



Weekly newsletter

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore
Friday 27th February 2026

Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents / Carers

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school after the break. They have returned refreshed, positive, and ready to learn – a fantastic start to the half term. Our Hook Days on Monday were a great success! The children were excited and fully engaged in their new learning themes. It was lovely to see so many parents coming into school and taking the time to engage with their children's writing – your support makes such a difference. A big thank you to all of our staff for organising such a fantastic and memorable day.

On Thursday, we enjoyed a brilliant Federation Music Day. The children took part in a range of musical activities throughout the day and particularly loved the drumming workshop. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, teamwork, and creativity on display. Thank you to Miss McLean for organising such an exciting day.

Some of our Year 5 and 6 children also took part in a swimming gala and a netball tournament organised by QE School as part of our sports package. The children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, determination and teamwork throughout both events. At the swimming gala, they showed great resilience in their individual races and relays, cheering one another on and representing the school with pride. During the netball tournament, the team worked incredibly well together, applying their skills in passing, movement and defensive play. Their communication and encouragement of one another was particularly impressive. We are very proud of the way they conducted themselves and the positive attitude they showed throughout.

This week, we were delighted to welcome Mr Craker, our PGCE student, into Year 5. He will be completing his teaching placement with us until the end of the summer term. Mr Craker will be working closely alongside the Year 5 team. He has already made a very positive start, building strong relationships with the children and showing enthusiasm and commitment to school life.

We are also very grateful to Mrs Bedford for coming in to speak to the children about her role as a midwife as part of our aspirational assembly programme – the children found it both inspiring and informative.

We have also welcomed three new families to look around our school this week, which is wonderful news for our growing school community.

What a wonderful start to the half term – we are looking forward to the weeks ahead.

Kind regards

Mrs V Fenemore

Diary dates

Upcoming week

Week beginning: 02.03.26

Weekly deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch deadline – midnight the day before All sorts – 3pm Friday before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i> Early birds – 3pm Friday before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i> Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time. Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day. <p>Email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk to make changes.</p>
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flute club (KS2) with Miss McLean 3.30pm-4.30pm Running club (KS2) with Mr Walter/Mr Slocombe 3.30pm-4.30pm PE Kit: Year 5, Year 6 Oak tree group non-uniform day
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gardening club (Y2-6) with Mr Walter 3.30pm-4.30pm PE Kit: Year 3, Year 4
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE Kit: Owls, Year 1, Year 2 Woodland Robins 9am-10.30am Year 3 Family lunch Year 5 Decider Workshop
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football club (KS2) with Mr Jarad 3.30pm-4.30pm Music curriculum day, with workshops in school PE Kit: Owls, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 5 World book day: Come dressed as your favourite character. The day is centred around Julia Donaldson texts.
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE Kit: Year 2, Year 4

Diary dates

This half term

These dates are provisional and subject to change. Details will follow.

Spring 2

<p>Wb 09.03.26</p>	<p>11.03.26 Y3/4 Orienteering event at QE, Crediton 11.03.26 Year 1 Family Lunch 12.03.26 Year 3 Kents Cavern visit 13.03.26 Mother's day cream tea & shop</p>
<p>Wb 16.03.26</p>	<p>17.03.26 Year 2 West Town Farm visit 18.03.26 Year 4 Energy from Waste visit 18.03.26 Owls Family Lunch 20.03.26 Year 1 Exmoor Zoo visit 20.03.26 Wear Red for the Devon Air Ambulance - £1 donation</p>
<p>Wb 23.03.26</p>	<p>24.03.26 Owls Rosemoor visit 25.03.26 KS2 Cross country – Monkleigh 24.03.26/26.03.26 Parent's evening 26.03.26 Primary sports Cross country event 27.03.26 Family breakfast, open morning and Nursery Easter crafts stay and play</p>
<p>Wb 30.03.26</p>	<p>30.03.26-01.04.26 Year 5 Skern residential 01.04.26 Year 4 visit to Kings Nympton – sporting event 02.04.26 Cross country event at Kings Nympton</p>

A warm, welcoming space for bumps, babies, and little learners to grow together.

Wednesday mornings (term time)



9am-10.30am

Winkleigh Primary School Hall
£2 per session

Refreshments included

Join us for stories, singing and a wonderful opportunity for play and exploration. We would love to welcome you into school for quality interactions with children and families.

Baby weighing available.

QE Netball event – Year 5



Swimming Gala – Years 5 & 6



A fantastic effort from the 10 children who attended the swimming gala on Wednesday. This event is part of the sports package in partnership with QE. We participated in 24 different races using various strokes! In each race we earned points for our team alongside our own personal performance. A fantastic afternoon of swimming filled with amazing support for each other! Thank you to all parents for arranging transport.

Federation Music Day





Wednesday Wraparound Care COOKING CLUB



**Wednesday 25th February –
Wednesday 2nd April**

**New Recipes!
Cooking something different every
Wednesday for 6 weeks!**

**Macaroni Cheese, Sticky Toffee Pudding,
Mrs Illman's Cookies,
Cottage Pie, Spaghetti Bolognese,
Iced Raspberry Mousse**

**Book your child in via the Gateway App
(3 nights before or if you miss the deadline, email admin)**



Mother's day shop

Mother's Day Gift Shop

We will be holding a Mothers Day Gift Shop in school on Friday 13th March.

There will be a lovely selection of gifts available for the children to choose from.

Each gift will be wrapped and ready to take home for £4

Please place your order and pay via the School Gateway by Friday 6th March.



All proceeds will go towards supporting the school for upcoming events and activities.

Mother's day Cream Tea

Mother's Day Cream Tea

Inviting: Mums, Grans, Significant females

Friday 13th March In
school from 2.15pm

£5.00

- * Homemade scone
- * Jam & Clotted Cream
- * Tea or Coffee
- * A biscuit for the children

Please pre-order your
cream tea on the
gateway by Friday 6th
March

Please note, cream teas are
pre-order only.
We will be unable to provide
a cream tea on the day.



Class news

Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear Families,

It has been lovely to see the children after the half term holiday. This week in the Nursery we have been exploring the wonderful picture book 'You Choose' by Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt. The children absolutely loved being in control of the story, choosing what to wear, where to go, what to eat and what adventures to have! The book sparked fantastic discussions, encouraged decision making and supported the children's confidence in sharing their ideas.

The children practised making choices and explaining their reasons.

- We introduced new vocabulary such as adventure, enormous, colossal, tiny, crowded, and delicious.
- The children created their own "You Choose" pages, drawing and talking about their favourite options.
 - Comparing groups of objects (Which has more? Which has fewer? Which is heavier/lighter or the same?)

Packed Lunch Guidance:

In line with Ofsted food safety guidelines, any grapes included in packed lunches must be cut into quarters lengthways. Raw vegetables or large fruits, need to be sliced and avoid high-risk items like whole nuts or uncut small round foods. Thank you for helping us to keep all children safe.

Throughout the term we will be discussing growth and change, This will include discussions about how we have changed since we were born! **Please provide a picture of your child when they were a baby so the children can share these photos with the class.** Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

The Nursery Team



Class news

Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Miss Crosby

Owls have had a great first week back, it was wonderful to hear all about the fun the children had over the holidays and how excited they were to be re-united with friends.

We started off with our hook day - immersing ourselves within our text of Jaspers beanstalk and thinking about growing. During Drawing Club, we have been adapting the character of "Jasper" creating our own characters from dinosaurs to sheep, and thinking about what they might take on their trip up a beanstalk. We have planted a magic bean as a class, and our own beans to observe (with the hopes we get a beanstalk!).

During maths we are looking at 3D shapes, naming them and identifying their features. The children have enjoyed using these to build towers and rockets, and we even got to do a lesson outside in the unexpected sunshine!

What a great first week back!



Class news

Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

Year 1 had a fantastic start to the half term with our Bug Hook Day. The children built bug hotels, went on an insect hunt, described insects using adjectives, and received mystery insect eggs, which we are excited to care for. This has launched our new English sequence based on I Love Bugs, where we are exploring adjectives, rhyme, and alliteration.

In Maths, we began learning about place value within 50, practising counting forwards and backwards. In Science, we started our new focus on the five senses and how our bodies help us experience the world. In Music, we enjoyed using instruments, learning Down by the Bay, and listening to music by Benjamin Britten.

In History, we introduced our new topic on the Great Fire of London and why it is an important event.

In PE, we started our new learning sequences on Fitness and Net and Wall games. We have also taken advantage of the sunny days to enjoy our learning outside.



Class news

Year 2 – Mrs Keast

Hook Day was a fantastic start to the half term for Year Two. Thank you for the effort that was put in with all the super costumes, this helped to make the day extra special. We enjoyed several fun activities linked to The Three Little Pigs. Beginning with designing and building our own wolf-proof homes. Then we helped Winkleigh Police hunt for a missing wolf and wrote witness reports after spotting some suspicious activity in the school grounds! After lunch we drew some wolf artwork using shading pencils to add tone before finishing the day creating Beware! Posters to warn people about the wolf in the story.

