

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School



Coombeshead Road, Newton Abbot TQ12 1PT
Tel: 01626 352559
e-mail: admin@sjna.uk



Newsletter
June 2026

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to begin with an important safeguarding update. For the time being, we are not permitted to share any photos of children on social media or Class Dojo. We know this makes newsletters and celebrations harder to bring to life, but safeguarding must come first. Thank you for your understanding and support.

There is, however, plenty to celebrate:

- Our Year 6 writing judgements were externally moderated and confirmed to be sound, giving us one of our strongest writing outcomes to date. This is a fantastic testament to our pupils' hard work and our staff's dedication.
- Looking ahead to September, we are set to see an 18% net growth in pupil numbers—bucking the national trend. More pupils mean more resources and opportunities, which can only be a positive for your children.

Thank you for the part you play in this success. The positivity our community shares helps our school grow and amplifies the benefits for everyone.

On a personal note, I was delighted to spend two nights on residential with Years 5 and 6 during the hottest nights of the year. Despite the heat, the children were a credit to St Joseph's—resilient, cheerful, and supportive of one another. They had a wonderful time and will not soon forget the blazing heat of summer 2026!

We have a very busy July ahead, full of learning, celebrations, and transition activities. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best Wishes and God Bless

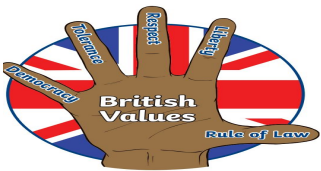
Sarah Pascoe and the St. Joseph's Team

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL

We joyfully celebrate two of our pupils, Kensi White and Laura Umeh, who made their First Holy Communion at the beginning of the month. This is a profound step in their faith journey: receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time, being more closely united with Him, and becoming more fully part of our worshipping community. Please join us in keeping Kensi and Laura in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith, hope, and love.



Throughout June, Mass has been celebrated in our classes, giving pupils the chance to pray together, listen to God's word, and reflect on how we live out Christ's call to love and service in our daily school life. We are grateful to our clergy and to all who support the prayer life of our community.



THE BRITISH VALUES OF OUR SCHOOL

Marking World Environment Day, pupils explored how respect, responsibility, democracy, the rule of law, and mutual respect apply to caring for our common home, and they have helped to design and develop our own sensory garden to bring these British values to life—proposing features and voting on planting themes (democracy), agreeing simple rules to keep the space safe (rule of law), choosing plants that support wellbeing such as lavender, rosemary, mint, and soft grasses (individual liberty), and creating inclusive areas for quiet reflection alongside pollinator-friendly planting (mutual respect and tolerance); next steps include accessible pathways, seasonal colour, gentle sound features, edible beds, eco-habitats like bug hotels and bird feeders, and pupil eco-monitors to help with watering and care—thank you to everyone contributing ideas, time, and resources to this living expression of our values.



