Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2026-27/09
Friday 13th November 2026
www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk
https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Hams-Federation-61556768462697/
https://www.instagram.com/southhamsfederation2025/

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week – there has been something for everyone this week in school. Please remember that it is getting colder and most certainly wetter, weather wise, although today has been super sunny yet cold! Please ensure your child has a warm coat with them at school, they do go outside as much as possible even when it's raining a little bit!

Wednesday was Armistice Day and all the children showed great respect and made us very proud in our Remembrance Assembly. They spoke about the significance of Armistice Day, the importance of the date and time, the poppy at what this represents. All the children and staff observed two minutes silence to remember the people who have died in wars and conflicts for our freedom.



Also, on Wednesday some of our Year 5 and 6 boys had great success at the football tournament at Ivybridge. A big thank you to all the parents who were able to help with transport for this event. The children had a great time, as you will see below in our write up.

Wednesday was a rather busy day as it was also the PTFA Film night. Great fun was had by those able to attend. Thank you to Sadie (PTFA Chair) and her helpers who make our PTFA a success.

This morning our Mental Health Ambassadors led our celebration assembly and we finished with BBC Children in Need Day. We enjoyed spots in all colours, all over everyone. An amazing effort, thank you for joining in and for your donations.









Well done to Katie who helped Sharon, Sharon and Pam in the kitchen baking all the cupcakes for the children to enjoy at lunch. You can still donate to Children in Need, please see the link below or donate cash if you prefer and Mrs Lewis can pay into the Child in Need Account on your behalf.



Children in Need Day -
https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/donate/

Year 5 and 6 Boys Football at Ivybridge

On Wednesday we took a team of Year 5 and 6 boys to the Pokemon Football Cup (South Hams and West Devon area), held at Ivybridge Community College. We played against schools from across the region and after a shaky start, the boys found their rhythm and went on to play some fantastic football. They showed great determination, teamwork and skill, winning 3 consecutive games and scoring plenty of goals along the way.

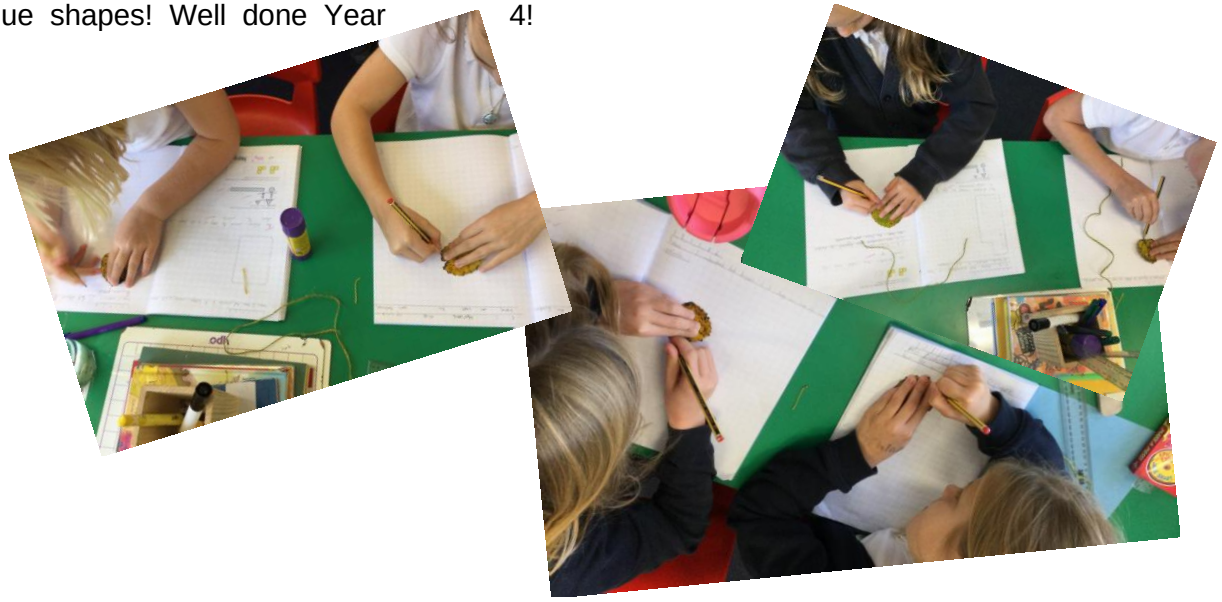
We are incredibly proud of them for coming together and supporting each other throughout. It was a brilliant team performance and the boys should be very proud for achieving second place overall.





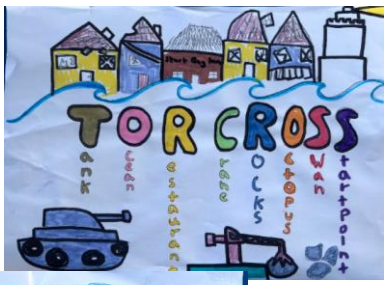
Our School This Week

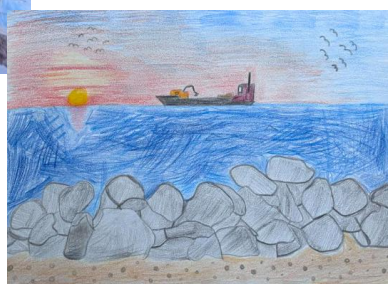
Year 4 had a fabulous Maths lesson this week. We have moved onto our new topic of perimeter. The children had to collect a leaf from the field and use a piece of string to go around the edge to find the perimeter of the leaf. We then made our own shapes out of the piece of string and drew around them leading us to the conclusion that even though the 2D shapes were all different sizes, they all had the same perimeter! Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed this lesson and creating their own unique shapes! Well done Year 4!



