



Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

Fore Street, Witheridge, EX16 8AH Tel: 01884 860518

admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk



‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Friendship	Courage
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Newsletter – Friday 23rd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. We have had a very wet and soggy week in school this week, with lots of wet playtimes. The children have coped really well, and we have been really impressed with their sensible behaviour in and around school.

The children in all classes have started their new topics and it has been lovely to hear the learning buzz around the school.

Class 3 have started their swimming lessons this week! Mr Manning and Mrs Wyborn were really impressed with the children's fantastic behaviour at the swimming pool.

Clubs have started up again this week - if your child would like to join a club, we still have spaces in all of them. You will need to sign up via the Arbor App. Please note, Mr Manning's KS1 Football Club has moved to **MONDAY** nights.

We have many exciting events coming up this term including:

- World Book Day - Thursday 7th March - This year is Elmer themed! Children can come to school dressed as a character from the book, their favourite colour or their favourite book character.
- Parents/Carers' Evenings - Week Beginning 18th March - Sign up opens TODAY. Further information was sent out in an email this week.
- Red Nose Day - Friday 15th March - Children can come to school wearing something RED. We will be selling Red Noses in the school office, so please keep an eye out for this.
- Our Easter Church Service - Tuesday 26th March @ 10am in the Church
- Rocksteady Concert - Tuesday 26th March @ 2:30pm
- Mr Rogo's Music Concert, with the choir - Wednesday 27th March @ 10am

As always, if you have any questions or queries about upcoming events, please email (admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk) or phone 01884 860518 any time.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

