

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2026



Whimple Primary School

Issue 9

25.06.26

What a week! Thank you for all your support and understanding with regards the changes to lunch, and the length of the school day, due to the very hot weather. Although it has been hot in our mobile classrooms, classes have been able to move spaces to help mitigate this. Some of the temperatures being quoted by some of our children have also been slightly exaggerated. I am sure in a week or too we will be complaining it is too wet or something else! The joy of living in the UK.

Information regarding our sports day next Friday afternoon, has been emailed to parents and is also on page 3 of this newsletter. Please take the time to read the arrangements so we can run the event smoothly and keep all our children safe. The PTA are also kindly selling hot dogs and burgers afterwards.

Hopefully, many of you will be doing something over the long weekend—please look after yourselves and be mindful of heat and the number of serious accidents that have happened involving water. We have a sea safety assembly by the RNLI planned for next week.



Although the temperature is on the decline, we still request children bring in water bottle and sunhats to protect them from the sun. They will also need their PE kits.

Year 5 and 6 children visiting the mosque on residential last week.





FROM MR JOLLIFFE



On Tuesday this week, senior leaders from the Exe Valley and Moorsway Federation met to start to think about school development plans for the coming year, making use of your feedback from the parent survey earlier in the year. We are also working on the Strategic Plan for the next five years and would very much like to hear your views on the future direction of our group of schools. In the next week I will put together a slideshow with audio commentary that will set out our thinking about this and share this on the federation website. This will give parents an opportunity to learn about the strategic plan ideas so far, before we have an online forum meeting for you to discuss your ideas with me. This will be happening in the next couple of weeks, so please do look out for the link to the slides and the meeting.

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

Thank you for your patience as we have managed the high temperatures recently. We have tried to balance the need for children to stay safe with the government's expectation that schools should do everything possible to stay open for the sake of vulnerable children in particular. Thank you for your understanding as we have navigated exceptionally warm weather for the first time.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY, FRIDAY, 26TH JUNE

The final staff professional development day is tomorrow, Friday, 26th 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.

PRAYER ROOM

Every half term, a group of parents meet to pray for the federation schools. The next prayer room will be on Friday, 10th July at 9.30am at Silverton Evangelical Church [School Road, Silverton EX5 4JH]. Please contact Andy Mathers [apmathers@gmail.com] for more information.

Whimble Fest

Saturday 4th July
12-5.30 pm

Whimble Parish Field

Free Entry! and parking

Family Fun!

Chillout Tent

Classic Cars

Raffle!

Wellbeing Zone
Natural
Beauty Products
Fitness advice & demos
Yoga & Dance Classes
Reiki Tarot

Kids Zone
Face Painting Hair Braiding
Toys & Sweets Traditional Games
Free Play Area Prizes to be won
Harleons Inflatables Craft Cabin
Table Tennis Mr Bubbles Lots more!

Live Music
Whimble Community Choir
Bradley Cowtan
Rowan Stuart
Mrs Jones
Dance performances

Arts + Crafts
Jewellery
Food & Produce Gifts
Upcycled clothing Baby Knits
Other hand-crafted artisan goods

Rural Skills + Wares
Gittisham Willow crafts Honey farmers
Forge
Bell ringers Ottery Mens Shed Hospicecare Hub
Heathfield Farm Phoenix Ladies Choir
Ottery Help Scheme W.P.Council St Marys Church
Whimble History Soc. Victory Hall
Sports groups

Food + Drinks
Locally supplied
Wide choice available
BBQ Pizza Van BAR
Veggie/vegan options
Ice cream van
Refreshments Marquee for teas & cakes etc.
Blossomberry Juice

Tractors

Inflatable Fun

Giant Bubbles!

Arts Community Sustainability

Contact - sue.turner1@sky.com

Sports Day

Friday 3rd July

Start time: 1.00pm

Return to school **or collect your child from the cricket field**: 3.15pm

Approx. Timing	Event Detail
1.00pm	Arrive at Cricket Field.
1.05pm	In house teams, children take part in 8 activities .
2.00pm	Mixed gender sprint races for all classes.
2.30pm	Tug of war
3.00pm	Long distance Races
3.15pm	Close

Please note the following points:

- Children will be seated in their classes, with school staff for the duration of the event. Please **do not** come across the track at any point: this helps us ensure that all children are kept safe at all times. Please see map below.
- We will have a mixture of competitive races with some team games where children encourage each other to 'have a go'. Our message to the children is that they should always try their best, and sometimes they will win, and sometimes they won't – both of these outcomes are fine if they have given their best effort. Please support us with this message.
- Sometimes races are close! We will, of course, do our best to identify the first three in each one who will be given a certificate. Please leave this to school staff and respect the decisions that are made.

Thank you all – we look forward to seeing you there!



SPORTS DAY

3.15pm - after the races

Cash or card

Sweets
£1



Burgers £4.50
Hotdogs £4



Ice Pops
50p



Dates for your diary

July

Wednesday 1st	Sea Safety Assembly
Thursday 2nd	Civic Award Presentation Evening (Year 6)
Friday 3rd	CVCC Orchestra event (am)
Friday 3rd	Sports Day (pm)
Tuesday 7th	Elm Class Trip—Drakes Farm
Wednesday 8th/Thursday 9th	Clyst Vale Transition Days
Thursday 9th	Move on morning—meet your teacher
Monday 13th	Beech Class Trip—Donkey Sanctuary
Wednesday 15th	Oak Class Trip—RAMM
Friday 17th	Rock Steady Concert for Parents 9.15am
Friday 17th	EVF Cross Country Event
Tuesday 21st	Leavers Assembly for Year 6 parents 2pm
Wednesday 22nd	Last day of summer term

Term dates for pupils - 2025/26 and 2026/27:

SUMMER TERM 2026

20th April to 22nd July 2026

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

Autumn term 2026

Thursday 3rd September to Friday 23rd October [Staff Development Days 3rd and 4th September]

Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December [Staff Development Day 27th November]

Spring term 2027

Monday 4th January to Friday 12th February [Staff Development Day 4th January]

Monday 22nd February to Thursday 25th March

Summer term 2027

Monday 12th April to Friday 28th May

Monday 7th June to Friday
Day 2nd July]

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23rd July [Staff Development