



The Erme Primary School
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Issue 04



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fabulous start to the week with our Colour Run on Monday afternoon! The children really enjoyed themselves, and ended up super colourful. We have also raised over £600 to support our school PTFA projects. Thank you to everyone who donated, and to those who helped out to make the event a huge success!



We also enjoyed the first of our parent engagement sessions on Tuesday morning, with Oldaport's Mega Maths session. It was lovely to see the children taking part in various problem-solving tasks, along with some of their parents. We are looking forward to future sessions; the dates can be found below. Next week is Riverside's Amazing Art afternoon.

We have some important events coming up in the near future, including our Harvest Festival Service. Please make sure to check the full diary dates at the end of the newsletter for all key dates.

Please note that our Moorsway website has now closed, and all information can be found on the EVMF website at this address: <https://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/The-Erme/>

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Mrs Penhallurick

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!

From Mr Jolliffe



The governing board met for the first time this year on Tuesday this week to hold their Annual General Meeting. The governor page of the EVMF website has now been updated to include a summary of each of the recent meetings, as well as pen portraits for each governor and information about which governors are connected to each school. A report on the AGM has been written later in this newsletter.

Residential Visits for 2026-27

As a result of feedback from parents and the significant cost of the visits to families with more than one child in Key stage 2, senior leaders have proposed a new plan for visits for 2027 onwards, which will comprise:

- Year 3; day visit for all EVMF schools to Escot where they will take part in outdoor activities and the swamp walk. This will take place towards the end of the summer term, 2027.
- Year 4; sleep-over at one of the schools on Thursday 6th May, followed by travelling by train to Okehampton YHA and outdoor activities the next day [and Snooze at the Zoo in 2028].
- Year 5 and 6; this year, Moorsway schools will be visiting Heatree from Wednesday 17th – Friday 19th March 2027. Information has already been shared about this. Following this, we will align with EVMF residential activities for Year 5 and Year 6.

The overall cost of the visits should be much lower than the current offer moving forwards, and provide almost as many experiences and gives children the opportunity to grow in independence and resilience through these enrichment activities.



Please sign up to support The Friends of The Erme Primary School - Ivybridge for free on #easyfundraising today!

It's completely free and would make a big difference to our fundraising. Once you've signed up you can raise free donations for us when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers.

Plus, when you reach £5 in donations, easyfundraising will match it!

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/foteps/6TGB7W/c2s/MtAb9Haa/SREV1/textcopy>

Meadowsfoot – Miss Gilberthorpe

This week we have thought lots about people who help and the jobs they do. We shared ideas with our friends and made a long list of all the people that help us such as our parents, doctors, teachers, mechanics and vets. Over the next couple of weeks, we are going to work together to make our very own class book about the people who help us.

In maths, year 1 have been exploring the greater and less than symbol. We have used multi-link cubes and Numicon to explore which number was greater.



Parent meetings

**Parents'
Evenings**

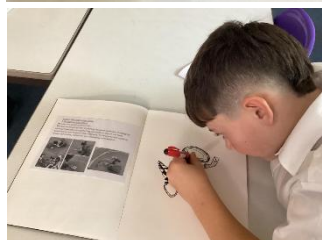
Parent meetings are taking place in the next few weeks and are an opportunity for parents to talk to teachers about their children's progress so far this year. Parents are welcome to bring other adult family members or adults who play a significant part in their child's life to the meeting. If you have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

Mothecombe – Miss Docking



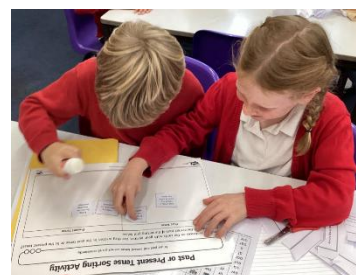
The Mothecombe children have made a fantastic start to their new English unit based on *Grendel: The Cautionary Tale of Chocolate*. They loved mapping out the story and comparing its blueprint to other familiar tales. Plus, they already have some brilliant ideas brewing for their own versions. We can't wait to share their writing with you soon.



In Music, the children worked in pairs to compose their very own animal call-and-response piece. They thought carefully about the dynamics in their compositions and showed excellent teamwork throughout. Their confidence when performing was wonderful to see.

The class has also continued to show real enthusiasm for their Art topic. This week, they collected natural items from

outside to sketch - but with a twist. Each drawing had to be completed using one continuous line and within a time limit. Every child rose to the challenge and produced some impressive, expressive sketches. Well done, Mothecombe artists.



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.

Please keep an eye out for more information!

Learners of the week

Meadowsfoot - Roselyn for great progress in phonics and spelling.

Mothecombe - Esmae for her super effort in every lesson & willingness to give everything a go.

Riverside - Ella-May for her beautiful handwriting.

Oldaport - Zoe for developing her questioning skills.

Governors' AGM

The full governing board met on Tuesday 29th September for their Annual General Meeting. Governors and Heads from all nine federation schools were present. Alongside the approval of federation policies, the Executive Principal provided an in-depth report about the visions and values of the federation, and how those feed into the new 5-year strategic development plan, which includes overarching aims of a) Exception learning and high expectation; b) Inclusion, wellbeing and belonging; c) Distinctive rural education d) Outward facing collaboration and e) sustainability and growth. In line with the strategic development plan, each school will have their own school development plan.

Governors were also provided with updates from the Staff survey, parents survey, pupils outcomes, staff development opportunities, Church school distinctiveness, school reviews, and changes to funding streams (e.g. PE and sport premium). Importantly the board were given in depth updates on safeguarding, mobile phone policies and Benedict's Law. Governors also took part in discussions with Heads of School to address any questions they had about changes in policy and to ensure that the schools are held to account in a robust manner.

The AGM also provided an ideal opportunity to showcase and celebrate some of our key successes across the previous academic year, including successful SIAMS and Ofsted inspections. The governors would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all involved with those inspections. We hope that all children are settling back into school and that pupils, parents, and teachers enjoy the academic year.

Riverside – Mrs Pasmore



What an exciting week it has been in Riverside! We had an absolute blast taking part in the Colour Run. Everyone enjoyed spending time with their friends, tackling fun obstacles, and getting covered from head to toe in bright, colourful paint! It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, teamwork, and determination from all the children as they completed the course.

In English, we have started our new unit based on *The Tear Thief*. We have explored the themes within the story and shared our likes, dislikes,

patterns, and puzzles. The children engaged thoughtfully with the text and enjoyed discussing their ideas with their classmates. We have also learned the beginning of the text using a story map and actions to support us to retell it.

In Maths, we have successfully secured our next times table and are becoming increasingly confident mathematicians. We are now confidently adding and subtracting large numbers and applying these skills to solve both single-step and multi-step problems.

In Music, we have continued to explore body percussion to create our own rainforest-themed compositions. We also had great fun using body percussion to accompany a variety of popular songs, demonstrating excellent rhythm and creativity.

Well done to everyone for another fantastic week of learning and fun!

Values of the week

Meadowsfoot - Freya for being a compassionate friend.

Mothecombe - Ezra for showing such kindness to his peers.

Riverside - Seth for being a compassionate and thoughtful peer.

Oldaport - Florence for persevering to independently use a thesaurus to upscale vocabulary.

Oldaport – Mrs Benson



It has been another busy and exciting week of learning! In Oldaport Class, we have been exploring the theory of evolution, including why the development of this important scientific theory was not the work of Charles Darwin alone. The children have been learning about the contributions of other scientists and how ideas about evolution developed over time.

We also enjoyed a fantastic Mega Maths Morning, where children and their parents worked together to tackle a range of fun and challenging maths brain teasers. It was wonderful to see everyone working collaboratively, sharing ideas and persevering with tricky problems.

In English, we have started our new unit based on *Shackleton's Journey*. The children have been exploring the text and identifying its different features, developing their understanding of how the book tells the story of Shackleton's incredible expedition.

In French, we have started learning how to talk about clothes, building our vocabulary and practising how to use these new words in simple sentences.



Reader of the Week Certificates:

Meadowsfoot	Henry
Mothecombe	Evelyn
Riverside	Addison
Oldaport	Rayan

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.

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
Tuesdays	Year 4, 5 and 6 swimming	pm
Monday 5 th October	Riverside's (Y4/5) Amazing Art afternoon	2:30pm
Friday 9 th October	Heatree deposits due today – Year 5 and 6	
Friday 9 th October	Open morning for 2027 EYFS	10-12pm
Wednesday 14 th October	Harvest Festival at St John's 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
Monday 19 th October	Junior Life Skills event – Year 6 at Ivybridge Leisure Centre	am
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 Yr6 pupils	pm
Saturday 14 th November	Orchestra Event at Exeter Cathedral with Mrs Penhallurick and Mrs Pasmore – information sent via MCAS	Afternoon
Friday 20 th November	Mothecombe STEM parent workshop	3pm
Monday 23 rd November	Meadowsfoot Christmas Props workshop	2:15pm
Friday 27th November	Non pupil day	
Friday 18th December	Last day of Autumn Term	
Tuesday 5th January	Children return to school	