



The EPICentre of Learning

This will be the final newsletter of the Spring term 2025, the children's final day in school is Thursday 3 April. This term has flown by in the blink of an eye. Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all a relaxing and safe holiday, and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday, 22nd April.

Lost Property and Uniform Reminder! We currently have a significant number of coats, jackets, and other non-uniform items that have found their way into our lost property collection. If your child has recently misplaced a coat, jacket, or any other personal item, please do take a moment to come and have a look through our lost property box. You might be surprised at what we have! In an effort to make good use of unclaimed uniform items, we have recently laundered all the unnamed sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo that were in lost property. These items, along with a further selection of unclaimed coats, are now available on the pre-loved uniform rails. We understand that children can sometimes outgrow uniform or experience unexpected wear and tear. Therefore, we warmly invite any parents or carers who are in need of school uniform, coats, etc. to please come and help yourselves to the items available on the pre-loved uniform rails. Furthermore, with the warmer weather hopefully on its way, we also have a wide selection of summer dresses, shorts, and skirts available for your perusal.

Class photos: On Thursday 3 April Fraser Photography are coming in to school to take class group photos. These will be available to parents to buy after Easter.

The Reception Bat Walk was an exciting adventure! A big thank you to the Reception staff team for organising the event, as well as our parent volunteers who supported it. The children enjoyed a bat-themed story in the nature area, followed by hot chocolate, fun games, and a walk through the village to the churchyard. Armed with bat detectors, they even spotted some bats! Both the children and adults had a fantastic experience.

Rainbow Day: We are excited to announce that our next Rainbow Day will take place next **Wednesday, 2 April**. As part of our ongoing school-wide focus on **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**, we are looking to celebrate the rich variety of languages and cultures within our school community. To do this, we are inviting multilingual families to share their unique cultural and linguistic heritage with our students.

On this day, we are inviting the children to wear their own clothes, as bright as they can be, and if any families would like to make a donation, all proceeds will support diversifying our library texts.

How can you help? If your family speaks more than one language, we would love for you to participate by teaching the children about the language(s) you speak, or any cultural aspects that are meaningful to you. This could be through sharing a story, teaching simple phrases, singing a song or even showing traditional art or food from your culture. The goal is to help our children learn more about the diverse backgrounds that make our community so special!

Why is this important? By sharing your language and cultural traditions, you are helping to promote understanding, respect, and connection among all children. Your involvement will enrich the experience for everyone and support our focus on diversity and equity.

Friday 28 March 2025

Future dates:

Wed 2 Apr: Rainbow Day -wear bright colours

Thurs 3 Apr: Class photos in school

Fri 4 Apr: Non-pupil day

EASTER HOLIDAYS - 7-21 April

Tues 22 Apr: First day of Summer Term

Headteachers: Mrs S Whalley and Mr I Moore

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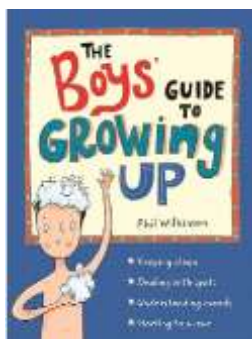
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How to Get Involved: If you're interested in participating, please reach out to the school office or class teachers to let us know how you would like to contribute. Whether it's a short presentation, a demonstration, or simply a discussion about your culture, your contribution will make a big difference!

We look forward to celebrating Rainbow Day together and learning more about the wonderful languages and cultures that shape our school community. Thank you in advance for your support in making this a memorable and meaningful event for our children.

Teacher for the Day returns: As well as Rainbow Day on Wednesday 2 April, it will also be our next Teacher for the Day. This is a fun fundraising opportunity, raising money to directly support the children. Parents can pay £1 per entry (you can have as many goes as you choose, deadline for this is 12pm Tuesday 1 April) for their child via the School Gateway. Winners will be selected at random, one 'teacher' chosen for each class, and will be announced on the afternoon of Tuesday 1 April. On Wednesday 2 April, they will then be the child 'teacher for the day' in their class and support the class teacher.



Mental Health and Personal Development Update: Parents often ask for support when approaching puberty so this week I am sharing information about a text that is available to borrow from our Community Library. A friendly and reassuring guide for boys as they approach puberty, explaining the changes that will happen to their bodies as they grow up and how these changes might make them feel. Covering everything from body hair and vocal changes to mood swings and self-esteem, puberty and parenting expert Phil Wilkinson addresses any worries that boys might have related to what is 'normal'. He reassures readers and boosts their confidence, encouraging them to feel positive about the changes they will experience as they go through puberty.

Brushing teeth: there is some great guidance about looking after children's teeth from the NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-teeth-and-gums/taking-care-of-childrens-teeth/>

Exminster Community Primary School: Parent Survey Highlights

We're pleased to share the results of our recent parent survey! It was great to have had so many parents respond to the survey with 175 responses in total. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive, showing that Exminster Community Primary School provides a happy, safe, and supportive environment where children thrive. It was great to see that 100% of parents say they would recommend us.

What Parents Love About Our School:

- **Strong Communication:** Parents appreciate the clear, consistent communication from our staff, including newsletters, event updates, and progress of their child.
- **Supportive Staff:** Our teachers and staff are seen as kind, caring, approachable, and dedicated to understanding and meeting each child's individual needs.
- **Inclusive Environment:** We foster a welcoming, community-focused atmosphere where children feel safe and supported.
- **High Academic Standards:** Parents recognise the deep subject knowledge of our teachers and the consistent progress children make.

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- **Focus on Wellbeing:** Parents feel that we emphasise emotional and social development, supporting mental health and self-confidence through initiatives like our Rainbow Values and Rainbow Buddy system.
- **Extracurricular Activities:** A wide range of clubs, sports, and activities enrich our children's experiences.
- **Strong Community Ethos:** We promote kindness, inclusion, and respect, creating a strong sense of community.
- **Effective Support Systems:** We respond quickly and effectively to challenges, providing targeted interventions and support.

Areas for Growth:

We also value your suggestions for improvement. Parents have highlighted opportunities to:

- **Expand Extracurricular Clubs:** Offer more diverse options, including arts, drama, chess, and coding.
- **Improve Wraparound Care Access:** Explore ways to expand the wraparound care and make booking after-school and breakfast clubs easier.
- **Upgrade Outdoor Spaces:** Enhance playground equipment and increase outdoor learning opportunities. However, parents understand the budgetary constraints around this.

Our Next Steps:

We are committed to maintaining our strengths and addressing the areas for improvement. Our action plan includes:

- Continuing to prioritise clear communication and parent engagement.
- Exploring ways to increase wraparound care availability.
- Seeking opportunities to enhance our outdoor and learning environments through fundraising and grant applications.
- Continuing to develop the extracurricular offer, including being clear with the breadth of opportunity already available for the children.

Thank you for your valuable feedback. We would also like to thank our dedicated and caring school staff for all that they do and continue to do to help the children to thrive.

We are dedicated to working together to make Exminster Community Primary School the best it can be!

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