



The Erme Primary School
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25th September 2026

Issue 03



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents join us for our Stay and Read session this morning. The children were really enthusiastic and it was lovely to see them enjoy reading for pleasure.

Thank you so much to everyone who then attended our MacMillan coffee morning. We were overwhelmed with the number of cake entries and number of parents who came to support. We have raised a whopping £112.85 so far, and will be selling more cake after school too!

Oldaport Class (Year 6) are looking forward to their Mega Maths session next Tuesday, 29th September at 8:45am, where they will be able to show off their mega mathematical skills. We also have our Colour Run on Monday, 28th September followed by our PTFA meeting. We hope to see lots of you there!

We are really excited to be able to use our new play equipment next week. Please see the timetable shared on MCAS to support your child with understanding when they can have their turn.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Mrs Penhallurick

From Mr Jolliffe



School Reviews are an important part of the way in which senior leaders monitor the quality of education across our schools and support Heads of School in ensuring that their self-evaluation is accurate. The School Improvement Team lead the reviews, supported by English and maths lead teachers and Inclusion Leads as often as possible. Governors are invited to attend the feedback meetings and this helps them to challenge and support Heads in their development plans for their schools.

Contacting governors

Each school in the federation has at least two link governors attached to it, so that governors maintain a close link to the daily life of the school as well as its strategic development. The link governors can be found on the federation website under 'governors' and can be contacted via your child's school office. If you wish to raise sensitive or confidential matters, please email the Clerk to Governors at clerk@exevalleyfederation.org.uk.

Does your child worry a lot or is anxious?

The Devon Educational Psychology Service (EPS) is running group sessions which aim to reduce worrying in children and young people. The sessions can help parent carers develop skills that can be helpful in managing worries and supporting school attendance. For more details or questions, contact the educational psychology service using this email address:

educate.assistanteducationalpsychologist-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

or complete this form at: <https://forms.office.com/e/w13eSAg9a9>

More information may be found on the federation website under 'Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries'.

Speech and language support

Speech, language and communication skills are important for children to be able to express their needs, manage their feelings and form friendships. Children develop their speech, language and communication at different rates. However, there are typical development patterns for children as well as possible signs or symptoms that may suggest a child has a difficulty in one or more of these areas. The way that speech and language support can be accessed in Devon has changed recently. Mrs Mathers, who leads on Speech and Language as part of the Inclusion Team, has put together a set of slides to offer information about support that is available for families both in school and in the community. Some of the dates for easy access drop-ins have now passed, but there are links in the slides to further dates across the whole of Devon. The information is on the federation website under 'Information for Parents'.

Parent engagement sessions:

Oldaport (Y6) Mega Maths sessions – Tuesday 29th September 2026 – 8:45am

Come along and join in with some maths activities with your child!

Riverside (Y4/5) Amazing Art afternoon – Monday 5th October 2026 – 2:30pm

Spend an hour with us completing some artwork with your child.

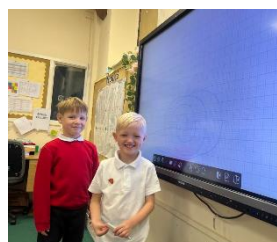
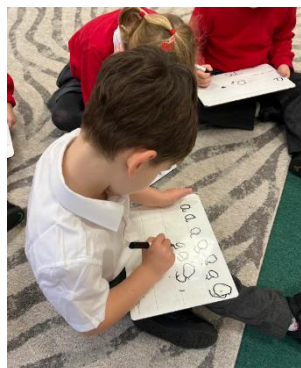
Mothecombe (Y2/3) STEM workshop – Friday 20th November 2026 – 3pm

Join us to complete a STEM activity with your child.

Meadowsfoot (YF/1) Christmas Props workshop – Monday 23rd November 2026

Come along to help us make our props for our Nativity play!

Meadowsfoot – Miss Gilberthorpe



We have loved diving into the new Julia Donaldson story 'Gruffalo Granny' during Drawing Club, and it has been wonderful to see how confidently the children are remembering the tale and using it to inspire their writing. We are especially proud of the progress everyone is making in their sentence creation — children are showing growing

independence, choosing their own ideas and building sentences with real care. In maths, we continue to stretch ourselves in our place value learning. Lots of children are now challenging

themselves to try the star challenges at the end of the lesson, showing brilliant determination and a willingness to push their thinking further. In EYFS we are enjoying learning to read and write new sounds. We are even spotting them in and around the school.



Parent meetings

Parents' Evenings

Parent meetings are taking place in the next few weeks and are an opportunity for parents to talk to teachers about their children's progress so far this year. Parents are welcome to bring other adult family members or adults who play a significant part in their child's life to the meeting. If you have any concerns about the meeting taking place, please talk to your child's Head of School.

Parent meetings will be bookable on MCAS, we will send a message when they are live.

Mothecombe – Miss Docking



We have been *super explorers and collectors* in our Art topic this week. The children loved heading outdoors to discover natural materials they could use in their creations. From leaves and twigs to stones and petals, they gathered a wonderful range of treasures before working in teams to design and build their own nature-inspired masterpieces. Their imagination was fantastic and the final pieces were truly impressive. In Computing, the children have been learning about *IT in the world around us* and how technology helps us in our everyday lives. They worked in groups to identify which equipment counts as IT and discussed how each item supports our learning in school. It was brilliant to hear them confidently explain how technology makes tasks quicker, easier and more efficient.

In French, the children have been using songs and simple role-play to practise greeting phrases and asking how someone is. It has been lovely to

see them using these key phrases throughout the week — their confidence is growing and they are already beginning to retain new vocabulary.



