

Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**



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News from your Headteacher

Wishing you all a very happy holiday. I hope that you and your children enjoy the two weeks away from school and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 20th April**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the term. I am extremely proud of the team we have here at our school. Working in education can be challenging at times and you may be aware from news reports and social media that schools across the country are facing increasing pressures – trying to squeeze more, with increasingly limited budgets. At Withycombe, our staff place children at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to ensuring that every child feels happy, safe and secure when they come to school.

After the Easter break, we will be asking for your support in reviewing our School Vision (Growing Happy, Caring Hearts and Minds) and we would love to hear from our whole school community. We want to understand what makes Withycombe special to you, and what your hopes are for your child during their time with us. Your views will help us to identify the key strengths of our school and shape our vision for the future. A short survey will be sent to our school community during the first week of the new term and we would greatly appreciate your feedback.



It's Top Marks for the Kitchen Team!

Congratulations – and thank you - to Layla and the rest of the fabulous kitchen team for achieving the highest rating for food hygiene after an impromptu visit from the Food Standards Agency this week. We know they work extremely hard for the school so it's nice to be able to share their achievement.

Have a lovely Easter break.

Mrs E Jones
Headteacher



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



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Earth Day is celebrated on Wednesday 22nd April this year. We've been considering how we at school can further enhance the power of our children to make a real difference. Even small actions help to protect our planet, and that's why we're developing the roles and responsibilities of children around our school - simple responsibilities that help things to run smoothly, and some of which will help take care of the environment!

Taking on a job at school helps children to build confidence, teamwork and responsibility - everyone can play a part in making our school a happier, healthier place. We already have lots of eager children who ask for 'jobs' on a regular basis, so we're looking at how we can encourage this willingness in an organised way!

Some of the Earth-friendly jobs that we plan to develop further include:

Litter Pickers

Our ever-eager playground heroes! Litter pickers help keep our school tidy and safe for everyone (including wildlife). Every piece of rubbish picked up is a step toward a cleaner planet and keeps plastic waste.

Energy Monitors

These pupils will help us save energy by reminding everyone to switch off lights, electronic white boards, and other devices when they're not in use. Saving energy helps protect the Earth's resources.

Garden Helpers

These helpers will water plants around the school, helping them to survive and grow, allowing them to support wildlife globally. Plants are important because they clean the air and support nature.

Recycling Champions

Making sure all our paper, plastic and other materials go in the right bins helps reduce waste and protect our environment.

Other helping roles might also include: Library Monitors, Hall Helpers, OPAL Play Monitors and Play Leads.

During the first few weeks of the Summer Term our Teachers will be sharing ways for pupils to take part and sign up for different jobs. We'll have a rota system, and the aim is for all children to have a chance to take part at some point during the year!

A message for Earth Day:

Of course 'looking after the Earth' isn't just something we do once a year — it's something we can do every day. By taking on small jobs, our pupils are becoming involved and more responsible for our school - making big difference.

Let's work together to care for our school, our community and ultimately our planet.

Happy Earth Day on 22nd April!

Mr Smith
Deputy Headteacher

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Making a Splash!

Twenty children from years 3-6 took part in a very competitive swimming gala at Exmouth Leisure Centre. They swam a mixture of breaststroke, butterfly, backstroke, front crawl and individual medley, with a few fun races in between. The children came an impressive 3rd place, and we are through to the finals in July!

Congratulations to Jack, Erin, Casper, Fin, Tommy, Ivan, Evelyn, Enid, Fin, Connor, Ellysse, Eliza, Eliza, Huddy, Josh, Mattea, Martha, Freddie, Carter and Eben!



Year 3 Bee Musical

Congratulations to the Year 3 Team for their wonderful Bee Musical production this week. It was truly fantastic - the best part was seeing the children smiling for the whole show. They loved it, as clearly did the audiences of both adults and children. Thank you to our families who supported us by providing costumes, and those who came along to watch the children perform. It's lovely to give them an audience to show off all their hard work after rehearsals!



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Y6 Easter Book Quiz at ECC

Some of our Year 6 children went along to Exmouth Community College for an Easter Book Quiz. There were six teams from 3 schools - and **one of our teams came joint first!**

There were rounds on Dingbats, Emoji book titles, and links between books and chocolate!



Freya, Harriet and Olivia in Kingfisher Class made cakes (in school) for all the teachers as an Easter treat.
Thank you – we enjoyed them!



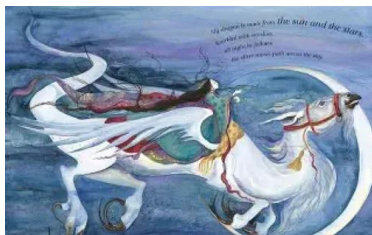
007 – an Interpretive Performance

Mr Scudder's class have been learning a routine to the well-known James Bond theme tune, which they performed to some of their peers on Tuesday. The Admin office had been hearing music coming from the school hall for a few weeks, so we enjoyed popping along to see what the children had been practicing.

