



“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Our children join us as “little acorns” and through the teaching and modelling of our vision, values and aims by all members of our school community, our children leave us as “mighty oaks”, equipped with the transferable skills to continue their journey of life-long learning.

Message from the Head

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended our recent Parents' Evening. Your support, engagement and partnership play a vital role in your child's education and contribute greatly to the strength of our school community. As we approach the half-term break, a reminder that school will be closed on **Friday 23rd October** for our Inset (staff training) Day. We hope all our families enjoy a restful and enjoyable half-term when it arrives!

Staffing Update

At the end of this half-term, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Chapman. She has been a valued member of our school team, and she will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils. We would like to thank her for everything she has contributed to our school community and wish her every success for the future.

I am delighted to announce that we have appointed Jessica North as her replacement. We are also pleased to welcome Michelle Boyce to our team and look forward to them both joining us!

Visit from Sir Mel Stride (MP)



Sir Mel Stride with the school council

We were delighted to welcome Sir Mel Stride into school yesterday. As part of our school values focus this half-term, our Year 5 and 6 children have been developing their understanding of politics, democracy and how decisions are made within society. During his visit, Sir Mel spent time speaking with the children and answered a wide range of thoughtful and insightful questions.

Following this, Sir Mel met with members of our School Council to learn more about their important role in representing the views of our pupils and helping to shape school life. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to share their ideas and experiences, while gaining a valuable insight into public service and leadership.

Celebrations

Please see details below of the certificates that we will be awarding each week to celebrate successes in school.

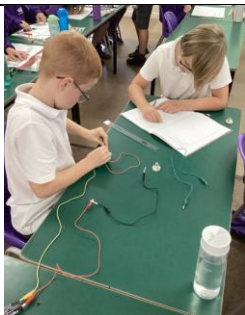
- Our **Values Champion** certificate will be used to acknowledge the efforts of those children who have represented the school values through their actions.
- Our **Learning Champion** certificate will be used to recognise those children who have demonstrated passion and pride in their work, delivering a moment or moments of brilliance in a subject that have captured their teacher's and their peers' attention.

Values Champion				Learning Champion		
	09.10.26	16.10.26			09.10.26	16.10.26
Reception	Emily E	Phoebe		Reception	Arthur	Elsie
Year 1	Ronnie	Rose		Year 1	Toren	Felix
Year 2	Isabelle	Vera		Year 2	Arabella	Beatrice
Year 3	Poppy	Jack S		Year 3	Isabelle	Harry
Year 4	Elsie-Mei	Lily		Year 4	Toby	Albie
Year 5	Sofia	Jocelyn		Year 5	Natalie	Margaret
Year 6	Arlo	Harper W		Year 6	Harriet	Sophie

We have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Sebastian	Year 2	Football medal
Harry	Year 3	Yellow Belt, 8 th Kup in Taekwon-Do
Ollly	Year 5	2025-26 Goal of the Season trophy for Bradninch FC & Super Stars football medal
Margaret	Year 5	Trampoline, DMT & Tumbling Competition Certificate

Our fortnight in photos

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
		
We collected leaves and have been making Autumn wreaths. We needed to cut and stick to make our wreaths.	In science, we have been learning about seasonal changes and spent some time in the outdoor learning area searching for signs of autumn.	In English, we have been using our senses to collect adjectives. We felt and described some very unusual slime!
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
		
In RE, we explored the story of Adam and Eve and learned about temptation and The Fall. We considering how their choices affected their relationship with God, other people and the natural world.	In art, we have been looking at the work of illustrator Joel Stewart. We have been inspired by his style and enjoyed designing our own page for the Book 'The Magic Paintbrush'.	In English, we have been making Origami Yoda fortune telling puppets ahead of reading our new English text: The story of Origami Yoda
Year 6	NSPCC Workshops	
		
In science, we have been planning and carrying out investigations to find out how altering our circuits may influence different components.	This week, our Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils took part in valuable NSPCC workshops, helping them to learn more about staying safe, speaking out and seeking support when needed.	

Trips and Events

Year 1 to Tiverton Museum



Year 1 enjoyed a trip to Tiverton Museum as part of our Food and Farming history topic. We had lots of fun making bird scarers, looking at the old farm equipment and learning about kitchens in the past. There was also a chance to dress up and look around all the exhibits, including the Tivvy Bumper, which everyone enjoyed!

Diary Dates

Please regularly check and review the Diary Dates section of the newsletter; we will be updating with details of further trips, events and activities as and when they are confirmed.