STARS OF THE WEEK



VALUE GUARDIANS

<p>Noah R</p>		<p>Zoey</p>
<p>Isaac C Perfection</p>		<p>Ashleigh Harley</p>

STARS OF THE WEEK



VALUE GUARDIANS

Amelia
Noah
Arlo
Matilda C
Oliver J
Leo
Laura
Kensi
Prosper



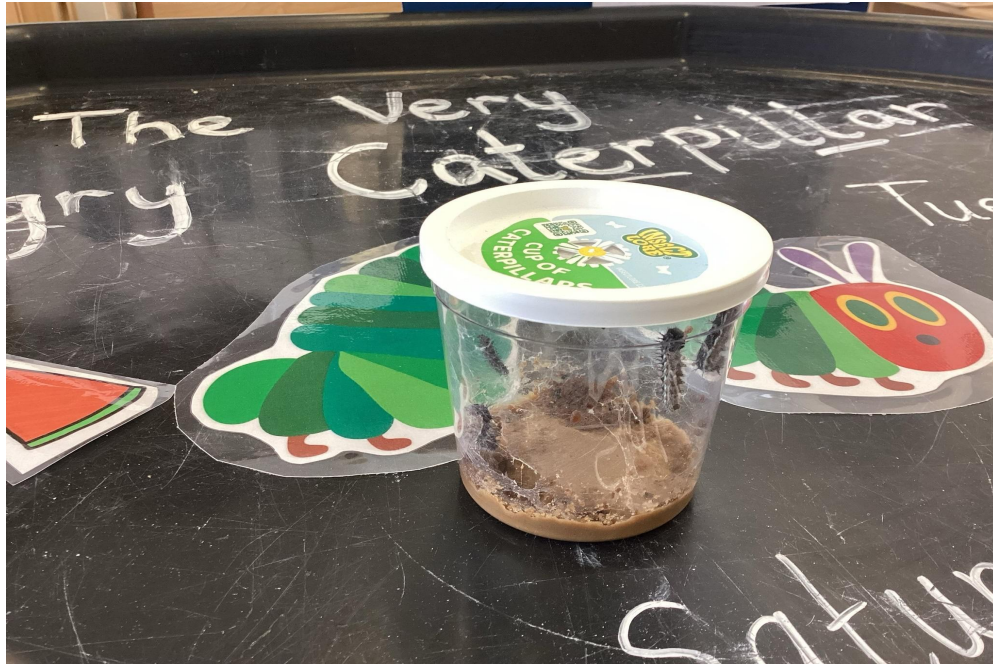
Matilda C
Lilia
Willow
Samanta
Jayda
Jacob
Laura
Kensi

Amelia
Michelle
Esmie

Ebru
Logan
Nicolas



CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

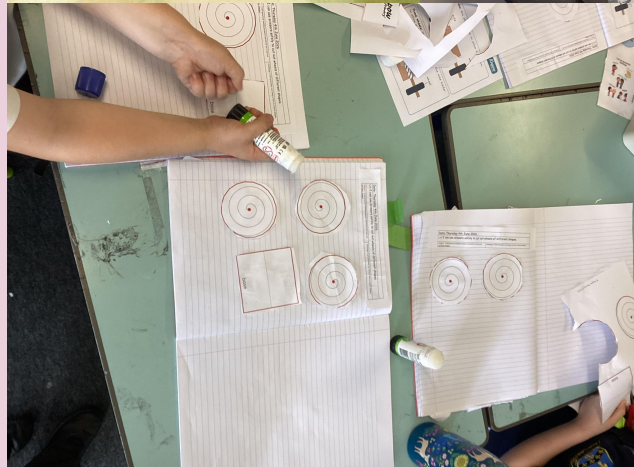
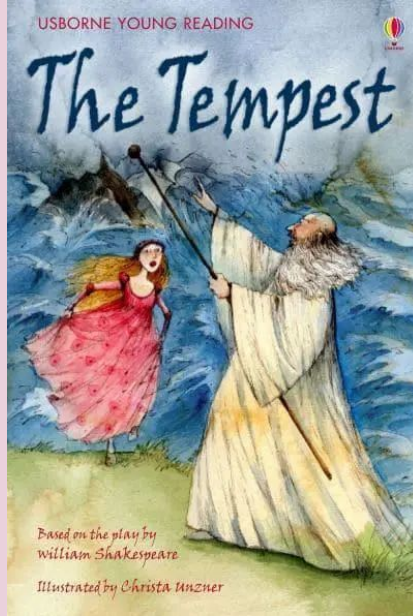


June in St Francis

This half term has been super exciting, we have been reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar story. We have some of our very own Caterpillars growing in our classroom. We have been so excited to see them transform into butterflies.

The children have been working hard with their phonics and have enjoyed reading and writing Red words that have been hiding in our classroom. During PE we have been practicing for Sports Day.

This month, we have been excited to begin our work on *The Tempest* and learn all about William Shakespeare and his plays. In Maths, we have been focusing on time as well as position and direction using lots of games and practical sessions to bring learning to life. We have also loved experimenting with rhythm and tempo in Music, creating and performing our own patterns and beats. We have been working on wheels and axles in DT which the children have been loving! In Science, we have continued exploring plants and have enjoyed using our Forest School area and vegetable garden to support our learning. We have continued experimenting with the conditions of our class cress.



