

3RD JULY 2026

EAST-THE-WATER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Key Dates

Last day of school is
Friday 17th July

Please see your fridge
letter for other dates



Dear Parents/ Carers

As we get close to the end of the year, I wanted to say thank you.

It has been a brilliant year at East-the-Water, full of trips, visitors and experiences. Once again, the children have stood out for all the right reasons. Visitors, trip leaders and members of the public have repeatedly commented on how polite our children are, how well they behave, and the quality of their questions. It says a lot about the children, and about the families behind them.

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who have helped with trips this year. These things only work because people give their time, patience and good humour — especially the patience.

The Summer Fair was East-the-Water at its best: busy, generous and full of people who care. A massive thank you to the PTA for making it happen. The PTA is a big part of what makes East-the-Water feel like a community, not just a school. We would love more parents and carers to be part of that. No one needs to do everything. Turning up once still counts.

Thank you, as always, for your support. We are very proud of the children and very grateful to our families.

Best wishes,

Adam Buckeridge, Headteacher

Please can we remind you that children should not arrive at school before 8:40am, as the outside areas are not supervised before this time.

To help us keep everyone safe, please ensure children remain with an adult until the gates open. Thank you for your support.



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East-the-Water
Primary School

SUMMER FAIR

This year our PTA have worked exceptionally hard to produce this year's school summer fair. We wanted to say a huge thank you to all the members of the PTA for making the event an amazing success.



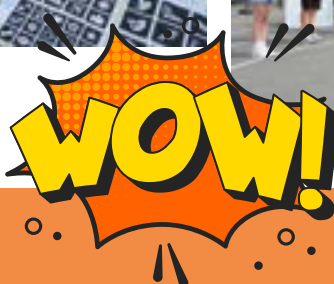
We also want to say a huge thank you to all the staff who ran all the stalls.

And a massive -

THANK YOU

to you all for coming to support our school. We are pleased to announce that it raised a huge:

£1,931.09

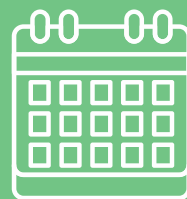


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Why is attendance important?



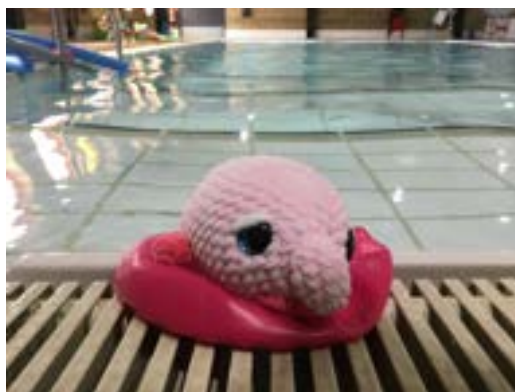
Why Attendance Matters for the Whole Class

When children miss school:

- Teachers need to **repeat learning** to help pupils catch up
- **Group activities and discussions** may be disrupted
- Children can feel **less confident joining in**

Regular attendance helps **every child in the class learn together.**

Blob goes swimming and Obbi explores



Our sea creatures have been having a lovely time out and about with our classes. Blob fish Bob even went swimming for the very first time. You'll be surprised to know that he took to it like a fish to water - a total natural! Well done Bob! Obbie also had a delightful time with Oliver and has been honing his climbing skills.

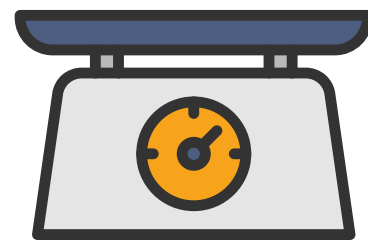
Please keep sending us your sea creature pictures and remember if three classes achieve 100% this week then Steve's song will be released.....





Year 3 Measuring

Pupils in Jellyfish Class have been calculating the mass of objects from our classroom. We even measured attendance mascot, Obby! The children first calculated the intervals on their measuring scales which helped them to measure the exact weight of each item in kilograms and grams. Some fantastic teamwork, year 3!



Year 4 Science Day

On Friday June 19th, the whole school took part in science day. Year 4 were concentrating on animals and their habitats. As a year group we wanted to know 'What living things do we have in our area and how can we classify them?'. We started the day by searching the forest area and behind the Lacey building for different insects. The children collected them in their specimen jars where they could look at them more closely. The children collected a number of insects including; centipedes, woodlice, ants and much more. Once we had looked at them closely, we used an online directory to identify and classify what we had found. The children then looked at the trees we have in our area. Using a leaf classification sheet, the children identified the different trees and noted down how many we had of each. At the end of the day, the children concluded that there is a rich biodiversity of living things in our area.





