



# SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO

## NEWSLETTER

### SPRING 1 - FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring term! January often feels like a long month with dark nights and chilly mornings, but we've made it to February with so much to celebrate. We've had a fantastic start to the new year and are now nearly halfway through the academic year – time really does fly!

The children have been engaged in wonderful learning experiences, and we have thoroughly enjoyed sharing these with families and friends. We've welcomed many visitors into our school and explored our local community, strengthening our connections and showcasing the fantastic things happening here. Our community room has been well used by different groups, allowing us to share our school's warm and welcoming environment.

We've also had great success in sports, and our school production is coming together beautifully – we're all excited to see it come to life! Looking ahead, we have many more exciting events planned, including clubs, engaging learning experiences, FOSV events, curriculum celebrations, and opportunities to come together as a school community.

Over the past term, we have begun thinking more about our carbon footprint and the impact we have on the wider world. Both the prefects and the school council have been actively discussing ways to make our school more environmentally friendly. Our Environmentalists have already shared valuable information in assemblies, and our Health Heroes have been focusing on food waste and composting initiatives. We look forward to making meaningful changes together as a community.

Additionally, if you're interested in using the school facilities, we offer hall rentals for birthday parties and other events. Please contact the school office for more information.

Thank you for your continued support!

Best wishes,

Cristy Nelson





# Our History Learning Enquiries



Nursery



Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6





# Notice Board



## FOSV

We are incredibly fortunate to have a wonderful FOSV team at Sherwell Valley! Their hard work is invaluable and provides our children with so many additional opportunities and resources. The events they organise are truly spectacular and have raised an incredible £33,000 Last year

Thanks to these funds, we have been able to refurbish the library, purchase new books, support the opening of Sherbucks, and invest in ICT equipment. Looking ahead, we are excited to enhance our woodland area, creating even more enriching outdoor experiences for the children.

We have a fantastic line-up of events planned for the rest of the year, including Easter trails, discos, the circus, and many new exciting ideas that will directly benefit the children. If you want to join our team, it doesn't matter how little or how much you can do, we would love to have you on board!

## World Book day!

We will be asking the children to come to school dressed as a word for World Book Day.

Please don't feel you have to spend money buying expensive costumes.

## 'Bedz4kids

We are proud to share that our school is a partner with Bedz4Kidz, a wonderful charity dedicated to ensuring every child has a comfortable place to sleep. Have you ever paused to think about where or how your child sleeps each night? If you feel your family could benefit from support with bed frames, mattresses, or bedding items, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Choules in confidence.

Reception	95.30
Year 1	95.61
Year 2	95.65
Year 3	95.28
Year 4	91.87
Year 5	96.27
Year 6	95.12

## Whole School Attendance September 2024 - 1st February 2025





# Notice Board

## Sherwell Jobs

If you are interested in joining the team at Sherwell Valley, we encourage you to regularly check the vacancies page on our school website. We are always on the lookout for enthusiastic individuals who are passionate about education and making a positive impact on our children.

## Are you eligible for Pupil Premium

If you think you might be eligible for Pupil Premium, please scan the QR code. If you need any help or have any questions, please speak to Kate Sharp via the school office.

### **Benefits of Pupil Premium for children at Sherwell Valley:**

- Free School Meals throughout your time at Sherwell Valley.
- Support with funding for trips, residentials and visits.
- Free extra-curricular clubs.

Please scan the QR code to apply



## Fun Fridays, Not Sweets and Chewing Gum

On Fridays, children are welcome to bring a sweet treat to school as part of promoting a balanced diet and the idea of moderation. However, we kindly ask that sweets and chewing gum are not brought into school at any time

## **Careers Day**

At Sherwell we want our children to be aspirational, for them to believe that they can achieve whatever they want to as long as they have a good work ethic. In order to encourage this, we will be arranging a Careers Day on 4th June for all the children in Key Stage 2.

At the moment we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to come into school for the day and talk to the children about their jobs. We would like to appeal to all the children interests and so are looking to invite in lots of different people from all different job sectors.