The year 5's have been working exceptionally hard to complete their Torcross pictures for the poster competition. It has been great to see so many different designs and to see the children discussing the importance of restoring the line.









Torcross Poster Competition

As you can see from our Year 5 contributions, we have already received some beautiful and imaginative poster designs for the Torcross Art Competition. **Entries need to be handed back into school by next Wednesday 18th November at the latest.**

The winning designs will be displayed on the hoardings at Torcross for everyone to see! How do we enter:

Each child is invited to create an A4 poster all about Torcross. The children can let their imaginations run wild! Their posters could include anything connected to Torcross, such as:

- Diggers and machinery working on the sea defences
- People helping to build the new defences
- The famous Torcross seal
- The beautiful view out to sea
- Anything else that celebrates Torcross!
- **Closing date: Wednesday 18th November. Bring your designs to school**

All entries will be judged by the Torcross team, and the winning posters will have the exciting opportunity to be displayed on the hoardings.

Reading Ambassadors Recommendations



Alec and Rose in Year 4 were very excited this morning recommending their book 'Frindleswylde' by Natalia and Lauren O'Hara.

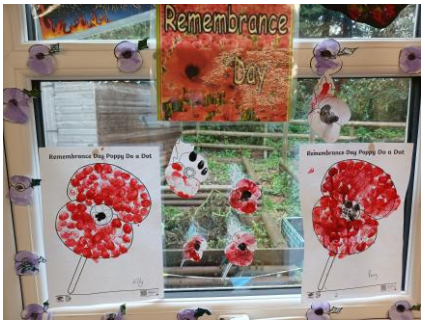
It is about a girl called Cora and her Grandma who get lost in the woods and cannot find their way home because the light from their lantern has been stolen by someone…. Is it Frindleswylde?

Cora is determined to find the light so that Grandma doesn't get lost again.

She meets Frindleswylde, who sets her three impossible tasks, sends her down a mysterious hole into a pond, which leads to his magical frozen kingdom. Cora becomes Queen of Winter. Will she be able to save Grandma and the world becoming frozen forever? Alec and Rose explained that the book is very much a Fairy Tale book, a little scary in places and Frindleswylde is rather cheeky!

News from Merry Go Round

We celebrated Diwali this week, making diya lamps and exploring bright colours and beautiful patterns for our rangoli pictures. We made poppies on Wednesday and observed a minute's silence at 11am to remember at those who fought for us in the war. We welcomed a new little adventurer to MGR this week and has settled in beautifully"





Starting School September 2026 - Primary School Application Process



For children born between **1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023**, the application window for Reception and Junior places starting in **September 2027** opens on **15 November 2026** and closes on **15 January 2027**.

Families can apply online at devon.cc/admissionsonline

Education Helpline telephone number is: **0345 155 1019**

You must apply through the website. Applications made directly to schools will not be accepted.

Devon County Council no longer sends application invitation letters, so it's important to make sure you don't miss the application window.

Further information can be found here: The step by step guide to normal round admissions in September 2027 - Children, families and education

PTFA News

The cake raffle is back! 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.
If you would like to enter, please give your £1 per ticket entry and name to Mrs Lewis in the office and we will collect it and have the draw ready for Friday 20th November. 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 **95.8%** is a little disappointing. 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 13th November 2026

Class	%
Reception	96.4
Year 1	96.0
Year 2	95.0
Year 3	96.0
Year 4	96.2
Year 5	95.0
Year 6	96.0
Whole School	**95.8**

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.

The Wizard of Oz is coming to Kingsbridge.

Quite a few of our young thespians are taking part in the production of the Wizard of Oz this weekend. Major roles such as Dorothy, Toto, the Tin Man and many more. Curtains go up at 2pm at KCC. It will be a wonderful event – please support if you are able to.



Have a lovely weekend.

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 16th November	After-school choir Club with Abi
Tuesday 17th November	Lunchtime Drawing Club
Wednesday 18th November	Lunchtime Recorder Club **Deadline to hand in Torcross Art Pictures**
Thursday 19th November	Alan Inglis-Faulkner Music Lessons Lunchtime Times Table and Maths Club After School Dance Club After School Art Club After School Football with Stokenham Explorers
Friday 20th November	Monica Chapman Music lessons PTFA Cake Raffle

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Wednesday 25 November	PM	5 & 6	Girls Football Tournament at Ivybridge – Letter sent out
Friday 27 November	All Day	All	PTFA Pyjama Day
Friday 4 December	PM	All	PTFA Christmas Fair **Deadline to place Christmas dinner order on Bromcom**
Monday 7 December	AM PM	R & 2 All	Pantomine at Loddiswell – details to follow 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
Friday 11 December		3 & 4	Cinema Trip – details to follow
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