

# Combe Pafford School BULLETIN



Autumn Term  
2025

## Headlines

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the close of the Autumn term, it has been a real pleasure to reflect on the many wonderful moments and achievements that have taken place at Combe Pafford over the past few months. This newsletter captures just a snapshot of the rich experiences our children have enjoyed during what has been another busy and rewarding term.

I continue to feel incredibly proud and privileged to serve as Headteacher of such a special school. Each day, I have the opportunity to see the dedication of our talented staff and the enthusiasm, curiosity and kindness of our amazing children. It is a joy to watch them grow, thrive and take pride in their learning.

The articles within this newsletter highlight the wide range of opportunities our staff provide, both in everyday learning and through special events. At Combe Pafford, we place great importance on nurturing our values; compassion, resilience and respect. These values underpin our assemblies, classroom learning and daily interactions, and it has been wonderful to see how confidently the children demonstrate them across school life.

There have been many memorable highlights this term, making it difficult to single out just a few. However, some particularly special moments for me included the lower school nativity, the pantomime visit to the Princess Theatre yesterday, and our very own Combe Pafford pantomime performed so brilliantly this week. Alongside these, sporting events, school trips and everyday moments of achievement have made this term truly special.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated and hardworking staff team. I am extremely grateful to each and every member of staff for their commitment and care, and I would like to thank them sincerely for all that they do. I wish them a restful and well-deserved break over the holiday period.

Our school community extends far beyond the school gates, and I have greatly enjoyed meeting many families at events throughout the term. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to strengthening these partnerships further in the year ahead.

On behalf of all the staff at Combe Pafford School, I would like to wish every family a happy, peaceful and restful Christmas. I hope the festive period brings time together, joy and special memories for you all.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.



With warmest wishes,

Sally Banfield  
Headteacher



# Lower School YEARS 5&6



## 6B's Space Exploration



6B has been diving into the theme of space exploration over the last half-term, and we have spent that last 6 weeks discovering what it really takes to reach the stars.

The children explored a timeline of space travel, starting with the very first rockets and leading all the way up to modern missions. They were amazed to learn how quickly technology has changed in such a short amount of time, and how each mission—big or small—helped us understand a little more about what's beyond our planet.

We also learned about some of the famous astronauts who made history.

We made our own fact files about our favourite ones.

One of the highlights was comparing the geography of Earth and the Moon. The children explored how Earth has man-made and natural features, while the Moon is rocky, dusty, and covered in craters.



# Lower School YEARS 5&6



6B

## Our Trip to We the Curious



On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December we took our much-anticipated trip to **We the Curious.**

From the moment we stepped inside, the day was full of wide eyes, curious questions, and lots of "come look at this!" moments.

The children had the chance to explore hands-on exhibits—pressing buttons, turning wheels, peeking into microscopes, and discovering how things work in ways that felt more like play than learning (the best kind, right?). One of the biggest hits was the interactive displays where they could experiment with light, bubbles, and even build their own chain-reaction machines. We're pretty sure a few future inventors were made that day!

A special shout-out goes to the Planetarium show, which left everyone—adults included—completely captivated. Several children asked if we were *actually* flying through space, so we'll count that as a success.

Most importantly, our group represented us brilliantly. They asked thoughtful questions, supported each other during the activities, and showed genuine enthusiasm from start to finish. We couldn't have asked for a better bunch of explorers.

Thank you, as always, for your support, packed lunches, after-school pickups, and for trusting us with your wonderful children. We hope they came home buzzing with stories—and maybe a few new "did you know...?" facts to share around the dinner table!



# Lower School YEARS 5&6



## Nativity Performance



We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers who joined us for our recent Nativity Performance. The children did an absolutely wonderful job, and we are incredibly proud of them all.

They sang confidently, remembered their actions and the narrators read with such confidence throughout the performance. The children supported one another and showed growing confidence being in front of a large audience.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and for helping to make the occasion so special. We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we did.



# Middle School

## YEARS 7&8

### 8B RE Learning



This term, the students in 8B have been learning about Judaism during RE. The children have learnt about Shabbat - the weekly day of rest that Jewish families celebrate each week. The students have recognised what can and cannot be done during Shabbat, and what Jewish families do during this time. The children have studied important Jewish festivals, such as Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah. Students can recall and explain some things that happen during these celebrations. Together, as a class, we played the traditional Jewish game of dreidel. This gave us the opportunity to spend time together, practice our social skills and have fun.



# Middle School

## YEARS 7&8

### 8D Life Skills Hair Hygiene Experience



This week, 8D had a fantastic time learning all about hair hygiene during their visit to the school's hairdressing salon. Pupils explored different types of shampoo, discovered what conditioner does, and even had the chance to wash each other's hair. They loved the hands-on experience – even if a few of them got a little bit wet along the way! It was a great opportunity to build confidence, practice self-care skills, and have lots of fun at the same time.



# Middle School

## YEARS 7&8

### Year 8 Harvest Festival



As part of Harvest Festival, Year 8 sorted and collected all the donated foods and dropped them into The Cwtch Hub in Newton Abbot. We filled 17 carrier bags - over 160 items for the Community Centre. Who will use the produce to make food for those in need. For more information about the charity please visit, <https://www.thecwtchhub.co.uk/>



# Upper School YEARS 9,10&11

## Year 11 Work Experience Week Monday 17<sup>th</sup>- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

As part of our career curriculum, students in year 10 and 11 will have 3 separate weeks of work experience, with the first being in year 10, and then two further weeks in year 11. Our year 11's have had their second taste of the world of work during their work experience this term, and they have all done us incredibly proud. Every student was able to learn something new about themselves whilst also learning about a job role



**In School Group:** This group worked in partnership with PATH charity, to find out more about working for a charity, and how they help the community, they visited the charity and met the people which PATH support. The group used their entrepreneurial skills to think about how they can raise as much money as they could for the charity, they chose to organise a bake sale, starting with planning and buying the ingredients to make the cakes, and then selling them at break time along with other goodies they made. They raised over £60 and then spent that money on toiletries, which the charity is in need of. Well done to this group for showing compassion, resilience, and teamwork to support the PATH charity. They all learnt valuable transferable skills which will help them in which ever career they choose in the future.



