



Axminster Community Primary Academy Newsletter

27th February 2026, Issue 22



This Week

Welcome back to school! It's been wonderful to see the daffodils and crocuses brightening the grassy areas that we planted together with Little Green Change and Otter Nurseries. These lovely flowers bring a cheerful splash of colour to our grounds and remind us that spring is on its way. Please remind the children to respect these beautiful plants by not standing on them or damaging them, so everyone can enjoy their beauty for as long as possible.

Today we bid a sad farewell to Mrs Barribal who is leaving to take up a new challenge outside education. We are incredibly grateful to her for all her hard work and dedication to the children. I know many of you are very sad to see her go. Thank you so much for all your time.

We are fortunate that we have now employed Mrs Biggins as our new family support advisor. She has been working closely with Mrs Barribal and the SLT to develop her understanding of the role and is looking forward to working with you all.

Mothers Day craft booking is now open. This is a lovely opportunity for children to create something special to celebrate their mums. To reserve a space, please complete the booking form and return the money by Friday 6th March. Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to book early to avoid disappointment.

Next week we will be celebrating World Book Day. This is always a highlight of the school calendar, encouraging a love of reading and storytelling. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for all the exciting details.

We are also looking forward to Rock Steady starting soon on 9th March. This fantastic music programme gives children the chance to learn instruments and play in a band, building confidence and creativity. If you would like to book a space for your child, please visit www.rocksteadymusicschool.com to secure your place. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in music in a fun and supportive environment.

Next Week

Breakfast Club and After School Stay and Play club run daily

- MUST BE PREBOOKED AND PAID FOR BEFORE THE DAY

Monday
Reception Eye screening

Tuesday

Wednesday.

Thursday
Guitar lessons
Violin Club

Friday

This Year's Whole School Attendance
93.8%

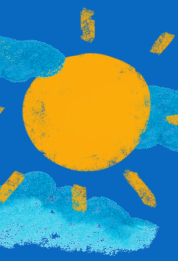
Winning Year Group
Year 4 95.1%

Attendance Matters



Our Core Value this half term is:

Integrity



World Book Day - 5th March

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

We're excited to be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March! Children are invited to come **dressed up** as a book character, in pyjamas with their favourite book, or as a word. These don't need to be bought costumes - home made are excellent too!



We'll also be running an **Extreme Reading competition** — take a photo of yourself reading somewhere unusual over half term for a chance to win a prize for the most extreme reader! Please send your entries to office@axminster-primary.devon.sch.uk

Examples: upside down, on the beach, in the forest or even on a roller coaster!

In addition, children are invited to create a **shoebox story box**. This is a decorated shoebox that represents a favourite story using small objects, characters, or scenes from the book. Children will have the opportunity to bring their story box into school and explain their story to others. **Please do not bring these until World Book Day!**



We can't wait to see lots of creativity and a love of reading on display! 🇬🇧 ✨

Safeguarding Information



Miss Reeve
Deputy DSL



Mrs Hulbert
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs Barribal
Deputy DSL



Mrs Elsworth
Deputy DSL

Little Acorns have started their new topic, "All Creatures Great and Small." During Carpet Time, we created a wonderful mind map using the children's ideas all about animals. The children shared fantastic thoughts about pets, farm animals, sea creatures, and wild animals, showing great enthusiasm and curiosity.

This week, we have enjoyed exploring the story Dear Zoo on a tuff tray, we encouraged the children to talk about different animals. We also had playdough out so we could create our own Rainbow Fish, which helped us think about friendship and sharing.

As part of our topic, the children took part in a fun Sea Creature Rescue activity, where they carefully rescued sea animals from ice.

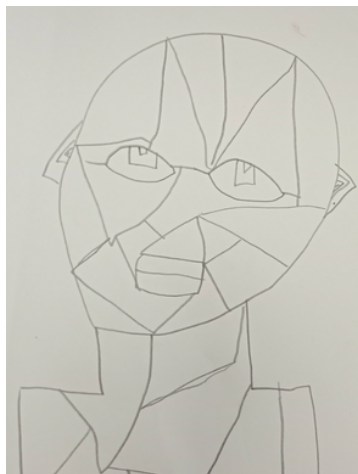
In Maths, we have started learning about length, comparing objects and using language such as longer, shorter, taller, and smaller. The children enjoyed measuring and ordering different objects during our practical activities.!



Hedgehogs and Squirrels

Hedgehogs and Squirrels have had a great first week back! In English we have started our new book 'Major Glad and Major Dizzy' the children have really enjoyed looking at toys from the past.

In Art we have been continuing our unit on portraits inspired by the artist Paul Klee. This week we drew a portrait in the style of Paul Klee ready to paint next week..



Eagles and Hawks

Years 5 and 6 have started their new Art topic with precision and flair. We've been looking closely at some of the different panels of the Bayeux Tapestry and trying to recreate the detail and the texture. These pictures prove it was a great success.



Robins and Starlings

Starling and Reception children have been loving What the Ladybird Heard on Holiday!

★ We brought the story to life with some brilliant potato printing, creating bright, spotty ladybirds 🐞, and sharpened our maths skills by counting dots on ladybirds 📊🐞. So much creativity, teamwork and learning packed into one week – well done, Starlings and Robins!



Foxes, Otters and Badgers

Our pupils in Otters, Foxes and Badgers have begun rehearsals for their upcoming production of The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse 🦊🐿️🦉🐾.

