



The EPI Centre of Learning

Thank you to all those who have sent in comments for 'Thank a Teacher Day'; they have been lovely to read. There is still time to contribute this weekend before we send them to the staff on the day itself - Wednesday 17th June. Please see the information below:

We are fortunate to have a staff team that goes the extra mile to give our children the best possible school experience. Whether they are inspiring children in the classroom, supporting them behind the scenes, coaching on the sports field, directing on stage, or guiding them on school trips and residential, their dedication is one of the things that makes our school community so special.

There is nothing more rewarding for our staff than hearing that their hard work has made a difference. A simple word of appreciation from a parent or child goes a long way and inspires us all to keep making this the absolute best place for your children to learn and grow.

Wednesday, 17th June 2026 is National 'Thank a Teacher' Day—and despite the name, this day is dedicated to celebrating every single member of our school team, from learning support assistants, our pastoral team and office staff to the site team and teachers.

As we approach the end of the academic year, we would like to join in with the National Thank a Teacher Day and invite you and your children to share a message of thanks with any staff members who have supported your child this year.

How to Say Thank You:

Who can participate? Both parents and children are welcome to submit messages.

How do we send a message? Simply click the link below, enter the staff member's name, and write your note.

Can we thank more than one person? Absolutely! You can recognise as many staff members as you like—just please submit a fresh form for each individual.

When is the deadline? Please submit your messages by Monday, 15th June 2026 so we can make sure they are delivered to staff on the day itself. <https://forms.gle/iPggjUAbUpSSdP3Y6>

Thank you so much for your support in celebrating our wonderful team.

Congratulations: We are thrilled to share some wonderful news with you all. Please join us in sending our warmest congratulations to Miss Conibear, who is expecting a baby this October. We know that our entire community will share in her excitement as she prepares for this wonderful new chapter.

Operation Outdoor Classroom: Our Reception Outdoor Classroom is a vital space where our youngest learners explore, create and play all year round. Right now, however, it's in desperate need of love, attention and structural repairs to keep it safe and weatherproof.

Our amazing site manager, Mr. Broom, is going to tackle the bulk of this over the Summer Holidays. But as we all know, school budgets are incredibly tight and this is a massive, costly project for one person to take on alone.

We want to make sure Mr. Broom has the materials and manpower he needs and that's where you come in! Please click this link if you can help physically or with much needed materials. <https://forms.gle/zKnddJD3KpjPJWkJ6>

Friday 12th June 2026

Future Dates

Monday 15th June – Deadline for ordering lunches w/c 22 June

Wednesday 17th June – Maths Fluency Workshop 9 – 9.30am School Hall

Friday 19th June – Career Fair 2.00pm – 3.15pm

Thursday 25th June – KS2 sports morning – St Martin's Field at Westbank 9.30am

Thursday 2nd July – Early Epic and Epic Eve bookings go live

Thursday 2nd July – Zones of Regulation Talks – 9.00am and 5.30pm

Friday 3rd July – School Summer Fair 4.30pm – 7.00pm

Headteachers: Mrs S Whalley and Mr I Moore

Summer Fair Jazzy Jars: Get creative and make some jazzy jars! All you need is a jar with a lid and fill it with small items kids will enjoy. For example, sweets, small toys, hair accessories, small stationary items. Then decorate the jar to make it jazzy! Drop them into the school office any time before the fair.



Wraparound Care: Early and Epic Eve clubs will go live on **Thursday 2nd July at 3pm** for Autumn 1 (September/October)



Fundraising Walk: Martha, Joey and Lily Rose in year 6 raised an incredible £1300 for new sports equipment in school, as part of their civic award.

They have been amazing and you can still donate by clicking this link.

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/anna-higgins-3?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=WA

Guitar lessons: Mondays: We currently have slots available for September! Bookings are managed directly through Music Devon - <https://musicdevon.com/>

National Online Safety Guides: This week's guide is on What You Need to Know about Trends Encouraging Violence.

Westbank Wellness Wednesdays: Please see the attached leaflet regarding drop in Health and Wellbeing sessions in the Community Hub at Westbank.



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The Zones of Regulation Talks: We all want to help our children navigate their big feelings, but knowing exactly *how* to support them when they are overwhelmed, anxious, or angry can be tough.

To help give you some practical tools, we would love to invite you to a parent talk on **Thursday, July 2nd** all about **The Zones of Regulation**. The sessions will be led by **Claire Norman** and **Sinead Coville**, who will break down exactly what the Zones are and—most importantly—how you can easily use the same strategies at home to support your child.

To make it as easy as possible for everyone to attend, we are running the exact same session at two different times. Please join us for whichever suits your schedule best:

- **Morning Session:** 9:00 AM
- **Evening Session:** 5:30 PM

What are "The Zones of Regulation"?