# Upper School YEARS 9,10&11



## Year 11 Work Experience Week



Sheltered Placements: Smaller groups went out to our sheltered placements, Totnes Rare Breeds Farm, The Range and Sainsbury's.

It was a cold week at Totnes Rare Breeds, but the students got stuck in and learnt more about how a farm is managed, and learning about animal care, ensuring all animals stayed warm and fed in the winter. All of the groups showed amazing resilience in the cold and wet weather, they did not let the weather stop them for caring for the animals, they will all make amazing animal care workers if that is what they choose to do in the future.

In warmer climates, the groups at Sainsbury's and The Range faced different challenges. Both of the groups did extremely well to be working in retail at the start of the Christmas period. With the range sorting out all of the Christmas decorations ensuring the isles were neatly stocked and ready for the Christmas shoppers. Sainsbury's group also ensured the Christmas food was stocked, especially in the crisp and chocolate isles. They all did really well in very busy environments and learnt a lot about how to work in a team and talk to customers.



# Upper School

## YEARS 9,10&11

### Year 11 Work Experience Week

**Independent Placements:** This term we had a wide range of employers, which students went to independently to learn about a career of their choice. Employers where, Cantina, Me and Mrs Jones Deli, The Derwent Hotel, AC Garages, Totnes Tyre Services, SWISCO, Mayfield School, Watcombe Primary School, Curledge Street Primary School, VX3 Sports wear, Tesco and Torquay Steel Services.

Students either made their own way there, or came into school first to then be dropped off, and then apart from a quick visit from our Career Advisor, they had very little contact with the school. They showed how confident and work ready they are becoming, they all represented the school amazingly and we received positive praise from all of our employers.



# Upper School YEARS 9,10&11

## Year 11 Work Experience Week



A special mention to Sanctuary Housing who spent time with a group of our students, going through what their company was about, the apprenticeship opportunities and taking the time to show a group of our students around their working sites. We appreciate all of the employers we work with who give our students the best opportunities; we could not have a work experience week without the support we get!

Thank You!

A few more thank you's, to all our year 11 parents who support us with either finding work placements or with the drop off and pickups of students, it is a big task to get 40 students all out in the workplace at the same time, and we could not do it without the cooperation of parents!

Thank you to all of our staff for supporting this week, it really is a team effort to get this going and ensuring every student has a positive week where they get to grow into young adults in a safe and supported environment.

Most of all, thank you to all of our year 11 students who showed great maturity and willingness to learn. They represented the school amazingly and are a credit to themselves, the school and their families.

# Upper School

## YEARS 9,10&11



### 11M Achievements

11M have done many things to be proud of this term... successful work experience placements, completing some fantastic English coursework and being resilient with mock exams just to name a few. However, when we asked the class what they were most proud of, what most of them said, was their incredible paper chain ceiling decoration! I hope you can see why when you look at the photo!

Now this started as a humble, average chain, but quickly escalated when the students found the repetitive motion of making the chain really calming. Some students reported being able to concentrate better; as their hands were busy, they felt more able to be still and listen. Teamwork was key when the ambition of the project became greater. Freddie, the team leader, gave clear specific instructions about the size of each chain link and how they should be fastened. Other class members directed where the chain needed to attach to next within the room to minimise any bare ceiling patches. Some contributed by making decorative snowflakes to hang from the chain.

Onlookers from the school community began to stop by some complimenting the chain, some requesting one for their room... but the class remained united and focussed on achieving their goal of covering the ENTIRE ceiling!

A special mention of thanks to Mrs Hunt, who the class enlisted as their paper chain safety officer, without her attention to detail, reinforcing parts of the chain to the ceiling, the whole thing could have collapsed and ended in disaster.

Update- Christmas chain traps teacher. Unfortunately, part of the paper chain was not attached securely enough and fell down dramatically, like a net, trapping their poor teacher.



# Sixth Form

## YEARS 12, 13&14

### A1 Lifeskills



A1 have been doing an absolutely brilliant job growing their independence – One real-world challenge (and occasional kitchen mishap) at a time. Of these skills have been approached with enthusiasm, resilience and pride. Every task, whether it's staying within budget, mastering a recipe or navigating a busy crossing, has shown just how capable, determined and independent each student is becoming.

Over the past weeks they have tackled shopping challenges that involved budgeting, comparing prices and decision making (resisting the urge to spend the entire budget on snacks) They have also been cooking independently by following recipes step-by-step, showing great confidence in the kitchen and producing some tasty food.

In community outings they have practised crossing roads safely and confidently, staying aware of traffic and making responsible choices as pedestrians

Each of these skills have been approached with enthusiasm, resilience and pride. Every task, whether it's staying within budget, mastering a recipe or navigating a busy crossing, has shown just how capable, determined and independent each student is becoming.



### A1 Communication & Teamwork



As well as working hard in their core subjects, A1 have been truly impressive with their amazing communication and teamwork skills.

Through group projects, peer discussions and speaking and listening activities, the students are developing their social interactions further. Their dedication to improving their social skills has shown how powerful good communication and collaboration can be.