All the best,

Miss Ratcliffe
Head of School

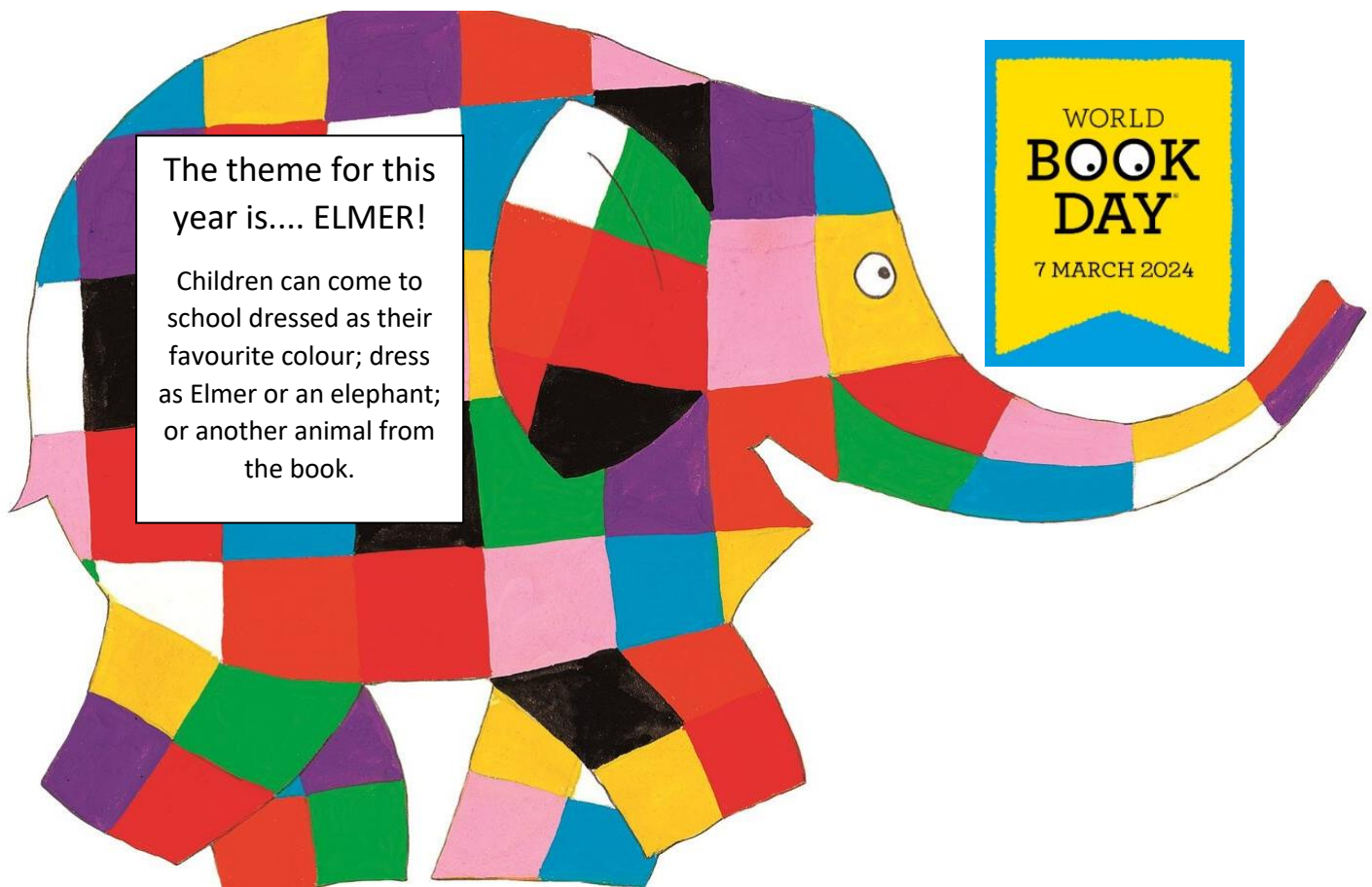
Life, Love and Learning to the Full



Building Community
Building Futures
Building Learning Power
Building Self Esteem



Please do not
bring your
mobile phone
to school



We are suggesting that children can come to school dressed as their favourite colour; dress as Elmer or an elephant; or any other animal from the book. Alternatively, children may prefer to dress as their favourite character from another book. Our activities for the day will be focussed around the Elmer story.

Please see the YouTube video for the story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUepS9yGANQ>

PE & Forest School Days Spring Term 2

Monday

Class 3 - SWIMMING for PE consent required on Arbor

Class 4 Group 1 Forest School (Abbie, Charley, Cody, Ebony, Emily, Emma, Evie, Faith, Graeson & Jack)



Wednesday

Class 1 PE

Infant A Group 1 Forest School (William, Lorcan, Barney, Nancy, Olivia, Mitchell, Zara & Elliot)

Thursday Morning - Reception PE (Children can come to school wearing their PE kits and bring their school clothes in their bags)

Thursday Afternoon - Class 2 PE

Infant B Group 1 Forest School (Ruby, Betsy, Hunter, Sam, Rosie & Ava)

Friday

Class 4 PE

Class 4 Group 3 Forest School (Gladys, Jacob, Kyah, Lena, Lexi, Lola, Milo, Reggie & Sophia)

Mr Wiggans Forest School News....

This week pupils have been investigating earthworms. The pupils dug holes to find a variety of worms and then had a real hands on lesson looking at the worms, exploring the parts of the worm and learning about their life cycle.

The pupils identified the head and tail ends of this invertebrate. They used the viewers to see if they could see the retractable bristles that the worms have that help them crawl and burrow in the soil.

Mr. Wiggans



Special delivery for Reception Class

There was immense excitement amongst our Reception Class children before half term when a huge box was delivered from The Zoo! The Zoo had received the children's letters requesting a pet, which they had written after having enjoyed the story of Dear Zoo by Rob Campbell. The Zoo had sent us a giraffe, which the children have cared for very diligently, in our Zoo Vet's role-play area. The children have had a fabulous couple of weeks investigating zoo animals and were delighted to complete their beautifully painted zoo animal masks.





Weekly Attendance	
Nursery 1	100%
Nursery 2	97%
Reception	91%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	92%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	95%

Every Day Counts

Attend and achieve.

Absences add up and have a detrimental effect on your learning.



