



Expect the best in everything, then play your part in achieving it



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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a good break over the Easter holiday and got some time together to enjoy the brighter weather. All our children have returned super well again, and our academic year is now set to race until the end, as the summer term always flies and we intend to make the most of every minute of it! Thank you for your support of our INSET day, it was an intense and invaluable day for our teaching team after such a challenging and changeable time. Your support and understanding of our team has been superb during this whole pandemic, thank you. We are so proud of our relationships with all of you and how you truly do understand the hard work, endless time and effort the team put in; because they care, to them 'above and beyond' is the norm. Equally, we know the pressures on you, as we work in partnership to secure the best outcomes for all our pupils, all our children. The media is often quick to criticize the teaching profession but I am so proud of my team (and the profession) during this time; to have your support and understanding means the world to us all. On that theme of partnership, we are really keen to have helpers return safely to our school, very keen for readers and volunteers to recommence. If you are interested in doing this please let us know so we can undertake the safeguarding checks and any COVID updates. Just drop an email to the office. Also, in case you weren't aware, parents are welcome to pop to our new reception office if you need to, masks can be worn in the new foyer and you can see Mrs Thrush, Mrs Hickman or Mrs McEntee there who will be happy to help. Take a moment to admire our new Bathstone too— just above the door!

In other news, we have 7 chicks that have hatched this week— an exciting welcome back for year 4, and soon to be shared with the rest of the school next week. This is such a magical experience for our children and excellent learning in action.

Finally, don't forget the road closures next week, please leave enough time to be safe. Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Naomi Philp

- *Our school is about kindness, caring for others, ourselves, and our world.*
- *Our school values our history, our location, our community and most of all each other.*
- *We aim to instill a life long love of learning.*

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a child's well-being or safety please talk to

Naomi Philp

(Designated Safeguarding Lead)

or in her absence

at Timberscombe:

Kate McEntee or Helen Hickman

(Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads)

at Dunster

Kate McEntee, Helen Hickman or Louise Collins

(Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads)

Timberscombe First School fully recognise the responsibility they have under the Education Act 2002 and the contribution they can make to protect children and support pupils in school.

All staff involved with children (teaching and non-teaching) have a responsibility to be mindful of issues related to children's safety and welfare and a duty to report and refer any concerns.

Similarly parents and carers have a duty to report and refer any concerns.

Information about the Child Protection Procedures that are followed in Somerset and in our school can be found at:

www.swcpd.org.uk

If you are concerned about the welfare or safety of a child or an adult in our community, for information and advice you can contact Somerset Direct on:

0300 123 2224

Press 1 for Children's Services and 2 for Adult Social Care

Local Authority Designated Officer LADO/DO: Mr Anthony Goble



ECONEWS

Our school has declared its allegiance and support for **Plastic Free Minehead** so it was amazing to see them gain Plastic Free Community status, along with Watchet and with Porlock Vale and Exmoor hot on their heels. Year 3 children were keen to all make individual pledges to do their bit to reduce plastic waste and help our environment. Year 3 and 4 reps continued work on our action plan to tackle specific items of plastic waste and found out about an exciting new venture that we will be involved with soon. Watch this space for further updates!





Key Dates:

03.05.21—May Day Bank Holiday

06.05.21—Local Elections (School is not affected)

25.05.21—Tempest School Photographs



This term, we welcome Jess Jay to the staff team. Miss Jay will be tutoring individuals and small groups on Tuesdays and she will be teaching in Year 4 on Wednesdays.



We have some other new faces, also in Year 4. Our eggs arrived on Tuesday and the chicks began hatching on Wednesday. We now have 7 chicks—well done to Y4 who are doing a brilliant job looking after them after learning all about their care last term.

FODs News

FODs next meeting will take place via Zoom on Monday **26.04.21 at 7.00pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend—it would be great to see some new faces, so do join if you can.



The login details for the meeting are:

[https://zoom.us/j/6828637747?](https://zoom.us/j/6828637747?pwd=RjVMUGd6VmdXNVQ4TmN6WllhdFVWZz09)
[pwd=RjVMUGd6VmdXNVQ4TmN6WllhdFVWZz09](https://zoom.us/j/6828637747?pwd=RjVMUGd6VmdXNVQ4TmN6WllhdFVWZz09)

Meeting ID: 682 863 7747

Passcode: 1Un4JG

Rural Enterprise Exmoor Vision Survey

Have your say and contribute to the development of a shared vision for rural enterprise on Exmoor



Rural Enterprise Exmoor has reviewed business activities across the moor, to gain a wide range of views from businesses around the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead – particularly as a result of the Covid-19 restrictions. They are now going on to develop an economic vision. This will be used to guide the work of Exmoor National Park Authority as


well as other organisations who have greater roles in economic development. It will ensure Exmoor's needs and opportunities are well known and accounted for.

They are therefore seeking to develop a vision to sustain and grow Exmoor's rural economy in harmony with its National Park Status. What do you think or hope the Exmoor economy might look like?

There are three surveys - one for businesses, one for younger people aged up to approx. 30 and another for community, voluntary and public sector organisations on Exmoor.

Just click on the link below to take you to the surveys. The surveys will remain open until 26th April:

<https://www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/living-and-working/business-and-economy/rural-enterprise-exmoor/rural-enterprise-exmoor-vision>



Our Star of the Week is Lacey, who has had her hair cut and donated it to charity.

Reception For Achievement, Miss Collins has chosen Elis this week for his brilliant counting. And for Kindness, Charles, for being so happy to be back at school and for making Miss Collins feel very cheerful!

Year 1 The Achievement Award this week is for Ollie H for his excellent writing about wanting to be a police officer when he grows up. Thienna gets the Kindness Award for helping to look after her new baby brother an helping Mummy to bath him.

Year 2 An Achievement Award for Dulcie for her fantastic progress with her reading and her excellent knowledge of vocabulary. The Kindness Award goes to Lily-Mai for making Mrs Vickery smile every day.

Year 3 This week in Year 3, Silas gets the Achievement Award for his hard work in maths and handwriting. A Kindness Award goes to Jorja for offering to do jobs in the classroom when things need giving out and clearing up.

Year 4 Mr James has chosen Willow for a Kindness Award for offering to help someone carrying lots of items...they were about to drop them and she jumped into help. Ryan gets an achievement Award for an outstanding road safety poster.

Growth Mindset Weekly

"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way" Martin Luther King

Mindful in Nature



We have been celebrating Earth Day this week, which is a great way to bring some awareness to nature and the world around our children.

When we share Mindfulness with children, we are helping them to develop their own personal tools for managing life's uncomfortable and challenging moments, and we have certainly had plenty of those just lately.



Being out in Nature is the perfect remedy for all of us when it all 'gets a bit much'. Nature is a place of regeneration, resilience, learning, peace and escape; the cycle of nature carries on despite the latest headlines in our world.

We can all tune into the sights and sounds of nature, which in turn helps to turn off the inner dialogue that can play throughout our minds and lead to us walking around on auto pilot or lost in our thoughts and worries.



Being mindful in nature can help children see the strength and beauty through the trees, wind, clouds and sun. They can feel strong like the tree, flowing like the wind and warm like the sun.

Explore some mindfulness activities this weekend, the sun will be shining and we have an abundance of nature on our doorstep.

You can be still at the beach and focus on the cycle of the waves coming in and out, mindful listening for bird song and other animals, observing the landscape, feeling the leaves, smelling moss, cloud watching. All these ideas may help your child and you, experience some healing, revitalizing and mindful benefits nature has to offer.