

Exminster

Community Primary School



Mrs S.L. Whalley



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admin@exminsterschool.co.uk



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On 19 and 21 October, 4-7pm, we have our parent-teacher interviews. If you haven't done so already, please make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

Thursday 22 October is the final day of this half term. Children return to school on **Tuesday 3 November**. At the end of this first week back, on **Friday 6 November**, there is a school disco. Parents of children in our Reception classes are asked to stay with their children for the entire time. The Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 disco is from 6-6.45pm. Year 3-6 disco is from 7-8pm. More details to follow about costs, drop off and pick up points but make sure you have the date in the diary.

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.

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

Accreditations and Associations



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From Public Health England

Did you know?

From 1st October 2015 it will be illegal to smoke in vehicles with someone under 18 present.

The new law helps protect children from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

For more information and free, proven support to help you quit search Smokefree.



Christmas Cards

Christmas card orders must be returned to the School Office by Friday 16th October at the very latest. Please ensure payment is made via ParentPay.

Front Gate

The intercom on the front gate is not currently working. When you have pressed the call button you will know the gate is unlocked by a change in the buzz tone. At that point please push the gate.

Request from Reception/Year 1

The Reception and Year One teams would like to ask if anyone has any toys such as Peppa Pig, Ben and Holly or Fireman Sam etc. which they no longer require. We are currently trying to replenish boxes and create new themed boxes such as Nature, Pirates, How things Work, Natural Materials, Fossils, The Beach, Knights, Heroes, Builders, Space, Fairies and popular culture (My Little Pony, Paw Patrol and Ben and Holly etc.) and would love anything that fits into these categories.

If you have any old cars or planes which your child no longer plays with we can guarantee that that we would make good use of them. We would also be grateful for any donations of interesting pens and stationery for the

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Changes to Meal Ordering in Classrooms

From Tuesday 13th October Years 5 & 6 will be trialling a new system of ordering school meals via the whiteboard in their classrooms - ParentPay's Classroom Selection. If the trial is successful it will be used by the whole school from half-term onwards.

The main difference from the previous system, DinnerMonitor, is that main meal choices will be colour coded: red for meat/fish, green for the vegetarian option, blue for cold meals such as wraps and orange for jacket potatoes. A colour coded version of the menu will be available in each classroom and via the school website by half term. Once a pupil has selected a school meal option their ParentPay account will be automatically debited, unless they are eligible for Free School Meals.

Change to School Menu Tuesday 13th October

Our caterers, ISS, will be supporting the World Food Programme during 'World Food Week'. The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide and is the food aid arm of the United Nations. It is funded entirely by voluntary donations and its ultimate objective is to eliminate the need for food aid.

On Tuesday 13th October we will be offering a special menu and will display posters to help raise awareness about the importance of school meals to children all around the world. If you would like more information on World Food Week please email hello@feedinghungryminds.co.uk.

The menu for Tuesday 13th October will be:

Jamaican Jerk Chicken & Rice
Spinach & Lentil Dahl & Rice
Jacket Potato & Cheese
Carrots & Broccoli
Chocolate Cake & Chocolate Sauce

children to use. Please bring in to the Reception staff.

Thank you for your support.

From Exminster School Association

Thank you to all those who have already sold their tickets for the Rotary South East Devon Community Raffle. We have raised over £200 so far!!

A reminder to please return any ticket stubs and money **by Friday 9th October**. Envelopes clearly labelled "Rotary Raffle" can be placed in the post box inside the office.

If your family has not received tickets or you would like to help us sell more, please call in at the Office as they have some spare books.

Thank you for your support and good luck in the draw!

EXMINSTER SUMMER PLAYScheme

PLEASE don't forget our QUIZ, this SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER, Victory Hall, doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets are £5.00 (to include platter) and are available from either 'Coffee on the Corner' or myself. Please could you let me know by Friday evening at the latest if you are entering a team.

There will be the usual Raffle, Irish Bingo and a bar. Please remember that the maximum number in a team is six. We are raising much needed funds for next years' Playscheme already!

Look forward to seeing you there, for what should be a great evening!

Anne Snell

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