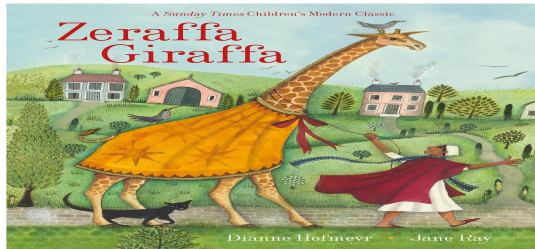
CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS



CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

In writing we have been looking at how an Author 'shows not tells'.

We listened to a song watching how the character felt and then described (showing) rather than telling how the character felt. Roleplay helped us to work out how the character moved, their actions and feelings.



As Historians, we have been looking at archaeological evidence to draw conclusions about what life was like in the Shang Dynasty. The Shang Dynasty were a successful Bronze Age civilization in China. People in the Shang Dynasty believed in an afterlife and thought they could predict the future with Oracle Bones.

In RE and PSHE we have been looking at different faiths. In Judaism, we have discovered how Jewish people celebrate the Passover in Britain today. We used specialist vocabulary and considered how we would feel celebrating in this way - no electricity, sharing a seder plate.

We have asked lots of Wonder questions about the Islamic religious law/belief and how Muslims worship and live their lives.

Islamic Art



Jewish Seder Plate



CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

St Oscar have continued to enjoy our science learning investigating how plants and animals adapt to survive in their environments. From this, everybody created their own hybrid animal and explained which habitat it would be able to live in and why. There were some very interesting choices!



What an amazing residential some of our Y5/6 children had at Barton Hall PGL in Torquay. From abseiling to canoeing, orienteering to zipwire - they all took part in a range of challenging but fun activities. Each and everyone pushed themselves to their limits! A few coolings off with buckets of water and hose pipes really helped to keep everyone in good spirits, joining in activities with great collaboration skills, supporting their team mates and resilience.



In Maths, Y5 have been working with decimal numbers up to thousandths. We have been thinking about our place value columns, the value of each digit and then using this to help us add and subtract using standard written method.



Breakfast Club

- Available **Monday – Friday** from **8:00 AM**
- Cost: **£4 per session**



Booking Information:

All bookings should be made via **ParentPay** prior to the session. For any last-minute bookings, please call the **school office**.



After School Club

- Available **Monday – Friday**
- Until **5:00 PM** – **£6.75**
- Until **5:30 PM** – **£10.00**
- **Fridays close at 5:00 PM**



**** Please inform the staff of any food allergies as food will be served ****



Important Notice:

Any accounts with arrears of **£50 or more** will not be permitted to use the **Breakfast Club** or **After School Clubs** until the balance is cleared.



After School Clubs

New After School Clubs now available

Wednesdays - Football Skills 3.30 - 4.30pm £3.00 per session

Thursdays - Wild Tribe / Forest School - 3.30 - 4.30pm £3.50 per session





Fridays - Cooking Club - 3.30 - 4.30pm £3.50 per session

Children collected at 4.30pm will only be charged the club fee, those that wish to stay on later will also be charged the usual After-School Club fee

