

February 2026 (4)

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another busy half term at Stowford School. The children have been working hard, and you will have been hearing all about their achievements at Parents' Evening appointments this week. Please do remember parents/carers are welcome to contact the school at any time to make arrangements to see their child's class teacher; this is particularly important for parents who do not reside with their children as this provides more flexibility than the schedule for Parents' Evening appointments can allow.

#### Attendance:

A brief note on attendance:

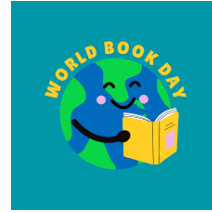
Excellent attendance at school is linked to better academic progress and attainment by ensuring pupils access a broad, balanced and knowledge-rich curriculum. It also ensures that pupils can benefit from the extra-curricular activities on offer at school that promote good social and emotional development. WeST recognises that positively promoting excellent attendance (above 97%) will have the biggest impact on a pupil's attainment and wellbeing.

As we move into half term 4, the Stowford team will be building a rigor around attendance tracking. As per the current WeST Attendance Policy, we will be communicating with those who are falling below our attendance target so we may work together to ensure attendance is not a limiting factor in a child's education. The team understand that there are always challenges presented that may impact on a child's attendance. We understand this and we want to work with you, when these present. A child blossoms best when the partnership between school and home is united and strong.

#### Reminder - Stowford is a Nut-free School:

Please remember that we are a **nut-free school** and children's **packed lunches MUST NOT contain nuts or any nut products** for important safety reasons. There are some pupils in school for whom any contact with nuts of any sort can be life threatening. Thank you for your cooperation with this policy.

#### World Book Day:



We will be celebrating **World Book Day** in school on **Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March**. The theme focus this year is on making reading personal, relevant and exciting for children of all ages. Children are warmly encouraged to come to school on the day dressed as a book character. There will be lots of fun activities in school throughout the day, and all children will receive a World Book Day token to exchange at participating booksellers for a free book from selected book titles, or to get £1 off any book of their choice.

#### Red Nose Day 2026:

This takes place on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** this year. Stowford will be supporting the event as always - more info to follow nearer the time.

And finally, I would like to wish everyone a restful half-term holiday. We break up today, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February, and look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**.

Best wishes  
Rob Pepper  
**Headteacher**

#### Safeguarding:

Should you need any help or advice about safeguarding matters during the holidays remember the telephone number for Devon Children's Front Door (formerly known as MASH - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) is:

**0345 155 1071**

## SPORTING CELEBRATIONS

### Athletics:

The KS2 Athletics Squad has been very successful this term. Thank you to all the children for their consistent effort, commitment and determination.

### ICC Indoor Athletics, 29 January 2026:

The Year 5/6 Athletics Team achieved an outstanding victory in the recent athletics event at ICC, where they faced strong competition from 12 teams. Their remarkable performance secured them 1st place with a total of 355 points, a fantastic achievement, leaving the second-place team trailing behind with 314 points.

Our athletes showed incredible teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the evening. They not only excelled individually, but also supported each other, which played a huge part in securing the top spot. Their performances across all events were a testament to their hard work in training and their commitment to giving their best effort in every round.

### KS2 Sports Hall Athletics at Plymouth Life Centre:

We are so proud of our athletics squad who did incredibly well at the indoor event at Plymouth Life Centre on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February. As always, they showed true team spirit and sportsmanship in their incredible support of each other. They truly earned their first place medals! Both the year 3&4 and 5&6 teams placed first in their age category. Well done!!



## STOWFORD FRIENDS

Wow, we are already halfway through the term and, as always, it has been a busy period of planning for the PTA. You will be aware that we are currently actively seeking additional support from the Stowford family to ensure that we can continue to organise and run exciting events for the children. If you would be interested in getting involved, please email [friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk](mailto:friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk), speak to the School admin team at Reception, or express your interest to Mr Pepper at the gates before or after school!

