

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

25TH NOVEMBER 2024



Even with the cold and wet weather we've been having, there are many heart-warming events in the next few weeks to look forward to:

WHAT'S COMING UP

Wednesday 4th December - ET School Phase 1 Phonics Family Workshop, 10 am - 11 am (selected families will receive a separate invite)

Wednesday 4th December - ET School Family Open Afternoon at Hollow Lane, "Make a Christmas Decoration" in class, from 1.45 pm

Friday 6th December - ET School and ET College, Decorate the Christmas Tree for students

NEW COLLECTION DATE Wednesday 11th December - Bag 2 School Collection Day (ET School and ET College bags to be sent in Tuesday 10th December please)

Thursday 12th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December - ET School Christmas Bazaar at Hollow Lane, 1.45 pm - 2.45 pm, families invited

Friday 13th December - ET College Christmas Bazaar at Wayside Crescent, 10.30 am - 11.45 am, raffle draw at 12 noon, families invited

Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Lunches at ET School and ET College

Thursday 19th December - ET College Christmas Panto, 2 pm, students only

Thursday 19th December - ET School, pupils visit the Christmas Grotto during the day

Friday 20th December - Last day for Year 11 families to submit their Sixth Form Application Form

Friday 20th December - Last day of term

JANUARY 2025

Monday 6th January 2025 - Pupils return to school

w/c 20th January 2025 - Parents' Evenings

CONTENTS INCLUDE

Christmas Family Event = Families are invited into School at Hollow Lane this December for an “open afternoon” in class. Our Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 classes are looking forward to making a “Christmas Decoration” with you! Please [click on this link](#) to let us know if you are attending on Wednesday 4th.

YouTube Access - Useful info to help you set controls so that you only see the YouTube videos you wish either yourself and/or your child or young person to be able to watch.

Wraparound Care - There is a possibility Ellen Tinkham can apply for funding to set up a Breakfast Club for pupils aged from Reception to Year 6. To help gauge interest, we sent out a survey asking for your thoughts. Thank you if you replied.

Bag 2 School - They’ve changed our Collection Day! It is now Wednesday 11th December. Please only send in your bags to us on Tuesday 10th as we have nowhere to store them! Thanks.

Christmas Bazaars x 2 - We are opening both our Bazaars 10 minutes early to our wheelchair users this year, so they have room to move around! Everyone else is invited in at 1.45 pm at Hollow Lane and 10.30 am at Wayside Crescent.

Raffle - If you could spare any wine, luxury food or gifts or a Tombola prize, please send these in this week. Thank you very much. And don’t forget to return your Raffle tickets to us to be in with a chance to win a prize!

Asda Cashpot for Schools - This initiative and great fundraiser finishes at the end of November. Please sign up to get an additional £1 donation for the school or do a final shop! Thank you so much if you have helped us with this. We will let you know the final total when advised by Asda.

SWIFT Teacher Training - If you fancy a change of direction in your career, you could consider going into Teaching. One of your placements could be at Ellen Tinkham! There are links in the newsletter to find out more.

ETS Phase 1 Phonics Session - Katie Greenhough, our English Lead and Lucy Hardacre, our Literacy Lead, are running a session for selected parents on Wednesday 4th December. Invites are being sent to those families whose child is currently working at Phase 1.

Devon Family Hub - A new FREE advice and guidance dedicated phone line has been launched and is open Monday to Friday, 10 am - 4 pm offering support and help to families. Tel: 0800 538 5458

Safeguarding - Our Safeguarding Team is available for a chat should you have any concerns.

Attachments - HAF Poster; Visit Father Christmas at Otter Nurseries, Songwriting Sessions to join

Christmas Family Events - As you will see from the Diary, we have our Bazaars at the School and College in December, plus also a family event at the School:

ETS at Hollow Lane on Wednesday 4th December - Families can visit the classrooms to make a Christmas decoration with their child from 1.45 pm.



To help us manage numbers in class that day, please [let us know you are visiting by clicking here](#). Thank you.



Access to YouTube - We've had a couple of queries within Annual Reviews, from families asking for support to help control the type of videos that can be seen on YouTube. Justin Sharp, our Federation ICT Manager, has produced the following:

Control the content that you see on YouTube:

It is possible to influence the content that appears on YouTube for you and/or your child or young person. As an application that isn't designed for under 13s, YouTube prides itself on a vast collection of algorithms that analyse your viewing habits and [attempts to recommend additional videos along the same and similar topics](#). However these algorithms are not fool proof, and you can often find recommendations that don't align with your particular interests or beliefs popping up on your main page or automatically starting once a video you are watching has finished.

