

'A family where we flourish and learn to be the best version of ourselves'



The Erme Primary School
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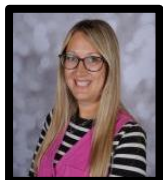


Email: theerme@moorsway.devon.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.moorswayfederation.org.uk/>

22nd May 2026

Issue 32



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have had a brilliant week, finishing off their topics for this half term and sharing their knowledge with each other. We are impressed with how much they can remember!

We have been lucky enough to have been involved with several workshops this week, in preparation for the River and Moorland Festival on Saturday 6th June. We will be taking part in the carnival, wearing the headdresses that we created, performing a dance as well as singing in Victoria Park after the procession. If you have not signed up but would like to get involved, please speak with Mrs Penhallurick or Mrs Pasmore.

We have really been enjoying the sunny weather today! If this weather continues after half term, we ask that you please ensure that your child has a drink and a sun hat with them each day. Please also ensure that your child is wearing sun cream. If you would like them to reapply this during the school day, please make sure that their sun cream bottle is named and that they are able to apply this themselves.

I hope you have a lovely half term and manage to enjoy some of the sunshine.

With best wishes,

Mrs Penhallurick



From Mr Jolliffe

The Exe Valley and Moorsway Federation includes four church schools, which were built on church land in Victorian times and have kept their foundation as church schools ever since. Every five years, the schools are inspected to ensure that they are continuing to keep to their original purpose in what is known as a SIAMS inspection. Over the last year or so, all four schools have been inspected, the most recent one being Silvertown this week. The six community schools benefit from the work that we do with church schools because enabling every child to flourish is equally important in all our schools.

Head of School Appointments

We are very pleased to announce that Miss Ellie Aldridge is going to be the interim Head of School at Cornwood from September 2026. She is already well known to the school community and will be able to have a good handover from Mrs Sheevaun Manning over the next half term. We are hugely grateful to Mrs Manning for looking after Cornwood since January and providing continuity of leadership in this time. We have also made a very good appointment at Whimble School yesterday, and will share more information with you as soon as the statutory employment checks are complete.

Governor news

There have been a few changes to the governing board as we have said 'thank you and goodbye' to Mrs Sarah Blomley, who has finished her time as a school governor at Cornwood. Mrs Kate Wotton is going to finish as a federation governor at the end of July, and we will send out information about electing a new parent governor after half term. We are delighted that Rev Deborah Leighton Plom will be joining the federation board as a Foundation Governor, replacing Rev Paul Hinckley who is going to continue supporting Cornwood as a school governor.

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Safeguarding concerns

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in Devon or want to speak to someone, or if you are a child worried about your own safety, you can contact Front Door (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub or MASH) by calling 0345 155 1071. If a child is in immediate danger, please call 999. Anyone who is concerned about a child's safety or well-being can contact the Front Door.

If you suspect that a vulnerable adult is being abused, or you are being abused yourself and live within Devon Local Authority boundaries, please contact Adult Social Care on 0345 1551 007 (Monday to Thursday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Friday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm and Saturday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm).

Outside of the hours above or on bank holidays call the Emergency Duty Service on 0345 6000 388.

Alternatively, you can email: safeguardingadultseast-mailbox@devon.gov.uk (Exeter, East and Mid Devon).

Relationships and Sex Education

After half term, all children will be learning about positive relationships and how their bodies grow and change. For Reception to Year 4, this focuses on what makes a positive and safe relationship and includes learning about body language, touch, appropriate touch and bullying. The DfE guidance for school's states that parents cannot withdraw their child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe. As this is part of the PSHE curriculum, the right to withdraw does not apply.

The Moorsway schools have chosen to teach Sex Education to Years 5 and 6 during this half term. The children will be using the One Decision units on relationships and growing and changing, including puberty and conception. If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary level, the Head of School must grant this request for the half day that this material is being delivered. The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, from which there is no right to withdraw.

Please let your child's Head of School know if you wish to withdraw your child by **Friday, 12th June**. If you want to view lesson plans and slides for Years 5 and 6, please let your child's school office know by Monday 8th June so that they can be sent to you.

