East Allington Primary School NEWSLETTER

Active - Bold - Caring



Friday 14th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Many of our children use social media to connect with friends, share interests, and explore their identities. While this can be positive, we are increasingly seeing the negative impact of online interactions — particularly those that happen outside of school but spill over into friendships and behaviour during the school day.

Attendance to date		
Beech	94%	
Hazel	93%	
Willow	93%	
National expectation	96%	

It is important to recognise that schools and families both have a role to play. Social media use primarily takes place at home – we have tight restrictions in place at school to stop access – and we rely on parents and carers to help guide their children in using it safely and responsibly. However, when these issues affect relationships or wellbeing in school, we will always support children in repairing and learning from those situations. Working together is the only way we can help children develop healthy digital habits, in a world which at times is extremely difficult for children to navigate.

We ask families to regularly check what social media platforms their children are using and whether these are age-appropriate. The minimum age guideline for Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, Facebook, and YouTube is 13 years old, and for WhatsApp it is also 13 (previously 16). These limits exist to protect children's safety, wellbeing, and emotional development online.

At school, we continue to teach children how to use the internet safely, to think critically about what they see online, and to treat others with respect in all forms of communication. We also help them understand that what they post or say online has real-life consequences.

We would encourage you to keep talking openly with your child about their social media use — what they enjoy, what worries them, and what to do if something goes wrong. The more we talk, the safer and more confident our children will be online.

Thank you, as always, for your support in helping our children grow into responsible, kind, and respectful digital citizens.

Best wishes

Liam Fielding **Headteacher**



We educate children so they can lead great lives





Monday 17th November 2025	Hazel Class trip to Heatree Activity Centre Dartmoor
Tuesday 18th/19th/20th November 2025	Parents Evening
Wednesday 3rd December 2025	Nature Makes
Monday 8th December 2025	Open Parent and Carer Forum 5:30 - 6:30pm
Tuesday 9th December 2025	Table decoration making with Julie
Wednesday 10th December 2025	Christmas Dinner (whole school)
Friday 12th December 2025	PTFA Christmas Faye @ 2:00pm
Tuesday 16th December 2025	KS1 and KS2 Panto trips
Wednesday 17th December 2025	Reception and Nursery Nativity in the Church @ 9:30am
Thursday 18th December 2025	Candlelit Service in the Church
Thursday 18th December 2025	Open Classroom @ 2:30pm
Friday 19th December 2025	Saplings Christmas Performance—9am
Friday 19th December 2025	Pyjama day
Friday 19th December 2025	Last day of term
Monday 5th January 2026	First day back to school



CLASS 'SNAPPY' NEWS

"We stand to remember those who cannot!"

Saplings

This week we have been blasting off into space!

The children have loved learning about rockets, planet earth and the moon. They zoomed their rockets that they made around the room onto our silver space station - which then transformed into a stage for some amazing singing and dance performances!



Beech

We have had a busy week in Beech Class. We started the week by wearing our odd socks in support of anti-bullying week. We talked about bullying being repeated negative behaviour towards the same person and looked at who we could talk to if we felt we were being bullied.

On Tuesday, we went to the church where Rev Matt talked to us about Remembrance Day- we were amazingly quiet in the church. When we got back to the classroom we watched this short animation: https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/poppies

On Wednesday, we looked at symbols on maps- you could support this at home by looking at maps on your phone or through paper maps-Maybe, you could make a treasure map with symbols to search for something at home.

Today, is Children in Need. We are looking at some stories to see where the money raised is being spent as well as doing a Pudsey workout and some Pudsey maths- thank you for all of the donations.

Hazel

Hazel have been thinking about how our Stone Age Ancestors lived, as part of our history learning. They have prepared a list of brilliant questions about the prehistoric times to take on our trip this coming Monday to the Stone Age roundhouse.

In writing, the children have written a version of Little Red Riding Hood. The wolf is defeated by using slippery leaves, poisonous berries, and a nest of ants! The children are now planning a different version of Little Red Riding Hood using their own three chosen objects.

Maybe your child could verbally practice telling you the story before we write and edit these? Don't forget to wear forest school kit and bring a packed lunch on Monday. We will be leaving at 9am and are so excited!

