

# NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



## Whimple Primary School

Issue 14

13.12.24

It has been a very festive week; it was lovely to see many of you in the church for our annual nativity and carol service. The children, supported by school staff, did an amazing job, with many overcoming their nerves in order to perform. We are all really proud of them.

The children have enjoyed taking part in the ELF run again this year whilst also raising funds for this great local charity. The Christmas fayre also went really well with all children buying a range of things and receiving a gift from Santa. David Reed, the local MP, visited school today to award Rosie in Year 4 a prize for her winning Christmas card design for his use this year. Finally, the children have made decorations again this year for our Christmas tree displayed in the chapel at Killerton, so if you are over there please take a look.

This is the last newsletter of the term (and the year), however, look out for our half-termly curriculum newsletter next week.

The staff and children hope you all have a good Christmas.

### Sports Club

This club will continue next term for Key Stage 2 on Mondays after school. Click the [link here](#) to book, 5 sessions starting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.



### Christmas Hampers

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Hampers and to everyone who bought raffle tickets.

The lucky winners were: Becky Steadman, Hannah Shaw, Chantell Vicary and Samantha Handley

A grand total of £373 was raised through tickets sales.

### Christmas Dinner, Hats and Jumpers - Wednesday 18th

Children will be eating their school Christmas dinner on the last day of term before going home. Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers into school.

Children can make a hat at home, based on any Christmas theme - these can also be worn on the last day of term and is open to everyone. Hats will be paraded and judged in our last assembly.



## Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

The last few weeks of the autumn term are always very busy as the additional layer of Christmas events is added to an already very busy school timetable. However, I hope that you and your family were able to enjoy the various school carol services, nativity plays and Christmas concerts that have taken place in schools or are planned for next week. It is always lovely to see the children sharing their acting, singing and musical skills and growing in confidence as they perform.

This will be the last newsletter of this term as schools close on Wednesday next week. My wife and family join me in wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

### **EVF CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

The Federation's Carol Service takes place at Crediton Parish Church on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm. Children from the different schools will be taking part in bands and performing songs and all parents are welcome to join us there.

### **TERM DATES**

The last day of this term is next Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December. The spring term starts for children on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and ends on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Half term is from Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February inclusive. All the term dates for next year and up until the end of July 2026 are on the federation website.

### **MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP**

For the last term we have been working collaboratively with the South Hams Federation. This is a group of four village schools in south Devon that are very similar to the Exe Valley and Moorsway schools. Governors from both federations agreed to enter a Management Partnership from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 which will last until the end of the school year. This will give us time to see whether this arrangement could become more permanent and ensure that it will give us leadership capacity to continue to drive our own future direction. A letter from Jackie Enright, Chair of Governors, is attached to this week's newsletter.

### **SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS**

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in Devon or want to speak to someone, or if you are a child worried about your own safety, you can contact Front Door (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub or MASH) by calling on 0345 155 1071. If a child is in immediate danger please call 999.

If you suspect that a vulnerable adult is being abused, or you are being abused yourself and live within Devon Local Authority boundaries, please contact us by calling Adult Social Care on 0345 1551 007 (Monday to Thursday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Friday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm and Saturday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm).

Outside of the hours above or on bank holidays call the Emergency Duty Service on 0345 6000 388.

Alternatively, you can email: [safeguardingadultseast-mailbox@devon.gov.uk](mailto:safeguardingadultseast-mailbox@devon.gov.uk) (Exeter, East and Mid Devon).

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### **Applications for Reception Places September 2025**

Children born between 01/09/2020 and 31/08/2021 are entitled to start full time Primary Education in September 2025. The [online application](#) facility is now open and closes at midnight on 15th January 2025.



# Christingle Gathering.

**Sunday 15th  
December  
Whimpe Church at 4pm**

A magical candlelit celebration, loved by children and adults, to help the whole family share in the Christmas message together in a fun and interactive way.

Live music, coffee, cake & the Open the Book team

 **Food Matters**  
Improving children's lives through food

**fresha**  
responsible catering



*Wishing You a Merry Christmas!*

As we approach Christmas, we'd like to take a moment to send our warmest holiday wishes to you and your families. It's been a pleasure providing nutritious and delicious lunches for your children throughout the year, and we're truly grateful to be part of their daily lives.

May this festive season bring you joy, laughter and cherished moments together. We hope your homes are filled with warmth, love, and happiness.

Wishing you all a prosperous and healthy New Year!

Warm wishes

*From all of us at Fresha*



We welcome feedback about our school lunches from all parents and would love to hear from you with any questions or suggestions by emailing us at [feedback@fresha.org](mailto:feedback@fresha.org)



Follow us on social media



[www.fresha.org](http://www.fresha.org)

# Dates for your diary

## December

Monday 16th EVF Carol Service, Crediton Church 6pm

Wednesday 18th Christmas dinner (Christmas jumpers and hats)

Wednesday 18th School finishes at 1.30pm.

## January

Tuesday 7th Start of term for children

## Term dates for pupils - 2024/25:

**AUTUMN TERM 2024**

**5<sup>th</sup> September to 18<sup>th</sup> December 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): 6<sup>th</sup> January, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025*

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