The Zones is a fantastic, visual framework that helps children understand and manage their emotions. It groups feelings into four coloured zones:

- **Blue Zone:** Low energy states (sad, tired, bored, sick).
- **Green Zone:** The ideal state for learning and focus (happy, calm, proud, ready to learn).
- **Yellow Zone:** Heightened states, but still in control (anxious, excited, frustrated, silly).
- **Red Zone:** Intense, overwhelming emotions where it's hard to maintain control (angry, terrified, overjoyed/elated).

What you will take away from this talk:

- A clear understanding of how we use the Zones at school.
- A shared "language" to talk about feelings with your child without them feeling judged.
- Practical, stress-free strategies to help your child notice their triggers and calm themselves down at home.

How to Book: To help us manage numbers, please let us know which session you plan to attend by clicking here:

<https://forms.gle/XVTZtqbcKYkT3Zzv5>

We hope to see many of you there! It's a wonderful, practical framework that truly makes a difference in how children handle life's ups and downs.

Mental Health Weekly Update: in addition to this, over the next 7 weeks, the newsletter will use the **Zones of Regulation** framework to help you navigate the shift from school to summer, and the eventual leap into the new academic year. The Zones of Regulation is a system that categorizes feelings into four colours to help kids self-regulate as described above.

Week 1: The "Soft Landing" into Summer

The first week of holidays often sees kids drifting into the **Blue Zone** (boredom/exhaustion) or spiking into the **Yellow Zone** as they decompress.

- **The Tip:** Lower the bar. Expect some "meltdowns" as they release the school-year stress.

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- **Zones Connection:** Help them identify their "Home Zone." They might be in the Blue Zone because they miss their friends. Validate this!
- **Action Item:** Create a "**Summer Bucket List**" together to spark Green Zone excitement.

Print Workshop: Our Year 6 pupils had an absolutely fantastic day today during their printmaking workshop with the brilliant Double Elephant Print Workshop! There was an incredible buzz of creativity in the air as the children rolled up their sleeves and learned professional printing techniques, culminating in them designing and printing their very own custom T-shirts. From bold patterns to unique personal logos, the final wearable masterpieces are stunning. So much fun was had by all, and the children were incredibly proud to wear their creations. A huge thank you once again to The Helen Foundation for subsidising this memorable, hands-on experience and allowing our young artists' imaginations to run wild!



Whizz Bang Wow Holiday Club: Booking Now Open:

After the great success of last year's holiday club, Exminster Parish Church will be running again this August, 24th, 25th, 26th, 9:30-12:30pm, open for preschool (3+) and primary children. Lots of games, adventures, music, stories, songs and of course fun! Places are limited with priority given to families in Exminster or who are part of the school. Each day is £5 per child and there is financial assistance for anyone for who this would be difficult. Free additional breakfast club from 9am also available. To book go to [Explorers Holiday Club](#)
If you have an older child who would like some work experience as a volunteer we have a few Young Adult Leader roles also, please contact families@exminster.church

Year group maths fluency workshops: A member of each year group team will lead a session in the hall, explaining more about maths in your child's year group and how to support with maths at home. The children will then join the session in the hall, working alongside you to complete some games and activities. The final one is next week.

Year Group	Maths Fluency Workshop Date (9:00 – 9:45 in the hall)
Y5	Wednesday 17 th June

KS1 Athletics Festival: The Dawlish Learning Community recently welcomed over 150 Key Stage 1 children from Exminster, Gatehouse, Cockwood and Starcross for an exciting athletics festival. Throughout the event, all children participated in a variety of athletics activities that closely linked to their upcoming Sports Days, providing an excellent opportunity to practise and develop their skills in a fun and supportive environment.

The children took part in a range of events, including hurdle races, sprint races, relay races, sack races, the egg-and-spoon race, javelin throw, bean bag throw, and standing long jump.

The effort, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship displayed by all participants were outstanding. It was fantastic to see so many children engaging in sport with such energy and determination, while wearing huge smiles on their faces throughout the day. The event was a great success and provided a memorable experience for everyone involved.

The stations were supervised by the new Year 7 and 8 sports leaders from Dawlish College, who were punctual and worked superbly with their groups throughout the event. They showed fantastic enthusiasm and offered encouragement at every station, helping to create a positive and inclusive environment.

It was amazing to see you all in action, and we hope you can join us again at future events.



Judo lessons: Please see the attached leaflet regarding Judo lessons taking place here at the school on Saturdays. There are spaces in the Samurai class 9.15 – 10.15am.



Let's Talk Project: aims to empower parents and carers by raising awareness of community safety risks and challenges faced by young people. It is a free resource which has already reached nearly 10,000 people. A new Let's Talk Website – www.letstalksaferfamilies.org has been launched alongside several upcoming events for varying age groups. You can sign up to these webinars via the links below:

[Let's Talk Primary - Let's Talk Safer Families](#)

Tuesday, 16 June 2026 19:00

[Let's Talk Pre-Teens - Let's Talk Safer Families](#)

Tuesday, 23 June 2026 19:00

Tuesday, 30 June 2026 19:00

Tuesday, 7 July 2026 19:00

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