

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



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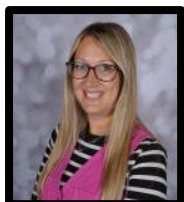


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Issue 38



Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a fabulous time at the beach today, building sandcastles, playing games and paddling in the sea, which was a great way to cool down after a hot week!

We are really looking forward to the KS2 production of 'Let the Games Begin' next Wednesday – the matinee is at 2:30pm, and the evening performance is at 5:30pm. Please see the Google Form sent via MCAS to book your seats. The

children have been working incredibly hard to learn their lines, the songs and some dance routines. We hope to see you there!

It looks like next week will still be hot, so remember to keep bringing sunhats, sun cream and refillable water bottles to school. All children will be playing on the top playground whilst work gets underway on our bottom playground to install the new play equipment. Please see the message sent via MCAS for more information about this work. What an exciting time for our children!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Mrs Penhallurick



From Mr Jolliffe

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to some members of staff at Whimble who have been there for many years and have seen many children start on their learning journey through life. Mrs Shilston and Ms Norton have both been at Whimble for well over 20 years and have made an invaluable contribution to the school over that time. Mrs Corwood is also leaving Whimble at the end of the term and many children have cause to be grateful to her for the start she has given them in their first years at the school. All three of them will be very much missed and the school will have an opportunity to say 'goodbye and thank you' to them at the end of term. Mrs Sheevaun Manning has been leading Cornwood School since the start of the year and she is also leaving at the end of the term as planned. I am very grateful to her for all the work she has done at Cornwood this year and wish her every happiness in her new venture.

Exe Valley & Moorsway Federation Strategic Plan

A presentation that explains a bit more about our strategic vision for the next five years can be found on the EVMF website by clicking this link: [Exe Valley Federation - Strategic Plans](#). Mr Jolliffe would really like to hear your thoughts on the five strategic aims that we have identified for the next five years. Please do email me via your child's school office or join one of the online meetings in the coming week. More details about how to do this may be found at the end of the presentation.

End-of-year reports

The DfE has announced that there has been a delay in sending Year 6 SATs results to schools. This means that they cannot be included with annual reports if we send them home today as planned. So that all pupils receive their reports at the same time, annual reports will now be sent home on Friday, 17th July 2026. If you would like to talk to your child's teacher about their report, please arrange to do this in the final three days of the academic year.

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Federation board meeting

The Full Governing Board met on 30th June 2026. Heidi Last provided an update on the budget which has now been submitted to Devon County Council and will be reviewed again in September. Budgetary pressures remain and the Board are closely monitoring developments. The Board also discussed changes to sports grant funding, which will continue to be monitored with the aim of continuing the level of sport provision across the Federation. The Board thanked outgoing governors for the service, and also confirmed and congratulated those individuals taking up new leadership roles across the federation in September. Jackie Enright also thanked the senior leadership team for their input into these new appointments and for their ongoing support for colleagues moving into new roles.

Governors responsible for the three statutory reporting areas of behaviour, attendance and SEND provided a summary of progress and challenges, with positive progress made across schools. It was confirmed that Shaugh Prior school will close at the end of this term and Jackie Enright thanked all involved in supporting the school during this challenging time. Finally, Governors heard feedback and action points following recent Ofsted inspections, with a focus on areas of development for next academic year.

Vacancies at The Erme Primary School

We currently have a vacancy at The Erme Primary School, for a teaching assistant/mealtime assistant. Closing date for applications is next Wednesday, 15th July 2026. Please use the link below to apply:

[Teaching Assistant Vacancy - Apply Here](#)



Meadowsfoot



Meadowsfoot has been making the most of the hot weather this week. The children have loved taking their learning outdoors - painting with watercolours, mixing refreshing cucumber drinks, and building all sorts of interesting vehicles.

We've also been learning about maps. We talked about why we use them and where we've seen them before: on car dashboards, on our parents' phones, and in books. The children created their own maps and practised giving directions to their friends.

Alongside all of this, we've been looking closely at our calendar and counting how many days we have left before we become Year 1.



Mothecombe



Mothecombe have had a wonderfully mature and joy-filled week, growing in confidence day by day. We began with an enjoyable Forest School session where the children created flags using natural resources, showing great teamwork and pride in their creations. In Maths, they demonstrated real perseverance while learning to tell the time to and past the hour, using lots of practical activities to secure this tricky skill, and we're excited to move on to capacity and volume next week. In English, the class created descriptive noun phrases linked to pictures from our text and then used them in a short burst of writing, their independent writing progress has been incredible. In Science, we continued exploring healthy and unhealthy plants; everyone confidently identified features in photos and explained how the plants looked and why. In music, the children enjoyed clapping out beats and rhythms linked to a myth and legend story, listening carefully and responding with enthusiasm.

We ended the week with a truly lovely day at the beach, where the children's behaviour was exceptional, calm, kind, and consistently thoughtful towards one another. They paddled sensibly in the water, supported friends who were feeling unsure, and showed real maturity in how they moved around the beach environment. It was a perfect finish to a week full of teamwork, curiosity, creativity and joy.

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Learners of the week

Meadowsfoot - Samuel for his knowledge and discussion of maps.

Mothecombe - Zephy for his great ideas in science and detailed answers.

Riverside - Arlo for his super contribution to class discussions.

Oldaport - Henry By for his input during discussions.

Riverside



As always, it has been a wonderful week in Riverside Class, made even more special by a visit from Ozzie, the school's therapy dog. The children were thrilled to meet him and learn about the important work he does. Every child had the chance to say hello and give him a gentle pat. Plus, some children enjoyed individual time reading their book to him - a calm, confidence-boosting experience they absolutely loved.

In Geography, the children have been comparing the Southwest of England with Campania in Italy. They discovered that both regions share many geographical features, including rich agricultural land and beautiful natural areas for people to explore and enjoy.

In Design and Technology, the children have begun designing their own tasty biscuits, using the criteria they decided would make the perfect biscuit. They have shown great creativity and thoughtful decision-making, and they are very excited to start making them next week.

The children have also been superstars in their rehearsals for the Key Stage 2

show, which will be performed next Wednesday. They are working incredibly hard and cannot wait to share their performance with you.



Values of the week

Meadowsfoot - Sasha for persevering to improve his writing.

Mothecombe - Ezra for his perseverance with time.

Riverside - Ellie for being a brilliant friend and role model to all her peers.

Oldaport - Hayden for working really hard in maths.

Oldaport



This week in Oldaport, the children have finished drafting and performing their speeches on an important issue of their choice. They have been working hard to use powerful modal verbs, rhetorical questions and formal language to persuade their audience. The progress in their speaking and listening skills has been fantastic.

In Geography, we explored sustainable water use. The children compared different scenarios and discussed when water is considered a necessity and when it

becomes a luxury. They showed thoughtful reasoning and great curiosity.

In RE, we focused on the Golden Rule and reflected on how following it can help reduce racism and promote kindness, fairness and respect within our communities.

Play rehearsals have also been brilliant this week. The children are really getting into character and bringing great energy and enthusiasm to each practice.



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KS2 Production

Our KS2 production, Let the Games Begin, is nearly here! Join us on Wednesday 15th July for either (or both!) of our performances: the 2:30pm matinee and the 5:30pm evening show.

Please book your tickets via the Google Form sent out to you yesterday. If you wish, you can also make an optional £2 donation, per seat through MCAS to help us bring the production to life.

We can't wait to see you there!



Reader of the Week Certificates:

Meadowsfoot	William
Mothecombe	Cruz
Riverside	Mia
Oldaport	Martha

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.



Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
Wednesday 15 th July	KS2 Production – 2:30pm and 5:30pm	
Friday 17 th July	Reports to go home to parents – New date	
Friday 17 th July	Last day of clubs – No clubs next week	
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	

Term dates

Summer term 2026

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 see our website for more term dates.