



The EPI Centre of Learning

We hope that you have a good summer break and let's hope we get some summer weather! Thank you for your ongoing support this academic year. On behalf of all staff, we would like to thank our parents for your continued support over this year.

We are very proud of how our Reception cohort have settled into school life and it is amazing to think they have already completed their first year at school. We would like to say thank you and well done to our Year 6 children, who will be moving on to their next steps in September. They are a unique cohort as a 3 class year group – they are amazing as individuals and as a cohort as well. They are prepared and ready for their next step although we will miss them - they have given so much back to our school in terms of their community values; supporting younger children, running clubs, holding responsibilities and being very engaged and motivated learners.

I would like to thank our staff team. We are lucky to have such passionate and committed staff who always go above and beyond for our children. It is a highly supportive staff team and many staff describe it as their school family. People work here because they enjoy the work they do and are committed to supporting our children in the best way possible. I am always proud, thankful and honoured to be head teacher of such an incredibly committed staff. I am looking forward to sharing the co-head teacher role with Mr Moore in September. Mr Moore will be in the headship role on a Monday and Tuesday. I will be in this role on a Wednesday-Friday.

I would also like to thank our volunteers: book buddies, nature school buddies, classroom support and the recent volunteers who have supported the Spring Clean. We have a committed bank of volunteers who are our school governors, supporting the strategic direction of the school. They donate their time to meetings and visits to school to ensure that our school is the best it can be. Thank you also to our active volunteer ESA members who have worked so hard in order to organize events, raising money that goes directly back to the school and the children. Thank you to Gemma G who stepped up to lead the summer fair and all the active members that supported this so efficiently.

We hope that both families and staff get to have a rest over the summer break. We will look forward to welcoming children back to school on Thursday 5 September.

Staffing: Goodbye and good luck to staff members that are leaving us at the end of this week: Miss Coles (Learning Support Assistant in Y6), Mrs Morris (Learning Support Assistant in Y1), Mr Doe (teacher in Year 5), Mrs Ankers (Learning Support Assistant in Y2 and Y6), Mrs Davey (teacher and cover supervisor in many year groups!) and Mrs Corkery (Learning Support Assistant in Y1 and Y4 plus many other year groups).

Teacher for the day: thank you for your support of Teacher for the Day again. The computer randomly selected the names for each class and the lucky new teachers were given their invite and lanyards at the end of Rainbow Day. The new teachers are in their job roles today. This fundraiser has made £494 and will go towards enriching our curriculum.

Rainbow day: we are very grateful to Jade and Clare (parents who volunteered all day) for their support with our Rainbow Day

Tuesday 23 July 2024

This week:

Wed 24 July – Last day of term – collect medicines and inhalers from the office

Dates for the future:

Thurs 5 Sept – First day of Autumn term (full term dates for 24-25 are on the website)

Thurs 17 Oct – 7.15pm online safety workshop in school

Headteacher: Mrs S Whalley



The EPI Centre of Learning

activities, using their areas of expertise. Children were involved in a range of 6 different activities over the course of the day:

1. Cultural story telling: children watched a clip called 'The Catch', talked about what happens and their observations of this. Children learnt about stories passing down key messages/lessons in different cultures. Children then worked in groups to do their own retelling of the story.
2. Drumming: children looked at different drumming performances to include rock music, Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, African drumming clip and Samba. Children were then involved in drumming as a team using body percussion.
3. Playground games from around the world: Y6 children led groups of games from around the world:
 - Catch the Dragon from China
 - Handball from Australia
 - Handkerchief from Egypt
 - Ampe from Ghana
 - Ball in the Air from Argentina
 - Hana, Hana, Hana, Kinchi from Japan
 - Conch Neech from Northern India and Pakistan
 - Tossing the Ball from Canada
4. Mood Wheel: children were talking about and choosing emotions and making and decorating a mood wheel – representing the emotions and decorating this how they decided.
5. The PE group were organised into 3 groups playing 3 different games from around the world. They learnt the rules for the game, practised playing it and where it originates from:
 - Kabaddi, from Asia
 - Three tins from South Africa
 - Te Boiri from Kiribati
6. Cultural arts: children were making Japanese Origami fans, they were given a demo, showed one already made and ideas on how it could be decorated. Year 6 children were supporting their Rainbow buddies in making them.

Y6 parental advice (message shared from the police): For year 6 students the summer holiday may be a time of apprehension and anxiety as they transition to secondary schools. The summer break also gives more time for young people to be online and although generally most young people have the resilience to deal with any online issues they may face, this can also be a time where some of them looking for answers to their worries may become drawn into the darker areas of the online world including those wanting to influence vulnerable young people into extremism.

Young people are generally good at spotting things that don't look right online and having been taught in schools, can be ahead of their parents in recognising concerning signs. In respect of this the police can have a role to play in supporting parents in keeping their children safe online. The police force would like to take this opportunity to direct you to a number of resources available to parents;

Headteacher: Mrs S Whalley

Moving to secondary school: A web site to help users understand the possible risks and benefits of going online with our resources for parents, carers and teachers to use at home and in the classroom,

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/moving-to-secondary-school-online-safety-guide/>

A parent's guide to: Moving to secondary school: The accompanying booklet provides a large amount of information for parents to aid them in supporting their child as they make the transition to secondary education,

<https://d1dhn91mufybw1.cloudfront.net/downloads/pdfs/z1netzrqwd/z1netzrqwd.pdf?v=1719917118>



Well done to Mrs Fuller's class - the winners of our inter-class sunflower growing competition. They must have very green fingers in 1F as their flower grew tall and strong with a beautiful flower. As their prize, they are wearing their own clothes on our final day of school rather than school uniform - twice in one week!

Medicines: Any medicine or inhalers etc. that we have in school need to be collected by an adult from the office by tomorrow please.

Pre-loved uniform: As we near the end of term and families are considering purchasing new school uniforms, we would be grateful for any donations of unused or outgrown school uniforms for our pre-loved rail, especially from Year 6. Likewise, if you are looking for new uniform for next year please come in and have a browse. Thank you.

Community Library: Have you borrowed a book from our Community Library this term? Please could we ask that they are returned so that we can do an end of year audit. These books are normally labelled by a sticker on the back of them. Please return them to Mrs Fuller or the school office. Thank you.

Year 6 debits and credits on School Comms: As we approach the end of your Yr6 child's time at Exminster please take a few moments to look at any credit or debit balances on their accounts on School Gateway.

Debit balances- Please make sure that any monies owing for school lunches or clubs are paid off in full as soon as possible.

Credit balances- In the first instance any credits on lunches, Early Epic or Epic Eve will be transferred to siblings at school. If your child doesn't have a younger sibling in school we will refund any recent payments back to you via bank transfer/card refund. If you would like, we can add any balance

Lost Property: We have lots of unnamed items in our lost property; clothing, food containers and bottles. If your child is missing anything please do come and have a look. Any unclaimed items will be recycled over the summer.

New contact details: Please don't forget that you can check your contact details on the School Gateway app and advise us of any amendments on there too.

Headteacher: Mrs S Whalley



The EPI Centre of Learning

Thelma Hulbert Gallery
Elmfield House, Dowell Street, Honiton EX14 1LX
T: 01404 45006
thelmahulbert.com

Summer Art Week: 20 - 24 August - It's back!

11 - 17 year olds can try a new art activity every day over a week of the summer holidays. Choose from animation to printing, jewellery making to photography!

- **Tues 20 Aug - Code Red Animation:** 11 - 1 or 1.30 - 3.30. £5. Make an animated film about climate change. Using a monoprint technique, draw and print in your own images then film your frames.
- **Wed 21 Aug - Printing on Textiles:** 11 - 1 or 1.30 - 3.30. £5. Experiment with block printing, hand printing and screen printing – all on textiles, using foil. Bring a T-shirt, pillowcase, fabric to print on.
- **Thurs 22 Aug - Jewellery Making:** 11 - 1 or 2 - 4. £10. Make silver stacking rings, applying different textures, learning basic silversmithing techniques – measuring, soldering, texturing.
- **Fri 23 Aug - Print bonanza:** 11 - 3.30. £5. Fun, messy day of print. Experiment with different processes, using a flat bed press, type set, lino, collagraph, a giant wheel-chair press too.
- **Sat 24 Aug - Camera Obscura in the Garden:** 11 – 3. Free, donations welcome. All ages welcome. Fun family drop-in workshop. Get inside a huge camera obscura to capture family portraits and make a nature photo to take home.

[Book your place.](#)

Headteacher: Mrs S Whalley