

Dartington C of E Academy Bulletin

9th October 2026

Dear Families,

This week, our Key Stage 2 children had the exciting opportunity to take part in a fantastic author event with Tom Palmer. Pupils were inspired by hearing about Tom's journey as a writer, the stories behind his books, and the creative process involved in bringing characters and ideas to life. They were amazed to learn that the process of writing a book takes Tom 6 months: 2 months each for planning drafting and editing. The event sparked enthusiasm for reading and writing across the school, and it was wonderful to see the children so engaged and eager to ask questions.



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our PTFA for generously funding this experience. Their continued support enables us to provide enriching opportunities that inspire and motivate our children, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they do for our school community.



Miss Coombe,

Headteacher



DARTINGTON

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



Love



Friendship



Courage



Respect



Truthfulness

BENEDICT'S LAW

Allergy safety in schools – what parents need to know

Benedict's Law is the name commonly used for new allergy-safety protections in England, introduced following the death of five-year-old Benedict Blythe after an allergic reaction at school.



**ALLERGY
ALERT**



**MEDICAL
SUPPORT**



**ADRENALINE
AUTO-INJECTOR
(AAI)**

From September 2026, schools in England are expected to:



Have a dedicated allergy safety policy.



Provide allergy awareness and emergency response training for staff.



Keep spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) for emergencies.



Have clear individual healthcare/allergy plans where needed.



Record incidents and near-misses.



Provide inclusive support for pupils with allergies.



HOW PARENTS CAN HELP



Tell us about any allergy or change in medical needs.



Keep your child's allergy/healthcare information up to date.



Provide prescribed medication/AAIs and check expiry dates.



Make sure the school knows about any changes to your child's emergency plan.



Speak to the school office if you have questions or concerns.



Keeping children safe, included and able to learn is everyone's responsibility.

Allergy safety is a partnership between school, families and healthcare professionals.



learning
academy
partnership

Who's Here to Help

Useful Links



- Absence Request - [Absence Request Form](#)
- Admissions - [Admissions](#)
- Clubs - [Our School Clubs](#)
- Medicine Form - [Administration of Medicines Form](#)
- Music Form - [Music Tuition Form](#)
- Nursery - [Our Nursery and How to Apply](#)
- Policies - [Policies and Governance](#)
- Term Dates - [Term Dates](#)

Class Information at a Glance

Class	Teacher	PE Day	Forest School
Sparrows	Miss B		
Robins (R) Robins (Year 1)	Mr Jones / Mrs Faulkner	Tuesday & Friday Tuesday & Thursday	Wednesday PM
Wrens (R) Wrens (Year 1)	Mrs Faulkner / Mrs Calder	Tuesday & Friday Tuesday & Thursday	Thursday PM
Swallows	Miss Torr / Mrs Zaki	Monday PM & Thursday AM	Monday AM
Kingfishers	Miss Hardy	Tuesday PM	Friday PM



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Tawny Owls	Mrs Dando-Laing / Mr Bird	Tuesday PM (Saints), Wednesday PM	Thursday PM
Nightingales	Mrs Eversfield	Thursday PM & Friday AM	Friday PM
Woodpeckers	Mrs Davis	Thursday PM	Tuesday PM
Swifts	Dr Short	Wednesday PM & Friday PM	Tuesday PM
Goldfinches	Miss Wakeham	Tuesday AM	Tuesday PM
Red Kites	Mrs Beecham	Wednesday & Friday	Tuesday PM

Clubs

- Breakfast Club: 7:45–8:40am (Mon–Fri) | £4.50 full / £1.50 short | *Book via My Child At School App*
- After School Club: 3:00–6:00pm | £9 per session (20% sibling discount) *Book via My Child At School App*
- Sports Clubs (Saints South West): KS1 Tue | KS2 Thu | Football Fri [Saints Southwest](#)
- Frazoo Exotic Animal Club: Tue after school | Email: frazie@frazoo.co.uk
- Spanish Club: Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime | [Kidslingo](#)
- Gardening Club – Thursday and Friday lunchtimes with Miss Eyland
- Quiet Club – Each lunchtime in the library
- Art Club: Wednesday lunchtime and after school club | www.thewowhaus.co.uk/book

Music

- Music Lessons - We offer
- Violin, Piano, Guitar, Ukulele, Drums, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet. Please complete the form here [Music Form](#)
- Rocksteady Band Lessons: Learn an instrument in a fun group setting! To find out more please visit their website here - [Home - Rocksteady Music School](#)



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

A BAND FOR EVERYONE

Band lessons take place in school and there's no experience necessary!

HAVE FUN AND LEARN

Rocksteady's unique curriculum includes up to 300 musicianship, performance and instrument skills.

INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED

All instruments for lessons provided. Choose if they shine on vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass.

END OF TERM CONCERTS

Watch as your child boosts their confidence by performing in the end of term concerts

PROGRESS AT THEIR PACE

Children can achieve an exam-free, Ofqual-regulated, Trinity Music qualification.

LED BY PROFESSIONALS

Rocksteady band leaders are highly trained musicians who make learning an instrument fun.

Key Dates 2026 – 2027

Calendar Events:

- 15 October - Open Classroom
- 19 October – Parent Consultations – Not Kingfishers
- 20 October – Parent Consultations – Kingfishers only
- 21 October – Parent Consultations – All classes
- 23 October PTA Pumpkin Party
- 20 November Christmas Jumper Exchange
- 11 December PTA Dis-glo
- 16 December – Christmas Lunch Day
- 17 December – Christmas Fair

Autumn Term 2026:

Half Term:

26 October – 30 October

Non Pupil Day:

2 November

End:

18 December



Spring Term 2027:

Non Pupil Day:

4 January

Start:

5 January

Half Term:

15 February - 19 February

Non Pupil Day:

22 February

End:

25 March

Summer Term 2027:

Non Pupil Day:

12 April

Start:

13 April

Bank Holiday

3 May

Half Term:

31 May - 4 June

End:

23 July

Safeguarding



WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE?

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility



Mr Trewinnard



Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

Miss Coombe



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

Miss Wilson



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

Mrs Eversfield



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

We use **CPOMS** to record timelines of incidents.

IT COULD HAPPEN HERE!

PROFESSIONAL CURIOSITY

Mental health	FGM	Neglect	Physical abuse	Emotional Abuse
HSB	Child on Child	Prevent Duty	Trauma	Anxiety
Poor attendance	Fabricated or Induced illness	Family Stressors	Withdraw	Sexual abuse
Domestic abuse	Child missing in education	Online safety	Parent mental health	Bullying Cyber bullying

Disclosure Checklist:

- * Stay calm - don not express shock, panic or disbelief
- * Find a private, safe place to talk
- * Be a listener NOT and investigator - Can you tell me more about that?
- * Believe the child
- * Reassure them for doing the right thing
- * It is not their fault—what can we do to make them feel safer?
- * Be proactive - Every child has the right to be safe strong and free
- * Don't make promises you cannot keep - you will tell someone to get more help
- * Inform the DSL / DDSL / Police , dependent on need and record on CPOMS

If you are concerned that a child is being abused please call [0345 155 1071](tel:03451551071) or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk. If it's an emergency call **999**

What should I do if I have a safeguarding concern?

Keeping our children safe is everyone's responsibility. If you ever have concerns about the welfare or safety of a child, please report them immediately.

How to report a concern:

- **Contact the school directly:** Speak our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Safeguarding Leads.
- If you think a child is at risk of significant harm or want to talk about your concerns about a child or family, you can contact Devon Children's Services on 0345 155 1071. Calls are confidential and you can choose to remain anonymous.



- Link to website <https://www.devonscp.org.uk/make-a-request-for-support/parents-carers-public/>

If a child is in **immediate danger**, please call **999**.

Your vigilance helps us keep every child safe. Thank you for working with us to protect our school community.

Attendance

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school. The NHS have the following advice for illnesses.

Coughs and Colds – It is fine to send your child in to school with a cough or a common cold. However, you should keep them off if they have a fever over 38 degrees.

