



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

We've come to the end of a very long but productive first half of the Autumn Term. I have been so proud of the children and staff who have 'aimed high' all term. The positivity in the classrooms and playground is palpable. Staff have worked hard to make their classrooms inviting and purposeful learning spaces.

Our staff meetings and meetings with the PTFA have also been very positive. School staff and parents are always 'aiming high' to support the children further and provide more opportunities for them. I am so grateful to the PTFA for agreeing to pay this year's subscription to Devon School Library Service of Ashwater £688. The Ashwater Show Committee have kindly agreed to contribute half of this cost; a huge thanks to them.

I am delighted to tell you that we had our first visit from the School Library Service Adviser this week. She has audited our book stock and we will soon receive a further 200 books. These will focus on filling gaps in our current provision:

- Diverse and inclusive stories
- Increased range of quality, contemporary authors
- Up to date books for younger readers
- More choice in a wide range of genre
- Non-fiction for leisure reading

We will also receive staff training and help with library layout to make it more appealing and easier for children to access. As you can see, your contributions and support of fundraising by the PTFA really do make a huge difference to what we can offer the children. Thank you!



Last Friday, some of our Key Stage 2 children were selected to participate in the highly challenging Stephen Shields Cross Country. A huge well done to all the children for their outstanding 'aim high' and 'be resilient' attitude towards the running. I would also like to commend them for their exemplary behaviour demonstrating our values of 'taking care of each other' and 'being respectful'. A number of staff have commented that the Federation children were amongst the best behaved children at the event.



Well done to all children who took part



The PTFA would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas craft fayre on Sunday and a special thank you to Heidi Edworthy for organising all the trade stalls. We raised £320.

Thank You...

Carey Curriculum Activities

'In the Carey Federation, we are aspirational learners who build

Relationships by being Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective and Respectful'

In the Carey Federation we believe that our "Aim High Curriculum" enables all pupils to have the skills to be resourceful, independent, motivated and resilient learners in preparation for the next stage of their education.

We extend a breadth and depth in our curriculum by giving the children the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills. We know that this will help children to grow in confidence, expand their understanding of the world around them, or introduce a hobby or passion that could last for years to come. The impact of trying new activities is so positive.

A list of ten exciting activities will be shared during the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms. The list of activities are inspired by our Carey Qualities and are relevant to the curriculum, foster collaboration and build an understanding the benefits of trying new things.

We want to encourage a genuine interest and zest for the exciting world, both locally, nationally and even internationally, in which we live.

We hope your child will have a fantastic time working through the activity list, both in school and at home with you, as a family.

When the children complete an activity, they can share their thoughts on a post it note and add to our Federation display. We would also love the children to share photographs on Class Dojo!

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other



Every Piece Matters

THE CAREY FEDERATION



We extend a breadth and depth of our curriculum by giving the children the opportunity to try new things and develop new skills.

Tell a friend about different faiths.



Try something new.



How do our Carey Qualities reflect the British Values?

Wrap a Christmas present.



How are you resilient in school? Can you give examples from this week?



Play a board or card game.

Lay the table ready for a family meal.

Explore your family history. Think about the questions you could ask.

Catch a falling leaf and make a wish.



Find out about Christmas celebrations around the World.

Say something kind.



Explain how the SMART rules help to keep us safe on the Internet.



How do you keep safe in the countryside?

What would you like to do in the future?



Applying for a Primary School Place – Reception 2025

If your child was born between **1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021** they are due to start primary school in September 2025.

Applications for starting primary school in September 2025 open on 15 November 2024 and close on 15 January 2025.

The date that all allocations of school places are announced in England is known as **'Offer day'**. For September 2025 primary school starters this will be on **16 April 2025**.

For more information: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/>

Every Day is Open Day

If you or someone you know is looking for a September 2025 primary school place or to join at another point, please do contact the office and arrange a visit. We would love to show you all the wonderful things we do. We don't have a particular open day as we love you to see the school in action on a regular day. We offer personalised tours that give you the opportunity to ask questions and meet our fantastic staff and children.

Year 6 Parents - Applying for a Secondary School Place

Has your child recently started in Year 6 and due to join secondary school in September 2025? If so, please remember that applications must be submitted by the **31st October 2024**.

Applications received after this date will be classed as late and they will be considered after all those who applied on time.

You can apply online by visiting:

https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAR2fKBEZQk8ku_4djGvFF1o66dNAQtvie1_yNrdPpLMH9Y8BqXb7msI3tso_aem_0ZynRI9C17JgOI7NgZ6huA

Wild Tribe

Wild Tribe is on Friday mornings. The plan for the year is as follows:

Aut ii Class 1

Spr i Class 2

Spr ii Class 1

Sum i Class 2

Sum ii Class 1



On Wild Tribe days, please can children bring in waterproofs to wear over school clothes and wellington boots. If they don't have waterproofs then some other long clothing to cover arms and legs (not jeans) should be sent in.

