



The EPI Centre of Learning

Menu swap: There has been a swap on the school menu; Friday Week 2 and Tuesday Week 3 Red options have swapped. This will take effect next week. Friday week 2; Chilli is now Meatballs and Tuesday week 3; Meatballs is now Chilli. The changes have been reflected on the menu on our website and can be found here <https://www.exminster-primary.devon.sch.uk/parents/school-meals>

Eco team: last week we had our first Eco team meeting. The Eco team is formed of two children from each class from Y2-Y6. The children meet with me once every 2 weeks and think about what action we can do as individuals, as classes and as a school to support looking after our environment. Our first task was a project introduced a few years ago by Matilda (now in secondary school) and Phoebe. It is named 'Ch-angels, Be the change you want to see'. Please join us at home in making a pledge to make a change to help our environment. Every little helps. This could be one tiny change to help the environment:

- Turn off the lights when you leave a room
- Turn off the water when you are brushing your teeth
- Walk or scoot to school instead of going in the car
- Have shorter showers
- Create less food waste
- Eat vegetarian once a week
- Have a single-use plastic free lunch box contents

Or anything that you can do to help the environment..... We would love to know if you are getting involved at home – please email admin@exminsterschool.co.uk with the subject 'Ch-angel' if you are getting involved and let us know what your family are doing. If you have a photo you can send (and don't mind us sharing in our newsletter or facebook) or just a couple of sentences in an email, we would love to hear what you are doing as your 'Ch-angel'. We are making recycled angels to remind us of our pledge for the planet, you could do one too at home.

Christmas Cards: your child will have brought home a piece of Christmas artwork and an order form. If you would like your child's artwork to be turned into Christmas cards, gift wrap, a small cushion, printed on a mug or coaster, please complete the order form and make the appropriate payment via the Payment item on School Gateway. Return the order form with your child's artwork to school ASAP but **no later than Monday 30th September**. All orders and payments will need to be made by Monday 30th September. We will not be able to take late orders so please ensure a quick turn-around. We anticipate that products will be with us and ready to use/enjoy by the 7th November. If you would prefer your child to make a seasonal card, or you do not wish for your child to take part in this activity, please let your child's class teacher know.

Early Epic and Epic Eve: Bookings for next half term, Autumn 2, Nov-Dec 2024 will open on School Gateway at 3pm this Monday 30th Sept. A reminder that voucher payers must submit a screenshot of their voucher payment on the day they book sessions so we can allocate the credits.

Friday 13 September 2024

Dates for the future:

Mon 30 Sept – **Deadline to return Christmas card order forms and make payment on Gateway**

- Bookings open on School Gateway for Autumn 2 Epic clubs **at 3pm**

Thurs 10 Oct – Family Learning Conferences -online and in school

Thurs 17 Oct - 6.15pm online safety parent workshop

Mon 21 Oct – Family Learning Conferences in school

Headteachers: Mrs S Whalley and Mr I Moore



Y4 residential: we are immensely proud of our Y4 children who took part in their residential visit to the Wildside Experience for 3 days and 2 nights, 4BC went earlier this week and 4S will be returning today. They completed activities such as night walks in the woods (with no torches), zip wire, a hike, archery, feeding the chickens, pigs and sheep, games in the woods, learning about the birds of prey and handling them and making a wood craft badge as a memory of the experience. The staff at Wildside were very impressed with the manners, the enthusiasm and the cooperation of the children. Thank you to all the staff who spent a long time organising and preparing for the visit. It is a huge responsibility to take a group of children away so we would like to thank staff for giving up their time to do this. Staff and children thoroughly enjoyed the experience! And they now have the weekend to recover!



Headteachers: Mrs S Whalley and Mr I Moore

Family Learning Conferences: Family Learning Conferences (FLC) will be taking place on Thursday 10 October and Monday 21 October 2024. This will be an opportunity to hear about your child's learning and next steps in their learning. Teachers who work on a Monday will be attending the Monday FLC and the teachers who work on a Thursday will attend the Thursday FLC. Next week we will email out booking letters with further details and timings and links to book an appointment with your child's teacher.

School Census Day- Census Day will take place next Thursday, 3 Oct. This is an important day for the school. On this day, data is collected from the school which is used to calculate some of our funding for the next financial year. As well as recording the number of children on roll it also records our uptake of Free School Meals (FSM) and Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) on that particular day. This then informs our funding to run the kitchen for the next year. We do not make any money from the kitchen and school does need to use other funds in order to run it however we do get some grant funding that supports this.

It is for this reason that we are asking for your support to ensure that we maximise meal numbers on that day. As far as possible, we would like every child who is entitled to a Free School Meal or a Universal Infant Free School Meal (all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children) to have a school lunch. If they normally have a packed lunch and would like to try a dinner on this day, they can do this and still bring in their packed lunch in case they do not like it.

Lost Property: Please remember to label your child's clothes, snack/lunch boxes and drinks bottles. We are already accumulating a large amount of unnamed items in our lost property. There is a box outside the office if you'd like to take a look. Thank you

Community Library: We have a selection of books that are available for families to borrow. They cover a range of subjects and can be found in our Community Library. We will be regularly sharing some of the titles in our school newsletter. To access these books, please come to the main school office and you will be directed to the community library cupboard. Please remember to sign the books out so that we can find them if needed. Any questions, please contact Mrs Fuller.

