

This week's
whole school
attendance
rate is 95 %

Enabling children to be the best that they can be!

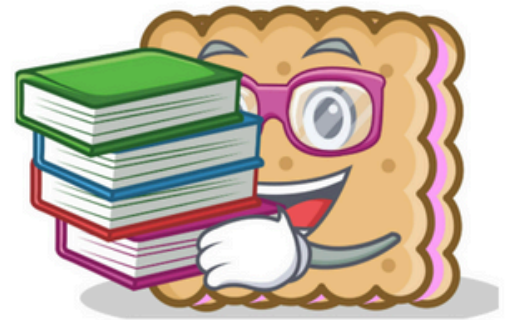
HORWOOD AND NEWTON TRACEY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 31st January 2025

Dear parents/carers,

A huge thank you to those parents who came along to our first 'Book and Biscuit' afternoon on Tuesday this week. It was so lovely to see our children full of excitement and enthusiasm sharing their maths learning with an adult. Our Book and Biscuit sessions will continue throughout the year, providing an opportunity for parents to share our children's successes in their learning, develop a deeper understanding of the curriculum we teach your children and celebrate their achievements. Our next Book and Biscuit will take place on after the half term break **Tuesday 4th March at 2:45pm** with a focus on writing. We look forward to welcoming you back into the classroom.



Class 2 Visit

This week in class 2 we welcomed Mrs Elizabeth Biggs who came into the classroom to share a range of photos and artefacts about Horwood and Newton Tracey School. The family have seen six generations come through Horwood School and it was invaluable for the children to find out how the school has changed over the years. This session supported the children with our history topic this half term and definitely brought their learning to life.

Year 6 SATs Club

After the half term, Mrs Hopkins and myself will be running a SATs club every Monday after school from 3:30 – 4:30pm for our year 6 children in preparation for their assessments they will be completing in May. The sessions will allow the children to work on areas of reading and maths to help develop a deeper understanding and confidence in their own abilities. Parents will be able to sign up for the club next week. There will also be hot chocolate and biscuits for the children to enjoy in the session. It would be great if all our year 6 children came along.





Smart Start Morning

Our Smart starts to the morning help our children to embed previous learning or immerse themselves in a new topic which helps to develop links and deepen knowledge and understanding. They provide the children an opportunity to work within small groups or supported interventions to help our children learn and remember more. A huge thank you to our parents for having our children at school on time and ready to learn!

Attendance %	Rating	Days absent	Description
100%	Perfect Attendance	0	This is the best chance of success for your child
97%	Good Attendance	5	
95%	Improvement Required	9	Less chance of your child succeeding as it is harder for them to make progress
90%	Serious Concern **	30	Serious Concern Missing this much education is not fair on your child and will result in legal action

School Attendance

Just a polite reminder to all our parents to please contact the school office before 9:30am to report your child's absence from school. We are currently reviewing attendance for this half term and will be notifying parents if your child/ren's attendance drops below 90%. Please do speak to your child's class teacher or arrange an appointment to discuss this further.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Cook

Staffing update

A letter has been sent via email to all parents and carers of Class 2 and 3 children outlining the staffing arrangements for the remainder of the spring and summer term. Please check your inbox.

Year 6 Hoodies arrived this week!



What's on...?

W/C 3rd February 2025



Monday

- Breakfast Club 7.45 or 8.25am to 9.00am
- ROMAR Sports After-School Club 3.30pm to 4.30pm
- Creative Activity Club 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Tuesday

- Breakfast Club 7.45 or 8.25am to 9.00am
- Year 2: Forest School in the afternoon
- Year 1: Invasion games
- Netball After-School Club 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Wednesday

- Breakfast Club 7.45 or 8.25am to 9.00am
- Years 3 & 4: 15/01, 22/01, 29/01, 05/02, 12/02 Falcons Gymnastics sessions
- Years 5 & 6: PE (tennis and football) please come to school wearing your PE kit.

Thursday

- Breakfast Club 7.45 or 8.25am to 9.00am
- Nursery: Forest School in the morning
- Class 1: Forest School in the afternoon
- Creative Activity Club 3.30pm to 4.30pm
- Rev. Gary Assembly at 3.00pm

Friday

- Breakfast Club 7.45 or 8.25am to 9.00am
- Celebration Assembly at 9:00am in Lovacott Gospel Hall - parents and carers welcome to join us
- Class 1: PE in the afternoon
- NSPCC Number Day - Dress up for Digits. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it - more information to come next week via email

Celebration Assemblies on Fridays

If you are attending our Celebration Assemblies, please ensure that any photographs you take are only of your own child or children and are not shared on the internet or social media platforms. Thank you.