In Maths this week, we have been finishing our learning about money, adding amounts together and remembering how to use £ and p correctly. We have been buying multiple pets from a pet shop to work on addition and we have also linked our learning to Julia Donaldson's text, The Scarecrows Wedding.

On Thursday we enjoyed 'Music Day' and were able to showcase some of our Grandma Rap learning from the last half term. We also explored some musical instruments and participated in a music workshop session.

Our Guided Reading timetable has changed and we are reading more frequently each week - please can children ensure that they are bringing their Reading Record Book (Polar Bear Book) to school daily so that reading can be recorded in this.



Class news

Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

What a fantastic first week back we have had in Year Three this week! The children thoroughly enjoyed our Hook day on Monday where they made 'Pudding Lane bread,' wrote diaries in the style of Thomas Pepys, retold the story of The Great fire of London to make a collaborative book, created their own artwork linked to the event, and of course ate the bread at the end of the day. Thank you so much to all the parents and grandparents who were able to come and enjoy the bread too!

On Thursday the children joined in enthusiastically with our music day where they had a go at drumming, performed songs to other year groups and enjoyed playing the recorders.

In maths, we have begun our new sequence linked to fractions. The children have worked hard to compare fractions and divide shapes into fractions. I wonder if anyone will be cutting pizzas or cakes into fractions this weekend? What fraction will you eat? Is the fraction a unit or non-unit fraction? Please feel free to send any fractions photos in!

We are very much looking forward to World Book Day next week where we have more exciting activities planned!



Have a lovely weekend Year Three.



Class news

Year 4 – Mr Walter

Year 4 immersed themselves into the world of a magic show at the circus on Monday. Our first writing hook day was a successful event with everyone engaging with our new learning sequence using the text of Leon and the Place Between. We crawled through our own Place Between to find our classroom had transformed into a circus tent with opportunities to try out various magic tricks whilst writing instructions for others to do them. We have continued this learning sequence throughout the week by developing our use of expanded noun phrases and key vocabulary when creating a descriptive paragraph. Thank you to everyone who had made such an effort to engage with our day and for sorting fantastic outfits.

In maths, we have started our learning sequence on fractions where we have revisited our understanding for Year 3 in finding the understanding of the whole and describing the differences between proper, improper and mixed number fractions.

Being the first week back, we have started our new learning sequences by exploring the meanings of the key vocabulary in each subject whilst introducing the new objectives. In history, we have started our sequence on 20th century leisure and entertainment. Thank you to Mrs Bourner who arranged for us to have various objects to explore which link with our sequence, from Tiverton Museum.

Finally, on Thursday we had the opportunity to take part in a music day. This consisted of us exploring various instruments and developing our very own song to perform with Year 2. We also had an amazing drumming workshop with Taiko Southwest, thank you to Miss McLean for organising the day for us all. A reminder that next Thursday is World Book Day where we will be engaging with a variety of reading activities throughout the day. Have a great weekend!



Class news

Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

It has been great to welcome back Year 5 after the half term break.

We would like to welcome Mr Craker who will be working in Year 5 for the remainder of the year as a student teacher.

This week in Maths, we have finished our sequence on fractions, percentages and fractions and have been find equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages. We have started our new sequence on area and perimeter and have been finding the perimeter of rectangles using our knowledge of shapes to help us.

On Monday, we had our hook day for our new book in English it was great to see all the children dressed up as superheroes or evil geniuses! They loved immersing themselves into the new book. It was great to welcome so many parents into school in the afternoon and see the children sharing their comic books.

Yesterday, children enjoyed engaging in Music Day and loved experiencing the music workshop in the afternoon before sharing their performance with Year 3.

This week some children from Year 5 participated in a swimming and netball competition, all really enjoyed the experience and representing the school.



Class news

Year 6 – Miss McLean

Our hook day on Monday was a brilliant start to this half term! The children looked amazing in their inventors costumes and were so invested in their inventors activities throughout the day. Thank you very much to all who were able to come into school to share this opportunity with your children!

We have made a start on our next sequence in maths, geometry. The children have been practicing using protractors to measure and classify angles as well as learning to calculate missing angles based on knowledge of other known angles.