If you or someone you know of would be willing to come in for the day and work with the children please could you email: [miss.baker@svps1.com](mailto:miss.baker@svps1.com) by 14th February who is coordinating the event.





# Notice Board



**On Friday 18th July  
we are holding our  
first ever**

## **Festival of Music and Performing Arts**

We are so excited and looking forward to this event! It will be a full-day celebration where we invite all our families to come and enjoy the incredible musical and performing arts talents of our Sherwell Valley children. We will also be welcoming local bands from secondary schools and our wider community, making it a truly special occasion.

We hope you can all join us for this fantastic celebration!

To top off the day, FOSV will be hosting their Summer Fair from 3:30 PM on the school playground, featuring special guests 'Special Measures' (our amazing staff band) performing live. It promises to be a wonderful event for all!



# Notice Board



Sherwell Valley Productions

proudly presents

## Disney's 'Aladdin Jr'!

Each year, the school run a production club for upper KS2. We began rehearsals for this year's show in November and are excited to announce this year's production of Aladdin will be shown in our school hall on Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th and Friday 28th March. Come along on a magical adventure with Aladdin and Jasmine to the streets of ancient Agrabah, where every beggar has a story and every camel has a tail! Doors to the audience open at 6pm where refreshments will be available to purchase. As there isn't a planned interval this year, be sure to get there on time to stock up on snacks and drinks for the show! The performance starts at 6:30pm. Tickets will be available to buy from the school office for £4 each from Monday 17th March. Please note that like last year, we have an extra large cast and the majority of tickets will have already been sold to the families of the children involved. Therefore, to avoid missing the event of the year, be sure to get yours once they go on general sale quickly! We look forward to seeing you there.



# Notice Board



**LINE DANCERS ATTENTION!**  
**WANTED**  
 FOR HAVING TOO MUCH FUN  
 IN HER DANCE CLASSES

**£6 PER CLASS** **ADULTS ONLY CLASS**




**DANCE WITH DANNI**  
 ★★★ REWARD ★★★  
 1 HOUR OF PURE FUN & FITNESS

JOIN DANNI EVERY THURS AT 6.15PM AT  
 SHERWELL VALLEY SCHOOL, TORQUAY.

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT  
[WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/DANCEWITHDANNI](http://WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/DANCEWITHDANNI)

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL  
[DANCEWITHDANNI@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:DANCEWITHDANNI@OUTLOOK.COM)

South West School's Premiere  
 St. Cuthbert Mayne School  
 Presents




Disney  
**FROZEN**  
 THE WEST END MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by  
 Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez  
 Book by  
 Jennifer Lee  
 Originally directed on Broadway by  
 Michael Grandage

Based on the Disney film written by Jennifer Lee and directed  
 by Chris Buck & Jennifer Lee  
 Originally produced on Broadway by Disney Theatrical  
 Productions

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre  
 International (MTI) All authorised performance materials are also supplied by  
 MTI  
[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)



21st May - 24th May @ 7pm  
 Matinee @ 2pm 24th May

**£10 adults and £6 students**  
<https://www.st-cuthbertmayne.co.uk/school-performances/>

*NEW TO YOU*  
 FREE CHILDREN'S CLOTHES  
 & TOY SWAP

DONATE ANY PRE-LOVED CHILDREN'S CLOTHES, SHOES,  
 TOYS AND BOOKS WITH PLENTY OF LIFE LEFT IN THEM  
 AND GO AWAY WITH SOMETHING NEW TO YOU!

PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR PRE-LOVED ITEMS AT BAY CHURCH ON  
 MONDAY 17TH OR TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY BETWEEN 11AM-4PM.

REFRESHMENTS AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES PROVIDED

**THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY**  
**10.00AM-11.30AM & 5.00PM-6.00PM**  
**BAY CHURCH, SANDS ROAD, TQ4 6HA**



**ZUMBA®**  
**STRUT**  
**SHAKE**   
**SHINE**

Sherwell Valley Primary School. 16+  
 Tuesday @ 6:30pm - £6.00 per class.  
 All welcome.



# Notice Board



## DO YOU HAVE A CHILD AGED 8-17 WHO IS STRUGGLING WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH?

Anxiety, depression, self-harm and other mental health struggles are on the rise in children, particularly following the Covid-19 Pandemic. **As parents, we can be left feeling overwhelmed and helpless, not knowing where to turn for help.**

### THIS GROUP AIMS TO SUPPORT YOU TO:

- ✓ Meet other parents who understand your situation for mutual support.
- ✓ Learn strategies to help you support your child, with no judgement!
- ✓ Help you to prioritise your own well-being as a parent.

**WHEN?** Find out more at our **Information Session** for parents at 1pm on Wed 22nd or Wed 29th Jan 2025

**WHERE?** South Hams Family Hub | Daisy Play Centre | Pathfinders | Totnes | TQ9 5TZ

To attend register at <https://calendly.com/ymhf/information-session-fh>

**To get more information contact:**  
Joel Sutton (YMHF) on 0300 302 0285  
or email [joel@youthmentalhealthfoundation.org](mailto:joel@youthmentalhealthfoundation.org)

## EXPECTING A BABY IN TORBAY?

# Begin Well

## Free Antenatal Classes

Free Antenatal Classes running in Paignton, scan the QR code to book your free ticket



### Antenatal courses covering

- Giving Birth
- Caring for Baby
- Infant Feeding
- Meeting your baby
- Health and well-being
- Changes for me and us



### The Cove Discovery Project

Libraries Unlimited

SAT 08 FEB  
10:00 - 14:00  
Paignton Library  
Donations Appreciated



Art workshop with Lou Chapman

## Futureproof-Eco Takeover

Orchard Forest School

Cricketfield Community Garden

Junk modeling



Play Torbay  
Eco Champions



Taleblazers



Nature and eco friendly themed activities for all ages.



A FREE stay and play for pre-school kids aged 0-4

Wednesdays 9.30-11am  
Termtime Only

FREE cafe, toys, bouncy castle, soft play and song time  
A great place to find friendship, belonging and community

Bay Church | Sands Road | Paignton | TQ4 6HA

[www.bay.church](http://www.bay.church)

[Bay.Tots](#)

[BayTotsTorbay](#)

BAYCHURCH

For the people of Torbay.



# ONLINE SAFETY



## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

### 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

### 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

### 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

### 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

### 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

### 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

### 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

### 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

### 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

### 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

### Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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## SVPS TERM DATES 2024 - 2025



Sep-2024					
Monday	02	09	16	23	30
Tuesday	03	10	17	24	
Wednesday	04	11	18	25	
Thursday	05	12	19	26	
Friday	06	13	20	27	
Saturday	07	14	21	28	
Sunday	08	15	22	29	

Oct-2024				
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	31
04	11	18	25	
05	12	19	26	
06	13	20	27	

Nov-2024				
	04	11	18	25
	05	12	19	26
	06	13	20	27
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	01

Dec-2024					
Monday	02	09	16	23	30
Tuesday	03	10	17	24	31
Wednesday	04	11	18	25	
Thursday	05	12	19	26	
Friday	06	13	20	27	
Saturday	07	14	21	28	
Sunday	08	15	22	29	

Jan-2025				
	06	13	20	27
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	31
04	11	18	25	
05	12	19	26	

Feb-2025				
	03	10	17	24
	04	11	18	25
	05	12	19	26
	06	13	20	27
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	01
02	09	16	23	02

Mar-2025					
Monday	03	10	17	24	31
Tuesday	04	11	18	25	
Wednesday	05	12	19	26	
Thursday	06	13	20	27	
Friday	07	14	21	28	
Saturday	08	15	22	29	
Sunday	09	16	23	30	

Apr-2025				
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	
04	11	18	25	
05	12	19	26	
06	13	20	27	

