



West Exmoor Federation

'Educating with love, for life in all its fullness'

Summer Term 2, 2026

Quick Reminders

Diary Dates

01.06.26	Children return to school	25.06.26	Reserve Sports Day
	Y 6 Bikeability begins	29.06.26	Y5&6 @ Landmark - Rehearsals for Annie
03.06.26	Y5&6 Trip to Matilda, Bristol	30.06.26	KS2 @ Landmark - Rehearsals Annie
04.06.26	Y3&4 Trip on the Waverley	01.07.26	WEF @ Landmark - Performance Day!
05.06.26	Aquathon	02.07.26	Y6 Ilfracombe Transition Day
10.06.26	Catch Up Forest School sessions begin	03.07.26	Y6 Ilfracombe Transition Day
11.06.26	Lynton KS1 Trip to CM Wildlife Park	09.07.26	Y6 to Lundy
12.06.26	Cricket Tournament tbc	10.07.26	Y1 - Y6 Swimming @ West Buckland begins
	Kentisbury YR Forest School begins	16.07.26	Spaghetti Challenge
15.06.26	P&K KS1 Trip to CM Wildlife Park	21.07.26	Lynton Leavers' Services @ 11am
17.06.26	Great Athletes Visit to WEF		Parracombe Leavers' Service @ 1.30pm
18.06.26	Sports Day @ Holman Park	23.07.26	End of Term
23.06.26	Bishop of Crediton visiting L&P	03.07.26	Children return to school
	Y5&6 Reading Competition @ Pathfields		

Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the final half-term of the school year. I hope you enjoyed the glorious weather we were fortunate to experience throughout the holiday. As always, it has been a genuine pleasure to welcome your children back to school, and they have very quickly settled back into the rhythm of school life.

This is an exceptionally busy half-term for both children and staff, so please do keep a close eye on Dojo for updates regarding events and activities, alongside the comprehensive calendar that our admin team has shared.

GOODBYE TO SHARLA BOWDEN-BERRY

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Sharla. Over the past ten years, Sharla has been a much-loved and highly valued member of our teaching assistant team at Lynton. In order to focus on the needs of her family, she has made the difficult decision to step away from her role.

Throughout her time with us, Sharla has had an incredibly positive impact on the lives of so many children, and she will be greatly missed by pupils, families and colleagues alike. We thank her for her dedication and commitment and wish her and her family every happiness for the future.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This half-term, we will conclude our year of collective worship by focusing on our CARIS value of Support. We will revisit the Bible story of the Good Samaritan, exploring why Jesus told this story and considering how we can show compassion and kindness towards others, even when we may hold different views or beliefs. As a modern-day example of A Good Samaritan, we will learn about two teenage boys who rescued a group of adults and their dog who became stranded on the dangerous and icy mountain ridge known as Swirl Edge. Despite the group being ill-equipped for the conditions, a potentially serious incident was avoided thanks to the courage and quick thinking of the two boys. We will also explore the music of Babatunde Olatunji, the Nigerian drummer, musician and social activist who played a pivotal role in introducing African music to audiences around the world. Through his work, he promoted cultural understanding and exchange by blending traditional rhythms with contemporary influences. Our courageous advocate this half-term will be Mother Teresa, whose life was dedicated to serving others and working for the common good.

Nurturing Curiosity, Achievement, Respect, Inspiration and Support (CARIS)

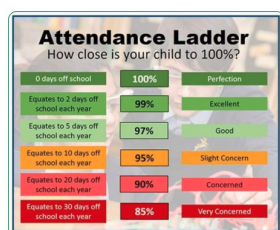
PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (PSHRE)

As a federation, we follow the Coram Life Education SCARF programme for PSHRE. All lessons are carefully planned and delivered in an age-appropriate manner, helping children develop essential life skills, knowledge and understanding. This half-term, the overarching theme across the federation will be Growing and Changing. Many aspects of these units are also explored through the science curriculum during the course of the year.

- **Reception** children will learn about the life stages of plants, animals and humans, and how living things change as they grow.
- **Years 1 and 2** will learn about keeping healthy, how they have changed since birth, what babies need to thrive, and the importance of keeping private parts private.
- **Years 3 and 4** will focus on the people who are important to them, how their bodies change as they grow, personal space, the difference between secrets and surprises, and basic first aid.
- **Years 5 and 6** will learn about recognising and managing feelings, changes that occur during puberty, and how babies are made. Further communication regarding this final unit will be shared in due course.

As always, if you would like to find out more about any aspect of our PSHRE curriculum, please speak to your child's class teacher.

ATTENDANCE



Thank you, as always, for your continued support in ensuring that your children attend school regularly and arrive on time. Our current attendance figures stand at (the government attendance target is 97%):

- Lynton: **94.6%**
- Parracombe: **96.3%**
- Kentisbury: **96.4%**

Good attendance is vital to your child's success at school. Our curriculum is carefully planned and tightly sequenced, meaning that even a single day's absence can result in missed learning that is difficult to replicate fully. While staff work hard to ensure that missed learning is revisited wherever possible, repeated or prolonged absences can make this increasingly challenging.

Attendance also plays an important role in children's social and emotional development. Frequent absences can leave children feeling disconnected from their peers and cause them to miss valuable shared experiences that help foster a sense of belonging within the school community. Of course, if your child is genuinely unwell, we want them to remain at home to rest and recover. We also want to minimise the spread of illness across the federation. However, on occasions when your child may simply be feeling a little tired or under the weather, attending school can often provide a positive distraction and help them feel better as the day progresses.

In line with Government guidance, we are no longer able to authorise holiday-related absences unless the circumstances meet the exceptional criteria outlined in our Attendance Policy. This policy is available on the federation website, and paper copies can be provided by the admin team upon request. Even where a request meets the exceptional circumstances criteria, I am unable to authorise the absence if your child's attendance is below 97%. Unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice being issued by the local authority. For families seeking more affordable, off-season holidays, our two-week October half-term can provide an excellent opportunity to take advantage of lower prices both within the UK and abroad. This period is often particularly convenient for families involved in seasonal employment or farming. If you would like to discuss any aspect of attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another busy, successful and enjoyable half-term together.

With Best Wishes,

Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

What are we Learning in Saplings and Streams? (Reception Year)

In Streams we have lots of exciting things to look forward to. We are still swimming until Tues 23rd June. We have our last forest school session where we will hopefully make pizza and popcorn. We also have our trip to Combe Martin

Wildlife Park, Sports Day and the Summer Production. Please keep your eye on Dojo for any updates, changes and reminders.

In English we are going to use the traditional tale of Little Red Riding Hood to inspire some of our own writing. In Maths we are thinking about how to build larger numbers from smaller ones, patterns in the number system and counting beyond 20.

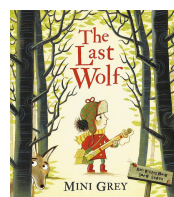
Our theme is to think about who and what inspires us and we will look at who might be a 'real life' superhero.

Reception will also help to support and settle our new September starters. They are very excited to have this role and responsibility.

What are we Learning in Streams & Young Buds? (Year 1 & 2)

In Streams we have lots of things to look forward to this term; our last forest school session where we will hopefully make some pizza and popcorn, the trip to Combe Martin Wildlife Park, Sports day, the summer production and swimming. Keep your eye on Class Dojo for any changes, additions and reminders!

In English we are using an alternative version of Little Red Riding Hood. It is a story where Little Red Riding Hood wants to find a wolf but there aren't any due to what has happened to their environment. The children will be using the story as inspiration for their own. Young Buds will be linking the story to their Geography unit, considering the importance of protecting the environment and the consequences to themselves and wildlife when the environment changes. They will use persuasive writing to create posters to persuade others to look after the earth.



In maths year 2 will be focusing on Money, statistics and position and direction. Year 1 will be focusing on place value within 100, fractions and time.

In Geography we are focusing on the continents and oceans of the world, where the UK is and the countries and capitals within the UK. The children will learn the names of the seven continents as well as some key facts. They will locate and label the continents and oceans on a world map and will consider the importance of protecting them.

In DT we will be focusing on food so will be making some healthy snacks with fruit and vegetables. We will learn how to prepare them safely.

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What are we Learning in Rivers and Oaks?

Here we are at the last term already! The children have worked so hard all through the year but we're not quite done yet. We kicked off the term diving straight in our poetry unit on Pie Corbitt's poem 'When I Blew the Magic Dust'. It uses personification alliteration and similes to great effect. It's already proved to be a great change of pace from story writing already.

In maths we're first focussing on Time. Lots of converting between seconds, minutes and hours as well as changing from 12 hour to 24 hour plus of course, some latin thrown in to explain where a.m and p.m come from. After this we begin doing decimals as a topic that leads on from our earlier work on fractions. They already have a decent foundation to build on which they'll need as decimals can get tricky.

In Art this term we're using clay to create sculptures. Last term as part of a science trip we visited Verity in Ilfracombe to get some early inspiration for this unit. We discussed what a sculpture was and who some famous sculpture artists are. This unit is deceptively hard as the children need time learning the vital techniques needed to make sure their sculptures don't collapse. We'll spend time planning and sketching in our sketch books before allowing the children to be let loose with the clay!

To coincide with our school production of Annie Jr we will be looking at singing techniques in music. Singing is often a skill that rarely gets broken down further than just tempo and pitch and so we will be really pushing some of the children out of their comfort zones with this one.

Later on in the term we're going to be taking on a photography unit. During this we'll take some cameras and go for walks around our local environments to take some photos of the nature around us. We have some techniques to use and hone in class such as the rule of thirds but once these are mastered it will be down to the children to capture some thoughtful moments to then assemble into a scrap book.

Lastly we have an ICT unit on creating and editing video to end the term with. The children have shown huge progression in their digital literacy this year so this should be a nice way to bring together most of the skills they have accumulated.

It's been another brilliant year and the children have done an outstanding job, they should all be very proud of how far they've come, particularly the year fours who will be moving on to upper key stage two. They're more than ready and will have a brilliant time.

What are we Learning in Oceans and Forests?

As we move through what promises to be a very busy and exciting term, we would like to remind parents and carers to keep a close eye on Class Dojo for regular updates, reminders and important information. There are lots of events and activities taking place over the coming weeks, and we want to ensure everyone stays informed.

One of our main focuses this term is preparing for our production of Annie. The children have been working incredibly hard during rehearsals, developing their singing, acting and choreography skills. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they learn songs, practise scenes and work together to bring the performance to life. We are looking forward to sharing the finished production with you later in the term.

We also have Sports Day coming up, which is always a highlight of the school calendar. The children will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of events, demonstrate their teamwork and sporting skills, and most importantly, enjoy an active and fun-filled day. In addition, both year groups will be taking part in a six-session swimming programme. Swimming is an important life skill, and we are excited for the children to develop their confidence and ability in the water.

A key event later in the term is our Federation Transition Days on 2nd and 3rd July. During these days, all children will spend time with their next year groups and teachers, helping them become familiar with new routines, expectations and learning environments ahead of September. These days provide an excellent opportunity for children to build confidence and excitement about the next stage of their school journey.

Year 6 pupils are also eagerly anticipating their trip to Lundy Island. This is always a memorable experience, giving children the chance to explore the island's unique environment, learn about its wildlife and history, and develop their independence through a range of outdoor activities. While the Year 6 children are away, Year 5 pupils will remain in school and take part in a variety of exciting projects and enrichment activities designed to develop creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Throughout this busy term, we have been incredibly impressed by the resilience, maturity and positive attitudes shown by all of the children. Well done everyone and keep it up!

Governor News

The governing body is now complete with 12 governors in place. This is really good news as we begin to deliver on the 5 key priorities in our strategic plan. If you would like to see this please don't hesitate to contact me or Jayne. We've agreed investment in Little Berries and Lynton Early years, as well as appointing a new maintenance man with some great plans for our 3 school environments. We hope to be attending some of the school's events in June and July so hope to meet parents and children.

Martin Hallam Chair of Governors.

Admin News

We know that this time of the year is very busy for everyone and there is a lot of information being sent home, we do try and space this out as much as possible! Please can we ask that you return any consent forms as quickly as possible, that would really help us out with all the added admin during this busy time. Thank you in advance.

ABSENCE

All absences must be reported before 9.15am each day of absence by leaving a message on the absence line or emailing admin@westexmoorfederation.org.uk. Please can we ask that you try not to Dojo individual staff members as if they are not in the office on that particular day this can cause issues with recording attendance. If we do not receive a satisfactory reason for an absence, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please don't forget to update your contact details when you change phone numbers or move house.

Piano/Violin Lessons at Lynton

These lessons take place during the school day.

If you are interested please contact Jenny Ayres on 07971665236 best by email jennyayres@hotmail.com

Community News

National Award-Winning All Starz are back with Musical in a Week!

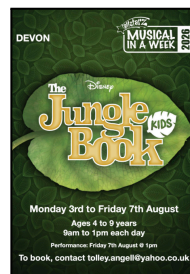
Do you love to sing, dance or act? Within 5 days, the highly qualified team of West End creatives will teach the young actors to perform a much-loved classic musical, which is then performed publicly.

Juniors (ages 4 to 9 years) will perform THE JUNGLE BOOK

- Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August 2026
- 9am to 1pm each day with the performance at 1pm on the Friday

Juniors (ages 4 to 9 years) will perform THE ARISTOCATS

- Tuesday 4th to Saturday 8th August 2026
- 9am to 1pm each day with the performance at 1pm on the Saturday



Seniors (ages 10 to 18 years) will perform FAME

- Tuesday 4th to Saturday 8th August 2026
- 9am to 5pm each day with the performances at 5pm and 7:30pm on the Saturday

This exciting opportunity is open to everyone. All abilities are welcome, and there are no auditions to participate. It is first come first served, so make sure you register your place quickly at toley.angell@yahoo.co.uk

Available at Lynton Church 9am on Sunday 21st June. All are welcome.

