East Allington Primary School NEWSLETTER

Active - Bold - Caring



Friday 28th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

As we take a moment to look back over the term so far, I am reminded daily of just how incredible our children are. Their energy, curiosity and willingness to get stuck into every learning opportunity bring such life into our school.

Whether they're trying something new supporting one another or showing rea

Hazel	94%
Willow	93%
National expectation	96%

98%

Attendance to date

Beech

Whether they're trying something new, supporting one another or showing real determination in class, they continually impress us with their attitude and enthusiasm.

One of the things I'm particularly proud of is how confidently our children use their voices. They express their ideas openly, talk thoughtfully about their learning and play an active role in shaping the culture of our school. Our Rights Respecting Schools ethos sits at the heart of this—children show a strong understanding of fairness, respect and kindness, and they strive to make sure everyone feels included and heard.

Naturally, there are times when emotions run high or friendships become a little tangled—as happens with all children. Games can change tone quickly, or situations can feel overwhelming. When these moments arise, we work closely with pupils to help them navigate their feelings and communicate clearly. We encourage them to speak up when something feels uncomfortable or unfair, and we support them in working through disagreements calmly so that relationships can be repaired with understanding and respect.

As we move into the final stretch of the term, I want to acknowledge what a special community we are part of. The togetherness of our children, the dedication of our staff and the support of our families all contribute to a warm, ambitious and respectful school environment.

Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and partnership—it truly makes a difference.

Best wishes.

Liam Fielding **Headteacher**



We educate children so they can lead great lives





Monday 1st December 2025	NON PUPIL DAY
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
Wednesday 17th December 2025	Candlelit Service in the Church
Thursday 18th December 2025	Open Classroom @ 2:30pm
Friday 19th December 2025	Pyjama day
Friday 19th December 2025	Saplings Christmas Performance—9am
Friday 19th December 2025	Last day of school



CLASS 'SNAPPY' NEWS

"To infinity and beyond!"

Saplings

This week the chilly weather gave us the perfect chance for some ice fun.

The Children explored frozen blocks painted on the ice and loved cracking it to see what was on the inside, lots of brilliant language and investigation!

We also enjoyed tasty maths using colourful Smarties to practice counting, sorting and simple number work.



Beech This week Beech Class have been orally rehearsing a story which they entitled, 'Rory and his fire'. The class worked together to make up a story about a dragon who looses his fire and goes to search for it: in the mountains, in a volcano and in South America. He finds other things but does not find his fire. Rory eventually finds it on the candles of his birthday cake! Why not ask your child to tell you this story in their own words.

In maths the Reception children have been looking at the composition of the numbers 1,2,3,4- looking at one more and one less. The Year One children have been ensuring they know the meaning of the symbols + - = to add or subtract 0,1 or 2.

Science, has found us looking around the outside environment to find deciduous and evergreen trees.

Hazel

Hazel class have been using digital literacy as a starting point for their writing this week. We have watched some Christmassy film clips, mind mapped some vocabulary and written details about the different scenes. It was joyful hearing the children's laughter at the film clip of poor Mog's Christmas Calamity! The children created their own word bank of verbs. Please do ask them about their favourite verb choice and what happened in the film.

In maths we've been using counters to discuss mental maths strategies. How would you mentally solve 36 + 8? We ended the week solving some maths problems, where we applied our knowledge of place value and exchanging in addition and subtraction. We also had some very chilly PE lessons out on the netball pitch! Brr! The children did brilliantly, taking part in running and throwing and catching exercises - and scoring some great goals! Well done Hazel class.

Willow

This week in Willow Class we have been exploring the Sun, Earth and Moon. The children now understand that the Earth rotates anticlockwise once every 24 hours and orbits the Sun in 365¼ days, while the Moon orbits the Earth.

A huge thank you to Ted, who very kindly built and brought in a fantastic LEGO model to demonstrate this. It was fascinating to see the science in action, and we also examined the cog mechanisms that made the model move, linking brilliantly back to our science learning from last half term.





Forest School Update







A wonderful blend of making, exploring and winter crafting filled our Forest School sessions this week:

- Beech Class made some fabulous copper rings and, of course, got wonderfully muddy in true Forest School style!
- Hazel Class enjoyed another visit from Fiona at Devon Wildlife Trust. Together, they built a bug hotel and planted bulbs, creating new habitats and future spring colour for our wildlife area.
- Willow Class completed their kiln and used a fire to begin drying it out. They also got creative with clay, starting to make their own clay snowmen as winter approaches.

The children are showing real teamwork, creativity and curiosity as they craft, plant and build — bringing both nature and imagination to life in the Forest School space.

Next week... we'll be leaning even further into winter crafts and outdoor creativity.

















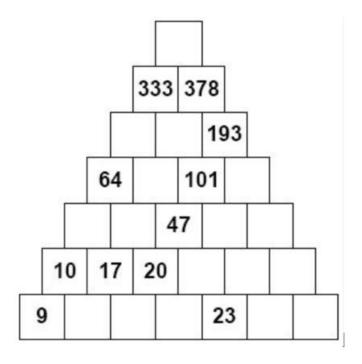


Maths puzzle of the week - family fun

Try this mathematical thinking to get maths conversations happening at home

Start where you can. Each two adjacent squares add up to make the number above. Some are filled in to give you clues.

Can you fill in the gaps?



Recommended Read:

Snow in the Garden, by Shirely Hughes

This beautiful Christmas anthology contains winter adventures, seasonal poems, festive recipes and easy-to-make craft activities as well as Shirley Hughes' trademark warm and classic illustrations. Whether reading stories and poems, or following instructions to make beautiful crafts and Christmas treats, this book is the perfect introduction to this very special time of year.



East Allington Primary School SEND signpost

Supporting your child through the Christmas build-up

As we move towards Christmas, many children begin to feel the excitement – but for some, especially those with additional needs, the changes to routine, sensory overload and general unpredictability can feel overwhelming. Here are a few gentle ideas that may help at home:

- **Keep routines where you can.** Familiar mealtimes, bedtimes and after-school rhythms can make a big difference when everything else feels busy or "different."
- **Use visual reminders.** A simple calendar or countdown can help children understand what's coming and prepare for days that look a bit out of the ordinary.
- **Build in quiet time.** Even five or ten minutes of calm after school can help children reset when they've had a day full of rehearsals, decorations, noise or excitement.
- **Give advance warning of changes.** If you're attending events, visiting family, or doing something new, talking it through ahead of time can reduce anxiety.
- **Keep things simple.** Children don't need every festive activity or outing. Choosing one or two meaningful traditions they enjoy is often enough.

Plan for sensory needs. Christmas lights, music and crowds can be intense. Ear defenders, a cosy hoodie, or a familiar toy to hold can help children feel grounded.





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.







LOST PROPERTY

Dear Parents/Guardians

Over the course of the term/year we accumulate many items of lost property in the school. If items were labelled I could then reunite them with the children. I am sure it costs a lot of money to keep replacing items so it would be good if you could help me to help you.

Maggie







CHRISTMAS LUNCH WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER



MENU









CHRISTMAS ICE CREAM



PLEASE ORDER AS NORMAL ON PARENT PAY APP UNTIL 8AM ON DECEMBER 10TH

Devon Wildlife Trust have a festive nature challenge for you!

Devon Wildlife Trust have a festive nature challenge for you!

They are encouraging people to do one wild thing a day from the 25th December to the 5th January each year. In those quiet days between Christmas and New Year, winter wildlife is just waiting to be explored!

These wild acts could be little things to help nature - like recycling a Christmas tree or feeding the birds – or ways to connect to the natural world, like trying stargazing.

Parents and carers can sign up to receive a digital pack to help them to take part. The link is below. Please share with your school community as it's a great activity to get families involved and engaged with nature over the Christmas holidays.

12 Days Wild | The Wildlife Trusts



A BIG THANKS TO THE PARENTS WHO DONATED TO THE SHOEBOX 2025

APPEAL. THE GIFTS WILL BE ON THE LORRY TOMORROW AND WILL BE

DELIVERED TO THE CHILDREN IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS.



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 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





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.

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





SWIM HAPPY, SWIM WITH CONFIDENCE

Learn to swim with Fusion Lifestyle

- 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

SPORTIVAS 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



Get your hats, your spirits, and your running shoes 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





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

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.



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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NHS



Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net

flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

- 3. No injection needed The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

Most children have the resal spray vectors which is the preferred vectors. A vectors injection is also available which does not contain gelatine from pigs (porcine gelatine). For more information visit

www.nhs.uk/child-flu



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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://grco.de/minfec.