Attendance Update

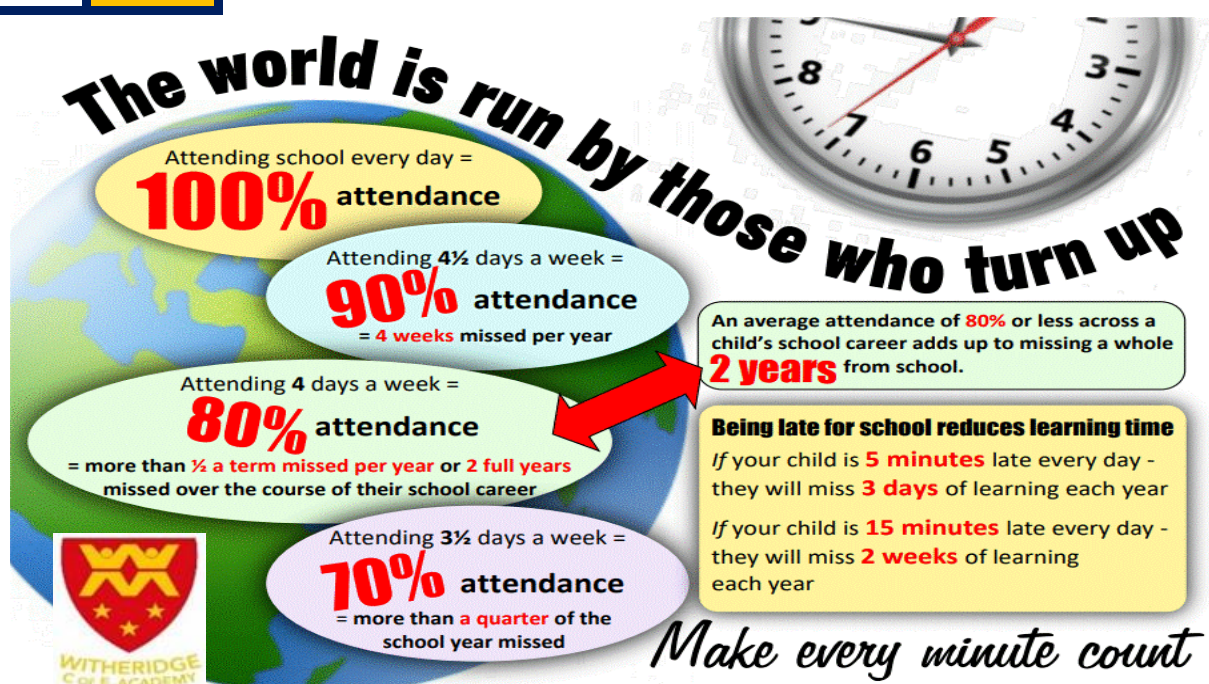
It's great to see everyone working so hard to achieve or beating our **96.5%** target.

We can only do this if we all work together!

Our attendance for the week is **95.1%**

Our attendance for the year to date is **95.9%**

Together Each achieves More!





Celebration Assembly
Well Done
For receiving a
Certificate of Achievement



Class Award

Nursery – Jayden-Lee for trying hard with his listening and recall during group activities.
Reception – Georgia for challenging and extending her learning about add, even numbers and doubles.
Class 1 – Ethan for outstanding improvement with reading over this half term.
Class 2 – George for trying hard to make good choices this week.
Class 3 – Lola for using wonderful Maths vocabulary.
Class 4 – Seamus for being a lovely encouraging friend.

Writer of the Week:

Reception – Zara for excellent effort and achievements in writing words and sentences.
Class 1 – Freddie for trying really hard with his phonics writing.
Class 2 – Linden for working hard to improve his handwriting this week.
Class 3 – Blythe for wonderful use of a thesaurus to improve language choices.
Class 4 – Kyah for a superb introduction.

Reaching 10 on the Nursery Caterpillar

Oscar ☺

20 Merits

Class 1 – Zoey & Mitchell
Class 2 – Mya, Mia, Rosie, Ruby & Ava
Class 3 – Jacob, Bella, Arthur B, Jessica, Mason, Taya & Archie
Class 4 – Seamus & Jack

40 Merits

Class 3 – Betsy
Class 4 – Gladys

House Points

Discovery 82

Endeavour 84

Enterprise 51

Voyager 71

Find us on:

