

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2025



Whimple Primary School

Issue 4

16.05.25

The weather has been lovely and the children have been really sensible about wearing sun cream, hats and staying hydrated.

Our Year 6 children have worked exceptionally hard this week completing their assessments in maths and English. They have conducted themselves in an amazing way despite the many changes to their timetables and routines this week. We are extremely proud of them.



Staff Tombola



The tombola is always a popular stall at the fayre. We hope to run it in the usual format, with a tombola for children and one for adults. It's time to look in cupboards to discover unwanted items such as toiletries, unused gifts, sweets, chocolates, etc. In exchange for not wearing uniform on Friday 13th June, the children are asked to bring in one item for the stall if possible.

Children who are unable to provide a suitable tombola item are still allowed to wear their own clothes. In the past this has been well supported with some great items which has raised over £100 for the school.

Plant Request

Our school garden is coming along nicely. Between Glen, our volunteer, and Miss Sharratt with her gardening club, we are creating a fantastic space for all to enjoy. If you have any spare plants, particularly flowers, please drop them off and we will find somewhere to plant them.



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

This week, our Year 6s have taken their SATs tests in spelling, grammar and punctuation, reading and maths. These assessments are a culmination of the children's learning over the last four years and gives them an opportunity to demonstrate how much they now know. Congratulations to all the Year 6s on completing their SATs this week; they are able to look forward to their residential visit in June, plays and performances and the Year 6 Celebration Days towards the end of the school year. What a great way to mark the end of the Year 6's time in primary school and the start of the next phase of their learning journey.

THORVERTON PRESCHOOL

Thorverton Preschool Committee has made the decision to dissolve the current management arrangement and consult stakeholders about asking the Exe Valley & Moorsway Federation (EVMF) to take over the running of the preschool. This has become necessary due to the increasing complexity of the early years educational landscape, with the committee strongly of the opinion that the staff group require a more dedicated and professionalised support structure that can manage these complexities.

The consultation report by the Chair of the Preschool Committee may be found on the EVF website under ' or by clicking on this link: <https://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/Pre-School-Consultation/>

Please let us know your views by contacting the consultation contact address by Friday, 13th June 2025 [federationconsultation5@gmail.com]. The outcome of the consultation process will be discussed by a group of EVF and Preschool Committee members and a proposal may then be put forward to the Preschool Committee and Federation Governing Board to make a decision with effect from 1st September 2025.

PARENT SURVEY

We are asking for your help to let us know how you feel your child is getting on at school by completing this year's Parent Questionnaire and we really appreciate the time and thought that goes into your responses. This year, we have included questions about school meals and our response to the global climate emergency situation. The link for the survey can be found below:

<https://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/Parent-Questionnaire/>

If you cannot access the on-line survey, school offices can give you a paper copy of the survey.

It would really help us if you could complete the survey by Friday, 23rd May, so that we can analyse your views ahead of our planning for next year's Federation Development Plan. Thank you very much for your help.

GOVERNORS

On Tuesday the Heads of schools and governors from the East hub board (Thorverton, Silverton, Whimple, Brampford Speake) met. Updates were given about safeguarding reports, attendance, and behaviour. Governors asked about the well-being of staff during this very busy term. Governors spent time with their Head of School, asking questions about school progress, challenges and impact of change on children.

PRAYER ROOM

Every half term, a group of parents meet to pray for the federation schools. The next prayer room will be on Friday, 23rd May at 9.15am at Silverton Evangelical Church [School Road, Silverton EX5 4JH]. Please contact Andy Mathers [apmathers@gmail.com] for more information.



Cranbrook Junior Park Run

We are pleased to say that children can take part in this again.

The run happens every week due to the fantastic volunteers who give their time to make it

[Please click here to register your interest - it's free to take part.](#) We will then be in touch after half term with a sponsorship form.

PS you may also remember that last year runners were given a t-shirt if they took part. Unfortunately we will not be able to offer that this time around so time to dig out something comfy to run in!



