



Newsletter—Friday 26th September

Next week—W/C Monday 29th September 2025	
Monday:	
Tuesday:	Class Three PE
Wednesday:	Class One Outdoor Learning (Please remember appropriate footwear)
Thursday:	Class Two PE
Friday:	Class Three Trip - Roman Baths Class Four Art Workshop Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week

We have been delighted to welcome authors from the Appledore Book Festival into school this week. They have talked about their work and shared their books with the children in an enthralling way. The sessions were thoroughly enjoyed by all. We are incredibly grateful to the

Appledore Book Festival for generously providing every child with their own copy of a book written by the author who visited their class. We hope these will be read and treasured - Class Three are particularly fortunate to be bringing home a *beautiful* book to keep.

Attendance

Thank you to all families who support regular and punctual school attendance. Every day in school is important, and good attendance is closely linked to children’s progress, achievement, and well-being. When children miss school, they miss essential learning, friendships, and routines that contribute to their success. If you are experiencing any difficulties with attendance or punctuality, please contact us—we are here to try to help.

Young Mathletes!

It was lovely to see how engaged Oliver, Leo and Arlo from Class Two were when they went off to Pilton Infants' this week to take part in some maths challenges. They did super-well and came back proudly wearing their 'Mathlete' badges. I hope you keep enjoying your maths this year, boys.

End of the day at the old site

Whilst opening up the playground to parents (and younger children) before 3:30pm pick-up has certainly helped a little in negating possible accidents on the road, there is still need for vigilance at the end of the day. Only yesterday, a large van, not associated with anyone at school (I think!), came too quickly down the High Street as parents and children were in the road. Please do pick up children from the gate / playground and move away from the corner outside school carefully. Also, whilst it is lovely to see children on their bikes cycling around tracks made using the new barriers, this should not be happening until AFTER Class Two children have all come out of their classroom. It would be all too easy to see a Y1 child knocked over on the playground by someone on a bike. Children cycling / scootering / skateboarding on the school playground MUST wear a helmet to do so. Thank you for your cooperation - it will help keep all children safe.

School Review

As I wrote last week, we had our first TEAM review of the year last Thursday (18th) and I though you may like to hear a little of what Mr Swait said about the Writing and Maths lessons that he saw:

Visiting English lessons

... pupils were engaged in a writing task ... planning their own stories ... the teacher carefully checked on learning as the session progressed. Pupils confidently discussed their characters' actions and began recording their ideas, including pupils with SEND who were enabled to access the same learning successfully, demonstrating the school's commitment to inclusion ... teaching of dialogue in narrative writing was highly effective. The teacher made strong use of questioning, clear modelling on the IWB, and purposeful paired discussion to secure understanding. Pupils demonstrated secure knowledge of how to use speech marks and were successfully challenged to extend their work ... pupils' exemplary behaviour and high levels of engagement were a notable strength ... Pupils confidently recalled ... The teacher provided well-sequenced explanations, supported by modelled examples that deepened understanding and extended pupils' grasp of sentence structure ... pupils' growing technical vocabulary. Pupils benefitted from targeted questioning and purposeful opportunities to discuss and debate their learning, resulting in secure understanding and confident participation. The engagement of all pupils, including those with SEND and the disadvantaged, reflected the school's high expectations and strong classroom culture. These examples illustrate that teaching across the school is underpinned by strong subject knowledge, effective pedagogy, and consistently high aspirations for all learners.

Observing Year 1 Phonics

The teacher models the accurate pronunciation of the new sound and provides opportunities for children to practise articulating it ... words supported by picture cues ... before moving on to the correct letter formation. Learning begins actively and at a good pace ... Those who find aspects difficult receive targeted support from the teacher, ensuring full inclusion. The teacher's pronunciation modelling is clear and precise ... the session offers structured opportunities to practise both phoneme articulation and letter formation.

Visiting maths lessons

... The teacher makes effective use of mathematical language ... and supports pupils' learning with clear explanations and questioning to check understanding. Pupils have sufficient time to practise and consolidate their skills, sharing ideas with a partner, while sentence stems are used well to develop mathematical talk ... Carefully chosen ... visuals give pupils a clear scaffold, and the teacher's questioning both checks and deepens understanding. Tasks are pitched appropriately for the mixed-age class, ensuring all pupils are challenged in line with age-related expectations. Pupils work with accuracy and care, setting out their work clearly, while the classroom environment remains calm, orderly, and highly conducive to learning ... Lesson content is well sequenced, building securely on prior learning, and provides an appropriate level of challenge. Pupils respond with confidence to the teacher's questions and demonstrate a secure grasp of number facts, methods, and strategies. Highly effective modelling supports pupils to move their learning forward, while discussions and work in books show that pupils gain a secure understanding of the key concepts. Across the classes visited, behaviour is consistently exemplary. Pupils remain highly focused, engage positively with their learning, and benefit from well-structured routines that maximise learning time.

Summary for curriculum and teaching / Inclusion / behaviour

Overall, the teaching of writing and mathematics across the school is strong, with clear strategies in place to address areas for development and to secure further improvement in pupils' outcomes. Leaders ensure that teachers have the expertise they need in order to deliver the curriculum effectively. As a result, teachers make highly effective choices about what to teach and when and how to teach it. Teaching ensures that pupils consistently develop their language and vocabulary, both spoken and written, and increase their competency in the use of subject specific terms. Teachers draw on their knowledge of pupils' needs and starting points well to further their achievement within lessons ... Leaders have high expectations for all pupils, including those with SEND and the most disadvantaged. The actions taken by the school ensure that the most vulnerable pupils typically receive the

support they need in order to reduce barriers to their learning ... Pupils behave exceptionally well in lessons. They demonstrate high levels of self-discipline and dedication to their learning. Relationships between staff and pupils are highly positive and productive with pupils responding immediately to staff requests and instructions. Pupils show high levels of respect for their peers and are considerate of others. No pupils needed to be reminded about positive behaviour in any of the lessons visited.

Have a lovely weekend,

Rob Norton
Head of School

Notices

Lunches Next Week - All

Please note the change in menu next week - Thursday will be oven baked fish, golden fries and seasonal vegetables with homemade cookie for pudding, and Friday will be curry with rice and vegetables and Lemon Drizzle cake.

Lunches Next Week - KS1 Children

It is census day next Thursday when the government collect information about our school, including how many of our Key Stage One children have free school meals as part of their universal free school meal entitlement. This information is then used to work out how much funding our school received. Therefore, if your Reception or Class Two child usually brings in a home packed lunch, we would very much appreciate if they could book a school dinner on that day to give it a try - if they are unsure they are welcome to bring a packed lunch as well as a back up! We have swapped the menu next week to ensure it's one of the more popular dishes. Thank you.

Class Three Trip

If you have not yet been on Arbor to complete the permission for next week's trip, please remember to do this by Monday 29th September. Thank you.

Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 29th September 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese and tomato pasta bake Seasonal Veg Apple Cake	Minced Beef Cottage Pie V – Quorn cottage pie Sweetcorn Fruit Jelly	Roast of the Day Chicken V – Quorn roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg Fruit salad	Oven Baked Fish V – Quorn Nuggets Golden Fries and Seasonal Veg Homemade Cookie (various flavours)	Hidden Veg Chicken Curry V - Hidden Veg Quorn Curry Rice, mixed veg Lemon drizzle cake



Arbor

Payments

We kindly ask that Dinner and Breakfast Club accounts are kept in credit at all times.

Topping up is quick and easy — simply log in to your account, head to the 'Accounts' section, and make a payment by card. If you pay for breakfast club using

tax free childcare, please let Mrs Goss know when you make a payment.

If you're experiencing any difficulties or have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to Mrs Goss in the school office.



Arbor

Annual tasks

It's time for a little housekeeping! Please can all parents and carers to log in to Arbor to:

Check and update your contact details - please review the following and update anything that may have changed:

- Home address - have you moved and forgotten to give the office your new address?
- Mobile & home telephone numbers
- Emergency contacts
- Medical conditions and allergies

Complete your child(ren)'s parental consents for the 2025/2026 academic year, including:

- Dietary information
- Photographs
- Off site activities
- Transport

Renewing these annually ensures that we can keep accurate records.

The photographic permission categories have been updated this year to reflect how TEAM uses photographs of children. Remember we will not name individual children in photographs.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you.

School Calendar

September

October

Friday 3rd: Class 3 Big Event. Trip to Roman Baths, Bath
Wed 8th: Harvest Festival service in the church at 2:30pm
Thu 9th: Houses of Parliament talk to KS2 children
Fri 10th: Mental Health Day. Non-uniform - wear something yellow
Wed 15th: Class 1 Maths Stay & Play for parents & carers
Wed 15th: After School Church Club
Thu 16th: 'Flu' vaccines
Tue 21st: Class 4 trip to Exeter race course
Wed 22nd: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm
Fri 24th: Last day of the half term
W/C Monday 27th: Half Term

November

Mon 3rd: School restarts
Mon 3rd: DT week begins
Thu 13th: Class 4 Big Event. Trip to Tiverton Museum
Wed 19th: After School Church Club
Fri 21st: Children in Need Day - non-uniform

December

Tue 9th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm
Wed 17th: School Christmas dinner
Thu 18th: School Christmas production (TBC)
Fri 19th: Carol Collective Worship in the church at 2:45pm
Fri 19th: Last day of term

January 2026

Tue 6th: School restarts

February

Tue 3rd: London Residential (Y5) departs

Fri 6th: London Residential returns

Mon 9th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Fri 13th: Last day of the half term

