



# Weekly newsletter

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs V Fenemore

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026



## Executive Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been another exciting and busy week at Winkleigh Primary School, with lots of learning, collaboration, and sporting success taking place across the school.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to host an afternoon with ECTs (Early Career Teachers) from local schools. During the visit, we spent time exploring our school environment and discussing the importance of consistency across the school. It was a valuable opportunity to share good practice and reflect together, and we thoroughly enjoyed welcoming colleagues from our local community.

Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a fun-packed morning at QE as part of the PE package we subscribe to. As always, the children really enjoyed the events, they learnt lots of new skills while also having the opportunity to meet children from other local primary schools. Their behaviour, as always, was impeccable.

On Wednesday afternoon, we welcomed a visitor into assembly. Phil Slocombe talked about his career in the Royal Marines and his educational journey to that point. More information and photos to follow. It was a great way to start our focus on aspirations and ambitions.

Mr Slocombe and I also had a very enjoyable morning at the Bideford Racket Centre with some of our Key Stage 2 children, where we took part in a Boccia event alongside local schools. The children engaged brilliantly with the event, showing excellent teamwork and enthusiasm. We are extremely proud to share that one of our teams won the competition and has now progressed to the Devon finals — very exciting indeed!

We are looking forward to our open morning tomorrow. It is a fantastic opportunity for new, prospective parents to enjoy a tour of our school and meet with the Senior Leadership Team. Thank you to all staff for setting up classrooms to showcase, and to Mr Walter who co-ordinated the tidying up and re-planting of the various planters at the front of the school

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,

Mrs Fenemore

# Diary dates

## Upcoming week

Week beginning: 02.02.26

Weekly deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lunch deadline – midnight the day before</li> <li>All sorts – <b>3pm Friday</b> before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i></li> <li>Early birds – <b>3pm Friday</b> before <i>(call admin to make short notice changes)</i></li> <li>Bus changes – 2.30pm to email each day, phone after this time.</li> <li>Gate opens 08.45-08.55 each day.</li> </ul> <p>Email <a href="mailto:admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk">admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk</a> to make changes.</p>
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recorder club (KS2) with Miss McLean 3.30pm-4.30pm</li> <li>PE Kit: Year 2, Year 5, Year 6</li> <li>Year 2 Football festival – those involved have received letters</li> <li>Year 5 bikeability – those involved have received letters</li> </ul>
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gardening club (Y2-6) with Mr Walter 3.30pm-4.30pm</li> <li>PE Kit: Year 3, Year 4</li> <li>MED Theatre workshop (those involved have received letters) at Hatherleigh</li> <li>Year 5 bikeability – those involved have received letters</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PE Kit: Owls, Year 1, Year 2</li> <li>Woodland Robins 9am-10.30am</li> <li>Year 3 bikeability – those involved have received letters</li> </ul>
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football club (KS2) with Mr Jarad 3.30pm-4.30pm</li> <li>Admin team training day – emails will be checked periodically</li> <li>PE Kit: Owls, Year 3, Year 5, Year 6</li> </ul>
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PE Kit: Year 1, Year 4</li> <li>Forest school (Wellies required) - Year 3</li> <li>Staff cake sale</li> <li>Whole federation art day with EmmyLou</li> </ul>

# Diary dates

## This half term

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

### Upcoming events

Wb  
09.02.26

09.02.26/10.02.26 Year 6 Bikeability  
10.02.26 Online safety day  
13.02.26 Family breakfast & Nursery stay and play  
13.02.26 Art Exhibition in All Saint's Church begins  
13.02.26 FOWs Dare to be Different non-uniform day

### Spring 2

Wb  
23.02.26

23.02.26 Writing hook day – information to follow  
23.02.26 Final day of art exhibition in All Saint's church  
25.02.26 Year 2 Family Lunch  
26.02.26 Music curriculum day including workshops  
27.02.26 Jay's Aim Defibrillator training – Years 5/6

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 – TBC  
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



# Open Morning

For prospective families!



Come and see our amazing environment and meet the senior leadership team!  
Learn more about our approach, curriculum and extensive enrichment programme.

**Places available for**  
**0 – 11 years**

We can't wait to meet you!

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026**

10am-12noon

*If you cannot make this date, we are very happy to offer bespoke tours at any time, please contact [admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk) to book!*





# Stay & Play



## Spring crafts stay & play

Kings Nympton – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Winkleigh – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Come and join us to explore our settings  
and enjoy Spring crafts with your child.

£2 per family

*Following family breakfast*





# Art exhibition



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Monday  
23<sup>rd</sup> 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.**





## PRIMARY SPORTS – GLOW IN THE DARK NERF GUN BATTLES

### *Winkleigh Primary School*

Mr Jarad from Primary Sports will be running a Glow in the Dark Nerf Gun Battles session for children in Year 1 to Year 6. The session will take place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**SESSION – 5.00pm to 6.00pm**

*“During this AMAZING session the children will be able to take part in a nerf gun session which will take place in the school hall. The children will have the chance to play a wide range of team based nerf gun games with UV lighting whilst having a wide range of objects to hide behind. ”*

We can only cater for 30 children so please book as soon as possible using the instructions below. The cost of the session will be £7.50. Children must be collected from the school at **6.00pm**

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#### WINKLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL GLOW IN THE DARK NERF GUN BATTLES

To make a booking for the club please follow the instructions below:

- **1 – Enter our website – [www.primary-sports.co.uk](http://www.primary-sports.co.uk)**
- **2 – Click on the “Booking now tab”**
- **3 – Click on the “Winkleigh Primary School – Glow in the Dark Nerf Gun Battles” tab**
- **4 – Complete the online booking form**

Mr Jarad holds a clean enhanced DBS through Primary Sports. All equipment will be provided; children are expected to wear suitable bright PE Clothing and trainers. It is the responsibility of parents to make sure that inhalers are brought with the child and that the coaches are informed of medical conditions.

Glow in the Dark Nerf Gun Battles could result in a child being injured. Primary Sports and Education will accept no liability.

<https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2026/02/12/winkleigh-primary-school-glow-in-the-dark-nerf-gun-battles-february-2026>

**COOL TO BE ACTIVE...**  
**FUN TO BE FIT**

[www.primary-sports.co.uk](http://www.primary-sports.co.uk)

T: 0797 697 9202  
E: [marcus@primary-sports.co.uk](mailto:marcus@primary-sports.co.uk)

Reg. Co. Name: Primary Sports Education Ltd  
Reg. Address: 21 Town Close, Stogursey TAS T8N

VAT No: 183908477  
Company No: 7143002

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.



# Trips & Activities

## Key Stage 1 – QE Crediton – Multiskills visit



# Trips & Activities

## Whole School – Aspirational Assembly

On Wednesday, we were joined by Phil Slocombe, former Royal Marine. He talked about his career and education, giving an insight into his background and journey. Phil brought items from his career including his medals and uniform, explaining their significance before taking questions from children. An inspiring way to kick off a series of assemblies focused around ambition and aspiration.





# Trips & Activities

## Key Stage 2 – Atlantic Racquet Centre – Boccia Competition



A fantastic morning at Atlantic Racquet Centre in Bideford taking part in a Boccia Competition. Our two teams of Key Stage Two children took the sport on fantastically, supporting each other and playing excellently! So excellently that one of teams progressed to the county final! Mrs Fenemore and Mr Slocombe were, as always, very impressed with the children's behaviour and teamwork!



# Class news

## Nursery – Hedgehogs, Foxcubs & Squirrels – Mrs Stapley

Dear Families,

This week in the Nursery the children have continued learning through our exciting dinosaur theme, which has sparked lots of curiosity, creativity, and conversation!

The children enjoyed talking about dinosaurs and exploring ideas around size from tiny dinosaurs to enormous ones. We compared big and small, used descriptive language, and encouraged the children to share their own thoughts and ideas.