Dates for your diary....

School Term Dates 2024/2025 - Spring Term

Last day of school: Friday 14th February 2025

Half-term holiday: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

First day of school: Monday 24th February 2025

Last day of school: Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holiday: 7th April to 21st April 2025

First day of school: Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Future dates for your diary....

Year 5 London Residential	Tuesday 11th February to Friday 14th February
SATs Club, Year 6	Starting on Monday 24th February and every Monday until SATs: 3.30pm to 4.30pm
Class 3 Trip to Escot Park	Tuesday 25th February
Book and Biscuit Event Focus: Writing	Tuesday 4th March: 2.45pm - 3.30pm
PROM Event - Key Stage 2, Queen's Theatre, Barnstaple	Thursday 20th March
Class 3 Vikings Visit	Wednesday 26th March
Reception and Year 6 NHS Height and Measurement Checks	Thursday 3rd April - please ensure you have completed the online form if you wish to opt out

Notices:

Reading Baskets

We kindly ask that the reading basket is returned to school on Tuesday each week so we can prepare the basket for the following weekend. The draw for the winners will take place each week in our celebration assembly which we invite our parents to join us for in Lovacott Gospel Hall on Friday mornings at 9:00am.

Class 3 trip to Escot Park

This has been rearranged for Tuesday 25th February

Tree stumps

We are on the hunt for tree stumps for the woodland area, as part of our Forest School resources. If you can help, please email the school office.

Netball Club

We will provide an extra Netball Club session to replace the cancelled session! Date to be confirmed.

Year 6 Bude Residential

Payment instalment links are now available in your Parentpay account

Breakfast Club Feb 17th to April 4th

Sign your child/children up to the new Breakfast Club sessions - details will be coming out next week via email!

Collecting your child

Please come up to the school gate to collect your child/ren at the end of the school day.



HNTPS History Corner - quotes taken from our old headteacher log books

31st January 1916

"Boys had a knitting lesson this afternoon instead of reading.

For the future, the first lesson on Wednesday afternoons will be a knitting lesson.

The plumber came this afternoon to look at the drains. Owing to severe weather, cisterns are all choked with ice.

A very cold day. Wretched attendance. Many children absent through bad colds."



What have we been learning in class this week?

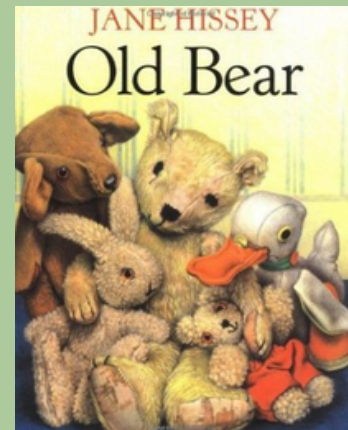
Foundation Stage Class (Nursery & Class 1)

We have enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year in the foundation stage class. We have played in our Chinese restaurant, made Chinese lanterns, and had a special Chinese snack time together.



Class 2

This week the children have been using a range of adjectives to describe the characters from our Old Bear story. We have planned our own stories to create another adventure for Old Bear and his friends which we are excited to start writing next week!



Class 3

Class 3 had another wonderful afternoon at Falcons Gymnastics - on the balance beam, parallel bars, as well as the floor. It has been great to see the enthusiastic approach to everything - even though it has been a bit scary sometimes the class have worked really hard and given 100%.

Well done Class 3.



Class 4

Class 4 have enjoyed football in PE this week. They practised skills in dribbling, passing and tackling. We enjoyed some different games and showed good team working skills.



