



Axminster Community Primary Academy Newsletter

10th July 2026, Issue 42



This Week

What a busy and uplifting end to the year we are having at Axminster! Our pupils have taken part in a wide range of hands-on experiences that bring our vision of “Achievement for All” to life – and the sense of curiosity, resilience and kindness around school has been wonderful to see. A big thank you to everyone who attended our art exhibition on Monday. It was lovely to showcase the incredible talent and effort across the school.

Robins and Starlings have now both visited the farm. It was brilliant to watch pupils learn where our food comes from, ask thoughtful questions and make links between farm life and our lessons. These visits really deepen pupils’ understanding of the wider world and support our learning in science and geography. Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed a DT day designing and creating their own wraps. Huge thanks to Tesco and to parents for their generous donations which made the day possible. The children practised design thinking, food hygiene and practical preparation skills – and were rightly proud of their finished products.

Pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 have been completing their clay pots. Seeing pupils persevere through the stages of shaping, drying and finishing has been a real reminder of the value of deliberate practice in the curriculum. Well done to Foxes for taking part in the Kingfisher Award and being awarded Runners Up. We’re so proud of their hard work and collaboration as they explored farming in depth. The award recognises teamwork, research and communication – all skills we value highly. Our Year 6 residential to Dartmoor was a real highlight. Pupils showed incredible teamwork, resilience and it was a real celebration of their hard work this year. Residential are an important part of personal development: pupils return more confident, independent and ready for their next steps.

As we near the end of the year, we are holding our last attendance meetings with families where a pupil’s attendance is below 90%. Attendance is one of the biggest predictors of how well your child will do at school. We run these meetings to identify any barriers to attendance and to see how we can support families and put plans in place so children can attend more consistently from September. To be clear: 90% attendance means a whole school month of lost learning. Children at 80% are missing around 8 weeks of learning, which has a significant impact on progress and social development. Feedback from previous years has been that these meetings are useful and often identify practical ways we can work together to improve attendance.

Next week we look forward to the Year 5/ 6 show in the Guildhall on Thursday - please purchase tickets on ParentPay . We will also be sending reports out at the end of the week - we have delayed these from our normal timeline to include the SATs results which have been delayed nationally. Thank you to parents, staff and volunteers for your continued support this term. Your contributions – from donations to attending events – make a real difference to pupils’ experiences and outcomes.

Next Week ...

- Breakfast Club and After School Stay and Play club run daily - MUST BE PREBOOKED AND PAID FOR BEFORE THE DAY

Monday
Little Green Change
Clothes Swap Rail

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday
Year 5/ 6 show 2pm / 5pm GUILDHALL

Guitar

Friday
Pre-loved uniform sale

This Year’s Whole School Attendance
94.2%

Winning Year Group
Year R 97.7%

Attendance Matters



Our Core Value this half term is:

Community

Our Learning this Week...

Little Acorns

This week, we have been learning all about the wonderful country of China! The children have had so much fun creating their own colourful dragon masks and even exploring how lion dancing is an important part of Chinese culture. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about this exciting tradition! We also packed our very own Little Acorns suitcase, getting ready for a sunny holiday. The children shared some fantastic ideas about what we would need, including wearing sun cream to protect our skin from the sun and packing shorts to help keep us cool in the warm weather. Their thoughtful ideas showed a great understanding of staying safe in the sunshine.



Robins and Starlings

Robins and Starlings have had another lovely week full of creativity, imagination and hands-on-learning! It was Starlings' turn to visit the farm, where they had a brilliant time feeding the chickens, enjoying a tractor and trailer ride and baking biscuits. Back in school, we have been inspired by our Drawing Club book *Wide Awake Wolf*. The children have been making beautiful dream catchers to help promote a good night's sleep and building cosy shelters for the animals to sleep safely in the forest.



Hedgehogs and Squirrels

Year 1&2 have had a fabulous week. One of our highlights has been taste testing and making our own wraps as part of our design and technology project. We were super impressed with children trying things they had never tried before and some children even found new things to enjoy.

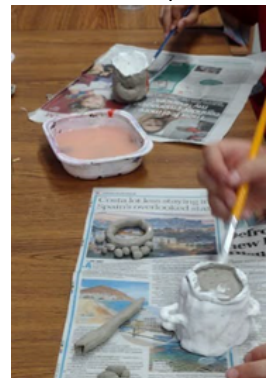
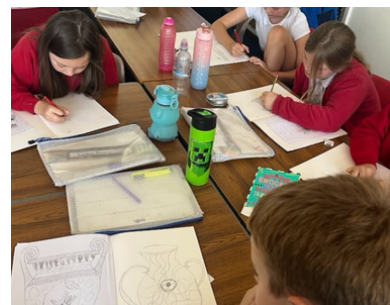
We would like to thank Tesco's Axminster and you as parents, for your kind donations so that all 75 children could taste test and take home a wrap to enjoy.



Foxes, Otters and Badgers

Foxes, Otters and Badgers have been immersed in their Ancient Greek pottery art unit. After researching the fascinating styles and stories behind traditional Greek pottery, the children carefully designed and created their own unique ceramic-inspired masterpieces.

Some chose to stay true to the ancient designs, while others added a brilliant modern twist—showcasing their imagination and individuality!



Eagles and Hawks

Year 6 have arrived in Dartmoor for their residential and had a fantastic time working as a team in the glorious sunshine. They split into groups to solve orienteering and team building skills using lots of communication, coordination and map reading to succeed. Some groups were more successful than others but fun was had by all.

Year 5 have been enjoying a week putting the finishing touches to the play and getting ready to perform in the Guildhall on Thursday - please speak to the office if you haven't yet got your tickets. No one will be admitted without a ticket and tickets are NOT available on the day.





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



Mrs Hulbert
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

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

Safeguarding Information



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DSL



Mrs Elsworth
Deputy DSL

Our safeguarding and child protection information, including our policy, can be found [here](#) on our website.