



Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School
Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, EX8 3BA Tel: 01395 263397

Monday 20th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term! We hope you have had a relaxed and enjoyable Easter break. We are looking forward to a busy term and beginning our exciting new topics. **Our theme for this first half term is 'Caterpillars and Ladybirds'.**

We will be looking after and observing our own caterpillars and looking at life-cycles within Understanding the World. We are going to explore the story 'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson; rehearsing, creating maps and writing route instructions. Please take a look at our attached Mind Map so you can see everything we will be finding out about this half term.

A few key messages:

- **NEW PE Days!** Our outdoor PE programme will include Sports Day practice and tennis (tennis will now be after half term). Our new PE kit days from the first week after Easter (Mon 20th April) **until the end of the year** will be:
 Dragonflies: Tuesday & Thursday
 Bumblebees & Ladybirds: Monday & Tuesday
- We are hoping the **weather** continues to improve, as we love spending time outdoors. As we move further into the term or when the sun is shining, please ensure that your child comes to school with **a named sunhat and water bottle** and on **hot, sunny days, wearing a high factor, long lasting sun-cream.**
- It is always lovely to see your pictures, videos and comments on **Tapestry**. The children love sharing the things they have done with you at home on the big whiteboard screen. If you have not yet managed to log on regularly, please do try to, to see all the amazing things we get up to at school!
- We also really welcome the **wow slips and certificates** that you send in. These achievements are then shared in our Celebration Assembly with Mrs Jones, which take place every Thursday. If you need more wow slips, please let us know!
- Thank you for continuing to practise your **phonics and tricky words at home**. We will not be introducing any new sounds, but we will be learning some new tricky words. We will be focusing on consolidating and applying the sounds we have already covered and reading longer words within the *next phase* of our Little Wandle phonics programme.
- **eBooks and reading books are changed every Thursday**. Reading at home really helps your child with their fluency, confidence and comprehension. The **eBooks** are the 'celebration book' which they have read 3 times in our Reading Practice sessions each week and are part of the Little Wandle programme. If you have any concerns with logging on, please speak to your child's teacher.
- **Library books** (reading for pleasure/picture book) will continue to be changed on **Tuesdays**... please ensure your child's previous library book is in their book bag so that they can swap it for a new one.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to the summer term ahead in EYFS.