

Weekly School News Roundup

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School

Date: 22nd May 2026



Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher
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News from your Headteacher

It is half term next week; I really hope the weather is good so we can enjoy some sunshine! **Children will return on Tuesday 2nd June (not Monday as that's a non-pupil day)**

There is lots going on after the holiday including Class Photos on 8th June, Sports Day on 18th June and our 'Moving on Morning' on Tuesday 30th June. Our 'Moving on Morning' is a chance for children to visit their new teacher and classroom in preparation for September. Details of where each class will move to will be finalised shortly. Your child will bring home a letter informing you about their new teacher and class during the first few weeks after half term. Times of transition and change can be stressful for some children so school staff will be mindful about children who may need additional transition visits. Staff will discuss this and share key information during our 'hand over meetings' prior to the moving on morning.

Park Run

It was really lovely to see so many children and staff at the Junior Park Run on Sunday. Well done to all the runners - some who achieved PBs! - and thank you to all the spectators and volunteers who cheered on the runners. It was a great start to a Sunday and we hope to make this a regular event on our school calendar. Of course, you can join the Park Run at any time as it takes place every Sunday at 9am in Phear Park.



Class Photos

Fraser Portraits will be in school on **Monday 8th June** to take class photos. These will be available to purchase at a later date. Children should wear their proper school uniform - if it is their usual PE day, please send children to school in their uniform with their PE kit in a bag.



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



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Sports Day

One of the highlights of our school calendar is our annual Sports Day. This is a lovely event which is always really well supported by our families. This year, Sports Day will be held on **Thursday 18th June** (weather permitting). If you haven't attended a Withycombe Sports Day before, please read the information in detail; it can become a bit complicated especially if you have children in both KS1 and KS2.

A copy of the Sports Day information has also been shared on our Facebook page and website so you can come back to it nearer the time. Further reminders will also be sent out.

Have a lovely half term, Mrs Jones

Safeguarding During Half Term

As we head into half term, please take a moment to remind children about staying safe in the community. This includes road safety when walking, cycling or using scooters, staying aware of their surroundings, being safe in the sea, and knowing who to go to for help if they feel in any way unsafe.

We encourage all families to continue conversations about **making safe choices** both online and offline.

Have a fantastic half term!

Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead



The next (final!) stages of our big transition.

You may have noticed that the **'trips and events'** payment items are no longer showing on **ParentPay**. Please don't worry as these will be transferred over to **MCAS** along with any payments that you've made. They will be visible in the next few weeks - please bear with us while we complete this work.

If you still needed to make incremental payments towards future trips (eg Year 6 residential) you will be able to do this via **MCAS** once the trips have been transferred. We will let you know when this is ready.

If you have **credits** in either your breakfast club or school meal 'payment items' on Parent Pay, again please don't worry as this will transfer over to MCAS. You can then **use your credits for future bookings**. If you have any credit in Parent Pay that isn't associated to a 'payment item' (such as a trip, or breakfast club), please **withdraw the funds** via your Parent Pay account before the end of May (over half term would be ideal).

You can now book/select your school dinners and breakfast club places on MCAS.

We've put some guides on the Home Connect page of our school website to help you find your way around. There's a 'parent guide' which explains all the MCAS modules you'll need to use (eg how to add a bank account, and how to book school dinners) and a separate guide for how to withdraw funds from your Parent Pay account:

<https://www.wrpschool.org/homeconnect-2026>

Please enable notifications in your MCAS account – in time this will replace the Groupcall messaging service that we currently use for texting and emailing you.

We will do our best to support everyone as we complete the transition, and we accept that there will be some teething problems in the early stages. Your understanding is greatly appreciated as we learn these new processes alongside you! The admin email account will be checked periodically over the half term period, so if you need help (such as password reset links) please email us and we will do our best to resolve your issues: admin@wrpschool.org

Weekly School News Roundup

Wellbeing: Building Your Child's Self-Esteem

Self-esteem is how we think and feel about ourselves. When children have healthy self-esteem, they are more likely to feel confident, capable and valued. Self-esteem can be thought of in three main areas:

- * Sense of **Self** – Who am I? How do I feel about myself?
- * Sense of **Belonging** – Where do I fit in? Who do I feel connected to?
- * Sense of **Achievement** – Can I do things well? Am I able to cope and learn?

When children have positive self-esteem, they are more likely to:

- ✓ feel confident trying new things
- ✓ cope better with challenges
- ✓ build positive friendships
- ✓ feel proud of themselves

How Can Parents Help Build Self-Esteem?

