Wednesday 30 th Sept	PTFA AGM – See Above Lunchtime Recorder Club
Thursday 1 st Oct	Alan Inglis-Faulkner Music Lessons Lunchtime Times Table and Maths Club Lunchtime Cross Country Running Club After-School Art Club After School Football with Stokenham Explorers
Friday 2 nd Oct	Monica Chapman Music lessons Harvest Festival – See Above

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Monday 5 October	AM	2 & 5	Devon Fire & Rescue Service Workshops Cake Sale – Year 5 Girls
Tuesday 6 October	AM	All	Tempest Photography at School
Friday 9 October	All Day All Day	All All	Wear something Green for Mental Health Day Bulb Planting – Details to follow
Thursday 15 October	PM	KS2	Federation Cross Country at MWSH – details to follow
Friday 16 October	PM	4 to 6	Swimarathan at Quayside – see above
Monday 19 October	PM	All	Parents Consultations - details to follow
Tuesday 20 October	PM	All	Parents Consultations - details to follow
Friday 23 October	AM	6	Junior Life Skills at Quayside – details to follow
Mon 26 to Fri 30 October		All	Half Term
Wednesday 11 November	PM	All	PTFA Film Night – details to follow
Friday 20 November	All Day	All	Children in Need Day
Friday 27 November	All Day	All	PTFA Pyjama Day
Friday 4 December	PM	All	PTFA Christmas Fair
Tuesday 8 December	PM		Nativity Play at South Hams Hospital - tbc
Monday 14 December	PM	3 & 4	Christmas Performances
Tuesday 15 December	All Day	R, 1 & 2	Christmas Performances
Wednesday 16 December	PM	5 & 6	Christmas Performances
Thursday 17 December	All Day	All	Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day
Friday 18 December	AM PM PM	All R, 1 & 2 All	Christmas Carol Service at Stokenham Church KS1 Party Autumn Term 2026 ends
		2027	
Tues 5 January 2027	AM	All	Spring Term 2027 starts
Wednesday 10 February	PM	All	PTFA Disco
Mon 15 to Fri 19 February		All	Half Term
Monday 1 March	All Day	5	Residential
Wednesday 3 March	PM	5	Back from Residential
Wednesday 24 March	AM	All	Tempest Photography
Thursday 25 March 2027	PM	All	Spring Term 2027 ends
Monday 12 April 2027	AM	All	Summer Term 2027 starts
Monday 3 May		All	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4 May	All Day	3	Residential Day
Mon 10 to Fri 14 May	All Day	6	SATs Week
Mon 31 May to Fri 4 June		All	Half Term
Wed 16 to Thurs 17 June	All Day	4	Residential
Friday 9 July	PM	All	PTFA Summer Fair
Mon 12 to Wed 14 July	All Day	6	Residential
Wed 21 July 2027		All	Summer Term 2027 ends