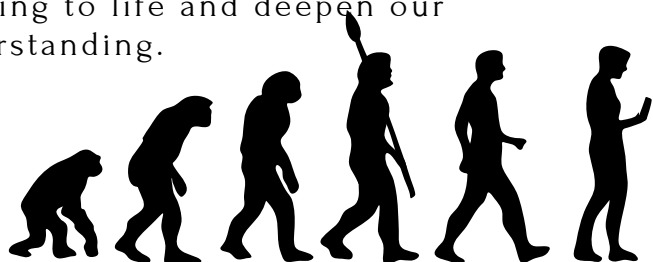
Year 2 Rosemoor

The Year 2 trip to Rosemoor Gardens was a great success. Linked to their topic, Living Things and Their Habitats, the children took part in a fantastic workshop exploring what's in our gardens. They learned about the plants and creatures that live in garden environments and enjoyed a scavenger hunt while exploring the beautiful grounds. It was a fun and engaging day that brought their classroom learning to life.



Year 6 Evolution

Year 6 were fascinated during their recent visit to the Science Dome where they learned all about evolution. Through an engaging and interactive presentation, the children explored how living things have changed over time and discovered the important work of scientists including Charles Darwin. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring our science learning to life and deepen our understanding.





Bideford Music festival

East the Water had a fantastic time on Saturday, performing for the first time in public. The choir performed 4 songs. Ezra Reed and AMber Glover performed solos and Noah Jeffreys performed an original guitar composition.

We are so proud of them all!



Year 2 Eco-Coding

Year 2 had a fantastic time on their Eco-Coding adventure! They thoroughly enjoyed creating their own algorithms and discovering how the choices we make when shopping can have a positive impact on the environment.





Year 5 Space dome

Year 5 recently enjoyed an amazing journey through space during an exciting visit from the Space Odyssey mobile planetarium.

Inside the inflatable dome, the children were immersed in a spectacular learning experience as high-resolution images, movies and sophisticated computer simulations were projected above, behind and all around them. This created a breathtaking journey through our solar system and beyond, bringing their science learning to life in a truly unforgettable way.

The experience provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to deepen their understanding of their current science topic, Space. They were fascinated by the planets, stars and galaxies they explored and thoroughly enjoyed discovering more about the wonders of the universe.

The children had a wonderful time and were inspired by this exciting hands-on learning experience. It was a fantastic opportunity that sparked curiosity, enthusiasm and plenty of questions about the world beyond our planet!





Reception and Year 1 trip to Rosemoor

Reception and Year 1 had a fantastic time on their trip to Rosemoor. We had lots of fun exploring the gardens, looking at how the plants and trees have changed for the summer season. Reception had a great workshop making bee headbands and planting seeds. Year 1 also had a great time planting seeds and becoming a naturalist artist using petals and leaves to create their own pieces of art! Thank you again for your sponsorship from our sports day and the brilliant fundraising of the PPA which paid for the trip.





Rotary Club Young Writer's competition



Recently, Robin came to school to award the winners of the young writer's competition. Reggie Toms and Brianna Whitehouse were both runners up. Robin was extremely impressed with their stories they had written about happiness in nature. The Rotary Club's Young Writer winner was Ezra Reid. Robin expressed how he thoroughly enjoyed reading Ezra's writing and awarded him a gift card to spend in a bookshop.

Robin has also given the children the theme of the writing competition next year which is 'Friendship' and he looks forward to reading all of the entries.



Year 4 residential

At the end of the last half term year 4 went out on their residential to Bristol and Bath. The children thoroughly enjoyed visiting the science museum 'We The Curious' where they got to explore a number of different science exhibits and experiments. A highlight for them all was the 3D planetarium show where the children explored the different planets and moons of our solar system. After the Science museum, the children settled in to the hostel where they had their dinner and slept the night. The next day the children visited the Roman Baths in Bath. The children were blown away by the history and loved hearing about all of the facts about the baths.





Winning entry for Rotary Club's Young Writer competition 2025-26

Happiness in Nature

At dawn, happiness learned how to breath.

It lived in the quiet places - where dew clung to blades of grass and sunlight slipped softly through leaves. A river hummed to itself nearby, never in a hurry, reminding the stones that moving forward didn't have to be loud.

