

Tipton St John Bulletin

BELIEVING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE



Friday 20th March 2026

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Dear Parents

Maple took us through the Good Friday part of the Easter story, and where we put our hope. Christians believe that Jesus is our hope, and Easter is an important time to remember that. With drier weather and the sun shining, it can help us to feel more hopeful about challenges that we are facing.

On that note, we've had great excitement at being able to use the field again. Everyone has commented on how lovely this has been for the children and the adults too!

Year 5s have had a lovely week doing bikeability each day—you may have seen them whizzing around the village! They seem to have had a great time and the man teaching them was very complimentary about them as a group. David, our guitar teacher did his first ukulele lessons with Willow class and ran a taster guitar lesson for children who expressed an interest. If your child is interested and missed out on this, it's not too late to sign up for lessons. If you have lost your flyer, do get in touch with the office.

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

Attendance

Class	Attendance
R	92.73%
1	96.67%
2	88%
3	90%
4	93.85%
5	98.13%
6	98.46%
Whole School	94.22%

We've had some fun today celebrating Comic Relief. A reminder again that the PTFA 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.

Kind regards

Mr Pete Button

Head of School

Dates to Remember :

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

Monday 20th April 2026—First day back of the Summer term

Heart Values Awards



Oak— Tilly –Hope and Achievement - A great week full of enthusiasm and engagement in all lessons - Particularly during Bikeability where her progress from the first session to the last was noted and commented on by the instructor.

Willow— Wren - Hope & Achievement - For showing brilliant resilience and perseverance during our PUMA and PIRA test week.

Maple— Flynn—Achievement— for working hard in all subjects especially his phonics and writing this week

Hazel— Josiah– Hope and Empathy—For demonstrating how to care for animals and sharing how they should be looked after.



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

PTFA notice:

Thursday 26 March

Unleash your child's inner stylist! On Friday, your child can wear their own clothes – the brighter and bolder the better! In return, please can the students each bring in an Easter egg donation. These will then be used as prizes for the Easter egg hunt being held after school on Wednesday 1st April. Eggs should be no bigger than 200g. Check out Tesco's for some amazing £1 deals!

Wednesday 1 April – Tipton St John Primary School Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us for an Easter Egg hunt at the lower site after school on Wednesday 1 April. Entry is £3, and there will be a prize for every child.

Refreshments like hot cross buns, tea and coffee will also be available on the day.

There will also be a raffle, with lots of tasty prizes, and of course one of Maggie's coveted cakes.

All money raised will go towards Tipton St John's PTFA.

(If your child would like to take part, but you are concerned about the entry fee, please contact the school admin or the PTFA directly at ptfa.tipton.st.john@gmail.com. We want all children to be able to enjoy this event!)



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 Tigers

Leopards

Lions

Panthers

Tigers



106 house points



119 house points



119 house points



126 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 have celebrated Comic Relief today. If you haven't donated already, it's not too late. 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>).

The best joke was voted as being from Ted in Oak. It goes as follows:

Knock knock

Who's there?

Pencil.

Pencil who?

Never mind—it's pointless!



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

Before and After School Club Update!

Dear Parent Carers,

We have a hopeful update on Wrap Around Provision!

Today I have met with the founder of Kids Holiday Heroes who runs breakfast, after school club and holiday provision and he feels he may be able to meet the needs of our school, should the number of children attending be high enough. This would be provision run solely by Kids Holiday Heroes in collaboration with the school. For more information visit their website: [Kids Holiday Heroes | School Holiday Club](#)

The proposal would be to run a daily breakfast club 8am - 9am and an after school club for 3-4 evenings 3.30pm-5pm

Places would be booked via an online booking system and would cost £5.80 per hour.

If numbers are high then KHH will also explore the option of a club in holiday time, but for the immediate future we will look to set up holiday provision at Feniton Primary, open to children from both of our schools. More information to follow on this. To take advantage of government grants we need to move quickly with this and establish potential numbers of children who would be attending, so please register your interest by completing the form below:

[Tipton St John Primary School - Breakfast & After School Club – Fill in form](#)

(Q1 showing as Please... - you can ignore this and move onto Q2)

Fingers crossed we can make this work together. We will keep you updated.

Kind regards

Amanda Fulford

INTERNET SAFETY

At The National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MENTAL HEALTH MISINFORMATION ONLINE

A research study by Ofcom revealed that children aged 9-15 increasingly use online platforms like TikTok for mental health advice, with 69% relying on social media for information. Unverified medical content online is concerning, with the potential to cause confusion, anxiety, or incorrect self-diagnoses. This guide provides expert strategies to help parents and educators tackle misinformation effectively and ensure safer digital experiences for young people.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POPULAR ONLINE SOURCES

Platforms like TikTok and Instagram are two of the main sources of young people's mental health content. Videos and posts frequently feature unqualified influencers, contributing to misinformation, myths, and over-simplifications. While appealing to young audiences, this unvetted content can distort perceptions and create unrealistic expectations and misunderstandings about mental health conditions.

RISK OF SELF-DIAGNOSIS

Social media's misleading content encourages young people to self-diagnose complex mental health conditions inaccurately. Misdiagnoses can exacerbate anxiety, cause unnecessary worry, or delay essential professional intervention. This has the potential to escalate manageable conditions into more significant mental health issues requiring comprehensive clinical support.

LACK OF FILTERS

Social media platforms struggle to filter misinformation effectively, allowing false content to spread widely and quickly. Without proper guidance, young viewers may not discern fact from fiction, potentially internalising inaccurate beliefs about mental health. This can negatively influence their decisions about seeking professional help or managing mental wellbeing.

IMPACTFUL PAST TRENDS

Historically, online mental health misinformation has led to harmful trends, including inappropriate coping strategies or overmedicalised symptoms. For example, past TikTok trends on self-harm or anxiety 'hacks' have spread damaging advice, underscoring the risk when misinformation is not promptly addressed or corrected by knowledgeable adults.

MISLEADING CLINICAL TERMS

Online trends often include the misuse of clinical terms, such as 'trauma' or 'OCD', making serious conditions seem trivial or inaccurately understood. Such misinformation can diminish empathy and leave young people to misunderstand mental health complexities, potentially preventing them from identifying real mental health issues in themselves or others.

REPLACING PROFESSIONAL HELP

Frequent reliance on digital content can deter young people from seeking professional mental health care, substituting expert support with unvetted online advice. This substitution can prolong issues, complicate recovery, and reduce the effectiveness of future professional interventions, ultimately impacting overall mental health and wellbeing negatively.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

Regularly review and discuss young person's online activity, providing appropriate guidance on discerning accurate content. Tools such as parental controls or co-viewing content can help reduce exposure to harmful misinformation, facilitating safer digital habits and informed critical thinking about mental health.

SCHOOL-HOME COLLABORATION

Strengthen collaboration with educators to integrate digital literacy into the school curriculum. Jointly defined educational sessions on identifying and responding to misinformation can significantly improve pupils' ability to critically assess mental health content, supporting their mental wellbeing effectively both online and offline.

IDENTIFY RELIABLE SOURCES

Teach young people to critically evaluate mental health content by checking credentials, source authority, and evidence-based information. Encourage them to refer to trusted medical or educational platforms and to consult healthcare professionals for clarification. This reduces young people's reliance on potentially harmful or misleading online sources.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DIALOGUE

Foster a non-judgemental environment where young people feel comfortable discussing online content. Regularly talking about their online experiences and perceived mental health concerns helps clarify misunderstandings, mitigate misinformation, and build trust, thereby enhancing their resilience and digital literacy. Model situations where you have sought advice from experts and not solely relied on social media for health advice.

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is Director of Wellbeing Education Ltd, Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Tarn, and lead expert for mental health at The National College. Anna specialises in strategic mental health education for schools, supporting educators and families to improve resilience, emotional literacy, and overall wellbeing for children across the UK.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

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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>

Hazel are raising money for ARC

Hazel Class would like to thank everyone who contributed, helped and spent their money at our fundraiser last Monday. We are delighted to have raised **£192** for ARC, the animal rescue centre in Ottery. If you are interested in getting a pet, they have many animals needing a caring home.

Mrs Garrick





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

PRIMARY
SPORTS & EDUCATION

EASTER

SCAN TO BOOK!



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

Ofsted
Registered

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

Petal Wreath Workshop

12pm-12.30

Suitable for age 6+

£5 per ticket

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.

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