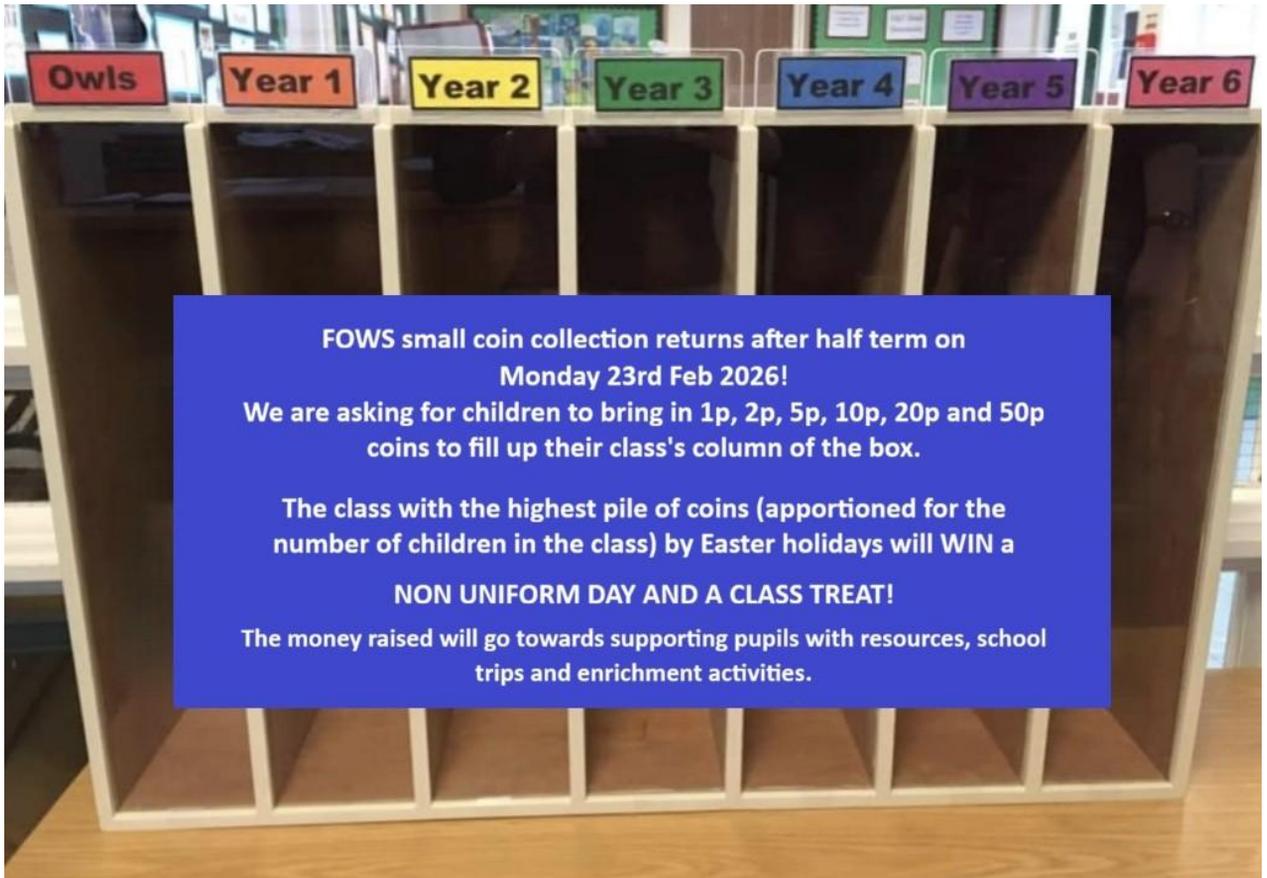
In the foundation subjects, we have started our Spring 2 sequences with some work on key vocabulary. The children are looking forward to learning about the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China in history, making torches in D&T and inheritance and evolution in science.

Finally, on Thursday, we had a whole federation music day. The children took part in a workshop run by Taiko South West. They learnt about the history of the drumming and how to play with the correct technique. They also practiced the piece we learnt in music last half term and performed it to Year 1 after listening to Year 1's performance.

Have a lovely weekend!



FOWs Fundraising



FOWS small coin collection returns after half term on Monday 23rd Feb 2026!

We are asking for children to bring in 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p and 50p coins to fill up their class's column of the box.

The class with the highest pile of coins (apportioned for the number of children in the class) by Easter holidays will WIN a

NON UNIFORM DAY AND A CLASS TREAT!

The money raised will go towards supporting pupils with resources, school trips and enrichment activities.

FOWs Fundraising

FOWS Easter holiday challenge

Grow a £2

Look out for a letter coming home in children's bookbags soon!

Easter goodie prizes for the children who raise the most money in each class from growing their £2

Raising money towards enrichment activities, school trips and equipment for the pupils of Winkleigh primary school