Here are several ways to try and control what those algorithms show you. None of them are an exact science and will not give you 100% coverage on avoiding unsuitable content, but they should give you a greater level of control over what you see.

DON'T share devices:

If all of your family accesses the same device for YouTube, and all do so using the same profile or login, the videos recommended to you will cover a wide variety of interests, maturity levels and suitability as everyone's viewing habits will be used to generate these recommendations.

It is recommended that adults do not share their personal device (i.e. tablet or mobile phone) with children in order to avoid this 'cross-contamination' of potentially mature content viewed by teenagers/adults and child-friendly content.

DO create user accounts for each person in your household:

On a [Windows](#) or [Apple](#) computer or laptop, each user in the home can have their own login for the device.

On certain Android tablets (i.e. [Kindle Fire](#), [Samsung Galaxy Tab](#)) it is also possible to create separate user accounts. However, this is not possible on an iPad or iPhone.

This will keep the content being viewed by one user (i.e. a child) completely separate to that of another user, such as a teenager or adult, who uses a different account.

The recommendations should then only recommend suitable content appropriate to each user based on their viewing habits.

DO Influence the videos you're recommended via Dislike, Report and Not Interested options:

- [Manage your recommendations and search results - YouTube Help](#)
- [Report inappropriate videos, channels and other content on YouTube - YouTube Help](#)

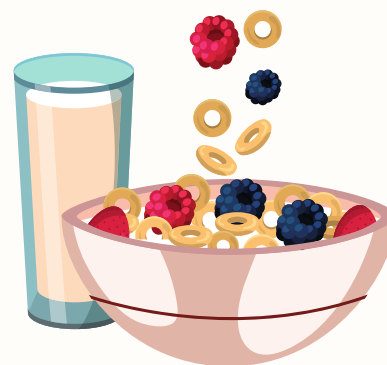
DO set up YouTube Restricted Mode:

Restricted Mode can increase the odds of screening out potentially mature content on YouTube.

This requires an adult with a Google Account to set up, which can then be managed on behalf of a child user.

[Turn Restricted mode on or off on YouTube - YouTube Help](#)

Wraparound Care - Last week, we sent out a [survey](#) asking for your interest if Ellen Tinkham were able to apply for funding for a Breakfast Club. Only those families in Reception to Year 6 needed to respond to the survey, as Government funding is only available for our Primary pupils. Thank you if you completed the survey.



Clothes



Paired shoes



Handbags



Hats



Bags



Scarves and ties



Bras



Jewellery




Socks



Belts



Bag 2 School - Bags are being collected from us on **Wednesday 11th December (new date)** so please send them in Tuesday 11th. Sorry, but we have nowhere to store the bags if sent in earlier than this. Bag 2 School collects all this  but not school uniform, duvets or pillows. Thank you.

Christmas Bazaar - Classes are busy planning and making items to sell at our Christmas Bazaars:

ETS Hollow Lane's Bazaar is on Thursday 12th December, 1.45 pm - 2.45 pm.

ETC Wayside Crescent's Bazaar is on Friday 13th December, 10.30 am - 11.45 am, raffle draw at 12 noon.



At both Bazaars, we are opening the doors 10 minutes early for students and visitors who need wheelchair access (a little extra space to move around). After 10 minutes, we will let everyone else in to join the fun!



The Christmas raffle is one of our biggest fundraising opportunities of the year, so please don't forget to return your money and stubs to the School office asap to be in with a chance of winning. We are gathering a good selection of prizes but are in need of some (full!) wine bottles, luxury gifts and foods, plus some smaller items for our Tombola. If you could help or donate in any way, this would be great! Thank you.



CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS - ASDA GROCERIES

Cashpot for School with Asda - Only a few days left to support Ellen Tinkham and raise much needed funds! Even if you do not shop at Asda, you can still sign up and we get £1!

Have you or your friends or family members ever considered becoming a teacher? We are part of SWIFT Teacher Training and means Ellen Tinkham could be one of your placement schools.



Our talented teachers get the opportunity to share their expertise with trainees and strengthen their own knowledge about effective teaching. As a school, we really like the fact that SWIFT Teacher Training courses have been designed by expert teachers. We think it is important for adults to be able to train flexibly with blended learning and feel they are starting a career where they belong - with a training community that celebrates successes and qualities of trainees from diverse backgrounds and career stages.

