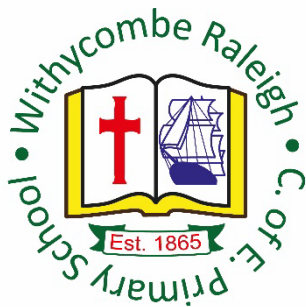


Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**

Date: 28th February 2024



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 hope that you all managed to enjoy the half term break; I can't believe we are half way through the school year already. There are a few things to draw your attention to as we enter the final part of the Spring Term.

On Thursday 6th March we will be celebrating World Book Day - children will spend the day participating in 'book themed' activities celebrating the wonderful world of books. Everyone is invited to come to school dressed as favourite characters from books. We especially love to see costumes that are free, low-cost or hand-made and any fun or creative ways to express the theme - 'Read Your Way'. A low-cost idea for children in Key Stage 2 that I also like is to wear a plain top (or turn a printed one inside out) and ask friends to write on it to recommend a book, so please don't feel you need to buy a brand-new costume just for the day. Please check the calendar on our school website for details of other events booked in already, including a Non-Pupil Day on 4th April, Disco 2nd May and Class photos on 10th June.

Uniform: a reminder

It is our policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, and when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours. We ask children to wear their polo shirts tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take pride in their personal appearance. Some items of uniform can be bought from our school uniform suppliers (currently Proserve and Shipshape), whilst others are easily available at very competitive prices at local shops, including supermarkets.

Our PTFA also has supplies of second-hand uniform which they sell via their Facebook page, or made available at PTFA events. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform, including those for Physical Education:

Uniform Essentials	Uniform for PE	Jewellery and hair accessories
Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan with our school logo embroidered. Black school shoes with heels and toes covered all year – please no sandals, canvas shoes or trainers. White short sleeved polo shirt. Long light grey trousers or shorts worn with grey socks. Light grey culottes, skirt or pinafore dress worn with grey tights. Green and white gingham dress (not striped) worn with white socks.	Green polo shirt with school logo and black shorts, white or grey socks, trainers. Green PE Hoodie (optional) A plain black tracksuit can be worn in colder weather.	For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are small ear studs in pierced ears. Wherever possible children are required to remove any jewellery items during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings for pupils. Long hair should be tied back and hair accessories should be plain green or plain white and without embellishments.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. E Jones



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



Weekly School News Roundup

Safeguarding - County Lines

County lines is the term used for urban gangs supplying drugs to suburban areas, including coastal towns such as Exmouth. Although more unusual, it is known that children of primary school age are being forced to carry and sell drugs. Young people and children involved with county lines are made to skip school, and keep secrets from their loved ones; often feeling trapped in what they will quickly believe is a hopeless situation. It is thought that a staggering 46,000 children in England are involved with gangs.

“Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines activity”

It is often associated with the (often violent) exploitation of young people and vulnerable adults. These groups are coerced or threatened to move drugs around an area or to provide gangs with a base in their homes – this offence is referred to as ‘cuckooing’.

Who is vulnerable to county lines exploitation?

The national picture continues to develop:

- Gangs are increasingly using social media platforms to make initial contact with children and young people as the key method of grooming them to become involved
- Non-stereotypical children are often targeted as they are perceived as being more likely to evade police detection
- Young people of all genders are being involved: particularly in the age bracket 13-17 years old.

Signs to look out for:



Young people / children involved in county lines may exhibit some of the following signs – but it is advised that any sudden change of lifestyle should be discussed with them.

- Persistently going missing from home or absent from school
- A sudden change in friendship group
- Significant decline in school performance
- Isolation from peers / friendship groups
- Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes or mobile phones
- Excessive receipt of texts or calls
- Unexplained injuries or decline in emotional wellbeing.

What to do if you are concerned:

Share the information! If you believe a person is at immediate risk of harm, you should contact the police (999). You can also contact MASH (the Multi Agency Safeguarding hub) on 0345 155 1071 or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk. Please feel free to contact me or Mrs Jones on the school number if you are uncertain about what to do or how to act in a situation which may be linked to county lines. We can then link in with the local authority’s social care services or indeed the police.

Further useful information is also available on the following link to ‘safe4me’
<https://www.safe4me.co.uk/portfolio/child-criminal-exploitation-county-lines/>

We completely agree with this Children’s Society’s statement:

**“County lines and child exploitation must stop...
and give those who have been exploited a chance for a better future.”**

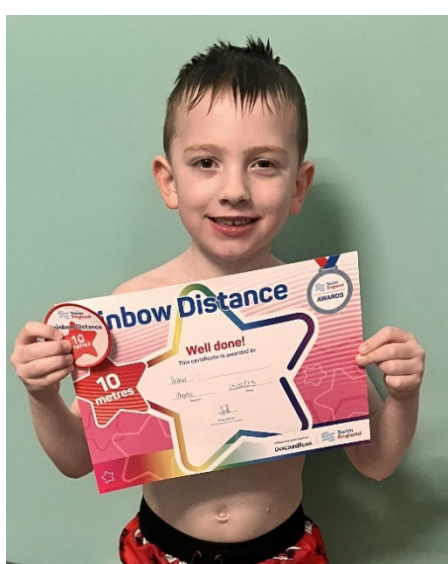
Mr Smith,
Designated Safeguarding Lead

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Sports & Achievements



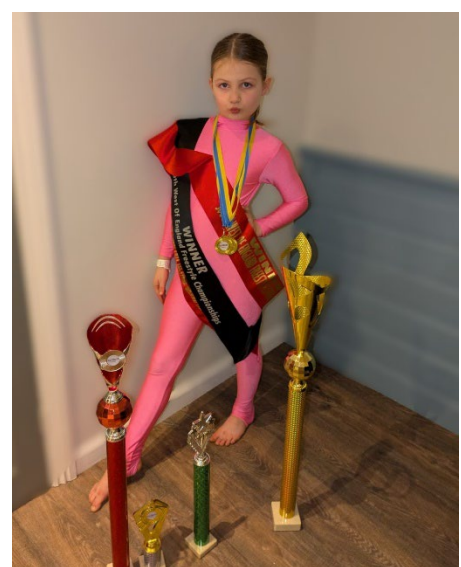
Ronnie from Seal Class got to be a Mascot for Exeter City Football Club recently. What a great experience!



Left:
Arthur was amazing at swimming and achieved his 10 metres award!



Right: Niamh (Yr 6) had a great day when she attended an AP Race Clinic at Plymouth Life Centre for a breaststroke masterclass, delivered by Olympic gold medallist and world record holder Adam Peaty!



Harper in Oak class and Ivy in Dolphins competed at South West of England Rock 'n' Roll & Freestyle Championships 21st- 24th February. Harper placed 1st in her solo fast (she's now a starter - next grade up), Ivy got recalls in both her solo dances, Harper placed 1st in pairs, Ivy placed 6th in pairs, both girls placed 1st in their freestyle team and slow team dances, and Harper's Rock and Roll team placed 1st!

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Dress-Up Day

Thursday 6th March

READ YOUR WAY

To celebrate our school's love of reading
come to school dressed up:

- ✓ Come dressed as your **favourite book character**, or
- ✓ in your warmest, comfiest **reading clothes/PJs**, or
- ✓ **if you're in KS2** and don't have a favourite book yet, wear a plain t-shirt and ask your friends to write their book recommendations on it throughout the day!



Visit the **Home Connect** page of our school website – we'll share some budget dress-up ideas and other helpful resources.

World Book Day, 6th March 2025

We participate in this event to celebrate our school's love of reading. The theme this year is 'Read Your Way' which coincides with our aims; making reading something children love to do rather than making it a chore.

There is absolutely no pressure to spend money on buying 'fancy dress' costumes – in fact we love the more creative/DIY outfits, so you could make it a half term craft activity!

Low cost alternatives – children could come to school in their comfiest & warmest reading clothes, or if they read at bed time they could come in their PJs (as long as they are nice and warm - remember they play outdoors at break time!).

For children in Key Stage 2 they could choose to fit the theme we've adopted for our new library, all about book recommendations. Children could wear a plain T-shirt, or turn an old one inside out (as long as you don't mind it being written on), and ask friends to write their book recommendations on it throughout the day.



SUPPORT FOR SEPARATING PARENTS

Free
Webinars

Free
Resource
Pack

Friendship ● Support ● Direction

NOTE: THESE SESSIONS ARE NOT OFFERING LEGAL ADVICE, WE OFFER PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT.



<https://www.onlymums.org/support-for-separating-parents-in-devon> for the resource pack.

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WORKSHOP

ROALD DAHL'S CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

with

David Birch

star of the original West End cast
of
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



Wednesday 16th April 2025
Thomas Hall School, Exeter

Juniors (ages 5-11) - 9am to 12pm
Seniors (ages 12-18) - 1pm to 4pm

Free demonstration for families at the end of each workshop
£30 per child

Singing, Dancing and Acting!

To book your place,
email tolley.angell@yahoo.co.uk

