

Dear Ellacombe Families,

Welcome back to the new academic year and we hope you have all had a good summer and had the opportunity to relax and refresh. There is always something exciting about the start of a new school year with the possibilities of success and progress ahead of us. I would like to use this 'start' as an opportunity to thank you for your encouragement with your child/ren's learning; we can only do what we do, in school, with your support behind us.

Please can we ask that all children are in their school uniforms or PE kits throughout the week. This gives the children a sense of belonging and being part of Ellacombe—we will be reminding the children about this over the next couple of weeks. As a reminder, last year we also reverted to the children just drinking water in school (and not juice or fizzy drinks) so please can this continue this year.

The after school club list will be out on Monday, for you to sign your child up and these will start the week beginning Monday 15th September. It would be lovely if every child in the school was signed up to attend at least one of these activities enabling them to develop new skills and interests.

We have had a lot of building work happening over the summer including new roofs, new windows, new playground equipment and a new toilet in our Nurture room; all these things are enabling your children to learn in the best possible school buildings.

If you have any concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to discuss them with our family support team who are available at the start and end of each day.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Regards, Ms Alison Helm: Headteacher

Dates for your
diary ...

September

W.c 15th September After school clubs start (info out on Monday)

October

Thursday 16th Year 3 trip to Kents Cavern

Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd Parents'/Carers' Evening (Not year 3) - NO CLUBS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 21st & Thursday 23rd Year 3 Parents'/Carers' Evening—NO CLUBS THIS WEEK

Friday 24th Year 6 Climate Change Workshop

27th to 31st Half Term Week

November

4th—6th Learn to Cycle

26th—28th Years 5 & 6 Heatree Residential

December/January

Friday 19th December Last day of term

Monday 5th January All children back in school

Attendance Winners: Dolphins

At the end of last year, Dolphins class were rewarded with a 'Pizza Party' to celebrate the fact their class had the highest attendance across the year. It is essential that all children are in school EVERY DAY, ON TIME, and we will continue to celebrate those classes and children who have excellent attendance.



Breakfast Club and After school Club

There are spaces in both our Breakfast Club (8-8.30am) and our After School Club (3-6pm) for those parents/carers who need additional childcare. Please use the school app to book places, in advance, so we can continue to provide these provisions for families who need them.

Additional Music Lessons in School

We have peripatetic music teachers who come into school to teach: piano, drums, guitar and ukulele.

If you are interested in finding out more about these lessons, please speak with Mrs Hughes in the school office who will be able to give you the contact details of the music teachers.



STARS OF THE WEEK



	Little Stars	All of Little Stars for a wonderful Autumn Term start.
	Little Lions	Everyone for such a fantastic start to Y4 and being ready to learn and try their best!
	Little Foxes	Everyone! For starting Year 1 and 2 with such positivity and showing our school values!!
	Little Tigers	Everyone for their amazing start to year 1 and 2 and great attitude to learning. Well done!
	Unicorns	You are all stars this week for coming back to school with a fantastic attitude to learning
	Dolphins	Dolphins - for an coming back to school ready to learn and showing our value of love!
	Eagles	Everyone for such a fantastic start to Y4 and being ready to learn and try their best!
	Swans	Wandile for an amazing start at Ellacombe and sharing such great ideas in class.
	Herdsmen	Lakelan for bringing so much enthusiasm into every aspect of the first week back!
	Heroes	Evie for your incredible attitude and energy coming back to school! Keep it up!
	Hunters	Anthony - for sharing his fantastic ideas with the rest of the class and for being kind to his peers.
	Warriors	Solly - for a great start at Ellacombe Academy!

School Office Opening Times

The school office is closed each day from 11am - 1.30pm; this means any telephone calls will go to answer machine and the office window will have the shutters down. There will still be staff around in case of 'emergencies' or children being dropped off after appointments but we will not be available to answer routine enquiries at this time.

It would be incredibly helpful if you make sure you children are being dropped off between 8.30 - 8.40am through the usual gates. Children coming in through the office after 8.45am are classed as 'late' and this does add additional workload in the office (as well as meaning the children are missing valuable learning time).