To find out more visit www.swifteachertraining.org.uk or email info@swifteachertraining.org.uk.

ETS Phase 1 Phonics Session - Katie Greenhough, our English Lead and Lucy Hardacre, our Literacy Lead, are running a session for selected parents on Wednesday 4th December at 10 am.

Invites are being sent to those families whose child is currently working at Phase 1.

Ellen Tinkham School
ETS

"ALL ABOUT READING AND LETTER SOUNDING" WORKSHOP

with Katie Greenhough and Lucy Hardacre

OPEN TO FAMILIES WHOSE CHILDREN ARE WORKING AT PHASE 1 LEVEL

Sharing how we teach phonics (matching letters and sounds), learning about reading in school and ways you can support your child to read at home

RUNNING ON WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2024
at Ellen Tinkham School, Hollow Lane, 10 am - 11 am

BOOK YOUR PLACE!

[Click here to book your place](#)

in partnership with
Devon County Council

DEVON FAMILY HUBS

0800 538 5458

**ADVICE
HELP
SUPPORT
INFORMATION**

0800 538 5458

Our new Devon Family HUBS
Advice & Guidance Line - open Monday to Friday 10AM until 4PM

CALL US

We're here to help...

Family HUBS Advice & Guidance Line
0800 538 5458

Devon Family Hub has a new, free Advice and Guidance line.

It's open Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm. If you call, you will be able to speak to a fully trained practitioner for any support you need.

Or check out the Devon Family hub [website](#).

Safeguarding - Across our Federation, we take safeguarding very seriously and have robust policies and procedures in place. If you ever have a safeguarding or wellbeing concern, please contact your **Designated Safeguarding Lead - Katy Bradley at the school and Monika Davis at the College incl Sixth Form.**

@ Ellen Tinkham School



@ Ellen Tinkham College



If Katy or Monika are unavailable to speak to or meet with, please contact one of our **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.**

@ Ellen Tinkham School



@ Ellen Tinkham College





The HAF website is now live...

**THE DEVON WIDE PROGRAMME OF EVENTS IS NOW
LIVE AT:**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/education-and-families/haf-providers-map/>

**Fully funded places are available for children
who are accessing benefit related free school
meals**

More information can be found at:
<https://devon.cc/haf-parents-info>

For ages 5-16 years

Places are limited



Join us for a Festive Adventure and get ready for Christmas with our new charity event for Hospiscare.

We are thrilled to be working in partnership with Hospiscare, our charity of the year, as part of Otters' 60th Anniversary good deeds celebration.

Since 2019, we have proudly supported Hospiscare, helping them provide essential care and support to local families. This year, we aim to raise even more funds to make a lasting difference in our community.

Enjoy festive fun for all the family, whilst helping to support the amazing work of Hospiscare by attending our Festive Adventure: Get Ready for Christmas!



Otter Nurseries at Ottery St Mary and Hospiscare are organising an SEN Father Christmas experience on Wednesday 11th December between 3 pm and 7 pm.

For details about the experience and to purchase tickets, please head to their website:

[Festive Adventure for Hospiscare: Get Ready for Christmas! - Otter Garden Centres](#)

Songwriting For Carers



& the people they support



Do you love music?

Do you care for someone with additional needs?
Would you like to reconnect with your creative side?

Documental Theatre and Sing and Sign Jukebox Choir are teaming up to offer a FREE and accessible short songwriting course - it will be a fun & relaxed opportunity to dip your toe into the world of songwriting, connect with other carers and young PWLDs and express yourself creatively.

You will be guided through simple steps to create an original song about the person you care for, or inspired by the things you value in your life. The course is also suitable for adults with learning difficulties if you would like to attend with the person you support.

YOU DON'T NEED ANY CREATIVE OR MUSICAL EXPERIENCE, WE'D JUST LOVE TO COME TOGETHER, HAVE FUN AND CREATE STORIES IN A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Come to one to try it out and leave part way through if you need to! No need to share your work in front of others or be available for all the sessions 😊

You will be guided through simple steps to create an original song about the person you care for, or inspired by the things you value in your life. The course is also suitable for adults with learning difficulties if you would like to attend with the person you support.

Email hello@joannerogers.net
or call 07875 024 548