



Dear Families,

This week has been full of ‘good news’ as we have found out that we have been awarded 3 different grants for us to be able to different projects with the children:

- 1) We have been awarded a grant from LAP (Learning Academy Partnership) to take all the year 5 and 6 children to see “The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe” when it comes to Princess Theatre in April. This will enable the children to see a show which is ‘on tour’ from the West End of London.
- 2) We have been awarded a grant from LAP (Learning Academy Partnership) for some children to represent our school on a residential visit to Cornwall. This will be an opportunity to visit some of our partner schools in North Cornwall and make some friends with children from those schools.
- 3) We have been awarded a grant from Historic England for all the children in the school to learn more about the history of Ellacombe (the school and the community) and we will make some mosaics to put up outside the school as our own public art gallery. There will be opportunities for parents/carers to help with these mosaics and be part of this exciting project.

Regards, Ms Alison Helm: Headteacher

January

Friday 31st January Year 6 trip to the Orchestra in Exeter

February

Friday 14th February Last day of the half term

Monday 24th February All children back to school

Wednesday 26th February International afternoon

Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th February Year4 Residential to Dartmoor

March

Thursday 6th March World Book Day

April

Wednesday 2nd April Year 5/6 theatre trip—watch this space for more information

Tuesday 1st & Thursday Parents’ Evening

Tuesday 22nd April Extra non pupil day—school closed for children

Dates for your diary ...



Attendance Awards

We are working really hard to make sure all our pupils are in school, every day and on time. Obviously we all get sick, every now and then, but if we are well, we need to be in school!

Well done to **Unicorns, Herdsmen and Warriors** classes for excellent attendance this week.



CLASS ATTENDANCE		HOUSE ATTENDANCE	
Little Bears	91.58%	Christie House	96.12%
Little Lions	88.27%		
Little Foxes	92.75%		
Little Tigers	96.5%	Darwin House	94.63%
Unicorns	100%		
Dolphins	96.4%		
Little Horses	93.7%	Kingsley House	97.01%
Eagles	93%		
Swans	92.33%		
Herdsmen	99.17%	Singer House	92.15%
Heroes	87.87		
Hunters	94.78%		
Warriors	98.26%		
The winner is ... UNICORNS		The winner is ... KINGSLEY HOUSE	



STARS OF THE WEEK



	Little Stars	Reciela -for her determination and perseverance whilst using how to use scissors. Fantastic effort!!
	Little Bears	Phoebe for great effort this week and being kind to her friends when they are sad
	Little Lions	Yaaba for fantastic ability in reading, writing and maths.
	Little Foxes	James, his language is coming on so well, along with his tolerance and perseverance! Well done James.
	Little Tigers	Darci W - amazing improvement in RWInC and writing in English. Darci is so much more confident at writing her own sentences. Keep it up!
	Unicorns	Unicorns - Afonso for his amazing effort in RWInC and in his learning!
	Dolphins	Darcie H for working hard to improve her presentation this week!
	Little Horses	William for always showing the school values in everything he does!
	Eagles	Asad for always making the effort to share his thoughts and support the class with his contributions
	Swans	Emilia for amazing effort and perseverance in all areas of your learning.
	Herdsmen	Lilly for her kindness and partner work in computing.
	Heroes	Sophia for always wanting to improve her learning and challenge herself.
	Hunters	Nhyraba- for putting 100 percent into all of his learning and for being a great role model to his peers.
	Warriors	Maddison for being a role model to all and a wonderful, hard working class member!

Mentors Against Violence

Some of our Year 5 and 6 children have been developing their leadership skills this week working in partnership with the Boys' Grammar School. The children have been thinking about how *"to improve culture and support safe and effective challenging of, and speaking out against, all forms of bullying, violence and abusive behaviour in a safe and appropriate way"*





Every year, as a school, we have 4 main focus areas and things we are working on; these are the areas for this year.

I'm more than happy to chat over these in more detail, if any parents are interested.



Ellacombe Academy and Little Stars Nursery



Academy Improvement Plan

September 2024 – July 2025

We are Stronger Together

We will work together across the school, and within the TQ Hub, to develop some of the curriculum subjects which have been less of a focus previously.

Sense of Belonging

As a school we will be ready for our SIAMS inspection in 2025-2026; This includes introducing the new LAP behaviour policy building on our already embedded Trauma Informed Approach.

