

# Riviera News

Autumn 2

December 2025



Pupils at Oldway ran the *Rudolph Run* to raise funds for Rowcroft Hospice.

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## Winter Art Exhibition



Roselands pupils helping to set up the displays for the Winter Art Exhibition at The Projection Room in Paignton. More about this project [INSIDE](#)

## Message from the CEO



Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of the autumn term and approach the festive season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership across the Riviera Education Trust. This half term has been filled with memorable experiences, meaningful learning and wonderful examples of our pupils living out our shared values.

Across our schools, pupils have taken part in Remembrance activities with thoughtfulness and respect, reflecting on the importance of remembrance and community.

At the same time, they have embraced a wide range of enriching opportunities beyond the classroom – from educational visits and creative projects, to sporting events and performances that showcase both talent and teamwork.

I am particularly proud of the way our schools continue to engage so positively with their local communities. Whether through fundraising for local charities, supporting community events, visiting care homes, or contributing to exhibitions and celebrations across Torbay, our pupils consistently demonstrate kindness, empathy and civic pride. These experiences play a vital role in helping our children grow into confident, compassionate and responsible young people.

This edition of Riviera News captures just a small snapshot of the energy, creativity and commitment shown by pupils and staff across Oldway, Roselands and Shiphay this term. I hope you enjoy reading about the many highlights and successes shared within these pages.

On behalf of everyone at the Riviera Education Trust, I wish you and your families a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January for another exciting term of learning.

Best wishes

**Stewart Biddles**  
CEO



***Pupils across the trust paused to remember all soldiers who have fought and died to protect our country, joining in with the two minutes silence for Remembrance Day.***

# Riviera 70

Year 3 pupils at Oldway and Shiphay had fabulous visits to **Kents Cavern**, exploring the caves, handling artefacts and learning all about this important part of Torbay's history. →



Reception children at Oldway were very lucky to have a visit from the **author Amy Wickens**, who read her story 'The Adventures of Rodney and Po'. ↑

Pupils from Maidencombe Beach class at Oldway visited the **House of Marbles** ready for their topic on how toys have changed over time. They looked at how marble runs have changed and even had the opportunity to play with some toys and visit the glass blowing workshop. →



Pupils at Roselands enjoyed a lovely assembly about their gorgeous school dog **Finley** and his important role in school. ←



Pupils from The Burrow class at Shiphay had a fantastic visit to the Mare and Foal Sanctuary. ↑

## Trust schools in the community

Pupils at Roselands spread community spirit when they visited the **Time Out Café** to serve sandwiches and refreshments to community members, made decorations and handed out Christmas cards made by the children as part of their Civic Award. →



Performing Arts pupils sang at the **Christmas light switch-on at The Devon Dumpling** and at the Shiphay Community Christmas Fayre at St Andrew's Church. ↑



Pupils from Oldway's Eco Council and Roselands pupils were both selected to decorate a Christmas tree at Torre Abbey as part of the **Bay of Lights Illumination Trail**. Left: Oldway, Right: Roselands ↑



Thanks to a generous donation from the **Co-op** at Shiphay, Orchard Nursery children enjoyed a large cardboard gingerbread house enabling hours of deep play & joyful learning! ↑

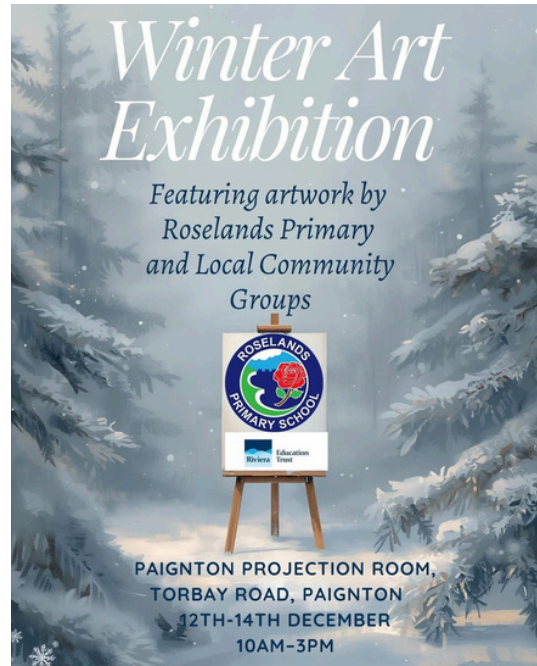


Year 6 pupils at Shiphay did a fabulous job of selling poppies for the **Royal British Legion**. ↑

Pupils in the Oldway school choir sang at the **Blossoms Winter Concert**, performing beautifully. →

