



The EPICentre of Learning

Small Steps, Big Impact: Our Eco Team in Action - Our Eco Team has been busy diving into the why and how of sustainability this term. It's not just about recycling bins; our children are becoming true advocates for the planet and our school environment. The team has spent the last couple of weeks exploring what our Climate Action Plan is – the what and why. By learning why schools need these formal documents, they are discovering how policy and planning can turn environmental goals into measurable realities. The Eco Team has been understanding our Display Energy Certificates (DECs). They've learned how to read the efficiency ratings and are beginning to understand the relationship between our daily habits—like leaving lights on—and the school's overall carbon footprint. We believe that understanding is the first step, but action is where change happens. We will be sharing the team's actions how the whole community can support with this in future newsletters.

Communi-TEA party: On Wednesday afternoon, some of our Year 6 Civic Award children hosted an afternoon tea party in collaboration with Vanessa from St Martin's Church to help tackle loneliness in the village. The children served, chatted, organised, sang and even helped facilitate a game of bingo! The Victory Hall was full and a fabulous time was had - our Rainbow Value of Community was felt by all. 'The children were a credit to our school and their grown-ups. We look forward to our next Communi-TEA Party on Wednesday 4th March,' Mrs Nowell.

Morning Handover: To help our children settle in and make the most of their learning time, we kindly ask for your support with our morning routines. If you have a very brief message for your child's teacher, please feel free to share it when they come out to greet the children in the morning. As soon as the bell rings (8.55am), our teachers move into the classrooms to begin the day's learning with the children. If you need a more in-depth conversation, please contact the School Office (01392 824340 or admin@exminsterschool.co.uk) with a brief overview or a request for contact. The teacher will then get in touch to arrange a time to catch up; please keep in mind that this initial contact may not happen until the end of the school day while they are busy teaching. **Please ensure your child's arrival is punctual at 8:50am with children then in class ready for the day at 8:55am.**

Polite reminder to ensure your child has a suitable waterproof/warm coat with them as they will be going out at playtimes weather permitting.

National Online Safety Guides: Please see attached this week's guide on Social Media and Mental Health.

Final walk in Flu clinic 7/2/26 Riverside Community Centre, Bovey Tracey 11am-1pm: please see attached leaflet.

Half Term Workshop at Thelma Hulbert Gallery: Tuesday 17 February, drop in between 11am and 3pm. Please join us this Half Term for a printing activity for all ages. Free, suggested donation £2. No booking required.

Advance notice of road closure: Please see attached notice for a road closure in the village over half term.

Plymouth Brick Festival: Don't forget about the Lego extravaganza this Saturday 7th February at the Life Centre. Book now at www.PlymouthBrickFestival.com

Friday 6th February 2026

Future Dates

Mon 9th Feb – Family Learning Conference – bookings available

Fri 13th Feb – Krispy Kreme Doughnuts sale

Mon 16th – Friday 20th Feb – Half Term

Mon 23rd Feb – First day back at school

Headteachers: Mrs S Whalley and Mr I Moore

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts!



On the last day of this half term, Friday 13th February, the ESA will be selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts for only £1! What a bargain!

They will be in the outdoor classroom after school so don't forget to pick some up on your way home! Cash and cards accepted, first come first served. If you are able to help the doughnuts please contact esa@exminsterschool.co.uk

Children at clubs have been given the opportunity to pre-order a doughnut and pay in cash.

Mental Health Awareness update: Weeks 5 Community Library Feature

This section highlights valuable resources to explore with your family.

Book Title	Theme	Summary and Value
Loss (<i>Loss</i> by John Dougherty)	Grief & Memory	A beautiful picture book about a young bear, Gerda, coping with the death of her friend, Orlo. It teaches children to cherish memories and confirms that love outlasts loss .
Kindness (<i>Words and Your Heart</i> by Kate Jane Neal)	Empathy & Communication	A profound book that uses minimal text to show how words go into the " heart " of a person. It contrasts how words can build and heal versus how they can hurt, making it a crucial guide to kindness.

Have your say: In response to ongoing financial pressures, Devon County Council has launched a consultation on potential reductions to library services across Devon. Adults and under-18s can take part, and all feedback will help shape the future of local provision. You can complete the consultation here: <https://devonlibraries.commonplace.is/> Thank you for helping us make sure families and young children have their voices heard.



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