Huge thanks to everyone who participated in the soccer darts event that was held this week. This successfully raised £2,025 for the school and was enjoyed by all.

This year to date we have raised £5,457.44 which is predominately made up of £2,620.42 from the Christmas Fair, £476.50 from Cauliflower Cards and the £2,025 from soccer

## EVENTS

### Panathlon Plymouth Primary Tenpin Bowling Event:

Selected children participated in this shared primary school event this week. This was the first time some of the participants had experienced tenpin bowling - and every child 'had a ball!' Behaviour and attitude was exemplary.

### Year Group Visits:

Y5 National Marine Aquarium visit on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January - for this term's 'Oceans' topic. Where the children also took part in Energy Investigations.

Further enhanced by an insightful presentation on phytoplankton by one of our parents.

Y6 Eagles Class Tennis Sessions - the whole class had the opportunity to attend the Tennis centre for 5 sessions of expert tennis coaching. (Hawks Class will be receiving their coaching sessions after the half term.)

Y1 Animal Experience in school on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February - creepy crawlies and reptiles (and don't forget the mouse)!

Foundation Nursery Rhyme Day was its usual fantastic success on with some fabulous fancy dress.

Y3 & Y2 STEM Workshops - young Engineers for Babcock enthralled the children with experiments with magnets. (Y4 will experience their STEM Workshop with Babcock after the half term.)

**Parents** were invited to attend a coffee morning at the school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February for a meet and greet with some current members of our Stowford Friends PTA.

darts. What a fantastic achievement. We now look forward to hearing from the school how they would like to utilise this funding.

Just a reminder the following are some of the elements that funds raised by Stowford Friends has been used for:

- Books for the school library
- Kitchen equipment in the cube
- The Yurt
- Playtime equipment (chosen by the children and paid for from funds raised by cake sales)
- Year 6 leavers' experiences

If you have any ideas of other ways in which we can raise funds then please do get in contact with us: [friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk](mailto:friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk) or via our Facebook page: [Stowford Friends | Facebook](#)

## Dates for Your Diary Spring 2026

February 2026	
03/02/2026	Assessment Week
04/02/2026	Safer Internet Day
05/02/2026	KS2 Sports Hall Athletics Plymouth Life Centre TBC
09/02/2026	NO CLUBS THIS WEEK
10/02/2026	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening
11/02/2026	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening
13/02/2026	Last day of Term
16/02/2026	Half Term Holiday
23/02/2026	Return to School
March 2026	
03/03/2026	Secondary School National Offer Day
05/03/2026	World Book Day at school
12/03/2026	KS2 Cross Country, Staddiscombe
16/03/2026	Y5 Bikeability Week (Mon - Thurs)
20/03/2026	Red Nose Day
30/03/2026	Last week of clubs
April 2026	
02/04/2026	Last day of Term
02/04/2026	Stowford Friends - Easter Crafts Competition
03/04/2026	Easter Holiday

## Dates for Your Diary Summer 2026

April 2026	
16/04/2026	Primary School National Offer Day
20/04/2026	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Summer Term Return to School
22/04/2026	PM School Discos (Stowford Friends)
23/04/2026	F & Y6 - National Child Measurement Programme
23/04/2026	Y4 swimming - session 1 of 10
24/04/2026	Y2 Visit to Paignton Zoo
27/04/2026	Clubs letters out
May 2026	
04/05/2026	May Bank Holiday - school closed
05/05/2026	Clubs start this week
11/05/2026	KS2 SATS week
20/05/2026	Class Photos
20/05/2026	Nursery Individual Photos
21/05/2026	School Census Day
22/05/2026	Last day of Term
25/05/2026	Half Term Holiday
June 2026	
01/06/2026	Return to School
01/06/2026	Y4 Multiplication Assessment 2 week period commences
04/06/2026	KS1 Quad kids event at Stowford School
08/06/2026	Y1 Phonics Screening Week
09/06/2026	Dance Celebration at Buckland Abbey
10/06/2026	Y3 Visit to Eden Project
15/06/2026	4.00pm New Intake Meeting for September 2026
16/06/2026	KS2 Quad kids event at Brickfields
22/06/2026	Y4 Spirit of Adventure
23/06/2026	Y4 Spirit of Adventure
24/06/2026	Y4 Spirit of Adventure
23/06/2026	AM KS1 Sports Day
24/06/2026	AM Nursery Sports Day
25/06/2026	AM KS2 Sports Day
26/06/2026	Non Pupil Day - School Closed
29/06/2026	Last week of Clubs
30/06/2026	Reserve KS1 Sports Day
July 2026	
01/07/2026	Reserve Nursery Sports Day
02/07/2026	Y6 ICC Transition Day
02/07/2026	School Transition Morning
02/07/2026	Y4 swimming - final session
03/07/2026	Reserve KS2 Sports Day
06/07/2026	Annual Reports home
08/07/2026	Opportunity for parents to discuss Reports
15/07/2026	1.45pm Y6 Production
16/07/2026	6.00pm Y6 Production
20/07/2025	Y6 Woodlands Trip TBC
22/07/2026	9.30am Y6 Leavers' Assembly - Y6 parents/carers invited
22/07/2026	Last day of Term
23/07/2026	Non Pupil Day - School Closed
24/07/2026	Summer Holiday

Please note these dates are intended to provide advance information and give you an idea of the events throughout the school year. Dates may be subject to change.



# COMMUNITY NOTICES



ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR HIGH 5!

## GALAXY EXPLORERS

@STOWFORD SCHOOL

MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026

AWARDED  
★ BEST CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY PROVIDER IN THE SOUTH WEST  
★ BEST SUMMER CAMP IN SOUTH WEST

SCAN TO BOOK NOW!

MARTIAN MONDAY	EXTRATERRESTIAL TUESDAY	OUT OF THIS WORLD WEDNESDAY	MILKY WAY THURSDAY	FLYING SAUCER FRIDAY
Deep Space Dodgeball	Meteorite Multisports	Cosmic Cricket	Deep Space Dodgeball	Big Bang BenchBall
Halo Hockey	Halo Hockey	Deep Space Dodgeball	Fireball Football	Deep Space Dodgeball
Big Bang BenchBall	Fireball Football	Big Bang Bench Ball	Meteorite Multisports	Cosmic Cricket
Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars	Circus Skills & Floor Art	Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars	Neon Dodgeball Tournament	Fluro Dance Party including circus skills
Gravity Ball & Mega Art Project	Gravity Ball & Mega Art Project	Gravity Ball & Mega Art Project		Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars

DAILY COSMIC CRAFTING - SEND THEIR IMAGINATIONS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

BOOK NOW @

Ofsted [www.high5sportscamps.co.uk](http://www.high5sportscamps.co.uk) FIND US ON... 

### February Galaxy Explorers.

Embark on an interstellar adventure this February half term with High 5's 'Galaxy Explorers' camp! Inspired by the wonders of space and popular galactic themes, we invite all children 5 - 12 to dive into a universe of fun and adventure.

Imagine your child stargazing like a guardian of the galaxy, building their very own space rocket, or crafting an entire solar system! Our full range of zero-gravity inflatables offer a unique, defy-gravity experience, while our themed activities, including Jedi training and alien blaster wars, promise endless excitement.

Sports enthusiasts can engage in intergalactic team sports like basketball, dodgeball, football, and tennis, all with a cosmic twist. Here at High 5 we're dedicated to making this camp a 'one small step for man, one giant leap for your child!' experience.

For Feb 2026 our standard days run from 8.30am until 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. The more days you choose to join us the more you will enjoy the full Galactic experience.

Please ensure your child is with us between 8.30am and 8.45am. Ideally, we ask that nobody attempts to collect their children before 4.15 pm. If you are needing to collect before 4.15pm, then please make staff aware at drop-off, as there are many things to get through in our day at camp.