Pupil Learning Awards This Week

STAR LEARNER OF THE WEEK

THIS AWARD IS PRESENTED TO

Class 1	Astrid for a fantastic description of a troll in her writing
Class 2	Chyla for fantastic descriptive writing on 'Old Bear' this week
Class 3	Austin for showing great resilience in his work - especially when it is challenging
Class 4	Molly for a fantastic effort in Maths this week

READY TO LEARN

LEARNING BEHAVIOUR

THIS AWARD IS PRESENTED TO

Class 1	Phoebe for always being sat in her carpet place ready to listen
Class 2	Penelope for always being ready to learn with her resources ready!
Class 3	Elise for always being ready to learn - being a great role model
Class 4	Bella for engaging fully in all learning



Star of the Week - Nursery

Charlie for making comments and offering his own ideas especially during Floppy Phonics

Reading Baskets

Classes 1 & 2: Alasdair

Classes 3 & 4: Imogen



Children who are awarded the reading basket will have the opportunity to take the basket home for the weekend and enjoy the range of lovely books, snuggly blanket, hot chocolate and marshmallows with their family.

200 Dojo points

Darcie

100 Dojo points

Noah, Theo M, Finley,
Seraphine, Bella G, Kenzie,
Harriet, Hatty, Sofia, Austin

50 Dojo points

Silver, Amon, Arthur,
George, Oscar, Ziggy



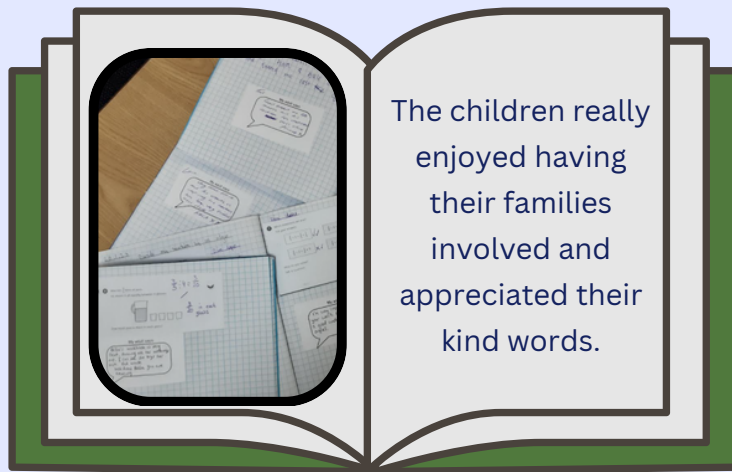
Whole School Book and Biscuit Event, Focus - Maths

Tuesday 28th January

A Lovely Opportunity to Share Learning

We were pleased to welcome parents and carers into school for our recent Book & Biscuit event. This session gave families the chance to visit their child's class, look through their work, and see the progress they have been making.

The focus for this event was Maths, and it was wonderful to see children happily sharing their learning.



The children really enjoyed having their families involved and appreciated their kind words.

Parents and carers were able to leave encouraging comments in their child's books using stickers provided by the school.

The benefits of our Book and Biscuit events:

For Children:

- ✔ Boosts Confidence – Sharing their learning with family members helps children feel proud of their achievements.
- ✔ Encourages Engagement – Knowing their learning work will be seen and celebrated motivates children to put in effort and take ownership of their learning.
- ✔ Strengthens Home-School Connections – Seeing their parents and carers involved in their education reinforces the importance of learning.

For Parents & Carers:

- ✔ Insight into Learning – Parents can see first-hand what their child is learning, how they are progressing, and where they might need support.
- ✔ Encourages Positive Conversations – Parents can discuss their child's learning in a supportive way, helping to build confidence and enthusiasm.
- ✔ Creates a Welcoming School Experience – Being involved in events like this helps parents feel more connected to the school community.



We look forward to holding more of these events in the coming months. Our next Book & Biscuit session will take place on Tuesday 4th March, with a focus on Writing. We hope you can join us.

Forest School

Our provision at HNTPS - January 2025

Forest School is holistic learning through play and exploration; children learn about the natural environment, how to handle risks and to use their own initiative to solve problems and cooperate with others. Forest School allows children to develop confidence, independence, self-esteem and awareness and knowledge of the natural environment by setting small achievable tasks. The child is never put in a position where he/she will fail so success is attained.



Sarah Blunt is our Forest School Leader and is a trained Level 3 Forest School Practitioner and also holds an up to date Paediatric First Aid certificate.

Forest School Leaders are responsible for organising the planning and running of all Forest School sessions. They always have the safety of the children as uppermost and will carry out a detailed safety check before each session and ensure rigorous compliance with health and safety risk assessments.



Just A Few Benefits of our Forest School

- Health and fitness
- Motivation and concentration
- Social development
- Skills development
- Gaining knowledge and understanding – Multi-sensory, real-life learning.
- Confidence allows children to demonstrate independence at their own rate.

