



# Modbury Primary School Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025



[www.modburyprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.modburyprimaryschool.co.uk)

<https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Hams-Federation-61556768462697>

<https://www.instagram.com/southhamsfederation2025/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful festive end to the term. The Year 3 and 4 children put on a fabulous performance with our new stage lights adding some extra sparkle. We ended the week with a fabulous carol service in the church with lots of wonderful singing and a retelling of the Christmas story. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope you all have a wonderful break. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> of January.



## **Achieve4All – After Half Term – NEW LINK BELOW FOR JANUARY (Spring 1)**

If your child would like to join/continue this Multi-Sports club on a Wednesday after school – 3.30pm-4.30pm, please follow the new link below to book.

Modbury	Wednesday	KS1+2 Multi Sports Club	<a href="https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/achieve4all-multi-sports-club-ks12-modbury-wednesday-ivybridge-fe504e4d-f52f-4a64-8f05-aec7424ffbe7">https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/achieve4all-multi-sports-club-ks12-modbury-wednesday-ivybridge-fe504e4d-f52f-4a64-8f05-aec7424ffbe7</a>
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If you have any queries or questions you can contact them on: [info@achieve4all.co.uk](mailto:info@achieve4all.co.uk)

### **Plymouth Argyle’s Y2 – Y6 Football After School Club - CANCELLED**

Unfortunately, due to low numbers since September and the coach/transport costs not being met, Argyle have advised that they are not able to continue this club into the New Year.

We are hoping to revisit this and have a new club set up for the summer term.

**[Diary Dates - New dates in bold](#)**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Term starts for Pupils  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January – M&M Productions – Snow White!



**Stars of the Week**



This week, all our children have been stars!

**'Wake up Wednesday'**

This online safety guide examines the TikTok app, highlighting risks such as inappropriate content, data misuse, addictive use, and stranger contact.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

**AGE RESTRICTION 13+**  
(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**  
Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

**AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

**CONTACT WITH STRANGERS**  
Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

**BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES**  
Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

**MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION**  
TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

**IN-APP SPENDING**  
TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

**ADDICTIVE DESIGN**  
TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

**ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING**  
Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

**BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING**  
Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

**DISCUSS THE DANGERS**  
If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

**READ THE SIGNS**  
If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.

**#WakeUpWednesday**  
The National College

See full reference list on our website

X @wake\_up\_weds    f /www.thenationalcollege    @wake.up.wednesday    @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 26.11.2025

*Louise Nicholls*      *T. Coulthard*

**Louise Nicholls**  
Head of School

**Mrs T Coulthard**  
Executive Head Teacher

**PTFA News**

## **Christmas Fair – a message from the PTFA**

Dear all

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped with the planning, selling and buying at the school Christmas Fair last week. The year 6s especially enjoyed running their stands and we were delighted to see plenty of reindeer food made, biscuits iced and sooo much chocolate won in the tombola. All raffle prize winners have been notified; please collect your prizes from the school office. We made a whopping **£647.90** which will help to subsidise school trips, pay for school parties and treats and put towards longer term projects like the outdoor classroom, that will help to enhance our kids experience at Modbury Primary School.

We're always on the look out for more people to get involved. If you fancy taking a greater part in these fun activities at school, please email [modburyptfa@southhamsfederation.org.uk](mailto:modburyptfa@southhamsfederation.org.uk)

Have a fantastic Christmas and we'll be back in the New Year!

Many thanks, PTFA team x

## **The fabulous Friday Cake Stand**

Today was the last Friday Cake Stand - Thank you everyone for your support!

*19 Dec | None - Last day of term*

## **Community News**

**A festive gift from Fusion to  
our community...**

**ONE DAY  
FREE  
PASS**

Scan the QR  
code, pop in  
your details &  
your pass will  
be on it's way!

**GYM OR  
SWIM PASS**  
*the choice is yours!*



With six centres to  
choose from across  
Devon...

Dartmouth Leisure Centre  
Ivybridge Leisure Centre  
Meadowlands Leisure Centre  
Parklands Leisure Centre  
Quayside Leisure Centre  
Totnes Leisure Centre



# Generations Together

## Building Bonds Across All Ages

**A warm, welcoming space for mums, their neurodivergent children (siblings welcome), and women in later life**

**A space where:**

- Children play, explore & feel understood
- Mums feel treasured & never alone
- Women in later life are valued & included
- Every voice is heard, every story matters
- A time to connect within the generations

**When: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 4-5.30pm**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 4-5.30pm**

**Where: Tumbly Hill Wellbeing Hub**

**Cost: £5 per adult, £7.50 per family**

**Join us for connection, joy & empowerment  
across the generations**

**Email: [hello@nextstepstogether.org.uk](mailto:hello@nextstepstogether.org.uk)**

**Phone: 01548 853033**

**WhatsApp: 07527061115**

Open until  
Midday on  
Christmas Eve  
(and open again  
on the 29th Dec)



6 Mill Street, Kingsbridge

- \* Gift Vouchers \* Art Space \* Parties \*
- \* Stocking Fillers \* Decopatch \* Face-painting \*
- \* Family time \* Entertain the kids \*
- \* Adult Evenings on request \*

**Book online at...**

**[paperbirdisland.bookwhen.com](http://paperbirdisland.bookwhen.com)**

\*10% off models if you're wearing  
a Christmas Jumper or Christmas themed outfit.

**Enter our...**

**Christmas Drawing Competition**

**'Draw a Christmas Bird'**

(Has to be handed in on an A4 sheet of paper  
by Tuesday 30th at 3.30pm)

Paper Bird Island Goody Bag to be won.

Free to enter!

*...and for Paper Bird Island Birthday Parties...*

**Enquire now...**

**[paperbirdisland@gmail.com](mailto:paperbirdisland@gmail.com)**

Swim School Offer at Ivybridge & Totnes Leisure Centres



**FLASH SALE**

Fusion Leisure Centres  
- All Devon Sites

Join our Swim School today and  
get the rest of the year for FREE\*

<https://www.fusion-lifestyle.com/centres/ivybridge-leisure-centre/>

# MODBURY & SURROUNDING VILLAGES



# ENERGY FAIR

*Looking to future-proof your home, lower your bills or to generate your own cleaner, greener energy? Come along for impartial energy advice and stalls from a range of local installers.*

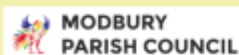
**Sat  
17th Jan**

**1 - 4pm**

-  **Reduce energy costs**
-  **Renewable energy options**
-  **Learn about retrofit**
-  **Access expert advice**
-  **Improve warmth & comfort**
-  **Grants and funding**
-  **Kids activity table**

**QEII  
Pavilion  
Modbury**

**FREE!**  
Drop-in event,  
tea & cake



# Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born  
between 1 September 2021  
and 31 August 2022?



Apply online at:  
[devon.cc/admissionsonline](https://devon.cc/admissionsonline)

or scan the QR code. Applications open from  
**15 November 2025** to the **15 January 2026**

If you can't access the school  
admissions website you can get  
more information by emailing  
[admissions@devon.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@devon.gov.uk) or  
call our Education Helpline on:

**0345 155 1019**



You must apply through the Admissions  
Team, even if you've already given details  
to a school. Applications made directly to  
schools or on their lists will not be accepted.



## High 5 Christmas 2025



Parents, need a little time to catch up, wrap presents, or simply prepare for the magic of Christmas?

We've got you covered!  
High 5 is bringing festive fun to a venue near you on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd December!

Our open locations include **Widey, China Fleet, Mount Kelly, Stowford, and St Mary's**—all ready to give your children an unforgettable time packed with activities, laughter, and festive excitement. While your children are busy having fun, you can enjoy **guilt-free childcare** and a little well-earned breathing space. Even better—if you're eligible for **Tax-Free Childcare**, you can use it to pay for their place!



**Don't delay—book today before spaces disappear!**

We can't wait to celebrate the festive season with you and your children.

Quick booking link for the Stowford venue: <https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps?season=3724444>

**AWARDED**  
★ BEST CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY PROVIDER IN THE SOUTH WEST  
★ BEST SUMMER CAMP IN SOUTH WEST

# HIGH 5 CHRISTMAS CRACKER CAMP

**22<sup>ND</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2025**  
**@STOWFORD SCHOOL**

This **Christmas** our camps will offer action packed days filled with coached sports and an **Xtra Activities** programme guaranteed to get everyone into the festive spirit. Make sure you join us for our very special **Xmas Fancy Dress Pyjama Party**, a celebration to end another epic year of camps - not to be missed!!

### MONDAY

**FESTIVE FUN & TEAM CHALLENGES**  
Buddy the Elf's Xmas Eve Box  
Tennis  
Snowball Dodgeball  
★ **HIGH 5: The Traitors** ★  
(Ages 8+)  
Football  
Wet Welly Search & Rescue  
(bring wet-weather gear & wellies!)

### TUESDAY

**\*PYJAMA FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL**  
**WINTER SPORTS & CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY**  
Snowboarding with Elfy J  
Includes balance skills session  
Ice Hockey  
Crimbo Arts  
Festive Nerf Wars  
★ **Pyjama Dance Party** ★  
with Inflatables

BOOK NOW @  
Ofsted REGISTERED  
[www.high5sportscamps.co.uk](http://www.high5sportscamps.co.uk)  
FIND US ON:  
YouTube Facebook Instagram