



Weekly newsletter

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore
Friday 13th February 2026



Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents / Carers

We've had a wonderful end to the half term, packed with creativity, achievement and community spirit. The children's artwork is now proudly displayed in the church and it truly looks amazing. Every piece reflects the time, care and effort the children have put into their learning. From colourful paintings to detailed drawings and creative projects, there is so much to admire. We are incredibly proud of them all and hope you are able to take a moment to pop in and see the display for yourselves.

It was fantastic to welcome so many families to our Family Breakfast. The hall was filled with smiles and conversation as everyone enjoyed spending time together. We hope you enjoyed sharing breakfast with your children and looking through their books and work from this half term. The children have shown great determination and enthusiasm in their learning, and it was lovely to see them so proud to share their achievements with you.

A huge well done to Roman, Antonia, Lucas, Scarlett and Edward who represented the school at the Boccia Finals in Paignton. They performed extremely well and were fantastic ambassadors for Winkleigh. We are very proud of their teamwork and sporting attitude. Thank you to Mrs Rowcliffe and to the parents who kindly drove them to the event – your support is very much appreciated.

Well done as well to our Year 4 and Year 6 children who took part in Bikeability this week. You all did brilliantly, showing great focus and developing important skills to help keep you safe while cycling.

This week, all children also took part in Internet Safety Day. They learnt about artificial intelligence; the importance of keeping themselves safe online; how to make sensible choices; and what to do if something doesn't feel right. These are such important lessons and the children engaged thoughtfully in the discussions.

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Executive Headteacher's Update *continued*

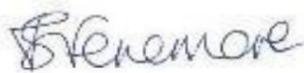
Our Nursery Stay and Play session was buzzing as usual, with lots of exciting activities for the children to explore. From creative crafts to hands-on play experiences, there was plenty to keep everyone busy and engaged. Thank you to those who joined us – it's always such a pleasure to see our youngest learners enjoying their time in school.

Today was a *Dare to be Different* day organised by the Friends of Winkleigh School (FOWs). It was amazing to see so many different costumes in school and we thank you for your continued support of FOWs as their fundraising allows us to significantly reduce the cost of trips, residentials and enrichment experiences.

As we come to the end of a busy and productive half term, we would like to thank you for your continued support. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break, and that the weather brightens up a little so everyone can spend some time outdoors.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 23rd February, ready for another busy and exciting half term at Winkleigh Primary School.

Kind regards



Mrs V Fenemore



General reminders:

- Please ensure that children are supervised at the start and end of the day. This is for their safety due to the arrival/departure of busses. They should not be playing on the grassed area behind staff cars.
- Gates open at 08.45, if families are on site before this time, children must be supervised and should not be playing or running around. Staff are working and this can be a distraction.

Diary dates

Upcoming week

Week beginning: 23.02.26

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <p>Weekly deadlines</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch deadline – midnight the day before All sorts – 3pm Friday before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i> Early birds – 3pm Friday before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i> Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time. Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day. <p>Email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk to make changes.</p> |
| <p>Monday</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flute club (KS2) with Miss McLean 3.30pm-4.30pm Running club (KS2) with Mr Walter/Mr Slocombe 3.30pm-4.30pm PE Kit: Year 5, Year 6 Writing hook day – information has been emailed |
| <p>Tuesday</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gardening club (Y2-6) with Mr Walter 3.30pm-4.30pm PE Kit: Year 3, Year 4 |
| <p>Wednesday</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE Kit: Owls, Year 1, Year 2 Woodland Robins 9am-10.30am Year 2 Family lunch QE Swimming Gala event (Year 5) – those involved will receive letters Year 5 Decider Workshop |
| <p>Thursday</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football club (KS2) with Mr Jarad 3.30pm-4.30pm Music curriculum day, with workshops in school PE Kit: Owls, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 5 QE Netball event (Year 5) – those involved will receive letters |
| <p>Friday</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE Kit: Year 2, Year 4 Jay's Aim defibrillator training |

Diary dates

This half term

These dates are provisional and subject to change. Details will follow.

