



BEAFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Life, Love and Learning to the full

Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents

It's been a lovely week at school. There's been a defiant shift in the temperature gauge but I for one welcome a fine winter's day at this time of year. A crisp morning with blue skies has its own kind of beauty.

This Week

We started the week with an OPAL-themed assembly. Now that we're heading into the "wellies on the grass" time of year, children are encouraged to keep a pair of wellies in school so they can make the most of our outdoor spaces. They can hang them on the sheltered playground wellie racks. The children shared some of their creative play ideas, and we also talked about how to use our quieter areas, such as the reading shed and the fairy garden, sensibly and respectfully.

Assessment Week

Next week is assessment week for Years 1-6. We've brought it forward slightly this term so that the children can complete their standardised assessments in maths, reading, spelling and grammar before Christmas play rehearsals take over!

We know assessments can make some children feel worried. In school, we aim to acknowledge those feelings but also to normalise them. Assessments are a routine part of school life and it is important to build children's resilience to them. If your child is particularly anxious, please let us know, class teachers are always happy to reassure and support them.

Illness & Ventilation

This time of year always leads to an increase in colds and other illnesses. To help reduce transmission we often have windows open in the classroom, which does mean they might feel cooler than usual. We suggest that children wear extra layers beneath their uniform if they are susceptible to the cold, or a scarf or snood around their neck. Some of the children have asked to wear gloves or hats in the classroom but this makes it difficult for them to write and difficult for us to see them so we usually ask them to keep these for outside.

Toys & Sensory Items

Thank you for your support with our request not to send toys and sensory items into school. This was causing a lot of issues before half term and I'm pleased to say we've seen a dramatic decrease in incidents involving these items and the children are very settled and more productive as a result. We really appreciate your cooperation.

Parent Code of Conduct

Attached to this newsletter is the TEAM Parent Code of Conduct. We are incredibly lucky to have such a supportive school community, and on the whole parents and staff work together brilliantly.

As a small school we pride ourselves on knowing our families and our children. The chats you have with teachers on the gate are invaluable to help us support your children.

Thank you for continuing to follow the code by raising concerns through the proper channels, and modelling the respectful communication we teach the children. A huge thank you also to all of you who offer their time to the school or support the Friends of Beaford, your contributions genuinely make Beaford the special place it is.

Christmas Fair

On the subject of the Friends of Beaford, they are currently working hard behind the scenes to prepare for the Christmas Fair on Friday 5th December, 2:30pm. We're starting a little earlier to give all the children the opportunity to access the fair. This year parents will collect children in Reception to Year 6 from the Village Hall. Bus and Taxi children will travel as usual.

We'd like to have plenty of stalls, activities and games for the children to take part in and food and drinks for sale, which does require volunteers. If you can do half an hour on a stall or help to set one up please get in touch with the office or our PTA chair Sam Harding or treasurer Ellie Burt-Jones.

We'd greatly appreciate some donations for the wine or water stall. Please bring donations to the office if you have any - ideally bottles of wine, we have plenty of water!

Join the Team

Our SEN Teaching Assistant vacancy remains open until 28th November. We have updated the advert so that applicants looking for part-time work are welcome to apply. If you, or someone you know, would enjoy supporting our SEN children through 1:1 work and small-group activities, please take a look or share the link below:

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/149090/EDV-2025-BCPS-19692>

We look forward to seeing you all next week. Enjoy the weekend.

Mr Myers





Owls

This week, Owls have been creating a slideshow about our solar system and facts about the planets within our solar system. The children also looked at pictures of space which led to some really fantastic discussions and questions! In English, we have planned and started to write our diary entries. They are writing in role as Rose Blanche, a German girl who follows the army trucks to a unknown place out of town. In maths we have been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 and solving problems involving this. This week, we've started discussing and giving out parts for the Christmas play - the children have been very enthusiastic and brilliant at adding ideas.



Otters

Otters have continued their hard work this week and are really getting to grips with times tables. Times tables are a huge focus for year 3 and year 4 and the progress made already is a real credit to the children and the efforts they have made. Any times tables activities at home are always a good idea - a little and often is much better than an occasional big push!

Apart from maths, we have been planning our "mischief narrative" writing and I was surprised to find that the Otters children were actually very good at coming up with a variety of ingenious ways in which their characters could be naughty and mischievous.

We also learned to spell "mischievous"! In RE we learned about different Hindu deities. In topic we thought hard about why the Romans might have left Britain, and in PE we got outside in the cold to practise our netball shooting! As Christmas is on its way, we have been doing more music than normal and in science we learned about what kind of foods we need for a balanced diet. Another excellent week for the Otters and the children can be very proud of themselves for all their hard work.

Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs have learned about Mae Jemison as part of their Space Explorers learning. The children engaged in research and shared their new knowledge with their friends. The children have completed their learning on addition and started to count back and use number lines as part of their introduction to subtraction. I was impressed with their prior knowledge. The children have continued with their return narrative stories, using their plans to help them. The children's independence in writing is really improving as they write across the different subject areas. The children have learned about verbs and included verbs in their sentences. Our rehearsal for the Christmas Play has begun and Hedgehogs are busy learning their lines and getting into role. I have seen some wonderful acting this week!

Ladybirds

This week we enjoyed exploring our book of the week Hibernation Station, and learning our wow words: hibernation and snuggle. In phonics, we continued our Read Write Inc. learning, revisiting Special Friend sounds and focusing on the sounds m, a, s, d and t and their letter formation. In maths, we deepened our understanding of numbers 1-5, investigating one more, one less and exploring the composition of numbers through White Rose and Mastery of Number activities. In PE the children developed their balancing skills whilst focusing on our Lakeland Animals theme. We looked at hibernation during our Understanding the World session inspired by Don't Hog the Hedge! and checked on the nests we built last lesson. The children have been busy in music learning their songs for the nativity whilst also practising their acting and have started to make magnificent props. They already know their lines which is amazing. Well done!





CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE



This week awarded to

<i>Ladybirds</i>	<i>Ozlo has made amazing progress with his blending this week. His determination and hard work paid off. Well done Ozlo!</i>
<i>Hedgehogs</i>	<i>Una wanted to continue with her subtractions when we had finished maths. What a keen learner!</i>
<i>Otters</i>	<i>Ella for being an all-round super star with her learning and her attitude towards school. Ella is always cheerful and polite. She brings positivity to her learning and this helps all of us feel positive! Well done Ella!</i>
<i>Owls</i>	<i>Cody for always approaching everything with such positivity. He is often first to follow instructions, keen to complete his learning and often challenges himself with the dive deepers. You are a superstar Cody! Thanks for setting such a brilliant example!</i>

Contribution Certificates

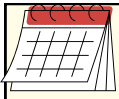
Awarded to

<i>Ladybirds</i>	<i>Jack for being very supportive to other children during our nativity play practice. Keep it up Jack!</i>
<i>Hedgehogs</i>	<i>Heidi Zarza for being more independent with her learning which is helping her confidence across the different subjects.</i>
<i>Otters</i>	<i>Riley for settling in so well to his new school. Riley has joined in our school routines calmly and politely. He sits and listens extremely well to instructions and is therefore well-prepared for independent learning. Well done Riley!</i>
<i>Owls</i>	<i>Sophie for being such a kind and calm member of the class - you work equally well in a group or on your own and always try your best in everything you do. You are quick to notice if people feel down and are there to cheer them up. Well done Sophie!</i>

Opal Award

Isabella, Joe, Roo, Aidan, Zak for their incredible efforts when creating a water filtration system.





DATES

for your diary

27th October

First Day of Half Term

12th November

Nursery School Starters and Reception to RHS Rosemoor

13th November

Year 1,2 & 3 Football Club starts

14th November

Hedgehogs Assembly

18th November

Flu Immunisations

2nd December

No Lego Club this week

5th December

Hedgehogs Space Workshop

5th December

Friends of Beaford Xmas Fair

10th December

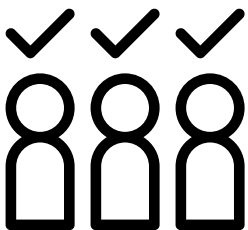
Nursery & Reception Christmas Nativity

11th December

Christmas Play

Attendance

This Week



Reception - 98%
Hedgehogs - 94%
Otters - 93%
Owls - 95%



This Week's Spellings

A B C D

Hedgehogs

Year 1 - Adding the suffixes '-er'
Fresher, higher, quicker, slower

Year 2 - Words ending in le
table, apple, bottle, little, middle

Otters

Words with the prefix 'mis-'

mistake, misbehave, misspell, misplace, mistrust, misunderstanding, misuse

Owls

Words ending in '-ent' and '-ence'

competence, confidence, decent, eloquence, emergent, frequent, innocence, intelligence, transparent, violent

Tax Free Childcare

A reminder to all parents that use our breakfast and after school club, that you are able to use your tax free childcare account to pay for your child's sessions. For more information on Tax Free Childcare accounts, please click on this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

PE Days

Monday - Ladybirds

Tuesday - Owls

Wednesday - Otters

Thursday - Hedgehogs



Change of Clothes

Now the wetter weather is here, children are getting very muddy in the playground. Please can all children remember to bring a change of clothes to school every day. Please include spare underwear! If your child enjoys playing in the mud kitchen, please also send your child in with clearly named wellington boots. Thank you!

Spring Term Clubs

Football & Lego Club Year 3-6

An expression of interest email has been sent out regarding football club for our **KS2 children** and Lego Club for **Reception to Year 6 children**. If you would be interested in your child attending, please let the school office know so that we can book the coach accordingly.



Wine Donations

Friends of Beaford are still in desperate need of wine donations for the 'Wine or Water Stall at the Christmas Fair. If you can spare a bottle of wine, please drop it off at the school office. Emily promises not to drink it!



Wrap-around Care

Breakfast Club

Available every day from 8:00am – 9.00am

8:00am sessions are charged at £3 per session (Pupil Premium: £2 per session)

Free Breakfast Club is available from 8:30am onwards

After School Club

Running Monday to Thursday from 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Sessions charged at £4 per session (Year 1-6) £6 (3 Year Olds)

(Pupil Premium: 50% discount)

Menu

Monday

Burger in a Bun

V – Quorn Dog

Potato Wedges, Baked

Beans and Sweetcorn

Specialty Icecream

Tuesday

Cottage Pie

V – Cheese and Broccoli

Bake

Cubed Potatoes,

Seasonal Veg

Fruit Cocktail and Cream

Wednesday

Roast Chicken

V – Quorn Bites

Roast Potatoes and

Seasonal Veg

Lemon Drizzle Cake and

Fresh Fruit

Thursday

Homemade Pizza

V – Homemade

Vegetarian Pizza

Rice 'n' peas and Corn,

Syrup Sponge and

Custard

Friday

Fish Fingers

V – Cheese Wheel

Golden Fries and

Seasonal Veg

Shortbread Biscuit

Children in

Reception,

Year 1 & 2 receive Free

School Meals

**Don't forget we're a nut
free school!**

Friends of Beaford Annual Christmas Fair

Friday 5th December from 2.30pm



Friends of Beaford Annual Christmas Fair



We are getting ready for a festive afternoon at the Friends of Beaford Christmas Fair! The fair is taking place on Friday, 5th December at the Beaford Village Hall starting from 2.30pm.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! The Friends of Beaford are in desperate need of volunteers to help run the fair. If you can lend a hand—even for just a short time—it would make a huge difference. Please contact Sam Harding on 07891 183650 if you can help us out.

Arrangements for the Day We have some important arrangements regarding drop-off and collection to ensure everyone can join in the fun:

- Key Stage 2 (Otters & Owls Classes): Children will walk up to the Village Hall with their teachers at 2.30pm to help run the stalls and take part in the festivities.

Please send your child in with some pocket money so they can enjoy the games and stalls before you arrive!

- Reception to Year 2: Will walk up to the hall at 3pm with their teachers.

Please can all children be collected from the village hall, making sure that you sign them out with their teacher before you leave.

Bus and Taxi children will be walked back to school in time for school transport.

Part of TEAM Multi Academy Trust





Lilcott Farm Adventures

A group of our children had a wonderful time recently visiting Lilcott Farm in Atherington. It was a truly hands-on experience where the children got stuck into farm life, helping to look after the animals and exploring the poly tunnels. They learned all about where our food comes from by planting their own seeds and harvesting some fresh fruit and vegetables. They even rolled up their sleeves to dig over the beds, preparing the soil ready for the next round of planting. It was a fantastic opportunity to get outdoors and learn some valuable new skills!



School aged vaccinations

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ FLU - Reception - Year 11
- ✓ MMR - Catch-up
- ✓ HPV - Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ Meningitis ACWY - Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) Year 9 - Year 11

FLU

MMR

HPV

MENINGITIS ACWY

DIPHTHERIA TETANUS POLIO (DTP)

Did you miss us?

We also have community clinics across Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

SCAN HERE



For further information scan the QR code or please speak with a member of the team

Call us on

01392 342678

Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net

Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?



Apply online at:

devon.cc/admissionsonline

or scan the QR code. Applications open from 15 November 2025 to the 15 January 2026

If you can't access the school admissions website you can get more information by emailing admissions@devon.gov.uk or call our Education Helpline on:

0345 155 1019



You must apply through the Admissions Team, even if you've already given details to a school. Applications made directly to schools or on their lists will not be accepted.





Team Trust Vacancies

Apply now direct with mynewterm

If you're interested in joining our team we currently have vacancies across the TEAM Trust.

Please click on the link below to find out more...

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies> or <https://mynewterm.com>



Trustee with Financial Expertise

EDV/2025/TMT/20736

Team Multi-Academy Trust

TEAM Multi Academy Trust are seeking a Trustee with Financial Expertise - Help Shape the Future of Education in North Devon

- Abbey Road, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 1JU
- Permanent | Part-Time
- Voluntary

40 Days Remaining • Apply by Midday, Wednesday 31st Dec, 2025

Meal Time Assistant

EDV/2025/U/A/14673

Umberleigh Primary Academy

The appointed person will work as part of a team of Meal Time Assistants managed by the Head of School. In-service training will be provided where appropriate.