Clubs

Please see our website for details of clubs after half term <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/about-us/before-after-school-clubs/>



Parent Consultation

This is an important opportunity to meet with your child's teacher so they can share their academic and social progress with you. This term the meetings will be on

Wednesday 27th November: 2:00 – 6:00 pm

We will let you know when you are able to book your ten minute slot, nearer the time. The meetings will take place in school but we can also offer a virtual meeting.



Safeguarding at Ashwater

The Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Alford

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Gee

Miss Frayn

Mrs R Cawsey—SENDCo

Attendance Officer:

Miss S Revers

Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs A Clark

Safeguarding

Remember if you have any issues regarding Safeguarding that you wish to raise, please email: safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk These will come directly to a safeguarding lead.



This week we have been reminding children about Halloween Safety.

How to keep children safe this Halloween

Halloween can be an exciting time of year for children, dressing up and going out after dark. But, whilst Halloween is supposed to be spooky there are some horrors that families will want to avoid.

So, here are our top tips for a safe Halloween that you can remember for all the right reasons.



1. Remember Halloween costumes are highly flammable

Many fancy dress costumes are not manufactured to the same safety standards as normal clothing, meaning they can ignite almost instantly and burn far faster.

That's why it is crucial to ensure children wearing Halloween costumes are kept well away from naked flames and other heat sources at all times.



2. Try to buy costumes from a reputable store or website

It may mean spending a bit more but buying from a reputable store or website will be safer. Cheap costumes may not meet UK safety standards.



3. Check costume labels for a UKCA or CE mark

These labels don't mean a costume won't catch fire. But it has been tested for fire safety so it should burn more slowly.

Also, The British Retail Consortium has introduced stricter fire safety tests for children's dressing-up costumes. Look for a label that says: "This garment has undergone additional safety testing for flammability".



4. Encourage children to layer up

If children wear clothes under their dressing-up costumes, there is a layer of protection between the costume and their skin. This can help protect their skin if their costume catches fire.

[Discover what to do in an emergency with burns first aid](#)



5. Teach children to Stop, Drop and Roll

Ahead of Halloween, make sure children know what to do if their clothes catch fire. The instinct is to run. So, encourage them to practice stopping, dropping to the ground, covering their face with their hands, and rolling over a few times to put out the flames.

Stop.



Drop.



Roll.





6. Keep candles well out of the path of trick or treaters

Candles and lit pumpkins create a fantastic spooky atmosphere but can be dangerous. Keep them well out of the path of trick or treaters and away from any Halloween decorations that might catch light.

Remember not to put candles on a surface that may burn. And, in all the excitement, don't forget to blow them out when you're done.



7. Consider switching to battery-powered candles

You may want to switch to LED / flameless battery-powered candles to reduce the fire risk. But, be sure the battery compartment is secure. Many LED lights, and the remote controls for them, contain button batteries which can badly hurt or kill a small child if they swallow one and it gets stuck.

[Learn more about the dangers of button batteries](#)



8. Be visible

Visibility is important all year round. However, after the clocks go back, it gets dark much earlier. By Halloween it will be dusk by 5 o'clock, just when children are out trick or treating.

Reflective tape can make a fun addition to Halloween costumes and make children more visible to drivers at twilight, as it is picked up in car headlights.

Fluorescent glow sticks and glow jewellery can make good costume accessories and can also help make children more visible to drivers.

If you're going out earlier with little ones, then bright or fluorescent clothing is better for daytime visibility.



9. Stay safe near roads

Masks can make it harder for children to see or hear traffic. So, save the special masks for indoors and use face paint for trick or treating.

Encourage children to put mobile phones away when they are out trick or treating and crossing roads. Instead of using the phone as a light, carry a torch.

Children under 12 are best accompanied by an adult. Agreeing a pre-planned route for children over 12 and having a way of contacting a trusted adult if they need to offers freedom with less risk.

[Visit our road safety hub for more tips](#)



10. Carve carefully

Carving pumpkins has become a great Halloween tradition. If your child isn't old enough to handle a sharp knife safely there are plenty of 'no-carve pumpkin' ideas all over the internet. Just do a quick search on Pinterest. You will be amazed at the creativity.



11. Watch out for treats that might be a choking hazard for young children

Lollipops, hard candy and mini eggs in particular can pose a serious choking risk. Plus, remember it's best to avoid eating while walking or running, so you may want to save up all the treats to enjoy back at home.

[Learn more about choking prevention](#)



12. Be wary of button batteries

Light-up decorations such as pumpkins, cauldrons, torches and wands are fantastic for creating a spooktacular atmosphere. But many of these items are powered by button batteries which can badly hurt or kill a child if swallowed.

That's why it's so important when buying button battery-powered Halloween novelties that you check the battery compartment is secured with a screw or similar fastener to prevent children gaining access.

[Learn more about button battery safety](#)



We hope you have a safe and spooktacular Halloween!



