



Axminster Community Primary Academy Newsletter

16th January 2026, Issue 17



This Week

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Learning Showcase on Monday! The children absolutely loved sharing their learning journeys with the adults who visited. We have lots of exciting learning underway – please do visit the curriculum page on our website to explore what the children are discovering across the school.

A special thank you to the parents who joined us to co-construct Personal Learning Plans for children with SEND needs. We truly value working in partnership with you to support every child's progress.

We have collated the results from the parent survey conducted last half term and are delighted to share them with you (via email). We are really pleased to have acted on your feedback by providing many more musical opportunities over the last year, with even more exciting activities to be announced in the coming weeks. If you have any questions about anything raised in the survey, please speak to Mrs Hulbert on the doors in the morning or email the office.

Sports opportunities continue to grow at Axminster. Our Sports Council is currently organising new half-termly intra-sports competitions, which children will be able to enjoy at lunchtimes. We look forward to seeing great participation and enthusiasm!

Finally, we are looking forward to Bingo tonight – please come along and join us for a fun evening. This year's PTFA fundraising will contribute towards new Chromebooks, which will make a significant difference to our children's access to the internet and digital learning tools.

Next Week - 19th January...

Breakfast Club and After School Stay and Play club run daily

Monday

Tuesday

Acceleration meetings for invited children - in school hall

Wednesday

Decider skills - Y4 - within school day
3.30 - 5.30: Film club - for pre-booked children (pick up from the hall)

Thursday

Guitar lessons

Friday

Snow White pantomime - nursery and whole school - within the school day

This Year's Whole School Attendance
94.9%

Winning Year Group
Year 5 97.4%

Attendance Matters



Our Core Value this half term is:

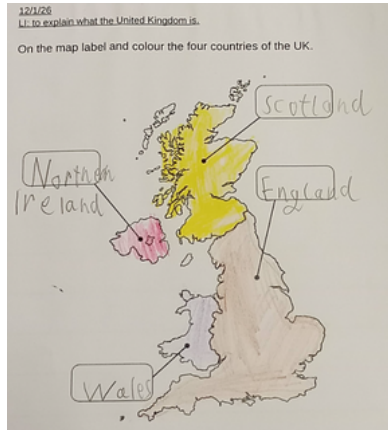
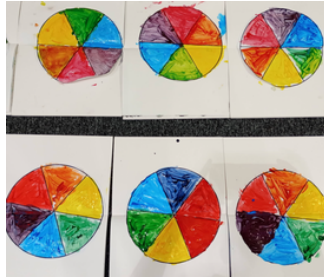
Kindness

We learnt about teeth and how to look after them. Mrs Hawkes led a circle time discussion about what is good for our teeth and what is not, and the children came up with some fantastic ideas. We also had a tuff tray activity where the children practised cleaning teeth using toothbrushes.



Hedgehogs and Squirrels

Hedgehogs and Squirrels have had a super start to the week! We have really enjoyed starting our new topic. In Geography we looked at the four countries that make up the UK and looked carefully on a globe for England. In Art we have started our portrait topic by painting colour wheels. We had lots of fun mixing primary colours to make secondary colours.



Eagles and Hawks

A busy science lesson was had by both Year 5 and Year 6. This half term, Year 6 are learning about evolution and inheritance. Following on from last week's lesson on how the horse has evolved, the children learned about Charles Darwin and his findings. Charles Darwin discovered finches had different beaks and so we carried out an experiment to see how the shape of finches' beaks affects their survival. Using a range of everyday equipment - tongs, spoons, tweezers and pegs - the children tried to pick up as many seeds as they could in 30 seconds. Looking at the effort on the faces of the children, the finches would have struggled to eat. In Year 5, the children started their topic of forces by investigating weight using a Newtonmeter. Using a range of Newtonmeters, the children measured the weights of many objects in the class. They then had to read the scales accurately to get a precise weight and record in their science books. Judging from the faces, it was serious business!

Our superstars have been busy exploring 2D shapes as part of their learning. The children have been learning to name, recognise and talk about 2D shapes, and they've been amazing at spotting them everywhere! From looking carefully around the classroom to being caught creating shapes outdoors, their curiosity and enthusiasm have really shone through.

This hands-on learning links perfectly with the maths curriculum, helping children to make sense of the world around them through play, exploration and talk. What brilliant shape hunters we have! Well done, Reception and Year 1!



Foxes, Otters and Badgers

What a brilliant start to our Gymnastics unit in PE for our superstars in Foxes, Otters and Badgers.

This week, the children focused on balancing and stretching, exploring different shapes, poses and ways to control their bodies. They showed fantastic concentration, strength and determination while having lots of fun along the way.

These balancing skills will be built on and used throughout the half term, and we can't wait to see their confidence and routines grow! Well done, everyone – a great start to the unit.





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



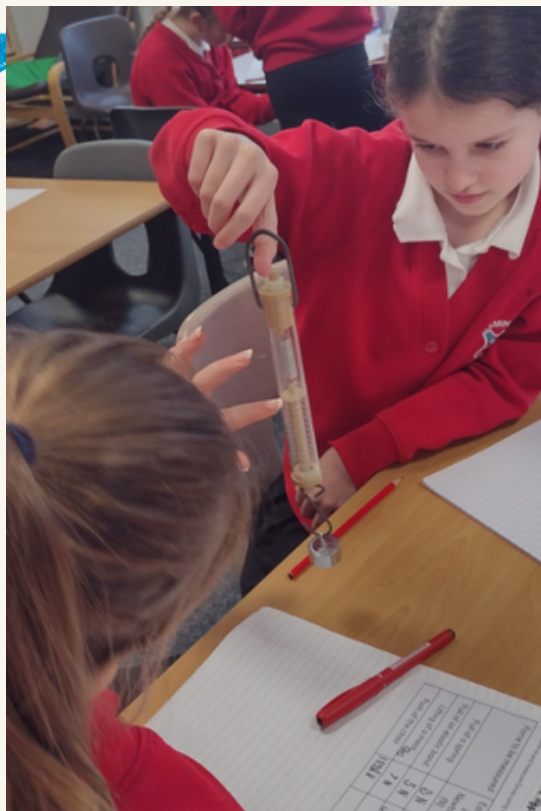
Mrs Hulbert
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Barribal
Deputy DSL



Mrs Elsworth
Deputy DSL



Events

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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.

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Deputy DSL



Mrs Hulbert
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs Barribal
Deputy DSL



Mrs Elsworth
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