



Modbury Primary School Newsletter Friday 23rd January 2026



www.modburyprimaryschool.co.uk

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

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wet and blustery week we have had! Although the children have not been able to play outside as much, they have still had some creative playtimes and have enjoyed talking to each other and spending time together. We do get the children out as much as possible so please do send them with suitable outdoor clothing - waterproof coats etc.

Reception Class

This week, our Reception children enjoyed exploring how to build an igloo using sugar cubes, following a fun challenge set by Mrs Ratcliffe. The children talked about their ideas, carefully chose where to place each sugar cube, and worked hard to make their igloos stand up. Some igloos fell down at first, but the children didn't give up — they tried again, helped each other, and felt very proud of their creations. This activity supported learning through play and encouraged the children to have a go, solve problems, and celebrate their achievements.



Wassail

Today was our annual Wassail assembly where the children get to learn about this old English celebration and our Wassail Lord and Lady are crowned.

Please see below under “Community News” an important update about tomorrow’s Wassail.



Inclusion partner

This week our new Devon inclusion partner visited school to discuss our strengths and next steps. It was lovely to share the work that we have done so far and discuss what we want to accomplish over the coming months and years. It was a very positive visit and we look forward to further exploring how we can continue to improve our inclusive provision.

Diary dates

Lots of new dates have been added to the diary at the end of the newsletter so please have a look!



Year 6 SATS club – It was great to see a few more children this week! Please encourage your child to attend this club – It will be very beneficial in preparation for the SATs in May. Free biscuits are included. Next week is Oreo week!

Achieve4All – Spring Term – until February Half Term

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	https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/achieve4all-multi-sports-club-ks12-modbury-wednesday-ivybridge-fe504e4d-f52f-4a64-8f05-aec7424ffbe7
---------	-----------	-------------------------	---

If you have any queries or questions you can contact them on: info@achieve4all.co.uk

Roblox

Roblox is hugely popular with children, offering millions of user-created games and social experiences. This #WakeUpWednesday guide explains how the platform differs from traditional video games, and why its scale, self-rating system and automated moderation can expose young users to inappropriate content or unsafe interactions. It shares practical advice on parental controls, limiting chat and encouraging open conversations, helping adults support children to enjoy Roblox more safely and responsibly.

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. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as 'experiences' made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. ITV News has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it extremely difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A PLATFORM RATHER THAN A GAME

Roblox differs from traditional video games in that it hosts millions of user-created experiences rather than a fixed set of developer-produced content. Each experience is self-rated by its creator rather than independently age-rated in advance, as is the case with PEGI-rated games. With millions of user-created experiences, moderation is largely automated which means that inappropriate content may reach younger players and have a harmful effect.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox encourages repeated and extended play. Many experiences are made of short tasks, rewards, and progress systems that can prompt users to keep for longer periods of time. Some games include reminders, daily rewards, or timed events that encourage frequent logins. These design elements make it difficult to stop playing. Spending long periods online may affect sleep, schoolwork, and other activities if boundaries are not in place.

MATURE CONTENT

With much of Roblox's moderation automated through AI and creators self-certifying suitability, inappropriate content frequently appears on the platform. Some experiences may include content intended for older players. While Roblox has tools to restrict access based on age settings, these systems are not always perfect. Younger players are likely to encounter content you may deem unsuitable.

COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER USERS

Roblox includes text and voice features that allow players to chat in shared game spaces. While the platform uses automated filters and moderation tools, media investigations have found that inappropriate and potentially harmful messages can still get through. There are risks that children could be targeted by groomers. In response, Roblox has announced changes to how chat works. The platform now uses facial age-estimation technology to restrict chat access between adults and children they do not know.

IN-GAME SPENDING

Roblox is free to play, but many experiences and cosmetics include optional purchases using Robux, the platform's virtual currency, to get advantages in games. This business model is common across online games, but reporting has highlighted cases where children have spent large amounts of money unintentionally or without understanding the real-world cost.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox's parental controls provide an important starting point. Linking a child's account to an adult account allows parents to apply spending controls, limit communication features, and review recent activity. Regular supervision, use of parental controls, and conversations with children about what they see online can help reduce the risk of exposure to inappropriate content.

PLAY TOGETHER WHERE POSSIBLE

Playing Roblox with a child can help adults understand the types of experiences available, how monetisation works, and how children interact online. This shared engagement can also make it easier for children to raise concerns if something goes wrong. Parents and educators should monitor all games played on Roblox due to its self-rating nature.

CONSIDER LIMITING OR DISABLING CHAT

Although Roblox is introducing tighter age-based chat restrictions, some parents and educators may prefer to disable chat entirely for younger children. Children can still play games while communicating with friends they know through other supervised platforms.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Many Roblox experiences are creative and age appropriate, and for many children, the platform is an important way to socialise with friends. Rather than banning it outright, parents and educators should talk openly with children about online safety, spending, and how to respond to inappropriate behavior.

Meet Our Expert
#WakeUp
The

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

29th January Sports Games at ICC - Year 5 - invitation only
29th January Saltash Music Festival - Letters have gone out to those taking part
4th- 6th February Year 5 Residential
4th February - Reception children vision screening
20th March Red Nose Day - Wear red
24th March – YR & Y6 Child Measurement Programme
2nd April - Rocksteady concert 10am Time TBC
2nd April - Easter Service (afternoon) TBC
20th April Year 3 extended day trip
6th May Year 5 sailing
13th May Year 5 sailing
13th May Year 6 SATS week
3rd June Class photos
16th June Year 4 residential
24th June Year 6 residential
1st July Sports Day (am)
2nd July Year 6 transition day ICC
8th July Reserve sports day (am)
9th / 10th July Year 6 play
16th July Rocksteady Summer concert 10am (Time TBC)
17th July Leavers assembly 9.30 Time TBC

Class Assemblies

(Starting at 2.55pm TBC)

5th February Year 6
12th February Year 4
26th February Year 5
5th March Year 2
12th March Year 3
19th March Year 1
26th March Reception



Stars of the Week This week's focus - Respect



Reception – Francesca
Year 1 – Rohan
Year 2 – Erin
Year 3 – Florence
Year 4 – Max
Year 5 – Gwen
Year 6 - Seb



AR This week's highest word count...

Year 2 – Emily, Zoe, Bernie
Year 3 – George, Flo, Athene
Year 4 – Connie MT, Theo, Frankie
Year 5 – Rose, Gwen, Iris
Year 6 – Maisy, Seb, Ivy



AR This year's highest word count...

Overall - Otis 743,928

Year 2 – Emily, Louis, Barney
Year 3 – Alice, Elliot, Delilah
Year 4 – Evie, Jasper, Theo
Year 5 – Otis, Jack, Felix
Year 6 - Maisy, Seb, Tristan

TTRS **Effort**

Year 2 – Bear, Finley, Toby BP
Year 3 – Arthur, Roman, Izzi
Year 4 – Macy, Frankie, Stanley
Year 5 – Jack, Iris, Gwen
Year 6 – Ivy, Charlie, Jack

Louise Nicholls
Head of School

Mrs T Coulthard
Executive Head Teacher

PTFA News

The **Fabulous Friday Cake Stand** is back for the Spring term! Each Friday we have a table in the lower playground to sell wonderful baked creations and contributions for just **50p** per item. The money raised goes towards loads of cool stuff the PTFA support. Come along to our next meeting on **Monday 19 January from 8pm at The White Hart pub**, to find out more about what we do and how you can join in.

Here are the dates for each year group *Thank you everyone for your support!:

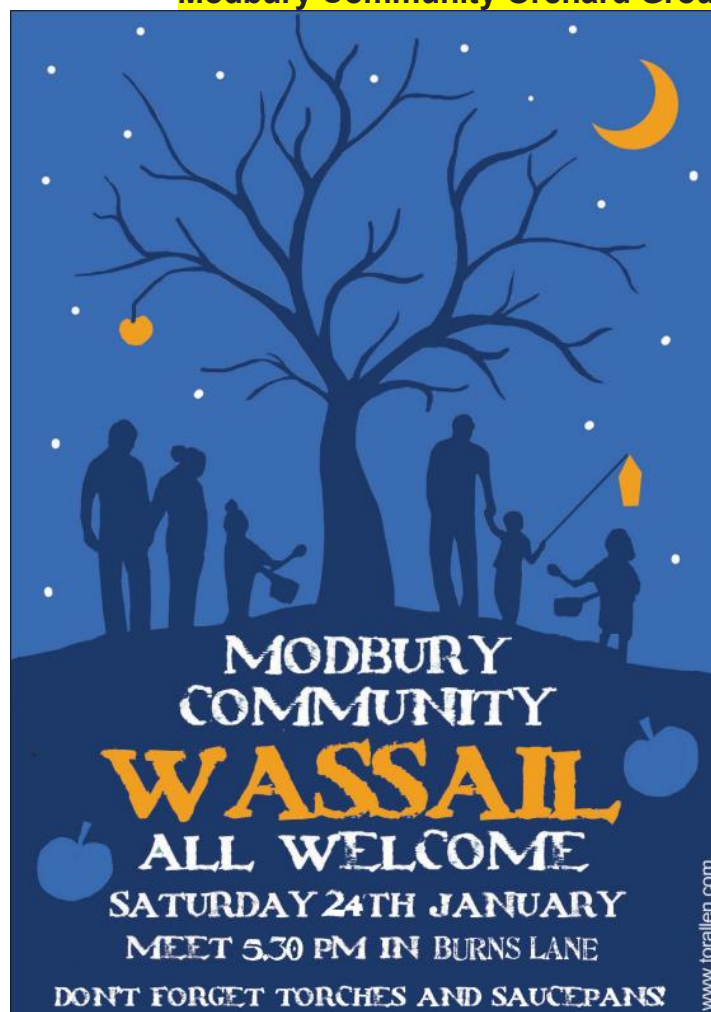
30 January | Yr 6
6 February | Yr 5
13 February | Yr 4