Our Forest School is fun! It is educational whilst also allowing children to play, explore and discover.

Curriculum Links – Our Forest School supports many areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage and National Curriculum.

Rocco 'I love swinging on the ropes'

Phoebe 'I love playing Duck, Duck, Goose!'

Ayda 'We get to play with the mud kitchen!'

Amelia 'I love having hot chocolate and marshmallows!'

Astrid 'I like playing the NAME GAME!'

Ronnie 'I like Forest School because it is relaxing and you get lots of fresh air!'

Joe: I like Forest School because we get to explore, play and learn, and learn to look after the woods.'



Class 2 History Visit 29th January 2025



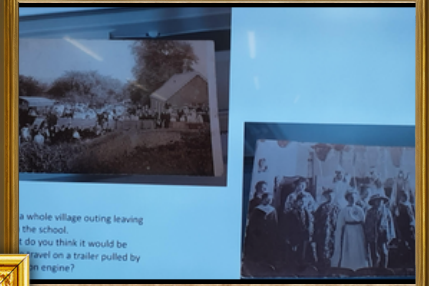
On Wednesday this week, Mrs Elizabeth Biggs came into school to share her own memories as well as the memories of her extended family who attended Horwood and Newton Tracey School. Thank you Mrs Biggs for coming in and talking to us!

Mrs Biggs told our children about how each of our school headteachers had lived in the school house and Class 4 was the only classroom at one stage!



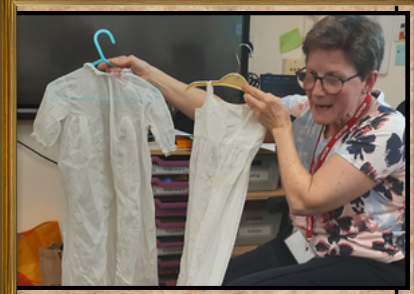
Class 2 were challenged to stand with very still faces to try and create an 'old style' photograph, standing against our very old wall!

The children were able to explore a range of artefacts and photographs of the school and asked a range of questions to support their learning



We heard many fascinating stories about children from the past who attended our school!

We found out that our school used to be called Lovacott School!



We looked at really old christening gowns!





Random Acts of Kindness



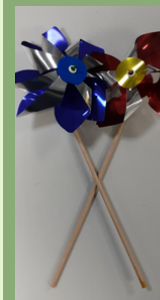
Thank you Martha W and Darcie for helping Mrs Humphries to fold lots of booklets, without being asked! It was a lovely surprise!

Fantastic work Charlie W for helping the younger children in Breakfast Club with breakfast!

Well done to Niamh for picking up Finley's water bottle and handing it back to him when he accidentally dropped it on the floor.



Chyla's sister gave Chyla her wooly hat to borrow for school when Chyla realised she'd forgotten hers when she got to the school gate..



Thank you to Elise for donating these sparkly windmills for our new Sensory Garden!

Well done Martha W for helping wiping the place mats in Breakfast Club without being asked!

If you have any random acts of kindness or sporting achievements to share with us , please ensure these are emailed to the school office by each Wednesday! Thank you!

Lunch menu: W/C Monday 3rd February 2025

Our meal price is £2.55 per day for Class 3 and 4 children. Classes 1 and 2 children qualify for Universal Free School Meal funding.

Jacket Potatoes with a choice of toppings are available every day.

Fresh fruit, salad & wholemeal bread are available daily. Gentle reminder: we are a nut free school.

20/01, 03/02

Menu - Week 2



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat/ Fish	Cod Fillets or Salmon Fishcakes	Beef Bolognaise	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Roast Chicken	Hot Dog/Ham Roll
Vegetarian	Filled Jacket Potato	Quorn Bolognaise/ Filled Jacket Potato	Cheese /Tuna Wrap/Filled Jacket Potato	Quorn Chicken Fillet/Filled Jacket Potato	Cheese or Tuna Roll/Filled Jacket Potato
Side	Chips/Pasta/ Baked Beans/Sweetcorn	Spaghetti/Mixed Veg	Potato Wedges/ Coleslaw/Peas	Roast Potatoes/ Vegetables/ Gravy	Fruit /Veg
Dessert	Sprinkle Cake/Fruit Bowl/Yoghurt	Cherry Shortcake/Fruit Bowl/Yoghurt	Swiss Crumble & Custard/Fruit Bowl/Yoghurt	Ice Cream & Peaches/Fruit Bowl/Yoghurt	Ginger Biscuits/Fruit Bowl/Yoghurt





WE NEED YOU.

