



Oldway Primary School Newsletter

Tuesday 18th November 2025

Website: www.oldwayschool.co.uk

Telephone: 01803 557190

Email: oldwayoffice@rivieraet.co.uk

Weekly Attendance

Whole School 95.09%

Top Class Attendance

1st - Oddicombe - 98.85%

2nd - Oyster Cove - 98.51%

3rd - Shells - 97.90%

Broadsands - 95.99%

Goodrington - 96.17%

Preston Sands - 90.00%

Livermead Sands - 94.79%

Torre Abbey - 95.99%

Fairy Cove - 94.00%

Saltern Cove - 95.24%

Babbacombe Beach - 96.43%

Meadfoot Beach - 97.05%

Maidencombe Beach - 84.17%

Anstey's Cove - 95.11%

Beacon Cove - 97.77%

Hope Cove - 91.67%

Berry Head - 95.22%

Breakwater Beach - 82.50%

Churston Cove - 94.31%

Elberry Cove - 97.70%

Fishcombe Cove - 96.24%

St Mary's Bay - 95.56%

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,

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at parents' evening in Gibson Hall. I'm sure you'll agree that the student leaders did a great job welcoming everyone and that the fundraising sweet stall was a roaring success. Teachers reported lots of positive conversations and it's always good for senior leaders to have the opportunity to meet with our families. We are always grateful for feedback and are beginning to review the 'Oldway Parents & Carers Survey' that closed yesterday. The whole survey was positive about Oldway, with most answers scoring well above the benchmark for similar schools. In the next few weeks, we will respond to the points that have been raised.

We're about to begin the run up to Christmas, with many exciting events ahead. I'm sure you're all looking forward to the festive season - it's a special time in school and enjoyed by children and staff alike. Please don't forget that we staff the school gates as much as possible, both morning and evening, and are very happy to chat if you have any questions or concerns.

Emma Bamber
(Head of School)



School Opening Times

The school gates are open at the following times:

Morning opening times: 8:30 - 8:45am

Morning registration: 8:45am

Afternoon opening times: 3:10 - 3:30pm

Please be aware that the staff car park is closed to anyone apart from disabled badge holders from 8:00am - 3:30pm

Surveys

During the year, we collect pupil, parent and staff voice through surveys. We are grateful for the responses to the 'Oldway Parents and Carer Survey'.

- My child is happy at school - 93%
 - My child feels safe in school - 90%
 - My child does well at this school - 94%
 - The school makes me aware of what my child will learn - 86%
- (The vast majority of responses were above the benchmark for similar schools)

And we love to hear such positive feedback!

In response to the 'Best thing about the school'...



'The amazing teachers and support staff'

'The school is very keen to develop my child's behavior and character .The teachers are friendly and helpful.'

'It's super friendly, my son's teacher is approachable, understanding, and kind and I couldn't wish for anymore.'

'Teachers are approachable and caring. Great communication too.'

'Lots of lovely staff. Really supportive and it feels like we are part of a community'

'The expectations of behaviour and rules. This is just as important if not more than academic achievement.'

'The teachers are fantastic! The facilities are great- my kids are really happy there.'

Response to the survey

We are constantly seeking to improve Oldway. As a leadership team, we will now review the survey and work on actions that we will share with you in forthcoming newsletters.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our survey.

Classroom Excellence

At Oldway, our vision is that every child has the best experience possible. We work hard to improve every element of school life.

In September, we launched an initiative called 'Classroom Excellence' based on the principles of Doug Lemov's 'Teach like a Champion'. The aim is to use evidence informed research to make teaching and learning as effective as possible. Our teachers meet each week to explore the research and think about how this can be adapted into teaching and learning at Oldway for our children. Recently, we have been developing our approach to Oracy, and focusing on increasing the opportunities for talk in class.

Choral response is a highly effective technique within the broader framework of oracy development, primarily used to build confidence, embed key knowledge, and ensure full-class participation in speaking activities. It is particularly useful for modeling and rehearsing new or complex vocabulary, technical terms, phrases, or definitions. Saying words aloud repeatedly helps embed them in students' long-term memory, increasing the likelihood they will use them in their own verbal and written work.



