Weekly newsletter



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Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore Friday 14th November 2025

Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been an action-packed and truly lovely week in school, filled with creativity, teamwork, and some new experiences for our younger children.

Our Remembrance art display in the church has been receiving lots of compliments. The children created some truly thoughtful and creative pieces to commemorate Remembrance Day, using a range of materials and techniques to show respect and gratitude to those who served. The finished display looked absolutely fantastic and was a powerful reminder of the importance of remembering together as a community. Year 1 and 2 walked up to the memorial for the commemoration, whilst the rest of the school gathered on the playground for a two-minute silence. It was a very special and reflective moment. Every child showed such maturity and respect — The school was awash with red as pupils raised money for the Royal British Legion.

At the start of the week, Reception to Year 4 enjoyed the dance workshops. The children worked alongside their Kings Nympton peers, learning new routines, practising rhythm and coordination, and having great fun expressing themselves through movement.

Key stage 2, as always enjoyed their skateboarding workshops. The children had the opportunity to try something new, build their confidence, and even learn some impressive new tricks. The coach commented on how brilliantly the children listened and encouraged one another. There were smiles all around!

Thank you to Mr Walter for organising both these events as part of our ongoing enrichment programme.

Meanwhile, Year 1 had a wonderful time when the Tiverton Museum team visited to help them explore old toys. The children were fascinated by how toys have changed over time and loved getting hands-on with some of the artefacts. A big thank you to Mrs Roberts for organising such an engaging and memorable session — it really brought their learning to life!

We would also like to say a massive thank you to Liz Jones and team for organising such a fantastic firework display.

It was attended by over 1000 people and raised £5621.

This is an amazing amount of money and Liz has very kindly donated this to the school. We are truly grateful as this goes into our trip and enrichment pot which means all school trips are heavily subsidised and we can continue to offer the enrichment activities that we do.

We cannot thank you enough.

Kind regards Mrs V Fenemore



Gardening club update

Due to parents' evening on **Tuesday 18th Nov**, there will be **no** gardening club. Children should be collected at 3.30pm as usual or booked into All Sorts Wrap Around Care. An additional gardening club session will be held over two lunchtimes in lieu.

Diary dates Upcoming week

Week beginning: 17.11.25	
Weekly deadlines	 Lunch deadline – midnight the day before All sorts – 3pm Friday before (call admin to make short notice changes) Early birds – 3pm Friday before (call admin to make short notice changes) Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time. Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day. Email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk to make changes.
Monday	 M&M Productions: Snow White Christmas craft club (KS2) with Mrs Bourner 3.30pm-4.30pm Christmas craft club (KS1) with Mrs Keast 3.30pm-4.30pm Utilita cup (Y5/6) – Those involved have received letters
Tuesday	 PE today: Year 3, Year 4 Y1/2 at Kings Nympton (PE kit & packed lunches required) – morning Parent's evening in person – hall 2.30pm-5.30pm prompt No gardening club today – parent's evening
Wednesday	 PE kit: Year 4, Year 6 Garden day Years 2-6 (Wellies required) Woodland Robins (Toddler & Baby group) session in the school hall 10-11.30am Parent's evening online
Thursday	 PE today: Owls, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 Choir club (KS2) with Miss McLean 12-12.30pm Christmas cake club (KS2) with Mrs Rowcliffe 3.30pm-4.30pm Dodgeball club (KS2) with Mr Jarad 3.30pm-4.30pm Hot chocolate event 3.30pm - kitchen door Years 5 & 6 Tag Rugby event at QE School, Crediton - PE kit& packed lunch required, rearranged from before half term.
Friday	 PE today: Owls, Year 5 Year 4 Cake Sale

Diary dates This half term

These dates are provisional and subject to change. Details will follow.

Upcoming events		
Wb 24.11.25	25.11.25 KS2 Author visit (in school)	
	27.11.25 Deadline for Christmas Tree Draw	
	28.11.25 Christmas Tree Draw winner announced	
	28.11.25 Deadline for family breakfast bookings	
	01.12.25 Y4 Chocolate workshop (in school)	
Wb	05.12.25 Christmas Family breakfast and open morning	
01.12.25	05.12.25 Nursery Christmas crafts stay and play	
	05.12.25 Santa run	

Separate Christmas flier with December events.

Please note, in a change from the diary dates for the year sent out previously, the **Colour Run** provisional date has been changed to **Friday 10th July**.



