Tipton St John Bulletin

BELIEVING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE

Friday 11th September 2026

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Dear Parents

Welcome back and a particularly warm welcome to our new starters and families in Hazel and across the school! I hope you had a great Summer and managed some time as families enjoying the warm weather in Devon, or in various destinations around the world. It has been great to see the enthusiasm with which the children have returned and lovely to see them all settling in to their new classes.

Our theme for Collective Worship this half term is the famous Bible passage about love from 1 Corinthians 13, which you may be familiar with from marriage ceremonies! 'Love is patient, love is kind,…' This week we looked at the story of Noah and explored how he demonstrated great patience. We thought about where we need patience, and how we can become more patient.

A few headlines of what follows in this bulletin:

Firstly, please note the **PTFA AGM date below** — do get involved—a great way to support the school and connect with our school community. Also reminder about our breakfast and after school club—see final page.

Fund Saver Work Day : It might not sound it, but this is a great event in our school calendar, when staff, governors, families and community come together to make a huge positive difference to our school site. As you will know school budgets are continually being squeezed, so being able to both save money and have an opportunity to bring everyone together! Please keep the date free—**Saturday 17th October** - we usually start in the morning and continue into the afternoon. Even an hour is valuable so please do come along.

We are looking forward to **European Day of Languages** too—more details to follow. Finally, a date for your diaries—**Harvest Festival** is Thursday 8th October and we will be collecting for St Petrock's again. All welcome.

Have a lovely weekend!

Pete Button, Head of School

Attendance

Class	Attendance
R	97.78%
1	97.36%
2	94.55%
3	97.50%
4	100%
5	98.75%
6	96.88%
Whole School	97.26%

Dates to Remember :

Tuesday 15th September—Running Challenge on the Field

Monday 21st September - Patteson Day Collective Worship

Wednesday 23rd September— Alice In Wonderland

Tuesday 29th September—PTFA AGM—The Golden Lion, Tipton St John, 6pm

Thursday 8th October—Harvest Festival 9.15am in Church

Saturday 17th October—Fund Saver work day

Friday 25th September—European Day of Languages

Friday 23rd October— last day of first half term

Heart Values Awards

Oak : — Max —Hope and Thankfulness—a great start to the year with a mature attitude socially and academically, and as a House Captain.

Willow: — McKenzie—Achievement— Using interesting vocabulary in his writing.

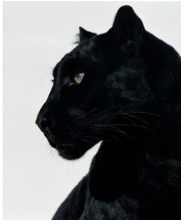
Maple: — Amelie—Hope and Empathy— Always a positive role model of our vision and values to others!

Hazel— Luca—Hope— Being an excellent role model and helping new children settle in.

Houses and House Points

We have a House System at Tipton. There are four houses: Lions (Yellow), Tigers (Red), Leopards (Green) and Panthers (Blue). House points are earnt for good work, effort, good behaviour and demonstrating our values in school. There are Y6 House captains for each house who will be counting up the house points earnt 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 house points 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 ….

Points:	**169**	**103**	**125**	**116**
	Leopards	Lions	Panthers	Tigers
				
Captains:	**Daisy and Rex**	**Seb and Louisa**	**Maddie and Joe**	**Wiki and Max**



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

Your PTFA needs YOU!

Dear parents,

The PTFA are looking for additional committee members to help oversee fundraising for the coming year. It's a wonderful way to meet other families, ensure the kids have a great year, and support the school. If you're interested in being involved, please reach out to us on email, or via the school office – or grab one of us at the school gates!

We're also hosting our annual general meeting on **Tuesday 29 September**. We'll be meeting at 6pm at The Golden Lion. All welcome! It would be great to see as many families there as possible to help us look ahead to what will hopefully be another great year of supporting the school.

Thanks,
Rachel and the PTFA

Reading Challenge over the Summer…….



Huge congratulations to these children who participated:

Julia, Joshua, Albert, Elsie and Flynn—well done to all!