Website: <https://www.teamacademytrust.com/witheridge>

Facebook: @Witheridge CofE Academy

Email: admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk

Witheridge Blog: <https://witheridge.edublogs.org/>

Team Meal Menu – Spring Term 2024 Week 2 - W/B 26th February	
Monday	Macaroni Cheese V – Vegetarian Sausages & Pasta Seasonal Veg & Garlic Bread Fruit & Yogurt
Tuesday	Beef Lasagne V – Vegetarian Lasagne Crusty Bread, Peas & Carrots Peach melba and ice-cream
Wednesday	Roast of the Day (Gammon) V – Broccoli & Cheese Bake Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy Fruit Platter
Thursday	Hunters chicken or Plain Chicken V - Sweet Potato Curry Rice and Seasonal Veg Iced sponge
Friday	Cod Fish Cakes V – Cheese baguettes Golden Fries, Seasonal Veg & Baked Beans Chocolate Cracknel

Also available every day: - Jacket Potato with Tuna, Cheese and/or Beans. Yogurt or Fresh Fruit.

Cost of School lunches:
 Nursery – £1.94 per meal.
 Reception & KS1 children – Universal Infant Free School Meals,
 KS2 children £2.53 per meal.
Payment to be made via The Arbor App



A gentle reminder that we are a
NUT FREE SCHOOL
 and we have a number of students, staff and visitors with serious nut allergies.



With this in mind, could we politely ask that NO products containing nuts be sent into school.

If you have any questions in relation to this, please contact the School Office.

Thank you for your consideration and for safeguarding our students.

Unclaimed FSM vouchers

If you receive Free School Meal holiday vouchers, please make sure you have used them before the 29th February as they will expire!

**Free
School
Meals**



Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024

Monday 26 th February	Class 1 & 2 Spring Walk – Consent via Arbor Class 3 Swimming (PE) Class 4 Group 1 – Forest School Teacher Led Club – Easter Craft Club & Football Club
Tuesday 27 th February	Rocksteady Teacher Led Club – Choir & Film Club (No Times Tables)
Wednesday 28 th February	Class 1 – PE Infant A Group 1 – Forest School Farm School Infant B Group 2 Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Stay and Play Session in FSU at 13.45
Thursday 29 th February	Reception Class – PE (AM) Class 2 – PE (PM) Infant B Group 1 – Forest School Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Football Match vs Filleigh 3.45 kick off at home Teacher Led Club – SATs Club
Friday 1 st March	Stay and Play Session in School Hall at 9am Class 4 – PE Class 4 Group 3 – Forest School

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 5 th March	Exmoor Challenge practice walk
Tuesday 5 th March	Times Table Club
Wednesday 6 th March	<u>ALL ASC / Teacher Led Club CANCELLED due to Staff Training</u>
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Monday 11 th March	NO Easter Craft Teacher Led Club
Tuesday 12 th March	Opal Working party group meeting at 3.30pm
Tuesday 12 th March	NO Film or Choir Teacher Led Club
Wednesday 13 th March	Farm School Class 3 Group 1
Wednesday 13 th March	Messy Church Nursery to Year 2 – sign up on Arbor
Thursday 14 th March	School Council Meeting
Friday 15 th March	Reception Class Trip to Rosemoor – Details to follow
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 18 th March	No Teacher Led Clubs all week due to Parents Evening
Monday 18 th March	Class 2 Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
Tuesday 19 th March	FSU (Nursery & Reception) Parents Day 9-6pm
Tuesday 19 th March	Class 4 Parents Evening 3.40-6pm
Wednesday 20 th March	FSU (Nursery & Reception) Parents Day 9-6pm
Wednesday 20 th March	Class 1 and Class 3 Parents Evening 3.40-6pm
Thursday 21 st March	Class 1, Class 3 & Class 4 Parents Evening 3.40-6pm
Tuesday 26 th March	Rock Steady Concert
Wednesday 27 th March	Mr Rogo's Music Concert at 10am
Thursday 28 th March	TREAT FRIDAY – Voyager!
Thursday 28 th March	End of Spring Term
Monday 15 th April	First Day of Summer Term

These dates are intended as a guide and you will be notified of any changes.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 / 2024		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
First Day— 6th September 2023	First Day— 3rd January 2024	First Day 15th April 2024
Half term— 23rd – 27th October 2023	Half term— 12th – 16th February 2024	Bank Holiday 6th May 2024 Half-term 27th - 31st May 2024
Last Day— 15th December 2023	Last Day 28th March 2024	Non Pupil Day 3rd June 2024 Last Day 23rd July 2024

Non-pupil days and occasional holiday days:
~~4th & 5th September 2023, 2nd January 2024, 3rd June 2024, 24th, 25th & 26th July 2024~~

**No After School Club with Jayne and Laura
on Wednesday 6th March – Whole School Staff Training.**

Parents Evening – Spring 2024

Parent/Guardian Evening is a fantastic opportunity to have a face-to-face meeting with your child's Class Teacher, to discuss the progress that your child has made and any concerns that you may have.