My Turn, Your Turn

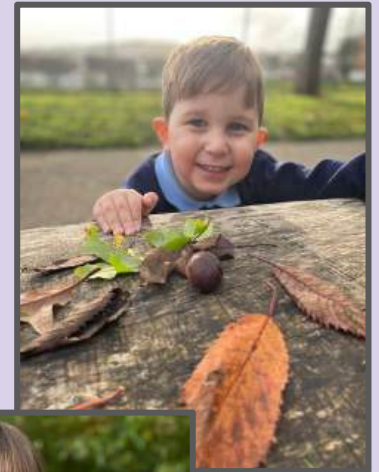
'My turn, your turn' is a teaching strategy used in oracy to model and practice spoken language, especially for building full sentences and vocabulary. It involves a teacher or student saying a sentence ("my turn"), and then the class repeating it together ("your turn"). The strategy can be adapted to different learning stages, from choral repetition for exact phrases to more independent responses. This starts in our phonics programme (RWI) and continues through the school.

Turn and talk is an effective, low-stakes pedagogical strategy used to develop students' oracy skills by providing a structured opportunity to verbally process and articulate their ideas with a partner before sharing with the wider class



Reception OWL Fireworks

Reception had a blast in their OWL session last week! They used their foraged treasures of leaves, sticks and nuts to create stunning firework art inspired by Bonfire Night.



If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 they should start school in September 2026.

What you need to do:

1. Read the TIPS & guidance booklet on the Torbay Council website.
2. Apply online from 1st November 2025:

[Torbay Council Admissions](#)

OR

Contact Torbay Council to request an electronic form -

E: pupil.services@torbay.gov.uk; T: 01803 208908

3. Submit your application by 15th January 2026.

Breakwater Beach INSITE

Breakwater Beach had a fantastic Insite morning. The session began with the children enjoying breakfast together, before experiencing the sensory circuits and learning how these activities support focus and readiness for learning. To finish the morning, everyone took part in decorating seaside-themed biscuits. The creativity and enthusiasm was wonderful.



‘Hot Chocolate with the Head’

Well done to these superstars who enjoyed ‘Hot Chocolate with the Head’! They all shared the reasons they had been nominated by their teachers and how they exemplify our school values.



Football News

Oldway Year 5/6 Boys' played in a competition with schools from across Paignton on Monday evening. A massive well done to all of the players (and families) that braved the rain. All of the players did themselves proud, showing great teamwork.

Oldway Team 1

Oldway 0-2 Roselands

Oldway 1-1 Kings Ash (Harry)

Oldway 10-0 Preston B (Tommy x3, Harry x2, Eddie x3, Louie, Nathan)

Oldway Team 2

Oldway 0-1 Curledge St

Oldway 1-4 Sacred Heart (Josh)

Oldway 2-5 Marldon (Koooper, Josh)



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 or 01803 557190.

Football News

National League Trust Cup

The Year 5/6 boys played the National League Trust Cup, led by Torquay United Community Sports Trust, with school from across the local area competing. They had a brilliant morning playing football, winning 3 of their 6 matches and scoring an impressive 10 goals in the process. Well done boys!

Oldway 2-1 Bradley Barton (Eddie x2)

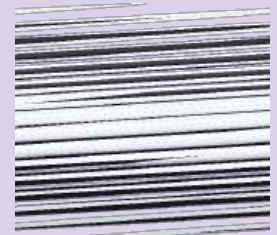
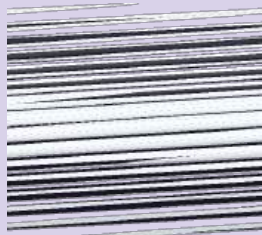
Oldway 0-1 Babbacombe

Oldway 2-0 Watcombe (Harry, Tommy)

Oldway 0-1 Torre

Oldway 1-2 Sherwell Valley (Eddie)

Oldway 5-0 Furzeham (Tommy, Nathan x2, Charlie, Tyrion)



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House of Marbles

Maidencombe Beach visited the House of Marbles ready for their topic on how toys have changed over time. They looked at how marble runs have changed, had the opportunity to play with some toys and visited the glass blowing workshop. The children were incredibly responsible throughout the trip and everybody had a great time.