Spring 2

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Wb 02.03.26 | 02.03.26 Year 3 Football Festival – those involved will receive letters 04.03.26 Year 3 Family lunch 05.03.26 World Book Day |
| Wb 09.03.26 | 11.03.26 Y3/4 Orienteering event at QE, Crediton 11.03.26 Year 1 Family Lunch 12.03.26 Year 3 Kents Cavern visit 13.03.26 Wear Red for the Devon Air Ambulance - £1 donation 13.03.26 Mother's day cream tea |
| Wb 16.03.26 | 17.03.26 Year 2 West Town Farm visit 18.03.26 Year 4 Energy from Waste visit 18.03.26 Owls Family Lunch 20.03.26 Year 1 Exmoor Zoo visit |
| Wb 23.03.26 | 24.03.26 Owls Rosemoor visit 25.03.26 KS2 Cross country – Monkleigh 24.03.26/26.03.26 Parent's evening 26.03.26 Primary sports Cross country event 27.03.26 Family breakfast, open morning and Nursery Easter crafts stay and play |
| Wb 30.03.26 | 30.03.26-01.04.26 Year 5 Skern residential 01.04.26 Year 4 visit to Kings Nympton – sporting event 02.04.26 Cross country event at Kings Nympton 02.04.26 Easter Crafts Display |

PE days

Spring 2

PE days for each class will continue to be included within the diary dates. Below details each class' PE days for this half term in line with any changes to class timetables. Children may also continue to wear their PE kit on days they are attending a sports club.

Reception: Leap into life every day, PE kit required on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Year 1: Wednesday & Thursday

Year 2: Thursday & Friday

Year 3: Tuesday & Thursday

Year 4: Tuesday & Friday

Year 5: Monday & Thursday

Year 6: Monday & Wednesday

Any changes to these days due to events and timetable changes will be detailed in the weekly diary dates.

PE kit

- Navy school-branded/plain hoodie
- Black trainers
- Black shorts/tracksuit bottoms
- White t-shirt
- Children may continue to wear black trainers everyday for track and break times.



Hook days

As you will know from our recent communications, we are aiming to increase excitement and engagement around writing. As part of this work, we are introducing curriculum Hook Days.

Each class has a new text after half term and children are invited to attend school in fancy dress (detailed below).

Parents/carers are invited into school from 2.30pm to purchase refreshments. You will then be able to work alongside your children from 2.45pm and view their writing from the day.

| Class | New text | Non-uniform theme |
|--------|---|--|
| Owls | Jasper's Beanstalk | Green! Gardening, florals, green or a cat! |
| Year 1 | I love bugs! | Scientists or insects |
| Year 2 | The True Story of the Three Little Pigs | Builders, construction workers, pigs, wolves |
| Year 3 | The Great Fire of London | Bakers, firefighters, or 1666 costume! |
| Year 4 | Leon and the place between | Magician or circus character |
| Year 5 | 101 ways to become a superhero or evil genius | Create your own superhero costume |
| Year 6 | Wallace & Gromit: Cracking contraptions | Inventors |



Art exhibition



**Friday 13th February – Monday
23rd February**

**Winkleigh – All Saints Church
Kings Nympton – St James the Apostle
Church**

**Available to view during usual church
opening hours.**

**Every child has produced artwork for the
exhibition.**



A warm, welcoming space for bumps, babies, and little learners to grow together.

Wednesday mornings (term time)



9am-10.30am

Winkleigh Primary School Hall
£2 per session

Refreshments included

Join us for stories, singing and a wonderful opportunity for play and exploration. We would love to welcome you into school for quality interactions with children and families.

Baby weighing available.

Extreme reading challenge!



EXTREME READING February Half Term Challenge

2026 is the National Year of Reading. This is a nationwide initiative led by the National Literacy Trust to promote reading for pleasure and to boost literacy. The campaign aims to reconnect reading with everyday life and inspire people to make it part of their daily routine.

To link with this initiative, we are running a competition over the half term break, encouraging our children to make time to read or share a book.

The theme is 'extreme reading' and we would like the children to have a go at reading in some unusual locations.

