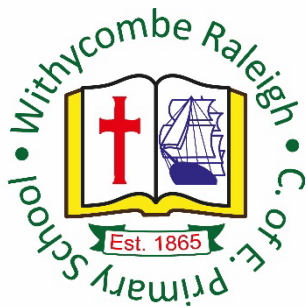


Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary School**

Date: 14th Nov 2025



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

On Tuesday we commemorated **Armistice Day** all together. The children have a very good understanding of the importance of Remembrance and the symbolism of the poppy as a way to remember our armed forces personnel. The children showed great respect during the silence. We were very proud of the children's attitude to this event and pleased that they understand how important it is to remember those who fought or who are currently fighting in wars. It was also lovely to see so many of our children (past and present) taking part in the Remembrance Sunday Parade in Exmouth last weekend also.

We also had a special '**Monster Bin**' assembly, with a visit from the food waste eating 'monster', as part of Recycle Devon's waste education.



Active Travel

We are an active school and promote physical activity whenever we can. We are pleased that so many of our families choose to leave their cars at home and instead walk, cycle or scoot to school. At each of our entrance points we have a bike/scooter store for children to park their vehicles. Please ensure these are stored safely and in a way so that other users may retrieve their vehicle easily. At the Kitchen Gate we have a scooter store next to the bike shed. Please can children use this to store their scooters rather than the bike shed.

Thank you.

An event kindly funded by



On Thursday 20th, children will once again be treated to a pantomime in school. This is always a highlight of the school year for both children and staff. This treat is made possible thanks to the PTFA who fund this so that the whole school can enjoy the experience for free. We couldn't do this without the volunteers who run all the fundraising events throughout the year...

so if you can, we would be delighted if you could support our PTFA and volunteer at any of their upcoming events!

Attendance

The Government has recently asked all schools to take further steps to improve attendance. At Withycombe Raleigh, we know that good attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, progress and wellbeing. Every day in school really does make a difference.

We also understand that sometimes children are unwell or that some pupils may find coming into school more difficult at times. We want to work closely with families to offer the right help and support when this happens. From this term, we will be contacting families where attendance has fallen below 90%. This will happen each month and the purpose is to simply to keep parents informed and to offer support where needed.

Please be assured that this is not a negative intervention; our aim is to work in partnership with families to help every child attend school as regularly as possible and to feel happy and successful while they are here. If you would like to discuss your child's attendance or if there are barriers we can help with, please do get in touch with us. We are here to support you.

I hope you enjoy your weekend. Mrs. E Jones



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



Weekly School News Roundup

Practicing our School Values



Thank you for your generous Christmas Shoebox donations this year. They were collected on Monday Morning with the help of Emily and Liberty from Barn Owl Class, who also helped to assemble the Year One boxes that were made up as a year group team. We're sure they will be very gratefully received by families in Eastern Europe.

Observing Remembrance



Joe, Benji and Finn from Kestrel Class attended the Remembrance Parade on Sunday.

Isla and Oakley from Beech Class also attended the Remembrance Parade on Sunday.



On Tuesday our Key Stage 1 children remained in the hall with Mrs Jones after assembly, and Key Stage 2 children formed a circle in the playground with Mr Smith to mark Armistice Day 2025.

All the children listened carefully as they were reminded why we gather on 11th November each year, and they observed the 1 minute silence very respectfully.



Weekly School News Roundup

Safeguarding:

Road Safety Week – Stop, Look, Listen and Think!

This coming week, our children will mark Road Safety Week by taking some time to learn about how we can all stay safe on and around roads.

We will be reminding everyone about the Green Cross Code – that classic piece of wisdom we all grew up with:

Stop. Look. Listen. Think! - four simple steps that can make all the difference, whether you are walking to school or scooting home at the end of a damp or dimpsy day.

How Parents and Carers Can Help

Your example makes the biggest impact! Here are a few ways you can support Road Safety Week at home:

- ✓ Model how to cross a road safely - show children how to wait, look both ways and cross only when it's safe.
- ✓ Park responsibly - please also keep our school entrances clear for everyone's safety – we know it's hard to find a safe place to drop off near the school, so please leave more time and park a little further away.
- ✓ Be visible - encourage children to wear bright or reflective clothing, especially on dark mornings or evenings. (You can buy cheap reflective arm bands / patches on line.)
- ✓ Put phones away - both adults and children should stay alert near roads. (18% of secondary school children have been hit or had a dangerous near miss due to this distraction!)
- ✓ Talk about it - discuss why road safety matters during walks or drives; even a quick chat can reinforce safe habits.

**Could you be the new
Withycombe Primary School
Crossing Patrol
hero?**



- £11.59 per hour (with a pay award pending)
- 5 five hours per week during the school term
- 30 mins in the morning and 30 mins in the afternoon
- You'll be paid 38 weeks for term time, plus an element of annual leave, bank holidays and a half-pay retainer of approx £600 per year for the school holidays.

Email: crossingpatrols@devon.gov.uk
Or call 01392 383000 and ask for School Crossing Patrols
For more information visit devon.cc/scp

Actual uniforms not shown!