Attendance Matters



Attendance June

	85.24%
	97.39%
	93.28%
	95.67%

Important Notices & Reminders

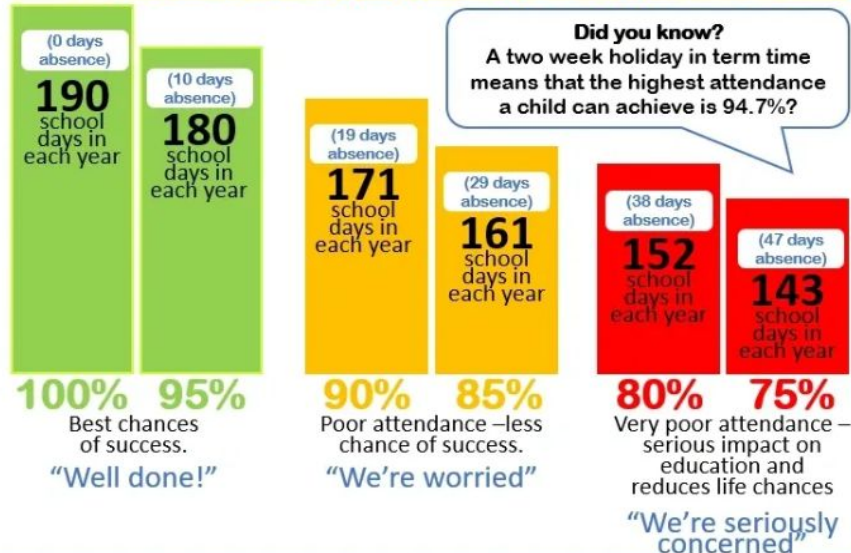
If your child is late for morning registration, arriving late at school after 9am, please ensure you or their accompanying adult reports to the school office to ensure that they are registered.

Good attendance means...
being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days

175 days not at school!

All this time for shopping, holidays and appointments

365 days in a calendar year



Did you know?
A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is 94.7%?

Attendance Roadmap

In line with the DfE Statutory Guidance (in force from 19th August 2024) we offer a supportive, stepped, attendance approach. We will offer a welcoming ethos with high expectations for all. We will assess data to identify absence trends & use preventative discussions/meetings with families to listen, understand & support to remove barriers. Where needed, we will formalise support to nurture improvement with Attendance Contracts & as a last resort we will consider intensifying support &/or enforce legal sanctions.



Did you know, arriving after the register has closed (30 mins from school starting) = an absence?



Did you know, 90% attendance = approx. 95 missed lessons/hours of learning?

STEP 1 - Identify, Assess & Prevent

Our daily actions & processes aim to promote relationship building with children & families to prevent absence. This involves monitoring data trends & absence patterns to inform our conversations with you (& your child where age allows). The trigger for conversations is where absence is at risk of reaching the new National Threshold (**10 sessions (10 half days/5 days) within a 10 week rolling period**). Other daily actions involve promoting attendance positively, using praise & incentives, swift absence follow up, email &/or letter communication to raise your awareness of emerging concerns, processing requested or unrequested 'Term Time Exceptional Absence' & doing Home Visits to meet our safeguarding duties as required.

STEP 2 - Early Absence Support

We move to this step if the National Threshold for absence is met (authorised or unauthorised) to prevent further absence occurring. Discussions & meetings will be offered to identify if early support or reasonable adjustments are needed. This will be done using discussions &/or meetings to create a supportive action plan. An Early Help Assessment (EHA) may be required for some support to be accessed along with a Team Around the Family (TAF) Meeting Process

Please talk to us about how we can support you &/or your child at any time.

STEP 3 - Formalised Support

Where absence continues & initial support needs to be increased an Attendance Contract (AC) will be offered to formalise support. This is a 3-6 month nurturing plan of improvement to prevent further escalation. Achievable & individual targets will be set & reviewed regularly. Medical &/or other information will be actively sought at this point if required to work collaboratively with you & other agencies. An AC can run alongside other meetings e.g., TAF meeting.



Did you know, 90% attendance = 4 weeks of absence over a year?

STEP 4 - Warnings - Concerns Remain

Where STEP 2 or STEP 3 support has been unsuccessful &/or declined, a 'Formal Warning' if AC has failed, or a 'Notice to Improve' Letter if no AC appropriate, will be issued to reinforce the need for immediate improvement. A Family Court Order such as an Education Supervision Order will also be considered as an alternative to prosecution.



Did you know, good attendance increases academic success?