The Bookery in Crediton have kindly offered to support us by providing a prize for the competition.



How to enter:

Please take a photo of your child reading in an unusual (but safe) location.

Email it to us at admin@Winkleigh.devon.sch.uk by Monday 23rd February.

We would like to share some of the photos on our Facebook page so please ensure that your email clearly states if you give us permission to do this.

Art day with EmmyLou



Safer Internet Day



Year 1 explored the appropriate use of AI and voice assistants today. We discussed when technology can be helpful, but also the importance of seeking support from trusted adults especially if we feel worried, upset, or unsure.



Year 2 learned about AI and voice assistants this afternoon. Then began to create our own internet safety guides using all the information we have covered in our learning sequence this half term.



Year 3 have thought about what makes a safe and secure password, what cyber bullying is and who to speak to if they see something they know is not safe or kind online.



Year 4 worked on the positive and negative uses of artificial intelligence (AI). Detailing its use in the digital age but also the risks to be aware of in the future. Together we worked on plans of who to tell if we were concerned about something online.



Year 5 continued their sequence this week on internet safety and as a class looked at a variety of situations and thought about how we could ensure that we stayed safe online and what we would do in different situations. We started to look at how we can use AI and ensure that we are safe online when we use it.



Year 6 focused on misinformation in particular in online news articles, they learnt how to check whether an article is trustworthy. They also thought about what it is safe to trust an AI chat bot to do and what information they shouldn't give to AI.

Boccia Final





Wednesday Wraparound Care COOKING CLUB



**Wednesday 25th February –
Wednesday 2nd April**

**New Recipes!
Cooking something different every
Wednesday for 6 weeks!**

**Macaroni Cheese, Sticky Toffee Pudding,
Mrs Illman's Cookies,
Cottage Pie, Spaghetti Bolognese,
Iced Raspberry Mousse**

**Book your child in via the Gateway App
(3 nights before or if you miss the deadline, email admin)**



Class news

Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear Families,

We have had a ROAR-some time in the Nursery as we continued exploring the exciting world of dinosaurs, practised our ball and bean bag skills, and created beautiful marble paintings! We have also had a marvellous time out in the garden taking turns to ride the bikes and scooters.

Throughout this half term our classroom has been full of curiosity and imagination for our dinosaur topic.

Our topic highlights:

- Learning the names of different dinosaurs like Tyrannosaurus Rex, Triceratops, and Stegosaurus
 - Talking about herbivores and carnivores
 - Exploring the idea of fossils and how scientists learn about dinosaurs
- Engaging in imaginative dinosaur play and movement activities (stomping, stretching, roaring!)

Through these experiences, we developed our vocabulary, practised listening skills, and encouraged creative storytelling.

Have a wonderful weekend and see you after the half term break.

The Nursery Team



Class news

Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Miss Crosby

Owls have had a great week, we have been exploring farming and the animals we may find on farms around us. We investigated how to make cheese, why we mark sheep and also where the milk we drink comes from. We have been building our own farmyards and moving around like animals in leap into life. During drawing club this week we have enjoyed listening to "farmer duck", and using language such as "the big cheese" to explore the roles of different characters within our story. The children have come up with some creative characters and settings as a result with some children choosing a "fly" or an "elephant" as their "big cheese"! Within maths we have had a lot of fun investigating shapes, looking at 2D shapes specifically and how many sides or corners a shape has. A brilliant last week of the half term for Owls!



Class news

Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

Year 1 have had another busy week as we come to the end of the half term, enjoying and recapping all of our learning. In English, we are concluding the half term with the traditional tale Jack and the Beanstalk. The children have really enjoyed describing Jack's characteristics and imagining what might be waiting for him above the clouds at the top of the beanstalk. In Maths, our focus this week has been on subtraction. We explored different ways to show taking away, including telling number stories, representing calculations pictorially, using concrete resources, and applying number lines to solve number sentences. In PE, we have enjoyed collaborating in different groups to create gymnastics routines which we then performed to the class. Year 1 showed great teamwork, coordination skills, and creativity throughout the sequence. In Art, the children completed their Mondrian-inspired artwork and recreated digital designs using primary colours and geometric shapes. In Geography, we compared Sri Lanka with our local area, discussing the wildlife, climate, and foods produced in these very different locations. The children are really looking forward to showcasing their wonderful artwork and are very proud to share it with the community and their parents and carers. Next half term begins with a very exciting Book Hook Day, where Year 1 will be exploring the fascinating world of minibeasts. We hope you all have a restful half term.



