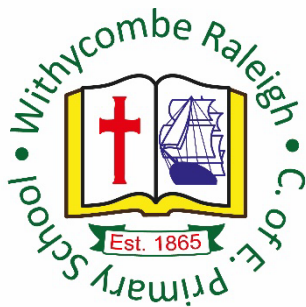


Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**



Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher
Withycombe Village Road
Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3BA

Please ring us on: (01395) 263397
email: admin@wrpschool.org
website: wrpschool.org

Date: 17th October 2025

News from your Headteacher

I can't quite believe that there is just one week left of school until half term; the past six weeks have flown by! I hope that your children have enjoyed the term so far, although I am sure they are all looking forward to a week away from school too. We'll see you back in school on Monday 3rd November.

We've had a rise in **absences** this week with lots of nasty bugs being shared around children and staff. Please continue helping us to keep the spread of infections to a minimum by keeping children at home for 48 hours after an episode of sickness or diarrhea. It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold, but if they have a fever please keep them off school until the fever goes.

If you are unsure whether your child should attend school or not, the NHS have some useful guidelines at this link. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Appointments and absences

If your child is absent from school due to illness or for an appointment off site, please inform the office via email, a phone call, or face to face. Some parents are only alerting the class teacher, which means our admin team are sometimes not aware of an absence in time for the registers to be updated on the system. As a result, they may show as absent with no reason, which means the office will need to call or text you to chase up the reason for the absence. This can cause confusion or upset, and also causes us unnecessary workload. Feel free to alert the class teacher *in addition* to the office of course.

Parents' Evenings

This week we sent out links for parents and carers to book a Parents' Evening appointment. If you did not receive a link or are having trouble booking an appointment, please contact the school office. These meetings will take place in your child's classroom. **Please make a note of your appointment date and time as we are unable to send reminders.**

These meetings are an opportunity to talk with your child's teacher about how they have settled into their new class. We hope these meetings can be a two-way conversation and that this provides an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have about your child's learning and time in school. It may be an opportunity to share information about your child's experiences at home that staff may not be aware of.

Contact us

Please remember that there are many ways you can contact school staff if you have any queries. You can email your child's class teacher directly using the class email account. Alternatively, you can email admin@wrpschool.org or call us on 01395 263397.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. E Jones

Remember: It's the PTFA Mufti Day next Thursday, and next Friday 24th is a non-pupil day!



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



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Safeguarding

Understanding the Prevent Strategy



Prevent Strategy

Here at Withycombe, keeping our children safe is our top priority. As part of our safeguarding responsibilities, I would like to share with you a little more about the Government's 'Prevent Strategy' and how it is used in school to protect our pupils. The main aim is to prevent children and young people from being drawn into extremism or radicalisation. While this may sound concerning, in primary schools like ours **it's all about teaching and empowering** our children to:

- ✓ Respect and celebrate differences – *understanding the worth of all individuals*
- ✓ Think critically and ask questions – *feeling part of a class / school and participating*
- ✓ Keep themselves safe online and in the wider world – *making informed choices*
- ✓ Speak up if something worries them – *building confidence and resilience*

We strive to achieve this within / through:

- * our wider curriculum (most specifically RSHE/relationships, sex and health education.)
- * day-to-day interactions with children, including during free time and OPAL play
- * assemblies, focusing on our strongly-embedded school 'GRACE' values and 3 school rules
 - (Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe)
- * a focus on British values: democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

All staff are trained to notice any signs that a child might be at risk and know how to respond appropriately. We also work closely with other safeguarding professionals to make sure we are providing the best support.



United Nations Day

On 24th October this year it is 'United Nations Day'

Although this is not directly connected to the Prevent Strategy, there are some obvious direct parallels! This day aims to promote **peace** and **global cooperation**, celebrates **diversity** and **human rights**, and encourages education.

Thank you for working with us to keep our children safe, respectful, happy, open-minded and thriving.

If you have any questions about safeguarding or the Prevent Strategy, please contact me, Mrs Jones or Mrs Wheeler - or visit our website for more information.

Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead



at the heart of
our community

After nearly 5 months of closure, the Open Door would like to let you know that they're open again and the **Community Fridge can be accessed** on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays during their Café open hours: 9.30am-3pm.

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Sports and Achievements



Toby received his purple belt in mixed martial arts this week!



Finley, Year 1 Rabbits got man of the match football trophy for really good listening, tackling and his skill.



Polly Palmer in dolphin class completed her level two at gymnastics over the weekend!



Harley from Barn Owl class was awarded the Focus Star Award by Brixington Blues U6s!



Olive from Beech class was awarded trainer of the night for the first time at her football!



Congratulations to Mr De Cruz and his wife Jess on the safe arrival of beautiful baby Penelope this week!

The Book Fair will be open next week!



Come along to the Book Fair in the Meeting Room (the old KS2 library by the pond) on:
Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd, or Thursday 23rd October.

As always, any purchases made at the book fair raise funds for the school, and help us to provide resources for the school libraries.

More information / price lists etc will be posted on our Home Connect Page ASAP.

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