

Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**

Date: 15th March 2024



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News from your Headteacher

We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day last week. We especially loved seeing so many staff and children dressed up as characters from books. It was a lovely day spent enjoying and sharing books and book-themed activities. Our Y6 House Captains arranged some shared reading across the school with some of our older children visiting the younger classes to share books together. It was such a great way to foster a love of reading.

We all met as a school in the morning; this was definitely a very surreal experience with Captain Hook talking to 620 very excited book characters including several Where's Wallys and Harry Potters! Some of our staff shared their favourite books with the children and we hope that this may have inspired some of the children to read one of these. Reading is a key focus for us at Withycombe and we are ambitious in our aim to ensure all children leave our school as confident and fluent readers with a love of books and a desire to share stories.



We've dedicated a lot of time this year to developing our reading processes. This has included the introduction of **Little Wandle** Phonics and Early Reading. We are delighted with the progress our younger children are making with their Phonics and encourage parents of the children using **Little Wandle** to allow their children to share their allocated ebook. The ebooks are sent home in order that children can 'show off' their reading, and so that their progress can be celebrated. If you are struggling to access ebooks at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Even if your child is a confident and fluent reader we would encourage parents to take an interest in what your child is reading, perhaps by reading a book together, or maybe supporting your child's choice of books by visiting the library or a book shop. If you have any queries about supporting your child with reading, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

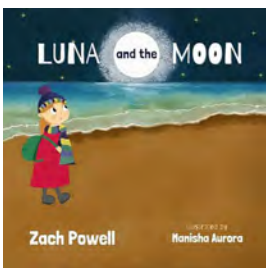
Minds



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Tips on supporting reading at home:

- ✓ Keep your Child Engaged
 - Ask questions along the way to help promote speech development and comprehension. Point out words that might be new to their vocabulary and talk about how the words are used and what they mean. Ask questions that evoke emotion and reflective inquiry such as, "What would you do in this situation? Why do you think the character behaved in that way? Have you ever encountered a similar situation? Who does the character remind you of? How does the character feel?"
- ✓ Read Aloud Together
 - Take turns reading sentences, paragraphs or pages aloud (and with expression) with a child who has learned to read, to help build confidence and spark conversation.
- ✓ Be Creative
 - Use your personality to bring children's books to life. Using different voices for each character or acting out parts of the story can make story-time even more memorable and enjoyable for you and your child.
- ✓ Find Different Places to Read
 - Under the trees in the evening with a blanket and flashlight; in the garden on a rug, at the breakfast table; sitting on the sofa with a snuggle-rug... a place to read can be just as unique as the stories themselves.
- ✓ Continue Engaging with Books after the Last Page
 - Look for creative ways to extend the learning of the book. Are there far-off lands that are featured in the book? Find them on a map together. Craft something based on the illustrations or theme in the story; listen to music that is in some way related to the story; research recipes from where the story is located and cook them together; act out the story with your child; or write a sequel together.
- ✓ Keep a Story Review Book/ Diary
 - Note the book or story shared, the date, the reactions of other family members. Younger children may like to draw a picture representing the book. For older children who like to write, they could review each book - which is great for wider analytical thinking.
- ✓ Take Pictures of Family Reading
 - There are few things sweeter than pictures of family members curled up reading stories together. You can use these pictures to mark the passage of time as family members grow, how tastes in books evolve, or how the books become longer as the children grow older.



Author Visit

Last week we were delighted to welcome author Zach Powell into school to share with us some of his lovely books: Luna and the Moon, Raindrop Puddle, and ABC with me. Zach will be in school again very soon and families will be given the opportunity to purchase copies of his books if they would like to.

SEND-Parents of Pupils with an EHCP

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting our pupils with SEND we have invited parents of children with an EHCP to book an appointment to discuss their child's EHCP with a member of our school's Senior Leadership Team. Each appointment will last approximately 20 minutes and will be an opportunity for parents to discuss their child, their progress and to ask a member of the Senior Leadership Team at school any questions they may have about the provision for their child here at Withycombe Raleigh Primary School. Bookings can be made via a link which has been sent to those families who have a child with an EHCP - if you did not receive a link and believe you should have, please contact the school office.

Weekly School News Roundup



Collective Worship

This week as part of our theme of 'Wise Words' we have talked about arguments! Arguments can easily get out of hand. When people are cross – even about something quite little – an argument can turn into something much bigger, and much harder to sort out. We have discussed ways in which we can deal with arguments and resolve these quickly.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. E Jones



Remember to log your active travel hours for **The Longest Walk Challenge!** We'll be adding up your submissions to award this term's certificates and badges soon! So far we've collectively travelled for 2154.35 hours and covered the equivalent of 6,875 miles – that's about the same as walking the **Longest UK Walk** from Lands End to John O'Groats almost 9 times!



