



21st March 2025

Dear Parents and Families

Firstly, can I take the opportunity to thank everyone who came along to the “Parent and Family Forum” that was held on Tuesday 11th March. It was wonderful to see so many of you in school and we will make these evenings a feature of every term moving forward. Working with you and sharing experiences, opportunities and learning is an essential part of our work. I also used this evening to collect some of your views and feedback which always help us to further develop our relationships with you all.

These were some of the suggestions that parents felt could improve our school; we have listened and below is a list of what we have done:

Key Dates – You wanted these on the website so we are in the process of creating a Key Dates page where these can be uploaded from now on. Once this is finalised and up and running, we will let you know.

Super Curriculum – You wanted more information on this so please check out our website under Our Curriculum and then Super Curriculum where you can find more information in relation to this – please also see below.

Class Charts – you wanted to receive notifications from Classcharts when information is updated. We are working to get this in place for you all.

Letters on the website – You said that you prefer to get electronic copies of letters by email rather than printed copies sent home with your children. Any letters that can be, will also be uploaded to the website going forward under Parents and then Letters to Parents tab.

There were lots of positives from the evening too and, amongst others, some of the things you are happy with are the fortnightly headteacher letters (this letter). You found this very helpful as it showed up and coming dates for your diary and you enjoyed hearing about what the students have been up to. You also enjoy our termly newsletters. As these have had positive praise, we will obviously continue to send these out and improve on these so you have more information. These can all be found on the school website under Parents and then Letters to Parents

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Combe Pafford School, Steps Lane, Watcombe, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 8NL

Telephone: 01803 327902 Email: emails@combepafford.torbay.sch.uk

Website: www.combepaffordschool.co.uk

Company No. 0846682

Super Curriculum

When I first started at the school in September, I had several conversations with families about homework and additional work that children do at home. The school is not increasing homework, but we do appreciate that some of our children may want to extend and develop the learning they do in school, particularly in areas they have a significant interest. We have therefore developed our Combe Pafford Super Curriculum where children can 'watch. read. listen and do' on subjects they love. Please have a look on our website and we hope you like it. [Combe Pafford School - Super Curriculum](#)

Easter Service

This will take place on Wednesday 2nd April for all Year 8 and 9 students. The service will start at 2pm and parents and families are very welcome to join us to celebrate.

Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership



Our Safeguarding Partners from Torbay have asked us to share this with you. As a parent myself, I have found it helpful to read and I have shared it with all our staff.

Netflix's 'Adolescence' just pulled back the curtain on something every parent, educator, and mentor need to know—the hidden language of emojis.

Online, young people are communicating in ways that most adults completely miss. What looks innocent could have a much darker meaning. Here are some of the codes being used:

- ☑ Red Pill – “I see the truth.” Used in toxic male spaces to mean waking up to supposed hidden ‘truths’ about women and society, often linked to misogynistic ideologies.
- ☑ Blue Pill – Represents those who are “blind to the truth” or still believe in mainstream views about relationships and gender dynamics.
- ☑ Dynamite Emoji – An “exploding red pill,” meaning someone is a radicalised incel.
- ☑ Kidney Bean – A symbol linked to incel culture, sometimes mocking women.
- ☑ 100 Emoji – Tied to the “80/20 rule,” the belief that 80% of women are only attracted to 20% of men.
- ☑ Black Hole – Used to express depression, hopelessness, or being sucked into negative online spaces.
- ☑ Tornado – Represents chaos or feeling overwhelmed, sometimes used to indicate mental distress.
- ☑ Frog Emoji – Associated with alt-right and extremist meme culture, often linked to Pepe the Frog, which has been co-opted by some toxic online groups.
- ☑ Eagle – A symbol of extreme nationalism, sometimes used in far-right online spaces.

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☠ Skull – While often just slang for “that’s funny” or “I’m dead (from laughing),” in certain groups, it can signal darker themes like nihilism or self-harm.

❤️❤️❤️❤️ Heart Colours – Not just about love!

❤️ = Love

👉 = Lust

👀 = “Are you interested?”

👀 = Interested but not in sex

👌 = “You’ll be okay”

So what should parents do?

- **Get Curious, Not Combative** – Ask open-ended questions: “I saw something about emojis meaning different things. Have you heard of this?” Keep the conversation light.
- **Create a Judgment-Free Zone** – If your child feels like they’ll be punished for opening up, they won’t. Make it clear you’re there to listen, not just lecture.
- **Decode Together** – Ask them to explain their digital world. What do different symbols mean? Who are the influencers they follow? Don’t assume, ask.
- **Teach Critical Thinking** – Help them question online content. “Why do you think some groups push this idea? Who benefits?” Arm them with questions, not just rules.
- **Monitor Without Spying** – Open conversations work better than secret surveillance. Make checking in on their online spaces a normal part of parenting, not a crisis move.
- **Be Real About Manipulation** – Explain how toxic online groups groom young people by making them feel special, included, or like they have ‘insider knowledge.’
- **Build Their Offline Confidence** – The more they feel valued and confident in the real world, the less they’ll seek validation in dangerous online spaces.

The digital world is evolving faster than most adults can keep up, but we don’t have to be in the dark.

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Vaccinations

Devon Immunisation Team have asked us to share this poster with all parents and families. We have recently had the Immunisation Team in school for the HPV, Meningitis, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations. They are due to visit again on 25th April so please let the school know if you haven't already confirmed you would like your child to be seen.

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

For more information, scan the QR code, or call us to speak with a member of our team

Call us on **01392 342678**
kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net

Owain Sponsored Walk

STAR WARS
CHARITY WALK
in loving memory of
the late Chris Wheeler
by his step-son, Owain
on Sunday May 11th
Goodrington to Brixham
Supporting **TORBAY**
BIKERS FOR KIDS

On Sunday 11th May 2025. Owain Mellings in Year 6 will be doing a Star Wars Sponsored Walk from Goodrington to Brixham in memory of his late step father, Chris Wheeler, who died last year. Owain will be raising funds for Torbay Bikers for kids.

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To support Owain, the school would be having a cake day in May to support his walk. All donations in relation to this will go to the charity that Owain is supporting, Torbay Bikers for Kids.

If you would like to donate to Owain's cause, please click on the link below: We wish Owain the best of luck!

<https://gofund.me/19533569>

Have a wonderful weekend with your families and friends. I think the sun is going to shine and only one week until we change the clocks, and the bright nights will start to really be here.

Yours sincerely



Sally Banfield
Headteacher

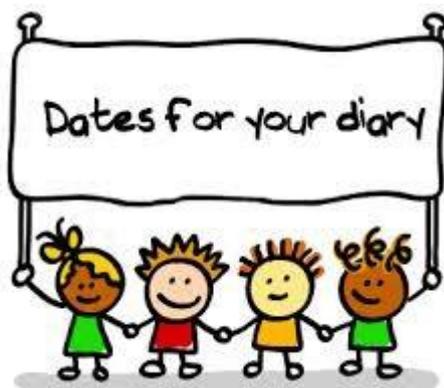
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March 2025

- * 25th March KS2 Year 7 – Swimming
- * 28th March KS2 Year 7 – Swimming
- * 31st – 4th April Year 11 Work Experience Week

April 2025

- * 2nd April Year 8 & 9 Easter Service at Virgin Church, St. Marychurch
- * 4th April Last Day of Term for Students
- * 7th – 22nd April (inc) EASTER HOLIDAYS
- * 22nd April NON PUPIL DAY – children are not in school
- * 25th April HPV Immunisation Team Visit – Year 8
- * 25th April KS2 – Year 7 Swimming
- * 29th – 2nd May Opel Coast France Residential – Year 8 & 9
- * 29th April KS2 – Year 7 Swimming

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