Willow

This week, Year 5/6 have been exploring the theme of 'Power for Good' as part of Anti-Bullying Week, beginning with a colourful Odd Socks Day. Our discussions focused on how we can feel empowered to look out for one another and make positive choices every day.

We also visited the Church for a Remembrance service led by Matt the Vicar, where we reflected on all the people who fought and sacrificed for others.

In Maths, we've started our new unit on fractions and are already becoming confident in simplifying them. In English, we're gearing up to write our own stories inspired by everything we've learned from *Kensuke's Kingdom* — watch this space!

To finish the week, we celebrated Children in Need, and Year 6 looked fantastic in their stripes and spots. What a busy week ...



In Other Version

Forest School Update

Wildlife, Woodlands & Wonderful Craft!

This week brought a great mix of nature exploration, expert inspiration, and hands-on craftsmanship across Forest School:

- Beech Class headed out on a leaves, seeds and flowers hunt, gathering a brilliant selection to compare. The children enjoyed spotting differences in shape, colour and texture as the season shifts.
- Hazel Class welcomed a special visit from the Devon Wildlife Trust, who helped them develop ideas for their project this term — sparking curiosity and excitement for the natural world right on our doorstep.
- Willow Class continued their jewellery-making journey, crafting rings and using a triblet and leather hammer to shape them into perfect circles. Their precision and patience are really shining through.

Each class is showing skill, curiosity and confidence — whether exploring the woods, meeting wildlife experts or mastering new tools.

□ Next week... we'll be moving deeper into winter crafts and nature learning.











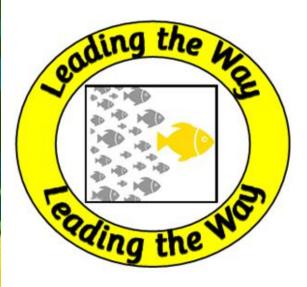








Amber and Indie did brilliantly in their gymnastics competition at the weekend. Look at all that bling!



A super effort. Well done!



Eco News



Competition - Crocus Bulb Creation Competition:

Crocus planting fun - for the whole school. If you would like to enter, we ask that you plant your bulbs as a family this Autumn and bring to school Mid January for judging. Prizes for:

Most colourful blooms, Prettiest crocuses, Unusual design

How to grow a crocus:

Crocus bulbs should be planted from September to December. to allow roots to develop before winter. Plant them about 3-4 inches (8-10 cm) deep in well-drained soil, with the pointed side facing up. Planting time can extend as late as December, as long as the ground isn't frozen.

We have purchased a new bird feeding station, to encourage different birds to our grounds ahead of Bird Watching Week 2026. If you have any feeders you would like to donate to the

Let's Cut Your Carbon!

Whilst the big responsibility lies with governments and big businesses to make large changes, we can help too!

Through small changes, like walking instead of driving or turning off devices, we can lower carbon emissions and protect our planet.

This November, we challenge YOU to complete 6 fun activities with your family and friends to Cut Your Carbon!



What's Next?

You'll get a Cut Your Carbon checklist to take home. Complete the six challenges at home with friends and family across November.

At the end of the month, we'll count up how many of you joined in, add up the estimated carbon saved, and celebrate your amazing efforts!

Let's help our planet – one small step at a time!



Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying Week

This week we have been celebrating Anti-Bullying Week, a national event that encourages kindness, respect and inclusion. The week began with Odd Socks Day on Monday, when children and staff wore odd socks to celebrate what makes everyone unique.

Throughout the week, children took part in discussions about friendship, celebrating differences, and using their voices for good — speaking up when they see unkind behaviour and supporting others. They learned about the difference between being a bystander and an upstander and how small actions and kind words can make a big difference.

It was a fantastic week full of positivity, kindness, and confidence, reminding everyone that we all have the power of our voice to help make our school a safe and happy place for all.





HEAD LICE

Please check your child's hair!

Caring for un

Head lice have been reported in school. It is important to regularly check your child's hair for head lice.

The best technique is to use a head lice comb when the hair is wet, leaving in conditioner and combing the hair in sections. When the hair is wet, head lice cannot move so they are easier to comb out. Please note that they do not jump or fly, you can only catch head lice from head to head contact. If you find head lice, please treat appropriately: the wet combing technique eradicates the lice and eggs. This should be done every 3 to 4 days over a 2-week period to break the life cycle.