Dates for your diary:

October

25th Class 2 Kents Cavern trip

28th to 1st Nov Half Term

November

4th **Non-pupil day**

11th Y1&2 Multi Skills Holsworthy College

12th Flu Immunisations

13th Vision Screening YR

27th Parent Consultation - 2pm - 6pm

December

6th Ashwater Christmas Fair - 3.30pm-4.30pm

18th Church Service - 9.15 am and 5pm

19th End of term

January

6th Start of term

February

14th to 25th Half Term

March

26th Mary Poppins

Term dates: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS – NEW WORKING ENTITLEMENTS!

Dear Parents,

The new entitlements for eligible working parents, or those with caring responsibilities, will be extended to children from 9 months from September 2024. It is your responsibility to check if you are entitled, make an application before 31st August, and reconfirm every 3 months.

[Check you're eligible for free childcare if you're working - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

It is important that if you have a child who will be 9 months old, on or before 31st August 2024, that you apply to HMRC (Childcare Service) in good time.

Please set-up or visit your [Gateway Account](#) immediately to apply.

Please note that you may not be able to apply for the working entitlement funding immediately if you have a Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) account. We have been advised that you will be able to apply when you receive your TFC reconfirmation reminder or HMRC will issue a temporary code.

If you have recently reconfirmed your TFC and not made an application, please ensure that you are due to reconfirm again before the 31st of August deadline.

It is important that you allow time for any queries with new applications or reconfirmations to avoid delays. Any codes issued by HMRC in September 2024 **will not be funded** in Autumn 2024 (1st September – 31st December). A code with an 'eligible from' date of 1st September 2024 will not be funded until Spring 2025 and only then if you reconfirm by 31st December 2024.

The dates of your code are important, and you must reconfirm every 3 months to confirm eligibility and continue to access your funded childcare!

If you have a previous application for an older sibling, please check the eligibility dates of any new codes for a younger child as the reconfirmation dates can be aligned to the older child which could mean you need to reconfirm before the normal 3-month reconfirmation period.

If you have a code for an older child that needs to be reconfirmed, this should also be completed **now**, and if you are unsure, it is your responsibility to log into your [Gateway Account](#) and check. If you are newly eligible or are given a new code at reconfirmation, you need to take your 11-digit code to your provider who will complete a verification check and then confirm your funded space.

When eligibility ends, children who have accessed the working entitlements can continue to access their entitlement in the next funding period when in the Grace Period. However, children, who are newly eligible in September and using the working entitlements for the first time, or start at a new setting, cannot start to use the funding if their eligibility has ended. The Grace Period does not apply to children that have not used the working entitlements with the provider in the previous funding period.

If the Grace period does not apply, or your Grace period ends, the working entitlement will also end. If you continue to use childcare, you will be charged.

If you are registering for a new Gateway account with HMRC, you will be asked if you would like to register for Tax Free Childcare. If you are in receipt of Tax Credits these may be stopped, and it can take several weeks to reapply and for Tax Credits to be reinstated.

If you have problems accessing the system or completing your check, please call the HMRC Helpdesk on 0300 1234 097 (your provider and Devon County Council cannot assist with new applications or reconfirmations for the Working Entitlements).

Devon Early Years are running some online sessions for parents in July to give an overview on what funding is available, how you apply for different funding streams and how your child can access funded time. Please save the links below to join a session that suits you:

Kind regards,

Devon Early Years Funding

Childcare
Choices

All the government
childcare offers in one place

childcarechoices.gov.uk



 HM Government



Hatherleigh U10 girls

Did you know Hatherleigh has a girl's football team?

Do you have a girl in Year 3, 4 or 5 who wants to play football?

- Have fun
- Make friends
- Get active
- Belong to a team



We are actively looking for new players—all abilities and experiences welcome!

Weekly training and regular North Devon Youth League Matches.

Get in touch for more information:

Email: lioness-under-10s@hatherleighyouthfc.co.uk



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NIGHT FIGHTERS

THE STORY OF 307 SQUADRON



14–15 November 2024

10:00–16:00

Exeter Guildhall, High Street

FREE ENTRY

307 Squadron Exhibition
and 'The Polish D-Day Story' 80th Anniversary Exhibition

Raising of the Polish Flag

15th November 10:00

facebook.com/307SquadronProject



Republic of Poland
in Exeter



Exeter
City Council



CITY OF EXETER

flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit
www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu  **mmunisation**

Helping to protect children, every winter

COULD YOUR CHILD BE ENTITLED TO A SUBSIDY TOWARDS THE COST OF RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TRIPS, SPORTING EVENTS, SCHOOL UNIFORM, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, BREAKFAST CLUB, AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AS WELL AS FREE SCHOOL MEALS IN KS2?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child could be entitled to a subsidy towards the cost of the above:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).

Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

Please apply even if your child is in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives a meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. As well as financially benefiting as described above, your child may receive additional learning support where appropriate because of the additional funding that school receives from Government for known free school meals pupils.

How to apply

Through the Citizen Portal (https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.

Parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.