Learners of the week

Meadowsfoot - Riley for working hard to be a role model.

Mothecombe - Cruz for his effort & positive attitude in both his English and maths learning.

Riverside - Tyler for his amazing English this week.

Oldaport - Hugo for progressing into the next stage in swimming.

Reader of the Week Certificates:

Meadowsfoot	Sapphire
Mothecombe	Zephy
Riverside	Mia
Oldaport	Archie

Reading with your child at home is one of the simplest and most powerful ways to support their learning. Just a few minutes each day helps build language skills, confidence, and a love of books, while also creating special time together. Talking about the story, pictures, or characters makes reading even more meaningful and fun for children.

We appreciate your support with reading at home and ask that you please log any reading that you do in your child's reading log. Thank you.



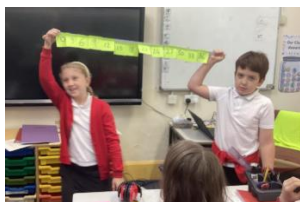
PTFA AGM

Our PTFA are a small, friendly and supportive group of parents who work closely with Mrs Pasmore and Mrs Penhallurick to fundraise and support the school. Without our PTFA, we wouldn't be able to provide as many wonderful opportunities for our children. The PTFA support us by: subsidising school trips to reduce cost to parents; organising school discos and sponsored events for the children; and fundraising for big projects, including our front playground development.

We would like to encourage as many parents as possible to get involved with the PTFA, in whatever capacity they feel able to, whether that's simply helping out at an event or by attending regular meetings.

We have our annual PTFA AGM on **Monday 28th September at 3:30pm**, at The Erme. We invite you to please come along and join this initial meeting, to find out what the PTFA is all about and how you could get involved. We hope to see lots of you there!

Riverside – Mrs Pasmore



This week in Maths, we have been focusing on subtraction and have worked incredibly hard to master exchanging with 4 and 5-digit numbers. The children have shown great determination and resilience when tackling increasingly challenging calculations and should be very proud of their progress. We have been delighted to see their confidence and accuracy grow throughout the week. In our fluency lessons, we have been concentrating on the 3 times table. The children have explored a range of strategies to help them remember each multiplication fact and have enjoyed using patterns, games and quick-recall activities to build their confidence and fluency.

In English, we have continued to develop our transcription skills while improving our spelling, handwriting and overall writing accuracy. This week, the children were inspired by a fascinating *Potion Emporium* picture, which sparked their imaginations and led to some wonderful creative writing. We are becoming increasingly accurate with our punctuation and are beginning to add suspense to our writing, helping to engage and excite our readers. It has been fantastic to see the children using descriptive language and carefully crafting their stories to build tension.

We have also had the privilege of taking part in two visiting musical assemblies. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to a variety of instruments and experiencing different styles of music. These assemblies provided a wonderful opportunity to appreciate the talents of visiting musicians and to broaden our understanding of how music can be expressed in many different ways. It was a memorable experience that was enjoyed by all.



Values of the week

Meadowsfoot - Teddy for being a compassionate friend.

Mothecombe - Arlo for his brilliant perseverance in English.

Riverside - Gracie for always being a compassionate friend.

Oldaport - Perseverance is awarded to Rayan for always challenging himself.

Oldaport – Mrs Benson



This week in English, Oldaport class have continued to work on transcription with a real focus on handwriting and making sure a sentence is grammatically correct. In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of rounding numbers to 100,000 and working confidently with negative numbers. In Science, we have been learning about the white and black peppered moths and how they survived through natural selection, helping us understand the process of evolution. In PSHE, we have been focusing on water safety and the importance of recognising risks around water, even for strong swimmers. This has helped us understand how to stay safe and make sensible decisions in different water environments.



Author visit

Anne Parsons, a children's author, will be visiting our school on Friday 16th October. Anne will be sharing the story of Archie, Go! With our classes and will be offering the chance of buying a signed copy of her book with a dedication.

Books will be available to buy on MCAS from Friday 9th until Friday 23rd October.

More details to follow.

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
Tuesdays	Year 4, 5 and 6 swimming	pm
Monday 28 th September	Colour Run	2:30-3:30pm
Monday 28 th September	PTFA meeting – all welcome	3:30pm
Tuesday 29 th September	Oldaport (Y6) Mega Maths sessions	8:45am
Monday 5 th October	Riverside's (Y4/5) Amazing Art afternoon	2:30pm
Friday 9 th October	Heatree forms due in today – Year 5 and 6	
Friday 9 th October	Open morning for 2027 EYFS	10-12pm
Wednesday 14 th October	Harvest Festival at St Johns church	2:30pm
Friday 16 th October	Author Visit and Workshops – Anne Parsons	am
w/b Monday 19 th October	Parents evening week – more details to follow	various
Friday 23rd October	Last day before half term	
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school	
Monday 2 nd November	Flu vaccinations, all years with consent	am
Tuesday 3 rd November	Swimming begins for Mothecombe and selected Yr 6 pupils	pm
Friday 27th November	Non pupil day	

Clubs Autumn 1

w/b 14th September - Friday 23rd October (running for 6 weeks)

Day	Club	Year group	Teacher	Time
Monday	Invasion Games	Y1- 6	Premier Sports	3:30 - 4:30pm
Monday	Civic Award	Y6	Miss Docking	12:15-12:45pm
Tuesday	Drawing	All years	Mrs.Readey	3:30 - 4:30pm
Thursday	Dodgeball	Y2- 6	Mrs Benson	3:30 - 4:30pm
Thursday	STEM	All year	Mrs.Readey	3:30 - 4:30pm

Bookings are now closed for this half term. Bookings for next half term will be available week beginning 19th October.