



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN TERM NOVEMBER 2025

Hello Sherwell Valley Families,

It's been a fantastic few weeks at school since the half-term break! As well as the fantastic learning that has been taking place in the classrooms, we have celebrated many sporting successes with our children travelling far and wide for various matches and tournaments.

Work has been taking place across the school site to improve opportunities and experiences for the children. Our school field is looking amazing and ready for all of the football matches and practices, new table tennis tables have been put up in the Key Stage 2 playground, and planters have been created along the fence by Upper Cockington Lane. We want to say a huge thank you for the kind donations of plants and soil being used to fill these.

The cold, frosty weather last week really made the festivities feel real. We are incredibly lucky to have so many talented children! Over the past few weeks, at the end of the school day, corridors have sounded absolutely fantastic with the children practicing for the school production of *The Lion King Junior* and singing in the choir! In classrooms, you can hear children starting to learn Christmas Carols ready for the performances at Upton Vale Church later in the term. It really is starting to feel a little bit magical around school! We are incredibly proud of the hard work and enthusiasm shown by our pupils, and we look forward to the festive season and all the exciting events planned before the Christmas break.

Best wishes
Cristy Nelson



OUR LEARNING EXPERIENCES -

Nursery



Reception



Year 2

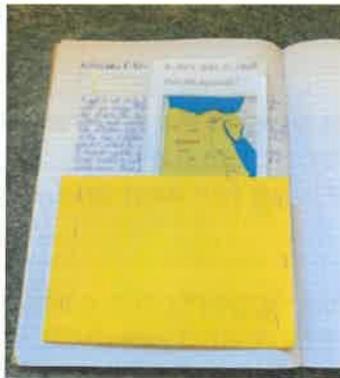


Year 1

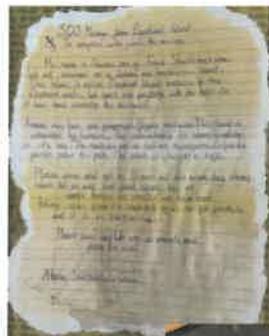
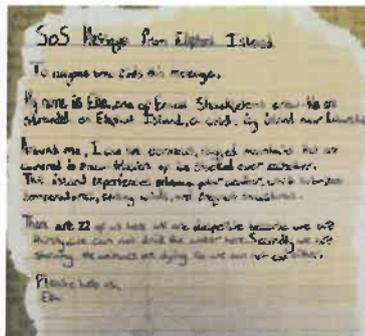


Year 4

Year 3



Year 5



Year 6



NOTICE BOARD

ATTENDANCE

3rd September – 20th October

Reception	94.10
Year 1	96.69
Year 2	96.82
Year 3	96.42
Year 4	96.17
Year 5	96.04
Year 6	95.93



CHILDREN IN NEED AND NON-UNIFORM DAYS

On Friday 14th November, we held a non-uniform day for Children In Need. We then opened Sherbucks on the following Monday selling cookies to support this fantastic charity. With your very kind donations and sales, we managed to raise a fantastic £707.

Our next non-uniform day will be on Friday 5th December. This will be for gifts ready for Elfridges!

COATS AND WINTER WEAR

We love to spend as much time outdoors as possible during the school day — whether it's at break and lunchtime or on our trips to Bowden Woods. With the weather starting to change, please make sure your child has a coat in school each day. We'd also really appreciate your help in making sure all coats are clearly named.

Thank you for your support!



CHRISTMAS JUMPER SWAP SHOP

SHERSHOP

PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR VISIT SHERSHOP

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

The festive celebrations at Sherwell Valley are starting soon! We are kicking off the season with our Christmas Trail on Saturday, December 6th.

There are lots of other exciting events for the children and their families to look forward to over the upcoming weeks.

Please check the full list of dates at the back of the newsletter for all event details. Class teachers will also be keeping you posted through Parenta or Dojo.

'Shersop' Christmas Jumper Appeal

'Shersop' is currently collecting pre-loved Christmas jumpers to be sold at an upcoming event. Any donations would be gratefully received. Please drop them into the School Office. Thank you!

