



# Oldway Primary School Newsletter

Friday 21st March 2025

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## Weekly Attendance

**Whole School 93.63%**

### Top Class Attendance

1st - Oyster Cove - 99.47%  
2nd - Preston Sands - 99.46%  
3rd - Saltern Cove - 99.20%

Shells - 98.68%  
Goodrington Sands - 96.52%  
Broadsands - 97.30%  
Hollicombe Beach - 98.90%  
Livermead Sands - 98.21%  
Torre Abbey Sands - 98.94%  
Fairy Cove - 95.40%  
Meadfoot Beach - 97.95%  
Babbacombe Beach - 93.10%  
Oddicombe Beach - 97.18%  
Beacon Cove - 96.43%  
Hope Cove - 98.46%  
Ansteys Cove - 95.91%  
Elberry Cove - 93.53%  
Fishcombe Cove - 94.74%  
Churston Cove - 95.56%  
Shoalstone Beach - 94.80%  
Breakwater Beach - 98.60%  
St Mary's Bay - 95.78%

Attendance at school is vital for learning. If your child's attendance is less than 95%, their learning will be affected by their absence.

## Head of School Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sure you'll enjoy all of the news shared in the newsletter. There are so many highlights on a daily basis at Oldway and we are very proud of the offer for our pupils. World Book Day was a fantastic celebration of reading with buddy reading, reading lessons, fantastic costumes and amazing potato characters. There was a real buzz around school and we appreciate all the support from our school community. We are very fortunate to be supported by the wider community. Higher Polsham Road residents have been helping to develop our allotment space and we're grateful for their hard work and support. We have a great link with the Rotary club who were very grateful for the large collection of shoeboxes - thank you! A regular highlight during the school day is when children come to find me to share outstanding learning. We are very proud of the fantastic attitude to learning that is evident in every lesson, every day and we love to celebrate amazing progress.

Emma Bamber  
(Head of School)



## School Opening Times

The school gates are now open at the following times:  
Morning opening times: 8:30 - 8:45  
Morning registration: 8:45  
Afternoon opening times: 3:10 - 3:30  
Please be aware that the staff car park is closed to anyone apart from disabled badge holders from 8:00 - 3:30.

# World Book Day

World Book Day was a real celebration of reading: costumes, potato characters, buddy reading, live quizzes, reading lessons and much more. The potato characters were a resounding success and a spectacular display. What a fantastic day.



# Football News

## Football Fixtures

The Year 5/6 girls played the last of their football fixtures at Paignton Academy this week. They won the first match (league fixture) against Kings Ash Academy 4-2, with a dominant display of team work and tenacity throughout. Mia scored all four goals.

Their second match (a friendly) was against Curledge Street. The girls played with confidence and goals from Jasmine and Mia secured a 2-1 win.

The team has finished top of the league, with an unbeaten record. We look forward to Finals Night in May.



We are looking for a local business to sponsor our football teams. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact the school office on [oldwayoffice@rivieraet.co.uk](mailto:oldwayoffice@rivieraet.co.uk) or 01803 557190.

# Higher Polsham Community Group

Some members of the Higher Polsham Road Community Group (including Suki and Minnie's grandma and Asher's grandparents) have helped to clear our school allotment ready for planting. We are very grateful for their help.



## Digital Leaders

2025's Digital Leaders met for the first time this week and had a go at some simple stop motion to get them warmed up. They have shared some of their videos on a new blog.

[Please feel free to watch the videos and leave them some comments!](#)



# School Council

Our school value of 'kindness' was on display this morning when some of our school council members went to 'Mummy & Me' at Christchurch. We love to make links in our local community and the school councillors very much enjoyed playing with the babies. Mrs Chalk was very proud of their kindness to the younger children.



# Young Live vs Cancer

Thank you to everyone for the very generous donations on the last non-pupil day. We raised an amazing £437.93 for the Young Lives vs Cancer charity.

**YOUNG LIVES**  
**VS CANCER**

## Art Club

Art club had a great time making realistic bubbles with acrylics and a collage pirate island.



## Year 4 Science

In their science lessons, year 4 learned about how sound is made when an object vibrates. They learnt that sound can travel along string to make a cup phone!



# Science Ninja Competition Winners

In January, Anstey's Cove entered a competition to win a Science Ninjas workshop with Torquay Museum. As a result of lots of votes from our school community, they were announced the winners! Year 4 welcomed the Science Ninjas to our school and watched some exciting demonstrations in the hall. We learnt about friction, kinetic energy and super absorption. Back in their classroom, the winning class (Anstey's Cove) enjoyed conducting their own experiments investigating static charge with jumping dots, polymers with balloons, pH levels with red cabbage and electricity with lemons! You can watch some of the experiments on the Torquay Museum YouTube channel and even try to recreate them at home.



# Hot Chocolate with the Head

We have had some lovely 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' Fridays to finish the week. Well done to these superstars who exemplify our school values - Aspiration, Responsibility and Kindness. A few of our 'Potato Character' winners joined us at the last hot chocolate too.