The children are busy learning lines, practising songs 🎵 and bringing this beautiful story to life with real enthusiasm and teamwork 🌟. The excitement is already building, and we cannot wait to share the finished production at the end of the half-term! 🎉🎊

Watch this space... it's going to be something very special 🌟



The Year Ahead

Axminster Community Primary Academy

2025/26 PLANNER

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 4th: Children return to school
 Wednesday 10th - Coffee with the Head in the hall 9am
 Wednesday 10th - Meet the Teacher 3.30-4
 Tuesday 16th SEND Coffee Morning Hall 9am
 Wednesday 17th - Phonics workshop in the hall 3pm
 Thursday 18th - SEND PLP meetings (hall)
 Wednesday 24th - Maths workshop in the hall 3pm
 Friday 26th - Harvest Festival 9am
 Sponsored obstacle course

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1st: Film night :3.30 - 5.30pm
 Tuesday 7th / Thursday 9th- Parents Evening 4-6pm
 Friday 10th - Hello Yellow day - wear yellow accessories with uniform
 Monday - Friday 13- 17th - Bikeability
 Wednesday 15th - PTFA AGM
 Thursday 23rd - Disco
 Friday 24th - INSET school closed
 Monday 27th Friday 31st Oct - Half Term

NOVEMBER

Monday 3rd - Children return to school
 Monday 10th - Odd socks day - wear odd socks to school today
 Tuesday 11th - Armistice Service
 Thursday 13th - Individual Photos
 Friday 14th - Children in Need non uniform day - wear spots
 Friday 21st -Flu Vaccinations
 Friday 28th -Non-School Uniform Day and Decorate for Christmas 3.30pm (bring children to join in the fun!)

DECEMBER

Monday 1st / Tuesday 2nd / Wednesday 3rd - Christmas Craft
 Tuesday 9th - Little Acorns Nativity 2.45pm
 Wednesday 10th - Reception Nativity 2.45pm
 Tuesday 16th - KS1 Christmas Show 2.15pm and 5pm
 Wednesday 17th - Christmas Lunch and KS2 Carols Around the Tree 3pm
 Thursday 18th - Christmas Story Telling - Early Years + KS1 am / KS2 pm
 Friday 19th - Christmas Service 9.30am
 Monday 22nd - Friday 2nd Jan - Christmas Holidays

JANUARY

Tuesday 6th - Children return to school
 Tuesday 13th - SEND PLP meetings (hall)
 Friday 16th - Winter Bingo 5.30-8pm
 Wednesday 21st - Film Night - 3.30 - 5.30pm
 Friday 23rd - M and M Pantomime
 Wednesday 28th - KS2 Spring Concert 2.30pm

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th - Parents Evening 4-6pm
 Tuesday 10th - Safer Internet Day
 Wednesday 11th - Disco
 Friday 13th - Non-Uniform Day
 Monday 16th - Friday 20th - Half Term
 Monday 23rd - Children return to school

MARCH

Thursday 5th - World Book Day
 Monday 9th / Tuesday 10th - Mothers Day Crafts
 Monday 23rd - Sponsored Run
 Friday 27th - Spring Bingo 5.30 - 8pm

APRIL

Wednesday 1st - Y3/4 Show 2pm and 5pm
 Thursday 2nd - Easter Service
 Friday 3rd - Friday 17th April - Easter Holidays
 Monday 20th April - Children return to school

MAY

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday - school closed
 Monday 11th - Thursday 14th - Y6 SATS
 Wednesday 20th - Disco
 Friday 22nd - Non School Uniform Day
 Monday 25th - Friday 29th - Half Term

JUNE

Monday 1st - INSET day
 Tuesday 2nd - Children return to school
 Monday 8th/ Tuesday 9th - Fathers Day Crafts
 Thursday 18th - Sports Day (reserve date - Thursday 25th)
 Tuesday 23rd - Y5 STEM day at Axe Valley
 Wednesday 24th - Class photos
 Friday 26th - Y6 Fiver Challenge

JULY

Wednesday 1st - Axe Valley Transition Day Y6
 Axminster Transition Morning - whole school
 Thursday 16th - Y5/6 Show 2pm and 5pm
 Tuesday 21st - Leavers Service
 Wednesday 22nd - Whole school Awards Service

We will endeavour to keep all dates as scheduled, but please note there may be changes if necessary, i.e. if events rely upon good weather. We will alert you to this as early as possible if any alterations are required.

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Deputy DSL



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Designated Safeguarding Lead



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Mrs Elsworth
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School Noticeboard

Stay and Play After School Club

We are now booking spaces for After School Stay & Play via the Clubs section of your ParentPay account for children in Reception - Year 6, or by speaking to Nursery staff for Little Acorns. Places MUST be booked and paid for online. If you are not registered for these clubs please email the office to arrange this.

These are limited and are offered on a first come, first served basis.

School Lunches

Please make sure you have booked your child's lunches via ParentPay by Thursday evening each week, even if your child is in KS1. Meal choices cannot be guaranteed if they are not booked in advance

Lost Property

Please have a look at the lost property in the boxes at the front of school. We would love to reunite people with their things. Please could you check that your children's things are labelled with a permanent marker or label so that we can return things easily.



Events

MARCH

Thursday 5th - World Book Day

Monday 9th / Tuesday 10th -

Mothers Day Crafts

Monday 23rd - Sponsored Run

Friday 27th - Spring Bingo 5.30 -
8pm

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