Throughout, they have demonstrated remarkable resilience and compassion in accepting the diverse perspectives of others, actively listening and learning how to work better together every day.

It is a delight to see how confidently they speak, how respectfully they listen and how kindly they are now supporting one another.

Fantastic skills to master in the classroom and great preparation for real world encounters.

Go team A1!



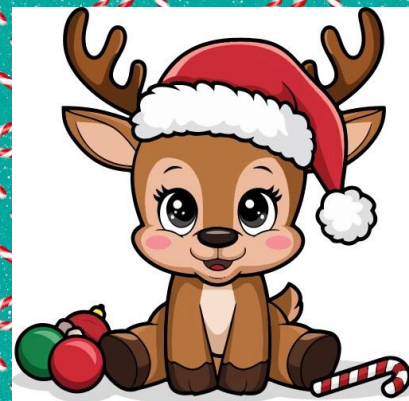
# Sixth Form

## YEARS 12, 13&14

### 6<sup>th</sup> Form Sheltered Placement at Meadowside Residential Home



Another great term for D2 sheltered placement at Meadowside Residential Home in Newton Abbot. We helped to tidy the gardens and grounds. Also made some of the resident's teas and coffees. The students also helped the residents to make Christmas decorations. The residents really enjoy the company, which is great to see. Well-done team.



### Horticulture Pathway



We are pleased to share that the horticulture department has been donated 10 bags of compost from B&Q. This will be a great help to support our garden projects. This is a very generous gift and will help our students continue their hands on horticulture work. A big thank you to B&Q for supporting our school horticulture department.

# B&Q



# Sixth Form YEAR 12,13 & 14

## Hospitality & Catering Pathway



This half term has been a busy and rewarding one for our Hospitality and Catering pathway students! They've shown incredible dedication and teamwork as they continue to build their confidence and develop key industry skills. One of the highlights of the term was the Friday Night Takeaway for staff, where pupils cooked up a storm in the kitchen, preparing delicious dishes and learning how to manage a professional food service. The feedback from staff was fantastic, and the students were rightly proud of their hard work and success. In addition, pupils have been thriving in their café sessions, learning how to make barista-style coffees using the espresso machine and serving up tasty, loaded fries for lunch. From preparing food and serving customers to using the dishwasher and starting to learn the till system, students have embraced every challenge with enthusiasm.

## Animal Care



The sixth formers have been hard at work completing video assessments for their catch and restrain unit. Well done to those that have shown a professional and knowledgeable approach to it!  
Will has been working hard in his work experience day here at Combe Pafford setting up bug enclosures and researching new and exciting insects we could have. Will has also been working well with some external students, teaching them how to handle some of our trickier animals!



## Sixth Form sheltered placement at the Range.



A great success this Autumn term at 6th form sheltered placements. A group of students went to the Range, in Paignton. They really enjoyed it and gained some knowledge and experience in a retail environment well done guys.

# Sixth Form YEAR 12,13 &14

## Retail Pathway



This term, during the Sixth Form Retail Pathway, students have been learning about creating a good impression to customers. We have learnt about the importance of dressing appropriately for customer service jobs and how to demonstrate an appropriate appearance within the retail sector. Furthermore, students have identified ways to begin to relate effectively to customers.

We have visited our local community to see the wide range of potential job opportunities within retail. Students support their theory with practical training on placement. Their placements support independence, confidence and resilience, as well as working within a purposeful real-life setting. Retail students are currently working at Torre Abbey, Tesco and The British Heart Foundation Charity Shop.

## Sixth Form work experience Newton Abbot Museum



Daniel Boosey has made a super start in his work experience placement at Newton Abbot Museum. He started there at the end of October this year and has helped in a variety of different ways. He has helped prepare a Halloween themed trail and has used AI to make riddles for the children to solve. He has also helped staff select museum artefacts to write about and upload to the museum's Facebook and Instagram pages online, '#Museum30'. He has also helped to add history books to the Museum's online shop on their website.

Daniel enjoys working there and has had good feedback from the museum staff. He said, "The museum is a fascinating place where the more you look the more you find."

Joanna, the museum's curator said, "Dan has created another 'Museum30' post. It was interesting to see which object he chose, and his caption gave an interesting and new perspective".



# Sixth Form YEAR 12,13 &14



## Statistics



This half-term, students across the Sixth Form have been working hard in Statistics. Some pupils are learning Statistics for the first time, while others are looking to improve on the qualification they already have.

Students have been learning about data types, such as qualitative and quantitative, discrete and continuous, and primary and secondary. We have also studied how data can be taken from a population. We focused on census and sample. Most recently, students have been working on random sampling and stratified sampling.

## Independent Work Placements



An absolutely fabulous start to the autumn term with the independent work placements. The students have all got stuck right into the world of work and are progressing really well as we have received positive feedback from employers for the above four students. Well Done and keep up the good work!

In the sixth form we try and provide students with something they enjoy to work alongside their pathway and such a variety!

Above you can see, Construction, Hospitality, Animal Care and Science Lab Assistant.

## Animal Care



The sixth formers have been working hard to create some Christmas themed hides for our guinea pigs and tortoises to enjoy. They have researched what is best to use and the substrate that is needed to make it as comfortable and quiet as possible.

They have also been working on their handling skills and working independently to feed and care for the reptiles. Well done guys!



# Sixth Form Years 12,13 &14

## Sixth form sheltered placement at Occombe Farm



D2 Students have enjoyed working outdoors at Occombe Farm. They have practised their team working skills whilst working on a variety of tasks including:

- Picking up wind fallen apples and picking apples from trees.
- Weeding and turning over planting beds
  - Weeding paths
  - Tidying inside the polytunnels

Their positive efforts have been noticed and praised by the farm staff working there. One of the site managers said, "They have made a positive difference and their hard work has been noticed."