NOTICE BOARD

LEST WE FORGET



On Tuesday, November 11th, we came together as a whole school to remember those who gave their lives during the war. This was an incredible moment where all children and staff stood in respectful silence. Some Year 6 pupils led the assembly by reading moving poems before the two-minute silence was observed at 11:00 am.

RECEPTION PLACES 2026

If you have a child due to start school next year, please remember that the deadline to apply for a Reception place in September 2026 is quickly approaching. We are pleased to confirm that Sherwell Valley School currently has places available, and we encourage all prospective parents to visit our website for details on how to apply through the local authority's process. We are holding two open tours for parents who wish to see the school in action:

- Friday, 5th December 2025 at 9:30 am
- Thursday, 8th January 2026 at 9:30 am

Please contact the school office to book your place or scan the QR code.



We look forward to welcoming new pupils to our outstanding school community!

BRITAIN IN BLOOM

We are thrilled to announce that Sherwell Valley School has been awarded an 'outstanding' school site by Britain In Bloom! We are incredibly pleased to say that we were judged to the highest standard. A massive well done and thank you to our incredible site team, staff, and pupils who work so hard to make our grounds beautiful.



COMMUNITY

SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Is your child scheduled to begin Primary School in September 2026?

Join our stay and play event to experience a taste of what we offer.

Friday 28th November 10am-11am - Forest School

Friday 12th December 10am-11am - Story, Games and Activities

Booking is essential. Please contact syps-nursery@SVPS1.com or call 01803 613296



Friends of Sherwell Valley Primary School are proud to present our 2025 Christmas Trail

The Enchanted Christmas Kingdom

Saturday 6th December
10am-2pm

Step into the Enchanted Christmas Kingdom, where magic comes alive!

Tickets for the trail are £7.50 per child and only available to purchase on Ticket Source

Ticket price includes the trail and a trip to Santa's Grotto

Our very own 'Elfridges' where children can purchase a gift or two will be returning for just £2 a gift (no parents allowed!)

We will also have FREE ENTRY to our Christmas Market.



SHERWELL VALLEY FIREWORKS

A Heartfelt Thank You & Important Update from the Sherwell Fireworks Team

To our incredible Sherwell community and beyond,

What a spectacular night it was! We want to send a massive THANK YOU to everyone who came out and supported our fireworks event this year. Seeing so many families and friends enjoying the display truly embodies the amazing community spirit that has made this event a local favourite for the last 18 years. We are so grateful for your continued support and enthusiasm!

This event takes a huge amount of effort and hard work from a dedicated group of volunteers, and it's a true labour of love. We've always taken pride in knowing that the income generated went directly back into our school.

However, we need to share an honest update: due to significant rises in operating costs and lower attendance this year, the event only generated a small amount of profit.

We also want to acknowledge those of you who watched the display from outside the school site, whether from the comfort of your homes or gardens or from the pavements around the school. We love that the event brings a sparkle to our entire neighborhood, but please remember that only ticket sales inside the school gates directly fund the event's costs and contribute to the school.

Answering Your Call for Donations

We've been genuinely touched that many of you—spectators and community members—have asked if you could make a donation to help support the event's future. The answer is of course! Your generosity speaks volumes about the value of this tradition.

We are currently reviewing the financial viability of hosting an event next year. If you would like to help us continue this wonderful community tradition, your support would be invaluable.

To make it easy, we've set up a dedicated payment option for donations on Schoolcomms. If you have an account, please look for the 'Fireworks Donation' option. Every contribution helps us fight rising costs and keep this much-loved event sparkling!

While the community spirit we gain from the evening is priceless, the financial viability is something we must seriously consider.

Thank you again for making this year memorable and for your incredible desire to help us keep this event alive!

COMMUNITY

EF
Christmas at the Castle

VISIT SANTA IN HIS MAGICAL GROTTO AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL GIFT
 CREATIVE CHILDREN'S CRAFTS
 CHRISTMAS THEMED DISCO

AFFORDABLE FUN FOR EVERYONE
 ONLY £4.95 PER CHILD!

