Tipton St John Bulletin

BELIEVING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE

Friday 2nd October 2026

E: office@tipton-stjohn.devon.sch.uk | T: 01404 812943

Dear Parents

Another week gone—every time I write this I can't believe how quickly each week goes.

I am so pleased by how well children have settled back into the new school year—week 5 already!

In our Collective Worship this week, Maple Class helped us think about 'Love is ….generous.' They told us the story of the widow's mite from the Bible—her generosity even though she was poor she gave all she had. On Friday, we reflected on what we'd learnt, and pondered why so often people with less are more generous than those with more. Olivia gave a great answer "Because if you have less, you know what's it like when you need things, and so you have empathy for others." Our Harvest Festival is next Thursday morning at 9.15am where we are asking for donations to St Petrock's the homeless charity in Exeter. We talked with the children today about the kind of things they appreciate receiving to help their clients. See further on for the full list, but essentially any food that lasts—tinned, packets, etc. All are welcome to join our Harvest Festival celebration.

A few other plugs…. **Governing Board:** We are looking for people to join the Otter Valley Federation Governing Board. Please do read on to find out how you can be part of this. We welcome applications from parents, grandparents, or members of the local community. Please do consider this as we would really value more Tipton representation!

Attendance

Class	Attendance
R	100%
1	91%
2	98.18%
3	94.38%
4	90%
5	90%
6	85.88%
Whole School	93.29%

PTFA - the **AGM** was held this week on Tuesday, but please do reach out with any offers of help. It would be great to get some more people involved as it makes such a difference for the provision we can give all of our children. Do think about how you can help—there are options for everyone however busy—even a half hour at an event is useful!

Fund Saver Work Day : We have decided not to run a full day this year, as there are a few specific jobs we need to do but not a long enough list for lots of people to participate at the same time. So if you are able to offer a few hours at some point, please do get in touch. All offers of help/skill/resources gratefully received.

Dates to Remember :

Thursday 8th October—Harvest Festival 9.15am in Church

Tuesday 13th October - PM—Oak Class to Kings for Boccia Tournament

Friday 16th October—Tempest Individual Photos

Tuesday 20th October—Whole School running challenge

Friday 23rd October— last day of first half term

Monday 2nd November -First Day back



Heart Values Awards



Oak : — Louisa — Achievement — come so far both academically and socially and is a wonderful role model for others in how she conducts herself both in class and during break times.

Willow: — Logan — Achievement -great progress in his phonics—learning new sounds especially /ure/.

Maple: — Lucy — Hope—a much improved attitude to learning and good listening to instructions.

Hazel — Lottie — Achievement— For trying really hard to work towards her phonic targets and being kind and thoughtful to others.

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 …. Leopards

Points:	68	64	55	54
	Leopards	Lions	Panthers	Tigers
				
Captains:	Daisy and Rex	Seb and Louisa	Maddie and Joe	Wiki and Max

St Petrock's—Our Charity for Harvest Festival!

On Thursday morning, we are asking everyone to bring in contributions for this very worthy charity. Below are the suggestions of items to bring. Do give as generously as you can—sadly the number of people making use of this charity is growing year on year.

More details about the work of St Petrock's can be found here: St Petrock's - Homeless charity in Exeter

Packaged Items:

- Rice
- Plain & Self-raising Flour
- Granulated Sugar
- UHT/Long-life Milk
- Powdered Milk
- Instant Coffee
- Instant Hot Chocolate
- Fruit Squash - Orange, Blackcurrant
- Individually wrapped biscuits (Penguins, Kit Kats etc)
- Cereal (Coco pops, Weetabix, Cornflakes)
- Biscuits
- Store-bought Jams, Honey & Marmite
- Cooking Oil
- Golden Syrup
- Tomato Puree
- Mustard, Mayonnaise, Branston Pickle, Ketchup & Brown Sauce
- Mixed Herbs & Garlic Salt

Tinned Items:

- Tinned Vegetables & Pulses
- Baked Beans
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Fruits
- Rice Pudding
- Tinned/Powdered Custard
- Tinned Meats
- Pasta Sauce
- Sweet & Sour Sauce
- Curry Sauce

Support St Petrock's

We rely on our generous local community for almost three quarters of our funding.

Donate money ▸
Donate items ▸
Become a Friend of St Petrock's ▸
Fundraise for us ▸
Volunteer for us ▸





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

European Day of Languages

The children had a great time celebrating the language and culture of different European countries. Hazel learnt about France—tasting some cheese and re-enacting the Tour De France! Maple were looking at Italy—Italian food and the Leaning Tower of pizza—oops no—Pisa! Willow focussed on Switzerland with its three different languages and chocolate! Oak learnt about Turkey—food, drink and culture.









Willow Residential Meeting—a reminder in case you missed the note today that parents of Willow class have a short meeting after school on Monday (28th) to share plans about a residential for Willow this year.

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.



PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

There are two vacancies for a parent governor on our federation's governing board and I am writing to invite nominations to fill this vacancy. Please think about becoming a governor or encouraging others to volunteer. Parent governors can be from either school in the federation.

Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the governor team and play an important role; the governing body works together as a group, meeting at least once every half term as a Full Governing Board, and once a term for training and development. Together they are responsible for the strategic direction of the federation, promoting high standards of educational achievement and ensuring our resources are used to maximum impact. Life as a governor is interesting and varied and we feel sure that there are parents prepared to take on this important role and give their time and commitment to helping us to continue to improve the school's performance.

Training and support will be available to help you develop into the role. This will include in-house mentoring and support as well as access to external governor training, those new to being a governor are expected to attend governor induction training provided by both Governors Services and the Diocesan Board of Education. The term of office for parent governors is four years. For further information about the role please get in touch with Sarah Walls, Chair of Governors, via email chair@ottervalleyfederation.org or through the school offices, who will be happy to help.

If you would like to stand for election **please complete the online form** no later than 12 noon on **Friday 2nd October 2026** If you wish you can include a few details about yourself and why you would like to become a governor (not exceeding 100 words). This will then be circulated to all parents to help them decided who to vote for if an election is required. You do not have to complete this section, but if you don't you may put yourself at a disadvantage if there is an election. An election, by secret ballot, will be held if more nominations are received than the number of vacancies. If an election is needed details of the procedure will be sent to all parents.

Nominations must be from parents or carers with children at the federation on the day that nominations close. The enclosed sheet summarises the disqualification criteria to serve as a governor. Anyone standing for election must certify that he/she is not disqualified for any reason. Parents/carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 hours per academic year or more or who are elected members of the Local Authority are not eligible to stand in these elections.

Yours sincerely



Jessica Benger

Clerk to Governor and Returning Officer

jess.benger@ottervalleyfederation.org

Disqualification Criteria on the following page:

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Disqualification criteria

A person is disqualified from holding or from continuing to hold office as a governor or associate member if he or she:

· fails to attend the governing body meetings – without the consent of the governing body – for a continuous period of six months, beginning with the date of the first meeting missed (not applicable to ex officio governors);

· is subject to a bankruptcy restriction order, an interim bankruptcy restriction order, a debt relief order or an interim debt relief order;

· has had his or her estate sequestrated and the sequestration order has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;

· is subject to:

I. a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986

II. a disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989

III. a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002

IV. an order made under Section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a County Court administration order);

· has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by the Charity Commissioners or High Court on grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement, or under Section 34 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from participating in the management or control of any body;

· is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children;

· is disqualified from working with children or subject to a direction under Section 142 of the Education Act 2002;

· is disqualified from registration for childminding or providing day care;

· is disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006;

· has received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months (without the option of a fine) in the five years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor;

· has received a prison sentence of two-and-a-half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor;

· has at any time received a prison sentence of five years or more;

· has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor;

· refuses to allow an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) for a DBS check.

KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES
Run by teachers

OCTOBER TIMETABLE

FENITON SCHOOL
26th – 29th

8.30am – 5.00pm every day

★ **Free** breakfast and afternoon snack included ★

MONDAY 26th	TUESDAY 27th	WEDNESDAY 28th	THURSDAY 29th
Welcome Chat and Breakfast Club (Fruit, toast or cereal)	**Welcome Chat and Breakfast Club** (Fruit, toast or cereal)	**Welcome Chat and Breakfast Club** (Fruit, toast or cereal)	**Welcome Chat and Breakfast Club** (Fruit, toast or cereal)
Morning Activities: Board games, card games, Lego, darts, pool, ice hockey table, puzzles, colouring and more!	**Morning Activities:** Board games, card games, Lego, darts, pool, ice hockey table, puzzles, colouring and more!	**Morning Activities:** Board games, card games, Lego, darts, pool, ice hockey table, puzzles, colouring and more!	**Morning Activities:** Board games, card games, Lego, darts, pool, ice hockey table, puzzles, colouring and more!
Warm up games	**Warm up games**	**Warm up games**	**Warm up games**
Break	**Break**	**Break**	**Break**
Football or Arts & Crafts	**Cricket/Football or Arts & Crafts**	**Tennis or Arts & Crafts**	**Football or Arts & Crafts**
Basketball or Arts & Crafts	**Dodgeball**	**Football or Arts & Crafts**	**Archery & Axe Throwing**
Lunch	**Lunch**	**Lunch**	**Lunch**
Axe throwing & Archery	**Parachute Games**	**NERF GUN WARS! or Arts & Crafts**	**Orienteering and Scavenger Hunt**
Baking Biscuits	**Making Slime**	**Making Rocky Road**	**Chocolate Cup Cakes**
TBC Animal Workshop Children will learn, touch and hold 3 different types of species. ★	**Outdoor Art Activity and Woodland Games**	**TBC FUN SCIENCE EXETER** Chemical Reactions Workshop	**Benchball or Arts & Crafts**
Home time 5.00pm	**Home time 5.00pm**	**Home time 5.00pm**	**Home time 5.00pm**

What we offer:
- Ofsted registered
- DBS registered staff
- Fully trained first aiders
- Safeguarding certificates

★

Tax Free Childcare:
Check if you are eligible for universal credit and tax credits which can contribute significantly to the cost of your childcare with us!
Save 20%

★

Alternative activities:
Each day, children can participate in a range of arts and crafts activities.



KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES

Run by teachers

Ofsted Registered

We provide WRAPAROUND CARE at your school

Our term time Breakfast and After School Clubs include breakfast or a snack alongside a variety of engaging activities including arts & crafts, board games, card games, sports, outside breaks, puzzles, and much more.

Run by experienced teachers!

Check dates and times online:

www.kidsholidayheroes.co.uk

BOOK ONLINE

SCAN ME

FOLLOW US

Email us: bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk

kidsholidayheroes

Kids Holiday Heroes



Our Swimming Journey

Baby & Toddler

Pre-School

Stages 1-7

Aquatic Skills

Rookie Lifesaving

Adult Learn to Swim

Why Families Choose LED Sidmouth Swim School

- Swim England Framework
- Qualified, Friendly Teachers
- Trackable Progress Through Recognised Stages
- Fun, Safe Learning Environment
- Lessons for Every Age and Ability

UNLIMITED PUBLIC SWIMMING INCLUDED

When you join our swimming lesson programme, you can enjoy unlimited public swimming sessions free of charge.

*Fun Splash not included

FREE TRIAL LESSON

Book your free trial today

sidmouthswimschool@ledleisure.co.uk

SIDMOUTH SWIMMING POOL

Scan the QR code to enquire