



Modbury Primary School Newsletter Friday 8th May 2026



www.modburyprimaryschool.co.uk

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This week has been very busy with lots of lovely events for the children to take part in. On Wednesday the children took part in taster cricket sessions while Year 5 went to Salcombe to go sailing. Some of our children also went to a swimming festival at Quayside where they took part in lots of different activities in the pool. Thank you as always to all the parents who support by transporting children around the South Hams!



Year 6 SATS

Year 6 have been undergoing their final preparations for SATS and are all ready to tackle them head on next week. Good luck Year 6 but remember that the SATS cannot measure your kindness, your artistic ability or your humour.! We would like to say a huge well done to all of you for your attitude, perseverance and motivation so far this year. We are very proud of each and every one of you. Have a lovely weekend. Get lots of rest and do something you really enjoy. We will see you on Monday for breakfast at 8.30!

Pre-Ordering Lunches on MCAS

Please may we remind you, where possible, to pre-book your children's lunches on MCAS as this is a great help to the teachers each morning when registering the children. Thank you!

Top Tips for Helping Neurodivergent Children Navigate the Online World

Neurodivergent children are often drawn to technology, so early, supported experiences online are key. This guide explores how adults can model positive digital behaviour, set age-appropriate limits and create open, judgement-free conversations about online safety. It also highlights the importance of balancing screen use with offline activities to support wellbeing and development.

It also unpacks emerging challenges, including AI-generated content and the blurred lines between real and simulated interactions. With clear, practical advice on boundaries, critical thinking and safe communication, this guide helps educators and families build confidence in supporting neurodivergent children to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

1 TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD

You wouldn't allow a child to cross a road without guidance – you'd hold their hand, use a pedestrian crossing, and model safe behaviour. In the same way, a neurodivergent child's first experiences online should be supported by an adult who can guide and explain safe and responsible digital behaviour to them from the outset.

2 MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE

Children learn from what they see. Show all children, regardless of neurotype, what responsible internet use looks like. Reflect on your own use of social media and AI. Consider how often you use them and your own understanding of these platforms. Talk openly about when and why you use these tools, helping all children develop a balanced and informed approach.

3 KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Current government guidance suggests no solo screen use below the age of two, with a maximum of one hour per day for two- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection when shared with an adult. However, passive watching can affect neurodivergent children's attention and language skills. Focus on the type of content they watch, encouraging slower-paced and meaningful material rather than fast-paced, overstimulating content.

4 CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES

For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be beneficial, but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may find online communication easier than real-world conversation, supporting their social interaction. However, it shouldn't be their only option. Encourage a range of activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for real-world connections.

5 KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may worry about getting things wrong or being misunderstood, meaning these kinds of conversations should feel open and fair, rather than like a lecture. If a child encounters a problem – such as a scam or inappropriate content – they need to feel able to speak to a trusted adult without fear of judgement or embarrassment.

6 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parental settings that can control access. Schools and families should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be used, based on trust and consistency. Involving children in discussions that affect them helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.

8 UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT

The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and stories. These can be difficult to identify. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check the information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may interpret content literally, meaning adult guidance is important in helping them recognise what's real and reliable – and what isn't.

9 EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS

AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on prompts and patterns, and its accuracy depends on how it's used. Sometimes, it produces incorrect or unrealistic information, known as 'hallucinations'. Both adults and children need to understand this and learn how to check information carefully using reliable and trusted sources.

10 CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS

AI can feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in user input rather than human understanding. Some neurodivergent children may experience a sense of connection with AI chatbots, particularly if they find social situations challenging. It's therefore important to explain that these are simulated conversations and aren't a substitute for real, human relationships.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with nurseries, schools, colleges, and businesses to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She is the Founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of "The Other 28 – How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class".



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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Stars of the Week

This week's focus - Classroom resilience

Reception – Oakleigh

Year 1 – Tobias

Year 2 – Alfie

Year 3 – Herbie

Year 4 – Coco

Year 5 – Fred

Year 6 – Jack MJ

TTRS

Accuracy

Year 2 - Barney, Noah, Bear

Year 3 - Alice, Athene, Eddie

Year 4 - Stanley, Frankie, Connie A

Year 5 - Harry, Seren, Jack

Year 6 - Jago, Flo, Lewis

AR

Word Count - Last 7 days

Year 2 - Emily, Steven, Zoe

Year 3 - Ellen, Arsenii, Sam

Year 4 - Woody, Jack

Year 5 - Harry, Juliet, Fred

Year 6 - Martha, Maisy, Tristan

Highest word count 2025-26

Otis 1,878,276

Diary Dates - New dates in bold

11th May - Year 6 SATS week
13th May - Year 5 sailing
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

Achieve4All – Summer Term

If your child would like to join/continue this after school Multi-Sports club on a Wednesday **after Easter until May 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



Louise Nicholls
Head of School



Mrs T Coulthard
Executive Head Teacher

PTFA News

We hope you are all enjoying the Modbury May Fair - thank you to everyone who bought a duck, enjoyed the fun run and supported the stalls on Bank Holiday Monday! The fun continues with the market and Carnival this weekend.

Our **Pirate-themed carnival parade is happening on Saturday 9th May**. We hope to see lots of children (and adults!) dressed up to join us as we walk in the procession. **Meet at the school main entrance at 3:30pm**.