Huge thanks to the Tesco community champion for coming along to present us with the BIG cheque!

This was for the blue token scheme which awarded us £1,500 for new playground markings.

We'll share photos of the work once it's been completed!

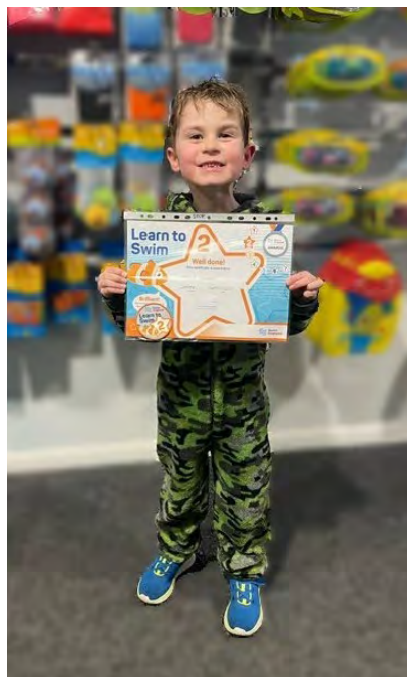


Sports and Achievements

Elsbeth and Molly from Oak Class were presented with both their bronze and silver Brownie awards by Devon's Girlguiding Vice President this week at Crealey.



Freddie in Barn Owl class has achieved his stage 2 award in swimming. We're very proud of him!



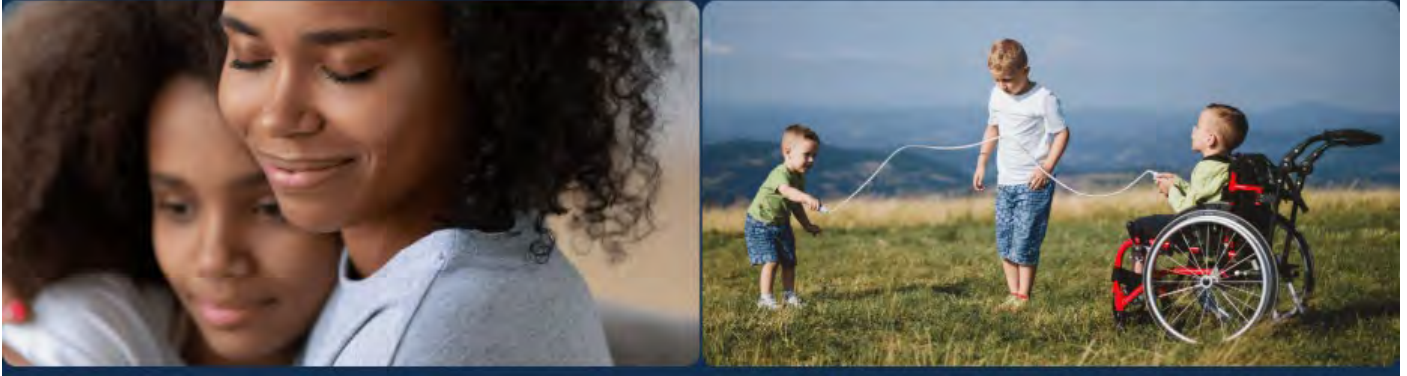
Brixington Blues are setting up a Girls Team!

We're looking for girls currently in school years 5 & 6, going into school year 6 & 7. The team will be registered to play in the Devon Girls Football League. All our coaches have DBS accreditation, safeguarding, first aid and coaching qualifications. We supply match kit and always look to keep our membership fees as low as possible.

Anyone interested can email: brixingtonblues.chairman@gmail.com with the following details:
Child Name, Date of Birth,
Parents details,
Parents Contact Number.

Weekly School News Roundup

FAIR FUTURES FOR YOUNG CARERS



This Wednesday 13th March was national **'Young Carers Action Day'**, the theme being **'Fair Futures'** - building a more equal future for young carers, and removing some of their barriers. A young carer is someone under the age of 18 who helps to look after a relative who has a disability, illness, mental health condition, or a drug / alcohol problem. Most young carers look after one of their parents, or care for a sibling. They do extra jobs in and around the home such as cooking, cleaning, or helping someone to get dressed and move around. Along with doing practical things to help, they may also be giving emotional support to both their siblings and their parents.

Regardless of the caring role they take on they will face additional challenges at home, and when in education.

Young carers, are at greater risk of facing some of the following issues across their school years:

- Being bullied due to their caring role.
 - This may include jokes or unkind comments about the person they care for.
- Not getting homework done because of the demands of their caring role.
- Worries about not being able to use their phone during the school day to check on the person they care for.
- Missing out on trips or extra-curricular activities because they clash with their caring responsibilities.

