



# Newsletter

17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to get outside this week and see so much fun and creativity taking place through our OPAL play. Children have been fully engaged in such a wide range of imaginative activities, from art and drawing, to making DNA models with water and tins, using crates for construction, and even designing impressive three-storey dens! It has been wonderful to watch them problem-solve together and bring their ideas to life.

After half term, we are excited to open up the Forest Area for play. To access this space, children will need wellies, so we plan to reopen our Welly Shed and get it filled with their spare pairs. Please could you send in a labelled pair of wellies that can stay in school?

Our focus this week has been on physical play, particularly reminding children about the importance of not touching one another and respecting each other's personal space. We want all children to enjoy play that is creative, inclusive, and mindful of others, while continuing to have fun and develop their teamwork skills.

It was also fantastic to see so many of our children taking part in the Steven Shield competition. What a great success it was! The teamwork, effort and enthusiasm on display made us very proud. I would also like to say a big thank you to Mr Turner, who has purchased new training tops for our sports teams. These will help our children feel proud of their school, recognise their hard work, and feel like true athletes as they represent Pilton Bluecoat.

As you know, our vision of Building Brighter Futures runs through everything we do at Pilton Bluecoat. This includes not only our focus on play, wellbeing and achievement, but also our global connections, which are such an important part of our curriculum. This weekend, 20 of our children will travel to Segovia, Spain, to visit their friends and partner school. These international opportunities are invaluable, helping our pupils develop cultural understanding, confidence and a deeper sense of global citizenship. We are incredibly proud of them and look forward to hearing all about their adventures when they return.

We are also pleased to be hosting a Bladder and Bowel Health Workshop in school, led by Debbie Richards, Paediatric Bladder and Bowel Care Specialist Nursery Nurse. This session is open to all parents of Reception to Year 6 children at both the Infants and Bluecoat Schools. It will take place at Pilton Bluecoat School on Thursday 13th November 2025, from 1.30 to 3.00pm. This will be an informative and supportive session, and we encourage parents to come along if they can.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been a wonderful week full of creativity, energy and community spirit – everything that makes Pilton Bluecoat such a special place to learn and grow.

I wish you all a very happy and restful weekend.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mathew Harts', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mathew Harts, Head of School

# WHAT'S ON?

## COMING UP....

**Claire Barker (Children's Author)**  
Assembly - 21<sup>st</sup> October

**Spain Visit** - 19<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> October

**Eden Project** - 23<sup>rd</sup> October

**Music Sharing Assembly** - 14<sup>th</sup>  
November

**Guardian Consultations** - 12<sup>th</sup>&13<sup>th</sup>  
November

**Tempest School Photos** - 19<sup>th</sup>  
November

**Go Beyond** - 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> November

**Flu Vaccinations** - 25<sup>th</sup> November

**Year 4 Escot Park** - 25<sup>th</sup> November

**Year 4 Flu Vaccinations** - 26<sup>th</sup>  
November

## LETTERS SENT

Year	Topic
All	Christmas Artwork
All	Head Lice
All	Toilet Concerns



# STEPHEN SHEILDS CROSS COUNTRY



Yesterday, wearing our brand new school sport tops, our amazing cross country runners proudly represented our school at the prestigious Stephens Shield event, held at Torrington Rugby Club.

Competing alongside some of the finest young athletes from North Devon Primary Schools and with over 100 participants in each race our children embraced the challenge of a tough, undulating course with incredible determination and resilience.

Their teamwork, enthusiasm, and perseverance truly shone through, leading to some outstanding individual and team achievements.

We are so proud of each and every one of them, well done to all involved!





# SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS REMINDER

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2026, don't forget that the deadline to apply for a high school place is 31st October 2025.

Applications are to be made on the Devon County Council  
website



# 2025 - 2026

# SCHOOL TERM DATES

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<b>First Day:</b> 4th Sept 2025	<b>First Day:</b> 6th January 2026	<b>First Day:</b> 20th April 2026
<b>Half-term:</b> 27th Oct – 31st Oct 2025	<b>Half-term:</b> 16th Feb – 20th Feb 2026	<b>Bank Holiday:</b> 4th May <b>Half Term:</b> 25th May -29th May 2026
<b>Last Day:</b> 19th December 2025	<b>Last Day:</b> 2nd April 2026	<b>Last Day:</b> 21st July 2026

## Non pupil days

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3rd September 2025

5th January 2026

1st June 2026

22nd July 2026



THANK



YOU



A huge thank you to everyone who has kindly brought in food for the Freedom Centre.

Your generosity and thoughtfulness make such a difference — every tin, packet, and meal helps support those in need and shows the power of our community coming together.

We're so grateful for your continued kindness and support.





# CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

## Handwriting Heroes

## Reading Champions

**3JH** - Eva, **5MH** - Vienna, **6MT** - Joshua

**3KD** - Ezra, **5MR** - Jacob, **6SE** - Alessandro

## Work

**3KD - Logan and Freddie** - Fantastic learning team

**Ezra** - For caring for our school by picking up rubbish all of his own volition

**3JH - Adam and Albie** - Great effort with writing and top quality learning this week

**4AB - Joel** - Improved attitude and effort to learning

**5MR - Tommy** - For consistent hard work across all areas of his learning

**5MH - Eva** - for being able to ask for help when she needs it whilst showing perseverance and determination to try on her own.