We are very excited about our **Colour Fun Run taking place on Thursday 21st May from 3:45pm on the school field**. This fundraising event will involve an obstacle course set up with colour stations, where participants get showered in colourful powder as they tackle the course. **Tickets are just £5 per child and go on sale via the MCAS app on Monday!**

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on 1 May - thank you to all those that attended. Here are the highlights:

Committee Members:	Role:	Committee Members:
Sarah Walker	Chair	Sally Erith
Natalie Steynor	Treasurer	Louisa Riste
Karla Dick	Secretary	Kate Miller
		Anna Coates
Lou Nicholls	Head of School	Katie Hipwell
		Hetty Blades
		Jennie Hawkins
Apologies: Sandra Brownjohn		

- Election of Officers:
 - Chair – Louisa Riste (nominated by Anna Coates, seconded by Kate Miller)
 - Secretary – Hetty Blades (nominated by Karla Dick, seconded by Sarah Walker)
 - Treasurer – Natalie Steynor (nominated by Louisa Riste, seconded by Sarah Walker)

- Money raised has been spent on: Zen Den, Vegetable beds, School Discos, Y6 hoodies & events, crafts for Modbury lanterns, donated £2500 to school for workshops, parties, playground storage and transportation.
- Target goal of £12,000 for the outdoor classroom. So far we have £1750 and plan to raise the rest through fundraising events, grants and crowdfunding

- **Summer events:**
 - May Fair - Pirates & Peter Pan - Saturday 9th May from 3:30pm
 - Colour Run - Fundraising event - Thursday 21st May from 3:45pm
 - Summer Fair - Fundraising event - Wednesday 15th July PM

Next meetings	<p>Colour Run meeting 11/6/26 online at 8pm</p> <p>Summer Fair meeting 9/6/26 online at 8pm</p>
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If you'd like to get involved, please contact the PTFA at modburyptfa@southhamsfederation.org.uk or get in touch with any of the committee members.

Thanks, PTFA x

MODBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA

Thursday 21st May 2026
From 3.45pm on the School Field

COLOUR FUN RUN

A fun obstacle course for all to enjoy with showers of colourful powder.
All runners to wear swimming goggles, old clothes and a white or light coloured t-shirt to show off your colours!

£5 PER CHILD

KS1 warm up from 3:45pm
KS2 warm up from 4:00pm
Now includes optional slip n slide!
Please note event is weather dependent

Tickets on sale via MCAS from 9am on Monday 11th May (select Trips)

Parents/carers to accompany children on the run (adults participate for free!). Please book by Friday 18 May 2026. Refreshments available to buy.

MODBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL MAY FAIR CARNIVAL ENTRY



Come dressed as:

- Pirates
- Lost Boys
- Peter Pan
- Wendy
- Captain Hook
- Tinkerbell
- Crocodiles

(Parents/carers encouraged to dress up too!)

Saturday 9th May 2026
Meet at 3:30pm at the school main entrance

Community News



PLYMOUTH

**UNDER-6 & UNDER-7
OPEN SESSIONS**

ARGYLE
academy

Monday, 8 June
Marjon University, 3G Astro

The poster features a young male footballer in a green Plymouth Argyle kit, looking intently to the side. The background is a blurred stadium scene. The text is overlaid on the image in white and green colors.



NEWTON ABBOT

**UNDER-6 & UNDER-7
OPEN SESSIONS**

ARGYLE
academy

Monday, 22 June
Devon FA, 3G

The poster features a young male footballer in a green Plymouth Argyle kit, looking intently to the side. The background is a blurred stadium scene. The text is overlaid on the image in white and green colors.

These Open Sessions are a fantastic opportunity to receive a completely FREE coaching session, coordinated and delivered by Plymouth Argyle staff, and one which could also result in a child's talents being identified and invited into the Academy and/or pathway centre.

Limited spaces are available, so we encourage those wishing to attend to book online ASAP (booking instructions below) as attendance is only accepted following a booking.

WHITSUN ARGYLE FOOTBALL CAMPS



BOOK NOW

£10
limited
offer





PIRATES AHOY @STOWFORD SCHOOL

TUESDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026

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

SHIVER ME TIMBERS TUESDAY

Baton Down Bench Ball
—
Captian Hook Cricket
—
Wacky Pirate Challenges
—
Captain James Sparrow,
Shipwrecked
& Soaked

WALK THE PLANK WEDNESDAY

Dabloom Dodgeball
—
Capture the Pirates Flag
—
Beach Basketball
—
Wet & Wild Treasure
Island Inflatables
Challenge

CLAP OF THUNDER THURSDAY

Me-Harty Hockey
—
Wacky Pirate Challenges
—
Captian Hook Cricket
—
Wet & Wild Treasure
Island Inflatables
Challenge

FAIR WINDS FRIDAY

Me-Harty Hockey
—
Capture the Pirates Flag
—
Dabloom Dodgeball
—
Wet & Wild Treasure
Island Inflatables
Challenge

Pirate DRESS UP & TREASURE HUNT encouraged but not compulsory!



PLUS PIRATE AAARG-RTS & CRAFTS EVERY DAY!

CHILDREN MAY GET WET, PLEASE BRING SWIMMERS/CHANGE OF CLOTHES DAILY

BOOK NOW @

Ofsted

www.high5sportscamps.co.uk

FIND US ON...
tiktok facebook instagram



To book, please follow this link...

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps?season=3814037>