Year 2 – Mrs Keast

Year 2 have completed their independent writing this week in English, based on the story 'Stuck!' by Oliver Jeffers. The children have come up with some fantastic ideas for their own stories and they have been able to apply the grammar skills they have been taught. For example, using apostrophes and conjunctions in their writing.

In maths, the new unit of learning is money. It has been interesting to discuss our experiences with money and talk about which coins and notes hold which value. The children have been counting coins and notes, remembering to count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10 when needed.

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day and this year the focus was on AI. We talked about using voice assistants such as Alexa and how they can be used appropriately. We also thought about what voice assistants can and cannot do, comparing them to human beings.

On Wednesday afternoon we spent time outside in our garden area. The children were fantastic helpers, clearing away debris and getting the garden ready for Spring. It was lovely to see that our 'bulb lasagne' that we planted last term has started to show signs of

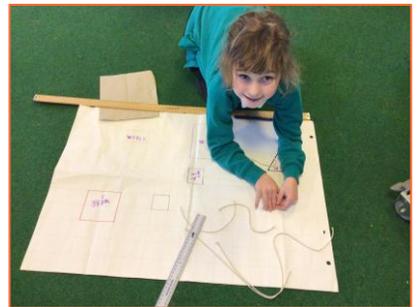
life!



Class news

Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

Year Three have worked hard to write some wonderful interviews linked to our class text 'Interview with a tiger' this week. They loved reading them out to the class and we think they will make a great addition to Andy Seed's book. Well done Year Three on all your hard work during this English sequence, it has been great to share in your enthusiasm and see your writing skills develop. In maths, the children have thoroughly enjoyed measuring the perimeter of shapes, thinking about how to calculate the perimeter when we do not have all the measurements, as well as drawing their own shapes. We hope you are able to make a trip to the local church next week to admire all the hard work the children have put into creating their own Van Gogh inspired paintings. We clearly have some budding artists and authors amongst the class. Well done on all your hard work this half term Year Three. We hope you all have a lovely half term break.



Year 4 – Mr Walter

This week, Year 4 have created their own information sheets around a mythical creature of their choice. Using the layout of our focus text which is giving instructions on how to look after a dragon. We have adapted the pages to write some interesting facts and information of how to look after a variety of creatures. In maths, we have completed our sequence on length and perimeter. We have been finding and converting different lengths whilst working out the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and polygons. We will be moving onto fractions after half term.

Some children enjoyed the opportunity to take part in the Level 1 Bikeability training. They listened brilliantly to show how to remain safe and showed fantastic ability throughout. There will be an opportunity to move onto Level 2 next year. We have concluded our learning in all of our subjects for the term, comparing the food packaging locations to work out the food miles of the food we eat and sharing our knowledge of electricity. On Tuesday afternoon, we focused on Internet Safety Day with the main discussions being around the use, advantages and disadvantages of artificial intelligence (AI). Finally, everyone has worked hard to complete the learning sequence in the way of David Hockney to show the movement of water in art. We hope you get the opportunity to visit the art exhibition in the church during half term.

Have a great week!



Class news

Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

A fantastic last week of the term in Year 5 this week, this week some children from Year 5 took part on bikeability with some children from Year 6. In Maths, this week we have been learning about percentages and finding percentages as decimals and fractions, using pictures to help explain percentages. We have been focusing on our reasoning skills and using sentence stems to help us explain our thinking. In English, we have finished our sequence on *Short* and have created our own short mysterious stories. We have also been thinking about what advice we would give our peers and working collaboratively to help improve each others writing. In art, we have been working hard to create our final piece of work in the style of William Morris and we are looking forward to displaying them over half term in the art exhibition. In PE, this week we have been using all our skills we have learnt to have a mini hockey festival, the children really enjoyed using their skills and showing what they had learnt. Have a great half term Year 5!



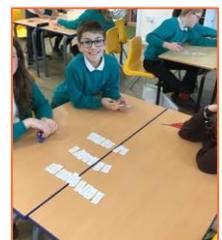
Year 6 – Miss McLean

Year 6 have worked incredibly hard on their independent writing in English this week and have produced some fantastic writing on the journey of an everyday object.

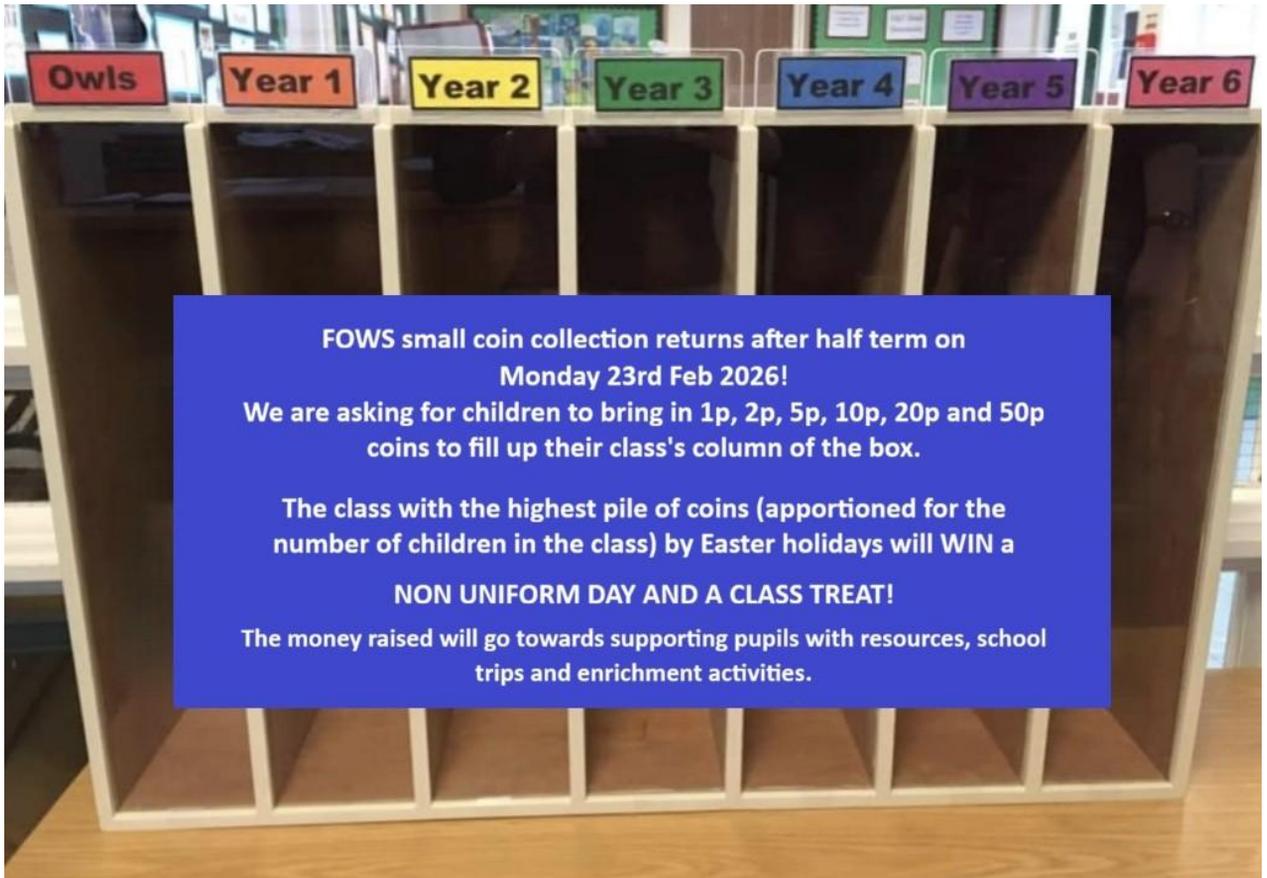
In maths, we have completed a sequence on area, perimeter and volume. The children have made good use of the formulas taught to find the area, perimeter and volume of rectangles, triangles, parallelograms and cuboids.

