



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - SPRING TERM FEBRUARY 2026

Dear Sherwell Valley families,

As we wave goodbye to a very long January, it has been wonderful to see the first signs of spring appearing in our school grounds. The daffodils in our Magic Garden are beginning to bloom, and despite the "wet play" weather we've had recently, the children have remained focused, positive, and full of energy.

We start the year by saying a huge "Well Done" to our sports teams. Our table tennis, dodgeball and football teams have been out in the community representing Sherwell Valley. Last week, our footballers returned home with a trophy nearly as big as them! Beyond the victory, we are most proud of the pride and sportsmanship they showed towards one another and their competitors. They truly modelled our school values on the field.

This half term, our classrooms have been buzzing with curiosity as we dive into our Learning Experiences. These have included the Year 2 Space Dome visit, the Year 3 Egyptian workshops, Year 5 filming using the green screen and Reception children trying various fruits and thinking about the wonderful world of animals. As a school, we are committed to "excellence in all we do" through hands-on, memorable experiences for all of the children.

At school, we place a big focus on oracy (speaking and listening skills). You can help at home by asking your child "why" and "how" questions about their day to help build their confidence and vocabulary.

Our Friends of Sherwell Valley (FOSV) recently held their AGM. We are so lucky to have such a dedicated team. If you are interested in joining this wonderful group, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being such an integral part of our children's lives. We have one more busy week to go before the half-term break!

Best wishes
Cristy Nelson



OUR LEARNING EXPERIENCES -

Nursery



Reception



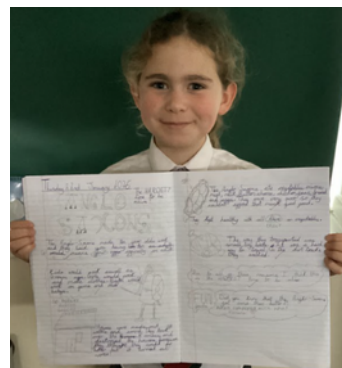
Year 1



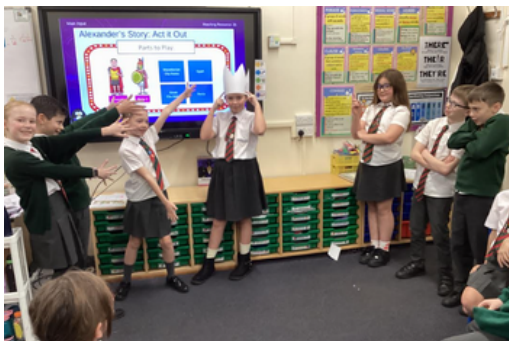
Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 6



Year 5



NOTICE BOARD

ATTENDANCE

2nd September - 6th February

Whole School	96.1% (National Average 93.2%)
Reception	94.92%
Year 1	95.58%
Year 2	96.35%
Year 3	96.56%
Year 4	95.81%
Year 5	95.52%
Year 6	95.97%

Attendance: We are proud to share that our attendance remains among the highest in the Local Authority. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring "Every Second Counts."



WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 6th March. There are two creative options for the children with their costumes.

Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character, or alternatively, they can pick a vocabulary word and dress up to represent that word! We can't wait to see the variety of characters and words that arrive at our doors.



SCHOOL PARKING



As part of our commitment to being good neighbours, please can we remind all our families to be mindful of local residents when parking around the school site. It is vital that driveways remain clear and that our neighbours can access their properties safely.

Furthermore, please remember that the passing bay as you enter the school drive is not a parking space. We appreciate that when the weather is poor or you are in a hurry, parking can be a challenge; however, keeping this bay clear is essential for the flow of traffic and the safety of everyone entering and leaving the site. We kindly ask that you refrain from using this space for parking or dropping off.

SAFER INTERNET DAY



This month also marks Safer Internet Day. In school, we are talking to the children about how to stay safe, kind and responsible online. We know that navigating the digital world can be a challenge for parents too.

We highly recommend that parents take a moment to review the parental controls on home devices. Setting age-appropriate filters on home Wi-Fi, using "Guided Access" on iPads, or setting up family link accounts on smartphones are excellent ways to ensure your child's online experience remains positive. If you would like any support or guidance on how to set these up, please do let us know.

CAREERS FAIR

This year we are looking to hold another Careers day for the children in Years 3-6 on Wednesday 3rd June. We are looking for any volunteers who would be willing to come into school for the day and talk about their job. If this is something you are interested in, please don't hesitate to email Miss Baker on miss.baker@svps1.com for further information.



COMMUNITY

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR JUNIOR BAKE OFF

Aged between 9-15 and love to bake?
We'd love to hear from you!

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15TH MARCH 2026

February Half term Intensives

What's on

BEGINNER 16:00

For those new to swimming or currently in Stage 1, who are looking to build confidence and develop their swimming ability

DUCKLINGS 16:30

For 3-5 year olds, getting them used to a group lesson with a teacher

IMPROVER 3 16:30

For those in Stage 3 and 4. Further development of strokes and introducing them to deeper water to get their confidence up in swimming

IMPROVER 2 16:30

For those in Stage 2 or the more confident Stage 1's who are happy putting their faces in and can swim short distance. Introducing basic strokes and getting them moving across the pool, building confidence

ADVANCED 17:00

For those in Stage 5 and up. Building stamina over a distance of 25 meters, stroke technique and introducing diving.

