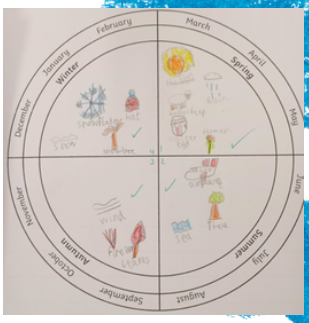
Axminster Community Primary Academy Newsletter

27th November 2026, Issue 10







This Week

As we reach the end of our Assessment Fortnight, we would like to say a huge well done to all of our children for the resilience, determination and positive attitudes they have shown. Assessments are an important opportunity for pupils to showcase what they have learned throughout the term, and the children have approached them with confidence and perseverance. We are incredibly proud of the effort they have put in and the maturity they have demonstrated. The assessments also provide staff with a valuable insight into what pupils have learned, understood and retained, helping us to identify strengths, celebrate successes and adapt learning opportunities to ensure every child continues to thrive next term.

Alongside assessments, the school is now in full festive mode as Christmas Nativity and concert rehearsals gather pace. The excitement is certainly building, and we cannot wait to welcome families to these special performances. If you have not already done so, please remember to book your tickets through Arbor. As part of our ongoing commitment to becoming more environmentally friendly, tickets will now be managed electronically through the system. Arbor will generate the entry list for each performance, meaning there is no need for a physical ticket. Please note that every child attending a performance does require a ticket allocation so that we can comply with fire safety regulations and ensure events remain safe for everyone.

We are also looking forward to our Decorating for Christmas Evening tonight. This is always one of the highlights of the festive season, bringing our school community together to create a magical atmosphere for the children. They absolutely love helping to make the school look festive, and it is wonderful to see the excitement on their faces as the decorations go up.

A huge thank you to everyone who nominated our school for a Christmas tree. We are delighted to have been selected, and special thanks go to Laura for submitting the winning nomination. We are incredibly grateful to Combe Garden Centre for their generous donation. The beautiful tree now stands proudly outside the front of the school, spreading a little twinkly Christmas magic for everyone passing by.

Finally, a reminder that our Christmas Fayre takes place on Monday after school. Please do come along to enjoy the wonderful crafts created by the children, hear our choir perform and browse the fantastic range of stallholders. You can also find members of the PTFA at Light Up Axminster this Saturday. We are enormously grateful to the PTFA for their continued hard work, energy and commitment in supporting our school and creating so many memorable opportunities for our children and families. We look forward to seeing you at one of these festive events.

Next Week ...

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

Monday
Rocksteady
Christmas Fayre - 3.30pm in the hall

Tuesday

Wednesday
Eagles Swimming

Thursday
Guitar lessons

Friday

Badgers Class Assembly - parents invited to join us at 2.50pm

This Year's Whole School Attendance
94.7%

Winning Year Group
Year 1 97.7%

Attendance Matters
Every Day Counts....

Our Core Value this half term is:

Kindness

Web: axminster-primary@devon.sch.uk Email: office@axminster-primary.devon.sch.uk Tel: 01297 33005
www.facebook.com/AxminsterCommunityPrimary www.instagram.com/axminster_primary_academy

Our Learning this Week...

Little Acorns

We've been exploring the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children have been having lots of fun mixing different cereals together to create the bears' breakfast and retelling the story to our adults. It's been lovely to see their confidence and imagination shining through! We've also been getting creative, making our very own clocks to go alongside Hickory Dickory Dock and beautiful stars for Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star. In maths, we've been exploring the concepts of small, medium and large, linking this to our Three Bears story. The children have been doing brilliantly at sorting all the different toys in the basket into the correct sizes. Well done, everyone!





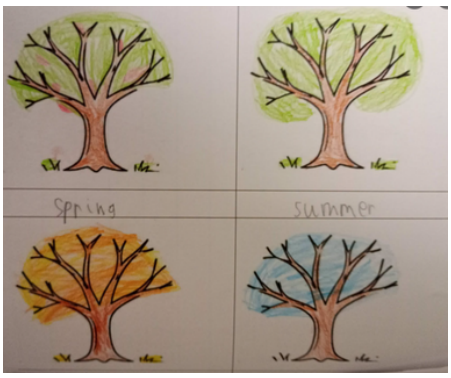
Robins

Our continuous provision has been inspired by What the Ladybird Heard and there's been plenty of excitement on the farm including a visit from a real life ladybird that the children were fascinated by! Oh no! There was a ladybird outbreak! Our little rescuers had the important job of collecting all the escaped ladybirds and returning them safely to their jar. But there was a twist... no hands allowed! The children had to use tweezers, tongs and spoons, putting their fine motor skills, concentration and patience to the test!

