

# NEWSLETTER SPRING 2025



## Whimple Primary School

Issue 5

07.02.25

Being British we often talk about the weather —it has been so nice to have some frosty mornings and sunny days for a change this week, although the wind today was bitter.

The Year 5 and 6 children went off for their walk today after learning some map skills.

### Residentials

All the information for these events have been sent out recently. We would really like to get all children to be able to attend these where possible. If finances are an issue, please send me an email and we can see what we can do to support you. There are a number of options available, including smaller payments over a longer period of time.

### Dance Showdown - last chance to sign up this week

Children in year 5 and 6 should have brought home a letter explaining about the EVF Dance Showdown being held at the Barnfield Theatre. This was a great event when we took part last year. Children do not have to take part, it is optional, as we appreciate getting up onto stage is not everyone's idea of fun. Please confirm whether your child is taking part by emailing child's name, school and class to [prule@premier-education.com](mailto:prule@premier-education.com).

Children will go on a bus from school but will need collecting from the theatre—if this is an issue, please let us know as we may well be able to sort something for you.

### Skills Builder Parent Workshop

It was fabulous to see so many parents and their children at the workshop on Tuesday. Hopefully you found it really useful and if you have any suggestions for future ones, or feedback from this ne, please get in touch.



### Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

Next Tuesday is Internet Safety Day and we will have the opportunity during next week to talk to the children about how they can stay safe on line, both at school and at home. When it comes to keeping children safe online at home, that is when we really need your help, and there are some useful guides on the Exe Valley Federation website about how to do this. We have added some more information about the risks to children connected to the growth of artificial intelligence and some guidance on how to manage screen time effectively. These can be tricky areas of parenting to navigate but I hope the information that we have shared with you might be helpful as well. Most of the time children use the amazing resources available to them on-line, safely and there are good systems in place to prevent them coming to harm. The guides on the federation website also give you some guidance about the signs that children might be facing a safeguarding issue and where you can go to get help. The key message is to be able to talk to your child about on-line safety and to be aware of what they are accessing via any device, including those belonging to other family members. If you do want further advice, please do contact your child's Head of School, who is also their Designated Safeguarding Lead.

#### PRAYER ROOM

The next prayer room will be held at Silverton Evangelical Church on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am. Any parents who would like to join us to pray for the work of the Exe Valley Federation schools would be very welcome. More information from Andy Mathers [apmathers@gmail.com].

#### CREATION STATION HOLIDAY CLUB

Creation Station Holiday Club is running at Silverton C of E School [Coach Road, Silverton, EX5 4JY] on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February from 9am-3.30pm each day.

Suitable for 5-12 years, and 4 year olds are able to do a shorter day 9am-1pm for £17

Children need to bring a packed lunch, snacks and drinks

Art and crafts every day, along with games and free time

Winter-themed crafts

Single day cost is £32 or £55 for both days [discount when paying via BACS: £30 single day, £52 for both]

20% sibling discount

For more details, please contact Kat Howard at The Creation Station Exeter & Mid Devon on 07817955997 or go to the website [www.thecreationstation.co.uk](http://www.thecreationstation.co.uk) or email [kathoward@thecreationstation.co.uk](mailto:kathoward@thecreationstation.co.uk).

A brave group of parents and friends from Thorverton C of E Primary School are running a marathon around 5 of the Exe Valley Federation schools on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February! They are doing this to help raise money for a Sensory Room at Thorverton. If anyone would like to sponsor the runners, please follow the link below. Thanks 😊

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/thorvertonmiddleagemarathon2025>

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## Make a 3D Habitat for an endangered animal

Ottery Library – Thurs 20th Feb 10:30 – 11:30

Facilitated by David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation Education Team, learn about the eight endangered animals across African and Asia and their habitats.

*The session is free but please consider leaving a small donation.*

*Please contact Ottery library to book your space.*



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Monday  
3rd Feb  
Code Club\*

\*Booking Required

Monday  
10th Feb  
Read with  
Oakley

Monday fun for children  
at Ottery Library  
3.45 – 4.45pm

Monday  
17th Feb  
Boardgames  
Fun

Monday  
24th Feb  
Crafternoon

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# Dates for your diary

## February

- Friday 7th Year 5 and 6 Map Reading and Walking Day  
Monday 10th Beech and Oak Year 4 swimming lessons (last session)  
Thursday 13th Oak Forest School (am); Ash Forest School + Elm Year 1(pm)

## March

- Monday 31st EVF Dance Showdown at the Barnfield Theatre (Year 5 and 6)

## April

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

## June

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

## 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:

### 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): 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025*

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