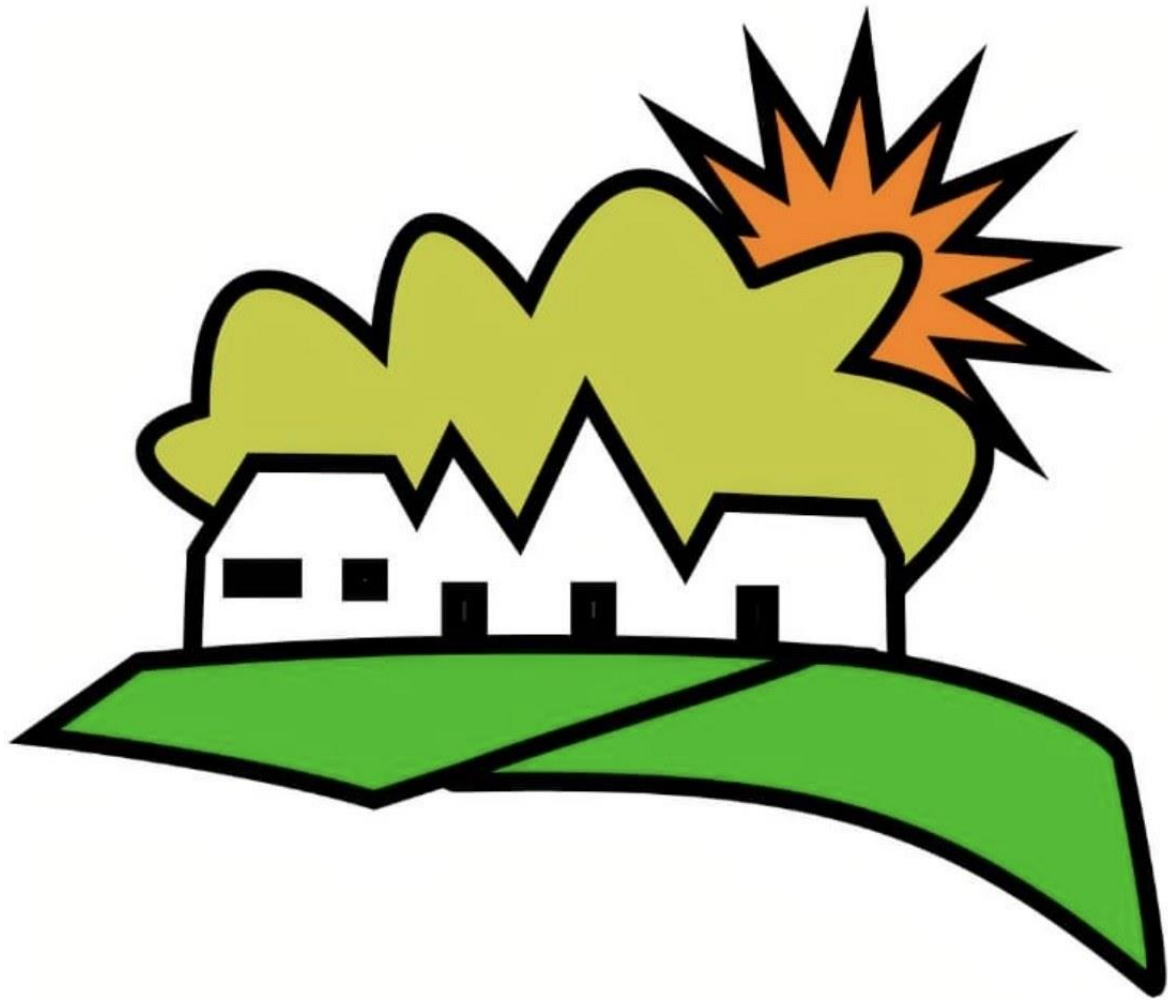




Hennock Primary School Newsletter

Message from the Head

Dear Parents,

Can you believe that we are close to finishing our first half term? A few reminders and updates from me before we head into a well-deserved break.

Parent Voice Coffee Morning - Reminder

A reminder that our first Parent Voice Coffee Morning will take place on:



Monday 19th October 2026

 **9:00am - 10:00am**

 Oak Room

This is an opportunity for parents and carers to hear about our priorities for the year ahead, ask questions and share ideas. We will also be taking parents on a short tour of the school.

Whether you are new to Hennock or have been part of our community for many years, we would love to welcome you.

If you are unable to attend but would still like to share your thoughts or suggest topics for future meetings, please complete our form: Parent Voice - Hennock – Fill in form¹

Welcoming Robyn Harvey

I shared the good news that Robyn Harvey will be joining our team after the half-term break.

Although Robyn has not officially started in school yet, she has already begun working behind the scenes to support a smooth transition and is looking forward to becoming part of the Hennock community. We are delighted to have her join us and know that parents and children will make her feel very welcome when she starts after half term in Saplings.

Thank You to Lynda Cooper

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Lynda Cooper, who has stepped down from her role as Parent Governor.

Lynda has dedicated many years to supporting Hennock School and has been a steadfast advocate for our children, families and staff. Her commitment and passion for the school have made a significant difference, particularly during a period of considerable change. On behalf of the school community, I would like to thank Lynda for everything she has done.

Could You Be Our Next Parent Governor?

With Lynda's departure, we now have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Local Advisory Committee.

Further information will be sent separately. If you are interested and would like an informal conversation about what the role involves, please do get in touch. I would be very happy to discuss the position and answer any questions you may have.

I wish you all a lovely half-term when we get there.

¹https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yQ0V4_Sec0WRRGeMKx2k_YKUvVj_tzJBpHZTIOfoNZtUQkdRQkJDTExLU1hFQjVUUENQSDdCRFE5OS4u

Many thanks,
Anthony Arnold.



School Attendance

A huge thank you to all of our families for supporting strong attendance so far this year. We are delighted that our current whole-school attendance is **98.2%**, which is an excellent figure and a fantastic start to the academic year. Well done, everyone. Let's keep adding those puzzle pieces together! To celebrate our achievements, we have our whole school tracker in our window so that visually see how well we are doing.

Attendance this fortnight:

Whole School 98.1%

Ash 99.9%

Birch 96.6%

Willows 98.1%

Admissions policy for 2027-28: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2027-28. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposal new policies which are based on policies for this year and next year and to have your say on them.

Our proposed policy is on our admission page and you can see all policies at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy> Further information is here:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangementsThe consultation runs until 16 January 2026.

Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March next year. You can comment at schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk or by emailing the school

Attendance Matters



PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING

1

FIRST OFFENCE

The **first** time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: **£160 per parent, per child. This will be reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.**

2

SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The **second** time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be: **£160 per parent, per child, to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.**

3

THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The **third** time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

IF YOUR CHILD IS JUST 15 MINUTES LATE FOR SCHOOL EVERY DAY, IT ADDS UP TO

2 WEEKS

of the school year being missed



Safeguarding



Key contacts and useful links

Front Door (formerly MASH) main number: 0345 155 1071

Children's Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) – 0845 6000 388

Front Door email: mashsecure@devon.gov.uk²

Our Safeguarding Lead is Anthony Arnold and our Deputy Safeguarding Lead is Maugan Collins. If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing, please contact the school or in non-school hours contact Front Door (formally known as MASH) on

0345 155 1071

Online Safety - parent advice

With concerns about escalating screen time, the impact of violence, unexpected costs and interloping strangers, it can be tempting for parents and carers to lock down video games to limit possible negative impacts on youngsters. While some sensible boundaries *are* certainly helpful, they're only a short-term solution for how we can guide children towards better gaming health.

In this guide, you'll find tips on helping children to avoid potential risks stemming from screen time, simulated violence and interaction with strangers.

This advice is taken from the National College.

²<mailto:mashsecure@devon.gov.uk>

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it's needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



Moving from policing to parenting your gaming kids: how to engage and guide

With concerns about escalating screen-time, the impact of violence, unexpected costs and interloping strangers it can be tempting to lock down video games to limit their negative impact. While some sensible boundaries are helpful, they are only a short term solution for how we guide children towards gaming health. Like other areas of childhood, parents and carers can have a powerful steering presence by engaging and participating in the video games their children play. This not only reduces risks because they are aware of the kinds of activities, interactions and costs involved but makes video games a part of family life. Along with building dens, climbing trees, cooking and family walks, playing games with children enables parents to guide the quality of content being played. This may start with sharing the games children are currently playing, understanding why they love it and celebrating successes. But with a little research, this can grow into suggesting other games to play and higher ambitions for what kids get out of playing long-standing favourites.



A New Media For Everyone

Video games are a new kind of media. Because they are new we don't entirely understand their potential yet. They're become integral popular and commercially successful as blockbuster entertainment for children and teenagers. However, like books, films and music, the full range of video games on offer is much broader than this.

There are games about every topic you could imagine, and aimed at a wide range of ages and perspectives. Whether it's sharing a families heart-breaking story in *That Dragon, Cancer*, creeping into the shoes of a doctor in *Blue's Dream*, or taking the hand of your child and starting over the clouds in *Sky: Children of Light*, games take us places to connect with it's no surprise that *Roll Stone* magazine lists that in 2014 40% of men and 32% of women play games. And Entertainment Software Association (ESA) data showed that the average age for US gamers is 35 for women and 33 for men.

If you want to turbocharge your care of a child who loves playing video games, the best thing to do is to find games you want to play yourself. This can sound like strange advice until we consider how hard it would be coming for a child who loves books without reading ourselves or guiding a child who loves music without sharing our favourite songs.

Video Game Diet

Gaining an understanding of what video games are, what they are like to play and the different experiences on offer, enables you to encourage a varied gaming diet. Similar to how we don't worry about what time but what's on the plate, we can differentiate between different types of screen experience.

Playing *Fortnite* offers excellent excitement and connection to friends. Playing *Minecraft* connects us to the players sitting next to us. *Roblox* can be a place for children to play at having a job or serving a store. *Minecraft* can be a transport escape from a busy day at school. *Angry Birds* can be a way to calm anxiety or jangling nerves.

Parents and carers can expand these experiences. *Kingdoms Two*, *Civilians*, *Angry Birds* and *Angry Birds* are all great. *Angry Birds* is a gentle way for children to learn about their own emotional responses to challenging situations as well as representing how people experiencing them first hand may feel. *Eco* and *One Hour, One Life* encourage the theme of building something that other players benefit from.



Creators Not Consumers

Ambition for their future means parents and carers support activities where children are creating. While this is familiar territory when a child is brilliant at an instrument or learning a foreign language, it's easy to miss the need for our enthusiasm when it comes to video games. Along with the usual creation and good feelings that come from a parent or carer celebrating success in an activity that a child enjoys comes the imperative that they could go further than they realise themselves. The risk is comparing video games (as a total package) but requires great skill, drive, long audiences and comes with high prize money for professional players. Beyond this, parents can guide children towards other careers in video games which need diverse creative, technical and social skills. A simple and effective way to do this is to encourage children to create as well as consume games. The first step is a simple construction of the games that allow you to design maps and characters. Then there are games like *Minecraft* on Wii U, DSi and Switch where you can design and share levels for other players. *Dungeons on the PlayStation 4* takes this further with an incredible game creator built into the powerful.

Finding Games You Want Children To Play

Parenting rather than policing video games equips children to build good habits and a healthy relationship with digital media for when they leave home and parents aren't around to enforce the rules. One challenge can be finding the kinds of games you want your children to play. There are good resources to help you with this. Many of the activities here come from our upcoming *Taming Gaming* book (<https://taminggaming.com/book/taming-gaming/>)

There are also websites that provide video game suggestions like *AdhdGaming.com* (<https://www.adhdgaming.com>). Also, there are good Twitter accounts that help, like *Wholesome Games* (<https://twitter.com/wholesomegames>) and *New Video Game Of The Day* (<https://twitter.com/NVGOTD>).

You can also use the *VSC Rating Board* (<https://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/>) website and PEGI app to search for games of different ratings.



Meet our expert

Andy Robertson is a parent of three children and a parent who writes for national newspapers and broadcast television. His *Taming Gaming* book helps parents guide children to healthy play.

Ash Class



It has been another busy and exciting couple of weeks in KS2, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across the curriculum!

In Forest School, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the outdoor environment, building dens and working collaboratively. They were also very excited to learn how to safely use simple tools to create their own leather key rings, showing great care, patience and responsibility throughout the process.

In English, we have been completing our final pieces of writing, using all of the skills we have practised over the unit including the use of clauses and precise vocabulary to build the scene. It has been wonderful to see the children applying their knowledge independently and taking pride in their finished work. Using the text, 101 ways to be a Superhero as a

foundation, the children have written instructional pieces on how to escape school, become an ethereal legend and an legami collected among many other fabulous ideas.

