

Tipton St John Bulletin

BELIEVING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE



Friday 13th March 2026

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Dear Parents

Hazel Class did a great job of introducing the Easter story this week looking at Palm Sunday. Hazel are looking at animals as a topic at the moment, and they are going to be fund raising for an Animal Charity (more details below).

It's been a great week of activities again, with Oak and Willow children doing brilliantly well at the Cross Country event at Kings on Tuesday. We also had a visit from David, a guitar teacher who will be doing some ukulele lessons with Willow class. He will also be running guitar lessons soon for children who are interested. A flyer with more information came out on Wednesday following his assembly, so do get in touch if you haven't seen this.

Lions were the winning house this week so congratulations to them!

A reminder that we are going to be celebrating Comic Relief on Friday 20th March when the children are invited to dress in something red (and/or wear a Comic relief nose) - more details below (apologies I think this was missed off last week).

Also the mufti day has changed date to Thursday 26th March. The Easter Egg hunt is still on April 1st though.

The Easter Service will be on Thursday 2nd April at 2pm in the Church and all are welcome to attend this.

Attendance

| Class | Attendance |
|--------------|------------|
| R | 92.73% |
| 1 | 94.44% |
| 2 | 98.67% |
| 3 | 95% |
| 4 | 98.46% |
| 5 | 98.13% |
| 6 | 94.62% |
| Whole School | 96.39% |

Kind regards

Mr Pete Button

Head of School

Dates to Remember :

Monday 16th March 2026—Bikeability starts for Y5's & Hazel ARC Fund Raiser after school

Friday 20th March 2026—Comic Relief

Tuesday 24th March 2026—pm—Tag Rugby Festival Willow & Oak Class - Football at Feniton

Thursday 26th March 2026—Mufti (PTFA)

Wednesday 1st April 2026—Easter Egg Hunt (PTFA) & Wellington Singing Event

Thursday 2nd April 2026—Last day of term and Easter Service 2pm

Heart Values Awards



Oak— Wiktoria—Achievement and Hope—excellent attitude and achievement especially in Maths and PE.

Willow—Dougie—Achievement—a brilliant run at the Cross Country event at Kings this week!

Maple— Grace— Hope—for always trying her best and persevering when faced with challenges.

Hazel— Morris—Hope and Achievement—for making a great effort and trying really hard to form his letters in writing.



We are happy to speak to any person at any time with regard to the safety of children. If you have any concerns please contact:

Designated Safeguarding Lead for Otter Valley Federation:
Amanda Fulford, Executive Headteacher

Safeguarding Governor: Mark Humphries

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Pete Button, Head of School

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Richard Hatswell,
Teacher

Alternatively you can contact MASH on 0345 155 1071

Houses and House Points

We now have a House System at Tipton. There are four houses: Lions (Yellow), Tigers (Red), Leopards (Green) and Panthers (Blue).

There are Y6 House captains for each house who will be counting up the housepoints earned each week by children in each class. These will give us a winning house who will be presented with the trophy on a Friday afternoon. We will be giving rewards for the most housepoints over the weeks and half terms—extra playtime and treats.

The children have been working hard to earn housepoints this week and have enjoyed the challenge!

Winners this week were Lions!

Leopards

Lions

Panthers

Tigers



90 house points



95 house points



87 house points



78 house points

House Captains:

Harrison and Annabelle—Leopards

Reuben and Jessica—Lions

Kobi and Rosie—Tigers

Ted and Ammara—Panthers

Comic Relief—Friday 20th March

We are going to celebrate Comic Relief this year on Friday 20th March. We are inviting a contribution of £1 (payable via Just Giving link here - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-tipton-st-john-church-of-england-primary-school>) in return for wearing something red (for example could just be a hat or red shoe laces).

Alternatively, buy and wear a red nose and you don't need to give any further donation (unless you would like to). Don't forget to come armed with your favourite joke as well! We will run a competition in each class and for the whole school in the afternoon to vote for the best ones.

A huge THANK YOU to parent, Rick Arthur for his kind donation for the plaques in memory of Mrs Grover & Mrs Norman.

You can access a course if you would like to be even better informed on internet safety for your child.

Please see details below:

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are one of the most popular ways that children connect. Group chats allow messages, images and videos to be shared in the place and help friendships flourish; however, they also come with a number of risks.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- TEASING AND BULLYING**
Children of all ages are keen to fit in socially, and group chats can be a social hub. When group chats use humor, sarcasm or jokes, they can also give way to mean comments or jokes at someone's expense, especially when others join in for laughs. When bullying happens publicly, in front of friends and classmates, it can intensify the emotional impact – adding to embarrassment, anxiety and feelings of isolation for the child being targeted.
- INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
Some group chats may include inappropriate language or imagery. Even if a child isn't actively participating in the conversation, they may still be exposed to the content simply by being part of the group. Some apps have disappearing messaging features, where content is only available once or for a few seconds, which makes it harder for parents to report something they've seen.
- UNKNOWN MEMBERS**
Children often can't control who is added to a group, which can lead to privacy concerns. Being perceived as a member of a group can be dangerous, and children have no control over what others do with the contact they need. Some members of the chat might even decide to use such information maliciously.
- EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION**
Exclusion in group chats is common and can take several forms. Sometimes a new group is created specifically to leave one child out on purpose. In other cases, the child may happen on an app that a child doesn't have access to, making it impossible for them to join in. This can cause feelings of being left out – even unintentionally.
- PEER PRESSURE**
Children may feel they have to constantly stay engaged just to be included and keep up with the conversation. In some cases, they might pressure to inappropriate substances – like sharing weight photos, jokes or selfies – just to fit in. Group settings can also encourage children to act in ways they normally wouldn't, or stay silent when they know something is wrong, out of fear of being excluded. Some children may find it difficult to leave their group chats.
- VIDEO AND LIVE CHATS**
Many popular apps allow children to engage in live video chats. Sometimes a chat or live group video chat, anyone can be added to these streams, and other children may appear on an app that a child doesn't have access to. There's a risk of being exposed to inappropriate or abusive content and offensive language, either in the group videos or via the group chats.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS**
Group chats can become an arena for children to compete for social status. Help children understand the danger might feel if they know someone is public about their emotions, encourage them to watch out, show empathy and apologize for their mistakes.
- SET SOME GROUP CHAT RULES**
Discuss safe group chat practices, such as asking a peer for consent before adding them to a group chat, or asking a group chat if it's alright to be added. Let children know that if they're added to a group they don't agree to befriend, it's OK for them to leave it unilaterally.
- BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE**
If a child encounters inappropriate content or feels uncomfortable in a group chat, encourage them to block and report the sender and leave the group. Make sure children know it's OK to leave a group chat if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT**
Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can't be judged by you. If they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them, validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being bullied.
- PRACTISE SAFE SHARING**
It's vital for children to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure they understand the importance of not revealing personal details – like their address, their school, or photos they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain when it might end up or how it might be used.
- SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS**
Being bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Encourage children that they can still be part of a group chat while checking notifications in the background. It would be healthier for them to do this, helping them avoid the pressure to respond immediately.

Meet Our Expert
Dr. Claire Southwood is an online safety consultant at iCyberstewards, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various evidence papers and carried out research for the Australian government, comparing the internet use and online behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

WakeUpWednesday
The National College

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Parents can also access a course via national college that is about 40 minutes long and will provide a more detailed journey through their child's digital habits, explaining the type of online world they're experiencing now, what risks they might be exposed to and just what you can do to support.

Course title: Award in Online Safety for Parents of Children 3-7 or Award in Online Safety for Parents of Children 7-11

Parents can access via the National College link and enrol as part of our school subscription.

You can then enrol for one of the courses above. Link is here.