## Sixth form work experience brake changing at Volksburg Garage, Torquay



Harley Clements continues to do his best, learn new skills and get lots of hands-on practise in motor vehicle mechanics. "I needed my brakes changing and had been visiting Harley for over a year and was impressed by the work at the garage. I booked my car in and later that day visited Harley in my routine job coach role. It was very interesting to see Harley working under direction of the lead mechanic doing a super job on my own car. Thank you very much Harley for doing such a grand job."

# Sixth Form Years 12, 13 & 14



## A1 Workskills



This half term the A1 workskills group have participated in a joint Rail Travel Training and a volunteer litter pick. They were shown where to find train information, supported planned routes and timings. The group would then get off at different stations and do a mass litter pick within and immediately outside the stations.

As a reward for all their hard work A1 were able to catch the train last week to Exeter where they were able to visit the Ramm Museum which they all thoroughly enjoyed.



## Lifeskills Cooking D1



This half term, D1 have been busy in their Life Skills lessons developing their cooking confidence and creativity! They've made a range of delicious dishes including different pasta meals such as vegetable pasta bake, macaroni cheese, spaghetti bolognese, and meatballs.

More recently, after receiving a kind donation of cooking apples from Occombe Farm, the group made a tasty apple crumble followed by spiced apple muffins — both went down really well!

As they've been cooking, students have also been learning about food safety and hygiene, preparing to begin their Level 2 Food Safety and Hygiene online certificate. It's been a great few weeks of hard work, teamwork, and fun in the kitchen!

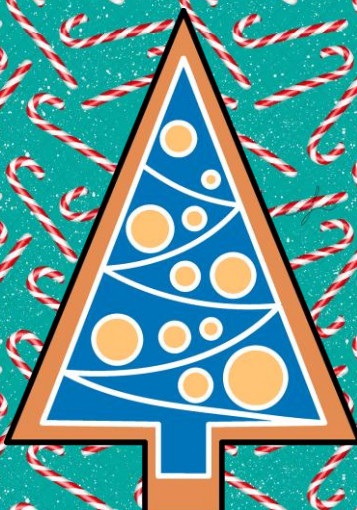
## Sixth Form Christmas Lunch



A huge thank you to The Willow Tree for accommodating over 60 students and staff to celebrate Christmas and the end of a very busy term!!

It was lovely to all come together and enjoy a delicious meal.

Merry Christmas everyone!



# Vocational NEWS

## **Year 6 Engineering Adventures!**

This term, year 6 pupils have been busy exploring the fascinating world of strong shapes, why they are so important for strength and stability and how they are used in real-life structures like bridges. Pupils were then challenged to design and build their own strong structure. Using thin strips of timber, they carefully formed triangles and rectangles, joining them together with hot glue guns (used safely and sensibly, of course!). They also learned how to handle a variety of cutting tools responsibly. An important skill for any budding engineer. Pupils developed their creativity by adding finishing touches to their designs before seeing how much weight their creations could hold, sometimes even pushing them to the point of destruction! We are so proud of their compassion and respect to each other. Well done Year 6.

## **Year 7: From Carpentry to Copper Creations!**

Year 7 have had a fantastic start to the year in the workshop! They began by making their own wooden signs, which gave them the perfect opportunity to learn basic carpentry skills and, most importantly, how to work safely with tools. Pupils have now taken on an exciting new challenge, creating wind chimes from copper piping! This project introduced them to plumbing tools and even gave them the chance to solder pipes together with a blow torch under careful supervision. Along the way, pupils have started to explore what plumbers do, the kinds of jobs involved, and how heating and water systems work in our homes. Well done year 7 for your resilience enthusiasm and confidence.

## **Year 8: Skills, Creativity, and Resilience!**

This term, Year 8 pupils have truly impressed us with their hard work and determination. They've explored a wide range of practical skills, including carpentry, painting, measuring, and planning. Throughout their work, year 8 have developed amazing resilience, learning how to stay focused and overcome challenges. As part of their lessons, pupils have been thinking about their aspirations for the future: where they might want to live, dream holiday destinations, and the types of jobs they'd like to do, helping pupils connect their learning to real-life goals. Pupils are currently working on designing and building their very own '**Pucket**' game. Each pupil created a unique design and used a variety of skills to bring their ideas to life. We are so proud of their resilience in their work and their compassion and respect for others throughout their lessons. Well done, Year 8

## **Year 9: Exploring Vocational Pathways**

Year 9 pupils have been taking part in rotations of our vocational subjects. This bespoke timetable gives every pupil the chance to experience at least four weeks in each of the option subjects available from Year 10. These sessions are a fantastic opportunity for pupils to discover new skills, explore different career pathways, and think about their future aspirations. By trying out a variety of subjects, they can make informed decisions about which options they'd like to pursue next year, choices that will help support their goals for life beyond school.

# Science NEWS

## Science is all around us

You don't need special equipment to support your child's science learning at home. Everyday moments are perfect opportunities to explore together. You could try ...

Cooking helps children see how heat changes food.  
Walking outside offers opportunities to spot plants, animals, weather and patterns.  
Playing with water teaches about floating, sinking, pouring and measuring.  
Simply noticing things together builds curiosity—an essential part of science.

Here's what pupils have been up to across the school...

### Years 6 & 7 – Reaching for the Stars

This term, our Year 6 and Year 7 pupils have been exploring space through a range of practical, visual and creative activities. Year 6 have been learning about the Earth, Moon and Sun, focusing on how they move and how this creates day and night. Year 7 have built on these ideas by exploring the planets, seasons, and even looking at galaxies beyond our solar system.

