

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2026



Whimple Primary School

Issue 3

08.05.26

Despite being a four day week, it feels like we have managed five days of content. Our Year 3 and 4 children had a great time on their residential, 'Snooze at the Zoo'. The animals were a real hit with the children. Thank you to Miss Clarke, Miss Dunsford and Mrs Day for attending and staying with them.

Our Year 6 children managed to complete the Exmoor Challenge at the weekend, despite getting very wet. We are grateful to the Heads of some of the Federation Schools that attended on the day in order to make sure all the children were OK.

Ash and Elm Class had some little visitors yesterday afternoon, from Animals 2U Southwest, they had a great time.

Sunshine

As the weather starts to warm up and the sun comes out we need to ensure children are protected. The sun's rays are at their strongest in May. Please encourage children to bring a sun hat into school and apply sun screen.

Water Bottles

We are still having a number of children not bringing in water bottles to school—please remind them to bring it into school daily.

PE Kits

Again a few children are still not bringing in their PE kits into school. This may be due to a number of reasons but if this continues we will email you so we can try to get the matter sorted.

Skills Builder

We are hoping to hold another Parent Workshop linked to our taught skills after half-term. More information in next week's newsletter.



FROM MR JOLLIFFE

Many thanks to all the parents who responded to the parent survey last term. We had a total of 142 responses, which gives a really strong guide to what is going well and what to focus on for the coming year. A short summary of the parent survey is attached to this week's newsletters and will be used to help shape the focus areas for next year's development plans.

EXMOOR CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all the teams of Year 6s who took part in the Exmoor Challenge on Saturday, 2nd May. This is a real challenge for relatively young people, navigating and walking across 16 miles of Exmoor on their own, and they did exceptionally well, showing great team work and resilience. Many thanks to the staff and parents who supported our teams as they took part.

LOST PROPERTY

Mr Jolliffe is looking after lost property from Snooze at the Zoo. If your child has lost any items of clothing or equipment, please let your school office know by Friday, 15th May, as any unclaimed items will be disposed of then.

OUR GREEN SCHOOLS –14TH MAY- MEETING LINK

Join parents and teachers from across the federation to share ideas on making the most of the landscapes that surround us, increasing outdoor learning, and becoming greener schools.

This parent-led session, supported by Mr Jolliffe is a chance to hear about national developments, celebrate what's already happening, and explore future ideas.

No further commitment required. Sign up will help give us an idea of interest but the link to join the meeting is here: meet.google.com/kyt-pwuq-sfo

[Sign up here](https://meet.google.com/kyt-pwuq-sfo)

NAVIGATING CHANGE

TRANSITIONING FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY

Skills Workshop with Parental Minds

An interactive online workshop exploring the journey of our young people transitioning from primary school to secondary school. Together we'll discuss practical strategies and highlight effective ways to offer meaningful support while our loved ones navigate this new chapter in their lives.

Parental Minds Community Interest Company:
Developed through families' experiences, with
input from professionals & researchers.



Online, Zoom

**Monday 18th May 2026
7.15pm – 8.45pm**

Sign up here:

bit.ly/PMSWChangeMay26



Dates for your diary

May

Monday 11th KS2 SATs week
Friday 15th Willow Class Forest School

June

w/c Monday 1st Multiplication Tables Check - Year 4
w/c Monday 8th Phonics Screening - Year 1
Saturday 13th School Summer Fayre
Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th June Year 5/6 residential

July

Friday 3rd Sports Day (pm)
Tuesday Leavers Assembly for Year 6 parents

Term dates for pupils - 2025/26:

SUMMER TERM 2026 20th April to 22nd July 2026

Half term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 26th June 2026

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

Telephone: 01404 822584

Email: admin@whimpleprimary.co.uk

Website: www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk