



UPDATE

It is certainly feeling very Christmassy in school at the moment. There are lots of exciting events taking place over the next couple of weeks in the lead up to the end of term.

A reminder that children need to wear their full school uniform for the Carol Service (Year 3 to Year 6) taking place on Wednesday 17th December. No PE kit will be needed on this day.

EYFS NATIVITY

Wow! The children in EYFS amazed me with their performances of Wriggly Nativity on Tuesday and Wednesday. The children sang their hearts out, read their lines brilliantly and looked fantastic in their costumes. Well done to each and every one of them. I know there were a lot of very proud family members in the audience and an extremely proud Headteacher. Well done to everybody involved!



Y3 and Y4 VISIT TO CHARMOUTH

Finally, after a previous trip was cancelled due to poor weather, the children in Mr Baker and Miss Hart's class visited Charmouth in order to learn about fossil-hunting and to experience this themselves. The children all had an incredible time during the visit.



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



We are really pleased with our entry for the Christmas Tree festival this year. It has been inspired by OPAL and the work that we have been doing to improve the childrens' lunch time experience at school.

If you would like to see it live, the 2025 Christmas Tree Festival will be open from 11am to 6pm on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 December; from 10am to 6pm on Saturday 6 December; and from 11am to 5pm on Sunday 7 December. Thanks to Miss Down, Mrs Heard, Miss Bolt and all of the children who put the design together.

Our children have loved their visits to the Christmas Tree festival. They enjoyed having the opportunity to also explore the recent digital installation of the St Boniface Story.



WORLD WAR 2 EXPERIENCE DAY



The children in Year 5 and Year 6 enjoyed their World War II experience this week. Dressed as evacuees, the children left the station early, travelled to school and spent the day in role. They learnt lots about the bravery of the evacuees and their families and the amazing support and care that was offered to many children by families living in towns and villages in our local area. Thanks to Mr Whiteway for helping with the station arrangements and to the volunteers from the British Legion who joined us for the afternoon.



THINK BEFORE YOU POST



A really thought provoking video that reminds us about the importance of carefully thinking before we post information about our children on social media. The simple act of sharing information, photos, and videos of children online can lead to unintended oversharing of personal data, which, in the wrong hands, can have serious consequences.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QL1FmBaof8>
(please note that this link takes you to youtube and care should be taken when accessing the material)

SPORTS STAR



Well done to Ava, Nola, Bonnie, Marley, James and Eliza who have impressed Mr Kelly by demonstrating brilliant sporting values within their PE lessons this week. Well done!

HEADTEACHER AWARD



Well done to Julia for her amazing swimming achievements— 5000m and Bronze award and her Lucy Award for eco-work with the guides, to Theo for achieving his Goldfish 2, to Catherine for passing her STANley 7, to Aimee for how hard she is working at her long multiplication, to Zack for passing his STANley 5, to Hannah and Sienna for achieving their Rainbow Gold Award and to James, Kaleb and Ivy-Rose who have been working really hard at their Reading with Miss Pearce and she is incredibly pleased with the progress that they are making. Well done everybody!

LUCY AWARD

A big well done goes to Xander who we recognised in assembly for the work that he is currently doing to raise money for Shelter. He has been spending the last few weeks making Christmas decorations to sell and has been successful when asking for and receiving donations from crafters around Creden. He will be running his first Christmas stall (December 5th at the Creedy centre, 5-7pm) with all money raised going to shelter. He will also be holding a lucky dip too. If you would like to offer you support, please join him at the Creedy Centre today. He has been ably supported by his brilliant assistant Atticus. Well done to both of you!



TIMID TO TIGER

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are offering families of Creden the opportunity to engage with an intervention called Timid to Tiger. This is a parent group to support families with young and anxious children. These sessions include discussions, practice time and introduction of tips and ideas to support. The intervention runs for 10 weeks for 2 hours each week which will start at the end of February.

Is your child anxious?

Does your child struggle to leave you?

Is your child afraid of something?

Do they have low confidence?

Timid to Tiger is a **10 week group intervention** to give parents skills to support their anxious young people.

This intervention is a **non-judgmental, reflective space** for parents to have the opportunity to share and learn.

We are open to parents:

- Who have **primary** aged anxious children.
- 2 hours available to commit to face to face sessions a week.
- Ready to make **active change** to support their young people.

Express your interest by speaking to Clare Bedford → Mini Assessment completed by a MHST Practitioner → Access the group or collaborative signpost

Any questions? Please contact: Clare Bedford

CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON



A huge well done to Mrs Yates and the Year 5 and Year 6 choir who performed brilliantly at the 'Christmas Light Switch On' on Saturday afternoon. The children sung brilliantly and you could see how well the audience received the performance. Certainly helped get me into the Christmas spirit. There will be a further opportunity to hear the choir sing at the Carol Concert.

Thanks to the Creden Courier for the lovely photograph.

PRICE and BUCKLAND UNIFORM

Stock Take will take place from Thursday 4th to Friday 12th December. During this period, we will continue to accept orders, but they will not be processed or dispatched until after the stock take is complete. If you'd like to place any orders in advance, feel free to do so and we will do our very best to dispatch them before the closure.

APPLYING FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE

The application window for a child starting primary school in September 2026 is fast approaching. If your child was born between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022** they are due to start primary school in September 2026.

To make an application, which must be done between November 15th 2025 and the 15th January 2026, please go through the Devon Portal by clicking [here](#)

PICK N' MIX HOME-LEARNING SHARING
Wednesday 10th December 2025

THE POWER OF READING

Many children at Hayward's have said that the highlight of their day is having a chance to read with you and enjoy a story. Reading has the power to open up the curriculum and the wider world for a child. We have included two key pieces of information about the power of reading and the impact that it can have for your child. In terms of mental health and well-being and creating bonds between caregiver and unlocking a word bank that has a massive impact on a child's ability to engage with the world around them. We ask for 10 minutes of reading five times a week in Year 1 and 2, 20 minutes in Year 3 and Year 4 and 30 minutes in Year 5 and Year 6. As parents ourselves, we understand that there can be challenge with achieving this, with busy lives, but ask that you do your best please, as often as possible. It will make a real difference.

Bond with their caregivers and experience better mental wellbeing

Feelings of security and bonds with parents/carers are enhanced. Children are more likely to have healthy routines and habits. They are more likely to experience better mental wellbeing, self-esteem and socio-emotional skills.

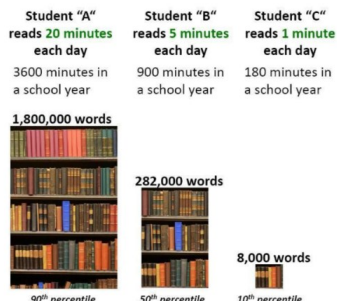
Meet early development milestones and do better at school

Brain development, attention, and cognitive ability are all enhanced. Children have better school readiness and make more progress across the curriculum. They have better speech and language development and literacy skills.

Develop empathy, creativity and imagination

Children build empathy by reading fiction. They develop creative problem-solving skills, and they develop their creativity and imagination.

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



1st Crediton Scouts Christmas Post



Do you have Christmas cards to deliver locally?

1st Crediton Scouts offer a postal service within Crediton town and the villages of Coplestone, Sandford and Newton St Cyres

Stamps cost £2 for 5, or 50p each
(cash only, please try to have correct change)

Our special stamps are on sale and cards can be posted at: Creedy Kitchen, CJ Interiors, Crediton Congregational Church, Age Concern, Quickes Farm Shop, The Bookery, CraftSisters, and the Christmas Tree Festival Café (Sat 6th only), with additional post boxes (no stamps) at Morrisons and Tesco.

Last posting: midday on Friday 12th December

Cards will be delivered by the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts
14th – 16th December

Please only post to addresses within the built-up areas of Crediton, Coplestone, Sandford and Newton St Cyres. We cannot guarantee delivery to Shobrooke, Yeoford, Coleford, Knowle, Newbuildings, or any other hamlets or outlying properties!

If you have any queries, or know of an elderly / housebound local resident who would like us to collect post from their home, please call Helen 07814 977693

Thank you for supporting 1st Crediton Scouts
Merry Christmas

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
2025 - Crediton Parish Church**

THURSDAY 4th DECEMBER
11am to 6pm : Café 10am to 4.30pm
Concert at 7pm in aid of Hospiscare
by Ad Hoc & the Crediton Strummers

FRIDAY 5th DECEMBER
11am to 6pm : Café 10am to 4.30pm

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER
10am to 6pm : Café 10am to 4.30pm
Concert at 6pm – Holy Cross Choir
with Crediton Town Band

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER
11am to 5pm : Café 2pm to 4.30pm
Free Admission : Disabled Access
Bridge Books, Church Shop, Bric-a-Brac
More information and/or party bookings:
Email – creditontreefestival@gmail.com
Telephone – 01363 772865

KEY REMINDERS

Deposit for Residentials—If you would like your child to attend the residential but have not paid the deposit yet, could I ask that you do this at your earliest convenience please. It is important that we know accurate numbers so that we can effectively staff the event. Many thanks for your support with this.

Payments for visits, trips and swimming—If there are visits, trips or swimming lessons that have not been paid for yet, could I ask that this is done by the end of the school term please.

Renew Uniform—A reminder that our Renew Uniform shop is open on Thursday and Friday after school if you are in need of uniform ahead of the new term.

Uniform—Please continue to maintain school uniform and PE kit on the right days please.

LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

Join Crediton's independent shops this Christmas!

Crediton's Christmas Late Night Shopping returns on Friday 5th December 2025, supported by the Crediton Chamber of Commerce. Local businesses are invited to open late, offering festive deals and gifts.

The town will be filled with street entertainers, music, and food stalls, creating a lively seasonal atmosphere.

Join the community in celebrating Christmas, supporting local shops, and enjoying an evening of festive fun in the heart of Crediton.

Date: Friday 5 December

Time: 5pm – 7.30pm



KEY DATES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Wednesday 10th December	Christmas Dinner Day (Christmas Jumpers)
Wednesday 10th December 2:45pm	Y2 Christmas Singing
Thursday 11th December 2:45pm	Y1 Christmas Singing
Thursday 11th December 3:45pm	Y4 Parent Information Meeting for Great Potheridge House
Friday 12th December	School Disco (EYFS/KS1 5:30-6:30 and KS2 6:30-7:30pm)
Tuesday 16th December	Morning KS2 rehearsal at the Church (Y3 to Y6)
Wednesday 17th December 2pm	KS2 Carol Service in the Church
Wednesday 17th December	EYFS Christmas Party
Friday 6th February 2026	Year 2 Poetry Celebration Assembly
2nd-6th March 2026	Grenville House Residential —Y6
Friday 27th March 2026	Year 5 Poetry Celebration Assembly
Weds 25th to Fri 27th March 2026	Great Potheridge Residential — Y4
Friday 22nd May 2026	Year 4 Poetry Celebration Assembly
Monday 8th June to Friday 12th June 2026	Year 1 Phonics Screening check and Year 2 Phonics Screening retakes.
Friday 3rd July 2026	Year 1 Poetry Celebration Assembly
Friday 10th July 2026	EYFS Poetry Celebration Assembly