### Year 8 – Working Towards Their Bunsen Burner Licences

Year 8 have been developing their laboratory skills as they work towards earning their Bunsen Burner Licences. They have been practising how to light a Bunsen burner safely, change the flame type, and follow all safety rules confidently. This is a big step towards becoming independent young scientists.

### Year 9 – The human body.

Some of year 9 have officially begun their Entry Level Science journey. Recently, they completed engaging computer-based reaction time tests, comparing how quickly their left and right hands respond to on-screen cues. This investigation helps pupils understand the nervous system, reflexes, and fair testing, while building confidence using digital scientific tools. Other year 9's have been working on developing their scientific enquiry skills and fundamental knowledge.

### Year 10 – Beginning Chemistry Pathways

Some of the Year 10 pupils have started their pathways towards GCSE Chemistry. They have begun learning about the periodic table and atoms, exploring what elements are and how atoms are structured. These topics lay the foundation for future chemistry work.

### Year 10 & 11 Entry Level – Skittle Chromatography

Our Entry Level groups in Years 10 and 11 have also been busy with colourful practical work. Pupils carried out Skittle chromatography experiments, using water and filter paper to separate the dyes from different coloured sweets.

### Year 11 – Continuing Their Science Courses

Year 11 pupils on the GCSE pathway have recently completed a full mock exam for Paper 1, demonstrating strong effort and determination. They will now continue their learning by moving on to hydrocarbons and exploring how chemistry relates to oil, petrol and everyday fuels

# Library NEWS



As always, the library has been a hub of activity this term! Firstly, I would like to congratulate Annie, in Y7, for winning the Summer Holiday Reading Challenge. Well done for completing every one of the tasks – hope you and your family had fun together and you enjoyed your prize!

Halloween was celebrated in style with ghoulish decorations and of course, a library challenge. In teams, students had to find picture clues with a word hidden around the library and rearrange the words to make a Halloween joke. They got bonus points for naming the Halloween film and character that was in the picture. Here is the winning answer from 7M -

👻 *Why did the zombie refuse to borrow a book?  
... Because they can only return from the dead!*



There have been a lot of new books that have arrived this term. In November, Jade from Devon School Library Service, brought in a selection of books to enable the Year 6, 7 and 8 students to choose what they would like to have in the library. There were 4 genres of books to explore – fantasy, crime & mystery, real life and adventure. The activity enabled students to look through some genres that they might not be so familiar with, and the books they chose have been very popular.



# Library NEWS



Graphic novels are a popular choice for many of our students. They can be a great way to increase reading confidence by merging words and pictures, making reading more enjoyable and less intimidating. Our graphic novel collection has got even bigger thanks to Colby in Y6 and Jenson in Y8, who have been inspired to create their own graphic novels which are now proudly on display in the library!



We have recognised events happening nationally and in school this term...

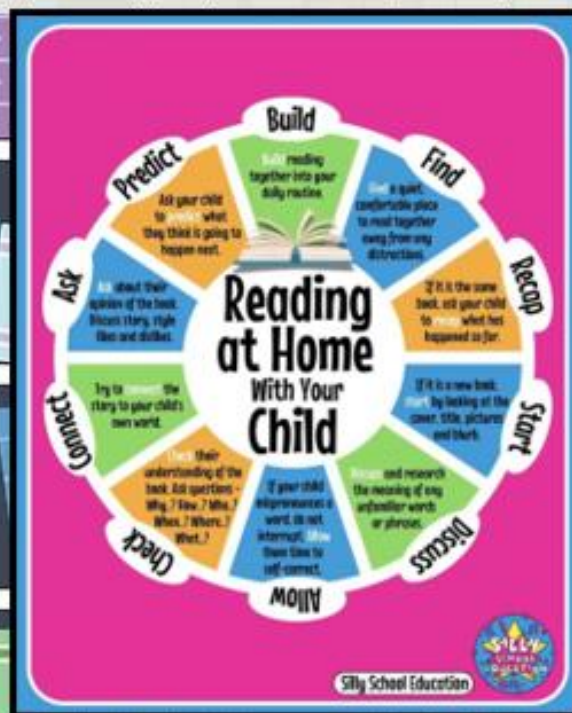
Books to support anti-bullying week



Books to support Remembrance Day



Did you know, 2026 is National Year of Reading? We will of course be taking part in school, but there are lots of ways you can support your child at home, for example:



Many of our students struggle with the complexities of reading but are fully engaged and able to make insightful contributions when an age-appropriate story that they would not be able to read independently, is read to them. Research shows that showing empathy when listening to stories, not only improves reading ability but maybe even more crucially, mental health and the ability to empathise with others, which is why it is so important to continue reading with your child. Audio books are another great resource, and many can be sourced for free through your local library.

Is your child Dyslexic or do they have a visual impairment? If you have not already, please consider joining your local public library. It is absolutely free to join, and you can then download the BorrowBox App to access e-books on a variety of devices. The app then allows you to adjust the size of the font and/or the text colour and background according to your specific needs. Here is a video link to help...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rhnpVpnxodw>

You can also borrow audio books using the same app.

Happy reading 📖😊

Mrs Bindon (Library Manager)



# CPS CHRISTMAS

Christmas Production



Let There Be Light was this year's Christmas production written by Mr Stevens and directed by Mrs Calandro. The story was set in a fictional church called St Paffords and featured outstanding performances by Ellie Clarke as the vicar and Harry Dean as her church warden. Other notable contributors were Arthur Clarke as Farmer Fetlock and twin girls Katherine and Victoria Smith as baton twirling aliens. All the cast members thoroughly enjoyed their time on stage.

The full cast list was: Ellie Clark, Harry Dean, Katherine Smith, Victoria Smith, Arthur Clark, Alfie Brown, Ava Gwilliam, Savannah Tarrant, Corina Fortune, Charlie Lawlor, Daisy Brown. Daisy Morgan, DJ Taylorson, Ozzi Seeley, Jacob Sonley, Callum Fenton. Sound Jack Slater, Lighting Steven Williams.

Panto at  
The princess Theatre



🌟 What a magical trip to the panto! 🌟

We had a fantastic time watching Sleeping Beauty and cheering on the beautiful Princess Aurora and the brave Prince Valiant as he set off to save her from an evil curse. Fairy Fortywinks tried her very best to help... if only she could stop falling asleep! 🧚

There was lots of singing, shouting and laughing — especially when we all had to shout, "It's behind you!" 🗣️

A wonderful day full of magic and memories for everyone!



# Christmas Dinner & CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



What a wonderful Wednesday we had! Our Christmas Dinner was absolutely fantastic — we were truly spoilt by our amazing kitchen staff. From the delicious meal to the festive atmosphere, it really felt like Christmas had arrived early! 🍷🥰

And of course, Christmas Jumper Day brought plenty of colour, sparkle, and smiles across the school.

Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun and helped make the day feel extra special. ❤️🥰



# Christmas FAYRE



Thank you for a wonderful Christmas Fayre!

A huge thank you to everyone who came along, joined in the fun, and supported our school by spending their pennies (and pounds!) at the stalls — we are so grateful.

A massive well done to all our amazing staff who worked so hard running the stalls and making the event so special.

And of course... an extra festive shout-out to Father Christmas and his brilliant elves for spreading so much joy! 🍷🍷

The atmosphere was absolutely magical — a perfect start to the Christmas feels. ❤️🎁

Thank you all for helping make it such a fantastic festive afternoon! 🌟🌟



Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas Fayre and bought raffle tickets we raised a whopping £930.86!!



# CPS Community NEWS



## Combe Pafford Cared for Children raise £100!



**Barnardo's**

Last term, one of our cared-for pupils came up with a fantastic idea to raise money for both a bonding trip for children in care and our local children's charity, Barnardo's. With the enthusiasm and support of the whole group, a bake sale was organised — and an impressive £100 was raised!

The pupils meticulously planned, baked, and set up the event. Throughout the process, they demonstrated exceptional teamwork, creativity, and dedication. It was clear just how much thought and effort went into every part of the day.

The money raised helped fund a bowling trip for the cared-for children. During the outing, the pupils loved spending time together outside of school. They cheered each other on, celebrated their strikes and spares, and shared plenty of laughter. For some, it was a chance to try something new; for others, an opportunity to show off their bowling skills!

The trip not only rewarded their hard work but also strengthened the sense of community within the group.

The remaining money was then proudly hand-delivered to the Barnardo's charity shop in St Marychurch.'

# CPS FUNDRAISING



Martin Smith, the grandad of one of Charlie Lawler, has raised an amazing amount of money over a number of years by arranging a Charity Golf Match named 'Charlie's Trophy' the proceeds of this match is split amongst various charities but over the last couple of years Combe Pafford School has been the main beneficiary. Charlie's trophy has raised so much, we were able to purchase a minibus to increase our fleet to 6.



Rotary Sunrise and Rotary Newton Abbot donated some much-needed equipment to our Lifeskills flat that our Premises team have been busy building. This area will enable children to have hands on experience of cooking, cleaning, making beds etc which is needed as they move on to adult life.

Rotary Sunrise Club had their breakfast meeting at our Yellow Frog cafe and had a talk from Mrs Calandro our Deputy Head about our school. They donated vouchers which enabled 6 children to purchase a thick winter coat which will certainly come in useful over the coming weeks.



RCB kindly put on a Christmas Concert for us at school, this was a really festive event and raised £239 for the school!!



## B&Q

We are very lucky to have companies that support us by donating items to us, namely B&Q who have generously donated compost for our indoor plants that our Horticulture group tend to, Brewers who donate paint for our Painting and Decorating lessons and Plant World who have giving us enormous help, advice and plants to ensure the walkway from the road into our main reception is colourful and attracts wildlife throughout the year.



# CPS Community SUPPORT



That is an important reminder. The festive season can be challenging for many people for a variety of reasons, and it's essential to approach this time with **kindness, compassion, and sensitivity**.

Here are some reasons why our children may find Christmas a particularly difficult time:

- Sensory overwhelm
- Change of routine
- Complex family dynamics
- Past Christmas-related trauma
- End of term exhaustion

Here are some of the risks:

- Increase in domestic abuse
  - Loss of safe spaces
- Heightened substance abuse
- Unstructured, unpredictable routines
- Overwhelm leading to behavioural outbursts

For the full article including how to support young people over Christmas please click on this link:

<https://safetynetuk.org/%F0%9F%8E%84-supporting-children-and-young-people-through-the-festive-season>

**Familyhub**  
TORBAY

[Food Banks/Community Larders/Baby Banks - Family HubFamily Hub](#)

# CPS Community NEWS

## THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD ATTENDANCE

As we head towards the end of our first term, I would like to take the opportunity to remind you of our attendance procedures and the importance of excellent attendance. Excellent attendance really does make all the difference! The link between **attendance** and **attainment** in school is clear. The more a pupil is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential. We understand that there may be reasons why a child *may* need to be absent from school and we will support you and your child in every way we can. We ask that as a parent/carer you keep us fully informed of any absences, in advance if possible, and reasons why so that we can put that support into place for you and your child. Our ultimate goal is to ensure that your child has the best possible opportunity at school and that this is not disadvantaged by absences.

