

30TH JANUARY 2026

EAST-THE-WATER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

We are already well into another busy and exciting term, it has been lovely to see our pupils making the most of our local area. Library visits, trips to Tesco and hands-on geography fieldwork are bringing learning to life and building confidence and independence. Our School Council continues to go from strength to strength — leading the lunchtime reading area with real responsibility, organising their own cover when needed, and creating monitoring roles across the school. They have even taken the lead in organising and conducting interviews for these jobs, showing maturity, fairness and pride in their school. It is a real pleasure to see our children stepping up and making such a positive difference.



Adam Buckeridge
Headteacher



Developing a love of reading is incredibly important for all children. We know if they are avid readers it has a huge impact on their ability to learn and their future success.

Our local library is a fantastic place where children can borrow books for free. Every class in our school regularly visits the library over the course of the year. The library wants for everyone to come along to borrow books but also take part in any events that are taking place. Please have a look on the next couple of pages to find their opening times and what's going on...

Key Dates

The last day of half term is
Friday 13th February

Back to school Monday 23rd
February

Please refer to your fridge
letter for your year group
dates





East-the-Water
Primary School

**Libraries
Unlimited**



Bideford Library

Monday	9.30AM - 6PM
Tuesday	9.30AM - 6PM
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	9.30AM - 6PM
Friday	9.30AM - 6PM
Saturday	9.30AM - 1.30PM

- Get access to:**
- Thousands of books
 - Graphic novels
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(including access to
Ancestry & Which?)
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 - & so much more...

Joining is easy and **FREE**

- 01237 476075
- bideford.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk
- discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk



Devon County Council **TORBAY COUNCIL**

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092. Every penny raised supports local library services. To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

30TH JANUARY 2026





Regular Events

For Children:

Secret Book Quest · Read books, venture through the zones, collect stickers and crack the code!

Libro's Friends · Collect stickers in a reading adventure for little ones aged 0-4

Under 5's Storytime · **Thursdays** · **10 - 10.30AM** · **Term time only**
Join us for a lively session of stories and rhymes for you and your little ones. We're making some **NOISE** in the library!

*Look out for special sessions/events during the school holidays and don't forget our annual **Summer Book Quest!***

For Adults:

Barclays Bank · **Mondays** · **9.30AM - 12.30PM & 1 - 4PM**
A cashless pop up offering advice on managing your money
In the Juniper Room on level 1

Knit & Natter · **Mondays** · **2 - 4PM**

Feel Better with a Book · **1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month** · **2.30 - 4PM**
Relax and enjoy the power of great stories and poems in a small friendly group. Refreshments provided.
In the Juniper Room on level 1

Community Cafe · **Thursdays** · **12 - 1.30PM**
You bring the chat, we bring food and tea for free
Soup, bread, cakes, fruit and company! All welcome.
In the Juniper Room on level 1

Tea and IT · **Thursdays** · **1.30 - 3PM**
A small facilitated group providing help for seniors. Funded by Age UK.
Call Richard: 01598740060

Repair Cafe · **2nd Saturday of the month** · **10AM - 1PM**
In the Juniper Room on level 1



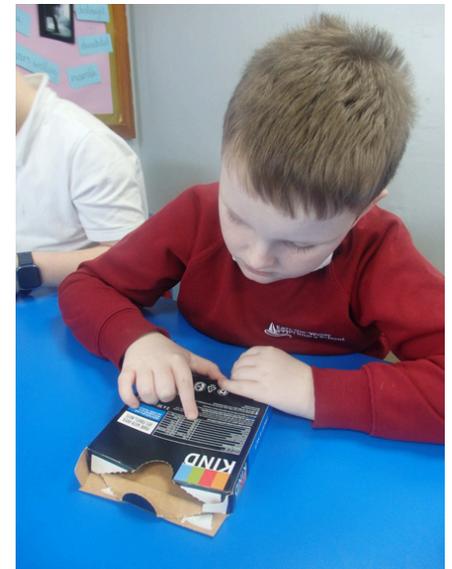
YEAR 2 DANCING

Year 2 have been thoroughly enjoying creating their own dances inspired by the Great Fire of London. They have been choreographing different scenes in small groups and performing them to one another. Here are some epic shots of Orca class moving as the great flame!



YEAR 2 TESCO VISIT

Narwhal Class enjoyed a trip to Tesco to explore existing fabric products. We explored the joining techniques, fabrics and finishing techniques of baby gowns, pillowcases and many more. This trip enriched the children's knowledge of textiles.



YEAR 3 SCIENCE

This week, year 3 pupils have been analysing food packaging to identify nutritional values. They ordered them from smallest to largest amounts of sugar per 100g and then discussed whether they were shocked by the results. The sugar levels in cereal bars were most definitely a shock!



NURSERY DENTAL VISIT

Our Nursery children had a very exciting visit from a dental nurse, Kim! Kim talked to the children about why it is important to brush our teeth twice a day and showed them the correct way to brush. The children listened carefully and were eager to join in.

