

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2025



Whimple Primary School

Issue 1

25.04.25

Hope you all have had a lovely Easter break. It was fantastic to be able to end the week with our wonderful art exhibition in the hall celebrating all of our children's achievements.

Well done to Mr Brown and eight of our year 6 children who went on their final Exmoor Challenge walk at Dulverton with other children from across the federation. Due to some complications with the coach it ended up being a very long day.

As we get back into routine, it would be great to have our children getting into school on time so they are ready to start their learning promptly. It is the term of many assessments and we want to enable the children to feel calm and ready to do their best without putting any additional pressure upon them.



Residential - Year 3 and 4

On Wednesday, the majority of our Year 3 and 4 children will be off to Okehampton for their overnight stay and participate in some different activities. Please be mindful that as we are travelling by train and will need to change trains on the return journey, children need to be able to carry their own luggage.

Any medications need taking to the office with completed forms, ideally on Monday, so we can check through them and organise ourselves this end.

Essential Equipment

Children need to have the following items in school each day please:

- A waterproof coat
- PE kit
- Sunhat (as the forecast is for some great weather!)



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

Welcome back to school! I hope you have had a lovely Easter break and that you and your children are ready for the final term of the school year. There are always lots of exciting learning opportunities and personal development events to look forward to in the summer term, including plays, leavers' services and residential visits. I am looking forward to all these events and to sharing in them with parents and children.

At the last federation governing board meeting, we agreed some changes to the Parent Communication Policy and a new version of the policy may be found on the federation website. We have added in a section about what parents should do if their family circumstances change and how we can help with making sure that both parents continue to receive information about their child's progress and activities at school. This may mean checking that the priority order for emails and texts is still right for your situation. Please do talk to your child's Head of School if there is anything that may affect your child's well-being; all Heads are also Designated Safeguarding Leads and will treat any information shared with them, in confidence.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Maintained schools are required by Devon County Council to remind you twice a year about the regulations about taking holidays in term time. The letter to parents about this is attached to this week's newsletter. If your child has recently joined the school, please make sure that you read the information in the letter.

PARENT COMMUNICATION POLICY

The revised Parent Communication Policy may be found on the federation website by following this link: www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/Key-Information/policies. Further revisions of the policy are currently underway and will be included in an updated policy after the July meeting of the federation governing board.

YEAR 3 and 4 RESIDENTIAL VISIT

Year 3 and 4 are going to Okehampton YHA for their residential visit next week. Silverton, Thorverton and Whimple children will be going on Wednesday, 30th April and returning the following day. Children at Brampford Speke, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Newton St Cyres and Sandford will be going on Thursday, 1st May and returning the following day. We will be travelling to Okehampton by train from Crediton station. Parents have been sent all the relevant information and should have returned forms by now but copies of all the information is on the federation website under 'key information' and 'residential visits'. [Exe Valley Federation - Year 3/4 Residential 2025](#)

YEAR 5 and 6 RESIDENTIAL VISIT

Information about the Year 5 and 6 residential visit to the Ultimate Adventure Centre in North Devon will be sent home to parents by email next week. Copies of the letter and more information about the visit can be found on the federation website under 'key information' and 'residential visits'. [Exe Valley Federation - Year 5/6 Residential 2025](#)

FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

We would like to let you know that Mrs Sara-Jane Baker has now stepped back from her post as Executive Headteacher of the Moorsway Federation schools. Mrs Baker has been away from school since the start of the year and has now made the difficult decision to resign from her post.

Mrs Leanne Penhallurick is continuing in her role as Acting Executive Headteacher and will work alongside Mrs Emma Newman as Head of Cornwood and Mrs Karla Pearson, Interim Head of Shaugh Prior. We are working with the new leadership team to continue to ensure that the three schools in the federation are secure for the future.

We are very grateful to Mrs Baker for her dedication to the Moorsway schools and wish her every success and happiness in the future.

Ronnie Haynes, Chair of Moorsway Hub and Jackie Enright, Chair of EVMF Governors

Dates for your diary

April

Wednesday 30th to Thursday 1st May Year 3/4 Residential

May

5th Bank holiday
12th KS2 SATs start (until Thursday)
16th Willow Forest School
16th Wildlife Visitor for Beech and Oak Classes
22nd Bags2School Collection
22nd Willow Class visit to Exeter

June

Wednesday 18th to Friday 20th Year 5/6 Residential

Saturday 21st School Summer Fair

Statutory Assessment Dates

May Monday 12th to Thursday 15th Year 6 SATs

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

May Day holiday - 5th May 2025

Half term - May 26th to 30th May 2025

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

Bag2School Collection is Thursday 22nd May

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