Author Visit

Our Reception children were very lucky to have a visit from the author Amy Wickens. She read her story 'The Adventures of Rodney and Po' and we added some actions. The children were very excited to learn about the landmarks in London and spot the wiggly worm!



Year 3 Holy Trinity

As part of their RE learning, Year 3 spent the afternoon in Christ Church with Rev. Nathan learning all about the Holy Trinity. They sang, danced and also devised their own creative demonstration of the three parts of the Holy Trinity.



'Feed a Child Torbay' Fundraiser

Daisy Coote has been fundraising for 'Feed a Child Torbay'. She has set a target of £1500, and so far has raised an incredible £1300. Her brother Alfie helped her with the sweet stall at parents' evening, which raised just over £700. What an amazing achievement!



Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Reception have loved learning the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. "Who's been eating my porridge?" They created some fantastic collage bear faces.

They also received a letter from the three bears to say how sad they were that Goldilocks had eaten their porridge and broken their furniture. During the OWL session, they decided to help them out by making some brand new chairs, beds and porridge using natural materials. The children showed such creativity and kindness - we think the bears will be very happy!



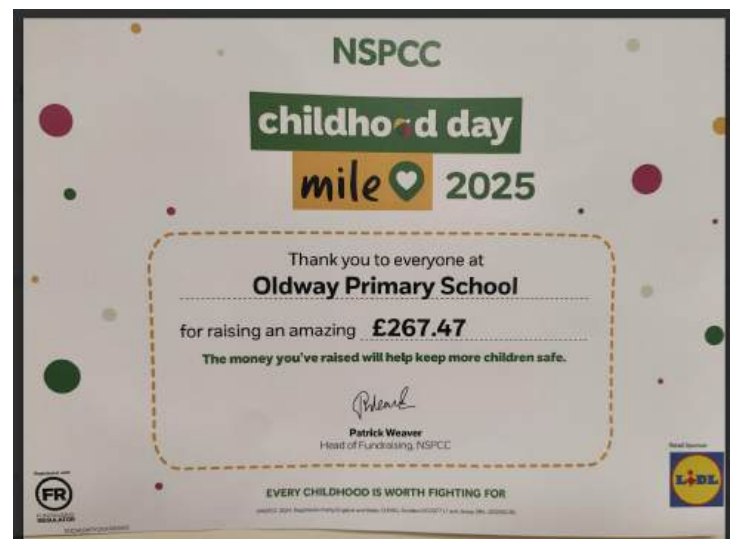
Remembrance Day

On Remembrance Day, we remembered all soldiers who have fought and died to protect our country by joining in with the two minutes silence. Our student leaders have been selling poppies to raise funds to support serving and ex-service personnel, veterans and their families.



Fantastic Fundraising

We received a certificate of thanks for the £267.47 we raised for the NSPCC. Thank you to everyone who helped with the OSF Halloween disco, which raised a fantastic £1350! We also raised £275.10 at our last non uniform day, which will be donated to a diabetes charity.





Christmas Hamper Appeal 2025

This Christmas we will be providing Christmas Hampers to local families. Every family will receive a fresh chicken / Vegetarian option and fresh veg. We are asking the local community to help us with the following items:

Packet Stuffing

Tinned Ham

Gravy Granules

Pringles

Savoury Crackers

Cranberry Sauce

Jelly

Custard

Shortbread/Large Packet Biscuits

Christmas Pudding

Selection Boxes

Tinned Fruit cocktail

Mince pies

Your support will ensure that we can help provide much needed Christmas cheer to those most in need. Please bring donations to us by 2pm 17th December

Drop off point: Southfield Christian Centre, Cecil Road

Paignton TQ3 2SH

Parking around Oldway

Parking and Safety Reminder

To keep everyone safe during drop-off and pick-up, please note the following:

- **Stay on the Pavement when you using the main entrance:** Parents and children must remain on the pavement at all times—please do not cut across the car park.
- **Drive Slowly and Patiently:** The school car park is available for your convenience when collecting from clubs, but it can become very busy. Please show patience and courtesy to other drivers and pedestrians.
- **Park a Little Further Away:** Roads closest to the school are extremely busy. If possible, park a short distance away and walk.
- **Safety Is Our Top Priority:** We have had too many near misses recently. Your cooperation is vital to protect our children and to keep everyone safe. We need to work together as a community to keep everyone safe.
- **Police and Council Support:** We have contacted the local police and council to assist with monitoring the issues on nearby roads. We appreciate the struggles, especially now that the car park at Oldway Mansion is closed.

Thank you for helping to keep our community safe.

THINK BEFORE **PARK**
YOU

BE CONSIDERATE TO OUR NEIGHBOURS
YOU COULD ENDANGER A CHILD'S LIFE



PHONE-FREE PRIMARY YEARS



JOIN THE PLEDGE!

A parent & carer-led movement to give Oldway Primary kids more time for play, friendship and freedom.

We are pledging to delay giving our kids their own smartphones until Secondary School.

PHONE-FREE PRIMARY YEARS

JOIN THE PLEDGE!

Why we're waiting... for now!

We're a group of Oldway Primary parents and carers choosing to wait until Secondary School before giving our children smartphones.

It's not about judgement — it's about supporting each other so our kids can enjoy childhood without the pressure of having phones and access to social media.

By waiting, we can help our kids to...

- Sleep well and play freely outdoors more
- Build face-to-face friendships
- Grow confidence, focus and creativity
- Avoid the stress of group chats and online drama
- Feel included, not left out.

What about safety etc?

Some children may need a simple call-and-text phone — every family is different! The idea is just to delay smartphones and social media so no kids are left out.

Together we can...

Give our children more years of playground games, den-building, books, hobbies, adventures and simple fun — without phones getting in the way.

**We'd love you to join us in saying yes to childhood,
no to smartphones - for now at least!**

**Click the QR code to add your name to the pledge form, get
more info and hear about upcoming events
to discuss these issues >>**





CHARITY
FUNDRAISER

£2 ENTRY
PER ADULT

Christmas Market

& Community event

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES
CRAFT STALLS
FATHER CHRISTMAS

Live music and carols

Friday 28th November

6pm-8pm



PRESTON COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL &
PRESTON BAPTIST CHURCH
62 OLD TORQUAY RD, PAIGNTON TQ3 2RB



JOIN US FOR OUR

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Games

Stalls

Raffle

Christmas
Activities

Tea,
Coffee
and cakes!

Photobooth

AND
MORE!

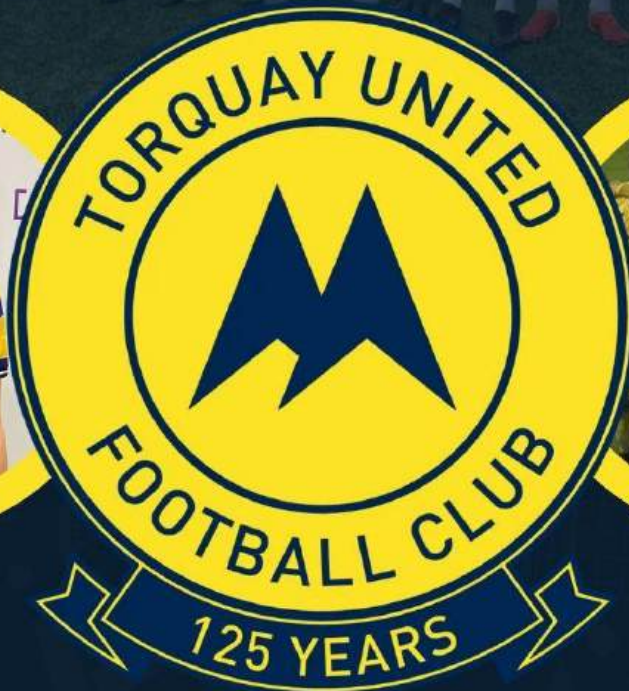
10th DEC

15.30 - 17.30

**EAT THAT FROG
89 TORQUAY ROAD,
PAIGNTON TQ3 2SE**



TORQUAY UNITED FC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



Trinity School, Buckeridge Road, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 8LY