Contact us on 01803 323400 OR swimtorquay@outlook.com

Libraries Unlimited **Fun Family Reading Activity Day**

CELEBRATING WITH **WORLD BOOK DAY** BookTrust Storytime

MAR 07 9:30-10:15 FAMILY READING ACTIVITIES
Read & craft with your children. We provide the books, toys & crafts. Children can collect stickers & sticker book by Free activity. Just come & enjoy! Age 2+

MAR 07 10:30-11:30 CLAIRE BARKER AUTHOR EVENT
Popular children's author reads her book 'Hettie Nettle' and crafts with you. Includes book signing. Free event. **Booking required.** Age 5+

MAR 07 11:45-14:15 FAMILY READING ACTIVITIES
Read & craft with your children. We provide the books, toys & crafts. Children can collect stickers & sticker book by Free activity. Just come & enjoy! Age 2+

MAR 07 14:30-15:30 CLAIRE BARKER AUTHOR EVENT
Popular children's author reads her book 'Hettie Nettle' and crafts with you. Includes book signing. Free event. **Booking required.** Age 5+

0345 155 1001
discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk
info@librariesunlimited.org.uk

Devon County Council **TORBAY COUNCIL**

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092. Every penny raised supports local library services. To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

World Book Day® is a registered charity, company and trademark

Learn to Ride sessions in the February Half Term.

Cycle Torbay CIC will be running Learn to Ride sessions at Torbay Velopark in February half-term. These subsidised sessions are open to pupils in Year 3 to Year 6, and are for children that aren't able to ride a bike without stabilisers. Click on the link to book a place.

[Booking Link](#)

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 TUES AT 6:30PM AT SHERWELL VALLEY SCHOOL, TORQUAY.

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/DANCEWITHDANNI

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL: DANCEWITHDANNI@OUTLOOK.COM

ZUMBA STRUT SHAKE SHINE

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



FRIENDS OF SHERWELL VALLEY EVENTS

Valentining Your Smile.

After our sell out success at Christmas, it's back!!

Krispy Kremes

Only £1 each!



Get yours at Sherbucks after school
Friday 13th February

Celebrating our Mothers & Others with light & love

To help celebrate the special people in our lives, F.O.S.V are offering you the chance to pre-order a beautiful candle gift for your child to bring home on Friday 13th March just in time for Mothering Sunday.




Please place your orders via the School Gateway system
Last order date **Friday 27th February** **£3.50 each**




To celebrate **World Book Day**

F.O.S.V. will be selling chocolate bars with our very own Golden Tickets hidden inside.




We have hidden our extra special school bonus passes!



To be in with a chance to win one of these spectacular prizes and support our school simply buy one of our Wonderlicious Bars!

Our bars will be available for pre-order via School Gateway until the **27th February**, and a limited number will be available to buy from Sherbucks from **3pm** on **Thursday 5th and Friday 6th March 2026**

Please be advised
Our chocolate bars carry a "may contain nuts" warning. For those children registered in school with allergies, there will be an alternative available. Please order in the same way via School Gateway.



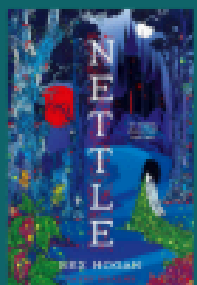
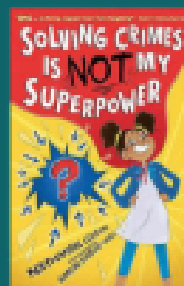
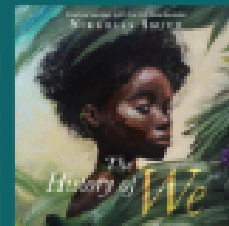
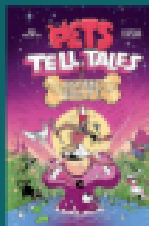
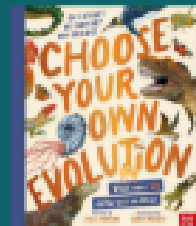
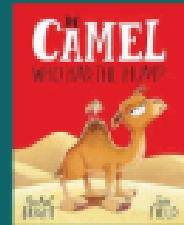
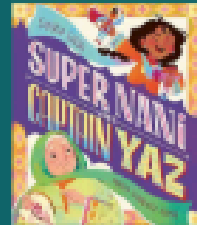



SPARK! SCHOOL BOOK AWARD

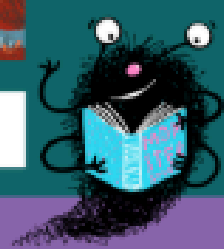
Enter the Spark! Poetry Competition

Use the title or cover of one of the shortlisted books to inspire your poem!

