



The Erme Primary School
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Issue 07



Dear Parents and Carers,

I have had the opportunity to see learning in action in every class this week, and I have been impressed by how well the children have engaged with their learning. As we reach the end of the half term, we have been busy bringing our units of learning to a close, reflecting on and celebrating all that the children have achieved.

Since the summer holidays, our staff team has been focused on strengthening positive learning behaviours across the school, ensuring that all children can reach their full potential and meet our high expectations. The children have risen brilliantly to this challenge, and it has been a pleasure to see the improvements in learning behaviours as I visit classrooms and spend time around the school.

This week, we also held our Parents' Evening meetings. These are invaluable opportunities for us to work in partnership with families, sharing information and discussing how we can best support each child to thrive. Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend.

Clubs for next half term are now available to book via MCAS. Please ensure that bookings are completed by Sunday 1st November to secure your child's place. Further information about each club can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Children in Meadowsfoot and Mothecombe are very much looking forward to their visit to Paignton Zoo on Friday 6th November. Please remember to complete the consent form and make payment via MCAS. If your child requires a school-packed lunch for the trip, this can be ordered by completing the Google consent form.

As we break up for half term, I would like to thank all of our children, families and staff for their hard work and support this term. I hope you all have a wonderful and restful half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 2nd November.

With best wishes,

Mrs Penhallurick

From Mr Jolliffe



As a federation, we work with a number of different organisations to provide professional development for teachers. The Maths Team, led by Mr Brown and Mr Hamidullah, work with the Jurassic Hub to support the development of maths in all our schools. On Wednesday, Helena Palmer, who leads the Jurassic Hub, visited Silverton with Joanne Conly, who is a Numeracy Specialist for the Department of Education Services in The Cayman Islands. She was particularly interested in how we are teaching for mastery in maths and our curriculum development, especially in mixed age classes. Helena and Joanne observed maths in action Key stage 1 and lower Key stage 2. Many thanks to all the staff and children at Silverton for enabling this visit to happen and for sharing their mathematical learning.

Term Dates

This half term ends today, Friday 23rd October and the second half of the autumn term begins on Monday, 2nd November. Friday, 27th November is a Professional Learning Day for staff and the schools will be closed to pupils on that day. The last day of the autumn term is Friday, 18th December.

Picture News

All our schools have access to Picture News, which is a current affairs resource that is sent to schools every week for use in Assemblies, Collective Worship and classrooms. Picture News has published a newsletter for parents that is attached to this week's newsletters. Please take a second to look at it and talk to your child about what they have learned about this term.

Governors' Update

Moorsway Hub Governors met at Cornwood on 20th October to discuss how we can continue supporting pupils and staff at Cornwood and The Erme. Our discussions covered safeguarding, support for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), behaviour and attendance. These remain important areas of our work to help every child feel safe, included and ready to learn.

We reviewed school improvement priorities, including school reviews, Ofsted reports and the School Development Plans. The Head of School reports provided an opportunity to consider pupils' progress and ask questions about the support and learning experiences available across both schools.

The wellbeing of staff is an important standing agenda item. We also considered health and safety and premises. Governor visits, training and engagement with our school communities also formed part of the agenda, helping us stay informed and provide thoughtful support and challenge.

Thank you to our school leaders and staff for their continued dedication, and to families for the important part you play in our school community. We remain committed to our shared vision: "A family where we flourish and learn to be the best version of ourselves."

Meadowsfoot – Miss Gilberthorpe

This week, it has been an absolute delight to celebrate the wonderful progress and achievements of all our children at Meadowsfoot. We've continued our adventure with the story of the Little Red Hen, really bringing it to life by imagining what the characters might say. We've been using puppets to help us remember each part of the tale.

In maths, we've had a lot of fun exploring number bonds to 10, with all sorts of resources to make learning hands-on and engaging.



Mothecombe – Miss Docking



This week, we launched our new English unit based on *Dare to Care*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed diving into the story and discovering what it takes to look after a pet dragon! They have amazed me with their enthusiasm and their ability to learn an entire paragraph by heart. We cannot wait to share their performance with you during our STEM afternoon in November.

In Science, our Year 1 and 2 children transformed into budding scientists for a waterproof challenge. Armed with curiosity and plenty of predictions, they investigated which material would make the best umbrella. The children carefully considered the different materials; deciding whether they would be absorbent or waterproof before putting them to the test. Working brilliantly in pairs, they carried out their investigations thoughtfully and responsibly.

After half term, Mothecombe Class will begin swimming lessons at Ivybridge Leisure Centre, every Tuesday, starting on **3rd November**. Please can I remind all parents and carers to complete the online consent form that was sent out this week. Thank you to everyone who has already completed it.