Meadowsfoot



We've spent this week thinking carefully about our Golden Rules and why they matter so much in our classroom community. Together we explored how following them helps us to keep ourselves and others safe, make kind choices, and create a calm space where everyone can learn. We talked about what each rule looks like in action and practised showing gentle hands, kind words and good listening throughout the day. We are now looking forward to our final half term, when we will be setting sail on the seven

seas for our exciting new pirate topic and diving into lots of adventurous learning.



Learners of the week

Meadowsfoot - Teddy for his patience and his willingness to have a go!

Mothecombe - Orlaith for her amazing writing.

Riverside - Delilah for her excellent progress in Maths and Spellings this week.

Oldaport - Neve for his excellent story plot about a tiger who found his stripes.

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Flapjacks

Payment is now due for next half term for flapjacks. If you would like your child to receive a flapjack each Friday at break time, please complete the payment of £1.80 for the remainder of the school year. This covers the period: Friday 5th June - Friday 17th July.



As we have not had many orders so far, we have extended the deadline for orders to Sunday 31st May. If your child has previously enjoyed a flapjack on a Friday and would like to again, please remember to make payment on MCAS. No payments will be accepted after this date.

To make payment on MCAS (My Child At School), please go to: Products, Flapjacks, Add to Basket and then checkout.

If you need any help with this, please speak to Miss Chapple in the office.

Governors Update – Meeting 19th May

Governors recently met for the Summer Term Moorsway Hub meeting, where we discussed a range of important areas including safeguarding, SEND, attendance, wellbeing and ongoing school development priorities.

It was positive to hear about the continued work taking place across the schools to support children's wellbeing, inclusion and engagement in learning, alongside the many wider opportunities available to pupils through trips, outdoor learning and community activities. Governors also discussed some of the ongoing challenges facing schools nationally, including attendance and increasing levels of additional need, and recognised the hard work and commitment of staff across the federation.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Sarah Blomley, who is stepping down from her role as Governor. Sarah has given dedicated service to the federation and her contribution over the years has been greatly appreciated. We wish her all the very best for the future.

We would also like to thank Kate Wotton and Rev Paul Hinckley, who will now continue supporting the federation as school governors rather than members of the full federation governing board.

Being a governor is an incredibly rewarding role and a wonderful way to support local schools and the wider community. If anyone is interested in finding out more about becoming a governor, please contact the school office.

Mothecombe



Mothecombe have continued to develop their love of learning beyond the classroom this week, taking part in a dance workshop linked to the upcoming River and Moorland Festival. They showed wonderful resilience and demonstrated how well they listen and work as a team. Our visitor commented on how lovely they were to work with, which made me incredibly proud. In class, the children have continued to shine, especially when writing their own independent stories. Everyone persevered with their handwriting,

spelling, focus and punctuation, and the final pieces were truly impressive. We have also been finishing our current units of work across the curriculum, ready to begin our exciting new topics after half term. In maths, we have continued exploring money; practising this in real-life situations over the break such as buying something and working out the change, would really support their learning. Wishing all our families a lovely, restful half term and the chance to enjoy the promised sunshine.

Values of the week

Meadowsfoot - Bertie for his perseverance in phonics.

Mothecombe - Cruz for perseverance with his sounds.

Riverside – Ivy for being a wonderfully trusting friend.

Oldaport - Perseverance is awarded to Rayan for always having a go.

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Riverside



On Monday, the children took part in an enrichment sports day where they used their problem-solving and strategic thinking skills in a series of Nerf-based games. They threw themselves into every activity and thoroughly enjoyed the session. Afterwards, the class continued developing their collage and watercolour techniques as they worked on their beautiful River Erme paintings for the Moorland Festival competition. On Tuesday, the children were very fortunate to work with a visiting costume designer. She spoke about her role, her artistic journey, and what inspires her work. She then supported the children in creating marvellous headpieces that will be showcased in the Moorland Festival. In the afternoon, the children enjoyed an energetic dance workshop led by a professional dancer, who introduced them to new movements and performance skills. It was a wonderful experience

for everyone. The children have also been working hard on learning their multiplication facts in preparation for the Year 4 multiplication check in a few weeks. Please could we ask for your support at home, during half term, in helping your child practise their times tables. This could be through Times Table Rock Stars, quick-fire recall, or saying multiplication facts together before bedtime. Thank you in advance.



Oldaport



This week, the children have been busy completing their own versions of *How the animal got their....* They have been focusing on using dialogue to advance the action and considering the level of formality appropriate for their writing. We were also delighted to welcome a visitor linked to the River and Moorland Festival, who led a fantastic workshop where the children created striking curlew bird headdresses. Using papier-mâché,

woven wings and googly eyes, they produced some wonderfully imaginative designs. These will be worn by the children who have signed up to take part in the festival. In Art, the children have been designing and constructing small 3D houses. They explored how to use different 3D shapes to build their structures, thinking carefully about style, composition and how to bring their ideas to life.



Reader of the Week Certificates:

Meadowsfoot	George
Mothecombe	Arlo C
Riverside	Arlo S
Oldaport	Mahbub

Reading with your child at home is one of the simplest and most powerful ways to support their learning. Just a few minutes each day helps build language skills, confidence, and a love of books, while also creating special time together. Talking about the story, pictures, or characters makes reading even more meaningful and fun for children.

We appreciate your support with reading at home and ask that you please log any reading that you do in your child's reading log. Thank you



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Clubs



Please note that lunchtime and after-school clubs for the period following the May half term will be available to book via MCAS from Wednesday 20th May.

The deadline for all bookings will be Sunday 31st May. Please note that there will be no lunchtime or after-school clubs running on the final week of term. The last day that clubs will take place will be Thursday 16th July.

Day	Club	Year group	Staff member	Time
Monday	Dodgeball	KS2	Premier Sports	3:30-4:30pm
Tuesday	Games club	All	Mrs Readey	3:30-4:30pm
Thursday	Cross stitch club	KS2	Mrs Readey	3:30-4:30pm
Monday	Shared reading	All	Miss Gilberthorpe	12:15-12:35pm

New Menu



Please note there will be a new summer menu after the half term and this can be found on the school website. Please book your child's school meals on the MCAS app.

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
Mondays	Forest School starts for Riverside	
Friday 22nd May	Last day of term	
Monday 1st June	Children return to school	
Saturday 6 th June	Ivybridge Community Festival Parade – see post on next page	
Wednesday 10 th June	Tempest Class Photos to be taken – during school day	
Monday 15 th June	Sports Day – more details to follow	
Weds 17 th – 19 th June	Year 5 and Year 6 residential	
Friday 26th June	Non pupil day	
Thursday 2 nd July	Year 6 pupils to visit Ivybridge Community College	
Friday 10 th July	Whole school beach trip – more details to follow	
Wednesday 15 th July	KS2 Production – 2:30pm and 5:30pm	
Monday 20 th July	Whole school disco	4:30pm
Monday 20 th July	Year 6 leavers' disco	5:30pm
Tuesday 21 st July	Leavers' service – details to follow	9:30am
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of academic year	
Monday 7th September	Children return to school	

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Term dates

Summer term 2026

Monday 20th April to Friday 22nd May

Monday 1st June to Wednesday 22nd July [Staff Development Day 26th June]

Autumn term 2026

Thursday 3rd September to Friday 23rd October [Staff Development Days 3rd and 4th September]

Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December [Staff Development Day 27th November]



Please join us to celebrate on Saturday 6th June

Procession – All welcome meet outside Ivybridge Methodist Church at 10:30

Choir – Meet at the stage in Victoria Park at 12:30

The poster for Ivybridge Community College Year 5 Open Mornings features a large group photo of Year 5 students in school uniforms, arranged in many rows. The school crest is visible in the top left and bottom center. The text is set against a blue background with a gear-like pattern.

Ivybridge Community College

WESTCOUNTRY
SCHOOLS TRUST

**Year 5
Open Mornings**

Tuesday, 23 and Wednesday, 24 June 2026

9.45am - 11.05am
(arrival from 9.20am)

To book a place please visit
ticketsource.com/ivybridge

Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion