



Modbury Primary School Newsletter Friday 27th February 2026



<https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Hams-Federation-61556768462697>
<https://www.instagram.com/southhamsfederation2025/>

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately, the school's Wi-Fi and telephone systems are currently not working. We are now following our planned protocols for an emergency such as this.

We are moving to an emergency phone number which is: 07934 757602

This telephone number can be answered by a member of the school team on site.

Our priority is to ensure that learning continues as smoothly as possible. Teachers have planned activities that do not rely on internet access, and pupils' routines will continue as normal. In the meantime, we ask for your patience while the issue is being resolved.

We will update you as soon as the systems are back up and running. Thank you for your understanding and support while we work to fix the problem.

The children have still had a wonderful week with Year 5 sharing their learning in their class assembly and going on a wonderful walk around the local area to inspire them to write their own version of "Where My Wellies Take Me". We are sadly unable to transfer some photos without the internet but we hope to be able to share more soon!

Piglets in Year 3!

Year 3 had a special visit from some piglets on Tuesday. They were super cute and the children loved giving them cuddles!



Achieve4All – Spring Term – *NEW* for after February Half Term

If your child would like to join/continue this Multi-Sports club on a Wednesday after school **AFTER February half term** – 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
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If you have any queries or questions you can contact them on: info@achieve4all.co.uk

Diary Dates - New dates in bold

4th March Gym and Dance Show at Loddiswell - Children involved have been contacted -Year 4 and some Year 5

World Book Day- Modbury School Book Festival **See ** for information**

- 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 - Thursdays

- (Starting at 2.55pm)
- 5th March Year 2
- 12th March Year 3
- 19th March Year 1
- 26th March Reception

WhatsApp

With its end-to-end encryption and huge popularity, WhatsApp is often seen as a private and secure way to stay in touch; however, that same privacy can make it harder for trusted adults to see when things go wrong. This guide explains how features like group chats, disappearing messages, 'Channels' and location sharing can expose young users to pressure, unwanted contact and inappropriate content.

It also looks at emerging concerns such as scams, advertising and the in-app AI assistant, helping adults understand how these elements may affect children and young people. Alongside the risks, the guide offers practical advice to support meaningful conversations, encourage safer settings and build young users' confidence in navigating WhatsApp 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 and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, allowing users to send text and voice messages, share multimedia, make video calls, and chat in groups. With end-to-end encryption, only the sender and receiver can view messages. This may offer privacy, but it also comes with risks that parents and educators need to be aware of.

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats enable multiple users to message in the same space, but this can also make it easier for young people to feel excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and young people may feel pressure to respond or stay engaged even when the conversation is uncomfortable or upsetting.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers are increasingly using WhatsApp to trick users into sharing personal information. Common scams include fraudsters posing as family members in an emergency or tricking users into revealing security codes. These can lead to identity theft or access to private conversations.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp offers features like disappearing messages and 'Chat Lock', which can give users a false sense of security. While intended to protect privacy, they can be used by young users to hide inappropriate conversations or content, making it harder for adults to spot potential issues.

EXPOSURE THROUGH CHANNELS

'Channels' are an optional feature that allows users to follow updates from public figures or organisations; however, there is no way to block this feature or filter its content by age. Young users may encounter adult or distressing content, including misinformation and harmful ideologies.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp users can share their live location, and if not managed carefully, this can allow others – even those in mutual groups – to track someone's whereabouts. Also, without the right privacy settings, young users may be contacted by strangers.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp now includes ads in the 'Updates' feed and has introduced an AI assistant – Meta AI – across the app, which cannot be removed. These additions raise concerns about targeting, privacy, AI use, and the type of content children and young people might interact with.

Advice for Parents & Educators

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Help young users check who can see their profile photo, status, and location. Activate the 'Silence Unknown Callers' setting and set group chat invitations to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...' for added safety.

TEACH HOW TO SPOT SCAMS

Encourage caution around unusual and unexpected messages, especially if they involve money or codes. Help young users understand the signs of scams and what to do if they receive a suspicious message. Enable two-step verification to add an extra layer of protection.

BE OPEN ABOUT HIDDEN CHATS

Discuss why children and young people might use features like disappearing messages or 'Chat Lock'. Encourage them to share if something made them uncomfortable, even if the messages are gone. Let them know that privacy should not mean secrecy.

TALK ABOUT ADVERTISING AND AI

Explain that WhatsApp now includes ads and AI tools. Discuss the difference between genuine and sponsored content, and the potential for AI to share inaccurate or age-inappropriate responses. Encourage young users to think critically before trusting or interacting with these features.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds) [/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.facebook.com/www.thenationalcollege) [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wake.up.weds)

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Stars of the Week



This week's focus - Classroom engagement

Reception – Hunter
Year 1 – Tanisha and Tobias
Year 2 – Toby F
Year 3 – William
Year 4 – Frankie
Year 5 – Felix
Year 6 - Ivy



AR This year's highest word count... Overall - Otis 1,001,082!! This year's first Millionaire!