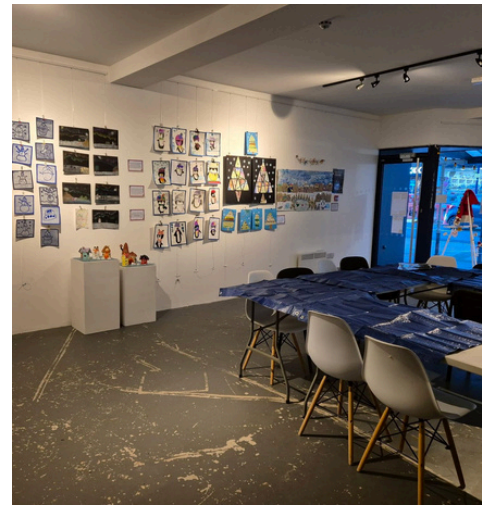


# Trust schools in the community cont...



Roselands pupils took part in an exhibition showcasing the creativity of local children and community groups.

Their contribution was a stunning community-made winter scene, created during Roselands' half-termly community coffee mornings. →



Pupils from the Shells Nursery at Oldway had a wonderful visit to Grange-Lea Residential Home to spread some Christmas joy. They handed out Christmas cards they had made, sang some songs and, of course, joined the residents for juice and cake! ←

Oldway pupils created beautiful Christmas cards to share with the local community, kindly distributed by Nina, Preston's Community Builder. ↓  
 What a wonderful reminder of the kindness & creativity of the children!



Y5 and 6 children at Roselands showed amazing kindness through filling 14 shoeboxes with gifts for children in need as part of the Operation Christmas Child project. ↑



# You can now follow all our schools on Instagram!

**@oldwayprimaryschool**

**@roselandsprimary**

**@shiphaylearningacademytq2**

## ← Posts

2 days ago

**oldwayprimaryschool**



❤️ 41 💬 2 🔄 1 🚩

**oldwayprimaryschool** We had the best Festive Friday at Oldway - Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner and our Rudolph Run to raise funds for Rowcroft Hospice. It really was a special day for our school community and we hope to have raised lots of money for Rowcroft. [#oldwavalues](#) [#kindness](#)

2 days ago

**oldwayprimaryschool**



## ← Posts

**roselandsprimary**  
🔊 roselandsprimary • Original audio



❤️ 89 💬 17 🔄 🚩 4

**roselandsprimary** ✨ For those considering joining the Roselands family, we are thrilled to share a brand new video that captures the essence of our wonderful school and showcases why we are so proud of our children.

Come and discover what Roselands Primary School has to offer - we'd love to welcome you for a visit! You can call the school office on 01803 525375, or scan the QR code on the poster in the comments to book a tour.

🎬 A huge thank you to Matt Wright Films for bringing our lovely school to life in this video.

[#RoselandsPrimary](#) [#RoselandsFamily](#)  
[#DiscoverRoselands](#) [#LearningTogether](#)  
[#InspiringYoungMinds](#) [#SchoolCommunity](#)

3 December

**roselandsprimary**

## ← Posts

**shiphaylearningacademytq2**



❤️ 1 💬 🔄 🚩

**shiphaylearningacademytq2** What a treat! The children from R, Y1 and Y2 sprinkled some Christmas magic on us all with their fabulous performance of "Shine, Star Shine!". Thank you Torquay Boys' Grammar School for hosting us.

[#thechristmasmessage](#)  
[#performingarts](#)  
[#shiphayvalues](#)

15 hours ago

**shiphaylearningacademytq2**

"My child has settled in beautifully, loves school and her teachers and has a real passion for learning already - a great start to



# #supportyourschool



# Christmas Holiday Fun

*Click on the images for more information*



Ice rink at Abbey Park, Torquay  
6<sup>th</sup> December - 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026



Christmas at Paignton Zoo  
until 24<sup>th</sup> December



Bay of Lights Illumination Trail  
28<sup>th</sup> November - 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026



Train of Lights



A very miniature Christmas at  
Babbacombe Model Village

# Want to get cheaper residential and school trips for your child?

Apply for free schools meals (FSM) and if eligible, your school will receive Pupil Premium Grant funding that will benefit your child and the school.

## Did you know?

- Even if your child receives Universal FSM (because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2), it's still important to register to get the extra benefits from Pupil Premium funding. Children who are registered for free school meals **don't have to eat them** if you prefer them to have packed lunches  
**BUT registering them is still important because for every child registered for free school meals, the school gets an extra £1,480 through Pupil Premium funding.**
- If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium (PP) funding, the trust will **subsidise the cost** of non-residential trips for your child **by 50%**! In addition, **PP funded pupils are exempt from the board and lodgings cost** of residential trips, **a significant saving!**
- Your child would also be entitled to a **50% subsidy** towards the cost of **music lessons**

Applying is easy... <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

- If you receive benefits, then your child could be eligible for free school meals
- **Apply just once!** The 'Ever 6' scheme means that you don't have to apply each academic year, even if your financial situation changes
- You can **pick and choose when your child has a hot dinner** and when they can bring in their own from home
- **You don't need to give any financial details** when you apply - just your name, address, date of birth, National Insurance Number, phone number and email plus the names of any children you receive benefit for, their date of birth and which school they go to - **it shouldn't take more than 10 minutes!**
- If you're entitled, Torbay will let you and the school know, usually within 5 - 10 school days

**APPLY NOW**

## Need some help?

You can apply online using a computer or mobile device such as a phone, but if you need some help, please let the school office know and they can arrange some support for you.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*All our schools have confidentiality procedures and you can be sure that if your child is eligible for FSM, they will not stand out amongst others whose parents pay for meals*



**Education  
Trust**

# Healthy Holidays Christmas 2025

## Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Programme

If you're a parent or carer of a 4 to 16-year-old who receives benefits-related free school meals, or who is electively home educated, your child can take part in the **free Christmas holiday club programme known as Healthy Holidays**.

Healthy Holidays clubs involve helping young people learn new skills – everything from sport, music and dance, to art, cooking and gardening. The clubs are also a great way to have fun with friends old and new.

Families will be contacted by schools with the holiday club details and booking information. A healthy meal will also be provided to everyone taking part. Our providers include local voluntary and community groups, childcare settings and local businesses.

Sessions are taking place at locations throughout Torquay, Paignton and Brixham. There are also dedicated sessions for children with special needs.

## Contact

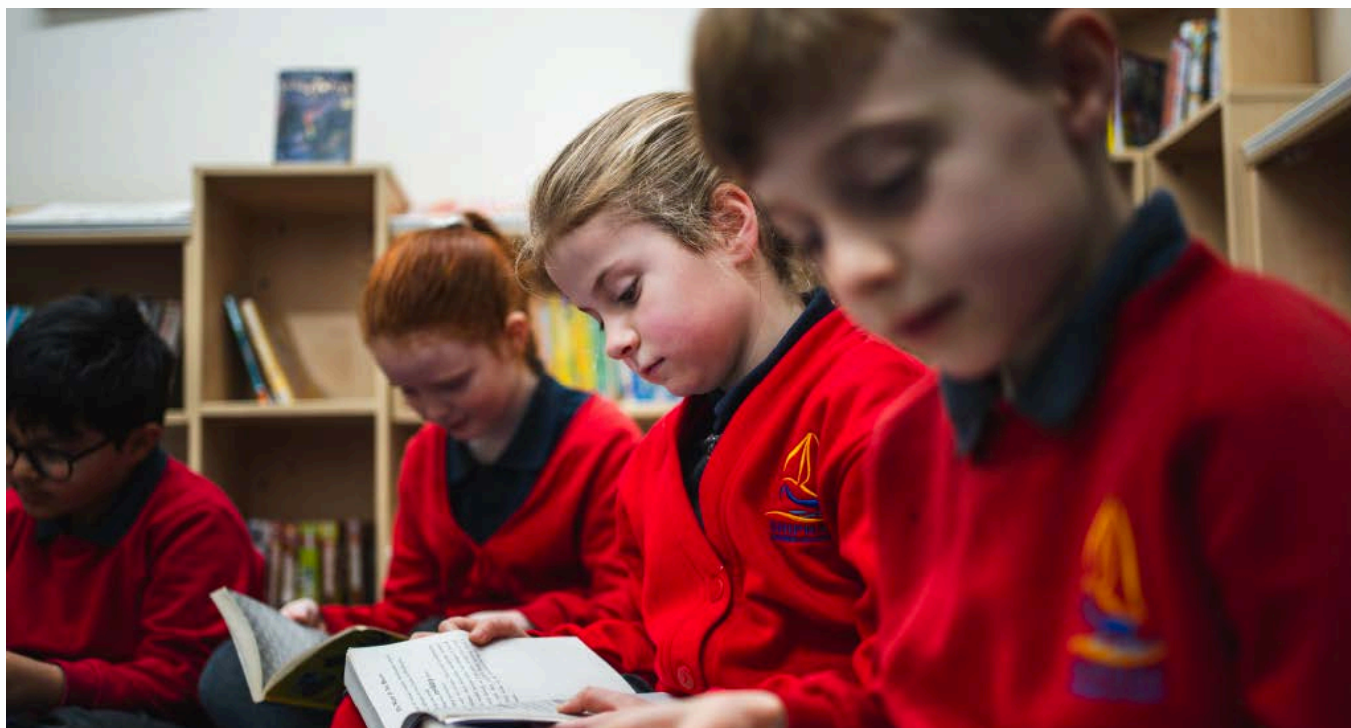
For further information or assistance:

- **Email: [hafapplications@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:hafapplications@torbay.gov.uk)**
- **Telephone: 0800 328 5974**

To find out what sessions are available, please go to the booking system [HERE](#)



## 2025-26 Term Dates



Spring Term 2026	First Day	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
	Half Term	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
	Last day	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026
	Easter holidays	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Summer 2026	First day	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
	Bank Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
	Half term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026 inclusive
	<b>Non-Pupil Day</b>	<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026</b>
	<b>Non-Pupil Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026</b>
	Last day	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026
	<b>Non-Pupil Day</b>	<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026</b>
	Summer holidays	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July - 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2026 inclusive



**First day back after the Christmas holidays is  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

# Schools half-termly round-up

## Roselands

- A stunning community-made winter scene, created during Roselands' half-termly coffee mornings was displayed at the Winter Art Exhibition at The Projection Room in Paignton
- The little ones were adorable at the Reception Nativity
- Children spread community spirit when they visited the Time Out Café to serve sandwiches and refreshments to community members, made decorations and handed out Christmas cards made by children as part of their Civic Award.
- Pupils created beautiful decorations at home and in Art Club to decorate the school's Christmas tree at Torre Abbey as part of the Bay of Lights Illumination Trail
- The girls and boys 5/6 football teams were in action showing true resilience, teamwork and determination in their fixtures
- A new lean-to shelter with a rainbow-coloured roof was installed to create a useable outdoor area all year round
- Y5 and 6 children showed amazing kindness through filling 14 shoeboxes with gifts for children in need as part of the Operation Christmas Child project
- During assembly, the children reflected on Remembrance Day
- Pupils took part in Odd Socks Day, an initiative from the Anti-Bullying Alliance
- A very successful Fireworks Night was held with lots of families enjoying the food, music and spectacular display

## Oldway

- Pupils completed the Rudolph Run to raise money for Rowcroft Hospice
- Oldway School Fundraisers (OSF) ran a highly successful Christmas Fair, raising £2,500!
- School Choir sang at the Blossoms Winter Concert, performing beautifully
- Year 3 parents and carers enjoyed a Christmassy INSITE session creating moving Christmas cards as part of Year 3's D & T project
- Reception pupils thoroughly enjoyed Oldway Wild Learning
- Year 3 Babbacombe Beach class showcased their skills at the sports festival at Paignton Academy
- Year 4 enjoyed having their adults in school for INSITE, modelling the digestive system
- Year 3 / 4 football team played their round of league games
- Eco Council were selected to decorate one of the 8 trees within the Bay of Lights Illumination Trail 2025 using sustainable decorations
- Year 2 enjoyed a trip to Paignton Library to learn more about our local history
- Pupils and families enjoyed the Book Fair
- Year 6 pupils began their journey towards the Torbay & Devon Civic Award
- Y5/6 Girls and Y5/6 Boys football teams were in action competing in the National League Trust Cup
- Year 3 had a fantastic visit to Kents Cavern, learning all about the Stone Age
- Staff, pupils and their families raised £393.55 for Children in Need Day
- Pupils were reflective during the two minute silence on Remembrance Day
- Pupils took part in Odd Socks Day as part of Anti-Bullying Week
- Reception children were very lucky to have a visit from the author Amy Wickens

## Shiphay

- Children from Reception - Year 2 sprinkled some Christmas magic with their fabulous performance of 'Shine, Star Shine', hosted by Torquay Boys' Grammar School
- Singers from the school supported the Spectrum Christmas Concert at The Avenue Church in Newton Abbot
- Performing Arts pupils sang at the Christmas light switch on at The Devon Dumpling and at the Shiphay Community Christmas Fayre at St Andrew's Church
- FOSS ran a successful Christmas Fair
- Year 6 pupils did a fabulous job of selling poppies for the Royal British Legion
- Some Reception children represented the school at the Remembrance Sunday service at Torquay with a beautiful wreath
- Year 3 pupils created their own self-portraits, influenced by their learning about artist Frida Kahlo
- Year 3 had a fabulous visit to Kents Cavern, exploring the caves, handling artefacts and learning all about this important part of Torbay's history