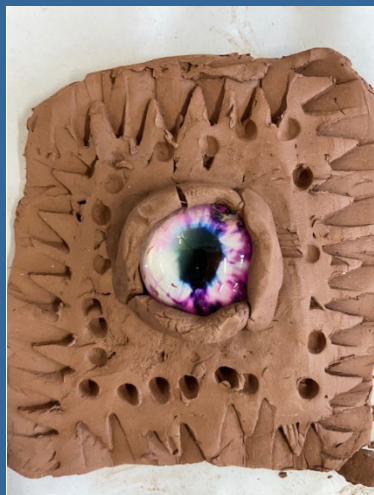
Well done everyone – it was great!



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Year two have created **dragon eye** tiles using clay and marbles. This creative project was working alongside their literacy learning of the book '**Tell me a Dragon**'



Health for Kids: Grownups is an interactive website specifically for parents and carers of primary school aged children.



They have a resource area for parents and carers offers a wealth of information to help you support your children to be healthy and happy as they grow.

Find top tips and advice on all aspects of children's emotional and physical health, from keeping kids active and eating well, to building their confidence and equipping them to cope with specific health issues.

<https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/> and <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/grownups>

There is also a link to the **children's section** where children can play games and explore sections about health, feelings and illness. This is promoted by Devon County Council to Devon families. Maybe you could take a look together over the Easter holidays?

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Sports and Other Achievements

If your child would like to share their achievements, whether that's a sporting success, gaining library reading challenge certificates, or anything else – please email a photo and a short description to admin@wrpschool.org.



At the South West Cheerleading Championship in Torquay last weekend, Olivia in Oak Class, Niah and Elliot in Avocet Class and Ivy in Maple Class and won first prize in their category for their dance. Freya in Kingfisher Class also won first prize in her category!



Last weekend Phoebe, Nejla, Eloise and Ethan from Dragonfly and Bumblebee Classes took part in the Starting Pointe big show!

They performed their ballet beautifully in front of a full crowd at the pavilion, and were superstars backstage too. Well done!

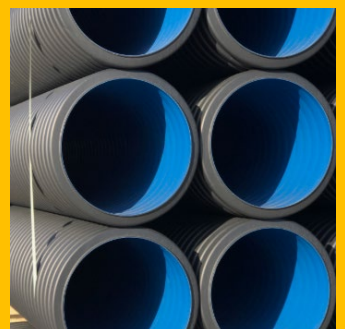


The OPAL play team are on the look-out for a few additional items to enhance our play areas please!

If you have any of the following available to donate, please let us know.

- * Cable Drums
- * Clean / non-hazardous storage drums
- * Scaffold Planks
- * Large pipes (big enough for children to crawl through!)

Please email opal@wrpschool.org so we can arrange to accept bulky items.



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We need your help to raise some funds to buy additional Little Wandle books, so our children can borrow them and continue their brilliant phonics learning at home. We would once again be very grateful for any support you can give, if you are able.

We'd like the children to work for these donations! Pick & Mix the best challenges **for your family:**

Would you rather take part in a **Sponsored** challenge?

Or, invite friends to come for a **Read-Over?**

Or, plan a **Selfless Saturday?**

Or would you rather **Just Donate?**

Sponsored activities:

We will supply sponsorship forms. *Ask friends and neighbours to chip in!*

- * Sponsor your child to **read** on their own (per page/per paragraph)?
- * Or, sponsor your child to **read to their sibling** – they could read their younger sibling's bedtime story every day for a week/fortnight?
- * Come up with your own sponsored challenge, or
- * You could *really* challenge your children with a sponsored **silence!!**

Have a **Read-Over:**

Invite a few best friends for a sleep over *with a difference*. Everyone brings their favourite book and reads quietly for an hour before bed! Charge your 'guests' a small fee to donate as a group.

Plan a **Selfless Saturday:**

Does your child usually have some treats on the weekend? Perhaps it's pocket money day, or maybe they get a small toy, a take-away, or some sweet treats. They could decide to be selfless one day and donate the money that's usually spent on Selfless Saturday instead!

Just Donate:

If your family is too busy to arrange sponsored activities at home but you'd still like to support the appeal, we also offer the option to Just Donate! We'll put a payment item on Parent Pay for your voluntary donations. Please feel free to amend the default amount downwards – or upwards!

We still need to raise LOTS more if you can help!

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**EASTER
SUNDAY
FAMILY
SERVICE**
**10.30am @
Scott Drive Church**
ALL ARE WELCOME!

JC10K
2 MAY • 2026

**THE JURASSIC COAST
10KM**
+ 2.5KM Children's Run

SATURDAY 2 MAY 2026
ENTRIES OPEN

ENGLAND ATHLETICS PEAK Physio and Massage cancer charity force

One of the UK's most scenic 10Ks
ALL PROFITS TO FORCE CANCER CHARITY, EXETER
www.jurassiccoast10k.co.uk

Easter Day
St John The Evangelist
Withycombe Raleigh
10:00am
Easter Service followed
by Easter Egg Hunt
All Welcome