Term	Commences	Finishes
Autumn	7 th September 2026	18 th December 2026
Spring	5 th January 2027	25 th March 2027
Summer	12 th April 2027	22 nd July 2027

23 rd October	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
26 th October – 30 th October	Half Term Week
3 rd November – 8 th December	Y5 swimming lessons at Tiverton pool (6 weeks)
8 th November	Remembrance Wreath Laying in Bradninch
9 th – 13 th November	Y5 - Bikeability
13 th November	Children in Need – Theme TBC
18 th November	Foundation Admissions Tours – 1.30pm
19 th November	Foundation Admissions Tours – 9.15am
W/e 20 th November	Autumn Term clubs end (except Construction & Photography Club which will run for an extra week)
25 th November	Y5 Trip to We The Curious, Bristol
2 nd December	Y6 to Exeter School to watch As You Like it production
4 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Craft Morning-Parents (9.15am to 10.15am)

8 th December	Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2) Nativity (2.30pm)
9 th December	Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2) Nativity (3.45pm)
11 th December	Key Stage 2 (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6) Christingle rehearsal
11 th December	Reception Class Christmas Performance to Y1, Y2 & Preschool (time TBC)
14 th December	Reception Class Christmas Performance 3.45-4.15pm
14 th December	Key Stage 2 (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6) Christingle at St Disen's Church (2pm)
15 th December	Key Stage 2 (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6) Pantomime trip to Northcott Theatre
17 th December	School Christmas Lunch
18 th December	Last day of term

4 th January	Spring Term starts
4 th January	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
6 th January	Key Stage 1 (Reception, Y1 & Y2) Pantomime travelling production in school
29 th January	Y5 trip to Young Voices - Birmingham
2 nd February	Y1 Trip to Escot
15 th – 19 th February	Half-term
3 rd March	Parents' Evening: 3.50-6.30pm
4 th March	Parents' Evening: 3.50-6.30pm
4 th March	World Book Day
5 th – 14 th March	British Science Week (parent event TBC)
10 th March	Y3 Celebration of Singing at Exeter School
18 th March	YR Trip to Cullompton Library
25 th March	Last day of term
12 th April	Summer Term starts
3 rd May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
4 th May	School Class Photographs
10 th – 13 th May	Y6 SATS Week
19 th May	YR Trip to Seaton Wetlands
28 th May	The Duchy Mile
31 st May – 4 th June	Half Term
17 th June	Sports Day
18 th June	Reserve Sports Day
24 th /25 th June	Y4 Escot Residential (1 night)
9 th July	Y5/6 Dress Rehearsal
13 th July	Y5/6 Afternoon Performance

14 th July	Y5/6 Evening Performance
14 th July	Reception Parents' Welcome Meeting (9.15am)
16 th July	Y6 Homework reward trip to Crealy
21 st July	Y6 Leaver's Assembly 9.30 am (to parents)
22 nd July	Y6 Leaver's Assembly (whole school)
22 nd July	Last day of term

In the Community

FREE ORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

Providing training to care givers responsible for the oral health of children of all ages.

ONLINE TRAINING

Supporting Children with their Oral Health

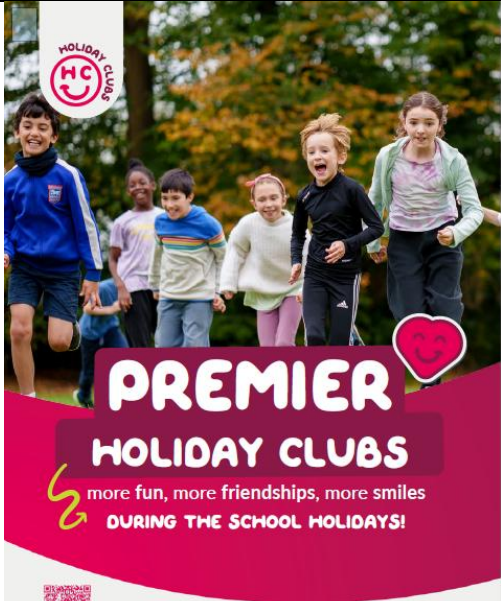
Aimed at parents, teachers, carers and anyone who supports children of all ages

SCAN ME

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PREMIER EDUCATION WEST EXETER HOLIDAY CLUBS

- ★ St Michael's Church of England Primary Academy, Exeter, EX1 2SN
- ★ St Thomas Primary School, Exeter, EX2 9BB
- ★ Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October
- ★ Multi Activity Club! Sports, Arts & Crafts, Games, & Play
- ★ 8:30am - 2:30pm / 8:30am - 5pm
- ★ £27.99 / £34.99 per child, per day
- ★ Available to children aged 4 - 11

Book at www.premier-education.com/holiday-clubs
Contact dorrell@premier-education.com for queries

PROMOTIONS & DISCOUNTS!

- ★ Half price Fridays!
- ★ 1x Half price day if you attended during Summer 2026

To book promotions & discounts, message us on Facebook: @PremierEducationDevon

Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this holiday period as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, arts and crafts, dance and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

Book now for a holiday full of excitement!

CLUBS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!

TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 20% OFF...AND GET 20% OFF TOO!

*1st Supply Before 31st March 2026 on new bookings only.

PLEASE BRING
A packed lunch
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