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW:
WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/EFTORQUAY



Friday 12th December | 2pm - 6pm

NHS **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

FLU
MMR
HPV
MENINGITIS ACWY
DIPHTHERIA TETANUS POLIO (DTP)

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

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

SCAN HERE 

For further information scan the QR code or please speak with a member of the team

Call us on **01392 342678**
Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmdevon@nhs.net

ZUMBA
STRUT
SHAKE 
SHINE

Sherwell Valley Primary School, 16
 Tuesday @ 6.30pm - £6.00 per class
 All welcome

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 THURSDAY @ 6PM AT
 SHERWELL VALLEY SCHOOL TORQUAY

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT
WWW.SHERWELLVALEYSCHOOL.COM/DANCEWITHDANNI
 FOR MORE INFO EMAIL
danni@sherwellvalleyprimary.co.uk

TORBAY UNITED
Carol Concert
 6th December 2025 • 3pm-5pm
 Central Church Torquay
 TQ2 5RF

A celebration of joy, bringing hope together with the Unleashed Theatre Company and Mummy & Me in a family-friendly environment
 Tickets for this FREE EVENT are available at www.torbayunited.org.uk

unleashed theatre company  

Could you volunteer with our Social Supermarket & Schools Support Network?
 Get in touch to find out more



torbayunited.org.uk
admin@torbayunited.org.uk • 01392 342678



ONLINE SAFETY

Online safety means helping children enjoy the internet and devices safely. This includes protecting personal information, using age-appropriate content, communicating safely, managing screen time, and knowing how to report anything worrying. Talk to your child regularly about their online experiences and encourage safe, responsible use.

Please see the tips to help with this.



How to spot FAKE NEWS

Free item every Wednesday

Issue: #WakeUpWednesday

WHAT IS 'FAKE NEWS'?

Fake news can be false information, photos or videos purposefully created to confuse or mislead. It can also be genuine information that has been manipulated to mislead. It is important that we learn how to distinguish between real news and fake news.

DOES IT SOUND REAL?

Many fake news stories are written with appealing headlines and have content designed to create 'click bait' in order to spread like wildfire. Typically, fake news will include topics such as the 'death' of a famous person, company giveaways, news relating to supernatural events, or terror related posts that provoke a reaction. Have a look at other news sources to see if a story has been widely reported before sharing unsubstantiated claims. You can also check facts at websites including Snopes.com and Factcheck.org.

CHEK # SPEL IN AND GRAMMATICAL MISTKS

Not always, but poor spelling, grammar and vocabulary on articles may indicate that an item is not from a reputable source. Be wary!

NOS National Online Safety

Check the comments!

Have a read through the comments on a news story - either at the bottom of the article or on a social media share. Sometimes bad comments can offer clues if other people don't believe the story is true, or whether someone has confirmed it is fake news. Of course, you can't always know if a comment is real!

How long has the page existed?

So many fake news stories come from a news organisation you have never heard of. Some hackers will set up a quick website to spread fake stories and so-called 'breaking news'. So, if a story with bold claims originates from a website that has only just launched, you would be wise to doubt its authenticity. There are online tools, such as the Internet Archive, that display the approximate age of a website on the internet and allow you to view how it looked before.

Who wrote it?

It's vital that the website that published the story is a credible source, i.e. a major news network or local paper which has the resources to fact-check published claims. If you get your news primarily via social media, always check the source and see whether the story comes from a news organisation you have never heard of. If the article has a byline, you should be able to research to see if the writer is a genuine reporter by searching for them on Google.

Read more than just the headline!

Some news sites will just start with 'click bait' headlines to grab your attention and make you click on them. These headlines might not even be relevant to the story. Studies show that almost 60% of clicks that people have shared on social media have never actually been clicked before sharing, so it's really important that you read the article first before you share it to make sure the news is real.

Have you checked the URL?

Does the website address at the very top of the page look real? One of the easiest ways to spot suspect stories is if they're posted on a news site with an odd domain name. So, check the URL. Some dodgy websites will try to incorporate a legitimate news source into its URL, such as www.thetruthabout.com, or will slightly mispell a popular website domain, e.g. www.thetruth.com.

Is it a joke?