20 February | None as Half Term

27 February | Yr 3
6 March | Yr 2
13 March | Yr 1
20 March | Reception
27 March | Yr 6

Community News

Modbury Community Orchard Group announce a slimmed down



WET WEATHER WASSAIL

In view of the current difficult-to-predict weather conditions, the Community Orchard Group have decided to proceed with the Wassail but as a shorter and slimmed down event.

We will not be providing hot dogs but will try to provide **free** mulled apple juice.

Current Met Office weather radar suggests the rain may ease around 5:30 but we cannot be sure and there are heavier downpours predicted for the afternoon when we would normally be setting up which would make things difficult for our volunteers.

The grassy slope is already slippery and will be roped off for safety reasons. Candle jars in the trees will be more limited than usual.

Meet by the Co-Op in Burns Lane at 5:30pm and be sure to have boots, wet weather gear and torches.

We look forward to seeing our intrepid Modbury Wassailers. **Please take care.**

THE MODBURY ORCHARD GROUP TEAM

SJ Performing Arts Academy

We are delighted to invite you to join our fun, inspiring, and confidence-building **Drama Classes**

with Miss Abbie! 🎭🌟

Drama is a fantastic way for children and young people to develop **confidence, creativity, communication skills, teamwork, and self-belief**—all while having fun in a supportive and encouraging environment. Our classes are suitable for beginners and experienced performers alike.

Meet Miss Abbie:

Miss Abbie has been working in the performing arts industry for **over 10 years**, bringing a wealth of **knowledge, creativity, and inspiration** to every class. She is passionate about nurturing talent, building confidence, and helping each student reach their full potential while enjoying the process.

Class Details:



Ivybridge Methodist Church



16:30 – 17:30 | Ages 5–10



17:30 – 18:30 | Ages 11+



Special Offer



We are offering a 2-week FREE trial, starting Wednesday 21st January. To book your free trial, simply send an email to : info@sjperformingartsplymouth.co.uk

After the trial period, classes are **£27 per month** if you choose to enrol.



LAMDA Exams & Performance Opportunities

Students attending drama classes will also have the opportunity to work towards **LAMDA examinations**, a nationally recognised qualification. **LAMDA exams from Grade 6 and above carry UCAS points**, making them an excellent addition to further education applications. Students will also have the chance to **enter Drama Festivals**, giving them valuable performance experience, helping to build confidence, resilience, and stage presence.



Private Drama Lessons Available



Miss Abbie also offers **private drama lessons** for students seeking one-to-one tuition. These sessions take place **on Wednesday evenings**, are charged separately, and limited slots are available. Please reply to this email for further details or to book.

Miss Abbie is looking forward to welcoming new students into class, where creativity flourishes, confidence grows, and friendships are made. We would love for you to come along and experience the magic of drama!

Kind regards,

Sarah and Jodie

SJ Principals



Family Hub Advice &
Guidance Line, 0800
5385458

Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

'Connecting Moments' - Digital SEND Support for Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child with **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**?

Join us for **Connecting Moments** – a friendly online space designed just for you.

What's it all about?

- **Connect with other families** in a small, welcoming group
- **Share experiences and ideas**
- **Build a peer support network**

Please join us on the **27th January at 12noon**, for a **1 hour session**—to book a space please fill in the form using the QR code below, places are limited and the session will be run via Teams.



The Ambassador Volunteer Programme
Supporting Families with SEND

DIAS
Devon Information
Advice and Support
For Special Educational Needs and Disability



Devon
County Council

**BEST
START
IN LIFE**



MILLIONS OF BRICKS

CHARITY-TOMBOLA

LEGO DISPLAYS

RETIRED SETS

ACTIVITIES

07/02 SAT

PLYMOUTH BRICK FESTIVAL



**PLYMOUTH
BRICKFESTIVAL.COM**



LIFE CENTRE