1. Build a Positive Sense of Self

Praise is one of the best ways to help children feel good about themselves.

Try to give specific praise rather than a general “well done.” For example:

Instead of: “Good job”, try: “I really liked how carefully you packed your school bag.”

Specific praise helps children understand exactly what they did well and encourages them to keep trying.

Remember:

- ✓ Praise effort as well as success
- ✓ Notice the little things
- ✓ Say thank you often
- ✓ Celebrate progress, not perfection

2. Help Your Child Feel They Belong

Children feel happier and more secure when they feel connected to others. You can support this by:

- * arranging play dates
- * encouraging clubs or hobbies
- * spending quality family time together
- * keeping in touch with family and friends

Simple activities such as family games, baking together, video calls with relatives or sending postcards can help children feel included and valued.

3. Encourage a Sense of Achievement

Children build confidence when they try new things and experience success. Activities that can help include drawing/colouring, Lego or construction toys, baking and cooking, imaginative play, writing stories, sports and outdoor activities. The most important thing is not the final result — it is the effort, perseverance and enjoyment involved.

Why Play Matters

Playing with your child is one of the most powerful ways to build self-esteem.

Play helps children:

- ✓ feel loved and valued
- ✓ develop confidence and independence
- ✓ feel safe and connected
- ✓ learn problem-solving skills
- ✓ manage worries and anxiety

During play, give your child positive attention by noticing and commenting on what they are doing:

- * “You worked really hard on that tower!”
- * “I can see how proud you are of your picture.”

These small moments help children feel seen, important and capable.

A Final Thought: Building self-esteem takes time, encouragement and connection. Small everyday moments — praise, play, listening and spending time together — can make a big difference in helping children grow into confident and resilient young people.

Weekly School News Roundup

Sports & Achievements

Well done to Oliver, Billy E, Billy S and Dylan for winning the first ever Culm Sampford Football Tournament with their team Exmouth Town U-7s. Amazing!



Well done to medal winners Lewis, Aiden, Joe, Finn, Benji and Finley for receiving their Awards at Withycombe Rugby Club!



Henry in Hedgehog Class received his 10M award in swimming!



James in Dolphin class ran his 11th parkrun today and received his half marathon wrist band! He is very proud of his achievement.



A big well done to Freddie and Jonah from year 1, who both got PB's in the 'Withycombe Take Over' ParkRun this weekend!



Archie in Rabbit Class has been invited to join the new U7 pre-academy group at Plymouth Argyle. This is an incredible achievement!

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Year 3 Honey Farm Trip

We had a brilliant visit to Quince Honey Farm, where they peered inside a live hive, tasted delicious honey, spotted some fascinating creatures and made their own beeswax wraps and candles to take home. The children were wonderful ambassadors for the school and even treated staff and visitors to songs from the Bee Musical — a real highlight!



SAVE THE DATE

WITHYFEST

2026

Friday 3rd July
3:15pm - 5:30pm

SCHOOL FIELD
WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Volunteers needed!!
Register your interest via the QR code



FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN & GAMES!

It's happening!!

Save the date for one of the highlights of the school year – the brilliant PTFA Withyfest!

...and if you could consider volunteering (even just for a short time) please let the PTFA know via the QR code.

(or email them – they'll be pleased to hear from you either way!)



School Sports Day

Thursday 18th June 2026

Timetable for the day

8:50am	Everyone:	Registration in class as usual
9:00am	KS2:	Walk to Withycombe Rugby Club
9:15am	KS2:	Sports Events begin
12:10pm	Everyone:	Picnic Lunch on the School Field
1pm	Everyone:	Registration in class as usual
1:20pm	EYFS/KS1:	Sports Challenges begin



KS2 Sports Day Guide

Events will begin at approximately 9.15am at Withycombe Rugby Club.

Children take part in a series of physical activities as a class.

This will be followed by track races: relays, and individual sprints.

Children will walk back to school in time for the family picnic.

Families are warmly welcomed to come along and watch from the side-lines.

Please note, there will be no parking allowed at the club. Please be considerate of residents when parking.

Family picnic on the school field - 12.10pm until 1pm

You may bring picnic blankets and/or fold-up chairs if you wish. Please no alcoholic beverages.

1pm = time to clear the field so the afternoon events can be set up!
Please move your picnic blankets/chairs to the outer boundaries of the field.

Foundation & KS1 Guide

The KS1 Sports Challenge begins at 1.20pm on the School Field.

This will be a series of physical competitive and non-competitive activities.