STEP 5 - Legal Action - No Improvement

Legal action (Penalty Notice or Prosecution) MAY be requested from the Local Authority (LA) if Unauthorised Term Time Absence is taken, or if overall absence continues to occur & reaches or exceeds the National Threshold for absence, despite STEPS 1-4 being attempted. Statutory Guidance States a Referral to Children's Social Care for children with 'Severe Absence' (less than 50%) should be considered to obtain 'Intense Support'.

PENALTY NOTICES & LEGAL ACTION

1st Offence (after 19th August 2024) of **Term Time Leave** &/or **Irregular Attendance** (10 sessions of Unauthorised Absence or more) = Fine of £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. If paid within 21 days fine is reduced to £80 per parent, per child.
2nd Offence within 3 years (from 19th August 2024) = Fine of £160 per parent, per child payable within 28 days, no reduction available.
3rd Offence within 3 years (from 19th August 2024) NO PENALTY NOTICE considered. The case will be presented to **Magistrates' Court** under s444(1) or (1a) of the Education Act. If found guilty, a fine of up to £2500 per parent, per child can be issued. Convictions for s444(1a) offences will show on DBS record.

01.07.26	SPORTS DAY & FAMILY Picnic		
01.07.26	NAC Intake Parent's Evening		
02.07.26 - 03.07.26	Year 6 Step Up Day - Transition Day Coombeshead		
02.07.26	NAC Transition Day		
02.07.26 and 08.07.26	Reception '26 Taster Session		
10.07.26	Whole School - Jumbie Jam workshop		
16.07.26	St Oscar Beach Trip		
22.07.26	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly - 9:15 BREAK UP FOR SUMMER HOLIDAY	07.09.26	New Academic Year Starts

Soren's Seventh Song by Dave Eggers

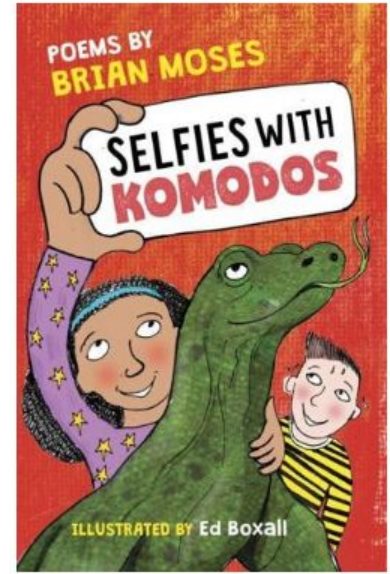
Children aged 6+ will love this immersive picture book, which blends fiction and nonfiction. Humpback whale Soren takes the reader on a journey of perseverance, friendship, and imagination. Weaving laugh-out-loud moments with scientific facts, it's an ideal book for both home and school. Luna Valentine's gorgeous illustrations will appeal to teachers looking for texts to support undersea world topics.



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

"A house without books is like
a home without windows."

Horace Mann



Selfies with Komodos by Brian Moses, illustrated by Ed Boxall

Komodo dragons, a rock'n'roll iguana, mythical beasts and postcards from Pluto sit alongside poems about cats, dogs, librarians and getting lost in a book. A lively choice for Year 4 readers, this 96-page poetry collection gives LKS2 classes accessible, vibrant pieces for reading aloud, quiet browsing and starting their own writing.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at St. Joseph's is always a priority. Should you have any enquiries or concerns, please contact our Designated Senior Lead for Child Protection: Mrs Day or Mrs Pascoe on 01626 352559. Our named governor for child protection is Tim van Kroonenburg.

WELFARE

Our Family Support Worker is Julie . Please let us know if you would like her to contact you for ANY support. Everyone needs a Julie in their lives!



ATTENDANCE

Hi, my name is Natalie, I'm the Attendance and Welfare Officer here at St Joseph's. I monitor attendance regularly to ensure that, where possible, every child is in school on time every day. If you have any concerns around your child's attendance, please leave a message with the office and I will contact you.



