East Allington Primary School NEWSLETTER

Active - Bold - Caring



<u>Friday 17th October 2025</u>

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of this first half term, it feels like the perfect moment to pause and reflect on everything that has taken place over the past six weeks. It has been a truly busy and

Attendance to date		
Beech	97%	
Hazel	94%	
Willow	92%	
National expectation	96%	

productive start to the school year, filled with learning, growth, and plenty of memorable moments.

The children have settled back into school life brilliantly. They have shown enthusiasm, curiosity, and a real determination to challenge themselves and achieve their very best. Across the school, we have seen wonderful examples of resilience, creativity, and teamwork—qualities that we are incredibly proud to see developing in all of our children

We have also been fortunate to take part in a wide range of 11 by 11 experiences. These have included community fun run, school trips, life skills sessions, and the celebration of a number of awareness days, to name a few. Each of these experiences has given the children valuable opportunities to learn beyond the classroom and connect with the wider community. The engagement and excitement they have shown throughout has been a joy to witness.

Looking ahead to the final week of term, we are very much looking forward to our open classrooms on **Thursday 23rd October at 2:30pm** and our first cake sale of the year. Open classrooms provides a lovely opportunity for us to come together as a school family to celebrate the achievements of all our children.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. The partnership between home and school plays such an important role in helping our children thrive, and we are truly grateful for all that you do to encourage and support them.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful weekend.

Best wishes

Liam Fielding **Headteacher**



We educate children so they can lead great lives





Wednesday 22nd October 2025	Visit by Annual Flu Vaccination Service
Thursday 23rd October 2025	Open Classroom @ 2:30pm
Thursday 23rd October	Cake Sale after school
Friday 24th October 2025	Last day of term
Monday 3rd November 2025	First day back to school
Tuesday 11th November 2025	Remembrance Assembly
Wednesday 12th November 2025	School Photographs
Tuesday 18th/19th/20th November 2025	Parents Evening
Friday 21st November 2025	Children In Need
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 (PM)
Thursday 18th December 2025	Candlelit Service in the Church
Thursday 18th December 2025	Open Classroom @ 2:30pm
Friday 19th December 2025	Last day of term

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CLASS 'SNAPPY' NEWS

"Where's your rhyme at?"

Saplings

This week we've been busy exploring!
We went on a lovely walk around our field to collect more sticks and leaves for our art work- what great little nature detectives!

We also have been practicing our ball skills with lots of rolling, catching fun.

Our stained glass effect leaves look beautiful in the window. A big thank you to everyone who sent in family photos for our home corner - the children love showing their pictures and chatting proudly about their families.

Thank you for your continued support

Beech

This week in Beech, the children have been thinking of some funny rhyming sentences to go alongside the book, 'Oi Frog'. My favourites so far have been 'Oi Rat, wear a mat' and 'Oi Cow, dance on a plough'.

In RE, we looked at the story of the Lost Son (The Prodigal Son) to learn about forgiveness and saying sorry.

In DT, the children have been looking at play structures- when you are in the park next, have a look at how the slide and swings are made..... can you make them using junk materials such as elastic bands and lollipop sticks?

In music, we have been playing some games and keeping a beat.

Hazel

Hazel class have been learning more about prehistoric times and how their ancestors would have survived without a local supermarket, or a cooker at home. The children have said they would like to do more hands-on learning. We have listened to them (Article 12; you have a right to a voice and for adults to take you seriously) and organised two trips to support their learning. On Monday 17th November we will be visiting a Stone Age Roundhouse at Heatree Activity Centre on Dartmoor, and in the Spring Term we will be having a tour of Kent's Cavern in Torquay to find out more about our stone age ancestors. Permission letters with further details will be sent out next week.

In English, the children had us laughing out loud with their comedic writing about how to look after a dinosaur, based on the book, Dare to Care: Pet Dragon.

In maths, the older children have focused on rounding, and the younger children have compared numbers, both in and out of the classroom.



Willow

A Week of Sustainable Discovery!

We've had a very exciting week in school, highlighted by our visit to the Waste from Energy plant in Plymouth. During our workshop, pupils explored what makes materials sustainable and investigated which recycled materials are used to make everyday objects. The conversations sparked were thoughtful and inspiring!

However, the highlight of the trip was putting on our high-vis jackets and plastic helmets to tour the site. We watched the entire process—from trucks tipping waste, to the giant claws picking up and moving the rubbish, to the chamber where it burns it at a staggering 1000°C! It is incredible how our everyday waste is turned into electricity.

Yet, seeing the sheer amount of rubbish produced in just two days was eye-opening. It really made us reflect on what we're putting into our black bins and a powerful reminder for us all to: **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**.

ECO News!

























In Other Versions

Forest School Update

Fires, Flavours, and Finishing Touches!

As the days turn cooler, our Forest School sessions have been filled with the sights and smells of autumn — from fire-cooked treats to the satisfaction of completing projects.

- Beech Class learned how to safely use hand drills and enjoyed baking pumpkins on the fire, bringing a real autumn harvest feel to their session.
- Hazel Class experimented with making charcoal and charcloth, exploring how these materials can be used for firelighting — a fascinating look into early technology and survival skills.
- Willow Class are putting the finishing touches on their balance beam and hammock projects. They also roasted pumpkin seeds over the fire, sharing their creations and enjoying the fruits of their hard work.

The children continue to show fantastic collaboration, curiosity, and care for the natural environment — learning practical skills while celebrating the changing season together.



















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.

Indie won her first ever trampolining competition - amazing achievement, well done!





East Allington Primary School SEND Signpost



New Health Resources from CFHD for Children and Young People with Learning Disabilities

Children and Family Health Devon (CFHD) have launched new pages and resources on their website, dedicated to supporting the health and wellbeing of children and young people with learning disabilities. These new resources are part of their specialist learning disability health pathway, which provides tailored support for children and young people aged 0–18 across Devon and Torbay who have a diagnosis of moderate to profound learning disability. The new web pages include practical information, guidance, and resources for families, carers, and professionals to help manage health needs and promote positive outcomes. Link here: New health resources page for children and young people with learning disabilities - Children and Family Health Devon

New Occupational Therapy Advice Line (Devon & Torbay)

Children and Family Health Devon (CFHD) have also launched an occupational therapy telephone advice line. This can be accessed by all, whether that is the young person themselves, family members or carers, education staff, social care staff, voluntary organisations or other health professionals. The phone line provides access to advice and support around helping children and young people develop everyday skills. Link here: CFHD Occupational Therapy telephone advice line - Children and Family Health Devon

Maths Problem of the Week - Family fun!

Have a go at this mathematical thinking to get your maths conversations happening at home.

Here's a fun puzzle for children and grown-ups to try together:

There are 5 houses in a row.

Each house has a different colour: red, blue, yellow, green, and orange.

The red house is not next to the green house.

The blue house is between the red and yellow houses.

The green house is on the far left.

? What is the order of the houses from left to right?

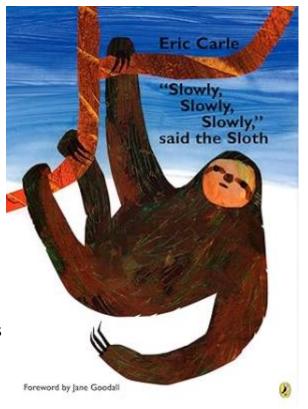
Can you work it out together?

Bonus challenge: Can you create your own "houses in a row" puzzle for someone else to solve?

Recommended Read:

In preparation for World Sloth Day on **Monday 20th October,** this week's recommended read is Slowly, slowly, slowly," said the Sloth by Eric Carle.

Slowly, slowly, slowly . . . that's how the sloth lives. He hangs upside-down from the branch of a tree, night and day, in the sun and in the rain, while the other animals of the rain forest rush past him. "Why are you so slow? Why are you so quiet? Why are you so lazy?" the others ask the sloth. And, after a long, long, long time, the sloth finally tells them!



PTFA News

Tuesday night's AGM saw a change of committee members for the PTFA. Bex Hiley and Jade Lethbridge were elected as the Joint chairs of the committee. Sarah Hepburn McCarthy; treasurer and Vice chair; Zoe Warne. Jade and Bex have some incredibly exciting events coming up.

The below outgoing chairs' report summaries the past year: This is a short report as our second and final year as joint chair's from 2024-2025.

Two years ago, we sat in the village hall, like rabbits in headlights. We quite honestly had so little idea what we were to do! Fortunately, our differences have allowed us to make a strong team. It has most certainly been a journey of highs and lessons, and we shall both leave better for this! The second year was by far 'easier' as we felt like old hands at the process of things.

During the past year the PTFA have been able to support to East Allington Primary through; subsidising two pantomime trips and coaches, membership to the Devon Wildlife Trust, outdoor learning resources, shovels, brooms, baking equipment, picnic table, netball posts and cones, safety mats for nursery, a drumming workshop, PE equipment, a poly tunnel for nursery, the Science Dome, bike helmets, plants, an Edshed subscription, a First aid course for years 5 and 6, transformed a room into a full sensory room, snapfish books, provide a skipping rope workshop and subside the coach for the trip to Paignton Zoo along with setting aside £500 for the replacement of iPads in around 3 years' time. Mr Fielding has subsequently agreed for the Ipad savings to be invested in the children now and not for the PTFA to pay to replace the 11 Ipads in three years' time.

As always there were many events that contributed towards this; Christmas being a huge contributor. Whilst it was a lot of work for a previous parent, the children participated in Christmas cake making with Katie Lethbridge. Viki Fitzpatrick organised a fantastic fun run, there was a winter ball coordinated by Kate, Bex organised a hugely successful Bingo, (raising the most funds Melvin, the bingo caller, has ever seen) Liz Lethbridge organised and ran, with a huge support from the Lethbridge family the bike ride, Emma M organised a second hand costume sale, the children had an easter egg hunt and the family fun day was incredibly successful due to Kate's vision for a better approach. This is to name a few, cake sales and the 100 club are also not to be missed off.

The Granny's: They continued their support as they do, helping with cake making, Christmas wrapping, hosting the bike ride and donating their time. We continue remain so very grateful to the Granny's.

September 2025 came, and we saw two major changes at East Allington primary. With the retiring of Tom Pether, East Allington Primary school welcomed a new joint headteacher, Mr Liam Fielding. Liam shares his time between Blackawton Primary School and East Allington.

The second change we saw; was the reduction of classes. This has gone from four classes to three classes. This was in-line with the reduction of children, attending East Allington Primary.

The committee: Another year and we continue our praise and gratitude to Sarah. Sarah is the strength in the committee. Sarah's organisation and support she provides is unwavering. Sarah; Thank you!

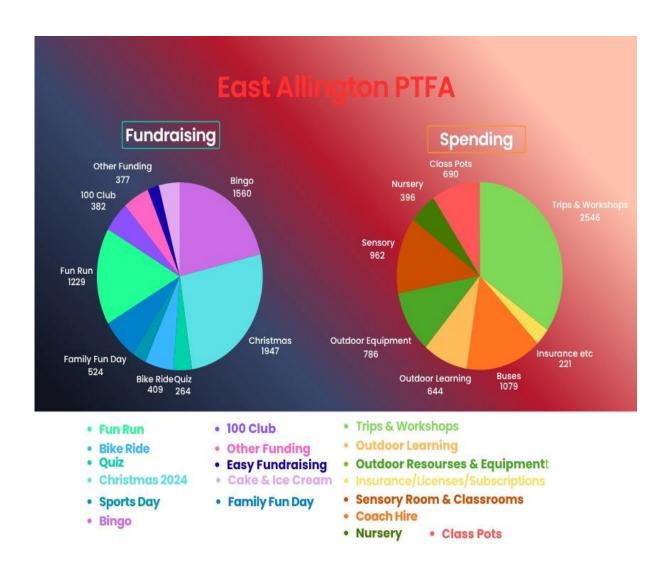
Kate and I would like to say thank you to everyone that has supported us during our time as joint chairs, this is from turning up with a cake to organising an event. Without this support the PTFA would not have been able to provide the children with the enrichment activities that they have received this year.

There are definitely elements that we shall miss, with Kate being a night-owl and myself an early bird, I will miss my (at times) 5 daily 'Kate Sanders' notifications, sent to be at 23:32, however, I am not sure if she will be miss my 5 am replies! With this being said, Kate and I will now resign as chairs for East Allington PTFA, and we will continue to offer support in any which way they require to the incoming PTFA committee.

Thank you to you all, over and out! Kate Sanders and Lucy Tucker

AUCTION OF PROMISES

Saturday night also saw a fantastic event with the Auction of promises. There was a buzz in the room and thanks to the amazing auctioneer, Amanda Burden, just over £4000 was raised. This will be split between various groups in the East Allington parish, also including the Devon Air Ambulance.



Please find the funding and spending forecasts which were shared at the recent AGM. This gives us a really good oversight to the impact in which the PTFA for school. We are extremely grateful for all your time, dedication and support in making these things happen.



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



WildWeek in Dartmouth -

Autumn adventures in nature this half-term Family-friendly, free-to-attend events - talks, activities, theatre hosted by **BeWild** at Dartmouth's welcoming Coastal Trail Café



From Monday 27th to Friday 31st October, drop into the café at 2pm to find out more from local experts about bird migration; the wonderful world of bats; the extraordinary life in our rock pools, or that prickly favourite, the hedgehog. Come and be inspired, informed and entertained – a brilliant way to connect with the natural world on our doorstep.

