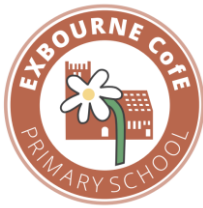


Let us spur one another to acts of love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24



**Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust**

...everyone in our Trust.



2nd December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas Countdown:

We cannot believe that there are only 2 school weeks left of the autumn term – time certainly is flying by! The Christmas countdown has truly begun and this was started with Reverend Winsbury coming in to discuss the importance of Advent with the children during worship time. The children were asking some thoughtful questions and were able to explain the significance of the first day of Advent.

There is a lovely buzz around school with Christmas carols being practised and decorations starting to appear. There may even be a surprise in store when the children come to school on Monday morning!

The children are also working hard on learning their lines for the Christmas performance during drama sessions. They are looking forward to performing this to you all in the church at 2.30pm on the 8th December. Reverend Winsbury is also going to be there.

Thank you:

I would like to thank all the children, staff and parents for making me feel very welcome as I help to provide some leadership support at Exbourne so Mrs Petersen can spend more time at Highampton Primary. When speaking to you on the gate and playground, it has been lovely to get to know you all. I know coming back into the playground at the end of the day has been very positive for all members of the school as I know what a close-knit community Exbourne primary is.

A massive thank you also needs to be given to the parents who helped make the 'Elf Workshop' on Friday 25th November a huge success. The children who attended had a great time making different Christmas crafts and were keen to get involved in all activities. When walking around, it was lovely to see the older children helping to support their younger peers. They definitely demonstrated the school's values of 'acts of love and good deeds.' Massive thanks again to all parents involved. We really appreciate all the support you give to the school and the money you raise really does make a difference to **every** child in school.

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School Development Update:

In the last couple of weeks, all staff have been learning about the importance of a relational approaches and strategies following Dr Daniel Hughes recommendations like all Trust schools. Dr Hughes is a renowned Educational Psychologist and staff have been trained in ensuring that their approach with all children follows the **Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy (PACE)** model. I have also shared this with children this week during our whole assembly on Monday and explained that all staff in our Trust are following these principles. More information can be found at [Using PACE in School \(oxfordshire.gov.uk\)](http://Using PACE in School (oxfordshire.gov.uk))

Volunteering:

After speaking to many of you, I know that some of you are very keen to volunteer in school again which we would be delighted about! If you have some spare time and would be happy to come into school to hear children read or help out in the classrooms, we would be thrilled to hear from you. Volunteer packs can be collected from the school office. Once returned, school will process the information and apply for a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check for each volunteer. When this is complete, which can take up to several weeks, volunteering can begin. We will be grateful for any support you can provide to help raise attainment for our children and giving them an even better chance of success. Please pick up a pack from the office if you can help.

Staffing update:

We welcome Mrs Sheryl Hayes to help support in school who has started this week. She will be based in Class 1 every morning but will be working in all classes to help support all children and to help run interventions that need to occur. We have also shortlisted for another new teaching assistant to the team and hope to interview on Tuesday 13th December. They will hopefully start sometime in the new year once all the necessary safeguarding and recruitment checks have been completed.

This week in Collective Worship, we have been sharing our thoughts on **GRATITUDE** as well as celebrating our in school achievements both in our learning and through demonstrating 'acts of love and good deeds.' Our daily collective worship is the heartbeat of the school and allows us an opportunity to be still and reflect, show our respect and foster spiritual awareness. We share challenges and joys as well as celebrate special times in the Christian calendar. At this time of year, singing



Dear Lord,
Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son.
Amen

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Christmas carols in preparation for Advent is a daily act of worship.



Christmas Events!

Christmas Jumper Day is **Thursday 8th December!** This is also the afternoon when we are holding our **Christmas Service/ Nativity play** in the Church for all parents/ carers from **2.30pm.**

Our **Christmas lunch** will be on **Wednesday 14th December** and is now available to book on School Gateway. Please ensure your child's lunches are booked by Friday 9th December as the kitchen need to know numbers in advance. The Christmas menu is:

Turkey (Main), Quorn Roast (Vegetarian), Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts, Pigs in Blankets (Main), Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy. Many thanks.

