



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN TERM SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear Sherwell Valley Families,

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year! We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful, relaxing summer break—it has been absolute bliss hearing all the children's wonderful stories about their holiday adventures over the past few days. It has been such a joy to see how brilliantly all of our children have settled back into their routines, filling the school with energy, smiles, and enthusiasm.

A particularly warm welcome goes out to all our new families and children joining the Sherwell Valley community for the very first time. Our new pupils have made a fantastic start, taking everything in their stride and settling in so quickly—we are already so proud of them!

As we jump into the new term, we will be re-anchoring everything we do in our core school values: taking responsibility for our learning and choices, showing respect for one another, building resilience when facing new challenges, working together through collaboration, and holding high aspiration for what every child can achieve. We are so excited to partner with you all to make this a happy, inspiring, and successful year for every pupil.

Warmest wishes,

Cristy Nelson

NOTICE BOARD

ATTENDANCE

We are proud to share that our attendance last year was well above the national average! Good attendance makes a huge difference. National data shows that children who attend school regularly achieve much better results in reading, writing, and math by the end of primary school.

Our school target this year is 97% or above. We are here to support you! If you need a helping hand with your child's attendance or want to learn more, check out our Sherwell Valley Attendance Roadmap on the school website, or get in touch with our team anytime.



PARKING

Please can we remind families not to park in the passing layby in the school driveway when dropping-off and collecting children. Keeping this space clear is important for the safety of our children and ensures the driveway remains accessible at all times for emergencies. We appreciate your responsibility and cooperation in keeping our school entrance safe for everyone. Thank you.

NEW STAFF

We are really excited to be welcoming new staff to our Sherwell family this year. Mrs Harman, Mrs Mitchell and Miss Morgan will be joining our Early Years Team. Miss Hathaway and Miss Clarkson will be joining our Inclusion Team while Mrs Blatchford will be teaching in Year 3 and Mr Ellis in Year 6.

Welcome!

SCHOOL STRUCTURE

Our school leadership team is here to help and support. Our senior leadership roles are below:

Headteacher - Cristy Nelson

Deputy Headteacher - Matthew Briant

Assistant Headteacher - Andrew Robinson

Inclusion Lead - Hannah Sennett

Early Years and Year 1 Lead - Gemma Sandercock

Year 2 and Year 3 Lead - Andrew Robinson

Year 4 and Year 5 Lead - Rachel Hunter

Year 6 Lead - Matthew Briant



CLUBS AND WRAP AROUND CARE

We offer full wraparound care from 7:45 am-6:00 pm (Carebears), including a free breakfast club (Bagel Bites) from 8:15 am. Please contact the school office for booking information. We also offer a range of extra-curricular clubs which will be shared throughout the school year.



ONLINE SAFETY



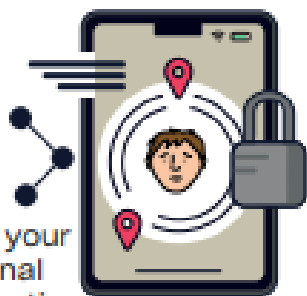
TOP TEN TIPS TO



STAY SAFE ONLINE

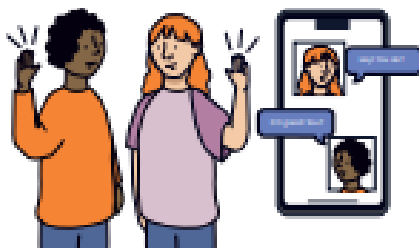
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Don't share your personal information



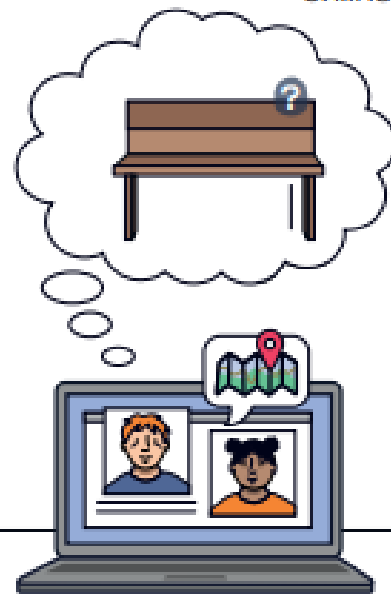
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Only talk to people that you know



3

Don't meet up with anyone you have only met online



4

Only accept friend requests from people you know personally



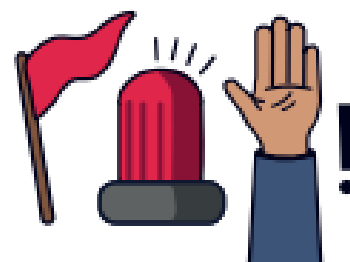
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Always think carefully about what you post



