

# NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



## Whimple Primary School

Issue 7

18.10.24

The weather was kind to us (just) and we managed to get all the children over to the orchard to participate in our annual apple pick. It is always lovely to see them all working together to try and fill as many bags as possible. Please find detail below regarding where to go for the meetings next week.

### Parents Consultations - next week

Parent consultations are being held throughout next week, and the majority of parents have booked their slot. If you haven't yet, there is still time - if you are unsure how to do this, you can also contact the school office.

If your appointment is during school hours, please ring the buzzer at the main gate and then sign in at the office. You will then be asked to wait in reception.

After 3.30pm:

- Teachers from Ash and Elm Classes will be in their classrooms - please wait in the playground or under the shelter if it is wet.
- Teachers from Oak, Beech and Willow will be in the main building - please wait in the library.

After school club will be in Oak Class on Tuesday.

For Willow consultations (Monday) and Oak consultations (Wednesday), parents can wait in the reception area and will be collected by the class teacher from there.

Consultations have to be quite timely due to the number being seen, for those with younger children, this works more efficiently if children are not present as much as possible, although we do appreciate this may not be an option for some of you.

### Morning Drop Off - Reception Children

With our new children far more settled into school routines now, we request that you encourage your child to either walk down to class with a friend, a year 6 or an adult on duty. Elm cloakroom is very busy so we ask for your support with this. Any concerns please speak with the class teachers at your appointment next week.

### Rock Steady

After half-term, lessons will be moving to a Friday morning.



### **Federation News from Mr Jolliffe**

Part of the role of governors is to make sure that senior leaders, teachers and support staff's well-being is looked after in our schools and this is now part of the agenda for each of the Hub meetings. We appreciate that nearly all parents are respectful of the demands that are made of Heads, teachers and staff in schools and your understanding for the challenges that we are facing in meeting the increasing needs of children and families in a time of financial constraint. Cuts to other services have meant that schools are now being expected to provide social, emotional and mental health support for children and families in a way that didn't happen in the past when there were more external services to call upon for help. Please remember that senior leaders and teachers have a right to a reasonable work-life balance and limit communication with them to school hours and that our priority during the school day is to make sure the children in school are learning. Governors are aware of some occasions when parents have not been as considerate as usual and request that everyone works together in a positive and respectful way. Thank you for your understanding and support in this way.

#### **PRAYER ROOM**

Every half term, a group of parents meet to pray for the federation schools. The next prayer room will be on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15am at Silverton Evangelical Church [School Road, Silverton EX5 4JH]. Please contact Andy Mathers [apmathers@gmail.com] for more information.

#### **RE-FEDERATION CONSULTATION**

The consultation period for re-federation with Moorsway is open until Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November. There are copies of the report, with updated Q and As from the consultation meetings, on the EVF website under 'important information' and 'Re-federation Consultation'. Parents are welcome to write to the consultation email account [federationconsultation4@gmail.com].

#### **SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION DAYS**

QE in Crediton and Clyst Vale Community College have sent through their dates for transition days for next summer. QE's Year 6 Transition Parents Information Evening is scheduled for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July and Year 6 Transition Day is on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025. Once allocations have been made and public, the school will send out communications to parents. The Year 5 Qwogwarts taster day is on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025. CVCC Year 6 Transition Days will be on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2025.

#### **EAST HUB GOVERNING BOARD REPORT**

The first East Hub Board meeting was held at Brampford Speke School on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October and was attended by the governors and Heads of School from Brampford Speke, Silverton, Thorverton and Whimple. Following updates on recent safeguarding training, SEND issues, child behaviour and attendance figures, the board moved on to a discussion about Wellbeing and how to support staff across the East Hub schools. There was also brief mention of recent visits by governors to their home schools, which has included chatting to parents at Silverton's parent's evening and attending Harvest Festival at Brampford Speke. This was followed by break-out groups where each Head of School updated their home school governors in conversations covering recent progress, challenges and current school development plans. The new format enabled the board to consider issues in more depth and gave greater opportunity to acknowledge the unique circumstances facing each school.



Looking for things to do over half-term?

Copies of the Primary Times are available from the entrance by the school office.

Ottery Library  
French Storytime  
L'heure du conte en Français

Come along & enjoy some stories told to us in French by Nathalie, who will also translate the stories for us.

When? Friday 18th October, 17:00

How much? Free! (Donations welcome)

Do I need to book? No, just come along at 17:00

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# Dates for your diary

## October

Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd	Willow Class Parent Consultations
Tuesday 22nd	Beech Class Parent Consultations
Tuesday 22nd	Ash Class Parent Consultations
Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd	Oak Class Parent Consultations
Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th	Elm Class Parent Consultations
Thursday 24th	PTA AGM held at school, in the library at 7pm
Friday 25th	PTA sweet sale

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November - Half-Term

## November

Monday 4th	Children return to school
Tuesday 5th	Flu Vaccinations — All Years
Wednesday 20th	Individual School Photos
Thursday 21st	Meet the PTA—Thirsty Farmer 7pm
Thursday 28th	Bags2School Collection (PTA)
Friday 29th	Staff training day - school closed to pupils

## December

Friday 6th	Christmas Disco (PTA)
Wednesday 11th	KS1 Nativity 4pm
Thursday 12th	KS2 Carol Service
Friday 13th	Christmas Fair (PTA)
Monday 16th	EVF Carol Service, Crediton Church 6pm
Wednesday	18th Christmas dinner

## Term dates for pupils - 2024/25:

### AUTUMN TERM 2024

5<sup>th</sup> September to 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Half term - 28<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

### SPRING TERM 2025

7<sup>th</sup> January to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Half term - 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

### SUMMER TERM 2025

22<sup>nd</sup> April to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025

May Day holiday - 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Half term - May 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 6<sup>th</sup> January, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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