CPOMS and Operation encompass

At St. Joseph's we use CPOMS as our system for recording information that we consider to be safeguarding information. Further information about the programme can be found here -

<https://www.cpoms.co.uk/privacy-statement/>

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



SUMMER CREATIVE CAMPS

ART • IMAGINATION • CREATIVITY • FUN!

FOUR AMAZING WEDNESDAYS THIS AUGUST!



9:30am - 1:30pm



Ages 7-13



All materials included



Please bring a packed lunch and drink



Maximum 8 children per session

WEDNESDAY 5TH AUGUST



GAMER CREATOR CAMP

Design characters, create pixel art, invent game worlds and bring your gaming ideas to life through exciting creative projects.



WEDNESDAY 12TH AUGUST



MYTHICAL CREATURES CAMP

Create dragons, unicorns and magical beasts through drawing, painting, sculpture and imaginative design challenges.



WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST



WIZARD SCHOOL CAMP

A magical day of wand making, potion-inspired art and wizard-themed creative activities.



WEDNESDAY 26TH AUGUST



LEGO MASTER BUILDERS CAMP

Build, design and create through LEGO-inspired challenges, character design, drawing activities and imaginative construction tasks.



MULTI-BOOK SAVINGS!

1 CAMP

£45

per child

2 CAMPS

£85

save £5

3 CAMPS

£125

save £10

ALL 4 CAMPS

£160

save £20

PARENT INFORMATION

- ✓ All staff are DBS checked
- ✓ First Aid trained staff on site
- ✓ Inclusive and neurodivergent-friendly approach
- ✓ Fully risk assessed activities
- ✓ Experienced educators and creative practitioners
- ✓ Small group environment

SPACES ARE LIMITED AND ADVANCE BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL!

✓ DBS CHECKED STAFF

✓ FIRST AID TRAINED

✓ NEURODIVERGENT FRIENDLY

✓ SMALL GROUPS

✉ laura@thelittleartshedstudio.co.uk

📍 The Little Art Shed Studio

📷 @thelittleartshedstudio



SUMMER SPECIAL DAILY FOOTBALL & MULTI-SPORT ACTIVITIES



NUTRITIOUS COOKED MEAL EVERY DAY

CHEF DEMOS | NUTRITION GUIDES

ANIMAL HQ VISIT | GO KARTS | LOCAL TRIPS

MAGICIAN & ENTERTAINER | PRIZES

CERTIFICATES | and much more

10am-3pm

FREE FOR ALL CHILDREN

AGED 5-14 ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFIT RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

[£25 per day for pupils not eligible]

For locations, dates and bookings please visit

SHEARSOCCKER.CO.UK

for more information contact

ADAM SHEARER 07967124844



TOTNES

DARTMOUTH

NEWTON ABBOT

📷 ✕ 📸

COMMUNITY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

more fun, more friendships, more smiles
DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!



Book today
premier-education.com



Excellent
★★★★★
Trustpilot

NEWTON ABBOT & PAIGNTON HOLIDAY CLUBS

- ★ Bradley Barton Primary School, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1PR
- ★ Canada Hill Primary School, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6YS
- ★ Haytor View Primary School, TQ12 4BD
- ★ White Rock Primary School, Paignton, PL6 8UL

- ★ Multi-Activity Club! Including Sports, Arts & Crafts, Games, & Play
- ★ Running Thursday 23rd July - Wednesday 2nd September
- ★ 8:30am - 3:30pm / 8:30am - 5pm

MEGA SUMMER OFFER - JUST £19.99 / £24.99 PER DAY!!

Available to children aged 4 - 11

Book at www.premier-education.com/holiday-clubs

Contact dcrysell@premier-education.com for queries

PROMOTIONS & DISCOUNTS!

★ Half price Fridays!

★ 3x Half price days if you attended during May 2026!

★ 3x Half price days if you've booked/attended 5 or more Premier Education Wrap Around Care sessions this term!

To book promotions & discounts, message us on Facebook:

@PremierEducationDevon



Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this holiday period as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, arts and crafts, dance and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

Book now for a holiday full of excitement!



CLUBS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!



TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 20% OFF...AND GET 20% OFF TOO!

*T&C apply. Refer a friend discount on new bookings only.

Excellent



Trustpilot

NEWTON ABBOT HAF VENUES

* **What is a HAF Club?** A FREE HAF Club includes physical activity, sports, dance, arts and crafts, well-being activities, AND A NUTRITIOUS LUNCH for your child!

* Where is it held?

Bradley Barton Primary School, TQ12 1PR
Canada Hill Primary School, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6YS
Haytor View Primary School, TQ12 4BD

* When is it?

Thursday 23rd July - Wednesday 2nd September, 8:30am-3:30pm
Please check individual venues for exact running dates

* **Who can attend?** Children aged 4-11 who receive Free School Meals

* **How do I book?** Scan the QR code (above and below) and select your venue/dates

* **When can I book?** Bookings go live on Monday 8th June at 12pm

* Do you need help with booking?

Contact us on...
dcrysell@premier-education.com
or 01392 982809
or Facebook Messenger



Our HAF Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this holiday period as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, performing arts, and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

Book now for a holiday full of excitement!

Book today
eequ.org/premiereducationexetermidandeastdevon



Message us to book @
Premier Education Devon



RIVERSCHOOL

Where nature is our teacher & the river is our guide



HOLIDAY CLUB

COMING UP THIS HALF TERM
26TH 27TH 28TH MAY

🕒 TIME: 10AM TILL 4PM

👥 AGES: 7-14 YEAR OLDS



£45.00 PER CHILD PER DAY
11% discount applied if you book more than one day at the same time



SIBLING SESSIONS
£40.00 PER CHILD



DEPARTS AT
STOKE GABRIEL,
QUAYSIDE

ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:

- Travel by Canoe to our wonderful woodland basecamp
- Bushcraft
- Campfire cooking
- Storytelling
- Nature art and craft
- Raft Building
- Archery
- Wild swimming
- Fishing
- Wildlife spotting



TO BOOK:
WWW.CANOEADVENTURES.CO.UK

PLACES ARE LIMITED SO BOOK EARLY
TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

RIVER SCHOOL

Our provision is delivered by Canoe Adventures Ltd, operating since 1999 with a proven, accredited, safety track record. We are a registered child care provider with Ofsted (Reg.No. 2731749)

ANY QUERIES: hello@riverschool.org.uk



HIGH 5 PRESENTS

SUMMER HIGH FUN FEST

☆☆☆ 2026 ☆☆☆

@STOVER SCHOOL
NEWTON/ABBOT

THURSDAY 23RD JULY - FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST

Featuring...

6 INCREDIBLE THEMES, 6 WEEKS OF EPIC SCREEN FREE FUN!

PACKED FULL OF SPORTS, ART & ADVENTURE!

Funded places available

For more details and bookings please scan the QR code...

BOOK NOW @

Ofsted www.high5sportscamps.co.uk

FIND US ON...

SUMMER WORKSHOPS 2026



Make Summer magic with Stagecoach! In just five days, students create a full-scale performance combining singing, dancing and acting, finishing with a costumed, fully staged show for family and friends to enjoy.

We accept childcare vouchers and the tax-free scheme.

ENROL AT WWW.STAGECOACH.CO.UK/TORQUAY

Torquay Boys Grammar School
3rd to 7th August
Coombeshead Academy Newton Abbott
10th to 14th August

EARLY STAGES (AGES 4 TO 6)

- £185 STD. £150 SIBLING
- 9.30AM TO 15.30PM EACH DAY
- SHOW AT 3PM ON THE FRIDAY

(PLEASE NOTE. UNDER OFSTED RULES 4 YEAR OLDS CAN ONLY ATTEND FOR 4 HOURS EACH DAY (9.30 TO 1.30 OR 11.30 TO 15.30 - COST £125)

MAIN STAGES (AGES 6 TO 18)

- £185 STD. £150 SIBLING
- 10AM TO 4PM EACH DAY
- SHOW AT 4PM ON THE FRIDAY