Finally, our **whole school theatre trip** to see Robin Hood at the Northcott Theatre is on **Thursday 15th December.** Please ensure that you have consented and paid on School Gateway. We are so grateful to the PFA for subsidising this cost which has halved the price for parents.

Friday 16th December – Christmas Jumper Day/Non School Uniform Day – PFA Cake Sale. This is the last day of term.

Please keep an eye on your email, Gateway app and texts for latest updates on upcoming events.

Wishing you all a wonderfully restful and peaceful weekend.

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Warmest wishes,

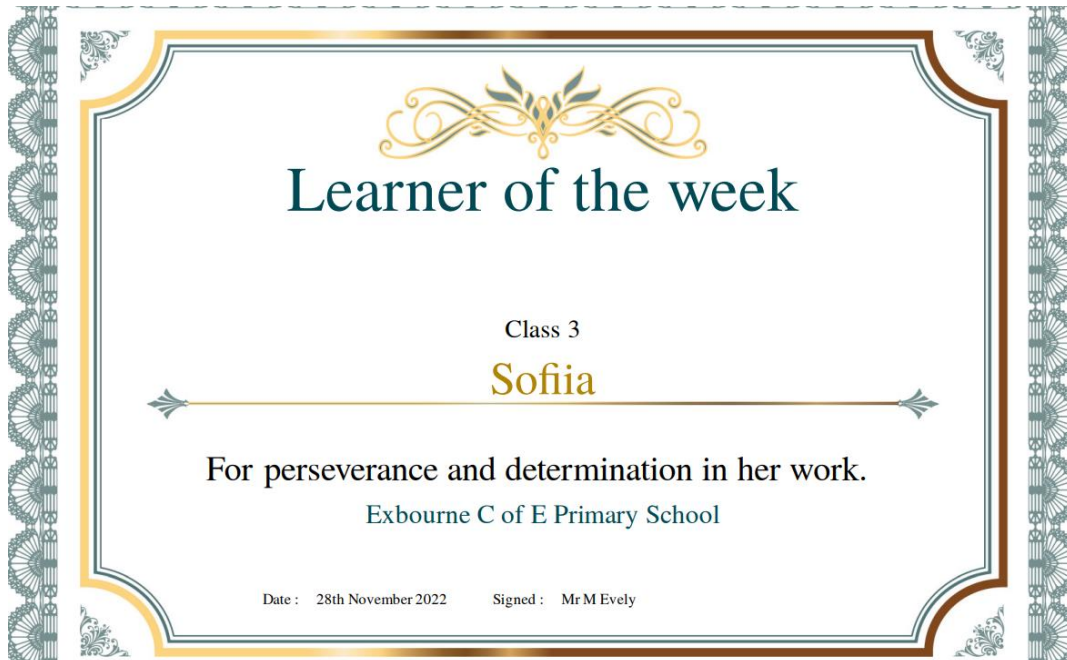
Martin Evely and all staff of Exbourne C of E Primary School.

This week's whole school attendance is **95%**.

This is slightly lower than previous weeks due to the usual winter illnesses at this time of year.



Achievement Assembly



Community Diary Dates and Events

Saturday 3rd December – Wreath Workshop – Exbourne Village Hall – 6.00pm.

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**Community
Links** with families



**Okehampton
United Charities**
Kindness for the Community

Okehampton Neurodiverse Support Group

**A friendly group offering peer to peer support,
information sharing and signposting for carers of
school aged children with an
Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) or ADHD**

join us in The Ockment Centre
North Street, Okehampton.
10.00-11.30am

Every 2nd Thursday of the month
13 Oct 10 Nov
8 Dec
£2 Donation

Refreshments provided.

For further information please contact
Community Links SW CIC
info@communitylinks-sw.co.uk 07808 523111

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URGENTLY NEEDED

WE NEED YOU!