We are looking for keen and enthusiastic volunteers to join our Local Governing Bodies (LGB) as a school Governor and/or a Trustee.

Governor

The role of a School Governor is key in ensuring the school offers high standards of education for all children.

Each school within TEAM Multi -Academy Trust has its own Local Governing Body. The LGB meet once or twice a term and are encouraged to join in with our school visits and learning walks throughout the school year. This is a voluntary position and training is available for this role.

Trustee

Our Trustees oversee the strategic direction of the Trust schools along with holding the senior school leadership to account and monitoring the trust's finances– amongst many other aspects of school performance.

They can draw on their own expertise from all aspects of business and industry and have specific interests as part of their role such as – Curriculum, Personnel, Admissions, Finance, Safeguarding, Premises or SEND. They meet approximately 6 times a year as a whole group and are active within a range of committees and individual portfolios.

VOLUNTEERING IN THIS WAY BRINGS MANY REWARDS. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING ALONGSIDE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND GET REAL SATISFACTION AT USING YOUR SKILLS TO CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN.



If you are interested in volunteering or to find out more about being a local governor at your school or a TEAM trustee, then we would love to hear from you. Please email vacancies@team-mat.org.uk



Horwood & Newton Tracy Primary School

For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: www.teamacademytrust.com

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



Life, Love and Learning to the Full

Working in partnership with
 **SWIMBRIDGE**
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Part of **TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

APPLY NOW DIRECT WITH 

For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies> or <https://mynewterm.com>

We currently have 6 vacancies available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

Casual Cook at Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

1:1 SEND Teaching Assistant at Beaford Community Primary and Nursery School

0.22 FTE Classroom Teacher at Brayford Academy

Meal Time Assistant at Brayford Academy

Meal Time Assistant at Umberleigh Primary Academy

Meal Time Assistant at Pilton Bluecoat Church of England Academy



FRIENDS of HNTPS

Exciting upcoming events!



Friends of HNTPS invite you to

After School Stay & Play Takeover Party

Thursday, 13th February at 4-6pm
AT JUNAGARAO BARNSTAPLE

Tickets - £5 per child

To secure your place, please make payment by BACS quoting your child's name as the reference to - The Friends of Horwood & Newton Tracey School Sort Code: 30-99-50 Account No: 69173062

CASH purchases - please contact Lisa 07720277077

Please book tickets before Friday 7th February

Ticket includes entry only - The cafe will be open to allow you to purchase refreshments on the night

Limited spaces!

BINGO Night

Join us for a fun filled evening of BINGO at Lovacott Village Hall

Doors Open 7pm
Eyes Down 7.30pm

Pre book or just turn up on the night
Refreshments available

****CASH ONLY****

£10 FOR 10 GAMES

SATURDAY 29TH MARCH

RAFFLE & BONUS FLYER ROUND

friendsofhntps@gmail.com

RAFFLE DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIP

To help support our fabulous Bingo Night on Saturday 15th March we are looking for **Raffle Prize Donations**, these could be anything such as a candle, box of chocolates or wine. Alternatively, if you have any unwanted Christmas gifts these would make great prizes.

All donations are gratefully received.

Alternatively, if you can support the event in the form of **business sponsorship** towards Bingo prizes this would be amazing and means even more of the money raised goes back into the school.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Friends of HNTPS

THANK YOU!

Community Information

Any articles which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only.

Welcome to

LOVACOTT GOSPEL HALL

Sunday Morning Service at 11am

Taking of Bread & Wine and Gospel Message

For any other Meetings please contact Trevor Milton on 858665

BABY AND TODDLER STAY & PLAY

Held every Friday during term time at Little Learners, Newton Cross.

9.30am - 11.00am

These are free sessions giving children a chance to meet new friends and for parents to catch up.

Contact Lynda on 01271 858881 for more information

LOVACOTT VILLAGE HALL AGM 2025

The Management Trustees will be holding the AGM on the

6th March 2025 at 7pm.

All Parishioners welcome

Newton Tracey Church

COFFEE and a CHAT

Wednesday 19 February
at The Hunters Inn
10 - 11.30

Everyone is very welcome

CHATTERBOX

A community get together with a cuppa and a cake in St Michael's Church, Horwood.

Thursday 13th February
from 2.00pm until 4.00pm

Meet old friends, make new ones.
A warm and chatty welcome to all.

Please bring your own mug. Also, a small donation to help cover the costs would be appreciated.

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH, ALVERDISCOTT

MUSICAL LUNCH

* Please note change of venue *

We will be holding our lunches in January, February and March in the METHODIST CHAPEL

Please join us on Fridays 31st January, 28th February & 28th March

Light lunch available from 12.30pm, music from 1pm

Three Villages Walk - 5th May

On the morning of Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May, there will be a 'Three Villages Walk', starting at Horwood Church, then on to Lovacott, before finishing at Newton Tracey church. On the way there will be short talks by local historians on some of the local features and landmarks.

Families and dogs will be welcome.

NEWTON TRACEY CHURCH

QUIZ

8th of March - 7.30 at Alverdiscott Community Hall.

Teams of 6 • £10 per person

Wine on the table, lots of food and fun.

Please ring Kate on 01271 858268 to book your team in.

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Lovacott Little Library
Your Community Honesty Library

THE FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH
from 2pm – 3pm in Lovacott Village Hall

MONDAY 3rd FEBRUARY

SPONSORED BY
LOVACOTT-MOTORS
01271 858885

There are also some books in Horwood and Newton Tracey churches, which will be rotated regularly. Both churches are open daily.

Providing NHS services

Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment

- Sinusitis** (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- Sore throat** (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- Earache** (children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- Infected insect bite** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Impetigo** (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- Shingles** (adults aged 18 years and over)
- Urinary tract infection** (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service

Visit your Pharmacy First!

*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied

Year's 6+7 Girls Rugby
Barnstaple Rugby Club
Friday's @6:30pm

Rugby is a game for all shapes, sizes and abilities

We are a new, friendly and welcoming girl's team. You can play with us even if you currently play for another team or club

No experience needed, just turn up and give it a go!

info.barnstaplerugby@gmail.com for more information...
...or just turn up on Friday and play!

THE WOODCOTT PLAYERS
proudly announce their 2025 Panto...

Jay the Jiant

There will be three performances:
Saturday 22 March 2025 – afternoon and evening
Sunday 23 March 2025 – afternoon only

First read-through is on October 25 in The Hunters Inn, thereafter every Friday in November in the Village Hall from 7.30 to 9.00, before breaking for Christmas. We start up again on January 17, and will then meet every week through to the week of our performances.

We're always on the lookout for new people to join us, particularly children, so if you, and/or your children, would like to get involved please contact **Pat Ford** on **07452 833222**

YOUTH CLUB

The Youth Club is for ages 8 and upwards, and is held once a month in Newton Tracey Church from 6-7.30pm.

There is a small charge of £2 per child.

The next club will be on **Thursday 13th February.**

For more information about the Youth Club please ring Kate on 01271 858268

The photos on the right are of Christmas decorations and biscuits made by the children at December's Club.

FOUNDATION HUBS

TASTER SESSION
5 DECEMBER 2024
PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
EX32 9AX
5:30 - 7 PM

WEDNESDAYS
8 JANUARY - 5 FEBRUARY 2025
& 5 MARCH - 2 APRIL 2025
7PM - 8:30 PM

Open to all state school girls Years 6 - 10*

NORTH DEVON GIRLS' HUB

VENUE
Pilton Community College
Chaddiford Ln
Barnstaple
EX31 1RB

Sign Up
For more information contact:
martin.brice@devoncricket.co.uk
01392 262509 / 07939 015663
or visit www.devoncricket.co.uk/first-hubs

*Players in the Devon Cricket Performance Pathway are not eligible.

WICKETZ

Free Cricket Sessions

OPEN TO EVERYONE AGES 8-16 OF ALL ABILITIES

COME ALONG TO YOUR LOCAL WICKETZ HUB FOR FUN CRICKET GAMES, ACTIVITIES AND COACHING!

CONTACTS
Damian Price
(Barnstaple, Bideford & Exeter)
damian.price@devoncricket.co.uk

Vicky Reeve
(Plymouth & Torquay)
vicky.reeve@devoncricket.co.uk

www.devoncricket.co.uk/wicketz