W/C Mon 16th: Half Term

Mon 23rd: School restarts

Mon 23rd: DT week begins

March

Wed 11th: SGH Residential (Y3/4) departs

Fri 13th: SGH Residential returns

Fri 21st: Red Nose Day - non-uniform

Tue 31st: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

April

Thu 2nd: Easter Service in the church at 2:30pm

Thu 2nd: Last day of term

Mon 20th: School restarts

May

Mon 4th: Bank Holiday - no school

Mon 11th: Y6 SPaG SAT

Tue 12th: Y6 Reading SAT

Wed 13th: Y6 Arithmetic and Maths 1 SAT

Thu 14th: Y6 Maths 2 SAT

Sun 17th: Bude Residential (Y6) departs

Fri 22nd: Bude Residential returns

Fri 22nd: Last day of the half term

W/C Mon 25th: Half Term

June

Mon 1st: Non-Pupil Day

Tue 2nd: Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

Thu 18th: Vision Day

July

Wed 15th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Mon 20th: School Sports Morning

Tue 21st: Leavers' Service at 2:00pm

Tue 21st: Last day of the school year

Home Activities and Homework Tasks

Class One:

Please spend time reading with your child and practising their new phonic sounds.

Class Two:

Please aim to read with an adult for 15 minutes each day and **record in reading records.**

Class Three:

Reading log book, learn multiplication tables and spellings.

Class Four:

Read for 60 minutes at least (Y6) and 45 minutes at least (Y5). Maths homework to be returned on Tuesday please.



What happened at school this week?

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!

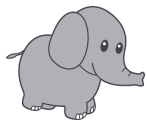


Learning Lions (Class One)

What is a family tree?

What makes me a me?

Can you use natural materials to create your family?



Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you make your own musical instrument?

Can you write some facts about the animals we met during our reptile visit?

Can you partition 2 digit numbers into tens and ones in different ways? (Year Two)

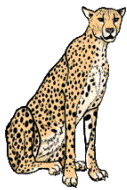


Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

Can you retell your twisted narrative?

Can you count to 20 in French?

What did you design using the Canvas paint app in computing?



Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

Can you explain how to round numbers?

Why were coal and the railways so vital to the Industrial Revolution?

What do prefixes do?



Class One

We have had such a busy week in Class 1! We started the week with our phonics stay and play session where the children enjoyed demonstrating the phonics skills that they have learnt so far- thank you again to everybody that attended. On Thursday, we then had the author Gareth P. Jones come to visit us and share some of his writing . He shared his book 'Rabunzel' with us and even turned the story into a musical along the way! We have then

been focusing on the story of 'Only one you' where we have completed lots of fish and sea related activities. We have decorated and made collaged fish as well as played with the sea creatures in the aqua bead tuff tray. In maths, we have been investigating and exploring the numbers 2 and 3 as well as thinking about sorting rules and how to group/sort different objects.

Class Two

This week in Class Two we were so lucky to have a visit from Chris Johnson from Animal Encounters. The children took part in a workshop with Chris, where he taught the children about reptiles and animals which were around before and during the time of the dinosaurs. The children had chance to meet a giant millipede, a blue tongued lizard, a python snake, an armadillo and a barn owl. They learnt lots of interesting facts about the animals and even found out that an owl is the most closely related animal to a dinosaur which is alive today! The children's behaviour was fantastic and they were really engaged in the experience. They are some great questions and even knew the answers to some of Chris' questions as well. The workshop this week has inspired the class to create a page in their project sketchbooks and to write about the experience during their Independent Write session.

This week as part of Appledore Book Fair week, the children have had chance to meet a real-life author Layn Marlow who wrote *The Colour of the Sky*. They had chance to listen to the story, read by the author, ask her questions about her job and take part in a art session using chalky pastels to create a kite from the story. The children have welcomed Miss Phillips, a student teacher into their class. She will be working alongside the children and Mrs Laurence for the autumn term, to develop some early teaching skills as part of her PGCE degree. What an excitingly busy week!

Class Three - by Zoe and Reggie

This week in Class 3, we have been learning how to add 1, 10, 100 and 1,000 more or less than a number. Why not test us with some questions—we'd love to show you what we can do! We also finished writing our *Twisted Narratives*. Zoe's story was about Bella meeting Cruella. Cruella gave Bella a poisonous apple... sadly, Bella didn't make it. Reggie's story was about a witch with no name who gave Poppy a poisonous lime, which led to a savage ending! In computing, we have been learning how to draw using a canvas app. We practised using the mouse pad with control and created some great pictures.

Class Four

Here are some of the things that have gone well for us this week in Class Four:

(Jack) I have challenged myself with writing this week by making my work more descriptive.

(Niah) I have had a polite and considerate attitude in class and on the playground. (Megan) I

have insisted on my best and challenged myself in maths, working on place value. (Esmay)

This week I have let my light shine by listening well and, on the playground, including others

in games. (Freddie M) In today's writing I insisted on my best and challenged myself by

putting varied punctuation to make a range of sentences. (Emilia) I asked a lot of questions

in reading and have really pushed myself with it. (Francesca) I have been putting my hand up

to answer questions and I have been making my work more descriptive. I have been

managing distractions well.

Well done to all of these children and to everyone in Class Four: you have certainly Let Your Light Shine!

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