Friday 5th December

Christmas family breakfast & Christmas classrooms open morning 8.45am



Gateway payment

Friday 5th December

Santa Run £2 to enter Tree group slots throughout the day



Gateway payment

Friday 5th December

Nursery Christmas stay and play 9am



Cash payment

Monday 8th December

Carol Singing – Years 3 & 4 in the village



Tuesday 9th December

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumpers

Nursery, Owls, Year 1 & Year 2

Gateway payment



Wednesday 10th December

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumpers

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

Gateway payment

Thursday 11th December

KS1 performance to Key Stage 2 and invited guests



Thursday 11th December

Owls & Nursery Christmas Performance 2.30pm Programme – 50p

Snowmen at Sunset



Ticketed

Friday 12th December

KS1 Christmas Performance 2pm Programme – 50p

The Christmas Rose

Creche available



Monday 15th December – Thursday 18th December

Christmas jumpers every day



Monday 15th December

Christmas games & raffle



Gateway payment

Tuesday 16th December

Year 2 Trip - Jolly Christmas Postman performance







Wednesday 17th December

KS2 Carol Service 2pm All Saints Church



Thursday 18th December

Talent Show



Thursday 18th December

Class Christmas Parties

Each child to bring a small plate of food to share



Christmas Raffle & Grand Prize Draw

The children in Year 6 started this term busily writing letters to many local and national businesses asking for donations for our Grand Prize Draw.

We've had a fantastic response to the children's letters and have already received an amazing selection of prizes; from tickets for fun days out to vouchers!

Entry Details

£2 per entry, you can buy as many entries as you like.

Prizes will be numbered. We will draw a name entry out of the hat, then draw a prize number, and match the winner to a numbered prize.

A payment request will be set up to purchase your entries.

Closing date Wednesday 10th December

We will hold the prize draw in school on Monday 15th December. Winners will be contacted by email after the draw and invited to collect their prize from the school office before the end of term.

Christmas Games by Year 5 and Year 6

Working collaboratively in D&T lessons this term, Year 5 and 6 will devise, create, set up and run games for all the children in school to enjoy.

This will be a "pay to play" <mark>fund</mark>raising and enterprise event for Years 5 and 6. A payment request for £3.50 will be set up on gateway. The children will be provided with tokens to play in school.

Christmas Dinner

Turkey or Vegetarian Roast

Served with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Stuffing, Pig in Blanket, Gravy

Ice Cream and Biscuit

KS1: Free (50p donation gratefully received if possible) / KS2: £3

A warm, welcoming space for bumps, babies, and little learners to grow together.

Wednesday mornings (term time)



10am-11.30am

Winkleigh Primary School Hall £2 per session

Refreshments included

Join us for stories, singing and a wonderful opportunity for play and exploration. We would love to welcome you into school for quality interactions with children and families.

Baby weighing available.

Weds 10th December - Time change: 9-10.30am





Hot chocolate

Thursday 20th November 3.30pm



£1 Hot Chocolate

£2 Super deluxe hot chocolate with cream, marshmallows and a flake

All proceeds into our school trips and residentials fundraising pot.

Sold from the external kitchen door

Year 5 – Morwellham Quay – 07.11.25

Last Friday, Year 5 had a fantastic day at Morwellham Quay, exploring life as Victorians! From costume, to education to the mines, we explored every aspect!











Owls to Year 4 – Dance workshops – 10.11.25











Key Stage 2 – Skateboarding – 11.11.25/12.11.25

















Remembrance - 11.11.25

On Tuesday 11th November, Owls and Key Stage 2 gathered together on the playground to observe two minutes of silence in recognition of the dedication of the armed forces during the World Wars and conflicts. Years 1 and 2 visited the village war memorial where they also observed two minutes of silence with the community. They placed crosses on the Commonwealth war graves, before visiting the Remembrance Art Exhibition on display in the church. Children were asked to donate towards the Royal British Legion and we look forward to hearing how much we have raised.













Trips & Activities Remembrance - 11.11.25









Year 1 – Tiverton Museum Visit – 12.11.25

On Wednesday, we welcomed Tiverton Museum into Year 1 to lead an exciting session on Toys from the Past, supporting and enriching our History learning this half term. The children were shown pictures of Victorian toys, including porcelain dolls and a metal hoop and stick, before exploring a range of real old-fashioned toys. We learnt that many Victorian toys were homemade using materials and resources families had in their homes — for example, using simple wooden washing pegs to create peg dolls. The children were delighted to make their own peg dolls and showed great creativity in decorating them. They loved having the chance to play with the old toys, and we discussed the differences between toys from the past and the toys we play with today. Some older toys are still available now, and several children were able to make links to toys they have at home. Eyra said, "I have a Spirograph at home, but it looks more modern than this one!" and Elsie shared, "I have a kaleidoscope at home!" Many children particularly enjoyed having a go with the wooden ball-and-cup toy and the Stumbling Sam toy.

We also enjoyed sorting the toys by the materials they were made from, and we noticed that all the newer toys were made from plastic. This opened up discussion around how the invention of plastic allowed toys to be mass produced and to become more affordable for all families to buy.











Nursery - Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels - Mrs Stapley

Dear Families.

This week in the nursery, our learning has been inspired by the much loved story 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' by Judith Kerr. The children really enjoyed listening to the story and joining in with key phrases and actions.

We explored lots of activities linked to the story, including:

Storytelling and role play – acting out scenes, serving tea, and pretending to be the tiger! **Creative art** – painting and making stripy patterns

Communication and language - talking about what happened in the story, describing the tiger, and sharing ideas about what might happen next.

The children also enjoyed setting up their own 'tea parties' in the role play area, using their imagination to create menus, serve food, and invite friends to tea.

This story gave us lovely opportunities to talk about good manners, sharing, and kindness, and to practise using polite words like 'please' and 'thank you.'

On Wednesday it was lovely to welcome our 'Woodland Robins' toddler group into our nursery. Thank you to all the families that joined us.

It's been a fantastic week full of creativity, imagination, and fun!

Have a wonderful weekend. The Nursery Team



























Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Mrs Rowcliffe

What a busy and exciting week we've had in Owls!

In Maths, we've been working on subtraction — practising sums like 10 – 1, 10 – 2, and 7 – 4.

The children have been using lots of practical activities to help them understand "taking away" in real life. We also had a visit from the vet, which was so interesting! The children loved learning about how to care for animals. The children love the role play vet area and take their job of caring for animals very seriously. Our dance workshop was great fun too, and we enjoyed welcoming our friends over from Kings Nympton.

In Phonics, we've been focusing on the sounds v, w, x, y and the tricky words:his, her, has, pull, push, put, is, I, full. These tricky words have been quite challenging, so any extra practice at home would be wonderful! We've also begun learning our Christmas songs for the play — the classroom is already full of festive cheer!

Reading and writing are going well; we're encouraging the children to focus on letter shapes and form them carefully. They're so proud of how much progress they're making. Can I please gently nudge you to support reading the e big cat books? They get added to weekly (unless they remain on a book for 2 weeks) and they are building up quite a library to choose from. Once the children become more confident readers we can send home books of a similar level to their reading in school.







Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

Year 1 kicked off the beginning of the week with an exciting dance workshop themed around The Gingerbread Man. This ties in beautifully with the start of our new Curious Quest in English on Traditional Tales: The Gingerbread Man.

On Tuesday, the children walked up to the church alongside Year 2, where we observed a minute's silence during a special Remembrance service. Afterwards, we were able to walk around inside the church to admire our very own silhouette Remembrance artwork, as well as appreciate the fantastic pieces created by the rest of the school. On Wednesday, we welcomed Tiverton Museum into our learning space. They set up a variety of toy stations for the children to explore, including an opportunity to make our own peg dolls — a definite favourite!

In Maths, we have been learning about subtraction. We started by introducing the minus symbol and then moved on to creating number stories. The children enjoyed lots of practical activities with their learning partners, including telling their own number stories during a teddy-bear picnic!

In Science, we continued our learning about everyday materials and their properties, with a key focus on magnetic and non-magnetic objects. The children loved using magnets to test a range of items both in and outside the classroom.

In RE, we are learning about the Nativity and what Christmas means to Christians. We have also started to rehearse for our upcoming Christmas play, and the children have done brilliantly so far, already beginning to memorise the words to the songs.

Thank you for remembering to write in and send in home reader books. Your continued support with this, along with weekly phonics, greatly benefits your child's progress and is truly appreciated.







Year 2 - Mrs Keast

In English, Year Two have been working really hard on sentence writing. We have been thinking about demarcating sentences with capital letters and full stops, and we have discussed when a capital letter should be used. We enjoyed watching some other Christmas adverts and comparing them to Man on the Moon.

In Maths, we have been using the column method to subtract and have started to become much more confident. Just remembering to look and see whether the calculation requires us to add or subtract!

In History this week we learned about Matthew Henson who was an explorer that visited the North Pole. We looked at his story and how he acquired the skills needed to survive in extreme temperatures.

On Tuesday we walked to Winkleigh Church and joined the local community in the Remembrance Day silence. The children were all brilliantly behaved and we felt very proud of them. On Monday we had great fun joining in with the dance workshop, some excellent dance moves were displayed!

We thought about recyclable materials in Science this week and about our classroom waste. The children now have a good understanding of what each of our bins is for and are keen to sort the materials we throw away!

Please can children remember to bring a bottle to school with them daily so that they can keep hydrated.



Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

Year Three have had a fantastic week this week with dancing and skateboarding being the highlights! It was wonderful to see them all joining in so enthusiastically with both workshops.

What fantastic new skills they have all learnt.

In English our work around Paddington has continued. The children have thoroughly enjoyed watching some of the original animations, and have used them to write sentences using adverbs and inverted commas.

Well done Year Three.

In maths we have been thinking about multiplication and division and have been linking this to 'real life stories!' It was lovely to welcome the Year One children into class on Tuesday for some book sharing. The Year Three children loved reading to the younger members of the school.

Have a lovely weekend Year Three.







Year 4 - Mr Walter

What a fantastic week it has been in Year 4! We started the week with an amazing dance workshop, where pupils learned the dynamic moves of street dance and the playful techniques of a slapstick performance. Everyone joined in with enthusiasm, showing brilliant teamwork and expression. Later in the week, we took part in a skateboarding workshop, developing our balance, perseverance, and confidence while having lots of fun. On Tuesday, we observed Remembrance Day beautifully. The children wore red with pride and visited our art display in the church on Thursday, taking time to reflect respectfully. In English, we've been exploring the story 'Blue John', making thoughtful predictions about the next chapter and exploring key vocabulary to enhance our writing. In Maths, we've extended our multiplication and division knowledge to include the 11 and 12 times tables, showing great resilience to find links between different multiples. Our Science lessons saw us planning an experiment to demonstrate the water cycle which we will conduct next week, while in History, we've been learning about the hierarchy of the Mayan civilisation. Thinking about the differences between the King and the slaves. I look forward to speaking with you next week at parents' evening. Have a good weekend!







Year 5 - Mr Saltearn

Year 5 have had a busy week, continuing their sequence in English about Kensuke's Kingdom we have been thinking about what advice we could have given Micheal and how to survive the Island that he was stranded on. We have been using Modal verbs this week and seeing how different modal verbs change the certainty of the sentence.

In Maths, we have been comparing and ordering fractions and have been busy practicing the skill of finding a common denominator. After our trip on Friday we have been continuing our learning about Victorians and this week have been looking at what life was like for a Victorian child and the type of day that they would have. On Tuesday the children really enjoyed the skateboarding sessions and showed some real resilience and determination to practice their new skills. This was followed by the opportunity to share texts with younger children in nursery, well done Year 5 for approaching this with such maturity!

Have a great weekend Year 5!









Year 6 - Miss McLean

The highlight of the week this week in Year 6 was our skateboarding workshop on Wednesday! The children showed so much resilience and team work in their session and learnt some difficult tricks. In English this week we have continued to read some more of The Northern Lights and have practiced using a range of sentences structures to describe their daemon. We have also started learning about register and how to write in a very formal manner using the subjunctive form. In maths, our fractions learning has continued with a recap on adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. In PE this week, our lesson on Monday focused on passing skills in football and on Wednesday we started to learn a new dance in a street dance style. We also had the chance to visit the church on Thursday morning to see the whole school's remembrance art. Have a wonderful weekend!











Christmas tree raffle

200 squares available, £1 per square, multiple entries accepted! Please send your children to school with the cash to enter!

Deadline: 27th November Winner announced: 28th November



FOWs Disco



Disco

Disco Meal Bag £3.50

This will include:

Hot Dog (Pork sausage from Winkleigh Butcher)
Drink
Packet of crisps
Small packet of sweets

Please pre-book by sending £3.50 per child into school in a clearly marked envelope with your child/children's name and class on.

Alternatively, you can pay by BACS, but please also accompany the BACS payment with an email to foo.w.s@outlook.com to say which child/ren the payment is for (FOWS Account number: 22077944 Sort code: 54-21-14).

The deadline for ordering the meal bags is **WED 26th NOV 2025.**

We will hold a list at the tuck shop and ensure everyone has their bag.

Please pay £2 on the door for entry.

If you'd like your child to have any additional sweets (20p or 50p), crisps (50p) or a tattoo (30p), please let your child have additional money.

Vegetarian sausages available, please make a note with your payment if you require a vegetarian sausage.

MEAL BAGS & SEPARATE HOT DOGS ARE **NOT** AVAILABLE TO BUY ON THE NIGHT

Admissions

Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

Apply online at: devon.cc/admissionsonline

or scan the QR code. Applications open from 15 November 2025 to the 15 January 2026

If you can't access the school admissions website you can get more information by emailing admissions@devon.gov.uk or call our Education Helpline on:

0345 155 1019



You must apply through the Admissions Team, even if you've already given details to a school. Applications made directly to schools or on their lists will not be accepted. County Council