**6SE - Myles** - Excellent progress in his cross country running.

**6MT - Philip** - excellent progress in his cross country running.

## Contribution

Thank you to all of the Year 6 librarians over the last two weeks

Cross Country runners who took part in the Stephens Shield at Torrington

## HOUSE POINTS TOTAL

**Saturn = 886 Neptune = 1001**

**Jupiter = 965 Mercury = 928**

# FRIDAY SPORTS

## & PE DAYS



Friday's Date	Who	Swim	Dance	TBC	Football
24 Oct 2025	LOWER	4BC	4AB	3KD	3JH
31 Oct 2025	HALF - TERM				
7 Nov 2025	UPPER	5MH	6MT	5MR	6SE
14 Nov 2025	LOWER	4BC	4AB	3KD	3JH
21 Nov 2025	UPPER	6MT	6SE	5MH	5MR
28 Nov 2025	LOWER	4AB	3JH	4BC	3KD
5 Dec 2025	UPPER	6MT	6SE	5MH	5MR
12 Dec 2025	LOWER	4AB	3JH	4BC	3KD
19 Dec 2025	Last day of Term - No Friday Sports				

PE Days	
Year 3	Wednesday
Year 4	Thursday
Year 5	Monday
Year 6	Tuesday

# AUTUMN TERM

# DINNER MENU

	<p><b>Week 2:</b> 08/09, 29/09, 20/10, 17/11, 08/12</p>
<b>Monday</b>	<p><b>Toad in the Hole</b> V – Vegetarian Sausages Crispy/cubed Potatoes, Seasonal Veg and Gravy Fruit and Yoghurt</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p><b>Minced Beef Soft Taco</b> V – No meat Mince Taco Sweetcorn and Wedges Fruit Jelly</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p><b>Roast of the Day - Beef</b> V - Homity Pie Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg Doughnut and fruit slices</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p><b>Hidden Veg Chicken Curry</b> V - Hidden Veg Quorn Curry Naan Bread and Rice Fruit Sponge and Custard</p>
<b>Friday</b>	<p><b>Oven Baked Fish</b> V – Quorn Nuggets Golden Fries and Seasonal Veg Oaty Cookie (various flavours)</p>



## CAREFREE CARERS BREAKS

Carers are twice as likely to experience poor physical and mental health. Without support carers can burn out and the care they provide for their loved ones suffers.

With Carefree, full-time unpaid carers can take an annual short break in beautiful hotels for £33.



[More about Carefree and how to register for a carers break](#)

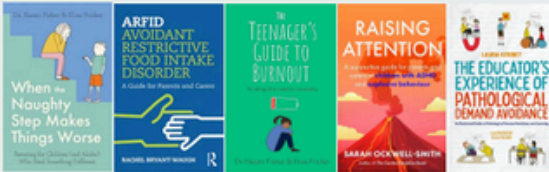
## FREE COMMUNICATION SEAT BELT COVERS

Devon and Cornwall Police are offering drivers and passengers with speech, language or communication needs free seatbelt covers to help make things easier after incidents on the road.

The covers contain a card inside which allows the user to add their name, age, address, medical conditions or other information about how they like to be communicated with.

Anyone who feels they may benefit from one can collect a cover from their nearest Police Enquiry Office (PEO).

## HELPFUL BOOKS



## ESTEEM TEAM BOOKLISTS

Esteem Team have developed a number of **helpful booklists**.

If you would like a copy of any of our book lists please email [carasteem@gmail.com](mailto:carasteem@gmail.com)

Book lists currently available:

- ADHD (for Parents and Carers)
- Autism (for Parents and Carers)
- Neurodiversity (for Children)
- Neurodiversity (for Tweens and Teens)
- Demand Avoidance (for Parents, Carers, Young People, Schools)
- Burnout (for Parents, Carers, Young People and Schools)



## RESOURCE SHEETS

Esteem Team have also developed a number of **helpful resource sheets**.

If you would like a copy please email [carasteem@gmail.com](mailto:carasteem@gmail.com)

Resource sheets currently available:

- ADHD
- Anxiety
- Autism (for Parents and Carers)
- Clothing sensitivities
- Declarative Language
- FASD
- Sensory







**Pilton Bluecoat  
Academy**

Any articles which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only.



**ADULTS BABIES CHILDREN**

*chat, friendship, support, play, songs,  
craft, bible stories, coffee and cake*

**Thursdays 10.00 - 11.30**

In  
Pilton Church Hall  
83 Pilton Street

**only £2 per family**

**Term time only**

#### Author Claire Barker - Hettie Nettles Hand Book for Hedgewitches



📅 Saturday, 15 November '25 11:30am – 1pm GMT

📍 Hakeford Woods Forest School, Hakeford, Near Stoke Rivers, Barnstaple, EX327LB

👤 6 spaces available

#### INFORMATION

##### Details

Claire Barker will be visiting Hakeford wood with her lovely new book - Hettie Nettles Hand Book for Hedge witches.

Claire will be offering storytelling and making wish sticks, selling, signing, and dedicating copies of her book.

Hot drinks and Cakes sold at the wood - Please bring cash

Mud kitchen, streams and rivers, swings and hammocks to explore!

📎 **Hettie Nettles**  
hettie nettles.jpeg (239 KB)



PILTON COMMUNITY FARM

# PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKIN

DATES:

20<sup>TH</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup> : 3.30 - 5.30

25<sup>TH</sup> / 26<sup>TH</sup> : 9.30 - 1.00

27<sup>TH</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> : 10.00 - 12.00

PRICES: £2.00 - £6.00

