



MUSIC MARK SCHOOL



Haytor View Community Primary School & Nursery

Belong – Learn - Thrive

Monthly Newsletter – March 2026

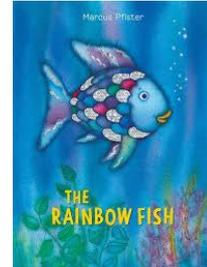
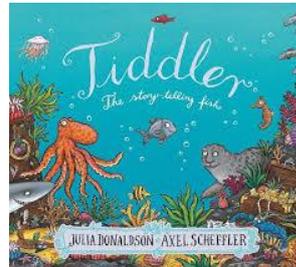
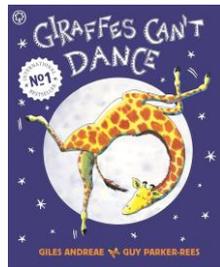
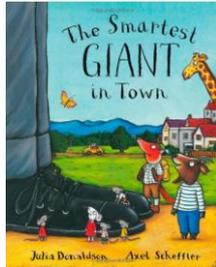
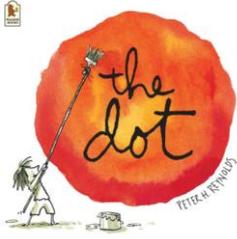


Headteacher Update



Our school vision of **'Belong – Learn – Thrive'** is our continued focus this half term. We have spent two weeks with a focus on how we show we **'belong'** at our school, including being at school, all day, every day and on time, as well as being 'ready' for learning every day by wearing our school clothes to help us focus and be careful at school. We have also been learning our new school song, which is attached so you can practise at home (warning, it's quite catchy!)

This week we have started to think about how we **stick at our learning** and make lots of effort, even when it is tough. Some stories you may wish to read at home from the library in town or your own collection, to support with our assemblies are below:



The last two weeks of term we are focusing on how we can **'thrive'** in our learning at school and outside of this. If your child has recently achieved something special in a hobby or club outside of school such as badge at Cubs or Guides, or a certificate in swimming, please let your child's teacher know so this can be shared through our Whole School assembly on Monday.

We are also keen to **share any certificates or medals/badges** at our end of week Whole School Celebration Assembly moving forward. Please let the office know if there is something we can share and all celebrate in.



Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring you are contacting the school office if your child is absent from school, we need to have updates daily due to our legal responsibility for ensuring all children are safe, learning and thriving, working in partnership between home and school.

It is an expectation that children are **at school all day, every day, and on time.**

Even a few minutes late might be over the course of a few days it adds up to a whole phonics session missed for example. Late is after the register has finished at 8.45am, unauthorised late is after 9.15am.

If you think your child is too ill for school, it is worth looking at the NHS website [here](#) for guidance and help. Any questions, please ask at the office or speak to Miss Caton. Remember, if your child feels better by lunchtime, they can come in for an afternoon session.

If you require any support with attendance, please let us know. We are now able to give **prescribed medications** as well as over the counter medicines such as paracetamol (Calpol) or antihistamines (Piriton). If you are able to donate any unopened and in date Calpol or liquid paracetamol please let us know. Permissions will be needed for this.

Please see our Attendance Policy online for more information.

Staffing update

I am sorry to share that a member of our Learning Partner Team, Ms Maegan Blank, is leaving us for pastures new. We'd all like to thank Miss Blank for the hard work and support she has shown to the school and wish her luck in the future.



I have written previously about moving as much as possible towards consistent class cover and am delighted to share that Mrs Tracey Lawrence will be providing consistent Y6 cover to release Miss Shopland for SEND work in KS2 and planning for Y6s. Mr Randall will be carrying out SEND work across EYFS and KS1 as well as a wider Inclusion role.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Jo Parsons who has been providing consistent cover in Y1, and Miss Tara Foreman who has been providing cover in Y3.

Furry or Feathered Friends Update

Our school council are very keen to extend the role of pets within school to help support learning, regulation and therapeutic approaches across the school. As you know, having pets comes with a big responsibility for daily, all year-round care and support, including the initial and ongoing costs. As we explore what we may add to our Haytor View family, it would be good to know if there is support within the school community to allow this to happen.

If you live locally to the school, and/or would like to support the care and up-keep of any pets and could be available at weekends or holidays on a rota, please let the office know or send a message through Arbor.



Wrap Around Care and Nursery Consultation

I wanted to give advance notice of a communication that will be sent out to consult with you about the need within the community for Breakfast and After School provision, as well as what the need is for Nursery provision. If you have any thoughts or feedback on this, it would be wonderful to hear your views to represent as full a picture of what the families we serve need so that we can plan for the future.

Safety and Settled Starts

I would like to reassure families after recent local concerns, that keeping **all children safe** within school is our number one priority. This means that we are planning additional fencing and access protocols to the school site. I will write just before we break up for Easter with more details.

In the meantime, to ensure a **safe and settled** start to the day, could we encourage as many children as possible to independently enter the classrooms from the courtyard each morning ready to learn and be settled. This way we can monitor more carefully who is accessing the school site and classrooms, as we have adults on the main school gate, teachers at the classroom doors, and then adults can drop off and ensure swift and successful goodbyes and start to the day. If you would like support as your child is struggling staff are very happy to assist, especially Miss Caton on the school gate.

Increase to School Meals

Just to let you know that the price of meals will increase to £2.80 as of the start of the Summer Term.

Connect Trust and Governors Updates

'It has been a pleasure being in school in the past weeks and getting to know the children. Please feel free to come and say hello when I am out on the gate with Mrs Hepher.'

Mrs Sarah Ryder, School Improvement Leader

'I've now met with the Chairs of Governors of all other Connect schools. This will pave the way for better communication and cooperation between our governors and the Boards of the other schools, sharing ideas and strategies which will help our school achieve better governance.'

Mr Robert Doets, Chair of Governors

Welcome to the Team

As you may have seen on our Facebook page, we would like to introduce you to three newest members of our Haytor View family:



Nina Caton (Family Support Worker)

Hello, I'm Nina Caton the New Family Support Worker at Haytor View. It has been lovely to meet many families at the school so far. My background is working within Children's Services but I'm very excited to be here working at the school. I am a Mum and have two dogs called Pumpkin and Todd. I love horse riding, walking on the moors and anything to do with the National Trust.

If you need any support with anything at all then you can reach me at the school gates in the morning and in the afternoon, also in the School Office. I look forward to meeting you all.



Iain Randall (Inclusion Lead)

I am excited to be joining the team as Inclusion Lead, and will be providing support to staff in the areas of attendance, behaviour, safeguarding and SEND. I have worked as an adviser to lots of different schools, and have already enjoyed getting to know the pupils, families and staff of Haytor View.

My usual working days are Mondays and Fridays, and I can be contacted via the office. Outside of school I am kept busy with our five children and a part-time role in a church.



John-Paul Sharman (Senior Leader)

I qualified for teaching in 2002 after attending Bath Spa University. Started my career at Highweek Primary before moving to Bradley Barton. I have taught every primary year group and have a love for science and outdoor learning. I moved to Cockington in 2015 to be an assistant head and then became the deputy after 4 years. You will see me around school coaching staff and with my dog Merlot.

I have an amazing wife and 2 wonderful teenage children along with 2 dogs. We fill our time with dog walks, the children's hobbies, camping and fishing!

World Book Day 2026

World Book Day was a wonderful celebration of stories, imagination, and the joy of reading across our school. The day was filled with excitement as children arrived dressed as their favourite book characters, bringing beloved stories to life in the most creative ways. From classic heroes and magical creatures to modern favourites, the costumes were fantastic and showed just how much our pupils enjoy reading.



Throughout the day, children had the opportunity to share their favourite books with others across different classes. Pupils visited younger and older classes to read stories, talk about why they love their chosen books, and recommend titles to their friends. It was lovely to see the enthusiasm as children confidently shared their stories and listened to others.

These shared reading sessions created a warm and supportive atmosphere where pupils could celebrate books together. Older pupils enjoyed reading to younger children, while younger pupils were inspired by new stories and characters they had not discovered before.

World Book Day reminded us all how powerful reading can be. Books allow us to explore new worlds, meet interesting characters, and develop our imagination. Most importantly, they bring people together through a shared love of stories.



A big thank you to all the children, families, and staff who helped make the day such a success. We look forward to continuing our reading adventures throughout the year.

Author Visit Inspires Young Readers and Writers

Pupils across the school were delighted to welcome storyteller and author Anne Parson for a special visit filled with stories, creativity, and inspiration.

Throughout the day, Anne visited classes from Year 1 to Year 6, sharing her love of storytelling and talking about the books she has written. Each session was lively and engaging as she brought stories to life and encouraged pupils to use their imagination when reading and writing.

Anne also spoke to the children about her **journey to** becoming an author, explaining how her ideas turn into stories and eventually into books. Pupils were fascinated to learn about the writing process, how characters are created, and the importance of creativity and perseverance when following your dreams.



The sessions gave pupils the opportunity to ask questions, learn about storytelling, and gain inspiration for their own writing. Many children left the sessions excited to read more books and even try writing their own stories.

It was a wonderful experience for the whole school and a fantastic opportunity for pupils to meet a real author and storyteller.

Book Purchases

If you would like to purchase one of Anne Parson's books, please speak to the school office for more information.

We would like to thank Anne for spending the day with us and inspiring our young readers and writers.



Premier Education - Easter Holiday Club



We are pleased to share that Premier Education will once again be running their **Easter Holiday Club** at Haytor View this year.

The club will run from **Monday 13th April to Thursday 16th April** and will provide a range of fun activities to keep children active and engaged during the school holidays. Sessions will include games, sports, and creative activities led by experienced staff.

There will be **two options available** for families:

- A **paid holiday club** open to all children.
- A **free club for children who are in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM)**.

This is always a popular opportunity for pupils to stay active, have fun with friends, and enjoy a variety of exciting activities during the Easter break.

If you would like to **sign your child up** or need **help with the booking process**, please **speak to the school office**, who will be happy to support you.

We look forward to another fantastic holiday club!

Mental Health Support Team Workshops

It has been wonderful to have the Mental Health Support Team in the school working with groups of children across Key Stage Two. In these sessions, the team are supporting children to understand how to recognise their emotions and manage their friendships. The children enjoyed their time with Amanda and Debra during these short sessions. We will have more sessions alongside the Mental Health Support Team throughout this term, with whole-class and group sessions offered as part of our wider curriculum offer.

If you feel your child would benefit from 1:1 support from the Mental Health Support Team to manage their emotions, anxiety and behavioural responses, please speak with your child's class teacher, who can support you in understanding the referral process required for 1:1 support.



Torbay Music Festival 2026!

When: Friday 13th March 2026

11am - 12pm

Where: Haytor View - Hall

Running order:

Class/Group	Timings
Welcome	11:00am-11:05am
Kip's 8 Musical Children	11:05am-11:40am
Year 3 Children	11:40am-11:50am
Year 4 Children	11:50am-12:00am

Please ensure you arrive promptly for an 11am start!

We look forward to seeing you there.

Miss Jacobs

Family Support Drop-In Sessions

We are pleased to share that our Family Support Worker (FSW), Miss Nina Caton, will be holding a weekly **Meet and Greet / drop-in** session for parents and carers in MEET every Friday after the school assembly.

This is a relaxed and welcoming opportunity for families to stop by, have a chat, and access support or advice if needed. Whether you would like to ask a question, discuss any concerns, or simply connect with other parents and carers, everyone is welcome.

MEET will be open from 9:30am – 10:30am, with tea and coffee available, providing a friendly space to talk and share.

These sessions are informal and there is **no need to book**—just drop in after assembly if you would like to join us.

We look forward to welcoming you.



Nut Free School

Our school is now a **nut-free environment**. This is because some members of our school community have **severe nut allergies**, and even small traces of nuts within the air or contacted through food packaging (e.g. cereal boxes), can cause a serious allergic reaction.

To help keep everyone safe, we kindly ask that **no foods containing nuts** are brought into school. This includes items such as peanut butter, nut-based chocolate spreads, cereal bars containing nuts, or snacks that list nuts as an ingredient. When preparing packed lunches or snacks, please check the ingredient labels carefully to ensure that the items are nut-free. This small step can make a big difference in protecting the health and wellbeing of others.

We greatly appreciate your support and understanding in helping us maintain a safe environment for all pupils and staff. If you are unsure about any food items, please feel free to speak to the school office.



Reminder: School Uniform and Jewellery

We would like to remind families about the importance of children wearing the correct school uniform each day. Wearing the correct uniform helps create a sense of belonging, pride, and identity within our school community, helping children feel part of the school and ready to learn.

If families need support, spare school uniform, including jumpers, are available from our clothing unit near reception. If you would like some help finding the right size or taking any of the clothing/shoes etc, please ask Miss Caton or the school office.

Please also note that jewellery is not permitted in school, with the exception of small stud earrings. For PE lessons, stud earrings must be removed for health and safety reasons. If children are unable to remove their earrings themselves, tape will be provided to cover them during the lesson.

If children arrive at school wearing necklaces, bracelets, or rings, they will be kindly asked to remove them and hand them to a member of staff for safe keeping in an envelope. These items will then be **returned** to parents or carers at the end of the school day.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a safe and consistent environment for all pupils.



Facebook

Just a reminder that we now have a new Facebook page where we will be sharing events, reminders, and updates about all the exciting things happening at Haytor View Primary School.



Please follow our page **Haytor View Community Primary School and Nursery** to keep up to date with school news, notices, and upcoming events.

We look forward to connecting with you online!

KEY DATES

March

Thursday 12 th	West End in School (Pinocchio Workshop) performance at 2.30pm in the School Hall
Friday 13 th	Torbay Music Festival (at school) for Y3/4 & KS2 11.30am in the School Hall Mother's Day Daffodil Sale
Monday 16 th	Y6 Parents and Carers Information Session after school
Wednesday 18 th	Haytor View Music Festival afternoon in the School Hall
Friday 20 th	Devon Schools Sports Partnership Impact Day Red Nose Day (50p+ donation for Comic Relief, children can have their nose painted red on the gate) Premier Education KS2 intra-gymnastics competition
Friday 27 th	Odyssey Class Trip for Years 3 – 5
Tuesday 31 st	Easter Craft Afternoon HTV Bake Off and Cake Sale

April

Wednesday 1 st	Easter Church Service School Spring Disco (<i>no mobile phones please</i>) LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM
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Thursday 2nd April to Friday 17th April – Easter Holidays

Monday 20th All children return to school for first day of Summer Term

May

Monday 11th SATs Week for Y6