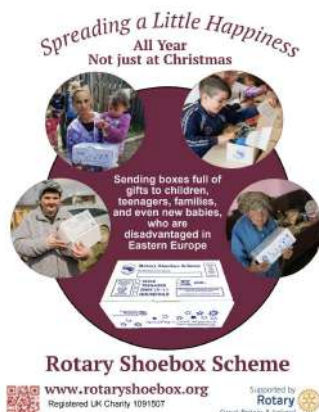


# Rotary Shoebox Scheme

Thank you again to the Oldway School community and to those that helped to organise the Rotary Shoebox Scheme.

The wall of 60+ shoeboxes has now been handed over to the Rotary Club by the older members of our School Council.

Thank you again to everyone who has given so generously to people less fortunate.



# Year 6 Historians

Just before half-term, our Year 6 historians were on stage at The Palace Theatre, sharing their role in Paignton Heritage Society's recent publication, 'Paignton - Our Home Town'. The event was put on for local history groups, various community groups and the general public. On the way they stopped to look at a few places from the book, including Kirkham House and 'The Clink'. Many thanks to the heritage society, for providing some much enjoyed ice-creams at the end!



## SEND Coffee Morning

This terms coffee morning was about the Torbay Graduated Response and Sam Bolton from SENDIASS joined us to share her knowledge. Look out for information about our next coffee morning.

Here is a link to Torbay Graduated Response that identifies all of the support we can put in place in school for children with SEND.

[Torbay Graduated Response](#)

Many thanks, Oldway SENDCos



## Safeguarding Message Stop it Now Webinars

<https://www.stopitnow.org.uk/> offers professionals practical advice, training resources, and support tools to help them recognise, prevent, and respond to child safety concerns effectively. This may help to refresh your memories and to reiterate the importance of what to look out for, along with how to appropriately respond to safeguarding concerns. As always, please speak with Eva Rowe (DSL) if you have any safeguarding questions or concerns.'

**Stop it now**

## Year 3 and 4 Netball Festival

A group of year 3 and 4 children had a great time attending a netball festival this afternoon! They learnt how to shoot, defend and the basic rules of netballs.



## Brush Your Teeth

Every afternoon, our Reception children brush their teeth as part of the 'Big Brush Club' which is a NHS scheme. Research has shown that when children brush their teeth for 24 months during their early years, it significantly improves their oral health. Our Reception children love toothbrushing. They have their own toothbrush, brush their teeth to a song, rinse their toothbrush and it back in the holder.



# Easter HAF Play Sessions

**We are delighted to announce that we will be running some outdoor play sessions In Paignton and Torquay this Easter as part of the Holiday Activities and Food programme**

**Sessions will offer lots of different play activities as well as providing a healthy lunch, with fun tips about good food to eat. The sessions are aimed at 5 -12 years but families with younger children are welcome, priority will be given to children receiving free school meals (FSMs), or are electively home educated.**

**Please note booking is essential and parents/carers will need to stay with any children under the age of 8. There is a small booking fee of £0.75 per person, per booking.**



# Useful Links

Please see the useful links below to the Family Voice Torbay website who are offering courses and Lumi Nova who offer digital therapy.

Understanding  
Autism 14  
January 2025 10-  
12 @Parkfield  
House

Understanding  
Autism 14  
January 2025 6-  
7:30pm via  
microsoft teams

Sensory  
Difference 11  
February 2025  
10-12 @Parkfield  
House

Sensory  
Difference 11  
February 2025 6-  
7:30pm via  
microsoft teams

Communication  
and Positive  
relationships 11  
March 2025 10-12  
@Parkfield House

Communication  
and Positive  
relationships 11  
March 2025 6-  
7:30pm via  
microsoft teams

Autism and  
anxiety session1  
13 May 2025 10-  
12 @Parkfield  
House

Autism and  
anxiety session1  
13 May 2025 6-  
7:30pm via  
microsoft teams

Autism and  
anxiety session2  
10 June 2025 10-  
12 @ Parkfield  
House

Autism and  
anxiety session2  
10 June 2025 6-  
7:30pm via  
microsoft teams

Transitions 8 July  
2025 10-12 @  
Parkfield House

Transitions 8 July  
2025 6-7:30pm  
via microsoft  
teams

Digital therapy enabling  
children to self manage  
their worries.



- ✓ For ages 7-12 yrs
- ✓ Suitable for children with mild - moderate anxiety\*
- ✓ NICE recommended

Get free  
Access

[luminova.app/get-access](https://luminova.app/get-access)



# Attendance & Punctuality

**Making sure your child goes to school on time is really important for their learning. If they're late a lot, it can cause some issues.**

It's important for children to be on time for school because it helps them do their best in learning. Being punctual means forming good habits for the future. So, it's a big deal that your child gets to school on time.

Here's the deal: according to the Department for Education's rules, there's a specific time in the morning when schools stop marking who's there. If your child shows up after that time, they won't just get a late mark – they'll be marked as absent (*unauthorised absence*) for the whole morning.

If your child is late because of something important, like a doctor's appointment, the school will understand that. However, if there's no good reason, they'll mark it as an unauthorised absence.

