



Executive Head Teacher: Melanie Smallwood
Head of School: Karen Lintin

Dear Parents & Carers

10/01/2025

Spring Term 1

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break, welcome back to the new Spring term.

Please see important dates and information below for the coming weeks.



Important dates:

Starting from 6th January (every Monday this half term) - Swimming (Year 3 & Year 5 only)

Starting from 13th January - Afterschool Clubs start

15th January - Y4 Tennis Festival

22nd January - Tempest Photography Class Photos

5th February - Thrive Open Morning (more info to follow)

17th - 21st February - Half term

24th February - First day of Spring term 2

3rd - 4th April - Y5 Residential to London

7th - 25th April - Easter half term

22nd April - First day of Summer term 1

22nd - 25th April - Y6 residential to St Georges House

1st - 2nd May - Y4 residential to Rock and Rapid (more info to follow)

Don't forget to access your child's home learning via the school website, or click [here](#)!

Spring term Curriculum Maps

The spring term curriculum maps for this spring term are now available to view via the school website or click [here](#) to access them (scroll to the bottom of the page).

Applying for September Reception places

If your child is starting reception in September 2025, please don't forget that the deadline to apply for a school placement is **Wednesday 15th January**.

Parking on the Zig Zags



We request that you **do not park** on the yellow Zig Zags at the top of School Lane. They are there to keep everyone safe. Parking here could endanger other pedestrians and road users and cause a visual obstruction. We ask that you park safely elsewhere when dropping off or picking up.

Afterschool Clubs

Tag Rugby Club, Playdough Club and Construction Club **start this coming Monday 13th January**. If you have booked your child onto one of these clubs, you would have received an email yesterday to confirm their place. If your child decides throughout the weeks that they would not like to attend anymore, please make sure you let the admin team know, so a child on the waiting list can be given their space. The Goal Getters will also start this coming Monday, for those who are booked on and have paid the fee. Please make sure that you pick your child up promptly from **all** clubs.

Y3&5 Swimming Lessons



Year 3&5 have swimming lessons booked for this spring term. You can pay for all of the swimming lessons upfront or you can pay for them in instalments, due the Friday before the Mondays lesson, via Eduspot/SchoolMoney. Thank you for your support with this. The first lesson went well this Monday, and the lessons will continue for the rest of the term with the last lesson taking place on Monday 10th February.

Year 4 Tennis Festival

Year 4 will be attending the Tennis Festival at the Tarka Tennis Centre, Barnstaple on Wednesday 15th January. An email with all the details went out to Year 4 parents yesterday. Please pay the £2.50 entry fee via Eduspot/SchoolMoney. The school will be subsidising the cost of the bus. We appreciate your support with this.



Thrive and Pastoral Support Questionnaire and Open Morning

Thank you to those who filled out the Thrive online questionnaire, your input and feedback is really appreciated. We are reviewing your responses and will let you know more information about our Thrive open morning very soon.

Save the date - Wednesday 5th February

Headlice

Please be aware that there have been some cases of headlice within school. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat if and when needed.

Social Media and Online Safety

It has been brought to the staff's attention that some pupils have been accessing SNAPCHAT whilst at home. We would ask parents to please check your child's phone or electronic devices regularly to ensure that any content they participate in is suitable and appropriate for their age. We have growing concerns around online access and unsuitable materials being shared from unknown sources. The recommended age for this app is 13+ due to risk factors. We have also been made aware that some children have logged in under different names so as to avoid being detected. Many parents do regularly check their children's account, and we encourage you do so as this is an ever-increasing problem. Please see information below from the NSPCC about SNAPCHAT and about how to keep your child safe online.



What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a popular messaging app that allows you to send images and videos to other users. These are known as 'Snaps'. One of Snapchat's unique selling points is that messages are normally only available for a short period of time and can only be viewed once.

What age-rating is Snapchat?

The platform is rated 13+.

How does Snapchat work?

The platform mainly operates as a messaging app where users can communicate with each other using videos and images. However, there are also other features available including private chat, games, and voice notes. You can also create short videos that can be posted to a public feed.

Please follow the link below to explore more about the safety features and how to keep your child safe when using this app

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/is-snapchat-safe-for-my-child/>

And for more general online safety please see the link below

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>

Please discuss this with your children. We regularly teach online safety within school and if you have any concerns, please speak to a member of staff or the safeguarding team. Please encourage your child to speak to a trusted adult at anytime to ensure their safety whether at home or at school.

Have a great weekend!