In Maths, we have successfully completed our Place Value unit and have now moved on to Addition and Subtraction. The children have shown increasing confidence with number concepts and are ready for the new challenges ahead.

Our Art project has focused on creating mixed-media beetles inspired by Pop Art. The children have explored colour, pattern and texture to produce some vibrant and creative pieces of artwork.

In History, we have been learning about the important roles people played during World War II. The children stepped into the shoes of individuals such as air wardens and wrote thoughtful postcards home, helping them to understand what life may have been like during this period.

Our Science learning has involved some fascinating investigations mainly focused around forces using a Newton Meter. In PE, we have continued developing our rugby skills, focusing on line-outs and kicking techniques. The children showed excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the lessons.

Finally, in Music, we have been exploring Samba rhythms and continuing to layer the different rhythms played on different instruments on top of one another.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead! 😊

Birch Class



It has been another busy and exciting week in class, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across the curriculum!

In Forest School, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the outdoor environment, building dens and working collaboratively. They were also very excited to learn how to safely use tools to create their own leather key rings, showing great care, patience and responsibility throughout the process.

In English, we have been completing our final pieces of writing, using all of the skills we have practised over the unit. It has been wonderful to see the children applying their knowledge independently and taking pride in their finished work. They have written individual instructional guides of how to care for birds, writing step by step instructions of how to make fat balls and including lots of interesting facts about birds.

In Maths, we have successfully completed our Place Value unit using number to 1, 000 and have now moved on to Addition and Subtraction where children will be learning a variety of methods to solve problems using these operations.

Our Art project has focused on creating mixed-media beetles inspired by Pop Art. The children have explored colour, pattern and texture to produce some vibrant and creative pieces of artwork.

In History, we have been learning about the important roles people played during World War II. The children stepped into the shoes of individuals such as air wardens and wrote thoughtful postcards home, helping them to understand what life may have been like during this period.

Our Science learning has involved some fascinating investigations. One experiment used eggs submerged in different liquids to represent what can happen to our teeth over time. The children made careful observations and predictions, developing their scientific enquiry skills while learning about looking after their bodies.

In PE, we have continued developing our rugby skills, focusing on line-outs and kicking techniques. The children showed excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the lessons.

Finally, in Music, we have been exploring playing the xylophone. The children have been composing their own ostinato patterns and learning two well-known songs, demonstrating enthusiasm and growing musical confidence.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead! 😊

Willows and Reception Class



What a busy and exciting week we have had in Willow Class! The children have been working incredibly hard across all areas of the curriculum.

In Year 1 and 2 we have started a new Maths topic focusing on addition and subtraction within 20. The children have been exploring fact families and developing their understanding of parts and wholes. In English, the children have independently written the final part of our *Oi Fly!* story. We have been so impressed with how hard they have worked on their writing, showing fantastic effort and independence. It has been lovely to see them putting their ideas into words and using what they have learnt to create their own story endings. In DT this week, the children explored different ways to make axles and investigated how these could help wheels turn on a vehicle. They used their discoveries to design their own wheeled vehicles, which they will be building next week. We are looking forward to seeing their designs come to life! Reception also joined in with our wheeled vehicle theme, using junk modelling to create their own designs. It was wonderful to see the children exploring different materials and using their imaginations to bring their ideas to life!

Reception have also been enjoying the story *Mrs Armitage on Wheels*. We shared the story together and acted it out before the children designed and drew their own bikes. They came up with lots of fantastic ideas for useful additions to their bikes, showing great imagination and creativity. In Reception Maths, our focus has been on the numbers 1, 2 and 3. The children have been practising recognising these numbers, subitising (knowing how many objects there are without counting them one by one) and counting accurately up to 3.

Despite the rain, Willow Class had a fantastic time at Forest School last week! We collected lots of sticks and enjoyed sorting them by size. We also used some of the sticks we had collected to make fishing rods, which we took to the stream for some imaginative play. The children had lots of fun exploring and experimenting with their creations. We also enjoyed playing Eagle Eye.

Have a lovely weekend!



Saplings



We have had a lovely couple of weeks in Preschool!