If you need your little adventurers to stay with us for a longer day then please choose the Extended Day option when booking, which allows you to drop off at 8am and collect them again at 6pm.

Don't miss the chance to give your child an out-of-this-world holiday filled with unforgettable memories and fun!

Quick booking link; <https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps?season=3753336>

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**WORLD BOOK DAY COSTUME SWAP**

WORLD BOOK DAY  
5 MARCH 2026

DONATE, SWAP OR REHOME PRE-LOVED COSTUMES!

**IVYBRIDGE LIBRARY**

**16TH FEB- 8TH MARCH**

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

COMMUNITY FUND

Libraries Unlimited

Recycle Devon

IVYBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY

**SNOW WHITE**

THE PANTOMIME

BY NICK LAWRENCE

THE WATERMARK, IVYBRIDGE

FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY - 7:30PM  
SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY - 2:30PM & 7:30PM  
SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY - 2:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE WATERMARK

**£10 ADULTS & £5 CHILDREN**

01752 892220

[www.ivybridgewatermark.co.uk](http://www.ivybridgewatermark.co.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1096297

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February

**Community OPEN DAY**

FREE activities\*

**Ivybridge Leisure Centre**

08:00-09:00 – FREE Group Cycle  
08:00-11:00 – Swim School Tasters\*  
08:30-09:30 – FREE Pilates  
10:00-12:00 – FREE Bouncy Fun  
14:45-15:45 – FREE Fun & Floats  
09:00-13:00 – Family Splash

All Day – Gym\*  
All Day – Squash\*  
All Day – Sauna & Steam\*

fusion

Online

**ORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT TRAINING: SUPPORTING CHILDREN**

Free online training aimed at anyone who supports CHILDREN in Devon (excluding Torbay and Plymouth)

DATES OF TRAINING IN 2026

- Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 10am - 11:30am
- Tuesday 24th March 2026 at 6:30pm - 8:00pm

100% of attendees would recommend this course to others

[BOOK NOW](https://forms.office.com/e/SNCW7Szzqji)

<https://forms.office.com/e/SNCW7Szzqji>

Contact Us  
01392 405705  
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[www.royaldevon.nhs.uk/dental](http://www.royaldevon.nhs.uk/dental)

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**PLYMOUTH HOSPITALS CHARITY'S**  
**FIRE WALK**

**& LEGO Walk**

**AT DERRIFORD HOSPITAL**  
**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2026**

**Firewalk 5:00 PM**  
**£20 ENTRY**  
**£75 SPONSORSHIP**  
**FOR ALL 12+**

**Lego walk 3:00 PM**  
**£5 ENTRY**  
**£25 SPONSORSHIP**  
**FOR ALL 5+**

**Find out more!**



**t: 01752 430 332**  
**e: charityteam**  
**@plymouthhospitalscharity.org**  
**www.plymouthhospitalscharity.org**

**WHO WILL YOU DO IT FOR?**

**I'M DOING IT FOR PLYMOUTH HOSPITALS CHARITY**  
 Registered Charity No. 1048471

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

**STARTING 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY!**

@dp\_dance.co




**DP DANCE COMPANY**  
 EST 2025

**NEW! Friday classes**  
**@Ermington store and more**  
**4pm-6:30**

**4pm-5pm Beginner Tap and Modern**  
**5pm-5:45 Street Dance**  
**5:45-6:30 8+ Lyrical**



**Scan the QR code or email me for anymore info at dpdance.co@outlook.com**







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**The brightest fun run for everyone!**

**Saturday 20 June 2026 at**  
**RAF St Mawgan, Newquay**

**rainbow RUN**

Sign up today [chsw.org.uk/rainbow](http://chsw.org.uk/rainbow)

Registered Charity No. 1003314

**APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**

# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

**AGED BETWEEN 9-15 AND WANT TO GIVE YOUR BAKING SKILLS A GO?**

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**



**LAST CHANCE TO APPLY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**