While most fake stories are designed to make you believe them, it's important to remember to spot when the content has been written as a joke or parody. A classic from the news website (with as 'The Onion' or 'The Daily Mail') are highly popular on social media but some people may think their stories are real. Always read joke articles with a pinch of salt.

SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

D DSL Crispy Nielson

DDSL Fran Steer

Safeguarding Governor Maria Beer

Our Safeguarding Team includes a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) and a Safeguarding Governor who oversees the provision of all safeguarding at school.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

DDSL Matt Bryant

DDSL Debbie Raymond

DDSL Andy Robinson

DDSL Hannah Bennett

PASTORAL TEAM

Provision Lead Debbie Raymond

Pastoral Support Lead Joanna Lane

Family Support Worker Gill Dill

At Sherwell Valley Primary School, safeguarding is a priority. All of our support staff are aware of children's best interests in a variety of ways. Our Pastoral Team has a special role in supporting children who are vulnerable and will offer you feedback.

Safeguarding at Sherwell Valley Primary School

Safeguarding is our top priority at Sherwell Valley Primary School. We have a dedicated team to support all the children in our care.

If you have any concerns or would like to speak to the team, please contact: safeguarding@svps1.com.

If you believe a child is in immediate danger, you can contact the Torbay Safeguarding Team directly on: **01803 208100.**

DIARY DATES

November 2025	
Thursday 27 th November 2:45pm	Year 1 Curriculum Sharing Event
Friday 28 th November	FOSV Christmas Jumper Swap Shop
Friday 28 th November 10am	Stay and Play session - prospective 2026 Reception children
December 2025	
Tuesday 2 nd December 2:30pm	SEND Parent Café - Community Room
Wednesday 3 rd December	Year 6 PSHE workshops
Wednesday 3 rd December 2:45pm	Year 4 Curriculum Sharing Event
Thursday 4 th December	Year 1 PSHE workshops
Friday 5 th December	Non-uniform day (gift for Elfridges)
Friday 5 th December 9:30am	Prospective 2026 Reception School Tour
Saturday 6 th December	FOSV Christmas Trail
Monday 8 th December 5pm	Reception Christmas Performance (Upton Vale Church)
Tuesday 9 th December 6pm	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Performance (Upton Vale Church)
Wednesday 10 th December 2pm	Nursery Christmas Craft afternoon
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day (in aid of Save the Children)
Thursday 11 th December 9am	Nursery Christmas Party
Thursday 11 th December 2:30pm	Reception Curriculum Sharing Event
Friday 12 th December 10am	Stay and Play session - prospective 2026 Reception children
Friday 12 th December 2:45pm	Year 5 Curriculum Sharing Event
Monday 15 th December	Reception Christmas Party
Monday 15 th December 6pm	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Performance (Upton Vale Church)
Tuesday 16 th December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 th December 6pm	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Performance (Upton Vale Church)
Tuesday 16 th December	RW visit to Kents Cavern
Wednesday 17 th December	RJ visit to Kents Cavern
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch Day
Thursday 18 th December	RNP visit to Kents Cavern
Thursday 18 th December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December	Break up for Christmas Holiday
Friday 19 th December	INSET Day
January 2026	
Monday 5 th January 8:40am	Return to school
Wednesday 7 th January 9:30am	Year 5 Bikeability Talk for children
Thursday 8 th January 9:30am	Prospective 2026 Reception School Tour
Monday 19 th January 10 am	Peekaboo Visiting School
Tuesday 27 th January	Space Dome visiting Year 2
February 2026	
Tuesday 3 rd February 2:30pm	SEND Parent Cafe
Monday 9 th February	Muslim Visitor to Year 2
Friday 13 th February 2pm	Mega- SherShop
Friday 13 th February 3:25pm	Break up for Half-Term
Monday 23 rd February 8:40am	Return to school
Thursday 26 th February	Animal HQ visiting Reception

TERM DATES



SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO



Torbay School Term Dates: 2025-26 Academic Year

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

	Oct-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		

	Nov-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	29	
02	09	16	23	30	

	Dec-2025				
Monday	01	08	15	22	29
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30
Wednesday	03	10	17	24	31
Thursday	04	11	18	25	
Friday	05	12	19	26	
Saturday	06	13	20	27	
Sunday	07	14	21	28	