We enjoyed a very special final week with Debbie, making the most of our time together before we said goodbye. This week, we have had a fun-filled week with Marie, who has settled in beautifully with the children.

Our theme at the moment is Autumn, and we have been exploring all the wonderful colours and changes that we can see around us. We have been getting creative with our autumn-coloured paints, including making beautiful butterflies using a folding technique. The children enjoyed watching the paint spread and discovering how folding the paper created a symmetrical butterfly.

One of our favourite books this week has been *Little Acorn*, which has helped us learn all about the life cycle of an oak tree, from a tiny acorn growing into a magnificent oak tree.

Our biggest highlight, however, has been baking cupcakes! The children loved helping to weigh and count the ingredients and were fascinated by what happened when we mixed everything together. We talked about different ingredients, including solids and liquids, and what happens when things melt and change as they are heated. Of course, the best part was taking home our delicious cupcakes!

We have also made the most of the lovely autumn weather, spending time playing in the playground and enjoying lots of opportunities for physical play. The children have particularly enjoyed riding the bikes on the pitch, developing their confidence, balance and coordination while having lots of fun.

Have a wonderful weekend

Toddler Group!





Toddler group joins the Preschool in the school hall. Activities include painting, mark making, playdough sand and water play.

All are very welcome, join us for a chat, some craft, and very importantly, tea for your adult!

Running from 9.15-10:30am every Tuesday morning.

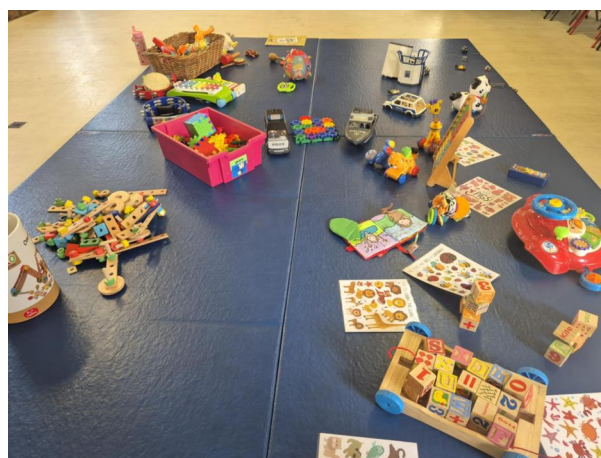
Tell your friends and family to spread the word.

£1.50 a session. Hennock Primary school. Please call or email if you have any questions;

adminhennock@thelink.academy

01626 833233.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.



PTFA Message



A Brilliant Barn Dance We are absolutely thrilled to announce that this year's Barn Dance was a phenomenal success, raising an incredible £5,000 for the school!

Despite a very sharp rain shower just before the doors opened, the weather cleared up to be lovely all evening, and the brief rain certainly did not dampen anyone's enthusiasm. It was fantastic to see a completely full barn with so many people enjoying the dancing, food, drink and children's activities. It was lovely to see all ages enjoying themselves. A particular highlight this year was the hot desserts, with the homemade apple crumble and bread and butter pudding from Linda Harvey's kitchen proving exceptionally popular.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Keith and Hilary Harvey for so generously allowing us to use their barn once again. Cleaning out the barn and making it available is a

major undertaking without which our event would be impossible. An equally big thank you goes to all the amazing volunteers who made the evening such a triumph. We had a larger team of volunteers this year, which made the whole event run incredibly smoothly and feel much more manageable for everyone involved. The evening was such a success that we are already beginning discussions to plan next year's dance!

Upcoming PTFA Meeting – Please Join Us Our next PTFA meeting will be held on Monday, 19 October, immediately after school.

The Hennock PTFA Team



Communications Team



Stars of the week



9th October

Star of the week:

Ash: Albert **Birch:** Ruby **Willows:** Alma

BC: Alana **ASC:** Lucy

Pride of school: Maddie

16th October

Star of the week:

Ash: Olivia **Birch:** Xavier **Willows:** Spencer

BC: Spencer **ASC:**

Pride of school: Maddie

Key Dates

PE with Mr Pierce Every Monday, Willows, Birch and Ash

Willows, extra PE every Tuesday

Ash and Birch, extra PE every Thursdays

- Monday 19th October, 9am - 10am - Parent Voice Coffee Morning
- Half Term
- 12th November Tempest Photography (individuals and siblings)
- 16th November (week commencing) Bikeability
- 20th November Flu Vaccine visit

Forest School for the whole school, EYFS and KS1 in the morning KS2 in the afternoon.

