## **Sacred Heart RC Nursery & Primary School**



7th March 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

We started off this busy book themed week with a visit from author, Jennifer Davey. Jennifer presented a lovely assembly sharing not only her self-published book but her journey as an author. The children had a Q&A at the end with some thoughtful and insightful questions being asked. It motivated some of our children to try their hand at becoming authors themselves. I have lost count of the stories I have been shown by children using their own personal notebooks and self-made books. You will have



received a letter home with details on how to purchase Chloe and the Bright Idea.



The sun shone on World Book Day this year making the grand opening of The Sacred Garden extra special. I enjoyed spending lunchtime in our new quiet area, reading and playing games with the children. This resource is going to be a great asset to the lunchtimes. It provides an area away from the physical activities on the playground with the option of reading, drawing, small game play or just cosying up with a friend. Thank you to Seth and Esme for their help in setting up and monitoring the resources. We aim to open the garden fully on dry days. We are deeply thankful for all the sponsors who made the completion possible, providing us with money to purchase the sturdy tables and benches which although pricey were carefully chosen for their

robustness. The furniture is made from sustainable materials so we are helping the planet and each item comes with a 25 year warranty.





Thank you for the effort put into World Book Day this year. I have never seen so many fabulous and diverse costumes, many inspired from class novels and texts. The staff had the remit to dress as a character from one of the focus books on their class reading spine. This led to some tricky ones to guess but the children were able to identify them in the whole school assembly. I talked a lot about books and a love of reading in assembly, being something we are passionate about as a school. We discussed barriers to reading for pleasure and when I asked for pupils to be honest about who STILL doesn't like reading, we were impressed that only five hands went up (don't worry we'll keep working on those five). There has been a clear shift over the past few years as clearly evidenced in our well above national KS2 reading data (94% in 2024 with 74% as the national average). This makes us proud as a school that our pupils leave Sacred Heart with this vital skill ready to take on secondary school but it makes us even prouder that we have so many pupils who simply LOVE to read. I'll add some photos to Facebook later but in the meantime, here's some shots of yesterday.















## **Staffing**

Mrs Diana Taylor was successful in a full-time post which has led to her teaching across the whole school from Nursery through to Year Six. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Compton-Stewart to the Sacred Heart teaching team who will be covering the tail end of Miss Hartley's maternity cover through to the end of July.

Our teaching students, Mr Goddard and Miss Murray, who have been working in Y2 since Christmas, have moved into Y3 for the rest of this term on Thursdays and Fridays. After Easter, they will join us for a four-week block and be in school every day.

## **Parent Consultations**

Thank you to all the parents who have made it into school to see their child's class teacher this week. We had a bit of a blip with one of Y3s due to Mrs Flintham not being available. We have set a new date for this as **Monday 17**<sup>th</sup> **March 2025.** If you are able to stick with the time you were given for the original meeting, that would be most helpful but if you cannot make the time following the change of date, please contact Mrs Glew to rearrange.

### E-Schools

As you are aware, we ceased using the Teachers2Parents communication platform last week. Thank you to everyone who has signed up for E-Schools and downloaded the app on their personal devices. Once everyone is signed up, it will make significant savings to the school budget as texts and emails sent to the app are non-chargeable for the school. Unfortunately, if parents do not download the app, each text home costs us money and inevitably, it is the children who miss out. Please sign up if you can. Every parent has had a personal letter with their details and multiple reminders. If you have lost your letter or need some help with signing up, please contact the school office. They will support you with your login detail.

## **Mastering Number Parent Programme**

The parent programme starts next week at Sacred Heart with **Y2 parents and children being** the first to participate. This workshop will be led by our maths leader, Mrs Bird and Miss Sloggett. We are hoping for a full turn out with every child having a parent (or delegate) to work alongside. The first part will be for parents on their own with the children joining for the second part. It will be a hands on, no threat fun afternoon, learning more about how our youngest children learn and develop their maths skills and knowledge. This will take place on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March in the school hall at 2pm.** A google form will be going out on Monday (if it hasn't already) for you to sign up and share who will be working with your child.

Y1s takes place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and Reception's on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming you into school.

Have a lovely weekend.

Nichola Day

**Executive Headteacher** 

# What's on at Sacred Heart SPRING/SUMMER TERM 2025



Tues 11th: Science Day (As part of National Science Week)

Thurs 13th: Mastering Number Y2 Parent Workshop 2pm

(Mrs Bird/Miss Sloggett)

Thurs 13th Y6 Outdoor Education at Paignton Academy

Mon 17<sup>th</sup>- Mon 24th Scholastic Book Fair

Wed 19th: 'Switched On' Workshop – British Rail (KS2)

Wed 19th: Mastering Number Y1 Parent Workshop 2pm (Mrs Bird/Mrs Good)

Thurs 20th: Y4 Outdoor Education at Paignton Academy

Thurs 20th: 'Switched On' Workshop EYFS/KS1

Fri 21st: Comic Relief Red Nose Day

Wed 26th Mastering Number YR Parent Workshop 2pm (Mrs Bird/Mrs Pancott)

Thurs 27th/Fri 28th: Y3 Pixie Holt

Thurs 27th Y2 Outdoor Education at Paignton Academy

Tues 1st: Bikeability Assembly

4th: Break up for the Easter holidays

Fri 18<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday

Sun 21st: Easter Sunday

Mon 21st Bank Holiday Monday

Tues 22<sup>nd</sup>: Back to school – Summer term.