8

Report inappropriate content immediately



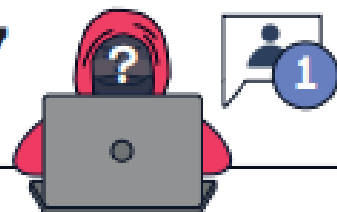
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Make use of the privacy settings on all of your social media accounts



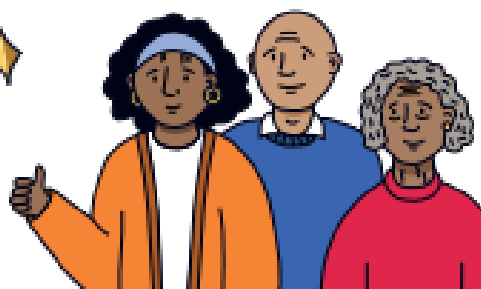
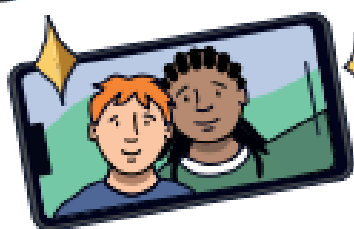
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Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are



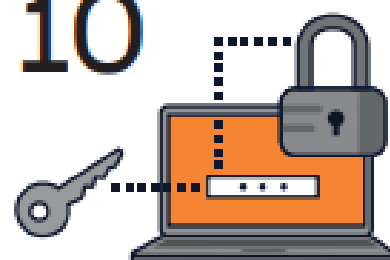
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Only share images that you'd be comfortable with your friends and family seeing



10

Never share your passwords



DIARY DATES

MEET THE TEACHER

On Wednesday 16th September, we will be hosting our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. The session will be repeated at 3:40pm, 4pm and 4:20pm giving you the opportunity to visit your child's classroom and hear about the year ahead.

September 2026	
Monday 14th September	Year 4 Torquay Museum visiting children
Monday 14th September	Year 6 UK Parliament visiting children
Tuesday 15th September	Year 4 Torquay Museum visiting children
Wednesday 16th September	Meet the Teacher sessions 3:40pm, 4:00pm and 4:20pm
Thursday 17th September	Year 4 Torquay Tennis Club visiting children
Wednesday 23rd September	Year 6 Court Open Classroom 2.45pm
Thursday 24th September	Reception Tours for Prospective Parents 9:15am
Friday 25th September	Year 4 Curriculum sharing event
October 2026	
Thursday 1st October	Luke Merchant (Author) visiting KS2
Thursday 8th October	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 9th October	Reception Tours for Prospective Parents 9:15am
Tuesday 13th October	3M Kents Cavern visit
Thursday 15th October	Reception Tours for Prospective Parents 9:15am
Friday 16th October	3AB and 3B Kents Cavern Visit
Monday 19th October	RW walk to Armada Park
Tuesday 20th October	RGP walk to Armada Park
Wednesday 21st October	RJ walk to Armada Park
Wednesday 21st October	2C Parent Art Drop In 2:30pm
Thursday 22nd October	FOSV Halloween Disco
Thursday 22nd October	Year 3 Curriculum Sharing Event 2:30pm
Thursday 22nd October	2CB Parent Art Drop In 2:30pm
Friday 23rd October	2F Parent Art Drop In 2:30pm
Friday 23rd October	Break up for October Half Term. School closes at 3:25pm
November 2026	
Monday 2nd November	Return to school - Gates open at 8:40am
Wednesday 4th November	SEND Parents Evening
Friday 6th November	School Photographs
Monday 9th November	Parents Evening
Wednesday 11th November	Parents Evening
Thursday 12th November	Reception Tours for Prospective Parents 9:15am
Thursday 26th November	Year 1 Curriculum Event 2:45pm
Friday 27th November	Reception Tours for Prospective Parents 9:15am
December 2026	
Monday 7th December	Reception Christmas Nativity at Upton Vale Church
Tuesday 8th December	Year 1&2 Christmas Service at Upton Vale Church
Wednesday 9th December	Year 5 Curriculum Event 2:45pm
Thursday 10th December	Reception Sharing Event
Monday 14th December	Year 3&4 Christmas Service at Upton Vale Church
Tuesday 15th December	Year 5&6 Christmas Service at Upton Vale Church
Tuesday 15th December	RW visiting Kents Cavern
Wednesday 16th December	RJ visiting Kents Cavern
Thursday 17th December	RGP visiting Kents Cavern



NEWSLETTERS

We have made a few changes to some of our communications. Moving forwards you will be receiving the newsletter once every half term (towards the end). The newsletter will include the children's celebrations. Please keep sharing with us all of their out of school achievements so that we can share them with the wider school community.



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	
	195	
Training Days	-5	
	190	