In maths, we helped the ladybirds find their missing halves, carefully counting their spots and matching them to make 10 altogether. Our literacy challenge involved matching words to the correct farm animals. The children used their Fred Talk to sound out and blend words, while others searched for individual sound cards to build the animal names. It was lovely to see everyone developing their phonics skills and growing in confidence as early readers!

Hedgehogs and Squirrels

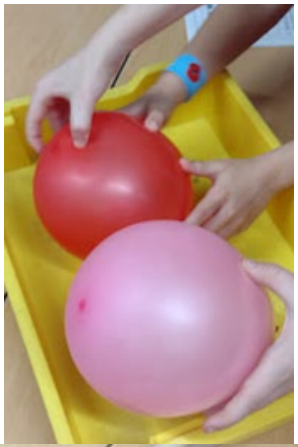
We have been practising our show, making crafts for our stall at the Christmas Fayre (Monday 30th), working hard on our termly assessments and diving into our new Seasonal Changes topic. We have learnt about the 4 different seasons, the weather we might see at these times and what kind of activities and events happen in each season. At the end of last week we finished our Geography topic all about maps and showed off our skills by creating our own maps.

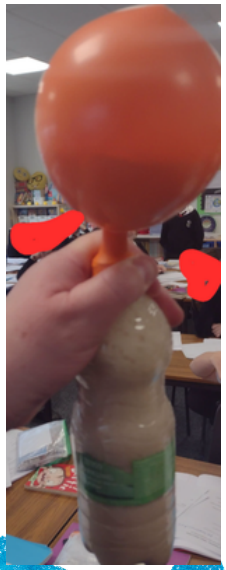




Foxes, Otters and Badgers

Badgers, Foxes and Otters investigated different materials and discussed whether they were solids, liquids or gases. We also became particles ourselves, acting out how they are arranged and move in each state to help us understand the differences. There were plenty of questions and discoveries along the way. We can't wait to learn more!







Falcons, Hawks and Eagles

It was quite messy in the year 5 and 6 classrooms as the children experimented with the different states of matter. It started with the intriguing matter of ooblek (is it a liquid or a solid or both?) and finished off with the mixing of vinegar and bicarbonate of soda - the balloon inflated in seconds and caused so much entertainment and hysteria!

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
Wednesday 11th - Armistice Service
Thursday 12th - Individual Photos
Friday 13th - 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
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

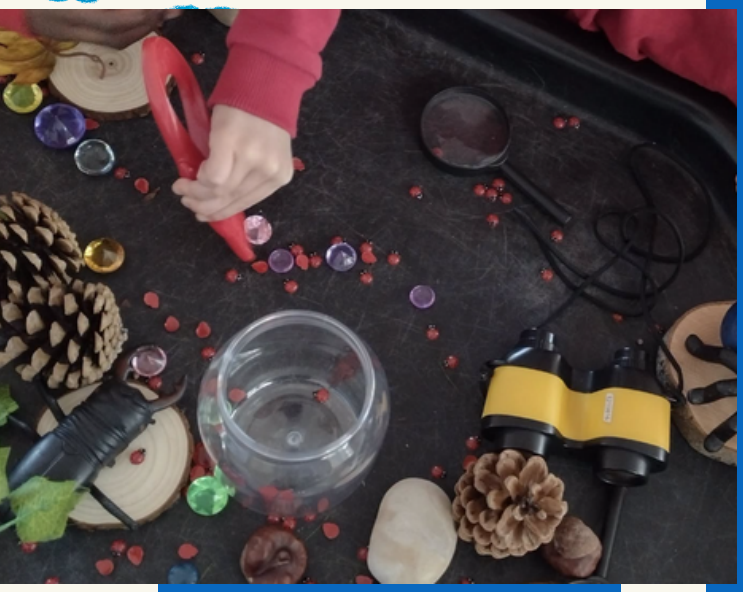
JULY

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.

Opal® Platinum Award 2026 - 2028

SCHOOL GAMES SILVER 2025/26



School Noticeboard

Stay and Play After School Club

We are now booking spaces for After School Stay & Play via Arbor 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 Arbor in advance even if your child is in KS1 or entitled to a free school meal.

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

DECEMBER

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Safeguarding Information

Mrs Hulbert - DSL Mrs Elsworth and Mrs Biggins - DDSLs

OUR SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE