

# Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh  
C of E Primary School**

**Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025**



Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher  
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Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3BA

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## News from your Headteacher

I hope that you have all had a lovely week and that you have enjoyed the sunshine too. The Easter holidays are approaching quickly - a reminder that staff have a training day on 4th April so the children will start their holiday at 3:10pm on Thursday 3rd April. We return to school on Tuesday 22nd April.

As we approach the Easter holidays, I think it is good to look back at the term and celebrate all the wonderful learning experiences the children have had. It has been lovely to see some parents in school listening to children read or helping with projects. We welcome volunteers in school to support children with projects, off-site visits or to listen to children read. If you feel you would be able to offer support in school on a regular basis, please collect a volunteer application form from the office: we would really appreciate your support. Mr Smith or I would also be extremely happy to arrange to have a chat with anyone interested about some of the roles in the school that would benefit from support from volunteers. For safeguarding reasons, all volunteers undergo a robust recruitment process including being asked to provide references and complete some online training.

We have had another busy week at Withycombe with lots of fabulous learning going on in our classrooms. Children are really enjoying the topics they are covering and are becoming really knowledgeable about these. We always choose topics that will engage the children and capture their imagination. Staff have spent a great deal of time putting together our 'Withycombe Curriculum' ensuring children are able to build on prior learning as they progress through the school. Classroom displays around school celebrate the topics the children are learning too. If you want to find out more about our curriculum; what children learn and why, please take a look at our curriculum pages on the website: <https://www.wrpschool.org/main-curriculum>



As you are probably aware, Mr Carter will be leaving his teaching post at Withycombe after 26 years. His last day with Maple Class will be 3rd April. He has taught and inspired hundreds of Exmouth's young people. He has a love for mathematics, computing and sport - his passion for these subjects has impacted positively on the children he has taught. Mr Carter is looking forward to spending more time with his family and is planning to improve his paddle-boarding skills in the summer!

Mr Barnes our School Caretaker will also be leaving us at Easter - his last day with children in school will be 3rd April. Mr Barnes has been a wonderful caretaker over the past 2 years and he will be missed very much. Mr Barnes will be moving to Wales to be closer to his daughter and new grandson. We wish him lots of luck in his new home.

*Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. E Jones*



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



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We have some vacancies on our website for:  
Site Caretaker  
SEND Support Teaching Assistants (4 posts)  
1:1 Teaching Assistant

Please visit <https://www.wrpschool.org/vacancies> for more information and application forms.

## Safeguarding

### World Down Syndrome Day 2025

The theme for World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March 2025 was all about support systems.

The theme is the message that we are asking supporters to share on and around World Down Syndrome Day, 21 March 2025.

We call on all Governments to...

Improve Our Support Systems



#### *Everyone needs support sometimes.*

The support that we may need will be different for every person, and that's just the same for people who have Down Syndrome. Getting the right support at the right time opens up opportunities for people who have Down Syndrome; so they can live the lives they want, giving them choice, control and dignity.

At our school we do our utmost to support all of our families when needed. We understand that the families of children with disabilities will face differing challenges. For example, support and therapy may be required to develop language, social skills, or motor skills.

Safeguarding children with additional needs (including Down Syndrome) is a vital consideration for us as we are aware that they may be placed at greater risk of abuse due to: communication barriers, the signs of abuse being misunderstood or minimised, increased isolation and greater dependence on others for their care, a lack of education to help them to stay safe, and inadequate support.

At Withycombe Primary we are proud to support WSDS by wearing our colourful, mismatched socks to help raise awareness about Down Syndrome and it was great to see so many people highlighting this campaign in school, alongside those wearing red for Comic Relief which was on the same day!

Mr Smith  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



#### **...Lots of Socks Day!**

Come to school wearing your brightest, most **colourful**, oddest socks! **WSDS** socks are available on their website, but are not essential. <https://donorbox.org/dsi-donate-today>



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Reception Classes had special visitors recently as part of their non-fiction learning about *people who help us*. PC Dell and Firefighter Gowing came to see us, sharing the equipment they use to keep us safe, and to keep themselves safe too! We were FASCINATED and the children showed such amazing listening, also asking wonderful questions!

## Sports & Achievements

On Thursday, 19 of our super swimmers competed in the local swimming gala against the other schools in the Exmouth area.

They swam, 100m IM, 25m butterfly, 25m front crawl, 25m backstroke and 25m breaststroke.

The children were fantastic and represented Withycombe beautifully.

Well done to Niamh, Charlotte, Barney, Max, Jodie- Ann, Fin, Fin, Jack, Erin, Evelyn, Albie, Evan, Ivan, Connor, Elle, Eadie, Frank, Oakley and Tommy!



On Thursday our super Year 4 girls represented us in the East Devon Girls Football Tournament hosted at Kings School Ottery.

**Great news, we won!!!!**

A superb effort from all.  
Well done to Luna, Elsie, Eadie, Nyah, Emmie Jayne, Hattie, Aria, Florence and Reese!

**Devon Finals here we come!**



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Henry in Ladybird Class got his certificate for reading 25 books at the library!



Our Year 1 children have been learning about different 'History Makers'. For home learning, Elijah created his own invention. He made a fantastic Grandfather clock that can take you back in time to your favourite, happy memories!



Our very own Mrs Knight ran the Rome Marathon last weekend!

**PRIMARY**  
SPORTS & EDUCATION

**SCAN TO BOOK!**

**5-14 YEARS OLD**

## THE BEACON ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMP

**NERF GUN BATTLES, FOOTBALL, LASER TAG, SILENT DISCO, ARTS & CRAFTS, GLOW IN THE DARK DODGEBALL, INFLATABLES & MORE!**

**PRICES:**

STANDARD DAY - £20 (PER CHILD)

EXTENDED DAY - £25 (PER CHILD)

**TIMES:**

STANDARD- 8:45AM - 3:30PM

EXTENDED- 8:00AM - 5:30PM

**2025 Dates:**

Monday 7th - Thursday 10th April

Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April

**THE BEACON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

1 BEACON PL  
EXETER  
EX1 1SJ

Ofsted Registered

**Booking Link:**  
<https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2025/04/07/the-beacon-primary-school-easter-holiday-camps-2025>

More Information: [marcus@primary-sports.co.uk/07976979202](mailto:marcus@primary-sports.co.uk/07976979202)

## Fundraising Cake & Sweet Sale

**Where?**

- Main Playground
- Year 3 playground

**When?**

Friday 28 March  
2025 (at the end of school day)

May contain nuts or traces of nuts.

May contain gelatin.

**Message to Year 6 parents:**

We are asking for on the day donations of cakes only to fund the Leavers Book AND party.

We will collect from the Year 6 children's classrooms on the morning of Friday 28 March 2025.

Thanks in advance. The Year 6 Parents Group

Email: [year6withleavers2025@gmail.com](mailto:year6withleavers2025@gmail.com)