Happy half term! We hope you all have a wonderful and well-deserved break. Well done to all the children for their fantastic hard work this half term, from everyone in the Mothecombe Team.

Learners of the week

Meadowsfoot - Layla Rose for always trying her & and being proud of her achievements.

Mothecombe - Orlaith for her excellent perseverance in adding two-digit numbers.

Riverside - Harrison for his improved listening.

Oldaport - Emilie for independently applying taught grammar.

Reader of the Week Certificates:

Meadowsfoot	Roselyn
Mothecombe	Arlo
Riverside	Oliver
Oldaport	Henry

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.



Clubs Autumn 2

w/b 2nd November - Friday 11th December (running for 6 weeks)

Please note that clubs for the second half of the Autumn term will be live on MCAS and available to book from Monday 19th October, 3:30pm.

Day	Club and description	Year group	Teacher	Time
Monday	Multi Sports - Miss Robinson will decide with the children what sport they would like to play based on their interests.	Y1 - 6	Miss Robinson - Premier Sports	3.30 - 4.30pm
Monday	Civic Award – This is a Year 6 programme that encourages children to contribute to school and the wider community. Pupils' complete various exciting activities across the year to meet the specific criteria of the award.	Y6	Miss Docking	12.15-12.45pm
Monday	Mini medics – This club gives children the opportunity to learn vital first aid skills in a fun, engaging, and hands-on environment. Children will build confidence as they learn important techniques such as CPR, applying bandages, treating minor injuries, and other simple first aid skills.	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Miss Gilberthorpe	3.30 - 4.30pm
Tuesday	Reading - Bring your favourite book from home or discover a new author from our library. Cosy up on our sofas and unwind with a good book. All reading levels are welcome.	All years	Mrs Readey	3.30 - 4.30 pm
Thursday	Papier-mâché - Build your very own papier mâché animal sculpture.	All years	Mrs Readey	3.30 - 4.30pm

Values of the week

Meadowsfoot - Adelina for persevering in PE.

Mothecombe - Ewan for being an excellent role model - demonstrating all school values.

Riverside - Leo for his perseverance with spelling.

Oldaport - Perseverance is awarded to Robin for challenging himself.

Riverside – Mrs Pasmore



It has been another busy and lovely week in Riverside!

We had a fantastic time at our fun swim! We joined Oldaport for a longer session, which gave us even more time in the water. It was so lovely to see just how much confidence the children have developed. Some children who initially found jumping into the pool tricky were confidently jumping into ring floats, while others who once struggled to swim a width are now managing an impressive 25 metres using a swimming stroke. We are so proud of how far everyone has come!

In English, we have been writing our own versions of *The Tear Thief*. The children have produced some fantastic writing, using impressive descriptions, expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials and accurate punctuation. We have also shown great maturity when editing our own work. This is a really tricky skill to master, as it means looking carefully at our writing and thinking about how we can make it even better.

In Maths, we have started our new unit on multiplication and division, using our times table knowledge to help us tackle the grid method. Year 4 have also been busy exploring multiples of 3 and developing their understanding of number patterns.

Year 3 and 4 have also enjoyed their final Science lesson, where we explored how muscles work. We even created our own hand models to demonstrate how muscles and tendons help us move our fingers. It was a great hands-on way to bring our learning to life!

Well done, Riverside, for another week of fantastic learning, growing confidence and brilliant effort. We are very proud of you all!

Oldaport – Mrs Benson



Oldaport's final swimming session was a fun one! The children thoroughly enjoyed their time in the pool and had a great opportunity to put their swimming skills into practice. In English, we have been completing our final writing task, focusing on grammar and writing skills taught within the unit. Our work has centred on the book *Shackleton's Journey*. The children have chosen to write about the journey of Amelia Earhart, Bear Grylls or Sir Edmund Hillary. In Maths, we have been revisiting and consolidating our written methods for multiplication using the column method, as well as short division. The children have been developing their confidence and accuracy when applying these methods to a range of calculations. In Science, we have

been learning about human evolution. The children have explored how humans have evolved over time and how our understanding of human history has developed through scientific discoveries.

Vacancies at The Erme and Cornwood Primary School

We are currently seeking 3 dedicated Teaching Assistants to join our team at The Erme and Cornwood Primary School. The ideal candidate will have experience and possess strong mentoring and communication skills. Closing date for applications is 4th November 2026. Please use the link below to apply:

[Teaching Assistant Vacancy - Apply Here](#)



Parent engagement sessions:

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!

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
Friday 23 rd October	Last day before half term	
Monday 2 nd 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
Friday 6 th November	Trip to Paignton Zoo – Meadowsfoot and Mothecombe	
Monday 9 th November	Multicultural Celebration Day – more details to follow	
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 27 th November	Non pupil day	
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Autumn Term	
Tuesday 5 th January	Children return to school	

