



CHRISTOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Date: 17/10/25

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Friday, we welcomed parents into school for our annual Scarecrow Making Afternoon, and what a wonderful time we had! It was fantastic to see so many families working together, sharing laughter, creativity, and a true sense of community spirit. The finished scarecrows look absolutely brilliant and make a perfect backdrop for our Harvest celebrations. A big thank you to Reverend Ruth and to everyone who donated stuffing/clothing and to all who were able to help join in and help make the afternoon such a success. Our scarecrows are displayed on the playground.

On Monday, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed a fantastic trip to Whippletree Farm, creating clay animals and making smoothies. Many thanks to Lucy, Sam, and Charlie for making these trips happen and ensuring our children have a life long understanding of the importance of sustainability and protecting the environment.

Wednesday saw our first Franken Teddy Workshop with Ernie Y6, who spoke passionately about the toy industry and its challenges with mass production and waste. Inspired by his message, our pupils got creative—upcycling old and unwanted teddies into unique, reimagined toys! The workshop encouraged everyone to think about recycling and sustainability, and we hope this mindset will continue to grow throughout the school.

Building on this theme, our School Council will soon be organising a Toy Swap later this term, just in time for the Christmas gifting season. Please start setting aside any unwanted toys ready to bring in for swapping – a lovely way to give old favourites a new home.

We look forward to seeing you all at our Harvest Festival on Friday afternoon at the Church. Finally, a huge thank you to the PTFA for organising the upcoming Halloween Disco – always a highlight of the term!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Yeo and the Christow Team

Attendance

Reception	97%
Year 1	92.4%
Year 2	97.7%
Year 3	94.1%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	98.8%
Year 6	88.5%

Well done Y5

**School Overall Attendance
for the year to date**

95.4%

'Good' attendance is 97% or above.

Safeguarding Officers



Mrs Yeo

Mrs Hill

If you have concerns about a child outside of school hours it is your responsibility to report it to

MASH 0345 155 1071

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you for the generosity shown for the Harvest Festival donations. This year we are supporting the Teign Valley Larder.



Dates for your diary

Monday 20th October	Haldon Parent Meeting with Mrs Fielder
Wednesday 22nd October	3.15-4.30pm Kennick Franken-Teddy Workshop
Thursday 23rd October	School Council Baseline Survey
Thursday 23rd October	Haldon Parent Meeting with Mrs Hill
Monday 7th - Friday 31st October	Half Term
Friday 31st October	Secondary School Application Deadline



Franken Teddy Workshop

Thank you to Mrs Hill and Ernie for organising this wonderful event and to Rachel and Ruth for helping on the day. Children were really excited to show off their new toys, sharing their names and the outfits which they had created.





Year 6 visit Whipple Tree Farm



Scarecrow Afternoon



SEND Signpost - Helping Children Through Parental Separation

The Netflix movie *Spellbound* tells a story about a girl whose parents turn into monsters after they separate. It uses fantasy to show what divorce can feel like for kids—confusing and scary—but it also sends a hopeful message: **Even if parents separate, their love for their children remains.**

This kind of story helps kids understand that big changes in their family are not their fault, and that they are still deeply loved.

Why Children Need Emotional Support - Children going through separation often **don't know how to express what they feel**. They may not have the words to explain their sadness, anger, or confusion. That's why it's important they have a space—whether it's through stories, play, or conversation—where their feelings can be **seen, heard, and accepted**.

When we give them that space, we help them feel safe and supported, even during hard times.

What Parents Can Do: Advice from Parenting Expert Dr. Vanessa Lapointe

Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, a parenting educator and psychologist, offers simple but powerful ways to support children through divorce:

Stay Calm and Reassuring

- Divorce is stressful for children.
- They need at least one adult to stay calm and steady.
- Even if parents don't agree, children should feel like both are working together.
- This helps them feel safe and loved by both parents.

Be Careful With Words

- Don't speak badly about your ex-partner in front of your child.
- Negative comments can make kids feel like they have to choose sides.
- It makes it hard for them to love both parents freely.
- If you make a mistake, it's okay—just reset and show you're back in your "grown-up" role.

Watch Your Own Reactions

- Divorce can bring up old emotions in parents too.
- Sometimes, adults react from a "hurt child" place, not their mature self.
- Noticing this helps you respond with more calm and care.

Don't Put Kids in the Middle

- Children should never be used as messengers between parents.
- Don't ask them to carry messages, deal with scheduling, or talk about money.
- This puts pressure on them to act like adults—and that's not their job.

Final Thought

Children going through separation need more than just explanations—they need connection. They need parents and caregivers who **see their feelings**, even when they can't put them into words.

By being calm, kind, and emotionally present, we help them feel secure and loved—no matter how the family structure changes.

To read in more detail, visit: www.drvanessalapointe.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SS-Divorce-1.pdf

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK AT OUR LOVELY VILLAGE SCHOOL?

Christow School Cleaner Vacancy

15 hours per week, 41 weeks per year

£12.65 per hour, permanent post

Christow Community Primary School is seeking to appoint a cleaner to assist with maintaining a high standard of cleanliness and presentation throughout the school. The main duties of the role are vacuuming, mopping, dusting and cleaning communal areas. Previous cleaning experience an advantage but not essential. You may be required from time to time to work in other schools within the Trust.

As an employee of Education South West you will be entitled to the following benefits: access to the Trust's Employment Assistance Programme, Company Pension scheme, and free on-site parking

Christow Community Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

References will be taken up for all shortlisted applicants, and the successful candidate will be subject to an Enhanced DBS Disclosure and other employment checks.

Closing date: 9am, 24th October 2025

For more information about the post, please contact Emma Hutchings on: 01548 852641 ext 2569 or to apply for the role, please email your CV (or use the application form) to Emma.hutchings@educationsouthwest.org.uk

Education South West is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post. This includes checks with past employers, an online check of publicly available information, including social media, and an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service

Job Type: Part-time

Work Location: In person

Christow School Council

need your unwanted, good
quality

TOYS!



Please hand donations to Mrs Fleming or Mrs Hill
before Friday 21st November.

We will then be hosting a toy swap event on Tuesday 2nd December from 2:45pm.



CHRISTOW TODDLER GROUP

EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING



CHRISTOW
SCHOOL
HALL
9-11AM

TEA/COFFEE & CAKE

BABIES FREE

12 MONTHS PLUS £2.50

COME FOR A FUN
SOCIAL MORNING WITH
ACTIVITIES, SONGS AND
STORIES FOR YOUR LITTLE ONES



TEIGN VALLEY FIREWORKS

GATES OPEN AT 6:30PM
TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE ONLY
ON TICKET TAILOR

FOOD, DRINK AND MORE!

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5TH
@ TEIGN VALLEY PLAYING FIELDS!



SAVE THE DATE!

CHRISTMAS FAMILY CEILIDH NIGHT with Lady Luck and the Fortunes

Saturday 6th December at Teign Valley Community Hall 6:00pm – 10:00pm
Evening Plan

- 6:00pm: Arrivals & Bar Open
- 6:30–7:30: Yee-haw dancing with Lady Luck and the Fortunes!
- 7:30–8:00: Hotdog supper (veggie option available)
- 8:00–9:00: More toe-tapping ceilidh fun
- 9:00–10:00: Festive family disco — cowboy hats encouraged!

Tickets

£10 per adult / £5 per child / £25 family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) / On the door: £12 adults / £6 children Tickets available from school reception and online (details to follow). Hotdog supper included in the ticket price!

A Fundraiser for the Christow School PTFA!

All proceeds go towards supporting school events, equipment, and enrichment for our children. Please buy your tickets in advance for catering numbers and spread the word to friends and family!

Dress code: Cowboy hats, festive jumpers & dancing boots welcome!

Join us for a holly-jolly hoedown full of live music, laughter, and community cheer!



Pre-Loved Uniform Sale—Every Friday!!

Browse our **Preloved Uniform Sale** every **Friday at pick-up time** in the **gazebo**.

Suggested Donations:

- £2 per Christow School jumper
- £1 for other items

We accept **cash or card** – all proceeds to go the PTFA.

Grab a bargain & reduce waste.

Autumn Term 2025

September

Thu 4	First day of term
Wed 16	Bowden PE Impact Day
Fri 19	School Photos
Wed 24 - Fri 26	Bowden Residential

Tue 30

October

Fri 10 (1pm)	Scarecrow making afternoon
Fri 17 (2pm)	Harvest Festival at the church
Fri 17	PTFA Autumn Disco
Mon 27 - Fri 31	Half Term

November

Wed 5	Teign Valley Fireworks (TVCH)
Mon 17	Parents Evening
Wed 19	Parents Evening

December

Wed 10 (9.30am)	EY/KS1 Nativity (school hall)
Wed 10 (2pm)	KS2 Carol Service at the church
Mon 15 (2pm)	Christmas Dinner
Wed 17	PTFA Christmas Fayre
Thu 18 (3.15pm)	Governors Assembly
Fri 19 (9am)	Last day of term

Parent Forums will be held every half term (dates to be confirmed).

Our SENCO, Emily Risby, will be in school every other Monday.

Calendar Dates 2025/26

Christow Community Primary School

Spring Term 2026

January

Mon 5	First day of term
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February

Fri 13	PTFA Friendship Disco
Mon 16 - Fri 20	Half Term

March

Wed 4	Parents Evening
Thu 5	Parents Evening
Thu 5	World Book Day

April

Wed 1	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
Thurs 2 (9am)	Governors Assembly
Thurs 2	Last day of term

June

Mon 1	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Mon 8	Year 6 SATS
Tues 9 (6pm)	Music Concert
Wed 24 (1.30pm)	Preschool Sports Day
Fri 26	Leavers Disco

July

Fri 3 (1pm)	Sports Day (TVCH)
Fri 10	PTFA Summer Fayre
Wed 15	KS2 Production (TVCH)
Fri 17 (9am)	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Fri 17 (2pm)	Governors' Assembly
Fri 17	Last day of term

We will endeavour to keep all dates for 2025/26 as scheduled, but if changes are needed parents will be informed.