We have finished our sequences in the foundation subjects including art. The children are very proud of their LS Lowry inspired crowd paintings which will be on display in the church throughout half term. On Tuesday afternoon, the children spent some time discussing the uses of AI and thought about some things that are or aren't safe uses as part of our engagement in safer internet day. Some children in Year 6 also took up the opportunity to take part in the bikeability sessions at the beginning of the week. They practiced some skills on the playground before venturing out onto the roads and showed great awareness of road safety, well done!

Finally, please remember that children are invited to come to school dressed as in inventor on the first day back after half term. Have a brilliant week!



FOWs Fundraising



FOWS small coin collection returns after half term on Monday 23rd Feb 2026!

We are asking for children to bring in 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p and 50p coins to fill up their class's column of the box.

The class with the highest pile of coins (apportioned for the number of children in the class) by Easter holidays will WIN a

NON UNIFORM DAY AND A CLASS TREAT!

The money raised will go towards supporting pupils with resources, school trips and enrichment activities.

Online safety

Welcome to the February 2026 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Schools

Less than one week to Safer Internet Day!

Less than a week to go until Safer Internet Day 2026!

Taking place on the 10th February 2026, the UK Safer Internet day will focus on the theme:

'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'

Check the **free resources available**, including:

[Top tips for parents and carers](#)

[Parents and carers of 3-7 year olds](#)

[Top tips for young people](#)

- 7-11years; 11-14years; 14-18years

[Education resources](#)

- 3-7years; 7-11years; 11-14years; 14-18years

[Quiz for 7-11 years](#)

[Quiz for 11-14 years](#)

[Safer Internet Webinars](#)

- Primary Educators and professionals
- Secondary Educators and professionals
- Starting a conversation

It is not too late to join the 2,000 other organisations who have already registered their support for Safer Internet Day on 10th February 2026!

[Register your support now!](#)



DfE Technology and Digital Standards Updated

The DfE updated its guidance on **2nd February 2026** for [Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges](#). You should:

- Read each technology category and its standards.
- Review the standards and see if your school or college meets them.
- Speak with your ICT supplier or in-house support team to find out what needs to be done if you're not currently meeting the standards.

If you need to buy new technology you can [get help buying for your school](#).

How resilient is your school's IT network

Scomis reminds schools to consider the following question:

Is your Data Safe?

Cyber Security is an extremely important consideration for school's senior management, Governing bodies and Trustees. Robust Network security will prevent loss of data, accidental damage, damage to reputation and malicious activity (cyber attacks).

Strengthening Cyber Security in Schools

Thursday 26th February 2026, 2.00 to 3.00pm

Free Webinar for schools from South West Grid for Learning in partnership with [Secure Schools](#):

'This one-hour session is designed specifically for education professionals who want to move beyond awareness and take meaningful, achievable steps towards building cyber resilience across their setting.'

Book your ticket [HERE](#)

Consider the following questions:

Do your staff know how to report 'phishing emails'?

Consider Cyber Security training on Staff Inset

What can your staff access on your network?

Check user access and privileges— Staff should only have access they need, NOT more!

Is your data being backed up?

Remember having data stored 'in the cloud' - Google Drive/Microsoft Office 365' **IS NOT** the same as a Cloud Backup

Is your software updated and upgraded?

Ensure software is updated and upgraded to latest versions as soon as they are made available

Need help?

Check the National Cyber Security Centre's [Cyber security for schools](#) section of their website.

Or contact Scomis for impartial and objective advice Scomis: 01392 385300

Staff Helpline

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline (POSH):
[Website](#) Tel: 0344 381 4772

For more information contact
Scomis: 01392 385300
E: scomis@devon.gov.uk
T: [01392 385300](tel:01392385300)

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