



It has been a wonderful start to the new academic year. The children have continued to build positive attitudes to learning while exploring and connecting with their new environments and friends. There is a real sense of purpose as you move around the school, with children fully engaged in their learning. Pupils are showing a real desire to flourish, which is fantastic. Mr Morrow visited us last week and he couldn't help but comment on the high standard of behaviour and learning happening within each class at Bridestowe. All the pupils should be incredibly proud of themselves – the teaching staff certainly are!

It has been lovely having visitors come to the school at such an early stage in the year. The staff are busy organising sporting events and extra-curricular activities which we value so much at Bridestowe. Although we are a small village school, we like to pride ourselves on providing the pupils with the best opportunities and experiences. We also want to provide activities for our community to extend our family of stakeholders. For example, Stay and Play sessions for parents and toddlers and a Relax and Read session in our library. Keep an eye out for further information on these exciting things coming soon!

We would also like to thank the volunteers that have been coming to the school. If you would like to become a volunteer or know a family member or friend that would be willing to dedicate some time to our lovely school, then please contact Lynn in the office. We would welcome people that could help transport children to offsite events, offer support with lunchtime activities such as gardening with small group of children or offer a whole school assembly talk on travel, jobs or any expertise e.g., science or history.

Stars from the Weeks

Rose – Showing great *ambition* and great listening skills and **Romeo** – for *flourishing* in phonics.

Katie – Showing great *ambition* in her learning, especially maths and **Tegan** – for *flourishing* in her work, showing great independence.

Teeyah – *Flourishing* in your new school, working hard and making new friends and Tommy – for showing *ambition* and commitment to the presentation of his work.

Alistair – Fantastic *respect* and great listening and **Ruby** – for showing *ambition* in learning taking part in discussions.

Team Points: Willow



Attendance

We all know that attendance matters for doing well in school and later in life – thank you to everyone for your understanding with this.

Whole School Attendance

97%

Activities

As part of our PSHE, we explored democracy. Children presented a speech to the class as to why they should be elected for the various positions within our school. We are proud to have new School Councillors, Sport Councillors and Wildlife Champions. Children gave ambitious speeches and listened to one another with respect.

School Council



Meet our School Councilors, Ruby, Rosa, Evie, Alice, Mollie, Katie, Jacob and Romeo. We know that they are going to do a great job helping the staff and community to improve our schools. Their first task has been to gather ideas from their classes about how we can include the community more in our school calendar – we look forward to hearing their thoughts.

Sports Council

Meet the school council, Arthur, Tommy, Henry, George and Molly. A task they are going to be set is organising play time activities for all the children and sorting equipment for this. Throughout the year they will ensure we are a healthy and physically active school e.g. a walk to school event.



Devon Wildlife Trust

Children from across Key Stage 2 applied for the position of Wildlife Champion. Children explained why they thought they would make a good Wildlife Champion with reasons ranging from a passion for nature and conserving our countryside. Sarah, from Devon Wildlife Trust, was very impressed during the first session with the Wildlife Champions and as a group they conducted a site survey.



The Barn Owls had a visit from Devon Wildlife Trust where they focused on mammals. They identified what makes an animal a mammal, what mammals would we find in the grounds of Bridestowe Primary School and how would we know they had been there? They then completed an activity 'Poodunnit' and had to match paw prints to photos of animals – two ways in which we could know if an animal had been near without seeing them. They ended the session playing 'Bat and Moth' using a bat's echo detection to help catch the moth.

Devon Waste Management Workshops

As we have been celebrating recycle week, all pupils took part in workshops across the school. The children were fully engaged and had fun while learning the importance of recycling.



Messages

Thank you for your prompt arrival to school, can we just remind you that if you need to speak to your child's class teacher then please phone or email the office and they will pass on the information. The class teacher will get back to you as soon as possible.

Upcoming events

Mufti Day on Monday 25th September, the children are raising money for KIT for Africa. Your child can dress as a sports person/character or come in their PE kit. Any donations to this worthy cause are welcomed. The sports council will then organise sending our old PE kits to schools in Africa.

Junior Life Skills will take place on Tuesday 26th September. The year 6 children will arrive at Parklands Leisure Centre at 9.30am to engage in activities that will help develop their life skills.

On Friday 6th October pupils will have their school photos taken during school hours. If you would like a sibling (not at school) to join, please book with Lynn in the office and you will be given a time to arrive before school opening hours.

We will hold a Harvest Festival at St Bridget's Church on Wednesday 11th October. Family members and the community are invited to join us at 3pm.

Meet our SENDCO



Hello, my name is Bev Pickett-Jones and I am the new Hub SENDCO for Ruby and Moorland Schools. I will be working closely with all the staff across the schools to support the children. I will split my time across the schools spending time in each one. Chloe Collacott is the Assistant SENDCO for Milton Abbott School, Emma Winter is the assistant SENDCO for Ruby Schools and Becky Drew-Hill will be Assistant SENDCO for Moorland Schools when she returns from maternity leave in January, I will be covering her schools until that time. I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children in the coming months and am excited to be working with the schools of Ruby and Moorland Hubs.

To contact me please use bpickettjones@dmatschools.org.uk or 07938482542 which is a school mobile and available between 8.30am and 5pm term time only.

Lunches

If you haven't already booked lunches for next week you will need to provide your child with a packed lunch. Lunches need to be booked by midnight Thursday for the following week. Thank you.

Defibrillator

We now have a defibrillator in school. This is available during school hours.

FoBS cycle cafe

Due to the weather forecast the cycle café has been postponed. A new date will be advised asap.

Time to Talk

As part of our school focus on getting children talking and improving their Oracy, we have a topical, weekly question and picture for you to discuss as a family: -

This week the children have had a visit from Devon Waste Management and enjoyed a workshop about recycling.

Why is recycling important for the future of our planet?



Our whole school 'Word of the Week' for next week is *bonjour* because Tuesday 26th is the European Day of Languages.

Next week	
Monday	Mufti – raising money for KIT Africa European Languages Day
Tuesday	Y6 Junior Life Skills Workshop *Cheerleading Club 3.30 -4.30pm
Wednesday	*Drama Club 3.30 – 4.30pm
Thursday	Snowy Owls Wildlife Trust Workshop *Dance Club 3.30-4.30pm
Friday	Y3 and Y4 Tag Rugby Festival (TBC) *Tag Rugby Club 3.30 – 4.30pm

*Your child must be booked into after-school clubs via School Gateway in order to take part

Diary Dates

October

5 th	Tawny Owls Wildlife Trust Workshop Football Tournament
6 th	Individual School Photos
11 th	Harvest Festival @ St Bridget's Church, 3pm
12 th	Owlets Wildlife Trust Workshop KS2 Cross Country Run
18 th	Parent Consultations, including time to look at your child's book.
19 th	Wildlife Champions Workshop Parent Consultations, including time to look at your child's book.
20 th	Homework Share 3.30 – 3.45pm
23 rd – 27 th	Half Term Break
30 th	Open Afternoon for September 2024 starters

November

13 th	Book Look – 8.40 – 9am Whole School Forest School (TBC)
22 nd	Parent and Toddler Stay and Play Forest School session, 2.30 – 3.30pm
23 rd	Bouldering Experience – children TBC
27 th	Whole School Forest School (TBC)
28 th	Flu Vaccinations
30 th	Book Look – 3.15 – 3.30pm

December

7 th	Owlets Nativity and KS2 Christmas Carols, St Bridget's Church, 2.45pm
8 th	Christmas Jumper Day
11 th	Book Look – 08:40 – 9am Whole School Forest School (TBC)
12 th	Tawny Owls Nativity, Methodist Hall, Time TBC
14 th	Homework Share, 3.30 – 3.45pm
15 th	Christmas Dinner
18 th – 2 nd	Christmas Break

January

2 nd	Non-Pupil Day
3 rd	Pupil's Return to School

Meal-Time Assistant – 2 Positions

South Tawton Primary School
Closing date: 24th September 2023



Work Pattern: 6.25 hours per week/38 weeks per year
Salary: £20,967 (Full-Time Equivalent)
Job Term: Part-Time/Permanent



JOIN OUR TRUST



Okehampton College OPEN EVENING

*Wednesday
4th October 2023*

An opportunity for Students and Families in Years 4,5,6 to visit the College and meet existing students who will be on hand to give guided tours. There will also be an opportunity to attend a presentation by the Principal. Full details can be found on the College Website and promoted through the Primary Schools.

If you are unable to attend on the 4th October alternative visits can be arranged on either Thursday 5th, Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 18th October. For further information please contact the College.

 Tel: 01837 650910

 admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

 www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

*We Look Forward
to Meeting you!*



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Holsworthy Community College

Small enough to know you, big enough to make a difference

Open Evening

Wednesday 27 September 5-7pm

Open morning on Monday 2 October

Email the school to book a place for that day or other dates

Ofsted said:

Behaviour is calm and orderly

Subject leaders have defined the essential knowledge for pupils to learn

Leaders have created a strong culture of safeguarding

Leaders have created a creative and ambitious curriculum for all pupils

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<https://www.hcc.devon.sch.uk>

Email: admin@hccdevon.org



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GIRLS PDC'S EAST CORNWALL/NORTH DEVON OPEN TRIALS

HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Monday term time
18:00-19:00 Years 3 & 4
19:00-20:00 years 5 & 6

LAUNCESTON COLLEGE

Monday term time
18:00-19:00 Years 1-6
19:00-20:00 years 7+

ASHBURY GOLF HOTEL

Thursday term time
18:00-19:00 Years 1-4
19:00-20:00 Years 5+

CALLYWITH COLLEGE

Tuesday term time
18:15-19:15 Years 3-7+

For more information please contact:
joshua.chalk@pafc.co.uk

argylecommunitytrust.co.uk

LEARN. PLAY. SUCCEED



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YOUR RUGBY
JOURNEY**

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Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18
CENSORED

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VO247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipal.app/about/privacy.html>

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