Happiness was there when a bird tested its wings for the first time, wobbling, then soaring, it was in the way the wind played with the trees, blowing over their home, not trying to change them, only listening as they swayed.

A person passed the forest and with some curiosity, they led themselves in. Bees were buzzing, birds were chirping, squirrels were scurrying about it seemed as if this land of nature had come to life. "Oh I wish all days could be like this," they muttered under their breath.

Ezra Reed.

Year 5





Year 4 Eden Project

To start the new term off, year 4 ventured to the Eden Project to explore the different biomes. The children took part in an activity where they had to use a map of the site to locate the plants that produce ingredients for a 'Global Cake'. Once they had collected the ingredients, the chef whipped up a delicious cake for us all to try. We had the opportunity to explore the site ourselves and really love looking at all the different plants in the different biomes. The children already had knowledge of biomes from the recent geography topic and this helped to embed their learning.



Year 4 Coding Day

Year 4 took part in a day of coding recently. This coding adventure was based around looking after our planet and what we can do to help promote sustainability. The day started off with the children creating algorithms for themselves. The children pretended to be robots and created a dance using an algorithm that they had created. The next part of the day was to create an algorithm for a robot to follow an algorithm to avoid single use plastics while shopping and only buy recyclable products. Finally, The children used the 'scratch' programme to code on the laptops. The children created a code that ensured their character could collect the correct item from the shop.





Museum of Barnstaple
and North Devon

Upcoming Events

Art Expora - the bus will be outside the museum 22-27 June - if you haven't yet booked for your class, you can come and have a look on the Saturday. We hope this will be an annual event.

Summer Programme of Curious Curators

Sessions on Wednesdays all through the holidays, linked to our exhibition of Sir Alfred Munnings paintings and celebrating the wonders of Exmoor - do let your children know as these are FREE for families to attend!



Autumn Exhibition - all about the 'Peopling of North Devon' - ancestors, migration, families... and yes, there will be skeletons! Find out more later and how to book your visit at <https://barnstaplemuseum.org.uk/>

Saturday Club - Make, Art, Craft - more on this later, as I'll be asking for teacher referrals for children you think might like to join up! We plan to be able to offer Arts Award during these sessions.

See over for museum updates...

BARNEY TO BEACH 2026

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 13
/ 11:00

CHILDREN'S RACE

SCAN TO REGISTER

GET INVOLVED

We're always looking for volunteers to help marshal on the day. Please contact info@familiesingrief.org

www.sientries.com/barneytobeach

- One mile race across the dunes at Crow Point
- Suitable for under 16s (under 5s to be accompanied by an adult)
- Families can tackle the full 8-mile route
- Help raise money for Families in Grief supporting local families in need
- Event village with games, music and more

LET'S GO

ADVENTURE



**East-the-Water
Primary School**

100 YEARS OF BELONGING NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

TASTER SESSION YR2 - 8
SUN 6th SEPT 11AM-1PM
All abilities, sizes & fitness levels welcome! Post training food provided...

Whether you're looking to try rugby for the first time, develop your game or simply join a great club and make friends, there's a place for you at Bideford RFC. We're a special community club with a great social scene...

- Qualified, DBS checked coaches.
- Welcoming, safe & fun environment.
- Learn teamwork, respect & discipline.

GET INVOLVED AND BE PART OF OUR NEXT 100 YEARS

BIDEFORD RFC

BIDEFORDRUGBY.CO.UK/PLAY

Libraries Unlimited

SUMMER BOOK QUEST

GIVE YOUR CHILD THE GIFT OF LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP AND UNLOCK A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES...

With library membership, your child has access to a wealth of free books. They can also enjoy all the great activities and resources that your local library has to offer.

This includes the fantastic free reading challenge, **The Summer Book Quest**. Once your child is a library member, they can sign up to take part, they will receive their Quest leaflet to collect stickers as they read and complete fun activities. There is a special finisher certificate and keychain too.

HOW TO SIGN UP YOUR CHILD AS A LIBRARY MEMBER

Simply pop into your local library to join! You just need to provide basic information: name, address, date of birth and guarantor contact details for children. Alternatively, you can go online to register at discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk/joinus then head over to your chosen library to collect your card(s). From 11th July children can sign up for **The Summer Book Quest** too!

VISITING THE LIBRARY

There are lots of great benefits to being a library member when you're an adult too, and it's free to join for everyone. Pop in and have a chat when you're next nearby to find out more about what's on offer, including access to our digital library plus activities and events for all the family.



**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 open for training starting in September 2026. Find out more here: www.exeterconsortium.com/train-to-teach