Chicken Pox – If your child has chicken pox, keep them off school until the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after they start appearing.

Cold Sore – There is no need to keep your child off with a cold sore.

Conjunctivitis – You do not need to keep your child off with this. They may come to school but will need advice from the pharmacy.

Head lice – There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice, but you will want to gain advice from a pharmacist on how to treat it.

Impetigo – If they have impetigo, they will need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until the sores have crusted over and healed.

Sore throat – There is no need to keep your child off with a sore throat unless they have a temperature too.

Vomiting and diarrhoea – If you think this is viral, children should stay off for 48 hours after being sick or having diarrhoea.

Covid -19 – If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or cough, and feels well enough, they can still come to school. They should stay at home if they have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to do their normal activities. If a test is taken, they should remain at home for 3 days.



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

For any minor illnesses like the ones listed above or headaches, sore throats, coughs or hay fever etc, your child can come into school and you can bring medicine to the office for your child to take throughout the day. Please ask for a Medicine Administration form from the office or click on the link above under Useful Links.

We hope this helps you to make decisions about whether your child is well enough to come to school. Any questions, we will be happy to discuss them with you.

For latest advice from NHS - [NHS Advice - Should I keep my child off school](#)



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let your school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minifec>



CORNWALL & DEVON
School Age Immunisation Service
Provided by Kernow Health CIC

School aged vaccinations

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ **FLU** - Reception - Year 11
- ✓ **MMR** - Catch-up
- ✓ **HPV** - Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ **Meningitis ACWY** - Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP)** - Year 9 - Year 11

Did you miss us?
We also have community clinics across Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

Call us on
01392 342678
Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net

PTFA

Welcome to Dartington PTFA

All families who have children at our school are welcome along to the Parent, Teacher, Friend Association (PTFA). Our organising committee plans events and works closely with the school to identify funding needs. We're always happy to welcome new members who'd like to get involved!



Our Aims

- **Community** We aim to strengthen the bond between the school and our families.
- **Fundraise** The money we raise goes to all sorts of things - from topping up the essentials to providing added enrichment to the school experience. Last year, alongside a calendar of events, we also funded a poetry exhibition and helped create a dedicated reading shed in the school playground.

Personalised gifts that give back: look out for order forms next week!

The children have been busy creating their own festive artwork, which has been sent away to be turned into some lovely personalised gifts.

From Christmas cards and present labels to mugs, tea towels and more, there's a huge range to choose from.

All orders will arrive in November, so perfect for Christmas or as a special keepsake. Plus, a share of every purchase will raise funds for school.

How to order

Full details and forms will go home with your child from 13 October. This will include a unique ID for easy ordering and a preview of your child's design. Orders will need to be placed by midnight 22 October.

Events coming up

Pumpkin Party - Friday 23 October

Join us in the orchard for an autumnal celebration and to raise funds for forest school provision.



Fundraising update

New art materials for the school

Thanks to the funds raised at last year's art exhibition, we were able to restock the school's art supplies for this year.

After school club supplies

At the end of the summer, the PTFA donated new sports equipment and craft materials for the after school club.

Registering as a charity

Following our AGM last week, we have started the process of registering the PTFA as a charity. This will give us more freedom to decide how the funds we raise are spent. We'd love to hear your thoughts on what you would like us to support in school, come chat at the Pumpkin Party or you can email dartingtonptfa@gmail.com.

This term's events!

Save the date - we've got a term full of fun and fundraising planned, with more details to follow soon:

- **Pumpkin party** - Friday 23 October
- **Christmas Jumper swap** - Friday 20 November
- **Christmas Dis-glo** - Friday 11 December

Ways to get involved

We know everyone is busy and time is tight so every contribution - big or small makes a difference.

We're event planning a little differently this year with a way to indicate your interest in helping out on different events or activities. Joining a specific chat doesn't mean you're signing your life away! Just shows your interest and keeps you updated on what's happening.

