Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School

Date: 14th March 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

The year is racing on with lots and lots of things going on each week. Please remember to keep informed about what happening in school by regularly looking at our website and Facebook pages. These are updated almost on a daily basis and have lots of relevant information including term dates, trip information, curriculum overviews, theme days, charity events and photos.

As I alluded to recently, we are currently updating our Behaviour Policy to enhance our relational based expectations and ethos for children's behaviour - reflecting our school's Vision and Values. One aspect of this strategy is the routines we employ to meet children in the morning. We believe that actively welcoming children into school, at the start of each day, will increase their sense of belonging and also increase their engagement with learning and reduce anxiety about coming to school. Research also tells us how a familiar adult providing a friendly, respectful and warm greeting each morning/at the start of each lesson, can reduce anxieties and lower arousal levels to increase feelings of safety and engagement with learning and attendance and reduce the likelihood of conflict.



To enable staff to focus on the children first thing in the morning, we politely request that parents do not enter the school buildings in the morning or detract the class teacher from the class for too long. We request that if you have a message for the teacher which will take some time to explain, please send them an email. Alternatively, please ask the member of the Senior Leadership Team on duty to pass on a message for you.

Lateness: With our focus on meeting each child every morning, we have noticed that we have several children arriving late for school almost every day. A reminder that our school day begins at 8:40am with learning starting as soon as the children are in the classroom. If your child is just 5 minutes late each day, they will be missing 25 minutes of crucial learning each week, 5 hours of learning a term. This missed learning could have a significant impact on your child's academic progress across the year. If there are barriers to you getting your child to school on time, please speak to myself or Mr Smith about this. We are keen to support families in any way we can to improve children's attendance and give them the very best chances to achieve in school.

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs. E Jones



Wellbeing

How Well Are You or Your Child Sleeping?

Sleep deprivation can have an impact on physical, emotional and mental health. Poor sleep can affect our energy levels, ability to concentrate and can make us more easily irritated or emotional.

From time to time it is good practice to look at our own 'Sleep Hygiene' and how to promote the best opportunity for a good night's sleep for all. Our sleeping environment should feel welcoming, safe, secure and a place we want to spend time in.

Have a review of your own and your children's 'Sleep Hygiene' to promote the best opportunity for a good night's sleep for all the family!



How much sleep do we need?

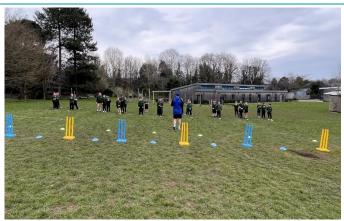
- 10-12 hours for a 3-6-year-old child
- 10-11 hours for a 7-12-year-old child
- 8-9 hours for a 12–18-year-old child
- 7-9 hours for parents and carers

https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/

Sleep Hygiene tips for all the family:

- Stick to the same bed and wake-up times.
- Have a set bedtime routine to help children learn what to expect.
- Limit caffeine from the afternoon onwards. Caffeine is found in tea, coffee and many fizzy drinks.
- Avoid large meals before bed. A warm drink of milk may help children to settle.
- Keep bedrooms at a temperature your child can settle in (generally 16-20C).
- Avoid physical exercise close to bedtime. Make it earlier to burn off excess energy.
- Limit technology in the hours leading up to bedtime. Screen light can suppress natural sleep-inducing hormones in our brains.
- Keep bedrooms screen-free zones as much as possible.
- Avoid stimulating activities close to bedtime. Electronic games can energise and stimulate. They are best avoided in the hours before bed.
- Have comforting things in bed eg. cuddle toy, snuggle blanket.
- Practice relaxation, calm breathing or mindfulness before bed.
- Make the sleeping environment welcoming, calm, safe and a place to want to spend time in.

Mrs L Jones, Wellbeing TA





This week Year 5 and Year 6 children had a session with the Devon Cricket coaching team. The session was designed to reintroduce the children to cricket ready for the summer programmes available in Exmouth and the surrounding areas. Hopefully we will see some of our children showing off their skills in matches soon!







On Thursday some of our Year 4 children participated in a fantastic dance workshop at Exmouth Tennis Centre. Led by ECC young leaders, they learnt a motif, created partnered routines and then performed to all the other schools! What a super morning! Well done, Oscar, Henry, Mabel, Elsie, Enid, Nyah, Charlotte, Sammy, Evelyn, Emmie-Jayne, Niah-Rose!



On Tuesday a whopping 24 of our Year 5 boys represented Withycombe at the Exmouth schools football tournament. It was a tough tournament with mostly Year 6 in the opposing teams, however our boys did brilliantly, working together and showing fantastic reliance in every match! Well done boys!

Sports & Achievements



Maisie in Otters class got her Blue Peter book badge. She sent in a picture and told them all about her favourite book, Matilda.



Billy from Hedgehog Class received a 'Top Trainer' trophy for his fantastic football training.

Well done Billy!





Our Blue Planet

Campaign to Protect our Water Sources; KS2 Poster Design Competition

- You're invited to design a campaign poster that promotes ways to protect valuable water sources, near to school or country-wide.
- Posters can be created by an individual, a pair, or a small group.
- Withycombe Raleigh Primary School will submit the two best entries from our students into the UK-wide competition.
- The winner in the UK KS2 category will receive a book token, and a box of books for the school.
- · We'll also organise prizes for our own school's two best entries!

The 'We Wonder: Our Blue Planet' STEM KS2 challenge (for children aged 7 and upwards)

Please hand your entry to Maple Class for attention of Mrs Guest by Friday 21st March 2025.

Bonus prizes for the best 2 entries from WPRSchool, thanks to Sideshore Community who have donated 2 vouchers for 'all the works' deluxe hot chocolates from Hangtime!



It's Red Nose Day and

Come to school in mufti with a RED theme if you can. Official Comic Relief merchandise is welcome but not essential.

Voluntary donations can be made via your ParentPay account.



...Lots of Socks Day!

Come to school wearing your brightest, most **colourful**, oddest socks! **WDSD** socks are available on their website, but are not essential. https://donorbox.org/dsi-donate-today



Friday 21st March Laugh your lots of socks off!

Wear mufti with a **red** theme, and/or wear your most **colourful** odd socks to support both campaigns.