LOCAL STAKEHOLDER BOARD GOVERNORS

Are you interested in making a difference to the outcomes of pupils in the South West?

We need you to fill our vacancies on our boards! More information on our website or email j.hooper@dmatschools.org.uk

www.dartmoormat.org.uk

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
...everyone in our Trust.

Happy Families, Happy Futures Devon

We are pleased to announce that the Happy Families Happy Futures Devon offer that supports parents to improve the quality of the interparental relationship has restarted through a collaboration between Devon County Council and our Community and Voluntary Sector and Private Sector partners. The programme will continue to deliver support to parents, via virtual or face-to-face delivery.

This programme offer includes:

Family Transitions Triple P

*** Advice and guidance to support co-parenting and to deflect the pressure of divorce or separation away from children**

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Within My Reach

*** Help to understand and develop healthy relationships and the positive impact this can have on children**

These programmes are aimed at supporting parents, both together and separated, to reduce parental conflict, develop positive communication and problem-solving skills, to manage emotions and create more positive environments for their children.

Requests for support should be submitted by completing this online Devon HFHF request form (click on this link) [Happy Families Happy Futures Referral Form](#) and a completed the consent form available here [Download the HFHF Consent Form](#)

For more information please contact the Parental Relationship Coordinator Emma Winter: emma.l.winter@devon.gov.uk

'Autism and Us' Parent Programme and autism themed workshops (Spring Term 2023)

[Support from the Communication and Interaction Team - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

Support for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary children who are either on the autism waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism.

Our 'Autism & Us' programme and themed workshops delivered this academic year will once again be offered during the forthcoming Spring term for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post diagnosis.

We are delighted to announce that we are offering access for families of CYP (Children & Young People) who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of CYP who have received an autism diagnosis.

Attending the 'Autism & Us' parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs.

Full programme details and application process below:

Autism & Us programmes:

- 4 weekly 'live online' sessions (approx. 2hrs each) related to the following topic/themes.

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No.	Topic	Programme 1	Programme 2	Trainer
1	Autism overview	Wed 11 Jan - 4.30 – 6.30	Mon 6 Mar - 10 - 12	Paul Lamanna
2	Communication	Wed 18 Jan - 4.30 – 6.30	Mon 13 Mar - 10 - 12	Laura O’Shea
3	Understanding and supporting behaviour	Wed 1 Feb - 4.30 – 6.30	Mon 20 Mar - 10 - 12	Laura Matthews
4	Sensory	Wed 8 Feb - 4.30 – 6.30	Mon 27 Mar - 10 - 12	Kevin Jones

Apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

To secure a place on any of the above programmes, or express your interest for forthcoming programmes. We will confirm your booking request, and provide you with a direct link to the event. They will be delivered on line ‘live’ via the Microsoft TEAMS platform.

Topic based workshops:

The following topic based workshops, are also available for parents/carers of CYP (Children & Young People) who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of CYP who have received an autism diagnosis. You can choose from these based on the relevance to you and your family.

Date	Time	Topic	Trainer
Tues 17 Jan	10 - 12	Autism – Sensory processing + integration	Kevin Jones
Thurs 26 Jan	9.30 - 12	Autism and Girls	Robert Good

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Tues 23 Feb	10 - 12	Autism – Demand avoidance + PDA	Robert Good
Tues 2 Mar	10-12	Autism – Communication (verbal – support strategies)	Laura O’Shea
Tues 14 Mar	10 - 12	Autism – Managing stress + anxiety	Alison Cann
Thurs 23 Mar	10 - 12	Autism – Vulnerability + online safety	Paul Lamanna
Tues 28 Mar	10 - 12	Autism – Communication (pre/non verbal – support strategies)	Laura Matthews

Apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

To secure a place on any of the above topic based workshops. We will confirm your booking request, and provide you with a direct link to the event. They will be delivered on line ‘live’ via the Microsoft TEAMS platform.