

Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**



Date: 19/5/2022

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

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

News from your Headteacher

I have been inundated with photos this week so it has clearly been a busy week for our children in and out of school. Just one more week until half term, let's hope that we get some sunny weather so we can all get out and about and enjoy the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Please remember that children return to school on Tuesday 7th June as teachers have a training day on 6th June.

As we approach the final few weeks of the academic year, children, parents and staff always start to think about September. We will notify children and parents early in the half term about which class children will be joining and which adults will be working with them in their new base. This year our 'moving on morning' will be Monday 4th July. This is an opportunity for your child to spend the morning in their new classroom with their new teacher. We will let you know more about this nearer the time.

Snacks

We encourage children to eat a healthy snack at breaktime to keep their brains fueled for learning. Snacks in both KS1 and KS2 should be a fruit snack, we do not allow crisps or chocolate bars at break time (these should be saved for lunchtime or after school). We therefore request that parents who wish to provide a snack for their children, to please give them a fruit/vegetable snack. If your child has a dietary need and they have been advised to eat something other than fruit mid-morning, please speak to the class teacher to make them aware.

Family Fund

During the pandemic, following requests from several parents, we set up the Withycombe Family Fund. This fund was set up to support families who had been affected financially due to the pandemic. Many of the families we have supported were not entitled to universal credit as they were working but were struggling to make ends meet each month. The Family Fund has helped many of our families and it has funded: vouchers to buy food at Christmas, school shoes, subsidised residential visits, to name just a few of the ways our school community has helped. Although the pandemic is 'over', we still have families who are struggling especially with the cost of living increasing. Families who are able to, can still donate to the fund via Parentpay if they would like to do so – and this is of course hugely appreciated. If you are a family who is struggling financially or if you are aware of a family who would benefit from some financial support, please make contact via the enquiries email. Any referrals are dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

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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 enquiries@wrpschool.org or call us on 01395 263397. Please be aware that teachers do not have the opportunity to check emails during the school day and therefore if you have an urgent message for staff within the school day, please ring our office or email as indicated.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs. E Jones

Upcoming Events

Monday 23rd

International Diversity Day in school

Tuesday 24th

'Trash Mob' (plastic free schools) in school

Friday 27th May

Jubilee Celebration Day in School

Monday 30th May

Half Term

14th, 15th and 16th June

Circus Skills Workshops

Thursday 23rd June

Sports Day (We hope to be able to have families spectate again this year-further details nearer the time)

w/c 11th July

Kindness Week

Friday 15th July

Annual Reports sent home

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Collective Worship

This week Christians celebrate Pentecost. It is an important festival and many Christians see it as the birthday of the church. Pentecost is remembered as the time the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, the Bible says that they were given the ability to speak in all the languages of the world so they could spread the gospel.



Environment News: An Update, Plastic Free Schools

We are pleased to have officially announced the launch of our 'Plastic Free Schools' action plan!

On Tuesday 17th we held two assemblies, inviting every child in KS2 to attend and take part in our campaign. During these assemblies, we looked at and discussed the problem of plastic pollution – particularly the impact of single use plastic. Excellent contributions were provided by our school council representatives and dozens of children asking questions. This clearly demonstrates that our children have a wealth of knowledge and a passion to make a difference!

Our next step will be to hold a Trash Mob – every child will be invited to pick up litter around the school. From this information, we will find out more about the plastic waste that pollutes our own environment, including the main brands involved!

Before we can tackle single-use plastic we need to understand what plastics are polluting our playgrounds!



We can do this by organising a....

TRASH MOB!

I SAY TRASH MOB,
YOU SHOUT TRASH MOB!!!

We are pleased to state that our school is now committed to reducing our own single use plastic usage and waste (I will communicate more about how we will set out to achieve this next time!).

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The success of any campaign rests on the ability to inspire others to join in; to care about the issue and be willing to act for change, even when the going gets tough! For this reason, we ask our families to join us and take steps to reduce the amount of single use plastic used at home. We would love to hear about any steps you have been able to take in achieving this!

Please use the link below (from the WWF - the wildlife charity, not the wrestlers!) which can help you with some suggestions for reducing the use of single use plastic.

<https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/ten-tips-reduce-your-plastic-footprint>



Mr Smith – Deputy Head

Top Tips for Wellbeing

Last week was Mental Health Awareness week.

Sometimes life can be so busy or demanding that we may not prioritise our own mental wellbeing. We may put it further down our 'to do' list or see it as a luxury we cannot afford time on.

However, looking after our own mental health does not need to take huge amounts of time and effort; in fact if we can fit simple ideas into our everyday life, we are more likely to sustain them.

Try out these 5 Monday Morning Pick-Me-Ups

Movement

Do some gentle movement, even if it's a short walk or a stretch session.

Take a moment

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Take a moment to notice the beauty of nature around you, from your window, walking to your car, or on the playground – enjoy the sights and sounds of spring.

Reach out

Call or message someone you haven't spoken to or seen in a while who you know will make you laugh or feel good.