- Dorridge Hill, Umberleigh, Devon, EX37 9AD
- Permanent | Part-Time
- £12.65 Hourly
- 3 Hours per week | (12PM - 1PM TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY EACH DAY)

7 Days Remaining • Apply by Midday, Friday 28th Nov, 2025 • Job start: ASAP

Cleaner

EDV/2025/PIA/85697

Pilton Infants' Academy

The appointed person/s will be managed by the Premises Manager and Head of School. In service training will be provided where appropriate.

- Abbey Road, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 1JU
- Permanent | Part-Time
- £12.65 Hourly
- Grade A | 10HPW (2 HOURS PER DAY TO BE WORKED AFTERNOON/ EVENINGS) | 41 WEEKS

New • Apply by Midday, Friday 28th Nov, 2025 • Job start: ASAP

AFTER SCHOOL PLAYWORKER LEAD

EDV/2025/U/A/05739

Umberleigh Primary Academy

Do you have a few spare hours during the week and love working with children? Are you local to Umberleigh and/or can reliably commute? Then we want to hear from you!

- Dorridge Hill, Umberleigh, Devon, EX37 9AD
- Temporary/Fixed Term | Part-Time
- £13.26 Hourly
- Grade C | 7.5 HPW (15:30PM - 17:00PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY)

New • Apply by Midday, Friday 5th Dec, 2025 • Job start: 6th January 2026

SPECIALIST TEACHING ASSISTANT

EDV/2025/BCPS/19692

Beaford Community Primary & Nursery School

We're looking for a caring, motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our school community and play a key role in supporting our pupils' learning and development.

- Beaford, Winkleigh, Devon, EX19 8LJ
- Fixed Term | Full-Time
- £13.90 Hourly
- Grade D | 30 hours per week (08:30AM - 3:30PM MONDAY - FRIDAY) | We understand that availability varies, if you're only able to only commit to a few days per week, we're open to appointing two candidates to share the role.

7 Days Remaining • Apply by Midday, Friday 28th Nov, 2025 • Job start: ASAP

Administrative Assistant

EDV/2025/HBC/EP/44963

High Bickington Church of England Primary Academy

We are seeking to appoint a flexible and committed administrative assistant to support the Head of School and Trust Business Manager in the daily operation of our school front office and reception...

- High Bickington, Umberleigh, Devon, EX37 9AY
- Permanent | Part-Time
- £13.26 Hourly
- Grade C | 20 HPW (MONDAY TO FRIDAY 08:30AM - 12:30PM)

New • Apply by Midday, Friday 5th Dec, 2025 • Job start: 6th January 2026

Community News and Events



Saturday 29 November 2025 11am- 12.30pm

WINTER TALES AND WILD WOOD WONDERS

with **CLAIRE BARKER**

AUTHOR OF KNITBONE PEPPER AND PICKLEWITCH AND JACK

Calling all young hedgewitches, boys and girls..

You're invited to a magical seasonal event with author Claire Barker. She will be telling some of Hettie Nettle's stories for us and introducing her latest novel, 'Hettie Nettle's Handbook for Hedgewitches'.

Books will be available to purchase at the event.

FREE DROP-IN
TORRINGTON LIBRARY
Suitable for 6 to 11 year olds

CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM

29th November to 23rd December



It's all aboard the postal train as we deliver letters to Father Christmas!

Can you find all the letters hidden around the museum, so that we can send them on their way?

*See the museum transformed for the festive period and post your own letter to Father Christmas in our Christmas post box.**



**Father Christmas
c/o Tiverton Museum
of Mid Devon Life**

*Part of normal admission.

VISIT FATHER CHRISTMAS!

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 4 - 6pm

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER 10.30am - 1.30pm

Explore the museum and make a festive decoration as part of your ticket.

Children £8.50 Normal adult admission applies.

Booking essential.



**TIVERTON
MUSEUM**
of Mid Devon Life

Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00-4:00
www.tivertonmuseum.org.uk
Beck's Square, Tiverton EX16 6PJ
01884 256295
Registered charity 1181976



FOLLOW US

@TivertonMuseum



TUESDAY 23 DECEMBER | 10AM - 2PM



CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY



The Ashleigh school
Bevan Road
Barnstaple
EX32 8LJ



<https://eequ.org/book/romar-sports-haf-holiday-club-barnstaple-with-romar-sports-devon-limited-14408>

School holidays adding to your energy costs?



Our energy team can help

citizens
advice

Torrige, North,
Mid & West Devon

Call us on **01237 879 233** to see if you're eligible for help with fuel vouchers and grants, and to receive tips on how to cut your bills