POETRY COMPETITION



Hand in your poem to your Spark! coordinator by:

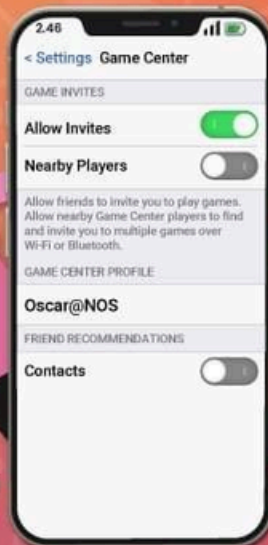


ONLINE SAFETY

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS iPhone

Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari, for example. However, you can choose which apps and features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games, as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.



How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this to 'on' at the top)
- 5 Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear (or disappear) on your child's device

How to Restrict Game Centre

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to switch the toggle at the top to the 'on' position)
- 5 Scroll down to Game Centre
- 6 Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases

- 1 Open Settings
- 2 Tap Screen Time
- 3 Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
- 4 Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
- 5 Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)

NOS National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

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How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS Android Phone

On Android phones, restricting access to particular apps usually requires going onto Google Play. From there, it's fairly easy to navigate your way through the settings to manage the parental controls and authentications relating to any apps on the device. These features can prevent your child from downloading or buying anything unsuitable for their age. Updated versions of apps or games that your child has already installed may occasionally contain something inappropriate, so we've explained how to stop those, too.



How to Block App Downloads (This Also Disables In-app Purchases):

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Scroll down to the Family section and tap Parental controls
- 5 Toggle 'Parental controls are off' to 'Parental controls are on'
- 6 Create a PIN and tap OK
- 7 Confirm your PIN and tap OK again
- 8 Tap Apps & Games
- 9 Set the age limit you wish to set
- 10 Tap Save to apply your changes

How to Stop Auto-updates

- 1 Open Google Play Store
- 2 Tap the profile icon in the top right
- 3 Tap Settings
- 4 Tap Auto-Update Apps
- 5 Select 'Don't auto-update apps' and then tap Done

Restricting Apps Through Google Family Link

- 1 Open Google Play Family Link for parents
- 2 Tap the three horizontal lines in the top left
- 3 Select your child's account
- 4 Tap Manage
- 5 Tap Controls on Google Play
- 6 Tap Apps & Games
- 7 Select the age limit you wish to set



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DIARY DATES

February 2026	
Thursday 12 th February 2:30pm	Year 5 Curriculum Sharing Event
Thursday 12 th February	School Valentines Discos
Friday 13 th February 2:00pm	Mega Shershop (World Book Day Costumes)
Friday 13 th February 3:35pm	Break up for half term
Monday 23 rd February 8:40am	Return to School
Tuesday 24 th February	Jewish visitor to Year 1
Wednesday 25 th February	5H visiting Exeter Cathedral
March 2026	
Tuesday 3 rd March	Southwest Water visiting Year 4
Wednesday 4 th March	Animal HQ visiting Reception
Wednesday 4 th March	5RB visiting Exeter Cathedral
Wednesday 4 th March 3:30pm – 6:30pm	SEND Parents' Evening
Friday 6 th March	World Book Day
Monday 9 th March 10am	Peekaboo visiting Reception
Monday 9 th March 1:30pm	School Nurse Drop-In session
Monday 9 th March 3:30pm – 6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 10 th March	5J visiting Exeter Cathedral
Tuesday 10 th March	Jewish visitor to Year 3
Wednesday 11 th March 3:30 – 6:30pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 13 th March	Year 6 and Reception class photos
Monday 16 th March – Thursday 26 th March	Y5 Bikeability
Friday 20 th March	Non-uniform day – Comic Relief
Wednesday 25 th March 2:30pm	2H Curriculum Sharing Event
Thursday 26 th March 2:30pm	2F Curriculum Sharing Event
Friday 27 th March 2:00pm	Mega Shershop (School Uniform)
Friday 27 th March 2:30pm	2C Curriculum Sharing Event
Monday 30 th March 2:30pm	RW Curriculum Sharing Event
Tuesday 31 st March 2:30pm	RNP Curriculum Sharing Event
Tuesday 31 st March 2:15pm	Year 6 Curriculum Sharing Event
April 2026	
Wednesday 1 st April 2:30pm	RJ Curriculum Sharing Event
Wednesday 1 st April 2:45pm	Year 1 Curriculum Sharing Event
Wednesday 1 st April	Egg decorating judging
Wednesday 1 st April	KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade
Thursday 2 nd April	Year 3 trip to Barton Hall and Sleep Over
Thursday 2 nd April 2:45pm	Year 4 Curriculum Sharing Event
Thursday 2 nd April 3:25pm	Break up for Easter
Friday 3 rd April 10am	Year 3 children to be collected from school (those staying for the sleep over)

TERM DATES



SHERWELL VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO



Torbay School Term Dates: 2025-26 Academic Year

	Sep-2025				
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	

	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	01	

	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	



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	

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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	
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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
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28 Dec 2026 (Boxing Day)
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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	
	195	
Training Days	-5	
	190	