

Sacred Heart RC Nursery & Primary School



17 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another exciting few weeks of learning both within and beyond the classroom for our children at Sacred Heart!

Our **Year 5** pupils had a fantastic day exploring **Exeter Museum**, where they delved into history and discovered fascinating artefacts from across the ages. Meanwhile, **Year 2** stepped back in time aboard **The Golden Hind** in Brixham, learning what life was like for explorers on the high seas! They also enjoyed a visit to **Brixham Library**, where they met the librarians and explored both fiction and no-fiction quality texts linked to their class learning.



Next week promises to be just as busy and exciting — **Year 1** and **Year 6** are heading to **Paignton Zoo** to learn all about animals and their habitats, and **Year 3** will be turning into budding **geologists** at **Fairy Cove**, studying the incredible rock formations right on our doorstep.

We are so lucky to live within **The English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark** — one of only **seven geoparks in the UK**. Our coastline is world-famous for its unique geology, telling a story that spans over **400 million years**. From ancient coral reefs to folded red sandstone cliffs, this area gives our pupils a truly special opportunity to see science and geography come alive in real life.

It's important to remember that **Paignton Zoo**, one of our much-loved local landmarks, is currently facing financial challenges. As a school, we are proud to be doing our bit to support them through our visits and thank you, as parents, for supporting this — helping to ensure that future generations can continue to learn from this wonderful place. It would be such a loss for our area if it were to close.

Sporting success has also been on the agenda this term! **Year 2 and Year 4** represented Sacred Heart brilliantly at recent **Paignton Academy Rugby Festivals** held at **Paignton Rugby Club**, joining other local primary schools in a celebration of teamwork, fitness and fun.

Well done to all our pupils for representing Sacred Heart so beautifully in the wider community — learning, exploring and showing our Gospel values wherever they go!

A Real Joy — Live Music at Sacred Heart!



On Monday morning, every child at Sacred Heart had the opportunity to take part in a music workshop led by two local, very talented musicians. We were fortunate to secure an Arts Grant to fund this exciting experience, helping us to enrich our music curriculum and bring the joy of live performance into school.

The workshop was full of energy and smiles — children were able to sing, clap, dance, chant and play instruments, while also listening to music performed live on a variety of instruments. Experiences like this help children to develop their musical understanding through listening and appraising, exploring rhythm, pitch and tempo, and expressing themselves creatively through movement and song.

One of our visiting musicians wrote afterwards:

“A real pleasure to visit Sacred Heart again yesterday. Such great singing from the children!”

Events like this help us to meet the expectations of the National Plan for Music Education, ensuring that



every child has the chance to experience high-quality live music. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm, talent and joy of our pupils shining through — truly a celebration of music at Sacred Heart!

Reception 2026 Open Day – Come and See Sacred Heart in Action!

We are delighted to be holding our **Reception 2026 Open Day** on **Friday 21st November**. Families are warmly invited to come along and see our wonderful school in action.

There will be two opportunities to visit between:

Morning: 9:15am – 11:30am

Afternoon: 1:15pm – 3:00pm

We welcome anyone to drop in between these times and you can stay for as long or as short as you like.

If you know of anyone who is looking for a Reception place for September 2026, please do point them in our direction and encourage them to pop in for a look around. It's a great chance to see our caring ethos, vibrant classrooms and happy children at work.

We look forward to welcoming new families and sharing what makes Sacred Heart such a special place to learn and grow!

Positive Lunchtimes at Sacred Heart

This week, we have gone back to basics and placed a strong focus on ensuring that lunchtimes are a positive and enjoyable part of the school day for every child. I have gathered feedback from pupils, staff and parents, helping us to gain a full picture of what is working well and where we can make further improvements.

Last year, we invested significantly in developing our outdoor spaces, creating distinct zoned areas to meet the needs of all children. This includes new equipment, defined play zones and enhanced staffing such as Mr Bradley running sports' clubs three times a week, all designed to support purposeful play and ensure that every child can enjoy their lunchtime safely and happily.

We will continue to work closely with our pupil voice groups and lunchtime staff to make sure that lunchtimes remain calm, active and positive for **everyone**. It's wonderful to see our children showing kindness, teamwork and respect during their play — truly living out our Sacred Heart values.



As part of our ongoing focus on creating **positive and purposeful lunchtimes**, our **lunchtime staff** will be taking part in further **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** next half term. This training will help to strengthen the team's confidence and skills in promoting **positive play, teamwork and inclusion**, ensuring that every child enjoys a happy and harmonious lunchtime experience.

The sessions will focus on **building strong relationships, supporting purposeful play across our zoned areas**, and encouraging children to take responsibility for their behaviour and choices.

Our lunchtime team play such an important role in school life, and this professional learning will help ensure that lunchtimes continue to be a time of **joy, friendship and wellbeing for all**.

Warm regards,

Mrs Nichola Day
Executive Headteacher



Diary Dates

Mon 20th Y1 Paignton Zoo Trip

Tues 21st Y6 Paignton Zoo trip

Thurs 23rd: PTFA disco

Fri 24th: Y3 trip to Fairy Cove

Fri 24th Break up for half term



Mon 3rd: INSET day – staff only

Tues 4th: Term starts today

Tues 11th Parents' Evening

Thursday 13th: Skipping Ninja PE/PSHE enrichment

Thursday 13th: Parents' Evening

Fri 14th Children in Need (Mental Health focus) – Dress in sportswear.

Fri 5th: Rudolf Run for Rowcroft

Fri 12th: Christmas Market

Fri 19th: Break up



Applying for a Secondary School Place...

If your child was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015, it is nearly time to apply for a secondary school place for September 2025.

The application period is open from 1st September 2024 until 31st October 2025

Does your child have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

YES

The SEN Team will manage your application and consult with your preferred and local school.

Please apply in the normal way using the Citizen's Portal.

NO

Please make your application using the Citizen's Portal.

You cannot apply for a specialist provision if your child does not have an EHCP. Please do not select a specialist provision, as this preference will be **disregarded**.

Do you wish to apply for a grammar school or a selective place at The Spires College?

YES

Your child must sit a selective test. Places are awarded by test result alone. It does not matter where you live.

You must register for the test by 16th July 2025, check the school's website for registration form.

Selective testing will take place on Saturday 20th September 2025.

Complete your application on the Citizen's Portal.

NO

Complete your application on the Citizen's Portal.

You cannot apply for a selective school if your child did not sit the test.

Please do not select a Grammar school, as this preference will be **disregarded**.

Do you wish to apply for either the Football or Performing Arts Academy at Torquay Academy?

YES

Please complete a supplementary form and submit to Torquay Academy by 29th September 2025

The aptitude test for the Performing Arts Academy and The Football Academy will take place on Saturday 4th October 2025

Complete your application on the Citizen's Portal

NO

Complete your application on the Citizen's Portal.

SPARKLY DISCO

Tickets
Now On
Sale



THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2025

**KS1 DROP OFF 3:30PM-4:30PM
(RECEPTION, Y1, Y2)**

**KS2 DROP OFF 5PM-6:30PM
(YEARS 3,4,5,6)**



**TICKET PRICE £5. 00 INCLUDES –
HOTDOG/SWEETS/DRINK (1 VEGGIE
OPTION AVAILABLE)**

Contacting your child's teacher

Nursery: Mrs Berry berry@shrcps.org

YR: Mrs Pancott pancott@shrcps.org

Y1: Mrs Good lgood@shrcps.org

Y2: Miss Sloggett sloggett@shrcps.org

Y3: Mrs Flintham / Mrs Glew flintham@shrcps.org / glew@shrcps.org

Y4: Mr Mason jmason@shrcps.org

Y5: Mrs Whitmore/Miss Hartley whitmore@shrcps.org / hartley@shrcps.org

Y6: Mrs Bird bird@shrcps.org

Executive Head Teacher	Mrs Day	day@shrcps.org
Senior Administrator	Mr O'Kane	senioradmin@shrcps.org
Administrator	Mrs Macdonald	admin@shrcps.org
Administrator	Mrs Garside	garside@shrcps.org
Inclusion Team		
Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Day	day@shrcps.org
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Nott	nott@shrcps.org
Deputy SENCO	Mrs Nott	nott@shrcps.org
Support Team		
Play Therapist	Jane Doidge	doidge@shrcps.org
Family Support Worker	Rachel Ripley	rachel@attendance-solutions.co.uk
Attendance Officer	Natalie Black	natalie@attendance-solutions.co.uk

FLU IMMUNISATION

Any parents who missed the consenting process and still wish their child to have the flu vaccine, please ask call 01392 342 678 and the Flu Team will do a consent form over the phone and assist you in booking into one of their community clinics to have the vaccination done.

Anyone who has already completed a consent form and their child did not get the vaccine for any reason will automatically receive an email inviting them to book into a community clinic.



What's on...

Theme Day Menus –



HALF TERM FUN FOOTBALL DAY 

FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER
VENUE: KEVICC, TOTNES TQ9 5JX
£20 | Age 5-14 Years | 10am-3pm



LIMITED PLACES • BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT
TO BOOK VISIT www.shearsoccer.co.uk
 Contact Adam on 07967 124844 or info@shearsoccer.co.uk

COACHING SESSIONS • SMALL SIDED TOURNAMENTS • FUN COMPETITIONS
TROPHIES & PRIZES • CERTIFICATES • PLAYER OF THE COURSE AWARD
IMPROVE PERFORMANCE • BUILD SELF-CONFIDENCE • MAKE NEW FRIENDS
FOR BOYS & GIRLS OF ALL ABILITIES • ALL STAFF UEFA/FA & CRB QUALIFIED

OCTOBER HALF TERM FOOTBALL 

MONDAY: Spires College (MUGA) - Youth & Minis
 Torquay Boys Grammar School - Girls

TUESDAY: Spires College (MUGA) - Youth & Minis
 Teignmouth College - Youth (6-13 Years)

WEDNESDAY: Spires College (MUGA) - Youth & Minis

FRIDAY: Torquay Boys Grammar School - Youth, Minis & Girls

EVERY COURSE 9.30AM - 3.00PM
£15 PER DAY

AGES MINIS: 4-6
 YOUTH: 7-13
 GIRLS: 6-13

 

BOOK: [HTTPS://TORQUAY-UNITED-CST.CLASSFORKIDS.IO/](https://torquay-united-cst.classforkids.io/)
CONTACT: ADMIN@TUCST.CO.UK

Clothing and Toy Event

Preston Baptist Church

Saturday 8th November

10am to 12pm

Come and pick up preloved children's clothes and toys




Donations of good quality clothes and toys can be dropped to Preston Baptist Church between 3rd and 7th November

COMPLETELY FREE