And on Tuesday 28th, we have Fungi Frida and the Myco Heroes: a delightfully fun and silly show with songs, puppetry and games, alongside mind-boggling facts about the astonishing properties of our fantastic fungi. For under-12s and their families. Can fungi save the world?? Come along and find out!

Full details of the week's events at https://bewild.uk/october-wild-week-coastal-trail/



fun, interactive theatre for 0 - 12 year olds and their families! Fungi Myco
Frida and the Heroes
by georgie
taylor Coastal Trail Cafe, Dartmouth 2pm 28th Oct 2025 Free! Part of Autumn Wild Week with



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.

Shoebox Appeal 2025



A reminder that this year's Shoebox Appeal is coming up just before half-term, this year channelled through or 2ee, (Christian Response to Eastern Europe), operating from Exmouth.

These shoeboxes will be heading to **Moldova** and **Ukraine**. Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe, and Ukraine is still in the grips of war. We know every single box will be gratefully received this Christmas!

Please bring any completed shoeboxes, (or contributions to put into boxes), to school by Monday 20th October (later than this will be too late!) So ideally, this date!!

Suggestions for contributions to children's shoeboxes:

Scarf	Gloves	Socks / tights
Soap	Toothpaste	Toothbrush
Shampoo	Deodorant	T-shirt
Colouring book	Paint Box	Pencils
Wax crayons	Colouring pencils	Exercise books
Tennis ball	Jigsaw Puzzles	Torch
Chocolates	Sweets	Pyjamas
Tights	Dolls	Beads
Craft Items	Glow Sticks	
Lip Gloss	Purse	Jewellery
Lego Bricks	Toy Cars	Wallet
Airfix Type Models	Magnifying Glass	
	Soap Shampoo Colouring book Wax crayons Tennis ball Chocolates Tights Craft Items Lip Gloss Lego Bricks	Soap Toothpaste Shampoo Deodorant Colouring book Paint Box Wax crayons Colouring pencils Tennis ball Jigsaw Puzzles Chocolates Sweets Tights Dolls Craft Items Glow Sticks Lip Gloss Purse Lego Bricks Toy Cars

<u>Please label each completed box with the approximate age and indicate BOY or GIRL.</u> You are welcome to include photos of your family and a covering letter, but **no address** please. There is **NO COST** for transport or need for a paid barcode!

cr2ee has been sending shoeboxes to Moldova for over 20 years, and those organising the boxes know the poorest families well. Since the outbreak of war, they have also been delivering boxes to children in Ukraine, where normal life for children has been totally destroyed, and so these boxes will make Christmas very special for them.

Bless you and Thank you!







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The Children's Bookshow

showcases the **best children's books** with authors and illustrators live on stage. **Come and see**

Author, Alom Shaha, & illustrator Sarthak Sinha



Join us for a fun morning exploring Art,
Science and Literature through the book,
How to Find A Rainbow! Author and teacher
Alom Shaha will bring the science of light
to life on stage with some stunning
demonstrations, and he'll read stories too.
Indian illustrator, Sarthak Sinha, will draw for
us live, talk about his process and materials,
and reveal the important role of light when
creating picture books. Don't miss it!

Venue: Northcott Theatre, Exeter, Devon, EX4 4QB

Date: Tuesday 11 November

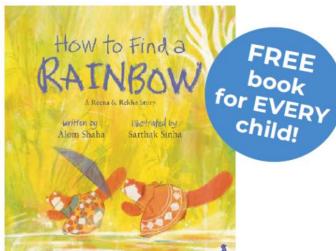
Time: 10.30am

Duration: approx. 1 hour

Age: Years 1, 2 and 3

Tickets: £7 (includes free

book for every child)



Four **FREE** in-school workshops with Alom and Sarthak (worth £500) available for schools attending the performance *



Get in touch with Katy Webster to book tickets for this event: katyw@thechildrensbookshow.com 07904 068084

Find out more and how to book at www.thechildrensbookshow.com/performances



^{*} terms and conditions apply



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





FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER

VENUE: KEVICC, TOTNES TQ9 5JX

£20 | Age 5-14 Years | 10am-3pm



TO BOOK VISIT WWW.shearsoccer.co.uk

(1)XO

Contact Adam on 07967 124844 or info@shearsoccer.co.uk

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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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Disclaimer: We may need to inform someone if we are concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored securely and can only be accessed by other authorised health care professionals who follow the same strict confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to your message within one working day and you should get an immediate message back from us to confirm we have received your text. If you need help before you hear back from us, please contact your GP, nearest waik-in centre or dial 111. In an emergency please dial 999. Unfortunately, our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some number masking mobile apps). To opt-out of receiving messages from a healthcare professional, please text 'STOP' to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.





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.