**Would you like to run a stall at this
Whimple School Summer Fayre on
Saturday 21st June?**

We'd like to invite pupils to run a stall with their parents at this year's Summer Fayre. The Summer Fayre is our main school fundraiser of the year and we'd love your help to raise funds for the school.

We've already had some interest from a couple of the Year 6 girls who have some great ideas!

If you are interested please drop me a WASAP message on 07977 913 289 or through Facebook messenger (Catherine Evans-Martin).

Please note this is in addition to the class game stalls (2 per class) that we run at the fayre. As per previous years, we will also be looking for volunteers to help run the class stalls which are broken down into hourly slots.

Thank you
Catherine

**Catherine Evans-Martin
Whimple School PTA Secretary**

On behalf of the PTA

Skills Builder

This half-term our focus has been on: Problem Solving

KS1 Summer 1 Challenge

Problem solving



Escape a desert island

Homezone challenge

Consider the problem: you are stranded on a desert island and need to find your way back home.

What would you do to try and get home? What items on an island could you use to help? What problems might you run into?

Come up with at least two different solutions as to how you would get home.

Extension: Pick which of your solutions is better and explain why.

Reflection questions

Getting Started: What are the instructions?

Intermediate: How can you come up with lots of possible solutions?

- STEP 0** I complete tasks by following instructions
- STEP 1** I complete tasks by finding someone to help if I need them
- STEP 2** I complete tasks by explaining problems to someone for advice if I need
- STEP 3** I complete tasks by finding information I need myself
- STEP 4** I explore problems by creating different possible solutions
- STEP 5** I explore problems by thinking about the pros and cons of possible solutions
- STEP 6** I explore complex problems by identifying when there are no simple technical solutions

KS2 Summer 1 Challenge

Problem solving



Good cause get together *Homezone challenge*

Consider the problem: a local charity wishes to organise an event in your local area which people of all ages can join in. The event could be sporting, musical, a fête - whatever you think would attract the most people to it.

Consider: Which activity would be best so that everyone could be involved? Could you have a range of activities? What other problems could arise?

Challenge: Bring this event to life!

Reflection questions

Getting Started: What are the instructions?

Intermediate: How can you come up with lots of possible solutions?

Advanced: Why is it important to consider a range of solutions for problems?

Mastery: How might you choose between different solutions to a complex problem?

Further learning: <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homezone/problem-solving-getting-started>

Dates for your diary

May

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| Thursday 22nd | Bags2School Collection |
| Thursday 22nd | Willow Class visit to Exeter |
| Friday 23rd | Ash Forest School |

June

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| Tuesday 3rd | Tempest—Class Photos |
| Tuesday 10th | Recycling workshops Elm and Ash Class |
| Friday 13th | Non-uniform day for tombola prizes |
| Wednesday 18th to Friday 20th | Year 5/6 Residential |
| Saturday 21st | School Summer Fair |
| Wednesday 25th | EVF East Hub Transition Day—Year 6 |
| Thursday 26th | Ash School Trip |
| Friday 27th | Staff development day—no pupils |
| Monday 30th | Year 5 and 6 Cricket at Taunton |

July

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| Thursday 3rd | Clyst Vale Transition Day |
| Thursday 3rd | Elm Class School Trip |
| Thursday 3rd | Transition Choir performance |
| Friday 4th | Clyst Vale Transition Day |
| Monday 7th | Beech Class Trip |
| Friday 11th | Rock Steady Concert for parents (9.30am) |
| Friday 11th | Sports Day (afternoon) |
| Tuesday 15th | Oak Class Trip |
| Friday 18th | EVF Cross Country Running |

Statutory Assessment Dates

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| June | w/c 2nd June | Multiplication Tables Check - Year 4 |
| | w/c 9th June | Phonics Screening Check |

Term dates for pupils - 2024/25:

SUMMER TERM 2025

22nd April to 25th July 2025

Half term - May 26th to 30th May 2025

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 27th June 2025

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

Telephone/fax: 01404 822584

Email: admin@whimpleprimary.co.uk

Website: www.whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk