

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

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News from your Headteacher

It's been a lovely week again with lots of great learning going on across the school. Year 5 children have been taking part in Bikeability training over the past two weeks. This opportunity is open to all children in Year 5 who would like to take part. The Bikeability Trust aims to activate a *nation of cyclists* by ensuring everyone has the confidence to enjoy the life skill, gain independence and have fun cycling. As we encourage 'active travel' to school we feel it is really important that children have the cycling skills to be safe and confident on the roads.



Travel Devon offer a whole host of cycle training courses for adults too – also free of charge. If you are interested, further details can be found here. <https://www.traveldevon.info/cycle/cycle-training/>



Your PTFA - *many hands make light work!*

A massive thank you to everyone who volunteered on Friday night at the disco. The children all had a wonderful time with lots of fantastic dancing!

These events could not take place without all the volunteers who put in lots of work prior to, during and after the disco. Withyfest is also fast approaching (4th July) - an event which not only raises much needed funds for school but is a wonderfully enjoyable event which is loved by us all. The PTFA are VERY short of members and are looking for willing parents to join and take on a role. If you could spare some time to support your PTFA (in any capacity) please contact the chair Sarah via email sdryden@wrpschool.org.

The PTFA make a real difference to the children's experiences in school - they have recently funded new and much-needed Chromebooks for KS1 and subsidised trips for all children!



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



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Parkrun

At Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School we recognise the importance of children's physical and mental health and promote opportunities for children to develop these whenever possible. Our School Vision 'Growing Happy, Caring Hearts and Minds' highlights this desire.



In Exmouth, there are lots of sports clubs and opportunities for children to take part in physical activity. We are very lucky that we are one of only a few places to have both a Saturday Parkrun and a Sunday Junior Parkrun. The Junior Parkrun takes place in Phear Park each week. It is a 2k event specifically for under 14s, it starts on Sunday mornings at 9am (arriving 08:40 by the skate park for warm-up and briefing), it consists of two-and-a-bit loops around the park.

As a school we are really keen to support this wonderful scheme, and following the success of our 'Withycombe take over' in January, we thought it would be fun to have a big Withycombe contingent again before the summer break.

On Sunday 18th May we would like to invite as many of our families as possible to join some or our school staff at the 9am Parkrun! It will hopefully be a lovely, sunny morning and we can enjoy a short run together before enjoying the rest of our weekend. We hope that some of the children may be inspired to make the Sunday run a regular part of their weekend! Parkrun is a positive, welcoming and inclusive experience where there is no time limit and no one finishes last. So if your children fancy giving it a go all you need to do is to register them with Parkrun by visiting <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/> and selecting the option to register. This only takes a few minutes and once complete you will be issued with a barcode. Print this off and bring it with you so that your child's time can be recorded once they finish.

Parents or friends are welcome to accompany their child/ren. If you're an adult and your child does not want you to accompany them around the course, don't worry as there are a number of marshals at strategic points around the park to ensure that the children know the route, and can also deal with any issues if they arise.

Having crossed the finish line, you are given a place token (don't take this home! they need it the next week!) Visit one of the scanners along with your personal barcode and your time will be recorded then you are free to do whatever else you have planned for the day. Shortly after completion of the event the results are published by Parkrun and can also be emailed and texted to you, if you opt in.

*Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs. E Jones*

We look forward to seeing you at Phear Park Sunday 18th May at 8.40am!

If you'd like to revisit some information from our newsletters you can find recent editions on the **Home Connect** page of our school website. You can also find other useful information there including the **school calendar** to keep you up to date with events and activities. You can also access year group pages for other information, including the year and class email addresses. Please be aware that teachers don't have the opportunity to check emails during the school day so if you have an urgent message please ring our school admin office. Our **main school email account** is admin@wrpschool.org or you can **call us on 01395 263397**. For non-urgent queries we also have a 'contact us' form on our school website (please don't use this for reporting absences or other time-critical issues).



Please remember to be polite to our school staff while they are assisting you. We have a small admin team supporting our large and busy school and there are times where they may be dealing with urgent or medical matters in support of our children, staff and families. Thank you.

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Safeguarding

Modern Slavery and Forced Marriage

In educational settings and associated communities, it is important that we remain aware and vigilant to the possibility of safeguarding concerns which do / might impact on our children and families - acting in a timely fashion and supporting appropriately.



Modern slavery

This is often a hidden crime and includes the following aspects: slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking. The common factors are that a victim is used or exploited for someone else's gain (often financial) without respect for their human rights. The perpetrators seeking to take advantage could be individuals, small businesses, or part of a wider organised crime network.

The following website provides more information and insight:
<https://www.antislavery.org/slavery-today/modern-slavery/>

The UK's Home Office data back in 2021 indicated that over 12,000 victims were identified, an increase of 20% on the previous year; the trend is reported to be growing and 75% of the UK Nationals identified as potential victims were children, with boys more likely to be referred for criminal exploitation, and girls for sexual exploitation.

In 2024, 19,125 County Line referrals were flagged: increasing year on year.

It is worth noting that children who have been trafficked may not see themselves as victims. They may find it hard to understand that what is happening is abuse – especially if they have been groomed. They may also think they played a part in their abuse, or be fearful that they're guilty of breaking the law. Child victims and vulnerable adults are not able to give **informed consent** and therefore exploitation even without any element of coercion could constitute modern slavery.

Further information on the signs that someone may be a victim of modern slavery, the support available to victims and how to refer them – see link to statutory guidance (we'll share this on the school's Safeguarding web page)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-how-to-identify-and-support-victims>

Arranged and Forced Marriage

This became a criminal offence in 2014, then in 2021, the Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) gave advice or support in around 1,200 cases related to possible forced marriage.

- 35% of cases involved victims below 18 years of age, 22% aged 15 or under, 13% 16-17 years.
- 76% of support cases were British nationals
- All major religions (Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Christian and Jewish) are against forced marriage.



It is important that the definitions of forced and arranged marriage are understood.

Arranged marriage - families take a leading role, but the parties have the free will and choice to accept or decline the arrangement. Individuals aged 16 or 17 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland can only marry if they obtain their parent's consent.

Forced marriage - one or both spouses do not (or, in the case of some adults with learning disabilities, cannot) consent to the marriage, and duress is involved. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure, e.g. "My mum says she'll kill herself if I don't get married". A marriage may begin as arranged but end up forced.

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What should you do if you suspect modern slavery or forced marriage?

- ✓ Phone 999 if you think there is an immediate risk of harm.

If there is not an immediate risk of harm but you suspect a case of modern slavery or forced marriage, you can:

- ✓ Report to the police on 101
- ✓ Contact the Modern Slavery Helpline on 0800 0121 700
- ✓ Or the Forced Marriage Unit on 0207 0080 151

Please speak to me or Mrs Jones if you would like any further advice on this issue.

Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Sports & Achievements



Olive from Otters completed her Stage 3 swimming and moved up to Stage 4



Wow! Emily in Dragonfly Class ran the FORCE cancer charity 2.5km run. Emily completed the course in 17:34. Finishing 40th/60, she was 2nd fastest in the female 6-&-under category!



Roman in Year 1 has created some amazing play dough creatures!



Left: Ella competed in Scotland last weekend in rounds 3 and 4 of the BMX National Series and had a fantastic weekend. Ella secured 2nd in both rounds, really making her stamp on the 2025 standings and is off to South Wales this weekend!

Right: We enjoyed our 'Sustainability Day', full of engaging activities focused on environmental awareness. In partnership with Charlie's Beach School, Sideshore delivered a day full of engaging educational activities, and fun in the sun! What a brilliant day!