If your child is going to be absent please inform the school as soon as possible by calling 01803 327902 between 8.15am – 9.00am on the morning of absence, or before if possible.

Pupils' should be in their class at 8.45am for registration. Poor punctuality is not acceptable. If a child misses the start of the day they can miss work and do not spend time with their class teacher getting vital information and news for the day. Late arriving pupils also disrupt lessons, can be embarrassing for the child and can also encourage absence. Good time-keeping is a vital life skill which will help our children as they progress through their school life and out into the wider world.

Any child arriving between 8.55am and 9am will be classed as late to school and receive a late mark in the register (unless they are travelling by School transport which arrives late.)

Any child arriving after 9am will be late to their first lesson and will be classed as late after registers have closed and receive an unauthorised absence mark (unless they are travelling by School transport which arrives late.) This may mean that you could face the possibility of being issued with a Penalty Notice if the problem persists. We expect parents and staff to encourage good punctuality by being good role models to our children and celebrate good class and individual punctuality.

### Penalty notices

Penalty Notices apply to students of statutory school age (which ends in Year 11). Aquinas and the Local Authority have agreed to use Penalty Notices for the following circumstances:

- Penalty Notices may be issued where there has been unauthorised absence.
- Parent/carers will receive a warning letter at least 10 days prior to the issue of a Penalty Notice.
- If the law continues to be broken around school attendance, the legal intervention process will be used.
- The penalty for each parent/carer is £60 for each child if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days of receipt of the Notice.
- Failure to ensure that the child attends school punctually and regularly could lead to legal action being taken against the respective parent/carer. This could result in each parent/carer receiving a fine of up to £2,500 for each time or up to 3 months' imprisonment.

Equates to:

4 SCHOOL DAYS off each year

100%

PERFECTION

98%

IMPRESSIVE

7 SCHOOL DAYS off each year

96%

GOOD

9 SCHOOL DAYS off each year

95%

NEARLY THERE

11 SCHOOL DAYS off each year

94%

NEEDS TO IMPROVE

20 SCHOOL DAYS off each year

90%

CONCERNS (referred to Educational Welfare / Persistent absentee)

30 SCHOOL DAYS off each year

85%

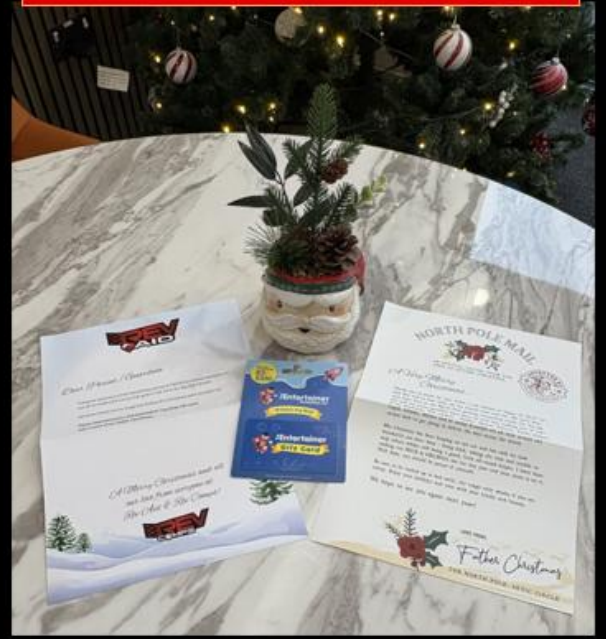
SERIOUS CONCERNS

# CPS Community NEWS

## Rock Steady Concert



A massive thank you to Rev Aid, who have very kindly donated 240 x £50 toy vouchers for families at Combe Pafford School!



## Christmas hair at Combe Pafford Hair Salon



## Music Lessons

At Combe Pafford we offer extra Music Tuition. We have 1 to 1 lessons for drums, bass and keyboard as well as a company called Rocksteady who offer group lessons. If you would like your child to access this, please scan the QR and complete the short form. There is a small fee of £5 per lesson which can be paid via Arbor.

Music Tuition - Spring Term



# CPS Community NEWS

SPRING  
MENU  
2025

## COMBE PAFFORD SCHOOL MENU

w/b 5th Jan, 26th Jan, 23rd Feb, 16th March

SCHOOL DINNERS  
£2.30

FOOD ALLERGIES  
&  
INTOLERANCES

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY  
REQUIREMENTS PLEASE  
SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF  
STAFF.

LOCAL BUTCHER  
LOCAL VEGETABLES  
FREE RANGE EGGS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>MAC AND CHEESE</b> Macaroni covered in a white sauce topped with cheese and breadcrumbs served with garlic bread.	<b>SAUSAGE ROLL AND MASH</b> Sausage roll served with creamy mashed potato, baked beans and peas.	<b>ROAST GAMMON</b> Local butcher's gammon served with creamy mashed potato and gravy.	<b>CHEESE PIZZA</b> Thick base pizza topped with tomato sauce and cheese.	<b>BATTERED COD</b> Oven baked cod served with chunky chips, peas or beans and curry sauce.
<b>TOMATO AND BASIL SOUP</b> Homemade creamy tomato and basil soup served with a roll.	<b>QUORN CHILLI</b> Quorn mince in a rich tomato sauce served with rice.	<b>VEGGIE ROAST</b> Stuffing, vegetables and Quorn sausages served with creamy mashed potato and gravy.	<b>LENTIL AND SWEET POTATO CURRY</b> Lentil, sweet potato and vegetable curry served with rice.	<b>VEGETABLE BURGER</b> Crispy vegetable burger served in a bun with salad and wedges.
<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.
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<b>HOMEMADE BROWNIES</b>	<b>MARBLE SPONGE</b>	<b>STRAWBERRY &amp; APPLE CRUMBLE AND CUSTARD</b>	<b>OAT BISCUITS</b>	<b>FRUIT, JELLY AND ICE CREAM</b>



## COMBE PAFFORD SCHOOL MENU

w/b 12th Jan, 2nd Feb, 2nd March, 23rd March

SCHOOL DINNERS  
£2.30

FOOD ALLERGIES  
&  
INTOLERANCES

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY  
REQUIREMENTS PLEASE  
SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF  
STAFF.

LOCAL BUTCHER  
LOCAL VEGETABLES  
FREE RANGE EGGS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>CHEESEBURGER</b> Local butchers beef burger served with cheese in a bun and homemade crispy wedges.	<b>ALL DAY BREAKFAST</b> Local butchers sausages, hash brown, egg, tinned tomatoes, baked beans and toast.	<b>ROAST PORK</b> Local butchers loin of pork served with gravy and mashed potato.	<b>CHEESE PIZZA</b> Thick base pizza topped with tomato sauce and cheese.	<b>BATTERED COD</b> Oven baked cod served with chunky chips, peas or beans.
<b>QUORN HOT DOG</b> Quorn sausage served in a hot dog roll with crispy onions and homemade wedges.	<b>VEGGIE BREAKFAST</b> Quorn sausages, hash brown, egg, tinned tomatoes, baked beans and toast.	<b>VEGGIE ROAST</b> Stuffing, vegetables and quorn sausages wrapped in crispy puff pastry served with creamy mashed potato and gravy.	<b>BROCCOLI AND SALMON QUICHE</b> Homemade pastry filled with eggs, salmon, broccoli and cheese baked in the oven.	<b>CHEESE OMELETTE</b> Fluffy free range egg omelette served with chunky chips.
<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.
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<b>JAM SPONGE AND CUSTARD</b>	<b>ANGEL DELIGHT</b>	<b>BANANA FLAPJACK</b>	<b>CUSTARD BISCUITS</b>	<b>FRUIT TRIFLE</b>



## COMBE PAFFORD SCHOOL MENU

w/b 19th Jan, 9th Feb, 9th March, 30th March

SCHOOL DINNERS  
£2.30

FOOD ALLERGIES  
&  
INTOLERANCES

IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY  
REQUIREMENTS PLEASE  
SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF  
STAFF.

LOCAL BUTCHER  
LOCAL VEGETABLES  
FREE RANGE EGGS

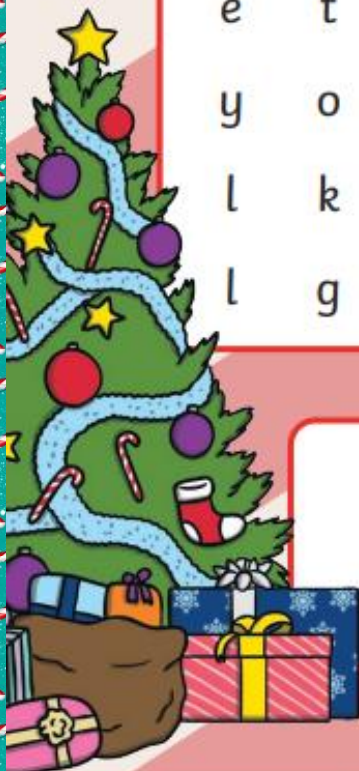
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>BUILD YOUR OWN CHICKEN FAJITA</b> Local butchers chicken diced in a fajita seasoning with onions and peppers, served with rice and a wholemeal wrap.	<b>PASTA BOLOGNAISE</b> Local butchers mince in a rich tomato based sauce served with pasta.	<b>SAUSAGES AND YORKSHIRE PUDDING</b> Local butcher's sausages and Yorkshire pudding with creamy mashed potato and gravy.	<b>THREE CHEESE PIZZA</b> Thick base pizza topped with tomato sauce and three cheeses.	<b>BATTERED COD</b> Oven baked battered cod served with chunky chips and curry sauce.
<b>CHEESY BEANS ON TOAST</b> Baked beans served on wholemeal toast topped with grated cheese.	<b>CAULIFLOWER, BROCCOLI AND LEEK DAKE</b> Cauliflower, broccoli and leek baked in a cheese sauce and a breadcrumb top served with garlic bread.	<b>VEGGIE ROAST</b> Stuffing, vegetables and Quorn sausages wrapped in crispy puff pastry served with creamy mashed potato and gravy.	<b>FALAFEL BALLS</b> Homemade falafel balls served in a pitta bread with a bed of fresh salad and coleslaw.	<b>QUORN NUGGETS</b> Quorn nuggets baked in the oven served with chunky chips.
<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.	<b>JACKET POTATOES</b> Served with a selection of toppings.
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<b>CHOCOLATE SHORTBREAD</b>	<b>SYRUP SPONGE AND CUSTARD</b>	<b>FRUIT CRUMBLE &amp; CUSTARD</b>	<b>HOMEMADE COOKIES</b>	<b>FRUIT, JELLY AND ICE CREAM</b>



Merry Christmas from all at  
Combe Pafford School

# Christmas

b s t o c k i n g  
a g m d h w r c p  
u c j s r d e r r  
b v t a i c i a e  
l j i n s j n c s  
e t n t t d d k e  
y o s a m p e e n  
l k e p a m e r t  
l g l v s v r g o



present  
reindeer  
bauble  
Santa



tinsel  
stocking  
cracker  
Christmas