We ask that ALL parents download, and regularly check, their MCAS app. This is our main means of communicating information with yourselves and, by checking it regularly, it means we don't have to be sending out repeat messages or answering individual questions about things that have already been shared on there.

The office will continue to be open from 8am—11am and then again from 1.30pm—3.15pm.

Thank you for your cooperation.





ELLACOMBE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

The Ellacombe Weekly

5th September 2025



FREE support to help you cycle locally

For adults who are beginners, improving,
or returning to cycling

E-bike confidence building

Bought an e-bike and want to get out on it a bit more? Maybe you need a bit more confidence cycling on the road?

Feeling e-bike curious? We will hire an electric bike for you to try!

Weds at 10.30:
23, & 30 June,
6 Aug
10, 17, 24 Sept

Meet at Torquay
Harbourside,
sign up via
Eventbrite

BigBikeRevival.org.uk
#BigBikeRevival

info@sstt.org.uk

Funded by
UK Government



**DIMENSIONS
FOR AUTISM**

September 2025

A friendly group of independent autistic adults who meet regularly for discussions, mutual support and community outings in Devon

Date	Start	End	Location*	Topic
01/09/2025	15.00	17.00	Exeter	Ladies' group (open discussion)
04/09/2025	14.30	16.30	Online	Personal Independence Payment (PIP) advice
11/09/2025	14.30	19.00*	Community	Community outing
11/09/2025	18.00	20.00	Online	Evening Group (open discussion)
12/09/2025	14.30	16.30	Barnstaple	Open discussion
17/09/2025	18.00	20.00	Online	LGBTQ+ group (open discussion)
18/09/2025	14.30	16.30	Newton Abbot	Meltdown & shutdown shame
18/09/2025	19.00	20.30	Online	Younger Adults group (18+)
25/09/2025	14.30	16.30	Exeter	Burnout shame
29/09/2025	14.30	16.30	Paignton	Meltdown & shutdown shame

* Exact meeting locations can be requested using the contact details below

+ Approximate end time – actual end time may be different

If you have any questions, contact:

trishdarke.dimensionsforautism@gmail.com

For more information, visit:

www.dimensionsforautism.life

Unfortunately DFA cannot provide support to children under 18 or adults with a learning disability

Scan this QR code to visit the DFA website:



Dimensions for Autism CIC Reg. No: 11903689

Friendly Reminder: Respecting Our Neighbours' Property

We kindly ask all parents and carers to respect the boundaries of our neighbours' properties during school pick-up times.

Please do not wait within neighbouring driveways, gardens, or any part of their property. This can cause inconvenience and discomfort for our neighbours.

Instead, please wait outside the school gates on the road where it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Your cooperation helps us maintain a positive relationship with our local community. Thank you for your understanding and support!

As part of Torbay Leisure Centre's Open Day on Saturday 13 September, Torbay Velopark will be FREE to use from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm. Torbay Council & Cycle Torbay CIC will be providing the following activities.

Torbay Velopark Big FREE Ride

The Big Free Ride is back.

Come and join us for this family-friendly mass participation ride at Torbay Velopark's Open Day from 2.00 until 3.30 pm

You can ride as few or as many laps as you like on this wonderful traffic-free circuit. Open to all kinds of cycles, scooters, balance bikes and bikes with stabilisers.

Certificates for the children to show how many laps they've completed

Please register your interest to give us an idea of how many certificates to bring.

Bike and helmet hire may be available, but **this can't be guaranteed** so it's better to bring your own if you can.

Big FREE Bike Ride Registration

FREE Cycle Repairs for Children

Is your child going to be doing Bikeability at their school this year? Does their bike need attention? Cycle Torbay CIC will be on the Velopark from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm to do free minor repairs, so why not pop down with your bikes and take advantage of this. No need to book.

FREE Cycle Skills Taster Session

We will be running a Bikeability Cycle Skills Taster session 12.30 – 1.30 pm

This will consist of fun games, which help with bike handling and **is open to children from Year 2 to Year 5, who can ride a bike without stabilisers.**

Certificates awarded to all participants.

Children will need their own bike and helmet. Bike and helmet hire may be available on the day, but this can't be guaranteed.

Places are limited so booking is essential. Please use the link below

Cycle Skills Booking Link