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

TTRS

Correct answers - last 7 days

Year 2 – Barney, Isaac, Erin
Year 3 – Ellen, Athene
Year 4 – Connie MT , Ollie
Year 5 - Jack, Freya, Juliet
Year 6 – Maisy P

Louise Nicholls
Head of School

Mrs T Coulthard
Executive Head Teacher

PTFA News

The money we have raised from the **Fabulous Friday Cake Stand** is being put to great use! For **World Book Day** next week, we are funding a visit from the **author and illustrator Sam Usher**, who will be running creative workshops with the children. We are also still fundraising for our amazing outdoor shelter/classroom to increase outdoor learning opportunities for our children. Thank you everyone for your support in helping us to provide these fantastic opportunities.

In the School garden area we have been **replacing the wooden boards** with new timber in the **Veg beds**.

The **School discos** are taking place on **Friday 13 March**. Please can we have a **couple of parent volunteers per session** to help with handing out drinks and ice lollies.

Yrs R, 1 & 2 | 3:30 - 4:00pm

Yrs 3 & 4 | 4:15 - 5:00pm

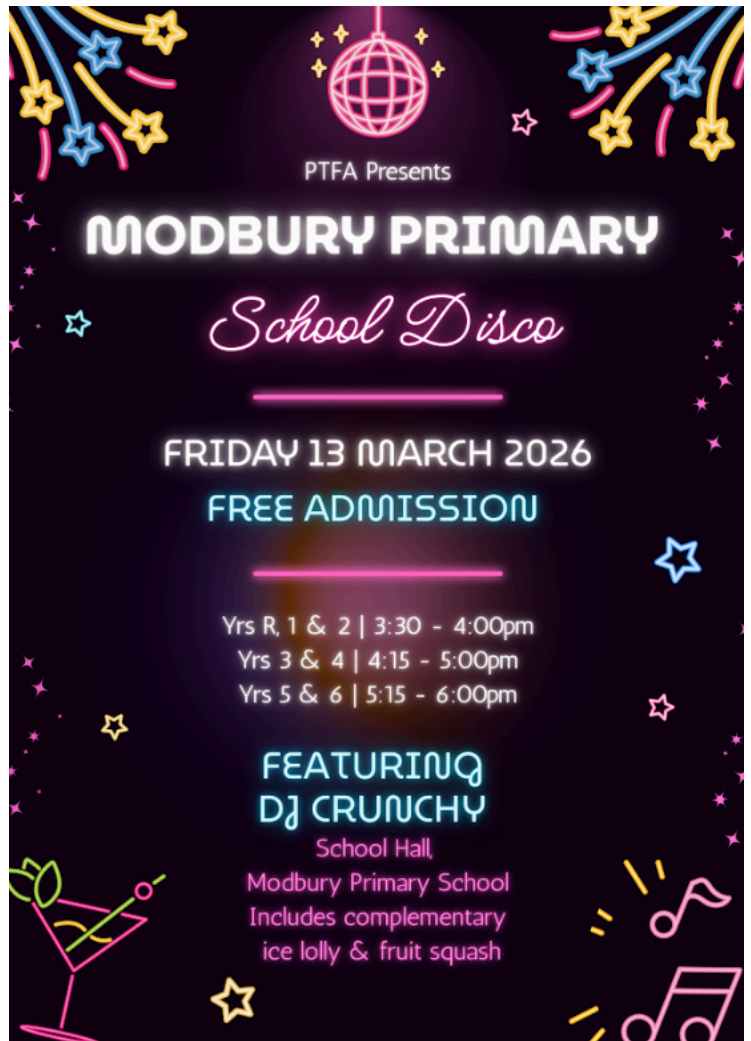
Yrs 5 & 6 | 5:15 - 6:00pm

Here are the remaining dates for the **Cake Stand** this term:

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

Notes from the PTFA meeting in January:

- *AGM - Friday 1 May, 9am - School Hall
- *May Fair - Pirates & Lost Boys from Peter Pan - Carnival entry
- *Colour Run - Fundraising event - Thursday 21 May
- *Summer Fair - Fundraising event - Wednesday 15 July
- *Outdoor classroom - Fundraising required



Community News

MODBURY MAY FAIR

CARNIVAL

SATURDAY 9TH MAY, 4PM

AHOY, FAMILIES!

GATHER YOUR CREW, DRESS LIKE PIRATES, AND JOIN
OUR CARNIVAL ADVENTURE!

MARCH TOGETHER OR SAIL IN STYLE ON A FLOAT-
EVERY FAMILY CAN BE PART OF THE FUN.

THE MORE COSTUMES, THE MERRIER!

THIS YEAR, WE'RE REALLY HOPING TO SEE MORE
ADULTS GETTING INVOLVED-FANCY DRESS IS WARMLY
ENCOURAGED FOR EVERYONE JOINING THE CARNIVAL

PROCESSION!

SPECIAL GUESTS
THE NOSS WAILERS
CROOKED TEMPO SAMBA BAND



ENTRY FORMS FROM MARCHAND PETIT



COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT

In the UK home of the Stetson Family.

Friday 27th Feb 2026

@Modbury Memorial Hall. Bar / raffle.

Dust off your cowboy boots and hats and join us
for line dancing (with expert tuition)
then boogie the night away to live music
from SW country music sensations 'Hipslinger'.

In aid of Modbury Cubs & Scouts

Doors@7pm / Event starts at 7.45pm

Tickets £10 available from Modbury Post Office
(event suitable for those over 12 yrs)