

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2025



Whimple Primary School

Issue 9

07.11.25

It has been a good week and the children have returned with good enthusiasm to get back to their learning. The apples picked before half-term have been delivered to Sandford Orchard for cider production. Today, many of the children were involved in apple pressing and had the opportunity to taste some pure apple juice.

We have talked with the children about Remembrance Sunday and we will observe the two-minute silence here at school on Tuesday.

Children in Need—Friday 14th November



In order to support this great charity children are encouraged to wear their own clothes to school for a donation. The children via their school council have suggested spotty clothes, or other brightly coloured clothes and crazy hair. Donations can either be made via the MCAS App (Online Shop) or cash can be brought in on the day.

We will be holding a sponsored event in a few weeks time linked to a three-legged challenge for Children and Need and the local charity ELF.

November is Cut Your Carbon month!



Our Eco Committee is calling on you to tackle carbon emissions, one simple action at a time. Each child will bring home details of six simple challenges to complete at home with family and friends. At the end of the month, please return your completed challenge sheet and we will add up the estimated carbon saved, and celebrate your amazing efforts!



Elm Class	Charlie and Ruby
Ash Class	Barnie and Darcie
Oak Class	Tilly and Rose
Beech Class	Issy and Oscar
Willow Class	Lily and Theo
Lunchtime stars:	Elm Class
	Ash Class
	Oak Class
	Beech Class
	Willow Class
	Stephen
	Ruben
	Henry
	Orla
	Mikel



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe



The government has published its proposals for curriculum reform this week, following the first review of the content of the curriculum for some time. The review was conducted by Prof. Becky Francis and makes recommendations for changes to the curriculum that will come into effect fully in September 2028.

Each curriculum subject has been examined by the review group and minor recommendations have been made and accepted by the DfE. The review group has proposed that Religious Education, which currently sits outside the National Curriculum but is still statutory, will become a National Curriculum subject alongside all the others, which will bring it into line with the way the other subjects are delivered.

Citizenship will also become statutory so that all primary children are taught elements of financial and media literacy, climate change and sustainability. We already do a lot of this through our PSHE curriculum and through using published schemes such as One Decision or Jigsaw, but this change will mean that this important area is given a higher priority. Finally, the DfE has recognised that enrichment activities such as music, art, sport and drama are essential to a well-rounded school experience that supports academic achievement. All the federation schools already offer a lot of these enrichment activities covering civic engagement, arts and culture, nature and outdoor adventure, sport and physical activities so it will be interesting to see how this is supported by the DfE in the future. Our School Improvement Team and senior leadership team will keep up with the new curriculum as it evolves and make sure our schools are ready to embrace the changes that it will bring. The emphasis on citizenship and enrichment are very welcome and should enable us to further develop these areas in our schools from 2028 onwards.

Devon Family Hubs Practitioner Forum

– Supporting neurodiverse families

Thursday 20th November

10:00am to 12:30pm

Via Microsoft TEAMS

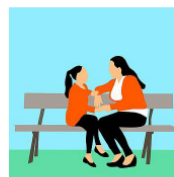
This forum is for anyone working with children, young people and their families and will cover the topic of supporting neurodiverse families.

We will explore working alongside parents/carers with neurodiversity.

Please sign up via [Devon Family Hubs Practitioner Forum – Fill in form](#)

Or use the PR Code below

Devon Family Hubs Practitioner
Forum



LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

and your child

TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER | 9.30 – 10.30

NEWTON ST CYRES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Join us for an informal session on language development. We will explore why language is so important for learning, emotional wellbeing and social connection, look at how language typically develops and talk about ways to support your child's language development through your daily interactions with them at home and out and about.

Refreshments Available in the School Hall from 9am

Dates for your diary

November

Monday 10th	Beech Class and Oak Year 4 swimming - session 2 of 6
Friday 14th	Judicial workshops for Year 5 and 6
Friday 14th	Children in Need
Friday 14th	Beech Forest School session
Monday 17th	Individual school photographs (Tempest)
Monday 17th	Beech Class and Oak Year 4 swimming - session 3 of 6
Tuesday 18th	Flu immunisations
Wednesday 19th	Music Workshops - Oak and Ash Class
Friday 21st	Willow Forest School session
Monday 24th	Beech Class and Oak Year 4 swimming - session 4 of 6
Thursday 27th	Mufti day for Christmas hamper items
Friday 28th	Non Pupil Day

December

Monday 1st	Beech Class and Oak Year 4 swimming - session 5 of 6
Monday 8th	Beech Class and Oak Year 4 swimming - session 6 of 6
Thursday 11th	Carol Service at Whimble Church for KS2 6pm
Friday 12th	Christmas Fair
Wednesday 17th	Nativity KS1 at Whimble Church 4pm

Term dates for pupils - 2025/26:

AUTUMN TERM 2025 **4th September to 19th December 2025**

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 28th November 2025

SPRING TERM 2026 **5th January to 2nd April 2026**

Half term: Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 5th January 2026

SUMMER TERM 2026 **20th April to 22nd July 2026**

Half term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 26th June 2026

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

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