

CROWSTOG NEWS

FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER 2024



A message from Mrs Lewis:

Over the last few weeks the School Council has been working with me to explore options for developing our reading offer and promote a love of reading. On Friday 11th October we were lucky to have a visit from Henrietta a librarian from Cornerstones English Hub. She visited and worked with our new librarians and Dawn to re-organise our library at Crowcombe. Henrietta will visit again next half term to support us further. Today, the School Council visited Williton Library to find out about the library and how we can promote a love of reading and encourage our pupils and families to utilise the local libraries. The children have returned to school full of ideas for how we can further promote a love of reading at school and have been pivotal in organising class trips to the library for next half term.



This half-term we are focussing on the school value

of: *Courage*



Mental Health Awareness Day

Thank you to all those who supported this worthy cause by wearing something yellow to school last week.

Between the two schools we raised just over £100!! Amazing!



ATTENDANCE

Crowcombe = 96.07%

Stogumber = 97.90%

Email: Crowcombe: CrowcombeOffice@crowstog.co.uk Stogumber: StogumberOffice@crowstog.co.uk

Together, let us Love, Encourage, Achieve and Flourish

(Hebrews 10 24-25)

Generosity, Optimism, Determination, Curiosity and Courage

DIARY DATES

- 21 October - Kingfishers swimming, pm
- Yr5/6 Invasion Games, pm
- Yr 3 /4 Invasions Games, pm
- 23 October - Yr 3/4 Cross-Country, Danesfield, pm
- 24 October - Woodpeckers (Yr 3 & 4) visit East Quay (tbc)
- 25 October - Kingfishers Forest School day
- w/c 28 October - HALF-TERM**
- 4 November - INSET DAY**
- 5 November - Back to School
- 7 November - Yr 5/6 Sportshall Athletics, am
- 8 November - Family Service, 9.15am at Stogumber Church, followed by
Parents Forum in the church—all are welcome to stay and chat
- w/c 11 November Anti-Bullying Week
- 11 November - 10.45am, all children to take part in villages Remembrance Service
- Kingfisher swimming, pm (in lieu of cancelled session 30/9)
- 15 November - Yr 1 Forest School
- 18 November - Woodpeckers swimming, pm
- 20 November - Maths Workshop for KS1 parents, time tbc
- 22 November - Flu vaccinations both schools
- Yr 2 Forest School
- 25 November - Woodpeckers swimming pm
- 28 November - Maths Workshop for Reception parents, time tbc
- 29 November - Yr 3/4 Forest School
- 2 December - Woodpeckers swimming, pm
- 6 December - Stogumber Forest School
- 9 December - Woodpeckers swimming, pm
- 10 December - KS2 Christmas Concert, Crowcombe Hall, late afternoon, time tbc
- 13 December - Yr 5 / 6 Forest Schools
- 16 & 17 December Stogumber Nativity to parents, afternoons, time tbc
- 18 December - Whole School to see 'Cinderella', Tacchii Morris, late return
- 20 December - 9.15am, Christmas Service, at Stogumber Church – all welcome

OWLS:

Last week we finished off our topic on Harvest with the Harvest Service at the church. We looked at why we have harvest, what foods harvested and had a visit from Mrs Sellick who talked to us about what crops need to grow, what farmers look for at this time of year to know when the crops are ready to be harvested and looked at some local produce from her farm. I



at

In Art we used the skills we have been learning in drawing circles, using scissors and facial features to make our own newspaper heads and this week we enjoyed working together using boxes to make bodies for them.

Reception had lots of fun at our first whole school learning outside the classroom day. We enjoyed exploring Matthew's Copse, made animal art in the woods with Mrs Phillips, orienteered with Mr Wedderkopp and had lots of fun with our friends.

To finish off our week we have started a new topic on friendship with looking at the front cover of our book and making predictions about what we think our topic is about. Next week we will be looking at what makes a good friends and completing lots of activities together as a team.



WRENS & ROBINS:

The children loved our outdoor whole-school day with Mr Wedderkopp on Tuesday! Our misty walk to Matthew Copse was a chance to walk and talk with friends, before enjoying a day of nature art, orienteering and exploration. Our outdoor days are always very special and showcase just how adventurous, caring and resilient the children are.

Another highlight was our visit from Mrs Sellick, who spoke to us about the importance of harvest for farmers in our local community. She discussed what conditions crops need to grow, what farmers look for at this time of year to know when a crop is ready to harvest, and brought in some crops from her farm for us to explore.

Our core text in English, Pig the Pug, has brought lots of laughter this week. We have focused on rhyme - finding rhyming couplets in the text, making rhyming strings and writing sentences using rhyming words.



WOODPECKERS:

Our band of wild adventurers have had a fabulous couple of weeks! We walked a very long way to Matthew's Copse – seeing the steam train on the way! We had a terrific time orienteering, designing and making our 'nature creatures', and exploring – all in the rain too!



In the classroom we have been continuing our look at our near-perfect world. We are writing explanation texts to the varmints so they understand the importance of planting and looking after plants. Our own plants are coming on a treat – thank you for the donations of compost and pots!

We have begun to explore numbers to 1000. Ms Jolliffe is making sure we know all our number bonds so that we can find the correct complements to 100. We love our magic number links!

How can it be nearly half term already? Time flies.....



KINGFISHERS:



Children in Kingfisher Class have been investigating forces in Science. First they made a selection of parachutes, which differed only by size, and dropped them off the highest position they could climb to in the school to investigate air resistance.

The following week they all made some 3D shapes from playdough and saw which one travelled fastest through the water in a measuring cylinder.

The children have also found out about the scientist Galileo and seen how objects in a vacuum fall to the floor at the same rate, regardless of their mass.



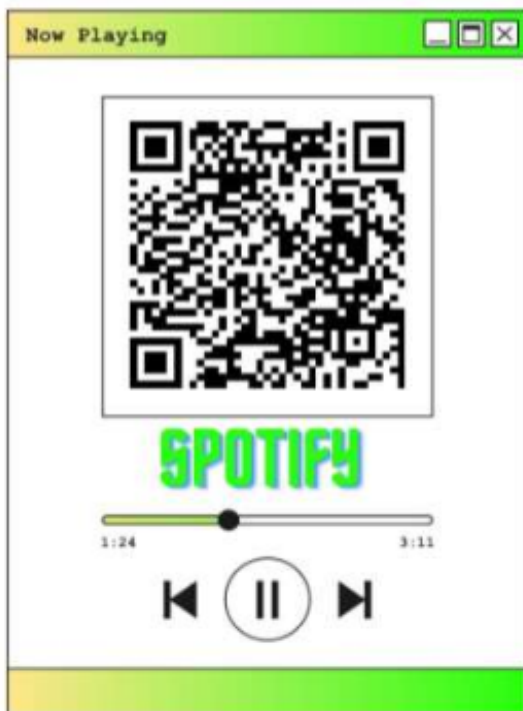
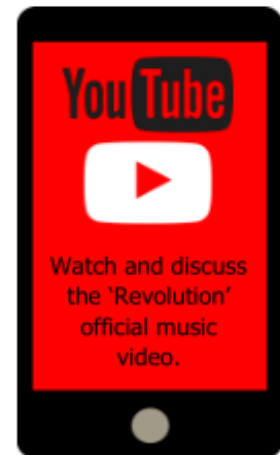


HOME INFORMATION



October's Musician of the Month

Tracy
Chapman



About: Tracy Chapman (born in Cleveland, U.S.A. on March 30, 1964) is an American singer-songwriter. Chapman is best known for her hit singles "Fast Car" and "Give Me One Reason". She is politically and socially active and is very passionate about supporting human rights. She has also been involved with Cleveland's elementary schools, producing an educational music video, highlighting achievements in African-American history.

Genres: Folk, Blues, Rock, Pop & Soul

Active from: 1986 - Present

Origin: Cleveland, U.S.A.

Books to read...

If you like Tracy Chapman, try...




- Natalie Merchant
- Eva Cassidy
- Bob Dylan

**New to the village?
Waiting to collect the kids from school?
Want to meet new people?**

**Come along and join us for a cuppa, cake and
chat in an informal and relaxed setting.
All are welcome!**

CUPPA & CHAT

A close-up photograph of a white ceramic mug with a handle, featuring three horizontal stripes in pink, light blue, and red. The mug is filled with a dark, frothy beverage, likely coffee. It is set against a background of vibrant autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red.

£1 donation

**Hope to see you there.
Tracey and Julia**

Our thanks to the Community Lunch team for their support

STOGUMBER VILLAGE HALL

Tue 22nd October 2024

2.30pm to 4.30pm



DarkSky
INTERNATIONAL



EXMOOR
NATIONAL PARK



Exmoor Dark Skies Festival 2024

Friday 18 October to Sunday 3 November

DARK SKIES CHILDRENS' WRITING COMPETITION 2024

with prizes sponsored by  **CELESTRON** and **dryrobe**[®]

We are looking for children to take inspiration from the Exmoor Dark Skies and incredible landscape to write an exciting and engaging story.

Age categories:

11 and under maximum 500 words, 1st Prize Celestron Telescope

Age 12-16 maximum 1000 words, 1st Prize Dryrobe



Scan the QR code for full full entry details, or click on **Story-writing competition** on our main Festival page: www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival

Your stories can be submitted by email or hard copy to: Dark Skies Writing Competition Exmoor House, Dulverton TA22 9HL Or email jcolman@exmoor-nationalpark.org.uk

Closing date for applications is Friday 1st November 2024. Entries will be judged by local authors and book shop owner and the winners will be notified and announced by Friday 16th November. Please ensure you include your name, address, age, phone number and email address.

Planetarium Sessions



**Minehead Eye,
Minehead, TA24 5BJ
Saturday 26 October
Sessions all day from 9.30am**

The **SPACE ODYSSEY** mobile planetarium offers a 360° immersive experience for all ages.

Adults £7, Children £5.

Book a session in one of the Country's largest mobile planetariums where you will be immersed under spectacular night skies with experienced science teacher and presenter

Simon Ould from Space Odyssey.

A memorable experience for all ages and a must for anyone who's never had a go.

To avoid disappointment, booking is highly recommended



Booking at www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents



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Based on over 20,000 reviews

Bishop's Lydeard Community Library

News

The Summer Reading Challenge ended in early September. It was well attended and the children enjoyed reading plenty of books over the summer holidays, and getting their stickers and medals. Forty children took part at Bishops Lydeard and over 75% completed the 6 books target. Five children read more than that – in fact they read an amazing 120 books between them. Well done to all of you.

Two local children (Oona and Analise) designed and displayed a special Summer Reading Challenge trail. It was bright and colourful and summed up this year's theme "Marvellous Makers" perfectly – it gave other children the opportunity to find pictures around the library and get involved that way.

The new Library System teething problems are being resolved. Thank you to everyone (customers and staff) for battling through it. Special thanks go to our wonderful volunteers for continuing to provide such good customer service at our community library – Carolyn, Dorothy, Eve, Fiona, Iain, Jane, Jay, John, Julia, Lindsay, Lin, Lynne, Martin, Martina, Nigel, Paul, Sue and Sue.

Features

Winter Coat Exchange Scheme

Libraries become so much more than places for reading and studying, they become warm, welcoming, social spaces – real community hubs. The Winter Coat Exchange initiative is to help people stretch tight budgets that little bit further and enable people to donate good quality clean items that others can benefit from. Last winter's donations of 1,022 coats and the uptake of 904, were so successful that the exchange is being repeated this year. The scheme is simple:

- You can take a coat without making a donation.
- You can donate a coat without taking one.
- All donations must be of good quality and in a clean condition.
- Coats of any shape or size, for adults or children are accepted.

Please hand donated coats directly to a member of staff at Taunton library. A small number would be accepted at Bishops Lydeard, which would be sent to Taunton for display. If you would like any coats brought to Bishops Lydeard, please ask a member of staff to arrange it.

National Novel Writing Month

Starting on the 1st November is an annual challenge to write 50,000 words or a novel in the space of the month. Somerset Libraries will be encouraging residents to take part in the challenge and more information can be found on their website [National Novel Writing Month | NaNoWriMo](#)

Things to do

- Storytime – Mondays 11-11.30 (term-time only) – lots of stories and rhymes
- Sing & Sign – Wednesdays 11-11.30 (term-time only) – learn signing through stories and songs

Activities for children – picture trail, colouring, lego, duplo and jigsaws.

Copies of local newspapers, magazines and leaflets and info about other village activities are in the library.

Opening hours:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Monday 10 – 4 | Wednesday 10 – 4 |
| Friday 10 – 4 | Saturday 10 – 1 |