You will be able to book your 10-minute appointment with your child's Class Teacher via the Arbor App. Please be aware that appointments are allocated on a first come, first served basis.



FSU (Nursery & Reception) - Mrs North – Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th March - 9-6pm

Class 1 (Year 1) - Mr Booth - Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March - 3:40-6pm

Class 2 (Year 2) - Miss Ratcliffe - Monday 18th March - 3:30-6pm

Class 3 (Year 3 and Year 4) - Mr Manning - Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March - 3:40-6pm

Class 4 (Year 5 and Year 6) - Mrs Nott - Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st March - 3:40-6pm

Please note - **there will be no teacher-led clubs this week.** A refund was issued yesterday for any overpayments made. After School Club with Jayne, Laura and Alicia will still run as normal all week.



NURSERY PARENTS

30 Hours/Working Entitlement Funding

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

DO NOT MISS OUT ON WORKING ENTITLEMENT FUNDING!



The working entitlement funding for 2, 3 and 4 year-olds is available for eligible families. It is important that if you have a child who will be 2 or 3 years old before 31st March or if your circumstances have changed, that you apply to HMRC (Childcare Service) now.

Please set-up or visit your [Gateway Account](#) immediately to apply or reconfirm. If you are unsure if you are entitled to the working entitlement, please check the [Eligibility Criteria](#).

It is important that you allow good time as any queries with new applications or reconfirmations could cause delays and any codes issued in April 2024 will not be funded in summer term 2024. Any start dates from 1st April 2024 will not be funded until autumn term 2024 and only then if you reconfirm by 31st August 2024.

If you have a code that needs to be reconfirmed, this should also be completed now, and if you are unsure, it is your responsibility to log into your Gateway Account and check. If you are newly eligible or are given a new code at reconfirmation, you need to take your 11-digit code to your provider who will complete a verification check and then confirm your funded space.

When eligibility ends, children who have accessed the working entitlement can continue to access their entitlement in the grace period. However, new children, who are 2 or 3 years old before 31st March, or start at a new setting, cannot start to use the working entitlement funding in the grace period if they are no longer eligible.

As part of the eligibility check with HMRC, you will be asked if you would like to register for Tax Free Childcare. You cannot register for Tax Free Childcare if you are in receipt of Universal Credit, Tax Credits or Childcare Vouchers.

If you do register, your benefits may be stopped, and it can take several weeks to reinstate. If you have problems accessing the system or completing your check, please call the HMRC Helpdesk on 0300 1234 097 (your provider and Devon County Council cannot assist with new applications or reconfirmations).

You may be able to access further help with childcare costs. Please visit the [Childcare Choices Website](#) for more information.



NEW AND IMPROVED TREAT FRIDAY

FEB 02 **ENTERPRISE**
PROVIDING THE TREATS

MAR 28 **VOYAGER**
PROVIDING THE TREATS

MAY 24 **ENDEAVOR**
PROVIDING THE TREATS

JULY 19 **DISCOVERY**
PROVIDING THE TREATS

PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR TREATS
TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE ON THE
MORNING OF YOUR DATE



WE ARE MOVING

Factory Sale

FRI 23rd & SAT 24th FEBRUARY

11am - 5pm

BUY FABRIC, HABERDASHERY, FURNITURE, STORAGE, OFFICE EQUIPMENT
AND MUCH MUCH MORE

ALL AT GREAT PRICES

HELEN MOORE FACTORY, DRAYFORD LANE, WITHERIDGE EX16 8PR

Small Pet / Craft / Produce Show



Saturday 23rd March



Open from 9am, judging starts at 11am

Classes for adults and children (50p per class entry)

Ribbons or certificates to be won

Café, wheelchair accessible play park, garden, animals, changing places toilet, sensory room.