European Day of Languages –Friday 25th September

This is always a fun day celebrating different languages and cultures around Europe. The children will be learning some words in the language(s) of that country, a bit of its history and geography, as well as the opportunity to dress up, try some food, sing a song, or do some craft related! Note the countries as follows: **Hazel— France** **Maple— Italy**

Willow— Switzerland **Oak— Turkey**

Piano Lessons in September!



My name is Helen Alford and I I have been a piano teacher for over 20 years. I have been teaching in Tipton primary school for the past two years, and as my older students are moving on to secondary school, I now have space to accommodate new students in year 3 or above to either begin to learn playing the piano or continue their piano studies. Lessons would occur during the school day, the time and day to be confirmed. Each lesson will last 20 minutes and will cost £11. If your child is interested in starting piano lessons with me, please contact me at helen.alford1@gmail.com.

Playground Equipment on Lower Site

You may have spotted that the playground equipment is currently out of use. Unfortunately, the flooding at the start of the year, followed by a very dry summer has taken its toll on the timber frames and they need to be repaired. We have a quote for this work and will be arranging the repairs as soon as we can. In the meantime we would appreciate your co-operation in ensuring the children do not use the equipment at the start and end of the school day. We are very grateful to the PTFA who will contribute funds to these works.

School Relocation

Many thanks to all those who attended the public consultation meeting on Thursday 23rd July in the village hall. This term outline planning permission will be submitted to EDDC to relocate our school building to Carter's Farm on the outskirts of Tipton Village and a decision should be made by the end of December. **IF** successful, we understand that planning of the site would commence in January 2027. This would take approx. 12 months and the rebuild itself would take a further 1-2 years. Governors are very hopeful that this project will be able to progress and will keep parents updated. If successful we would plan to update the children and involve them in planning their new school building from January 2027. We have some plans of the location of Carters Field (version used at village hall meeting) and parents are welcome to pop in

Summer House on Lower Site

Many thanks to parent Paul, who spent time over the holiday making our summer house watertight again! This is a really useful learning space and it is helpful to have it back in full use.

Fund Saver Work Day

We look forward to seeing lots of parents and friends of the school at our Fund Saver Work Day on **Saturday 17th October.** We can save the school lots of money by completing school maintenance and gardening ourselves.
Jobs include cleaning playgrounds, gutters, pressure washing, trimming trees, cutting back brambles, painting and more…
If you are able to help, even just for an hour, please do. Let the office know if you can come, or you have any questions.

Mr Button and Mrs Fulford

Family Treasure Hunt as part of the Sidmouth and East Devon Walking Festival



You would be very welcome to join our **FREE** Family Treasure Hunt starting from Sidmouth Tourist
Information (by the swimming pool) on Saturday 12th September at 2pm.
The walking treasure hunt takes you on a trail of fun, easy-to-follow clues that will have children exploring, giggling and discovering along the way. It's the perfect chance to enjoy the fresh air, stretch your legs and see familiar sights in a brand-new way. Together you'll follow the clues all the way to a well-known establishment, where optional refreshments will be waiting to celebrate your success. Bring your curiosity, sense of adventure and your biggest smiles - the treasure is out there!

There are limited places so the treasure hunt must be pre booked by contacting Sidmouth Tourist Information
either in person or via tic@sidmouth.gov.uk or 01395 516441.
Please note that all children under 16 need to be accompanied by an adult.

Brochures for other events going on in the week can be obtained from Sidmouth Tourist Information and other venues in the area.

A message from Mrs Garrick…

Thank you for all the money raised—we received this Thank You care from ARC this week!



To, The pupils at Tipton Primary School.

A massive thankyou to the pupils at Tipton Primary School for donating £236, raised at the summer fair, to ARC.

We are deeply touched by your kindness.

All of our dogs and cats, especially Buddy, say a huge thankyou as this money will allow us to fill them with lots of treats, which they will be very excited about!

From everyone at ARC and all the dogs and cats, thankyou very much!

Breakfast and After School Club