May-2025				
	05	12	19	26
	06	13	20	27
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	31
04	11	18	25	01

Jun-2025					
Monday	02	09	16	23	30
Tuesday	03	10	17	24	
Wednesday	04	11	18	25	
Thursday	05	12	19	26	
Friday	06	13	20	27	
Saturday	07	14	21	28	
Sunday	08	15	22	29	

Jul-2025				
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	31
04	11	18	25	
05	12	19	26	
06	13	20	27	

Aug-2025				
	04	11	18	25
	05	12	19	26
	06	13	20	27
	07	14	21	28
01	08	15	22	29
02	09	16	23	30
03	10	17	24	31

Training Days	
School Holidays	
Bank Holidays	
25 Dec 2024 (Christmas)	
26 Dec 2024 (Boxing Day)	
1 Jan 2025 (New Years Day)	
18 Apr 2025 (Good Friday)	
21 Apr 2025 (Easter Monday)	
5 May 2025 (May Day)	
26 May 2025 (Spring Bank Holiday)	
25 Aug 2025 (Summer Bank Holiday)	

Term Lengths		
Sept to Oct half term	39	74
October to Christmas	35	
Jan to Feb half term	30	60
Feb to Easter	30	
Easter to June half term	23	61
June to end of term	38	
	195	
Training Days	-5	
	190	



# SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## DIARY DATES 2024 - 2025

<b>February 2025</b>	
Wednesday 5th February	R.E. Hinduism Visitor to Y4
Thursday 6th February 2pm - 3:15pm	SEND Parent Drop-in Sessions
Tuesday 11th February	Netball Tournament
Wednesday 12th February	Year 5 / 6 Table Tennis Finals
Thursday 13th February	Animal HQ visiting Reception
Thursday 13th February	Y1– 6 Valentines Disco
Friday 19th February 3:25pm	Break up for Half term
Monday 24th February 8:40am	Return to School
<b>March 2025</b>	
Monday 3rd March	R.E - Exeter Synagogue Visitor—Y5
Tuesday 4th March 2:45pm	Y3 Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Wednesday 5th March	Boys football tournament—Yeovil
Wednesday 5th March 3:45pm	SEND Parent Meetings
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Friday 7th March 2:30pm	Y5 Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Monday 10th March 3:40pm - 6pm	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 12th March 3:40pm - 6pm	Parents' Evening
Monday 17th March - Thursday 21st March	Year 5 Bikeability
Tuesday 18th March	Peekaboo Nursery visiting RPN
Friday 22nd March	Non-uniform day –Comic Relief





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## DIARY DATES 2024 - 2025

<b>March 2025</b>	
Monday 24th—Thursday 27th March	Y5 Bikeability
Tuesday 25th March 2:30pm	Y1 Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Wednesday 26th March 2:30pm	2H Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Wednesday 26th March - 6pm	Aladdin Jr Production
Thursday 27th March 2:30pm	2F Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Thursday 27th March - 6pm	Aladdin Jr Production
Friday 28th March 2:30pm	2C Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Friday 28th March - 6pm	Aladdin Jr. Production
Monday 31st March	1CJ visit to Occombe Farm
Monday 31st March	RW Curriculum Parents Sharing Event in the Woodlands
<b>April 2025</b>	
Tuesday 1st April	Reception and Y6 class photos
Tuesday 1st April 2:15pm	Y6 Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Tuesday 1st April 2:30pm	RNP Curriculum Parents Sharing Event in the Woodlands
Wednesday 2nd April 2:30pm	RD Curriculum Parents Sharing Event in the Woodlands
Thursday 3rd April	1J and 1IS trip to Occombe Farm
Thursday 3rd April 2:45pm	Y4 Curriculum Parents Sharing Event
Thursday 3rd April 3:30am	Y4 Residential Meeting
Friday 4th April 9:00am	Y3 Trip to Barton Hall
Friday 4th April 5:30pm	Y3 Sleepover
Friday 4th April 3:25pm	Break Up for Easter
Saturday 5th April 9:30am	Y3 children collected from school