21st October

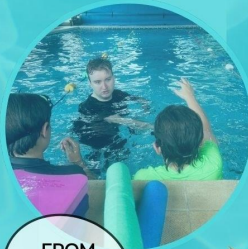
11th November

25th November

9th December

For Your Information

OCTOBER ½ TERM CRASH COURSES



26th-30th OCTOBER
2X VENUES, 30 MINS
PER LESSON

Harcombe House, Chudleigh

Stages 1-5
🕒 4:30pm-6:00pm
⌚ 30 minute lessons
👥 Max 6 swimmers per class
👤 1:3 ratio for Stages 1 & 2
💷 Private lessons from £28.99/day
🅑🅖 Free parking

NR Cullompton | EX15

Stages 1-4
🕒 8:30am-10:00am
⌚ 30 minute lessons
👥 Max 4 swimmers per class
💷 Private lessons from £27/day
🅑🅖 Free parking

**FROM
£12.50 PER
LESSON!**

🌟 **NOW OFFERING DAY BOOKINGS!** 🌟
Can't make all 5 days?
You can now book individual sessions!
£5 OFF when booking all 5 🤍
📧 info@kingfisheractivities.co.uk / 07814480650

Book individual days via our online booking system
Learn to Swim with Kingfisher Activities
www.kingfisheractivities.co.uk

AWARDED 5★ BEST OF THE BEST 10 BEST HOLIDAY CAMPS 2022

SPOOKTACULAR OCTOBER HALF TERM

@STOVER SCHOOL, NEWTON ABBOT

MONDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2026

MONSTER MASH MONDAY Sports (Morning) Halloween Ice Breakers Ghost Hunter Dodgeball Frightening Football Afternoon Pumpkin Carving Halloween Woodland Games & Blind Trails Noon Dodgeball with James the Friendly Ghost!	TERRIFYING TUESDAY Sports (Morning) Ghost Hunter Dodgeball Ghooley Benchball Haunted Hockey Afternoon It's a Knockout Gladiator Battles Zombie Escape Team Inflatable Challenges	WITCHCRAFT WEDNESDAY Sports (Morning) Halloween Ice Breakers Haunted Hockey Frightening Football Afternoon Spooky Mini Golf Zombie Escape Team Inflatable Challenges	TRICK OR TREAT THURSDAY Sports (Morning) Ghooley Benchball Haunted Hockey Zombie 3-Ball Afternoon Halloween Woodland Games & Blind Trails Spooky Mini Golf	FANG-TASTIC FRIDAY Sports (Morning) Halloween Ice Breakers Frightening Football Ghost Hunter Dodgeball Afternoon Fancy Dress Party Thriller Dance Routine Inflatables & Games
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Spooky sports, creepy crafts and a monster amount of fun!

 www.high5sportscamps.co.uk  

Young people are offered the following vaccines in secondary school:

Vaccine	School year offered	Diseases protected against
Flu vaccine	Annual vaccine offered to all in Years 7 to 11	Protects against flu, which can lead to acute bronchitis and pneumonia
Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine	Year 8	HPV related cancers such as cervical cancer, some cancers of the head and neck, some genital cancers and genital warts
MenACWY vaccine	Year 9	Meningococcal groups A, C, W and Y (which can cause meningitis and septicaemia)
3 in 1 teenage booster (Td/IPV)	Year 9	Tetanus, diphtheria and polio
MMR – for those that have not had 2 doses of MMR	Catch-up – offered opportunistically	Measles, mumps and rubella

Catch-up opportunities, either as additional visits or when the immunisation team is already coming into the school, may be offered for those who have missed out on their vaccinations.

Further information on supporting immunisation in education and child care settings, including colleges and universities can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/supporting-immunisation-programmes



6 – Adolescent vaccination programme: Briefing for secondary schools

Did you know children are offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ FLU: Reception - Year 11
- ✓ MMR: Catch-up
- ✓ HPV: Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ Meningitis ACWY: Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP): Year 9 - Year 11

Did you miss us?

We also run community clinics across Cornwall and Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

Contact us for further information, to check your child's vaccination status, or book a catch up clinic:

01392 342678

kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net