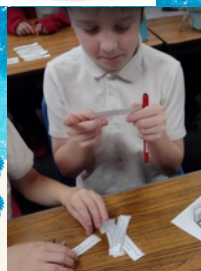




# Axminster Community Primary Academy Newsletter

13th February 2026, Issue 21



## This Week

This week, we celebrated Internet Safety Day, focusing on how to stay safe online. They learned about protecting their personal information, recognising safe and unsafe online behaviours, and how to respond to challenges in the digital world. We encourage parents to continue these important conversations at home. For more information and helpful resources, please visit <https://kidsnlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk/>.

We are refreshing our Early Years resources and our OPAL play resources. If you have anything that you can donate, please bring it into the office: Space hoppers / Yoga mats/ ribbons and thin scarves (chiffon-style) to play with / Roads and cars/ Play phone / Till / Kitchen and play food things / Zoo animals / Sea animals/ Rockets (and other space related toys) / Funnels /Jugs / Plastic bowls /Puzzles - up to 500 pieces /Construction toys - Lego, stickle bricks, etc.

We also seem to have lost a lot of toys - if your child has brought any home, we would be really grateful if they could be returned. For example, we have lost nearly 200 dinosaurs this year! Thank you!

We are excited to announce an Easter egg colouring competition running in conjunction with the police. Children have brought their sheets home – please remember to return these to school after the half term break if your child would like to participate.

Looking ahead, World Book Day will take place after half term on Thursday 5th March. Please see the information later in this newsletter for details about competitions and guidance on what to wear.

The PTFA ran their Spring discos this week. It was lovely to see so many children enjoying them. Thank you for your support in booking ahead so that we have clear registration lists. This has meant that we have a real clarity about who is expected to attend and how they are being collected. Thank you for your support with this.

On behalf of the whole staff team, we wish you all a happy and restful half term. We look forward to seeing you back on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

## Week after Half Term - 23rd February...

Breakfast Club and After School Stay and Play club run daily

- **MUST BE PREBOOKED AND PAID FOR BEFORE THE DAY**

Monday 23rd Feb  
**BACK TO SCHOOL**

Toddlers in the hall 9-10.30

Tuesday

Wednesday.

Thursday

Guitar lessons  
Violin Club

Friday

Hawks Cake Sale

This Year's Whole School Attendance  
94.6%

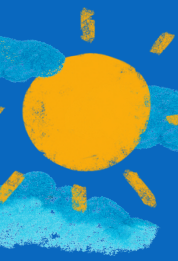
Winning Year Group  
Nursery 1 100%

Attendance Matters



Our Core Value this half term is:

**Kindness**



# World Book Day - 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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

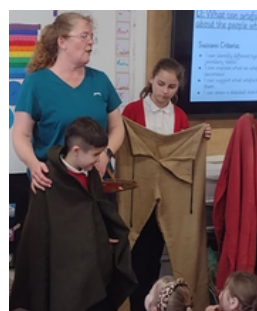
Let's Play Music was our topic for last week, and we were thrilled to welcome Deano, a local musician — who shared his amazing talent with us. Deano got the children fully involved with vocal warm-ups, body movements, instrument playing, and singing parts of his own original songs. We were especially lucky as he even taught himself to play "If You're Happy and You Know It" just for the children! A big thank you to Deano for coming in and giving Little Acorns, Robins, and Starlings such a fun and musical afternoon.



This week our Reception class has been powered up by Supertato! All of our learning has been inspired by this much-loved superhero story, with a big focus on superheroes and superpowers. The children have been busy:

- ☀ Talking about special powers and what makes a hero kind and brave
- ☀ Using their imaginations through stories, role play and creative activities
- ☀ Building confidence, teamwork and super listening skills

We've seen so much excitement, creativity and super learning — the classroom has truly been saved by our little superheroes!



## Hedgehogs and Squirrels

We've had a busy week in Hedgehogs and Squirrels! We started our week by exploring different ways of joining fabric. We then designed our very own felt puppet and then got to work bringing them to life. The children worked so hard to make them and were all so proud of their work! We were also scientists on a bug hunt! We found all sorts of mini beasts in the playground and carefully recorded our data. We then turned this data into a bar chart so everyone could see which different bugs live in our school.



## Foxes, Otters and Badgers

Our amazing Foxes, Otters and Badger students have been celebrating Safer Internet Day by diving into the world of AI chatbots. They learned that while AI can be helpful and fun, it's not always safe to rely on it. Sometimes the information an AI gives isn't true and chatting with a bot is very different from talking to a real human. Through thoughtful discussions and an activity, the children explored how to stay curious and cautious online – asking questions, checking facts, and knowing when to seek help from a trusted adult. We're so proud of how maturely they approached such an important topic. Building smart, safe digital citizens for the future!

## Eagles and Hawks

On Tuesday, Years 5 and 6 took part in the Safer Internet Day 2026 based on the theme of AI. The children watched a live lesson hosted by BBC Bitewise and took part in a range of activities which included designing their own chatbot. The children learnt about how AI works and that it is a tool and not human. We also looked at the positive and negative uses of AI with some enthusiastic discussions.





# 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.

## Safeguarding Information



Miss Reeve  
Deputy DSL



Mrs Hulbert  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Barribal  
Deputy DSL



Mrs Elsworth  
Deputy DSL

# 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**

## Safeguarding Information



Miss Reeve  
Deputy DSL



Mrs Hulbert  
Designated Safeguarding  
Lead



Mrs Barribal  
Deputy DSL



Mrs Elsworth  
Deputy DSL