Mon 28th: Level 1 bikeability





Thurs 1st: Y3 Cricket Festival at Paignton Academy

Mon 5th: Bank holiday

Tues 6<sup>th-</sup> Thurs 8<sup>th</sup>: L2 Bikeability (Y5)

12th-15th KS2 SATs week

23rd: Break up for half term holidays

2<sup>nd</sup> INSET Day

3<sup>rd</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>: Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

9th-13th: Y1 Phonics Screening

3rd Back to school

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>-Wed 25<sup>th</sup>: Y6 to Osmington Bay, Dorset.





3rd: Y6 Diocesan Mass (Exeter)

14th-17th: Y6 Bikeability

23rd Y6 Leavers' celebration

25th Break up for summer

## Contacting your child's teacher

Nursery: Mrs Berry berry@shrcps.org

YR: Mrs Gascoyne gascoyne@shrcps.org

Y1: Mrs Good <a href="mailto:lgood@shrcps.org">lgood@shrcps.org</a>

Y2: Miss Sloggett sloggett@shrcps.org

Y3: Mrs Flintham / Mrs Glew flintham@shrcps.org / glew@shrcps.org

Y4: Mr Mason jmason@shrcps.org

**Y5:** Mrs Whitmore/Mrs Taylor whitmore@shrcps.org / taylor@shrcps.org

Y6: Mrs Bird bird@shrcps.org

Executive Head Teacher	Mrs Day	day@shrcps.org
Senior Administrator	Mr O'Kane	senioradmin@shrcps.org
Administrator	Mrs Macdonald	admin@shrcps.org
Administrator	Mrs Garside	garside@shrcps.org
Inclusion Team		
Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Day	day@shrcps.org
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Nott	nott@shrcps.org
Deputy SENCO	Mrs Nott	nott@shrcps.org
Support Team		
Play Therapist	Jane Doidge	doidge@shrcps.org
Family Support Worker	Rachel Ripley	rachel@attendance-solutions.co.uk
Attendance Officer	Natalie Black	natalie@attendance-solutions.co.uk
1	<u> </u>	



To Parents and Carers of all Children Sacred Heart RC Primary School Please reply to: Sarah Green

Lower Ground Floor Town Hall, Torquay TQ1 3DR

My ref: SG/SD

Your ref:

Telephone: 01803 207678 Fax: 01803 207670

E-mail: highways@torbay.gov.uk Website: www.torbay.gov.uk Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

#### School Crossing Patrol for Sacred Heart RC Primary School ~ Southfield Road

The School Crossing Patrol on Southfield Road will be leaving after February Half Term. Therefore, we are looking to recruit someone for this very rewarding role which benefits the school and is appreciated by the whole community.

The times for this site are: 0820-0905 (45 mins) and 1500-1545 (45 mins) = 1 hour 30 minutes each day, which includes 5 minutes setting up time, either side of the patrol duty.

The starting pay rate is £11.59 per hour, which is approximately £3800 per year equating to £316 per month (over 12 months).

We will provide everything in the way of uniform, training and support - no special experience or qualifications are necessary, although clearance with the Disclosure and Barring Service (previously CRB) will be required and which we will pay for.

Do you know someone who might like to take on this very rewarding role - what about a relative or neighbour who lives in the area? It really is one of the most rewarding part-time jobs!

If you would like to find out more information, please call me on 01803 207678. Further information is also available on our website www.torbay.gov.uk/crossing-patrols.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Green

School Crossing Patrol Co-ordinator

Schools and services for children and young people • social care and housing • recycling, waste disposal and clean streets • community safety • roads and transportation • town planning • tourism, harbours and economic regeneration • consumer protection and licensing • leisure, museums, libraries and arts

If you require this in a different format or language, please contact me.

# What's on...





## Dare to join a top Grammar School? It might not be as hard as you think...

If your son will be in Year 6 in September 2025, you can now register to take the entrance tests for Torquay Boys' Grammar School. We're excited to welcome our next potential students!

The tests will be on Saturday, 20 September 2025 and they have been thoughtfully-designed to cover the Maths and English that your son has been learning at primary school. No extra tutoring is needed - just bring your enthusiasm.



### **Additional Support for Pupil Premium Students**

We believe every child should have a chance to shine, no matter their background. That's why we're excited to team up with Atom Learning: the leading platform for the entrance tests. If your child qualifies for Pupil Premium, they can access a fantastic free online programme to help build their confidence and skills for test success. It has been shown that students with a glimmer of academic potential make more

progress in schools such as TBGS, and this offer of PP support is part of our continued effort to encourage as many students as possible to consider us for secondary school.

Not eligible for Pupil Premium? You can still try Atom Learning with a free five-day trial on their website: atomlearning.com.

To apply to take the tests, complete the online registration form: tbgs.co.uk/join-us



TBGS is renowned for providing students with:

- a top-quality, rich and varied curriculum, which enables academic progress, whilst encouraging inquisitive minds;
- a wide range of extra-curricular pursuits, and sporting opportunities, contributing to developing the whole person;
- a caring environment and strong pastoral system allowing the nurturing of academic excellence of each individual.

The essence of what TBGS strives to do is captured in our clear mission to:

- enable students' enjoyment of learning for its own sake, whilst developing their creative talents to fulfil their intellectual potential;
- provide individuals with the knowledge and skills to respond to a changing world with confidence and humility;
- encourage each person to be reflective, open-minded and principled so that they can make a positive contribution to their community and the wider world.

Excellence Integrity Leadership

