

April 2026

STOKE HILL INFANT AND NURSERY



DATES

Thursday 2nd April—
Break up for Easter
Holidays

Monday 20th April—
Return to school

Thursday 30th April—
Parent pop-in for
Reception, Year 1
and Year 2

SPRING TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a busy month at Stoke Hill as you'll see from this newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading about what the children have been up to. It's been great to have lots of family members in for Year 1 assemblies and other events—thank you.

On Thursday, to celebrate the Easter holidays, the children will take part in an egg hunt and receive a small chocolate egg—thanks to the PTFA for this donation and lovely way to end the term. This month's PTFA newsletter is on page 4 of this month's newsletter—please be sure to have a good read as there are lots of exciting plans for the rest of the school year!

Tomorrow is the last day of the spring term—we break up for the holidays and return on Monday 20th April. I hope you all have a safe and happy couple of weeks and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the summer term and all the exciting learning the teachers have planned.

Best wishes,
Claire McKimm, Head of School

Stars of the week



The following children have been their class's reader, role model or learner of the week during the last month:

Readers of the week: Keira, Joshua, Lilyana, Beau (Bee), Luna, Maddie, Myla, Elia (Dragonfly), Eliza, Amelie, Baran, Presley (Ladybird), Melody, Obi, Mason, Una (Beech), Ollie, Ava, Poppy, Jerry (Oak), Nancy, Aisana, Sudais, Dougie (Willow), Oscar, Finn, Eliza, Zen (Chaffinch), Emery, Rory, Thea, Gracie (Swift), Leena, Jacob, Mei, Ruben (Woodpecker)

Role models of the week: Ptolemy, Anna, Roman, Marwah (Bee), Elia, Eli, Felix, Albert (Dragonfly), Charlie, Kian, Polly, Josie (Ladybird), Vihaan, Thea, Grace, Zaid (Beech), Jerry, Nabi, Joseph, Emma (Oak), Matilda, Dougie, Connor, Marlow (Willow), Dylan, Ayo, Alfie, Zaara (Chaffinch), Zoja, Evie G, Spencer, Leia (Swift), Callum, Gabi, Talula, Julia (Woodpecker)

Learners of the week: Lefteris, Theo, Jack, Arthur (Bee), Ava, Ralph, Marnie, Alanna (Dragonfly), Jackson, Cameron, Ibrahim, Phoebe (Ladybird), Nina, Yousef, Amelie, May (Beech), Ed, Layla, Hassan, Olive (Oak), Isla, Skylar, Ananya, Mohammed (Willow), Amelia, Dylan, Aniya, Mira (Chaffinch), Aurelia, Reuben, Martha, Amber (Swift), Joe, Rufus, Sophie, William (Woodpecker)

Greendale Trip

Reception are learning about Moving and Growing. As part of our learning, we went on a trip to Greendale Farm. We had a talk from Molly the animal keeper who talked to us about the different animals at Greendale and how they care for them. Molly told us that some baby Emus had just hatched; did you know that an emu egg is the size of 12 chicken eggs?! Despite the wind and rain, the children loved exploring the squelchy mud, finding pictures on the art trail and meeting the animals. Well done children!



Wellbeing

This month, we're focusing on simple ways families can nurture children's mental wellbeing. Small, everyday habits make a big difference. Try setting aside ten minutes each day for calm connection - reading together, chatting about the day, or enjoying a quiet activity. Encouraging children to name their feelings helps them build emotional awareness and resilience. You might ask, "What was something that made you feel proud today?" or "Was there a moment that felt tricky?"

Routine also supports a sense of safety. Keeping regular bedtimes, mealtimes, and screen-free moments helps children feel grounded. If your child seems worried, remind them that all feelings are valid and that talking about them is a strength.

For more ideas, these trusted websites offer excellent guidance:

Young Minds: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>

NHS Every Mind Matters: <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters>

Place2Be: <https://www.place2be.org.uk>

Clip n Climb

This month the fantastic Year 1 have completed their challenging trip to Clip 'n Climb. The children were learning about setting and achieving goals, managing emotions and overcoming challenges by being resilient and determined. The focus and resolve seen during the trip was incredible. As was seeing the beaming pride etched on their faces as they met their targets or even surpassed them!

Ask us what our favourite challenge was and how it made us feel.



School Office Notices and quick reminders

Parking—we have been receiving complaints about unsafe and anti-social parking around Margaret Rd at school drop off and pick up times. Please be considerate of our neighbours and help keep our community safe.

