

Weekly School News Roundup

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School



Date: 12/03/21

Mrs Emma Jones, Headteacher
Withycombe Village Road
Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3BA

Please ring us on: (01395) 263397
email: admin@wrpschool.org
website: wrpschool.org

News from your Headteacher

I don't know about you, but I am exhausted today...what a busy week! It has been lovely to see all of the children back in school, and so many smiling faces, but my goodness it has been loud! The children have been very excited to see their friends and understandably they are desperate to chat and talk. This week's Friendship Week has been a fantastic opportunity for children to reconnect with each other and gently get back into school routines. There has been so much going on this week, lots of sport, art and games, giving children the chance to enjoy being back in school.

There has been a great deal in the media about how much learning children have missed and about 'catch up'. Here at Withycombe we are focusing on the positive aspects of what the children have done and learned during lockdown. Staff are focusing on what children have enjoyed about being at home and what they are looking forward to now they are back at school. We are avoiding using the term 'missed learning' with the children as this may cause children worries that they are behind in their learning. Over the next few weeks we will be carrying out our usual assessments of where children's strengths are and where they need to develop further. This is something we always do at this time in the year and the assessments help to inform our planning for what is taught next term. We are already making use of some additional funding from the Government which is helping us to target children's development needs and which will continue to be useful between now and the summer holidays.

Community Testing

The Government announced recently that they would offer families of school-age pupils the chance to participate in weekly asymptomatic testing. **Home-testing kits** are now available for members of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of a staff member or a pupil. These test kits can be collected only from NHS testing locations, or ordered online. If you are interested in taking part in this, further details can be found at this link:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/coronavirus-testing-in-devon/>

Mrs Betambeau

Sadly, Mrs Betambeau will be leaving Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School and Dragonfly Class at the end of this term. She has decided that, after 11 years of commuting from Okehampton, it is time to have a break from teaching and spend more time with her family.

Mrs Betambeau will be greatly missed by our whole school community. She has such a kind and caring nature, is always positive and always smiling. She has played an important role in promoting a love for music across school including her tireless efforts with the choir. She has provided so many children over the past few years with a fantastic start to their education.

I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mrs Betambeau lots of luck.

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Parents' Evenings

You should have received information this week regarding Parents' Evenings this term. We would like to invite all parents and carers to attend a 5-10 minute virtual appointment via Googlemeet between Monday 29th March and Thursday 1st April, between 3:30pm and 6pm. These meetings are an opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and discuss how children have settled back into their class and to consider their targets for the remainder of the year.

If you would like to book an appointment, please email your child's class teacher by Thursday 25th March. If you are unsure about how to contact your child's teacher, please email admin@wrpschool.org

Covid Safety

Although the number of Covid cases in our community has dropped significantly, it is imperative that we all keep up our efforts to minimise the risk of infections spreading. The beginning and end of the school day continue to be our most difficult times due to the numbers of people entering our school site and making social distancing a challenge. Please help us to keep everyone safe by adhering to social distancing guidelines, wearing a face covering on site or whilst waiting in the school vicinity, and arriving at the designated time slots. To limit the number of people on site, please can only one parent come onto school site to collect the children. If your child uses School Lane Gate, please can parents avoid 'blocking' the lane and create more space by coming onto the playground to wait for the children.

Please remember that there are many ways you can contact school staff if you have any queries. You can email your child's class teacher directly using the class email account; alternatively, you can email admin@wrpschool.org or enquiries@wrpschool.org or call us on 01395 263397

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs. E Jones

Upcoming Events

Monday 8th March to Friday 12th March

Friendship Week

Friday 19th March

Comic Relief

Week Beginning 29th March

Parents' Evenings

Thursday 1st April

Last Day of Term

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Sports & Achievements

We love to hear about your children's sporting and other achievements. If you have anything to share, please email enquiries@wrpschool.org with your news and a photo if possible. We will endeavor to include as many of your photos as possible each week.



Well done to Maya, Y6 Kingfisher class. She has passed her martial arts grading during lockdown via Zoom lessons/grading and is now at the top of her juniors class - a red-stripe belt.

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Year Group News



Seal Class have made flowers for their families

Edie (Year 2) received an e-postcard from Julie Sykes author of the Unicorn Academy books



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A flavour of some of the activities that have been going on this week for our Friendship Week

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