U9s and U10s | 6.30-7.30pm | £6.00 per session

U11s and U12s | 7.30-8.30pm | £6.00 per session

6th NOVEMBER TO 18TH DECEMBER 2025

TO BOOK YOUR TRIAL, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:

U9S AND U10S

<https://torquay-united-cst.classforkids.io/info/866>



U11S AND U12S

<https://torquay-united-cst.classforkids.io/info/867>





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 - 8pm

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.

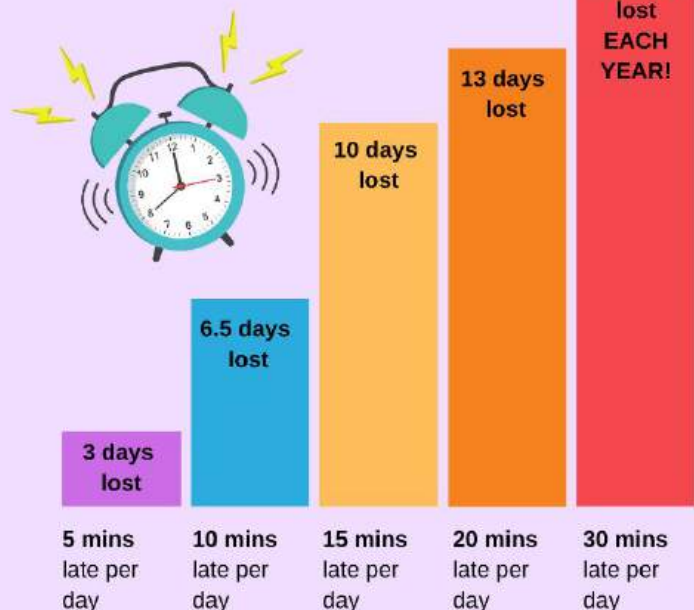
What if there's a traffic jam or something else that's not my fault? The school usually can't change the rules for one person, but if there's a big problem, like heavy snow causing delays for many people, they can make allowances.

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)



Absence line: 01803 557190 option 1
Absence line (text only): 07775 680213

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">● Navy V-neck jumper/sweatshirt/ cardigan● Charcoal grey or black trousers/ skirt/ pinafore dress● Light blue short sleeved polo shirt
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Navy V-neck jumper/sweatshirt/ cardigan● Charcoal grey or black trousers/ shorts or skirt/ pinafore dress● Light blue short sleeved polo shirt● Blue gingham dress
Sports kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Light blue PE shirt available● Navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms/leggings● Trainers (not plimsolls) <p>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.</p>



Autumn Term 2025	Non-Pupil Day	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
	Non-Pupil Day	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
	First day	Thursday 4th September 2025
	Half Term	Monday 27th October - Monday 3rd November 2025 inclusive
	Non-Pupil Day	Monday 3rd November 2025
	Last day	Friday 19th December 2025
	Christmas holidays	Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026 inclusive

Spring Term 2026	First Day	Monday 5th January 2026
	Half Term	Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026
	Last day	Thursday 2nd April 2026
	Easter holidays	Friday 3rd – Friday 17th April 2026

Summer Term 2026	First day	Monday 20th April 2026
	Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
	Half term	Monday 25th May - Monday 1st June 2026 inclusive
	Non-Pupil Day	Monday 1st June 2026
	Non-Pupil Day	Tuesday 2nd June 2026
	Last day	Tuesday 21st July 2026
	Non-Pupil Day	Wednesday 22nd July 2026
	Summer holidays	Thursday 23rd July - Friday 4th September 2026 inclusive