So, it's best to be on time! Here are some things you might want to know:

**Why does my child get marked absent for the whole morning even if they came before lunch?** If your child arrives after a certain time in the morning, the school has to mark them absent (unauthorised absence) for the whole morning. It's a rule they have to follow.

**Can I get a fine if my child is late a lot?** Yes, if your child has 10 or more times of being late (unauthorised absences) without a good reason, you might get a fine.

**It seems a bit strict that my child gets a late mark if they are just a couple of minutes late.** Schools have rules about being on time, and being even a little late can count as not being on time. It's important to try to leave early to avoid being late.

**What if our whole family overslept, and it's not my child's fault?** Even if it's not your child's fault, being late because of oversleeping is still counted. They might get a late mark or be marked as absent (unauthorised absence), depending on how late they are.

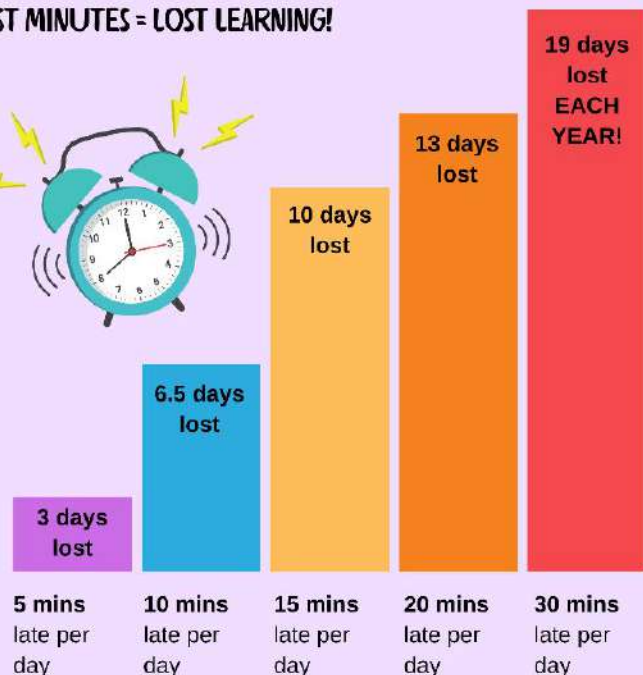
**What if there's a traffic jam or something else that's not my fault?** The school usually can't change the rules for one person, but if there's a big problem, like heavy snow causing delays for many people, they can make allowances.

**What if I tell the school my child will be late? Do they still get a late mark?** Yes, they might still get a late mark, but it's good if you tell the school. They'll know you're aware, and it helps if you say when your child will arrive and why they're late.

**Do I have to tell the school if I know my child will be late?** It's really helpful if you do. If your child is very late, telling the school might help them understand why and maybe say it's okay.

**What if I am trying to get my child to school on time but they don't want to go?** If your child is refusing to go to school on time, you can contact the school. They have a team that can work out why and maybe help your child and you.

## LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING!



**If a pupil arrives late, but before 9.05, they will be marked as late (L)**

**If a pupil arrives after 9.05 they will be marked as absent for that session (U)**

# Oldway School Uniform

Please see our school uniform detailed below. You can purchase items school uniform with the school logo from [Riviera School Days](#) and we also promote unbranded school items from local supermarkets.

Winter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Navy V-neck jumper/sweatshirt/ cardigan</li><li>● Charcoal grey or black trousers/ skirt/ pinafore dress</li><li>● Light blue short sleeved polo shirt</li></ul>
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Navy V-neck jumper/sweatshirt/ cardigan</li><li>● Charcoal grey or black trousers/ shorts or skirt/ pinafore dress</li><li>● Light blue short sleeved polo shirt</li><li>● Blue gingham dress</li></ul>
Sports kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Light blue PE shirt available</li><li>● Navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms/leggings</li><li>● Trainers (not plimsolls)</li></ul> <p><b>On PE days, we would like children to still wear an Oldway jumper or cardigan. We recommend that the children wear tracksuit bottoms/ leggings in the winter months. We request that children DON'T wear a tracksuit top.</b></p>



<b>Autumn Term 2024</b>	Non-Pupil Day	Thursday 5th September 2024
	Non-Pupil Day	Friday 6th September 2024
	First day	Monday 9th September 2024
	Half Term	Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November 2024
	Last day	Friday 20th December 2024
	Christmas holidays	Monday 23rd December 2024 - Tuesday 7th January 2025 inclusive

<b>Spring Term 2025</b>	Non-Pupil Day	Monday 6th January 2025
	First Day	Tuesday 7th January 2025
	Half Term	Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2025
	Last day	Friday 4th April 2025
	Easter holidays	Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April 2025

<b>Summer Term 2025</b>	First day	Tuesday 22nd April 2025
	Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May 2025
	Half term	Monday 26th May - Monday 2nd June 2025 inclusive
	Non-Pupil Day	Monday 2nd June 2025
	Last day	Thursday 24th July 2025
	Non-Pupil Day	Friday 25th July 2025
	Summer holidays	Friday 25th July 2025 - Wednesday 3rd September 2025 inclusive