If you require further information please have a look at <u>Head lice and nits - NHS</u>

Beech Class are on the look-out for role-play items.

Please let Mrs Partridge know if you can source any

of these from family or friends:



Scarves
Hats
Jewellery
Pots/pans
cutlery/ plates





East Allington Primary School SEND Signpost





Blackawton Primary School SENDCo

On Wednesday 19th November, from 2.00-2.30pm, Blackawton Primary School will be hosting a SEND Parent Forum, and I warmly invite you to join us.

These forums are a chance for us to sit together in a supportive, relaxed space to share experiences, talk through challenges, and explore practical solutions as a team. Both the SEND Code of Practice and DfE guidance highlight how strong, trusting partnerships between schools and families make a real difference to children's progress and wellbeing, and your insight is a vital part of that. If there is anything you would like added to the agenda, please just let me know—your questions and priorities help shape the support we offer.

You are welcome to come and join us at Blackawton Primary School



Funding to insulate your Home*

Broken appliances*

Boiler repairs*

*subject to eligibility criteria

Get in touch today for free and impartial help:

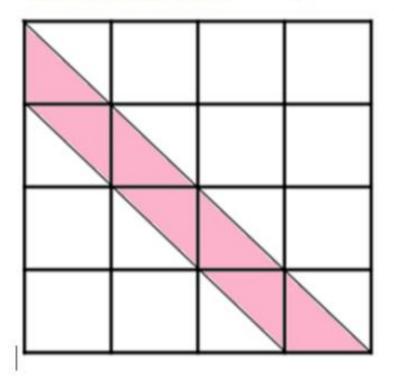
0800 112 3044

www.sdce.org.u

Maths Problem of the Week - Family fun!

What fraction of the square is shaded?

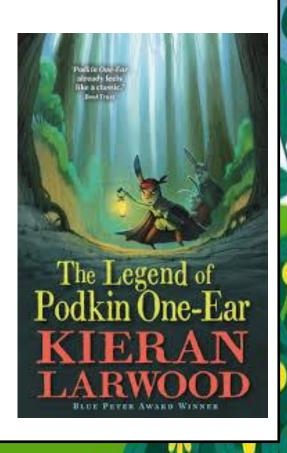
How many different ways could you shade $\frac{1}{2}$?



Mrs Partridge's Recommended Read:

The Legend of Podkin One–Ear follows young Podkin, a rabbit who would much rather spend his days exploring than preparing to become a leader. Everything changes when a dangerous army known as the Gorm attacks his home, and Podkin must escape with his brother and sister. Their journey takes them through forests, caves and ancient warrens as they try to keep a powerful magical object out of the wrong hands.

The story is full of excitement and tension, but it also has plenty of heart. Podkin begins as an unlikely hero, and watching him find his courage makes the book especially appealing to readers in Key Stage 2. The world is richly imagined, the characters feel real, and each chapter keeps you turning the pages to find out what happens next.





Do you like to sing? Would you like the chance to perform?

Are you in Year 2-6?

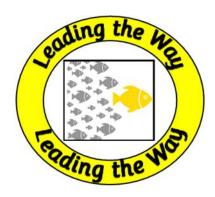
Then you might like to join our new...

Choir Club

Every Tuesday lunchtime 12.45-1.05pm in Hazel Class

We will be working towards some Christmas performances.

No experience needed - just enthusiasm.



Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

Apply online at: devon.cc/admissionsonline

or scan the QR code. Applications open from 15 November 2025 to the 15 January 2026

If you can't access the school admissions website you can get more information by emailing admissions@devon.gov.uk or call our Education Helpline on:

0345 155 1019



You must apply through the Admissions Team, even if you've already given details to a school. Applications made directly to schools or on their lists will not be accepted. County Council



East Allington Primary School PTFA



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JOHN LEWIS













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East Allington Primary School PTFA



East Allington Primary School PTFA

UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

Held on the last Thursday of every half term *





Bring in clean uniform which is too small and swap for larger sizes



or buy items for a donation

EAST ALLINGTONPRIMARY SCHOOL





ready for a jolly dash!