Snacks—your child's snack should be fruit/veg/cheese only. We are a no nut and sesame school and crisps are not allowed unless in a packed lunch.

Before school—please respect the start time and wait by the gates until 8.40am. The playground is available for children to play, supervised by you.

Water—drinks bottles should only contain water unless agreed otherwise for medical purposes.

After school—a reminder, please that there should be no ball games on the playground before or after school



World Book Day

What an amazing effort with World Book Day costumes this year! We loved spending a day reading, sharing stories and talking about books.





STOKE HILL PTFA

NEWSLETTER

April 2026



We've had another fantastic term for the PTFA, thank you to everyone who has helped out and taken part!

We enjoyed a fantastic quiz night with quiz master Pete. It was such a success we've got another one in the diary - look out for the ticket release email.

We've also welcomed Rebecca to the PTFA team as our new treasurer!

May 15th - Juniors Spring Disco

May 21st - Juniors cake sale, ice pops and uniform sale

June 4th - Bag2School collection

June 5th - Grown ups quiz night

June 27th - Summer Fair & Colour Run

Plus cake sales every **Friday** at infant school

A Big Thank You to...



St Bridget's Nurseries who kindly donated gardening equipment to the infant school!



INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED IN THE PTFA?

Contact us at stokehillptfa@gmail.com we'd love to hear from you!

Support us through **easyfundraising**



CLICK HERE

Next meeting is April 30th @ 13.30 at The Infant school

Easter Holidays in Exeter from visitexeter.com

There's lots of fun, and educational activities taking place at [RAMM](#) (Royal Albert Memorial Museum) over Easter. Explore the galleries at your own pace using augmented reality technology on tablets, with *Time Odyssey*, get creative with LEGO building sessions, and journey through the mists of time in *Future Fossils*.

Visit [Exeter Cathedral](#) during the Easter holidays (7th - 17th April) for a celebration of springtime creativity and [Easter Holiday Family Activities](#). Come along and enjoy hands-on craft, including *Leaf and Flower Pounding Prints*, *Willow Weave Fishes*, and *Mini-Lantern Making*.

A great way to explore the city and discover its rich history is with a daily, free [Red Coat Guided Tour](#) which set off from Cathedral Green. These fantastic tours don't need to be booked and will give you a local's insight into Exeter's fascinating past, visiting an array of places on route. For something completely different then head beneath the city streets and join a guided tour of Exeter's [Underground Passages](#), the only ones of their type in the UK. Narrow, dark and exciting, they make for a truly memorable experience and great fun whatever the weather.

For theatrical minds then over at [Exeter Phoenix](#) imaginative young people are invited to create a stage play with award winning PaddleBoat Theatre Company. This year's theme is 'The history of silly sayings!' and at the end of the week, friends and family will be welcomed to the Exeter Phoenix to watch the children perform their own version of the classic pirate adventure story. There's also the opportunity to Star in Your Own Superhero Movie and join a Mexican art workshop to show off your creative flair.

Get ready for an egg-stra special Easter adventure at [Crealy Theme Park and Resort!](#) Join the South West's #1 family day out for a giant Easter Egg Hunt, where little explorers can search high and low for hidden eggs and win exciting prizes. Enjoy live entertainment, plus plenty of Easter surprises along the way!

From 3rd April to 23 May, families can enjoy a brand-new Augmented Reality Bug Trail at Powderham. Using a digital "Bug Passport", explore the grounds, uncover pollination secrets and spot AR butterflies and bees. The trail takes between 20 to 60 minutes and is included in your Powderham admission ticket.

At [The Donkey Sanctuary](#) follow the Easter Nature Trail around the sanctuary to discover what animals (besides donkeys) you could find living in the various habitats located across our land to claim a tasty Easter treat on completion. This entertaining Easter activity combines family fun, exercise and brainpower, and you'll be rewarded with an Easter egg on completion.

Little ones love a train journey and if you fancy a day out by the water, while leaving the car behind, regular GWR services depart from Exeter Central and Exeter St David's rail stations. Sit back and soak up the views along one of the country's most beautiful railway journeys for a day trip to the seaside towns of Dawlish and Teignmouth. Alternatively, take in the sights of the River Exe on the way to Exmouth where you can set sail with [Stuart Line Cruises](#) and enjoy a tour of our stunning coastline and wildlife. If you're feeling adventurous and wild, then pack your walking boots for an outing up to Dartmoor. Check out '[Sea Moor City](#)' rail itineraries for lots of great day trip ideas and itineraries.