They then took part in two fun, hands-on activities:

- Brushing the bugs off teeth and using a UV light to check for any areas they had missed ✨
- Sorting foods into those that are good for our teeth and those that can cause decay





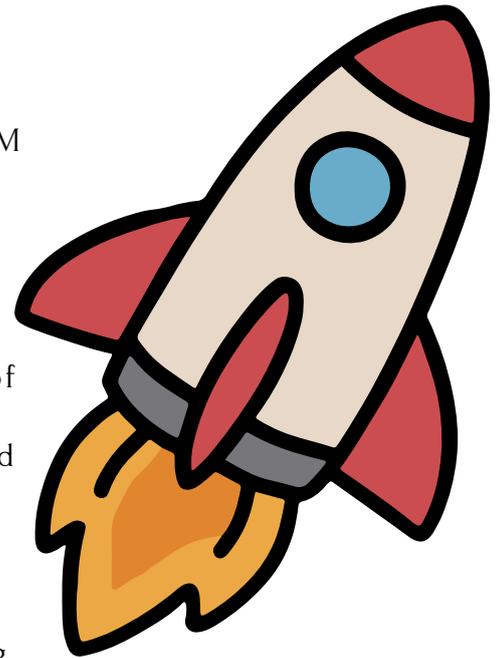
YEAR 5 SPACE WORKSHOP

Year 5 pupils recently had the exciting opportunity to take part in the Spaceship Earth Primary Show — an immersive and interactive online experience with a space theme.

During the session, the children were launched into a STEM adventure, combining the excitement of space exploration with an important real-world focus: how the UK Space Industry is helping to tackle climate change.

Taking on the roles of trainee space engineers and scientists, the pupils worked together to decide the path of an Earth Observation mission. They guided orbiting satellites, made important decisions, and even encountered a few surprises along the way!

Spaceship Earth was much more than just a show. It inspired the children to think about the links between science, technology and caring for our planet, encouraging the next generation of space explorers and climate champions.



SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE



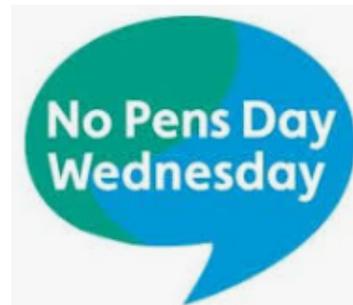
We would like to introduce our newest School Council member, Amber! After being a member for only a few weeks, Amber has already made a fantastic first impression with her kindness and attentive listening to all children.





CLOWNFISH CLASS

For our No Pens Day, Clownfish class performed the poem 'confused' to the class. Everyone had a turn to share how confident they are to recite the poem, whilst making eye-contact with their audience and projecting their voice clearly for everyone to hear.



SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER

At school we know that wearing our uniform creates a sense of pride for pupils and staff. It enables us to belong to the same group, fostering a community spirit and a strong sense of identity. We keep clean spare uniform, including shoes and plimsolls in school. This enables us to support a pupil arriving to school without an item of uniform. Parents/carers need to be aware that, at our school we will always change a pupil into school uniform until they leave at home time. Unfortunately, due to lack of space, rucksacks are not permitted therefore drawstring bags must be used for kit and book bags for homework and reading books. Please note that non-school jumpers or hoodies should not be worn in place of a coat.

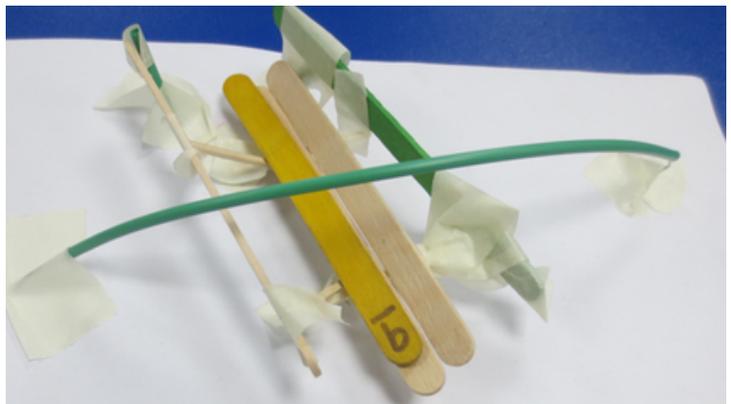
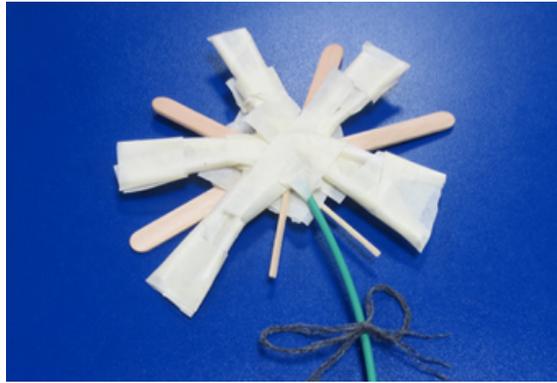
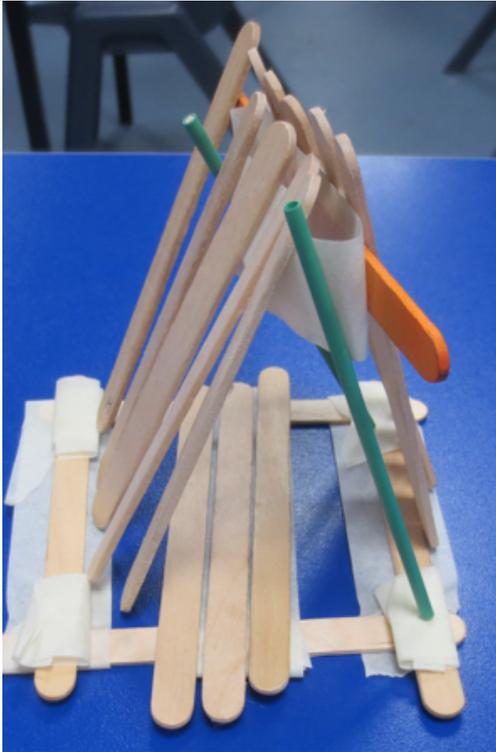
- (required item) School sweatshirt with school logo or cardigan- branded or non-branded.
- (required item) White polo shirt- non-branded.
- (required item) Black or dark grey pinafore, trousers or skirt/uniform shorts to the knee (not sports shorts) – non-branded.
- (required item) Black shoes/trainers (no white or coloured markings including logos, laces and soles) – non-branded item.
- (required item) White, black or grey below the knee socks
- (required item) Black or grey tights
- (required item) Book bag (Reception to Year 6 only) – branded item required.
- (optional item) In summer months, a red gingham dress is an option – non-branded. Red tights can only be worn with the red gingham dress.
- Shorts and skirts must be knee length
- For health and safety purposes, sandals must be secure, have a back and ankle strap – no backless sandals, flip flops, sliders or crocs should be worn



YEAR 6 ART

In Art this term, pupils have been studying the work of the renowned artist Yinka Ilori. Inspired by his bold and playful approach to design, the children explored sculpture through a range of creative prompts, including making something with a partner, creating something big on something small, and designing a piece that balances.

The children were fully engaged throughout the process and demonstrated excellent creativity, problem-solving and teamwork skills. They produced a fantastic range of imaginative and thoughtful sculptures, and we were very proud of the outcomes.



 **BURTON
AT BIDEFORD**

Please pop along to the Burton Art Gallery between 30th January - 15th March to view the annual Schools exhibition. The launch will take place on Friday 30th January 4-6pm.

You will see some fabulous art work from some of our pupils!



RECEPTION TOY TOPIC

This half term, for our Toy topic, we have been learning all about how toys have changed over time. The children have had great fun naming and categorising toys depending on their properties, gaining an understanding of past and present and learning about the similarities and differences between toys in the past and now.



YEAR 1 DT WALK

As part of our D.T. Topic- Free-standing structures, we went for a walk around our local area to see what structures we could spot. On our walk, we noticed lots of lamp posts, signs and even the park! Year 1 had a great time discussing what they could see and what materials they thought the structures were made out of.





 East-the-Water
Primary School

SCOOTERS/ BIKES

We love seeing our children using scooters and bikes to get to school. Can we just ask that children are reminded not to ride on them on the school grounds/ playground at pick-up time. They can be very speedy and can easily knock into someone.

Thank you!



**We're seeing ongoing parking issues
around school.**

**Illegal or inconsiderate parking puts
children at risk and causes problems
for local residents.**

Please park legally and walk the rest.

 East-the-Water
Primary School



30TH JANUARY 2026





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Mascot adventures

Our mascots have had a lovely time this week spending time in our classes. They have been focusing on improving their handwriting this week and Sheldon had even started to join his letters! As you can see Pete, Steve and Penelope have had a busy time making new friends and having fun exploring our local area. Thank you for your fabulous photos!





TEAM PTA

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the PTA, your help makes a real difference to our school.

Planning is underway for the Summer Fair, and we're always grateful for extra hands. If you can help in any way, please email danieldalley@etwschool.com.

We're also in the playground every Friday fundraising, with a range of treats on offer. Please come and say hi!





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Primary School



Exeter
CONSORTIUM
SCHOOLS' ALLIANCE

**Primary
Teacher
Training**

Start your journey today

Train to Teach in Devon

As a partner school with Exeter Consortium Schools' Alliance, we are proud to support their Primary Teacher Training programme. If you've ever thought about becoming a primary school teacher, this school-based training offers classroom placements across Devon, expert guidance and hands-on experience from day one.

Applications are now open for training starting in September 2026.

Find out more here: www.exeterconsortium.com/train-to-teach



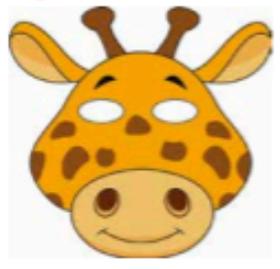
East-the-Water
Primary School

Safari Storytime AND Play

Tuesday 17 February, 10–12.30
St Mary's Hall, Appledore

Suitable for
4–11 year olds

**FREE
ENTRY**



**Refreshments
available**



30TH JANUARY 2026