Our creative area was very busy as the children experimented with paint and colour mixing.

They discovered how new colours can be made by mixing different paints together, developing both their fine motor skills and early scientific thinking. It has been a lovely week full of learning through play, imagination, and hands on experiences.

Thank you for your continued support we love seeing the children so engaged and enthusiastic!

### A couple of reminders:

If your child is using nappies they need to arrive at nursery with a changing bag containing nappies, nappy bags and wipes.

Children need to wear trainers or shoes that they can move freely in and manage to take off and put on independently.



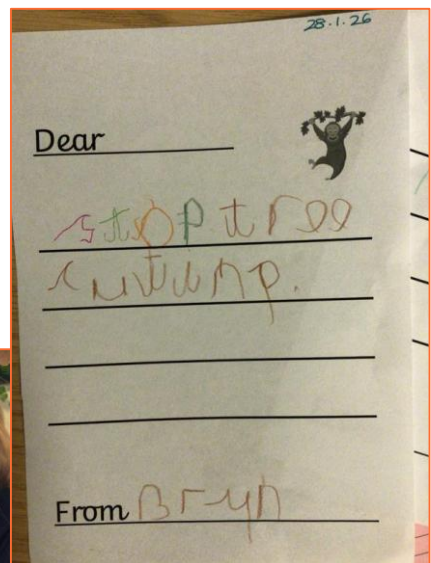
Have a wonderful weekend.  
The Nursery Team



# Class news

## Owls (Reception) – Miss Batstone & Miss Crosby

Owls have had another brilliant week, focusing on learning through hands-on, exciting experiences. In Forest School, they successfully used strikers to create sparks safely, explored teamwork and balance using the hammock, and expressed their creativity through mud painting. During Drawing Club, the children enjoyed exploring the story There's a Rang-Tan in My Bedroom, using the book to inspire thoughtful discussions, drawings and imaginative ideas. In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of mass and capacity through practical activities, comparing weights and exploring how much different containers can hold. It has been a wonderful term of curiosity, creativity and confidence-building learning.



# Class news

## Year 1 – Mrs Roberts

Yet another busy (and rather wet!) week in Year 1, We began the week outdoors, gardening and caring for our Key Stage 1 area. Armed with wellies and waterproofs, the children worked brilliantly together to clear and tidy the space — and it is now looking fantastic again. We also had a fantastic time at QE School taking part in a multi-skills sports session.

The Year 9 pupils did an amazing job of supporting and encouraging our children, and they were very impressed by the sporting talent and excellent sportsmanship shown by Year 1 and Year 2. In Maths, we finished our learning on place value within 20 and began our new unit on addition and subtraction within 20. The children have been enjoying lots of practical games, including Snakes and Ladders, to help them practise counting on and building confidence with numbers. In

Science, we learned all about amphibians, focusing on the life cycle of a frog. The children loved exploring our practical stations, where they felt what frogspawn might be like and used Play-Doh to create tadpoles, froglets and adult frogs as they sequenced the life cycle. In

Geography, we continued our learning about Sri Lanka and the animals that live there. The children were fascinated by the story of an elephant who has learnt to set up his own roadblock, taking food as “payment” before letting cars pass — a wonderful real-life example of how animals and people share the landscape. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



## Year 2 – Mrs Keast

Year Two are engrossed in our new English text 'Stuck' by Oliver Jeffers and have approached this new sequence with enthusiasm. We have been learning about adverbs and how we can add the 'ly' suffix to turn root words into adverbs. We also learned what a synonym is and recorded these independently.

In maths, we have been talking about times tables and have been focusing specifically on 2 and 10 x tables. We have also discussed odd and even numbers, adding them together and recording simple number sentences.

The class enjoyed their trip to QE in Crediton on Wednesday morning, taking part in several multi skills activities which helped develop coordination and agility.

In RE we learned about the Qur'an and how Muslims use it in their everyday lives. We also made links to our learning about Christianity and the Bible. The class discussed similarities and differences between the two, building on our understanding from previous units of learning in RE.





# Class news

## Year 3 – Mrs Bourner

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed their new English text 'Interview with a tiger' this week, and worked enthusiastically to write and perform some fantastic interview questions. In maths, we have also begun our new sequence focusing on measure. The children have been using rulers and tape measures to find the length of all manner of items in the classroom! We had a great tag rugby session on Tuesday where the children worked on developing their 'tagging' and 'trying' skills as part of the lesson! In art, they have planned their own Van Gogh pictures, ready to paint next week, and are very much looking forward to creating their own version of Van Gogh's 'Starry Night' painting. **We would very much appreciate it if children could bring an old T-shirt or shirt to school on Tuesday to keep school uniforms 'paint free!'**

Have a lovely weekend Year 3.



## Year 4 – Mr Walter

This week, Year 4 have concluded their learning sequence of Varjak Paw in English. It has been great to hear the desire to read the next chapter when left on a cliffhanger. We have created our own adventure stories based on an animal character who is seeking something to help save the day. In maths, we have also finished our learning sequence on multiplication and division;

exploring correspondence problems and continuing to use varying methods to show our workings out. In science, we described the differences between conductors and insulators by completing an experiment to see which classroom materials/objects would make our bulb light up. In geography, we tracked the journey a banana takes to arrive in our shops. Tracking the food miles, we plotted points on a map to show the journey food takes. We discussed the problems and impact this has on our environment. **If anyone has a packet which displays a country of origin, they are more than welcome to bring it in to further our findings.** Finally, in art we have started to paint our water background focussing on the work of David Hockney. We have used our patterns from last week to express the movement of the water.

Have a good weekend.



# Class news

## Year 5 – Mr Saltearn

A fantastic week in Year 5 this week. In English, we have continued our sequence of short stories and it has been great to see the children's enthusiasm and engagement around the text. We

have been writing our own prequels to the story "Hunted". We have created our own storyboards thinking about how our story can merge into the story Hunted. In Maths, we have finished our sequence on fractions and have started our new sequence on decimals and percentages. In Geography, we have been learning about how rivers can be used and have been discussing the pro's and cons that are associated with these uses. This week we had a gardening day and Year 5 enjoyed helping to maintain the school grounds outside. On Thursday, some children took part in a Boccia sports event, thank you to Mr Walter for organising and Mrs Fenemore and Mr Slocombe for accompanying them.



Have a great weekend Year 5.



## Year 6 – Miss McLean

Year 6 took part in the whole school gardening day on Tuesday, with the whole school focus on tidying up the outdoor areas. The children showed brilliant teamwork as they worked collaboratively to clear leaves and debris from the front of our school site. It's now looking much better!

In English this week, we have started a new non-fiction sequence looking at The Everyday Journeys of Ordinary Things by Libby Deutsch.

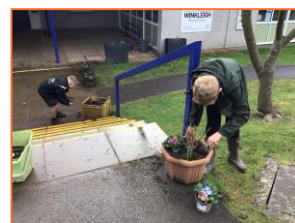
We have started by exploring the layout of the book, some key vocabulary and sentence structures.

In maths, we have continued our sequence working with fractions and decimals and have started looking at how these also link to percentages.

On Monday this week in science, we learnt about classifying plants and the children created some of their own dichotomous classification keys.

In RE, we have been learning about different views on the creation of the Earth and this week began thinking about the scientific theory of The Big Bang. Finally, in art this week, the children have been learning about the artist LS Lowry and have recreated his technique of layering to show perspective in painting.

Have a lovely weekend!



# Dare to be different



will you.....  
wear something bright? bold?  
spotty? odd socks? crazy hair?  
hat? superhero cape?  
anything non uniform goes!

**dare to be different day**  
**friday 13th february 2026**  
**£1 per child**

Payment by cash in a  
named envelope to your  
childs teacher on the day  
or BACS payment to:  
Friends of Winkleigh  
School Account: 22077944  
Sort code: 54-21-14