Join the PTFA planning group here >

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/HeirKncYviU32cNgrT7Xg1?s=cl&p=i&mlu=4&ilr=4>



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Last year was a record-breaker - most events ever and a huge amount raised for the school. Let's see if we can top it this year!





DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Dartington Community News

DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT
(The Flavel's Drama Club)

Where young people discover themselves through drama in a supportive, pressure free space.

Dramatically Different Dartmouth

**Build confidence.
Make friends.
No performance pressure.**

**Wednesdays
The Flavel Auditorium
4-5pm | Ages 5-9
5:15-6:15pm | Ages 10-16**

EXPLORE. BELONG. SHINE.

THE FLAVEL DRAMA CLUB

the flavel
www.theflavel.org.uk



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

YOUNG DART VOICES

(Dartmouth's Youth Choir)

Where young singers discover their voice
and find their people through music.

Scan to join!



Build confidence.
Make friends.
Find their voice.

Mondays | 3:30pm-5pm
The Cube, Dartmouth Academy
Ages 8-16
FREE

TWO CONCERTS THIS TERM
30th October | St. Clement's Church
18th December | The Flavel Arts Centre

SING. BELONG. THRIVE.



DARTMOUTH'S YOUTH CHOIR



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY





**ZORBS NERF WARS SWIMMING CRAFTS INFLATABLES**

**TOTNES LEISURE CENTRE**
26TH - 30TH OCTOBER
SCAN TO BOOK NOW!

DAY 8:15AM TO 5:15PM - £35
WEEK - £157.50 (10% OFF)
AGE 4 (REC) TO 12





DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

the
WOWHAUS

AFTER-SCHOOL ART CLUB

16.09

23.09

30.09

07.10

14.10

21.10

10 SPACES

£12 PER CLASS

WEDNESDAYS

3:15 - 4:45 PM

WEDNESDAYS

DARTINGTON C OF E

STUDIO ROOM

AGE 6 - 11 YEARS

WWW.THEWOWHAUS.CO.UK/BOOK



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

DRAMA CLUB

with Rachel

WHY THEY'LL LOVE IT

- ✓ builds confidence
- ✓ creative play
- ✓ learn to improvise
- ✓ perform on stage

Thursday Lunchtime - year 3-6 £7

16 MAX PER CLASS

**CONTACT: RACHELSAVAGE@PM.ME
TO BOOK A PLACE**



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Young People's Theatre Playground Arts



Inclusive, creative physical theatre sessions...

Make friends, have fun, build skills, perform...

NEW!
Contemporary
Dance

at The Mansion Totnes

Saturdays

Pre-Juniors 3-6 yrs 9:15-10am

NEW Contemporary Dance

6-9 yrs 10:15-11:05am

Junior Drama

6-9yrs 11:15am-12:30pm

Thursdays

YPT 10-16 yrs 4:15-6:15pm



at The MiC Buckfastleigh

Mondays

Juniors 7-10 yrs 4-5:30pm

Tuesdays

YPT 11-16 yrs 4:15-6:15pm



Questions welcome - for more info contact
Sarah 07387553237 playgroundartstheatre@gmail.com

THE
MANSION



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



Children, Young People and Families Neurodiversity Wellbeing Team

We offer a free, confidential advice line for children, young people and families on the Neurodiversity Pathway in Plymouth and Devon.

Advice can include:

- Anxiety
- Diet
- Friendships
- Sleep
- Linking with other teams and services in your area
- School difficulties
- Support strategies



Contact us: 01752 435404 Monday - Friday, 09:00-17:00

Have your say:

Share feedback to help us improve our services. Use the QR code to complete the questionnaire.



We support people to lead independent, healthy lives



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Parent Information

Transform **everyday**
parenting moments
into playful **learning**
experiences

Get playful activity ideas,
parenting tips, and everyday
inspiration to support your
child's early development —
all designed by experts and
trusted by our diverse
community.



Scan the QR code or visit
easypeasyapp.com/devon

easyPEASY



FREE

For all parents and caregivers with children
aged from birth to 5 years old in Devon.



Devon
County Council





https://togetherness.co.uk/mul/cornwall-and-devon/?es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=6729865E9BBC3677D8AD6A924D37D1E0&es_id=xg%c2%a342

Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth and Torbay families: Build everyday emotional resilience!

Your free online learning. Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives.

Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Councils gives families free access to Togetherness resources to support wellbeing. For parents, carers, grandparents, and young people.

Learn from NHS clinical psychologists, practitioners, and other parents. The pathways will help you and your family understand and manage emotions in everyday life.





Speech, language and communication Easy access drop in sessions

As part of the Balanced System, we are starting easy access drop ins for pre school children.

Would you like any advice and support for your child's speech, language and communication skills? Visit one of our easy access drop ins with your child to see a Speech and Language Therapist. Get advice, support and strategies from the team.

Drop in sessions are now being held in different locations across Torbay, South Devon and North Devon. Exeter, East and Mid Devon.

If you would like to attend a drop in, there is no need to book, simply use the table below find a location and time that works for you.

https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/easy-access-drop-in/?fbclid=IwY2xjawRDJPlleHRuA2FlbQlxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxMzgz4MjAwODkyAAEgDsR4TAkc6LUrecwNGuc4KyGadit-Egy6c6eEgVH8J-Az0hGdHWt-YHTSNs_aem_jkYG6-OTYCheUDTN1-zR0g&es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=70BD98FC47C9CAB4E97652D13A591423&es_id=xg%c2%a342#jump-collapse10010

A green rectangular poster for LEAP Workshops. At the top, the "LEAP WORKSHOPS" logo is displayed in white and blue. Below the logo, the text "SEND Workshops for Families and Professionals in Devon or Torbay" is written in white. Underneath, the phrase "Learn. Empower. Advocate. Prepare." is written in yellow. A paragraph in white text describes the program as helping families and professionals better understand and support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Below this, the text "Take part online" and "Join in via your computer, tablet or smartphone" is written in yellow. At the bottom, three logos are shown: PCFD (Parent Carer Forum Devon), a circular logo for SEND Torbay, and cfhd (Children & Family Health Devon).

LEAP workshops – free online support for families and professionals



Parent Carer Forum Devon and SEND Family Voice Torbay, working in collaboration with Children and Family Health Devon (CFHD), are offering a new programme of free workshops for families and professionals across Devon and Torbay.

The workshops focus on SEND, and are designed to build understanding, confidence and practical skills to support children and young people in everyday life.

Topics include autism, sensory processing, masking, dyslexia and supporting independence.

https://leapworkshops.org/?es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=71ECADB155925EBC18C9D658508CC35E&es_id=xg%C2%A342

Free Parent Safety Workshops and Resources

We would like to share a valuable resource for parents and carers from **Let's Talk Safer Families**. The organisation provides free, evidence-based information, guidance and online events to help families understand and respond to issues affecting children and young people, including online safety, healthy relationships, exploitation, neurodiversity and emotional wellbeing. The sessions are designed to help parents build confidence, start important conversations with their children and access trusted support.

Parents and carers can view upcoming events and access a range of helpful resources by visiting: www.letstalksaferfamilies.org/events



Free SEND Workshops for Parents and Carers

We would like to highlight **LEAP Workshops (Learn. Empower. Advocate. Prepare)**, a free programme of workshops designed to help parents, carers and professionals better understand and support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The sessions cover a range of topics including sensory differences, communication, anxiety, sleep difficulties, behaviour, dyslexia, masking and developing independence.



The workshops are available online and in person across Devon and Torbay, providing practical strategies, expert guidance and opportunities to learn from both professionals and families with lived experience. They are free to attend and are open to all parents and carers.

To find out more and book a place, visit: www.leapworkshops.org.



SEND Workshops for Families and Professionals

Learn. Empower. Advocate. Prepare.

Contact Us

Tel: 01803 862357

Monday – Thursday 8.30am – 12.30pm/2pm – 4pm, Friday 8.30am – 12.30pm

Email: dartington@lapsw.org

Address: Shinnars Bridge, Dartington, TQ9 6JU