Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School

13th September 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

It has been a lovely week in school with children well and truly back into the routine of school life. It's almost like we have never been away! Our new EYFS children have managed their first full days in school very well, although there have been some very sleepy and tired children by the end of the week!



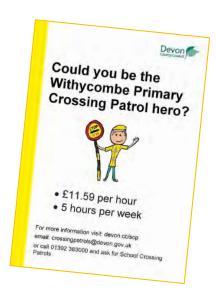




Traffic congestion and parking have been ongoing issues for us as a school community for many years, as they are for most schools. At Withycombe we've tried a number of strategies and campaigns in an attempt to alleviate some of these contentious problems.

How we aim to help: We often liaise with our neighbours and local PCSOs about the issue of parking on Withycombe Village Road, as well as the road safety team at Devon County Council. I know that many parents feel strongly that we need a crossing patrol outside of school, and indeed Devon County Council has funding for this post. Together with DCC we have been attempting to replace our previous crossing patrol for a while but we haven't been able to fill the vacancy. You can find the details on our school Vacancies page. Patrols are paid 38 weeks for term time, and also an element of annual leave, bank holidays and a half pay "retainer" for the school holidays. There's also a pay award pending.

Until we can recruit for the post there's another option of a volunteer school crossing marshal scheme. Further details about the scheme can be found via the link below. If you would be interested in becoming a crossing patrol officer, or a crossing marshal, please either let us know or contact the Devon County Council Road Safety team. https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/safetravel/road-safety/schools/volunteer-school-crossing-marshal/



Continued...



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



Unfortunately I have received new complaints from local residents this week reporting issues along Withycombe Village Road, School Lane and Burnside. Residents have informed us that cars are parking across their driveways and blocking their vehicles in, or that cars are parking on the pavement meaning it is difficult for pedestrians, wheelchair users and pushchairs to pass safely. Please can I request that if you must use your car to come to school that you park considerately and be mindful of the needs of our neighbours - some of whom are elderly or unwell.



How we aim to help: Last year the children completed 'The Longest Walk', a campaign we set up to encourage active travel to school which kept the momentum up for the whole year. We'll be launching this year's scheme soon, and we are also in the process of updating our School Travel Plan which looks at the ways in which staff and children travel to school, and ways in which we can ensure that getting to school is safe, environmentally friendly - and enjoyable!



We love that scooters are popular with all the children and many use them to travel to school. While this is really great, sadly complaints have also been made about children riding dangerously on School Lane and using the road as a 'race track'. If your child travels to school on their bike or scooter, please remind them that School Lane is a shared road for both vehicles and pedestrians, and children need to be mindful of this to avoid accidents or injury to themselves and others. Children are asked to travel slowly in the vicinity of the school where there are lots of pedestrians, and we ask you to please note that riding of bikes, e-bikes, e-scooters or equivalent is not permitted on the school site, including the playgrounds.

How we aim to help: We provide several covered shelters to store your bikes and scooters. If you bring these into school, please ensure that they are marked in some identifiable way. Some people even hide an Air-tag or equivalent in the bike frame, to prevent loss.

Can you help? Have you considered car-sharing with friends, or taking turns to drop children off? Maybe you could organise a 'walking bus', picking up other families who live along the route? Do you have any other ideas that may help to resolve these issues?



Collective Worship

This week in Collective Worship we have reflected on our school vision and values. Our school vision is: 'Growing Happy, Caring Hearts and Minds'. This week we have focused on the value of 'Generosity' and how we can all try to be generous both at home and school. We listened to stories that show characters being generous, including The Widow and the Penny and The Rainbow Fish.



Lastly, we share the news that one of our longest serving and much-loved staff members, the wonderful Mrs Sansom, decided over the summer break that she is going to retire, after 30 years of looking after the children of Withycombe! Our school will not be the same without her, but we know her beloved grandchildren and family will keep her busy. During her Teaching Assistant career Mrs Sansom has worked across the whole school, but most recently she has supported our youngest children. Her sense of fun, her humour, caring nature and energy has helped countless children and staff over the years, and she is adored by everyone.

Although she's not returning to school this term, Mrs Sansom will be having an official celebration of her time here very soon, so that staff and children can all say farewell properly!

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. E Jones

Safeguarding Information and Contacts

At Withycombe Raleigh Primary School we are committed to safeguarding, and promoting the welfare of our children. Our school recognises its moral and statutory responsibility for safeguarding and takes this very seriously. In fact, we believe that 'safeguarding is MY responsibility' – meaning that it is everyone's individual responsibility to ensure that our children are kept safe.

All of our staff, governors and volunteers receive annual (and ongoing) safeguarding training. Each member of staff knows what to do and who to speak to if they are concerned about a child in our care, whether they are at school, at home, or in the wider community. We follow procedures to ensure children are listened to and receive effective support and protection.

Our Safeguarding Team Seeking advice and dealing with concerns

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of our Safeguarding Team if you have any worries regarding a child, even if you are unsure about the significance of a concern. Posters are displayed around the school site, and visitors to our school are given a leaflet reminding them of their responsibility regarding safeguarding. If you are worried about your own child's or someone else's safety or wellbeing (including out-of-school contexts) you may also contact the 'MASH' Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0345 155 1071 or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead		Deputy Safeguarding Leads			Safeguarding Governors	
Mr Mike Smith	Miss Kathryn Lee	Mrs Emma Jones	Mrs Sam Wheeler	Alison Longhorn	Anna Slade	

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

For additional safeguarding information, please refer to the safeguarding page on our school website which contains a wealth of information and useful links: https://www.wrpschool.org/safeguarding. I would also like to encourage parents and carers to look out for the safeguarding themes and updates which are communicated in our school newsletter throughout the year.

Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead



Our Harvest Service will be on 24th September

If you're kind enough to be planning to donate for our Harvest Festival this year, children can bring voluntary donations to class.

We would be grateful to receive the following priority **TINNED** items please:

Soup	Tuna	Tomatoes	Fruit
Baked beans / Spaghetti	Meat meals such as stews, meatballs or curry	Cold meats such as ham, chicken or corned beef	Rice pudding / Custard



Thank you for your generosity. All donations will benefit the Exmouth Foodbank.



Sports & Achievements!

If your child has received an award or accomplished an achievement outside of school that you'd like to share, please email a photo and brief description to admin@wrpschool.org, and we'll aim to include it in our weekly newsletter.

Tilda from Hazel Class has completed her Stage 4 in swimming, moving up to Stage 5. Well done Tilda!!



Freddie achieved his Stage 3 in swimming this weekend.
Brilliant, Freddie!



Reggie won the 'top trainer' trophy at football on the weekend – that's great!