Children will wear school PE kit, with badges provided on the day to show their House Colour.

- **Please send your children to school with their own clearly labelled picnic lunch.**
(This is so they have lunch available in case we have to cancel at short notice due to poor weather)
- Please ensure that your child has a labelled water bottle.
- All children should come to school wearing their PE kit for the day.
- KS2 pupils will be asked to wear a coloured T-shirt to show their allocated House (further details to follow).
- All children should have sun cream applied before school, and wear a sun hat.
- **We are not providing school dinners on Sports Day*.**
We expect that children will want to join their family for a picnic lunch on the field, but if your KS2 child is entitled to a free school meal, the kitchen can provide your child with a packed lunch on request.

The PTFA will be selling refreshments – remember to bring some cash!

**Please return this slip to the school office by Monday 8th June if your child requires a school packed lunch.*

Child's name: Class

My KS2 child is entitled to FSM and we request a packed lunch from the school kitchen on sports day.

Parent/Carer name Signed.....

Weekly School News Roundup



VOTE FOR US AT TESCO!



28TH APRIL – END OF JULY 2026

HELP US BRING AMAZING PLAYTIMES TO LIFE!

Our **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)** journey ensures **every child has an hour of high-quality play every day.**

Your **vote** can help us:



Create exciting, inclusive play spaces



Boost wellbeing, confidence & friendships



Provide even more creative resources



HOW TO VOTE

1

Shop in Tesco

Make any purchase to receive a blue token

2

Find the voting unit

Look for the Stronger Starts stand

3

Pop your token in our slot!

Vote for: Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School – OPAL Play

WHERE YOU CAN VOTE

- Exmouth Superstore
- Budleigh Salterton Express
- Exmouth Churchill Road Express
- Rolle Street Express

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY! ♥

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LD ACTIVE



HOLIDAY CAMP

Outdoor Activities

ACTIVITIES

- Inflatables
- Football
- Dodgeball
- Basketball
- Nature adventure
- Arts & Crafts
- Board games

**BOOK
ONLINE**

**Fun
Active
Engaging**

**Develop
Social &
Life Skills**

FIND US

**BOOK VIA LINK, or EMAIL
LDACTIVE@OUTLOOK.COM**

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EXETER CITY COMMUNITY TRUST



HOLIDAY CLUBS

JUST £25

MATCH MANIA
WORLD CUP,
FA CUP,
CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE,
GOALKEEPERS &
STRIKERS,
FOOTBALL FEVER
SESSIONS,
MEDALS AND
MORE...

AGES 5-14



BOOK TODAY
EXETERCCT.ORG

VENUES ACROSS DEVON




June 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
 Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	1 June 10am
School Anxiety	1 June 7pm
Facing Defiance	2 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	2 June 7pm
Anxiety Explained	8 June 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 June 7pm
Introduction to OCD	9 June 10am
What is ACT?	9 June 7pm
Decreasing Depression	15 June 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	15 June 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	16 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	16 June 7pm
Improving Family Communication	22 June 10am
Autism-Improving Communication	22 June 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 June 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	23 June 7pm
ADHD and Homework	25 June 7-8pm

LD ACTIVE
WITHYCOMBE
BASKETBALL ASC

THURSDAY 15:15 - 16:15
 KS2 BOYS & GIRLS
 BOOK VIA LINK



WITHYCOMBE
 FOUNDATION
 MULTISPORTS ASC

LD ACTIVE
BOYS & GIRLS
 WEDNESDAY 15:15 - 16:15
 BOOK VIA LINK



DODGEBALL!



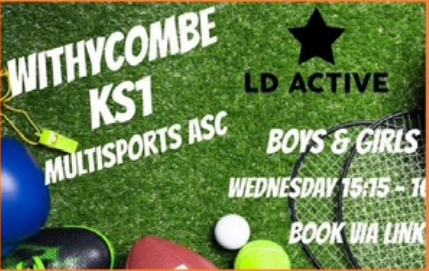
LD ACTIVE
WITHYCOMBE
FOOTBALL ASC

FRIDAY 15:15 - 16:15
 HS1 - HS2
 BOYS - GIRLS
 PLEASE BOOK VIA LINK



WITHYCOMBE
KS1
MULTISPORTS ASC

LD ACTIVE
BOYS & GIRLS
 WEDNESDAY 15:15 - 16:15
 BOOK VIA LINK



BOLHAM MULTISPORTS

LD ACTIVE

THURSDAY
BOYS & GIRLS
 KS2

PIC-COLLAGE

