

# NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2026



## Whimple Primary School

Issue 6

05.06.26

Thank you for all the donations brought in today for the tombolo stall at the school fair. These will be sorted ready for the adults and children's section. Our year 3 and 4 Football team did well yesterday—they demonstrated a great team spirit and won three games.

### PARKING PLEA

In order to ensure the safety of all children, including those attending pre-school, please do not use the village hall car park to drop off or collect children at the start and end of the school day. This is for staff use only and the doctors surgery. The local pub, the Thirsty Farmer permits parents to park sensibly in their car park.

**NO PARKING IN  
THE VILLAGE  
HALL CAR PARK**

### Reminders:

School Uniform should be worn to school each day. Shorts or trousers that are grey or black can be worn along with a white polo shirt. Girls can wear blue and white gingham dresses in the summer. Sweatshirts or cardigans should have the school logo. Any exceptions to this need to be agreed by school first.

If you are running short there will be plenty of second hand uniform available at the summer fair—come and take a look.

Please can children also have a raincoat so they can still go outside in inclement weather.

### Skills Builder: Parent Workshop - Monday 15th June

We will be holding another parents workshop on Monday 15th June. This will be a fabulous opportunity to find out more about the 8 essential skills of: listening, speaking, teamwork, leadership, planning, adapting, problem solving and creativity. This event will include practical workshops for you and your child to take part in together, as well as finding out about how to support your child at home with these skills.

Come to the hall, from 3.45pm for a 4pm start. Refreshments will be available. [SIGN UP HERE](#)

[Please complete this form if you are planning to come.](#)





#### **FROM MR JOLLIFFE**

For the new school year, we are looking for a new parent governor on the EVMF governing board and a letter giving more details about this is attached to this newsletter. We would particularly welcome anyone with expertise or an interest in Health and Safety. Please think about becoming a governor, or encouraging others to volunteer. Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the governor team and together they are responsible for the strategic direction of the schools, promoting high standards of educational achievement and ensuring our resources are used to maximum impact. Life as a governor is interesting and varied and we feel sure that there are parents prepared to take on this important role and give their time [approximately four hours a month] and commitment to helping us to continue to improve the schools' performance. If you would like to stand for election please complete and sign the nomination form attached to this newsletter and return to your child's school office, or by email to [hlast@exevalleyfederation.org.uk](mailto:hlast@exevalleyfederation.org.uk), no later than 12 noon on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

#### **SHAUGH PRIOR SCHOOL**

Following completion of the statutory process on a proposal to close Shaugh Prior Primary School, Devon County Council's Cabinet met on 20 May 2026 to consider the proposal. With sadness, the Cabinet approved the proposal to close Shaugh Prior Primary School from 31 August 2026. Whilst there is a presumption against the closure of rural schools, it was clear there was sufficient evidence that the school was not educationally sustainable. Approval was also given to the new designated areas for the area currently served by Shaugh Prior Primary to inform school transport eligibility.

A copy of the minutes of Cabinet and the report is available via: [Agenda for Cabinet on Wednesday, 20th May, 2026, 10.30 am - Democracy in Devon](#)

#### **STAFF PROFESSIONAL DAY FRIDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

The final staff professional day is on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026 and all the EVMF schools will be closed to pupils on that day. Teachers will be working with the English Team at Silverton School during the day.

#### **HEAD OF SCHOOL—WHIMPLE**

The governors are delighted to be able to tell you that Mr Andrew Wootton has been appointed to the post of Head of School in September. Mr Wootton is an experienced school leader who is currently Headteacher of Isambard Kingdom Primary School in Taunton. He is looking forward very much to joining the federation in September and will be working with Mrs Shilston and the staff team at Whimple over the next seven weeks to get to know the school and its community. A letter of introduction from Mr Wootton is attached to this week's newsletter.

## PTA News

We are still looking for volunteers to help run stalls, particularly in Ash and Elm Classes. It would only need to be for 30 minutes and it all helps raise funds to support all children with extra activities.

**More details on the Class What's App pages.**

### **Are you looking to have a declutter of odd socks?**

I am here to help! I am collecting odd socks/unwanted socks.

Please help me out by popping any **clean** odd socks, as brightly coloured and fun as you can find, in the box in Reception.

Donation cut off date will be Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June.

All will be revealed at the Summer Fayre on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June!

Thank you  
Catherine  
PTA Chairman



# Dates for your diary

## June

|                                    |                                                     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| w/c Monday 8th                     | Phonics Screening - Year 1                          |
| Tuesday 9th                        | September Reception Parent Meetings                 |
| Thursday 11th                      | Year 5/6 football tournament, Newton St Cyres       |
| Saturday 13th                      | School Summer Fair 1-4pm                            |
| Monday 15th                        | Skills Builder Parent Workshop 3.45pm, village hall |
| Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th June | Year 5/6 residential                                |
| Friday 26th                        | Professional Learning Day—staff only                |

## July

|                            |                                         |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Thursday 2nd               | Civic Award Presentation Evening        |
| Friday 3rd                 | CVCC Orchestra event (am)               |
| Friday 3rd                 | Sports Day (pm)                         |
| Wednesday 8th/Thursday 9th | Clyst Vale Transition Days              |
| Friday 17th                | Rock Steady Concert for Parents         |
| Friday 17th                | EVF Cross Country Event                 |
| Tuesday 21st               | Leavers Assembly for Year 6 parents 2pm |

## Term dates for pupils - 2025/26:

**SUMMER TERM 2026**                      **20th April to 22nd July 2026**

*Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026*

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