Stowford School News

October 2026 (2)

Dear Parents and Carers
As we arrive at the half-term break, I am pleased to report that the first half of the Autumn Term has been a very busy one at Stowford School.

Parents' Evenings:
It has been lovely to see so many parents attending Parents' Evenings. We are very happy that you are all so engaged with school. Please remember that if there is anything that worries you, or you would like to discuss a matter at any time, you do not need to wait for Parents' Evening. Any adult in school would be happy to make time for you to address any concerns or answer your queries, and I am available to talk to at the school gate as regularly as possible.

Harvest Festival:
Thank you for all the generous donations for Harvest Festival. The representatives from the Foodbank attended our assembly today to speak to the children and left with the many boxes and bags of donations. **The weight of the donation was 212.46kg which is by far the biggest donation the Foodbank has received this year - what a difference that will make! Thank you everyone for the incredible support!**

Reminder – Stowford is an Allergy Aware School:
In accordance with allergy awareness, please remember that children's packed lunches **MUST NOT** contain nuts or any nut products. Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction; just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has eaten nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock. So please can we ask that there are no nut products in lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats. For example:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads e.g. Nutella
- Ceral bars/granola bars
- Cakes/biscuits/cookies that contain nuts

This list is not exhaustive, so please check product packaging. Please support the school to keep pupils safe.

House Captains and School Appointments:
The Year 6 House Captains have now been appointed and have already begun to fulfil their responsibilities by showing parents around at Parents' Evenings this week, and by helping to load up the food donations from the Harvest Festival to be transported to the Foodbank today.
Fox Tor: Josh and Thea
Hound Tor: Erin and Laila
Hare Tor: Artin and Enid
Crow Tor: Archie and Wilbur

REFDICE Ambassadors:
Alice B, Beauden, Ben, Chloe, Daisy, Elica, Elliot, Erin L, Imogen W, Joseph A, Lila, Lydia, Matilda and Penny.

Pupil Parliament Representatives 2026/2027:
Amelia, Eleri, Hazel, Isla, Luna, Nicky, Oscar, Sasha, Sonny, Tabitha and Tommy.

Congratulations and well done to all appointees!

Applications for Secondary School 2027:
This is a reminder to all parents and carers of Year 6 children that the closing date for applications to secondary school is Friday, 31st October 2026. The easiest way to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline.
If you require support with this process, please call into the school office today. Devon have advised that there is high demand for places at secondary schools this year so please do not miss the deadline!

Admission to Foundation Stage September 2027:
A reminder that children born between 01/09/2022 and 31/08/2023 are due to start school next September. You can apply online at Citizen Portal - Sign in (devon.gov.uk). Applications open on 15th November 2026 and will close at midnight on 15th January 2027. Families can apply online at **www.devon.cc/admissionsonline**.
Even if you have a child already at the school or in the nursery, you must still apply for a place through the Admissions system. If you have a child who will start school in September 2027 and would like to come and look around, please contact the school office who will be happy to arrange this with you (Tel: 01752 894163).
The Devon Schools Admission Service makes offers of places on Offer Day: Thursday 16th April 2027.

Admissions Policy for 2028-29: Annual Consultation:
Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we will be consulting on an admission policy for 2028-29. The Local Authority is also consulting on its arrangements – the admissions schemes through which you can apply. You are invited to look at the proposed new policies which are based on policies for this year and next year and to have your say on them.
Our proposed policy is on our admission page and you can see all policies at http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy Further information is here: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements
The consultation runs between 6 November 2026 and 16 January 2027.
Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March 2027 next year. You can comment at schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk or by emailing the school.
No changes are being proposed.

Staff Information:
This week we said farewell and best wishes to Miss Lugger (class teacher) as she embarks on maternity leave – and we look forward to hearing news of baby number 2! During her absence we will welcome Mrs Bradbury to the teaching team after half-term. Mrs Bradbury will teach in Year 2 Sparrows alongside Miss Clift. Mrs Bridden (Year 2 Finches) will commence maternity leave at the end of November and Mrs Roach will take over Finches class full-time for the remainder of the academic year.
We will also welcome Miss Weedon to the After School Club team from 2nd November.

And finally, we break up today for the half-term holiday. I wish you all a restful break, and look forward to seeing you when the children return to school on Monday, 2nd November 2026.

Best wishes
Mr Pepper
Headteacher
Stowford School

Stowford Friends:
A huge thank you to the Stowford Friends for all their hard work and support. Please see their newsletter below with some significant news.

Parking: A further request from our neighbours to please be considerate when parking near the school. Please observe the Highway Code and do not park in front of private garages/driveways.

Flu Immunisations - Information for Parents/Carers:
The flu immunisations took place at Stowford School on Monday 21st September.

- If you had already consented but your child missed the school visit, you should have received an email with a link to book a clinic appointment.
- If you missed the consenting process, please call the Team on 01392 342678 for Devon. They will complete the consent process with you and guide you on available clinic appointments.

The clinics are running through October half term and from 1st December. Clinics are available in various locations across Cornwall and Devon. While some clinics may already be full, there are plenty of other opportunities available and new clinics are always being added.
This information is from the Cornwall and Devon School Age Immunisation Service



Dates for Your Diary Autumn 2026

October 2026	
22/10/2026	Last day of Term
23/10/2026	Non Pupil Day – School Closed
26/10/2026	Half Term Holiday
31/10/2026	Deadline for applications to Secondary School
November 2026	
02/11/2026	Return to School
05/11/2026	3.15pm Y5/6 Cake Sale – Stowford Friends
11/11/2026	Remembrance Day Assembly (children in school)
13/11/2026	Children in Need
15/11/2026	Primary School applications open
24/11/2026	3.30-6pm Foundation Parents' Evening
25/11/2026	3.30-6pm Foundation Parents' Evening
26/11/2026	Y5 swimming – final session
30/11/2026	Last week of clubs
December 2026	
05/12/2026	TBC Stowford Friends Christmas Fair
07/12/2026	AM: KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal – Church
07/12/2026	1.30pm: KS2 Carol Service – Church
08/12/2026	1.30pm KS2 Carol Service - Church
08/12/2026	6.00pm KS2 Carol Service - Church
10/12/2026	AM Y1/Y2 Christmas Production
10/12/2026	6pm Y1/Y2 Christmas Production
11/12/2026	AM Nursery Christmas
15/12/2026	AM Foundation Nativity
16/12/2026	Christmas Jumper Day
16/12/2026	Christmas Lunch
17/12/2026	Last day of Term
18/12/2026	Non Pupil Day – School Closed
21/12/2026	Christmas Holiday

Dates for Your Diary Spring 2027

January 2027	
04/01/2027	Non Pupil Day – School Closed
05/01/2027	1st day of Spring Term - Return to School
11/01/2027	Letters out re Clubs
14/01/2027	6pm Stowford Friends Meeting
15/01/2027	Deadline for applications to Primary School
18/01/2027	Clubs start this week
21/01/2027	School Census Day
21/01/2027	3.15pm Y3/4 Cake Sale – Stowford Friends
February 2027	
05/02/2027	Quiz Night – Stowford Friends TBC
08/02/2027	Assessment Week
09/02/2027	Safer Internet Day
09/02/2027	NO CLUBS THIS WEEK
10/02/2027	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening
11/02/2027	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening
12/02/2027	Last day of Term
15/02/2027	Half Term Holiday
22/02/2027	Return to School
March 2027	
03/03/2027	Secondary School National Offer Day
04/03/2027	World Book Day at school
04/03/2027	Wonka Bars On Sale – Stowford Friends TBC
15/03/2027	Y5 Bikeability Week (Mon – Thurs)
18/03/2027	3.15pm Y1/2 Cake Sale – Stowford Friends
22/03/2027	Last week of clubs
25/03/2027	Easter Crafts – Stowford Friends TBC
25/03/2027	PM Nursery Easter Stay and Play
25/03/2027	Last day of Term
26/03/2027	Easter Holiday



Please note 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.

