



Axminster Community Primary Academy Newsletter

9th October 2026, Issue 4



This Week

27 Y5/6 joined a special Zoom session with Becca Rogers, author of Scamp Saltbrace and the Tidal Clock and The Girl with Gills. Becca gave our pupils an insight into what life as an author is really like, shared the inspiration behind her books, read extracts from her stories and answered questions from children and staff. Our pupils had the opportunity to discover what happens behind the pages – from where ideas come from to how stories make their way from an author's imagination into a published book. A huge thank you to Becca Rogers for taking the time to inspire our pupils.

Harvest today in church was a real joy. Thank you to every pupil who took part in the service: your confidence, reading and singing were a delight to watch and a wonderful reflection of our values of caring and community. A special thank you to the families and staff who walked with us – your presence made the procession warm and lively. We are very grateful for the generous donations to the local food bank. These contributions will make a practical difference to neighbours in need and show our pupils how kindness turns into action.

Today we also joined schools across the country for Hello Yellow to mark World Mental Health Day. It was lovely to see so many pupils and staff wearing yellow and talking openly about how to build positive mental health. Classes explored simple, practical ways to look after emotional wellbeing – breathing exercises, recognising helpful thoughts, using our school values when things feel hard, and who to go to when we need support.

Thank you to the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) and to all the parents who attended today's drop-in to consider how we can support children's "big emotions." Next week we hold parents' evenings. Appointments are booked through Arbor – please check your account if you have not yet booked. All meetings will take place in the school hall. We will discuss attendance figures for the current year so far and any patterns. How your child is settling in socially and academically and clear, practical steps we can take together at home and at school to support your child's progress (short-term targets you can try at home and classroom strategies teachers will use).

Next Week ...

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

Monday

Tuesday
Parents Evening - Hall

Y5/6 Tag Rugby 3.30 - 4.30 Field

Wednesday

9.30 - 10.30 - Reception Open Day -for new starters in Sept 27 - book at the office

Eagles Swimming

Thursday
Guitar lessons

Parents Evening - Hall

Friday

This Year's Whole School Attendance

95.2%

Winning Year Group

Year 5 99.3%

Attendance Matters



Our Core Value this half term is:

Kindness

Little Acorns have been very busy exploring, creating and learning through play! We have been making faces out of playdough, adding eyes, noses, mouths and some lovely hair. The children have had so much fun getting creative and seeing the characters they can make! We have also been working on our fine motor skills by helping the little bugs escape from the spider web! This has been a great way to practise those important little hand and finger movements while having lots of fun.



Magnificent mathematicians! We have some excellent subitisers in Robins who have been showing off what they can do and are getting speedier by the day! We have also been practising our addition sums, building confidence with our answers and working hard to recognise numerals and match them to the correct quantity when counting. We are super impressed and proud of how hard the children are working and how determined they are to always try their best.

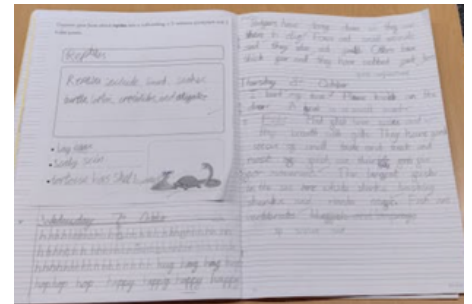
Hedgehogs and Squirrels

This week in Hedgehogs and Squirrels we have started our new topic of animals! We have been looking for clues to help us sort animals into different groups. In PE we have been exploring how to move like an animal and pretending we are explorers in the jungle.



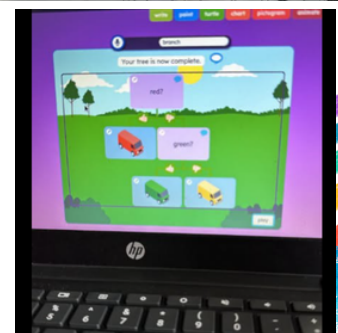
Foxes, Otters and Badgers

Badger, Otters and Foxes classes have been exploring the features of non-chronological reports! We've been practising writing paragraphs, using coordinating conjunctions to join our ideas and adding subheadings to organise information clearly. These skills will help us turn our animal facts into informative reports.



Falcons, Hawks and Eagles

Our Year 5/6 classes have been busy exploring Animals in Their Habitats, and we've been learning that there's much more to classifying animals than simply deciding what questions would be best to create a branching database. We've been learning about Carl Linnaeus and how his system of classification helped scientists organise living things. We then put our detective skills to work, sorting animals by asking a series of yes or no questions to identify their different characteristics. We also made a brilliant connection with our Computing learning by exploring branching databases. Students learned how a series of carefully chosen questions can sort information into different groups — and then created their own branching databases, classifying animals, plants and even everyday objects! It was fantastic to see our scientists and computer scientists working together, thinking logically, asking questions and justifying their choices. Who knew a simple "Yes or No?" could lead to so much thinking!