Classes include painting, photography, cross stitch, sewing, baking, cake decorating, Lego sculptures & small animals. Contact us or pop into our café for the full list.

MADE-WELL
A COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

01837 810584 07785 971960
enquiries@made-well.co.uk
made-well.co.uk

disability confident EMPLOYER

West Fishleigh Farm, Hatherleigh EX20 3QA



Made-Well's Animal Club

Saturdays 1 - 2:30pm

Meet our animals, learn all about them, groom and feed them, walk our Shetland ponies or goats (or play games inside if the weather is poor) and have fun in our activities corner in the animal barn.

£5 per person or £10 per family. No need to book.

Please wear appropriate footwear & outdoor clothing

Café, wheelchair accessible play park, garden & facilities to hire including a sensory room



West Fishleigh Farm, Hatherleigh EX20 3QA

MADE-WELL
A COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

01837 810584 07785 971960
enquiries@made-well.co.uk
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disability confident EMPLOYER



Football Trials - sporting opportunities for girls and boys

U7, U8 & U10 TRIALS

**FRIDAY
23RD FEB
17:00 - 18:00
TARKA LEISURE CENTRE 3G**

TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION
TEXT 07850341374

OR EMAIL
NORTHDEVONRTC@JUNIOR-PREMIER.CO.UK

WORKING WITH

U9 & U11 TRIALS

**FRIDAY
1ST MARCH
17:00 - 18:00
TARKA LEISURE CENTRE 3G**

TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE INFORMATION
TEXT 07907098755

OR EMAIL
NORTHDEVONRTC@JUNIOR-PREMIER.CO.UK

WORKING WITH

We are holding trials for footballers to join the North Devon Regional Talent Centre. They play in the Junior Premier League and is a fantastic opportunity for footballers to represent North Devon.

We believe this is a positive opportunity for North Devon footballers to develop and increase overall participation in football/sporting activity across all ages, with the focus of enjoyment and keeping more footballers in the game, long term.

PREMIER EDUCATION EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

£23.00
all day




9.30am-
3.30pm

Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th April. Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th April 2024
Venue: Wilcombe Primary School, EX16 4AL

MULTI-SPORTS ACTIVITY DAYS















What we will be up too:

Easter Games/ activities- Easter themed days to include Easter crafts and Easter hunts.

Dodgeball- Working as a team, children will work together to try and hit the other team with their dodgeballs!

Nerf Games- Children will be split into teams where they will build unbreakable forts to take cover from the other teams!

Other activities :

Gymnastics- Children will get to express movement and their strength through our gym sessions!

Arts and crafts- A chance for children to take a break from all the running around and relax! A time to meet new friends.

Football- One of the more classic sports we run. Children will be put in team to play a 5-a-side games.





Hot school lunch provided and please bring your own soft drinks! Please wear sports/casual clothes.



How to book:
 Online- www.premier-education.com
 Call Andrew- 07776 108281





Be sure to:
 Like and follow our Premier Education Taunton Instagram and facebook page!





Childcare vouchers accepted!

We have been running HAF *funded* holiday clubs during the main 3 school holiday periods with *lunches provided* for Free School Meals children at Wilcombe PS over the last few years. We are running 4 days at Wilcombe PS over the Easter holidays 2024 as usual.

Please see attached our leaflets for the Easter holidays:

- **Both weeks 4 days** – Wilcombe PS, Tiverton, multi-activity holiday clubs on 3rd to 4th April (course reference no: 877252) & 9th & 10th (course reference no: 877253) April with funded places and a hot school lunch provided for FSM children and enrichment booked for both weeks including FizzPopp Science.

Hey!



Did you know...
from April, even
more working families
can **save money on childcare**

We will be running parent
information sessions on what
funding is available, eligibility
and how to apply.

Childcare
Choices

Dates throughout February!

Devon
County Council

Want to know more?

We're running some free online information sessions in February about how to access funded childcare, what funding is available, the eligibility criteria and how to apply.

There is no need to book, just join by clicking on the links below:

- Monday 5 February, 10:30am to 11:30am – [click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 7 February, 7:30pm to 8:30pm – [click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 14 February, 4pm to 5pm – [click here to join the meeting](#)

While these sessions are primarily for parents, anyone that would like to know more about Early Years Funding is welcome to attend.