Dates for Your Diary Summer 2027

April 2027	
12/04/2027	1st Day of Summer Term Return to School
15/04/2027	Y4 swimming – session 1 of 10
16/04/2027	Primary School National Offer Day
19/04/2027	Clubs letters out
26/04/2027	Clubs start this week
29/04/2027	6pm Stowford Friends Meeting
May 2027	
03/05/2027	May Bank Holiday – school closed
10/05/2027	KS2 SATS week
20/05/2027	Class Photos
20/05/2027	Nursery Individual Photos
20/05/2027	School Census Day
21/05/2027	Quiz Night – Stowford Friends TBC
28/05/2027	Last day of Term
31/05/2027	Half Term Holiday
June 2027	
07/06/2027	Return to School
07/06/2027	Y4 Multiplication Assessment 2 week period commences
10/06/2027	3.15pm Foundation and Nursery Cake Sale – Stowford Friends
14/06/2027	Y1 Phonics Screening Week
14/06/2027	4.00pm New Intake Meeting for September 2027
14/06/2027	Y4 Spirit of Adventure Puffins go
15/06/2027	Y4 Spirit of Adventure Curlews go/Puffins back
16/06/2027	Y4 Spirit of Adventure Curlews back
19/06/2027	Stowford Friends Summer Event – details TBC
22/06/2027	AM KS1 Sports Day
23/06/2027	AM KS2 Sports Day
24/06/2027	AM Nursery Sports Day
24/06/2027	Y4 swimming – final session
25/06/2027	Non Pupil Day – School Closed
28/06/2027	Last week of Clubs
29/06/2027	Reserve KS1 Sports Day (AM)
30/06/2027	Reserve KS2 Sports Day (AM)
July 2027	
01/07/2027	Reserve Nursery Sports Day (AM)
05/07/2027	Annual Reports home
07/07/2027	Opportunity for parents to discuss Reports
08/07/2027	Y6 ICC Transition Day
08/07/2027	AM Whole school Transition Morning
14/07/2027	1.45pm Y6 Production
15/07/2027	6.00pm Y6 Production
19/07/2027	Y6 Woodlands Trip
19/07/2027	PM Nursery End of Year Celebration
21/07/2027	9.30am Y6 Leavers' Assembly – Y6 parents/carers invited
21/07/2027	Last day of Term
22/07/2027	Non Pupil Day – School Closed
23/07/2027	Summer Holiday



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Stowford Friends News and Updates

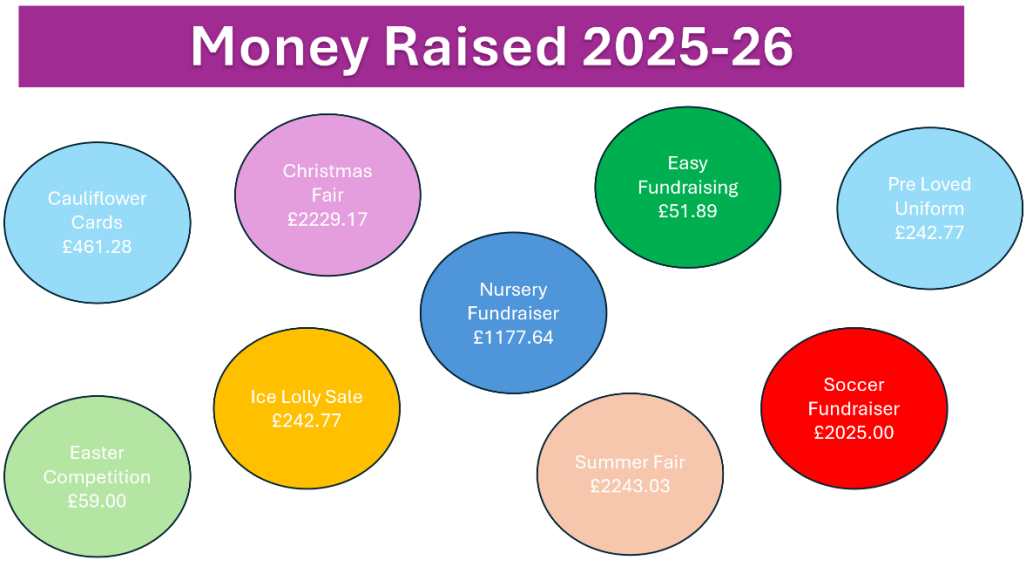
Wow we are already halfway through the term and as always, it has been a busy period, but we are clear that we cannot continue if we don't have volunteers willing to step into the roles of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer as well as more Committee members who can take on responsibility for organising events. We know that everyone is busy with life and work but without a new core team Stowford Friends is going to start to wind down events in January ready to dissolve in the summer term.

This will have a significant impact on the opportunities, resources and experiences available to our pupils. Many of the additional amenities, facilities and learning resources that children benefit from each day have been funded through Stowford Friends fundraising efforts over recent years (see list below).

Without this support, the wider school community will also be affected, with much-loved events and activities no longer able to take place. These include **school discos, Cauliflower Cards (Christmas cards made by your children), the Christmas Fair, Wreath Night, Easter Egg competition, Wonka Golden Ticket Chocolate bars, Summer Fair, Challenge Soccer events, the quiz, refreshments at performances and sports days,** and other opportunities that help bring our school community together and enrich children's experiences. These events not only raise vital funds but also create memorable experiences for our children and families.

We have plans for working groups to manage each event so your commitment can be planned well in advance, a mix of solely admin and/or manpower for that specific event only and be part of a small group of 2/3 to oversee the organising of solely that event. Your support can just be to help with what goes on behind the scenes for the events and lessen the load of the core team's input. Currently we only have 5 committee members signed up for this year to do this and it's just not enough. If you want to help, please complete this form - https://forms.gle/1sy151aFerZJymiL7

Onto more positive news. Thanks to everyone who participated in the events held over the last year. Each event has raised a lovely sum of money for the school which in turn provides opportunities and equipment for our children to benefit from. The Friends are glad to confirm the following monies have been raised:



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

- **A large Chill-out zone behind The Nest**
- **New outside space for Foundation**
- **A personalised Stowford Gazebo for events**
- **Large spotlights for the performances and hall**
- **A kitchen area and equipment in the Qube**
- **The Yurt & its continual upkeep**
- **Benches for the playground**
- **Books for the school library**
- **School performance resources**
- **Playtime equipment (chosen by the children and paid for from funds raised by cake sales)**
- **Ice poles at sports day**
- **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 via our Facebook page: Stowford Friends | Facebook. **There will be an emergency committee meeting after the half-term holiday.**

STOWFORD SCHOOL

THE SCHOOL YEAR 2027-2028
School Term/Holiday Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2027	SPRING TERM 2028	SUMMER TERM 2028
Thursday 2 September & Friday 3 September Non-Pupil Days	Tuesday 4 January Non-Pupil Day	**Tuesday 18 April First day of Term**
Monday 6 September First day of Term	**Wednesday 5 January First day of Term**	Monday 1 May Bank Holiday
To	To	To
Thursday 21 October Last day of Term	**Friday 11 February Last day of Term**	**Friday 26 May Last day of Term**
Friday 22 October Non-Pupil Day		
Half Term Holiday (25 – 29 Oct)	Half Term Holiday (14 – 18 Feb)	Half Term Holiday (29 May – 2 June)
Monday 1 November First day of Term	**Monday 21 February First day of Term**	**Monday 5 June First day of Term**
		Friday 23 June Non-Pupil Day
To	To	To
Friday 17 December Last day of Term	**Friday 31 March Last day of Term**	**Thursday 20 July Last day of Term**
Monday 20 December Non-Pupil Day		Friday 21 July Non-Pupil Day
Christmas Holiday (21 Dec '27 – 3 Jan '28)	Easter Holiday (3 – 17 April)	Summer Holiday

COMMUNITY NOTICES

High 5 Holiday Club: October Half Term



HALLOWEEN HALF TERM CAMPS 🎃

Come and join us for a day of spooktacular fun!

Get ready for a Halloween adventure with High 5! Our October camps will be packed with Halloween-themed activities throughout the day, giving children the chance to get active, make new friends, try new things and enjoy all the excitement of the spooky season.

And, of course, no High 5 Camp experience would be complete without some **extra-special surprises!** 👻 We'll also be bringing amazing inflatables and additional activities to our sites, so there's plenty to look forward to!

🕷 **Camp Times – October 2026**

- **Standard day:** Monday to Friday, 8.30am–4.30pm
- **Arrival:** Between 8.30am and 8.45am
- **Collection:** We ask that children are collected from 4.15pm onwards wherever possible, to ensure they can enjoy the full day of activities. If an earlier collection is needed, please let our team know at drop-off.
- **Extended Day:** For families needing extra flexibility, drop-off is available from 8.00am, with collection any time up until 6.00pm.

🎃 **Spaces are limited and bookings are filling fast!**

We would encourage families to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment and give their children something exciting to look forward to this October half term.

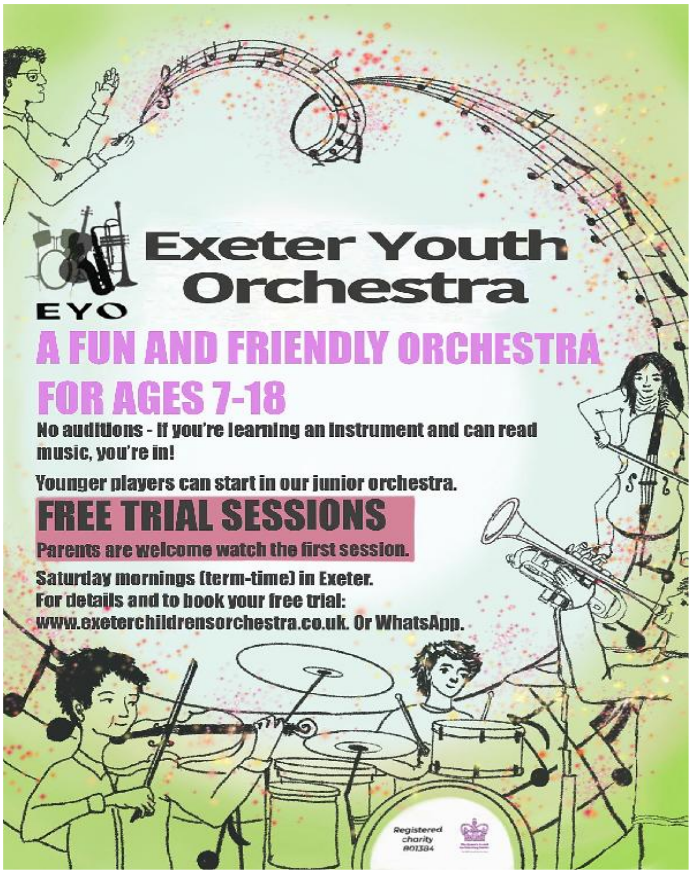
Quick Booking Link – Main Group (School-Age Children, 4–12 Years):

https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps?e4q=e449a623-2fc6-4e49-8f2a-206f26c9ea46&e4p=dfa9a1e9-9f94-4226-8936-5a9c9895e0b4&e4ts=1792051050&e4c=active&e4e=snlvcmpscui00001load&e4rt=Safetynet&e4h=5735a24c9830c7b1576cc0d824d10c6e

COMMUNITY NOTICES







Swimming at Ivybridge Leisure Centre
Please scan the QR code for more information regarding swimming lessons at Ivybridge Leisure Centre.

COMMUNITY NOTICES







