

Weekly School News Roundup

**Withycombe Raleigh
C of E Primary
School**

27th September 2024



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News from your Headteacher

So, our week has again been very busy with lots of great things going on! On Tuesday, we all visited the church for our Harvest Festivals. We have 3 services as we can't all fit in the church at the same time. The children were beautifully behaved - they sang enthusiastically and listened well to the readings from the children and to Father Robert's sermon.

Thank you so much for all your Harvest donations for the Exmouth Foodbank. The food will be collected today and will really make a difference to families in our local community. You can donate to the Foodbank at any time. Many of the supermarkets have baskets for you to make donations. If you are struggling financially yourself and would like some support from the Foodbank, we can refer families. Alternatively, you can make contact with them directly. You can find out more about the Foodbank on their website: <https://exmouthfoodbank.org.uk/>

On Wednesday we were joined by Fraser Portraits who photographed all of our children (and some staff) individually and with their siblings. This is an epic task and takes the whole day. This was a new company for us and we hope that families are pleased with the photographs taken. They always make such lovely Christmas presents, especially for Grandparents!

Our school's Family Fund

During the pandemic - following requests from several parents - we set up a Withycombe Family Fund. This fund was set up to support families who had been affected financially due to the pandemic. Many of the families that were supported were not entitled to universal credit because they were working, but were struggling to make ends meet each month. The fund has helped many of our families, and it has provided vouchers to buy food at Christmas, school shoes and subsidised residential visits, to name just a few of the ways our school community has helped one another. Although the pandemic is over we still have some families who are struggling financially, especially with the cost of living increasing so dramatically. Families who are able to can still donate (even a small amount is helpful) to the fund via ParentPay if they would like to do so. This is of course voluntary, and is hugely appreciated.

If your family is struggling financially, or if you're aware of a Withycombe School family who would benefit from some financial support, please make contact via the school admin email. All referrals are dealt with sensitively and in the strictest of confidence.



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 Agape.

Ask your children what this means.

We hope you have a lovely weekend
Mrs. E Jones



Growing

Happy

Caring

Hearts

and

Minds



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Safeguarding:

Dealing with Behaviour in School, Relational Practice

At Withycombe Primary our behaviour policy is centred around relational practice. We understand that when staff develop excellent, respectful and trusting relationships with pupils that 'emotional currency' is built. We routinely provide positive reinforcement and celebrate appropriate behaviours.

We value a whole school community which demonstrates kindness, care, good humour, calmness in our interactions, and empathy for others. Our aim is to continue to strive for a school culture of exceptionally good behaviour: for learning, for community, for life; where all learners are treated fairly.

Our staff are trained to help children to take control over their behaviour and be responsible for the consequences of it; teaching appropriate behaviour through positive interactions and interventions.

I would like to highlight a few examples of how our staff already manage behaviour in a positive way:

- A genuine 'meet and greet' in the morning at drop off, and when children return to class during the day. We refer to this as '*deliberate botheredness*'
- Model positive behaviours
- Use rewards for those that go above and beyond in behaviours (*praise in public*)
- Use a visible recognition mechanism throughout every lesson
- Be calm and give 'take up time' when talking to children about their behaviour
- Follow up every time, retain ownership and engage in reflective dialogue with pupils
- Never ignore or walk past pupils who are behaving undesirably (*correct in private where possible*)
- Plan lessons that engage, challenge and meet the needs of all learners.

Consistency in our practice is key to providing children with certainty, i.e. the language and responses we use, and in the way that we deal with things day-to-day. This includes following up to 'restore' when things go wrong and the consistency and fairness of consequences given, including following more serious incidents of behaviour.

Our school has recently introduced three key rules to the pupils (and adults) which will define and help us to promote and underpin our expectations for appropriate behaviour:

Be Ready	Be Respectful	Be Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Be on time✓ Listen and look✓ Have what you need	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Look after each other✓ Look after our school✓ Use appropriate language and tone✓ Be role models	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ No rough play or fighting✓ Stay safe online✓ Share worries with adults✓ Walk in corridors

These three rules will help us to develop our culture of expectations for excellent behaviour, and our current behaviour policy will be developed to include these rules during this school year.

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Children will expect to hear adults using consistent phrases such as:

"I need you to be safe by walking in the corridors, can you show me please" or

"You are not showing respect to your friend by playing in that way, I expect you to be more careful. Thank you for listening".

Competition Time!

We know that our children are brilliant at creatively representing what ideas like this mean to each other in school, so we have challenged our pupils to come up with some designs to reflect our 3 rules. If your child would like to enter the competition they can draw a simple picture that represents 1, or all 3 of the rules. Please could they submit their entry on a piece of A4 paper to their class teacher by the closing date.

The winning entry / entries will have their work adopted for use on posters and other visuals around the school and shown on our website. *They may be adapted slightly for practical use.*

As well as having the pride of their designs being used across the school, there will be a prize for winning entry/ies.

We are very much looking forward to receiving entries!

Mr Smith, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Here are some examples/ideas:



Competition Tips:

- ✓ Remember, the 3 rules are: Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe.
- ✓ Designs can include the words, or just pictures/icons and the words can be added later.
- ✓ Think about how they will look on signs around the school.
- ✓ The three pictures need to work together, and also separately.
- ✓ Please write your name and class on the back in pencil, ensuring that it doesn't show through and spoil the design!
- ✓ If you want to take part and don't have paper/colouring pens at home, please ask your teacher if you can borrow some at break/lunch time.

Competition closes on Monday 14th October 2024

Sports & Achievements!

We love to hear about sports awards and other accomplishments that children achieve outside of school, and we know they love to see their efforts celebrated in the newsletter too. If your child has an achievement they'd like to share, please email a photo and a brief explanation to admin@wrpschool.org and we'll aim to include it in the next weekly newsletter.



Maisie in Otters class got her certificate for reading 100 library books! Brilliant Maisie!



Freddie in Dolphin Class achieved his purple stripe belt in martial arts. Well done Freddie!



Harper competed at a dance competition and won 1st place in U10 Fast category, gaining her first Fast Freestyle grade point!



Luca successfully passed his Yama grading up to his yellow stripe belt. He also completed 25 books on his Devon Library Book Quest!



Jacob got **Man of the Match** at football. He did an amazing job in goal with over 20 saves, so only 5 got through!



Eben from Dolphins Class successfully completed his stage 4 swimming and is now excited to move up to stage 5!



We've uploaded the Key Instant Recall Fact sheets onto the year group pages of the school website.

There's also a dedicated web page for KIRFs, so you can come back to it and find the latest downloads as the school year goes along:

<https://www.wrpschool.org/kirfs>

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On Thursday and Friday our KS2 children enjoyed some Maths Adventure Days. The sessions worked in an 'escape room' format with children working in teams to solve problems through a series of interactive, practical maths challenges set by drama and media content. The children absolutely loved the experience and also practised their Maths skills at the same time.



Below: Last week Year 3 were Times Tables Rockstars for the Day. Who knew Maths could be so much fun?!

Last week Group 1 began their sailing course and were very lucky with the weather – it was a super start to their 4 week course!

