



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2026-27/05

Friday 9th October 2026

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

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

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to all our pupils who helped plant the hundreds of bulbs today, generously donated by the parents of Alec in Year 4. We are very grateful for their kind donation and thank the parent helpers who were able to come in and help. The school is quietly 'getting on' with everyday life with our learning and this week we had a visit from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue, Tempest Photography on Tuesday and today a vibrant array of green, with our staff and pupils embracing World Mental Health Day. We also welcomed Darcey and Esther who have joined our school. Welcome to them and their family.



The weather is very Autumnal today and although the sun has still been trying to shine this week, in between the rain, there is a chilly wind; the children are outside for play, PE and Forest School for a run around in the fresh air - please ensure that your child has their coat in school.

Get Out, Stay Out, Call 999



On Monday we were visited by Rachel a firefighter from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue – who spoke with all our children regarding fire safety in the home and our garden and then did some brilliant workshops with our KS1 children and Year 5. They all had a great time trying on the uniform and learning of the various hazards in our everyday lives that could potentially start a fire: leaving candles lit by mistake, falling asleep with your PlayStation on the duvet, too many plugs in a wall socket and much more besides. Two important messages they learnt were: *Get out, Stay Out, Call 999* and *Stop, Drop and Roll*. Have your children been practising at home?



Year 3 have had a fantastic week of learning! In English, we have begun reading *Leon and the Place Between* and the children are thoroughly enjoying this magical and mysterious story, full of wonder and imagination. In PE, we played two mini-games of tag rugby, where the children demonstrated excellent teamwork and impressive skills, remembering to pass backwards and showing great confidence with their tagging. In Art, we stepped back in time and drew like cavemen, experimenting with charcoal to create both positive and negative shapes. The children produced some wonderful artwork and showed great creativity throughout the week. Well done, Year 3!

The Year 2 children have been inspired by Andy Goldsworthy in their art lessons this term and worked collaboratively in the sunshine to create these superb sculptures using a selection of natural objects that they had collected at home. Such amazing young artists Year 2!



KS2 Cross Country Festival at Malborough – Thursday 15th October

Our KS2 runners are excited about the Federation Cross Country Running Festival next Thursday, which takes place at Malborough Playing Fields. Letters have been sent home and its not too late to sign up to take part. Please hand the completed consent forms back to the office ASAP. Please remember the following:

- PE Kit
- Trainers/running boots
- A coat and tracksuit or similar to keep warm before and after their running
- Plenty of snacks and drink to give them extra energy
- **Please collect your child from** Stokenham at 3.15pm
- **Event starts at 4.00pm**
- Please collect your child from Malborough Playing Fields at 5.00pm
- Parents will be allowed to stay and watch the festival.
- **Please Park in Malborough Village Hall Car Park.**
- **Lets hope it stays dry!**



Swimarathon – Friday 16th October

It's not too late to sign up for the Swimarathan. This year we will be entering 8 teams from year groups 4 through to 6 for the Annual Swimarathon. The event takes place during the school day next Friday 16th October. 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. Thank you.

Parent Consultation Appointments

Parent Consultations will take place on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October. All appointments will take place in the school hall with the exception of Reception class, and these will take place in the Reception classroom. The Bromcom/MCAS system has been programmed to book your appointment. Please check your Bromcom/MCAS app and select parent Evening. Please see link below for a guide - This will allow you to choose your own appointment times with teachers.

<https://docs.bromcom.com/knowledge-base/how-to-book-parents-evening-appointments-using-mcas/> The system will close on Sunday 18th October at 11.30pm.

Please remember that if your child is in school during your appointment time, they must remain with you as we are not able to supervise them. Stokenham School is a mobile phone free area and we request that you switch off your phones while you are having your meeting.

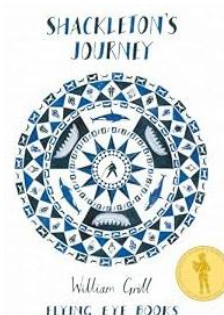
Junior Life Skills Friday 23rd October

Letters have been sent home via email to our Year 6 class regarding Junior Life Skills which takes place on **Friday 23rd October** – it is now live on Bromcom. Please consent to your child's attendance and also hand back in to school the consent form regarding travel arrangements etc. Don't forget to pre-book school dinners as well. There are still a few permissions slips yet to be returned

Reading Ambassadors

Shackleton's Journey by William Grill is our Year 4 reading recommendation this week. Rose and Alec along with the class have been reading all about this truly phenomenal story of adventure and discovery. So far, the class have learnt that Ernest Shackleton had a crew of 26, chosen from over 500 volunteers. They have sailed to Antarctica on their ship the "Endurance" and are now stuck in the ice, so have abandoned ship and set up camp..... the story will continue in class!

Asked if they would like to have been part of the crew - neither Rose nor Alec said yes. They felt it was very scary, too cold, they would get too hungry not being able to eat proper food and the big seas would make their tummies go upside down and wobbly!



News from Merry Go Round

We had a lovely morning in the book bungalow. We loved sharing books with our friends, listening to stories with our grown-ups and chatting about our favourite characters and pictures. We talked about our pets this week, and if we didn't have a pet, which would we choose... hamsters were the clear winner! It was a chilly start to our Forest School session, but we didn't really notice as we ran to the woods to get our morning started. We began searching for different coloured leaves and found some beautiful ones, then used our leaves to make autumnal wreaths.



Year 6 Parents – Applications for Secondary school

A quick reminder that parents need to apply for a secondary school place for the school you wish your child to attend. It is **NOT** an automatic process. Applications opened on 1st September and **will close on 31st October**. Follow this link for further details:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/>

PTFA News

The cake raffle is back! After a fantastic amount raised last year from the raffle we've decided to make a return! Be a part of it simply buy a ticket for £1 and be in the draw to be the winner of the cake drawn on the third Friday of every month during the celebration assembly.

We are trying to set MCAS up but for now either give your pound or if you would like to enter all 10 draws now then £10 in a named envelope to Mrs Lewis in the office and we will collect it and have the draw ready for the 23rd!

You've got to be in it to win it!



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 **96.3%** is a positive 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 9th October 2026

Class	%
Reception	98.3
Year 1	97.4
Year 2	94.7
Year 3	96.3
Year 4	96.4
Year 5	95.4
Year 6	95.4
Whole School	96.3

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.

Have a lovely weekend.

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

With best Wishes

Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher

The Week Ahead

Monday 12 th October	After-school choir Club with Abi
Tuesday 13 th October	Lunchtime Drawing Club
Wednesday 14 th October	Lunchtime Recorder Club
Thursday 15 th October	Alan Inglis-Faulkner Music Lessons Lunchtime Times Table and Maths Club Lunchtime Cross Country Running Club Federation Cross Country at MWSH – see above After-School Art Club After School Football with Stokenham Explorers
Friday 16 th October	Monica Chapman Music lessons Swimarathan at Quayside – see above

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Monday 19 October	PM	All	Parents Consultations – see above
Tuesday 20 October	PM	All	Parents Consultations – see above
Thursday 22 October	PM		Cake Sale – Civic Award Year 6
Friday 23 October	AM	6	Junior Life Skills at Quayside – letter sent out PTFA Cake Sale – See Above
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
Monday 7 December	AM PM	R & 2 All	Pantomime at Loddiswell – tbc After School Choir Concert – details to follow
Tuesday 8 December	PM		Nativity Play at South Hams Hospital - tbc
Wednesday 9 December	AM	1 5 & 6	Theatre Trip – details to follow Theatre Trip – details to follow
Thursday 10 December		3 & 4	Cinema Trip – 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 – letter sent out and on Bromcom
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