

# Exminster

## Community Primary School



Mrs S.L. Whalley



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### Happy New Year to you all!

Welcome to Taylor (Y2) and Lily (Rec) who have joined us this term. At the end of term Mrs Browring and Mrs White left us to explore new adventures after many happy years at Exminster. We wish them luck in their next chapter and thank them for all their commitment and hard work. We would like to welcome Mrs Storer, Mrs Shulman, Mrs Zoutenbier and Mr Phillips who will be supporting in classes throughout the school.

At the beginning of this New Year, we have pulled together 3 aspects that we have been talking about in school with our children over the past few years – Rainbow rules, EPIC values (Enjoyment, Potential, Inclusion, Community) and our learning behaviours and put them together as our **RAINBOW VALUES**. Below is a summary of these for you. We will be referring to these in assemblies and in our learning on a regular basis.

### Vision

At Exminster Community Primary School we strive to be an 'EPICentre of **outstanding** learning where all learners have high aspirations'.

### Rainbow Values

At the EPICentre of our school are our core values (colours of the Rainbow) and learning behaviours that underpin everything we strive to achieve together:

- **Enjoyment - We want every child to enjoy coming to school, to feel secure in their friendships and to be happy to learn.**
- **Potential - We aim to help every child reach and exceed their full potential through providing a rich and varied range of learning opportunities within a broad and balanced curriculum. Learning is planned in every class to meet all needs. We aim to find children's strengths and use these within school to develop children's confidence and love of learning. 'Be the best that we can be'.**
- **Inclusion - We pride ourselves in being a highly inclusive school. Inclusion is about adapting for the needs of our learners – however minor or major their needs may be. This has benefits for all learners, learning to celebrate our differences and individuality.**
- **Community - Exminster Community Primary School plays an integral part in life of our village. We maintain a strong family village school ethos. We feel it is essential that children develop an understanding of our school family, our local family, our national family and our international family. Diversity and respect are a golden thread within all that we do.**

### Accreditations and Associations



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### Rainbow Values Learning Behaviours

Over the last year, we have been having a lot of discussions with children about learning behaviours. These underpin learning and development across all areas and support our children to remain effective and motivated learners. The learning characteristics make up the final three colours of the rainbow:

- **Motivation – being involved and concentrating, keeping on trying, enjoying achieving what they set out to do.**
- **Engagement – finding out and exploring, playing with they know and be willing to have a go.**
- **Thinking – having their own ideas, making links, choosing ways to do things**

The children will talk about these aspects regularly in their learning, thinking about their aspirations and their learning journey.

### Free School Meals

As you may have heard on the news, schools receive additional money for all pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals (Pupil Premium). Parents who are in receipt of the following benefits can register for Free School Meals:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit Only (with no element of Working Tax Credit and a household income below £16190)
- National Asylum Seeker's Support
- Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)

It is very important that you register your child for Free School Meals even if she/he does not wish to have a meal. Similarly you must register even if they are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and therefore entitled to a Universal Free School Meal anyway. This is very important as the school receives additional funding based on the number of children entitled to Free School Meals. This additional funding ensures extra support and resources in the classroom. This money can also be accessed by parents of pupil premium children to subsidise school visits. If you are unsure if you qualify or would like to know more – please contact one of our administrators – all applications are totally confidential. A copy of the application form is attached and further information can be found on the following website:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

### Meal Time Assistant Vacancies

We are currently looking to add to our team of Meal Time Assistants. MTA's form a very important part of our team by supervising pupils both in the lunch hall and outside during lunch time play. If you are interested in this paid role, please speak to the ladies in the office for more information.

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### Parking

We have been approached by residents of Limes Court, which is the property directly opposite the front of the school. They would like us to remind parents that this is private property and parking is for residents only however there have been instances where parents have parked in the private parking spaces whilst dropping off and picking up from school. I would ask that all parents use The Deepway car park where there are ample spaces only a short walk from the school.

### Food Hero Day

Our caterers, ISS, have designated Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January as Food Hero Day when they will be celebrating those tasty fruits and vegetables which are full of great vitamins and nutrients. The kitchen staff will be handing out super hero masks and activity sheets and there will also be special muffins to try!

The menu for the day will be:

- Cheese & Tomato Pizza **OR**
- Jacket Potato with either:  
Tuna & Sweetcorn or  
Cheese and baked beans
- Served with Potato Sticks, Sweetcorn and Carrot Batons
- Apple and Chocolate Crispy Cake **OR**
- Yeo Valley Organic Yogurt **OR**
- Fresh Fruit

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