Read for pleasure

Make reading a choice not just a chore! Commit to reading something you have wanted to for just a few minutes.

Be Kind

Do a random act of kindness. It doesn't have to be big or expensive (in fact it's better if it's not) but doing something kind for someone else activates the reward centre of the brain – win win.

*(Reference: Maria Brosnan
Educational Health and Wellbeing Specialist)*

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Sports & Achievements

We love to hear about your children's sporting and other achievements. If you have anything to share, please email enquiries@wrpschool.org with your news and a photo if possible. We will endeavour to include as many of your photos as possible each week.



This week's Sporting Stars:

Max from Willow who was awarded Coaches' player and try of the season, Zach from Beech was awarded Core Values and try set up, and Harry was awarded Players' player and try set up for Exmouth Cockles U8 Rugby.

Ed was awarded 'most improved player' for U8 Budleigh football team.

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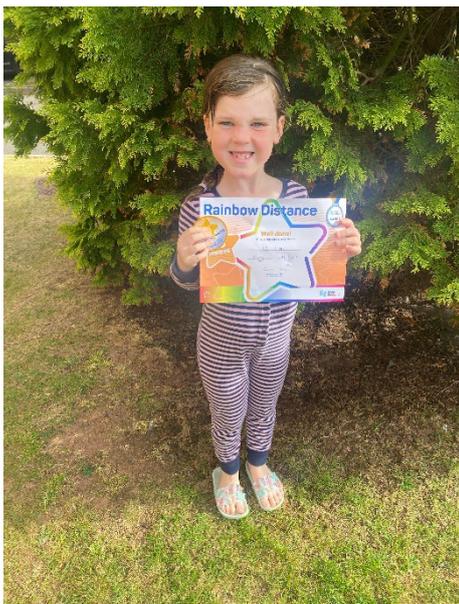
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More Sporting Stars, congratulations to:

Ethan (Bumblebees) achieved his Puffin swimming award.

Isla (Hedgehogs) was proud to receive her 20 metre swimming award

Isla (Otters) was very pleased to have passed her water skills 1

Rosie (Dragonfly) has passed her dance exams, Gold Street Rosette and Lime Acro Rosette.

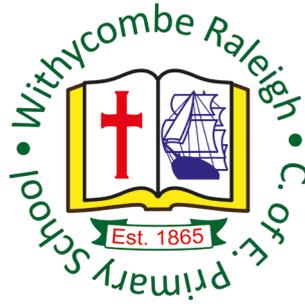
Teddy (Hazel) won the most improved player at the Withycombe Rugby end of season awards on Sunday.



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Year 5 visited the Eden Project on Monday.

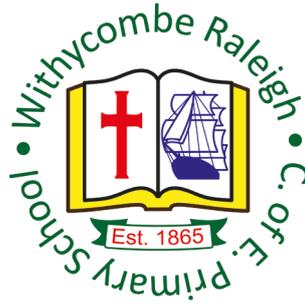
The children took part in 'Rainforest Uncovered' workshop, they had to consider if it is possible to survive in the rainforest with none of our possessions from the modern world.



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Year 2 spent an afternoon at our local church this week. Children listened to stories, spotted different artefacts, sang songs and had time to explore all the different areas of the church.

Year 1 enjoyed a visit from Rachel and Donna from Raddenstile Vets to support our science topic on Animals. We learnt some useful tips on how to care for our pets, including how to brush their teeth. We looked at some x rays and had to guess the animal, and we had great fun listening to our heart beat using a stethoscope.



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The Foundation children had a visit from Hannah from 'Recycle Devon'. She led a workshop where they found out all about minibeasts. They learnt that the clever animals eat plants and recycle them to make compost. Then Hannah changed the classroom into a huge compost bin and they pretended to be little recycling minibeasts!

The best part was when they went in the playground and looked at all the real minibeasts Hannah had brought in from her compost bin. Lots of the children enjoyed picking them up and handling them very carefully!

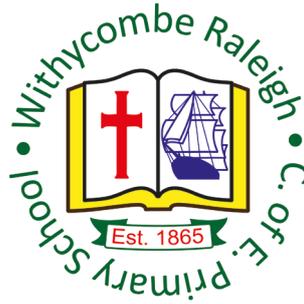


At the weekend Oakley, Albie, George, Harriet, Evan, Oscar, Rudy, Connor, Frank, Toby, Freddie and Frankie went to their end of season awards ceremony for the Under 6 Exmouth rugby team. Their coaches are all so impressed with the hard work, determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship the children have shown, they are a fantastic team. Well done everyone.

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A big well done to:

Hattie and Molly from Avocets who both played in a local netball tournament on Saturday. The girls both secured medals and their team, the Exmouth Pearls won the plate!

Hattie (Bumblebees) achieved her 10m swimming award.

Matthew (Avocets) won the Sportsmanship award for Lymstone U10 football team.

Oscar, Ed, Harry and Zach for were awarded 'most improved players' (alongside Ed) for U8 Budleigh football team. Harry also received the Parents' Player of the season!