EFFECTIVE
LEARNING
FOR ALL PUPILS AT
ELLACOMBE

Removing Barriers

We will all embrace the Optimal Learning Approach (OLA) to ensure all learning is maximised including for those pupils with SEND and those capable of achieving GDS.

Realising the Possible

We will continue to develop the wider offer we provide for our pupils and families; ensuring all these learning opportunities are maximised.

UNIFORM

We have noticed a number of children wearing brightly coloured trainers throughout the week. Trainers can be worn on PE days. On all other days black shoes should be worn, as per our uniform policy. Your co-operation would be appreciated.





School Nursing Service Parent

Drop in

A member of the school nurse team will be attending your child's school on:

Wednesday 29th January 2025,

1.30pm – 3pm

We will be able to offer support and advice for:

- Bowel and bladder
- Diet and nutrition
- Sleep
- Emotional wellbeing (if there is an associated health need)
- Behaviour (if there is an associated health need)

No booking needed, just turn up!



7TH TORQUAY BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL JUNIOR OPEN

Shiphay Manor Drive, Torquay Devon TQ2 7EL
SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2025

We are again holding a junior tournament at Torquay Boys' Grammar School open to all young players. This tournament is open to all those aged under 18 on 1st September 2024.

Sections U18, U16, U14, U12, U10. Sections will be merged if there are insufficient entries in an age group.

Prizes
Trophies will be awarded to the first four places in each section, using tiebreaks as per previous DJCA events this season. Other prizes will be dependent on the size of the entry. Certificates will be awarded to all competitors, with achievement certificates for those scoring 50% or more.

Play
There will be 5 rounds. Play will start at 10am and the day will finish at about 4.30pm with the prize giving; this will be as soon as possible after the conclusion of the final round games. All players play in all rounds except for byes. Age will be taken as at 1st September 2024. Clocks will be used in all sections; 20 mins + 5 seconds per move (Fischer time) per player, 15 mins + five seconds in the U10s, which may have additional rounds.

Refreshments
There will be a range of hot and cold drinks, cakes, and snacks on sale.

Chess Stall
There will be a stall, selling sets books and other chess merchandise (card payments accepted).

Supervision Please note that the organisers are only responsible for children inside the chess playing areas. (Parents of TBGS students do not need to stay - although are very welcome to - as Mr Onions will be there all day).

Directions
If you are using SATNAV the postcode of the school is TQ2 7EL. As you reach the end of the South Devon Highway from Exeter / Newton Abbot turn right up the Torbay Ring Road for about one mile and at the first roundabout turn left into Shiphay Lane. The school is about ¼ mile down the hill on the right at traffic lights. Follow the main drive down to the bottom where there is parking available.

Any questions or enquiries to Tim Onions by e mail: tonions@tbgs.torbay.sch.uk

Entry Entry fee £18; discount for entries before Sat 1st February £15; closing date Thursday 6th February.

We are most grateful to the Devon Junior Chess Association for agreeing to take online entries on our behalf, and a donation will be made to the association for their help. Entries will be listed on the DJCA website in the run up to the event.

If you are receiving this in paper format, to enter please go to the Devon Junior Chess website, devonjuniorchess.co.uk where it is straightforward to navigate to the entry page. When you get to the payment page please put the following: invoice/reference number or other ID TBGS OPEN CHESS Name to associate to payment if different from payer NAME OF PLAYER

Electronic link: <https://devonjuniorchess.co.uk/content/7th-torquay-boys%E2%80%99-grammar-school-junior-open-2025>



Babbacombe Pharmacy
100 Reddenhill Road, TQ1 3NT
Tel: 01803 312 347

Watcombe Pharmacy
69 Fore Street, TQ2 8BP
Tel: 01803 310196

Shiphay Pharmacy
11 Collaton Road, TQ2 7HH
Tel: 01803 613 152

Sherwell Valley Pharmacy
37 Sherwell Valley Rd, TQ2 6EJ
Tel: 01803 607 425



Providing NHS services

Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment

- **Sinusitis**
(adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- **Sore throat**
(adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- **Earache**
(children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite**
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Impetigo**
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Shingles**
(adults aged 18 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infection**
(women, aged 16 to 64 years)



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