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/otter-valley-federation-2>

Oak Girls Football—Tuesday 3rd March

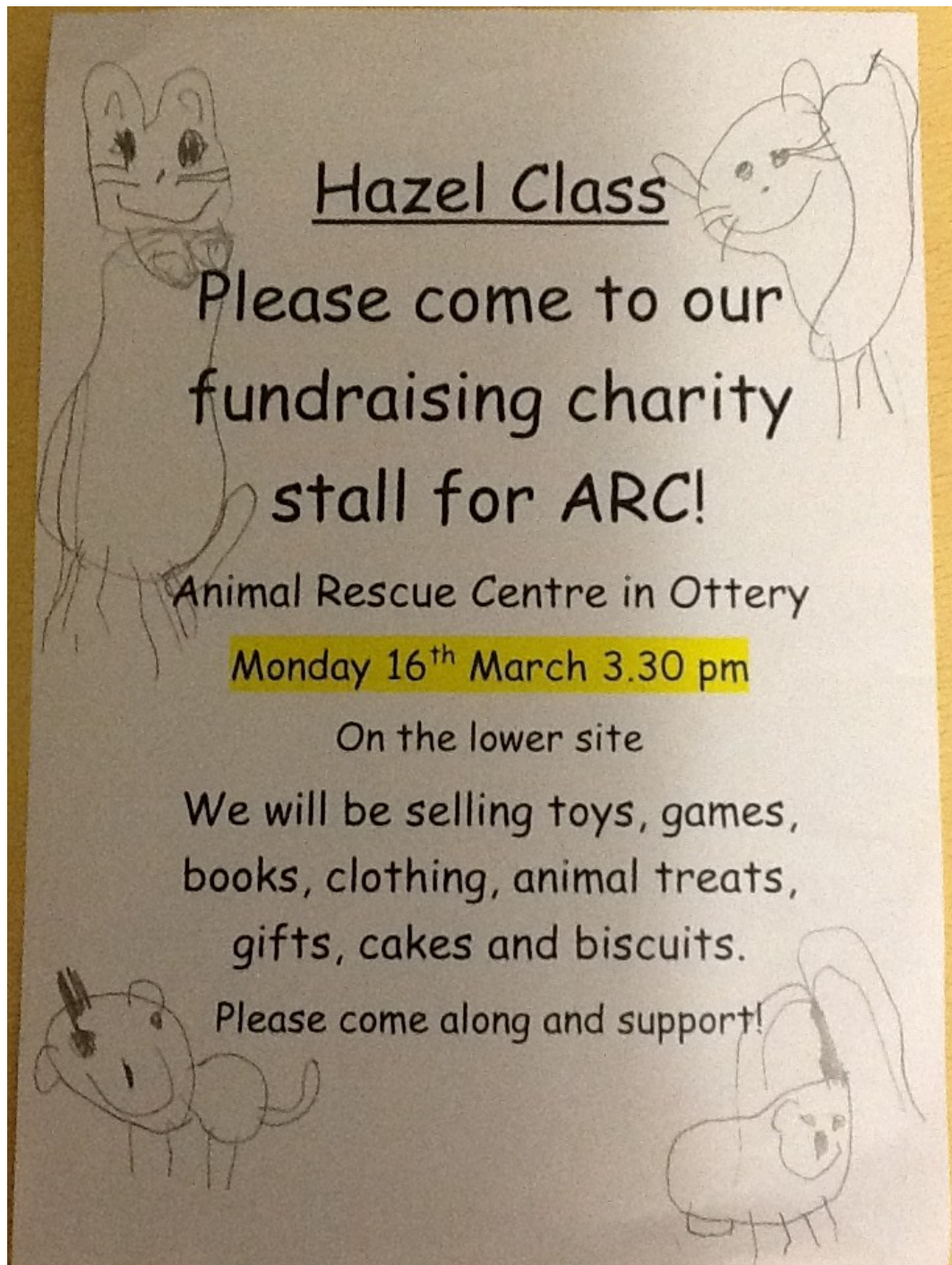
Here is a flavour of the afternoon, with the team coming second overall—well done and also well done to coaches Kobi (Pep) and Reuben (Mikel).



Hazel are raising money for ARC

ARC Fundraising Event

Hazel Class are learning all about caring for animals. They want to raise money for ARC, the animal rescue centre in Ottery. Please support them by coming to their fundraising event after school on Monday 16th March. Please see the poster below for details.






HAF HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

EASTER HOLIDAYS

 St John's School Sidmouth
 Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th April 2026
 9am - 1pm
 12.30pm - 4.30pm

AGES 5 - 12
INCLUDES A HOT LUNCH
MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CAMP





CAFÉ CHURCH

A service with a difference brought to you by Tipton Church and on Mothering Sunday we are looking at a Mother's love

Sunday 15th March

In the Community Hall

- Breakfast served from 10.30am (coffee and pastries)
- Service starts about 11.00 (don't worry you can carry on eating and drinking!)
- Singing, Activities and Worship designed for all age groups

Everyone is very welcome – for transport call 07743325380






LITTLETOWN ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMP

5-14 YEARS OLD

NERF GUN BATTLES, FOOTBALL, LASER TAG, ARTS & CRAFTS, DODGEBALL, GLOW IN THE DARK SPORTS, EASTER EGG HUNT, CRICKET, DANCE & MUCH MORE!!!

PRICES:
 STANDARD DAY - £23

TIMES:
 STANDARD - 8:30AM - 3:30PM

2026 Dates:
 MONDAY 13TH APRIL
 TUESDAY 14TH APRIL
 WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL
 THURSDAY 16TH APRIL

LITTLETOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY
 HONITON BOTTOM ROAD
 HONITON
 EX14 2EG



BOOKING LINK - <https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2026/04/13/littletown-primary-academy-ultimate-easter-holiday-camps-2026>
 More Information: marcus@primary-sports.co.uk / 07976979202



Flower Workshops with Sally from Wood Lane Flowers

Saturday 4th April
 The Beehive, Honiton
 Dowell Street, Honiton, EX14 1LZ

Easter Bloom-in-a-Tin Workshop
 11am-11.30
 Suitable for ages 6 & above
 £9 per person (all materials included)
 Limited to 12 spaces per workshop

Add a burst of spring creativity to your Easter celebrations with this hands-on, family-friendly workshop! Join us for a relaxed and crafty session where you'll plant a seasonal bulb in a tin and decorate it using beautiful fabrics to create a unique, handmade spring keepsake.

Petal Wreath Workshop
 12pm-12.30
 Suitable for age 6+
 £5 per ticket
 Limited to 12 spaces per workshop

Bring a burst of natural beauty into your day with our hands-on Petal Wreath Workshop! In this creative, family-friendly session, you'll decorate a cardboard wreath with fresh flower petals, creating a colourful and unique spring-inspired piece to take home.

Book online: beehivehoniton.co.uk or Call 01404 384050