The Year Ahead

Axminster Community Primary Academy

2026/27 PLANNER

SEPTEMBER

Monday 7th: Children return to school
Wednesday 16th - Coffee with the Head - hall 9am
Thursday 17th - SEND Coffee Morning - hall 9am
Monday 14th - Recycling week
Tuesday 15th - Flu vaccinations / Phonics workshop in the hall 3pm
Wednesday 16th - SEND PLP meetings (hall)
Monday 21st - Carnival Day
Wednesday 23rd - Maths workshop in the hall 3pm
Friday 25th - Eagles Class Assembly 3pm
Friday 25th - Sponsored obstacle course
Monday 28th - European Day of Languages
Wednesday 30th - Film night :3.30 - 5.30pm

OCTOBER

Thursday 1st - National Poetry Day / - Stay and Play Family OPAL session 3.15 - 4pm
Friday 2nd - Falcons Class Assembly
Friday 9th - Harvest Festival / Hello Yellow day - wear yellow accessories with uniform
Tuesday 13th / Thursday 15th - Parents Evening 4-6pm
Wednesday 14th - PTFA AGM
Monday - Friday 19th - 23rd - Bikeability
Wednesday 21st - Disco
Thursday 22nd - Non school uniform day
Friday 23rd - INSET school closed
Monday 26th Friday 30th - Half Term

NOVEMBER

Monday 2nd - Children return to school
Friday 6th - Otters Class Assembly 3pm
Monday 9th - Opal Award and Stay and Play Family OPAL session 3.15pm
Wednesday 11th - Armistice Service
Thursday 12th - Individual Photos
Friday 20th - Children in Need non uniform day - wear spots
Monday 16th - Odd socks day - wear odd socks to school today (Anti-bullying week launch)
Friday 20th - Hawks Class Assembly 3pm
Thursday 26th - Thanksgiving
Friday 27th - Non-School Uniform Day and Decorate for Christmas 3.30pm (bring children to join in the fun!)

DECEMBER

Monday 30th - Christmas Fayre 3.30-4.30pm
Tuesday 1st/ Wednesday 2nd / Thursday 3rd - Christmas Craft
Friday 4th - Badgers Class Assembly
Tuesday 8th - Little Acorns Nativity 3pm
Thursday 10th - Reception Nativity 3pm
Monday 14th - Christmas DT Day
Tuesday 15th - KS1 Christmas Show 2.30pm and 5pm
Wednesday 16th - Christmas Lunch and KS2 Carols Around the Tree 3pm
Thursday 17th - Christmas Discos
Friday 18th - Christmas Service 9.30am / Christmas parties
Monday 21st - Friday 1st Jan - Christmas Holidays

JANUARY

Monday 4th - INSET day
Tuesday 5th - Children return to school
Tuesday 12th - SEND PLP meetings (hall)
Friday 15th - Foxes Class Assembly 3pm
Monday 18th - World Religion Day
Tuesday 19th - Acceleration plan meetings (hall) - invited parents only
Wednesday 20th - Film Night - 3.30 - 5.30pm
Friday 22nd - M and M Pantomime
Thursday 28th - KS2 Spring Concert 2.50pm

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 2nd and Thursday 4th - Parents Evening 4-6pm
Friday 5th - NSPCC Number Day
Tuesday 9th - Safer Internet Day / Pancake races
Wednesday 10th - Disco
Friday 12th - Non-Uniform Day
Monday 15th - Friday 19th - Half Term
Monday 22nd - Children return to school

MARCH

Thursday 4th - World Book Day
Friday 5th - Robins class assembly 3pm
Monday 1st / Tuesday 2nd - Mothers Day Crafts
Monday 8th - 12th - Science Week
Wednesday 10th - Eid
Thursday 11th - Stay and Play Family OPAL session 3.15 - 4pm
Friday 19th - Red Nose Day / Spring Family Bingo 3.30 - 6pm
Monday 22nd - Sponsored Run
Wednesday 24th - Y3/4 Show 2pm and 5pm
Thursday 25th - Easter Service 9.30am / Easter Egg hunt / Easter bonnet parade 3.15pm

APRIL

Friday 26th March - Friday 9th April - Easter Holidays
Monday 12th April - Children return to school
Friday 16th - Squirrels Class Assembly
Tuesday 20th - SEND PLP meetings (hall)
Thursday 22nd - Earth Day
Tuesday 27th - Acceleration plan meetings (hall) - invited parents only
Friday 30th - May Day Fete - parents from 2pm

MAY

Monday 3rd May - Bank Holiday - school closed
Tuesday 4th May - Inter House Sport Festival
Monday 11th - Thursday 14th - Y6 SATS
Monday 17th - Friday 21st - Walk to School Week
Wednesday 19th - Numeracy Day
Monday 24th - Non School uniform day
Wednesday 26th - Disco
Thursday 27th - Class Photos
Friday 28th - Sports Day

JUNE

Monday 31st May - 5th June - Half Term
Monday 7th - INSET day
Tuesday 8th - Children return to school / School Disco
Friday 11th - International Day of Play - Stay and Play Family OPAL session 3.15 - 4pm
Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th - Fathers' Day Craft
Monday 21st - World Refugee Day
Tuesday 22nd - Y5 STEM day at Axe Valley
Friday 25th - Y6 Fiver Challenge / Summer Fete 3 - 4.15pm

JULY

Wednesday 30th - Axe Valley Transition Day Y6
Friday 2nd July - Axminster's Got Talent
Monday 5th - Art Day and Art Exhibition
Wednesday 14th - Transition Day and Meet the Teacher 3.30pm
Thursday 15th - Y5/6 Show 2pm and 5pm
Monday 19th - Wednesday 21st - Y6 Residential
Thursday 22nd - Whole school Awards Service
Friday 23rd - Y6 Leavers Service (hall) 9am

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

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

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.

Events

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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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