We've also recently taken part in 'Walkability' to teach children more about road safety, but it's always good to work together to make sure everyone knows how to Stop, Look, Listen and Think.

Please also let us know if you would consider fulfilling an important *heroic* role in our school community! Devon County Council has the funding in place for a crossing patrol officer outside our school, but despite our combined efforts they have been unable to recruit. This is a rewarding role where you build relationships with local families over time, while keeping the children safe.

Mr Smith
Safeguarding Lead

Weekly School News Roundup

Sports & Achievements



Sophie in Sandpiper Class has been selected to represent Withycombe School in the British Schools Trampoline Competition 2025/26, and received a medal at the weekend for hard work!



Olly has completed his book quest and has read 50 books.
He is now going to try for 100!



Henry Leigh in Hedgehog class received his Blue Peter badge this week. He was awarded the green badge for writing in about how important looking after our planet is.

Information Overload??



We get it – we're mostly parents too and we know how hard it can be to remember everything!

We do our best to keep you informed via:

- ✓ Weekly newsletters
- ✓ Facebook posts and reminders
- ✓ Emails/texts

....and if you miss all those, the best go-to place is

- ✓ the **school website**, where we do the remembering for you!

Just check the calendar on the **Home Connect** page to see what's coming up for your children.

While we aim to save paper where we can, this week we're sending home a printout of the school's Christmas Countdown shown on the next page, so you can pop a copy on the fridge at home to see what's happening - and when - at a glance. We hope you find this helpful during the busy run-up to Christmas!

Breakfast Club Bookings

As with all child-care settings, it's important that we get the staff-to-pupil ratio correct at Breakfast Club. In order for us to get this right, we need to know how many pupils will be attending each day. For this reason we must remind you of the importance of booking your child's place in advance. Children who turn up without a pre-booked place are at risk of being turned away if there are not enough staff to look after them.

If you need to contact the breakfast club about a late booking, please email: breakfastclub@wrpschool.org.



What's on		When
Pantomime	An event kindly funded by 	Thurs 20 th November
School Christingle Service		Wed 3 rd December
Christmas Fair		Friday 5 th December
Family Christmas Concert at St John's Church (Choir attending)		Sun 7 th December, 2.30pm
Choir to Holy Trinity Church		Tues 9 th December
Year 2 Nativity		Tues 9 th December
Year 1 Nativity		Wed 10 th December
EYFS Nativity		Thurs 11 th December
Choir to Ashfield Care Home		Mon 15 th December
Spanish Club Party		Mon 15 th December
Christmas Lunch		Wed 17 th December
Christmas Jumper Day		
School Christmas Services		Thurs 18 th December
Mufti Day		Fri 19 th December

OPAL COMMUNITY BUILD DAY!



**Saturday 22nd November 2025
1-4PM**

Sign up for projects including:



building a mud kitchen



building a play shop



**building a water play
channelling stand
(for guttering)**



**creating sandpits
and digging pits**



**building music wall
from pallets**



**Sign up here to volunteer your time, tools and skills:
volunteersignup.org/H9ER8**

Weekly School News Roundup

Exmouth Town Council THE SALVATION ARMY

CRAFT YOUR CHRISTMAS IS BACK!

JOIN US ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH 10AM-3PM FOR FREE ...

- XMAS BAKING
- THE TOWN BAND
- WINTER BIKE CHECKS
- TASTE THE DIFFERENCE
- XMAS JUMPER SWAP
- LANTERNS & PEN POT CRAFTING
- PINE CONE TREE DECORATIONS
- POMPOM MAKING
- PAW PRINT DECORATIONS!
- FABRIC WREATH-MAKING

SALVATION ARMY HALL | EXMOUTH MUSEUM | EXMOUTH ARMS | EXMOUTH LIBRARY | SHEPPARDS ROW



Helen Plant Creative



Do you LOVE to SING?

Come and meet our friendly community choirs

Starting back
Tuesday 6th January 2026

The **EXMOUTH** Good Afternoon Choir
at Holy Trinity Church (Upstairs Hall)
on **TUESDAY** Afternoons
from 12:30pm-2:30pm – Conductor is **CRAIG NORTHWAY**

No Auditions ★ No Auditions ★ No Auditions

There is **NO CHARGE** to come along to your first rehearsal.
Come along and meet us.

Start your 2026 in Song!

| www.goodafternoonchoir.org |



EXMOUTH

WINTER FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025
3.00PM - 7.15PM | THE STRAND

Festive Feeling

WALKABOUT PERFORMERS

CHOIRS

LIGHTS SWITCH ON

LANTERN PARADE

Support Local Shopping

Exmouth Town Council

YOUR CHRISTMAS INVITATION

Come and join our

EXMOUTH goodafternoon CHOR

with their special CHRISTMAS GUESTS | Children from Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School

Tuesday 9th December 1:00-2:00pm
at Holy Trinity Church Exmouth

Join CRAIG and the EXMOUTH Good Afternoon Choir

FREE ADMISSION | EVERYONE WELCOME

www.goodafternoonchoir.org

Retiring collection supporting OPEN DOOR Exmouth

CRAIG NORTHWAY