What can we do at school? School can provide support for young carers, including simple things like:

- ✓ Reducing stigma and encouraging openness with those families which include young carers.
- ✓ Ensuring staff awareness of every child who is a potential young carer, and have this in mind when interacting with those pupils.
- ✓ Ensuring relevant staff are aware of the young carers' needs and any support that is in place.
- ✓ Promoting that support and understanding in the wider school setting.
- ✓ Enabling homework to be completed in school.
- ✓ Creating an emergency plan (eg if a single parent were to go into hospital)
- ✓ Supporting breaks and respite from the caring role, and help from services.
- ✓ Supporting wellbeing and mental health; offering someone to talk to.
- ✓ Helping to forge connections with friends and the wider community.
- ✓ Finding support for those they care for.

Who provides support for young carers in Devon?

Devon Carers can assess and support the needs of young carers aged up to 18 years old in Devon. A young carer, or their family, can ask Devon Carers for help directly, or where consent has been given another professional or practitioner can make a referral to the service on behalf of a young person and their family. Devon Carers will then undertake an assessment of the young carer's needs and the support available to meet them. The support offered aims to help young carers to have the same life opportunities as their peers, feel supported at school or college, have good physical and emotional health, access and achieve their potential in education and training, have their voices heard and be prepared for adulthood and independence. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/young-people/young-carers/> You can contact Devon Carers Young Carers service via their website or by telephone 03456 434 435.

Please speak to me or Mrs Jones if you would like further advice, help and support for a young carer.
Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead

GET YOUR
LOTS OF SOCKS
ON!



21

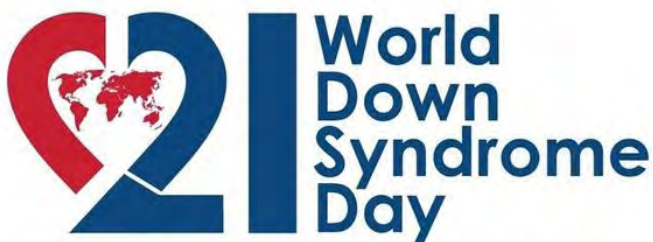
March



#LotsOfSocks



#EndTheStereotypes



www.worlddownsyndromeday.org



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BRITISH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

PATRIOTS

SOLD OUT

~~24/3 PLYMOUTH CITY PATRIOTS VS LEICESTER TIGERS~~

29/3 PLYMOUTH CITY PATRIOTS VS CHESHIRE PHOENIX

05/4 PLYMOUTH CITY PATRIOTS VS MANCHESTER GIANTS

10/4 PLYMOUTH CITY PATRIOTS VS CHESHIRE PHOENIX

12/4 PLYMOUTH CITY PATRIOTS VS LONDON LIONS

VISIT PLYMOUTH.CITYPATRIOTS.COM AND BOOK TODAY

LIVE BASKETBALL

HOLIDAY HOOPS COMING YOUR WAY



WIN FREE PIANO LESSONS!

88 Piano Keys = 88th Day of the Year

To celebrate 'World Piano Day', parents / guardians are invited to enter their 5-15 year olds into a free prize draw, with the lucky winner receiving **FIVE x 30-minute piano lessons** from one of Exmouth's highly talented music teachers, **Louise Prideaux**. Louise has over 20 years experience of teaching music in schools and is passionate that every child should have the opportunity to learn piano.

To participate: Parents / guardians can enter the draw by emailing the organiser at WorldPianoDay@outlook.com or DM via Facebook page **World Piano Day - Exmouth**, including the following information:

- Parent / guardian's name and contact phone number.
- Student's name and age.

The entry deadline is **Wednesday, April 10, 2024**. No purchase is necessary. T&C's apply.



Easter Services

St John in the Wilderness Church
St John's Rd, Exmouth

Easter 2024

Sunday 24th March - 10.30 am
All Age Eucharist Service
for Palm Sunday
with the blessing of palms

Friday 29th March - 10.00 am
All Age Eucharist Service
for Good Friday
followed by hot cross buns

Sunday 31st March - 10.30 am
All Age Eucharist Service
for Easter Day
with Easter Eggs

You're very Welcome

Contact us:

You can email your child's teacher using the class email account which you can find on the school website under your Year Group page. Remember that teachers don't have an opportunity to check their emails during the school day as they're busy teaching, so if you have an urgent message please contact the school office.

Telephone: 01395 263397
email: admin@wrpschool.org

Have you checked whether the information you need is on the school website? We have a Home Connect page to keep you in touch with the main news and events, and we have an FAQ page with all the common queries.

The enquiries@wrpschool.org email address set up to deal with Covid enquiries has now been closed down.

- www.wrpschool.org •
- Facebook: OfficialWRPSchool •