	Jan-2026				
	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		

	Feb-2026				
	02	09	16	23	
	03	10	17	24	
	04	11	18	25	
	05	12	19	26	
	06	13	20	27	
	07	14	21	28	
01	08	15	22	29	

	Mar-2026				
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	

	Apr-2026				
	06	13	20	27	
	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		

	May-2026				
	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	

	Jun-2026				
Monday	01	08	15	22	29
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30
Wednesday	03	10	17	24	
Thursday	04	11	18	25	
Friday	05	12	19	26	
Saturday	06	13	20	27	
Sunday	07	14	21	28	

	Jul-2026				
	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		

	Aug-2026				
	03	10	17	24	
	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	

Training Days
School Holidays
Bank Holidays
25 Dec 2025 (Christmas)
26 Dec 2025 (Boxing Day)
1 Jan 2026 (New Years Day)
3 Apr 2026 (Good Friday)
6 Apr 2026 (Easter Monday)
4 May 2026 (May Day)
25 May 2026 (Spring Bank Holiday)
25 Aug 2026 (Summer Bank Holiday)

Term Lengths		
Sept to Oct half term	39	74
October to Christmas	35	
Jan to Feb half term	30	59
Feb to Easter	29	
Easter to June half term	24	62
June to end of term	38	
	195	
Training Days	-5	
	190	



SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO



Term Dates: 2026 - 2027 Academic Year

	Sep-2026					Oct-2026					Nov-2026					
Monday		07	14	21	28		05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23	30
Tuesday	01	08	15	22	29		06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24	
Wednesday	02	09	16	23	30		07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25	
Thursday	03	10	17	24		01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26	
Friday	04	11	18	25		02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27	
Saturday	05	12	19	26		03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28	
Sunday	06	13	20	27		04	11	18	25	01		08	15	22	29	

	Dec-2026					Jan-2027					Feb-2027					
Monday		07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25		01	08	15	22	
Tuesday	01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23	
Wednesday	02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24	
Thursday	03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25	
Friday	04	11	18	25		01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26	
Saturday	05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27	
Sunday	06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28	

	Mar-2027					Apr-2027					May-2027				
Monday	01	08	15	22	29		05	12	19	26	03	10	17	24	31
Tuesday	02	09	16	23	30		06	13	20	27	04	11	18	25	
Wednesday	03	10	17	24	31		07	14	21	28	05	12	19	26	
Thursday	04	11	18	25		01	08	15	22	29	06	13	20	27	
Friday	05	12	19	26		02	09	16	23	30	07	14	21	28	
Saturday	06	13	20	27		03	10	17	24	01	08	15	22	29	30
Sunday	07	14	21	28		04	11	18	25	02	09	16	23	30	31

	Jun-2027					Jul-2027					Aug-2027				
Monday		07	14	21	28		05	12	19	26	02	09	16	23	30
Tuesday	01	08	15	22	29		06	13	20	27	03	10	17	24	31
Wednesday	02	09	16	23	30		07	14	21	28	04	11	18	25	
Thursday	03	10	17	24		01	08	15	22	29	05	12	19	26	
Friday	04	11	18	25		02	09	16	23	30	06	13	20	27	
Saturday	05	12	19	26		03	10	17	24	31	07	14	21	28	
Sunday	06	13	20	27		04	11	18	25	01	08	15	22	29	

School Holidays
Bank Holidays
Inset Days
25 Dec 2026 (Christmas)
28 Dec 2026 (Boxing Day)
1 Jan 2027 (New Years Day)
26 Mar 2027 (Good Friday)
29 Mar 2027 (Easter Monday)
3 May 2027 (May Day)
31 May 2027 (Spring Bank Holiday)
30 Aug 2027 (Summer Bank Holiday)

Term Lengths		
Sept to Oct half term	37	72
October to Christmas	35	
Jan to Feb half term	30	54
Feb to Easter	24	
Easter to June half term	34	69
June to end of term	35	
	196	
Training Days	-5	
	190	