Saturday 13 December 2025

Sign-in from 1.30pm, Race begins at 2.00pm

Things Happen Here, Meadowbrook Community Centre,
Shinners Bridge, Dartington, TQ9 6JD



- · A fun Santa Run/Walk for all ages and abilities
- Distance options from 1 mile (1 lap) up to 5 mlaps)
- Kids up to age 10: FREE! Adults (10+): E10
- Fancy dress is most definitely encouraged (but pot co)
- Treat yourself to a pint and pizza at Things Happen Here
- Free toasted treats around the fire

Book now via Dynamic Adventures website



SPORTIVAL TRAIL RUNNING RETURNS TO TOARTINGTON

Chip Timing / Professional photographs & friendly marshals / Family-friendly atmosphere / Medals for all finishers / Well-marked courses
Free hot drink or beer when you finish + food options at Green Table Cafe

Friday 21st Nov, 9am-3pm

DART CHALLENGE

Choose your challenge: run a marathon, a 10K or as many 5K laps as you can fit into six hours!



Saturday 22nd Nov 5.30pm



Head torches on! Take on a thrilling night-time trail run (10K, 5K & kids races) through Dartington's beautiful grounds. Expect twisting trails, glowing markers, and a post-race buzz like no other. Podiums & Prizes including best fancy dress!



Location: Dartington Estate, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6EE

Sign up online: sportivaevents.co.uk

Making Christmas Manageable

Citizens Advice



Simple ways to enjoy the festive season without overspending

Christmas can be a great time to relax and spend time with family, but it often comes with extra costs and pressure to spend more than we'd like. With household budgets already stretched, a bit of planning can make a real difference.

1. Set a Realistic Budget

Work out what you can comfortably afford to spend and stick to it. It's easy for small extras to add up, so keep a list of what you need — and what you don't. If you can, set aside a small amount each week to spread the cost.

2. Keep Gifts Simple

Children often remember the fun and attention more than what's under the tree. Lowcost or homemade <u>gifts</u>, <u>or</u> pooling together for a "Secret Santa" within the family, can keep things fair and affordable for everyone.

3. Plan Food Carefully

Christmas dinner doesn't need to be over the top. Planning meals in advance helps avoid waste, and sharing the cooking with friends or relatives can save both time and money.

4. Make the Most of What's Local

There are plenty of free or low-cost events in Teignbridge over the festive period from school fairs to community activities. These can be a great way to get into the Christmas spirit without spending much.

5. Don't Feel Pressured

It's fine to say no to things that stretch your budget. A walk to see the lights, a film night at home, or a board game with family can make just as good memories as anything that costs money.

Need a Bit of Advice?

If you're worried about money or would like some support with budgeting, benefits, or local services, the Citizens Advice Schools Project can help. You can speak to your school for a direct referral.



Piano lessons with Jess Heywood, available in school

(with option to work towards accredited piano exams)

Contact: jess_h_heywood@yahoo.co.uk

Jess is the Director of the Youth Festival,
Dartmouth Music Festival
and is available for new bookings

Please book your child's place by contacting Jess directly or get in touch with the school office.



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- Preschool, junior & adult lessons available
- Kids swim for FREE* in general swim sessions
- ✓ Track your child's progress online



Scan the QR code to find out more

Swim School







fusion-lifestyle.com/swimschool



Junior Hockey Years 4 to 9

Tuesday's 5.00pm - 5.50pm

KCC AWP

Girls & Boys

Starting Tuesday 16th September



You will need to wear trainers, shin pads and a mouth guard. Hockey sticks can be provided. Please bring a drink.

Cost is £25.00 subscription for the year and £30.00 for 12 sessions, from September to December.

If you would like more information, please email Sarah Budgen at slb1.home@outlook.com



The Warmth & Wellbeing Service

HOME ENERGY ADVICE

Better Housing Better Health (BHBH) is a charity working locally to improve your warmth & wellbeing. In a preventative approach, our free helpline provides you with a single point of contact for services, advice and financial support in order to help improve the energy efficiency of your property.

BETTER HOUSING BETTER HEALTH CAN HELP WITH:

ENERGY BILL SUPPORT



HOME ENERGY VISITS

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER





CALL US FOR FREE

0800 107 0044

OR VISIT: WWW.BHBH.ORG.UK

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Should I keep my

child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics



but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek





Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit https://qrco.de/minfec.