

Our School Newsletter

20th March 2026



This week, our EYFS passion for Porlock was den building!

The children worked together to create their shelters and enjoyed exploring inside



Discovery and Explorers Classes joined together for an Easter experience on Thursday morning! Thank you to Lynne, Rev. Ann and Rev. Alison for delivering the session.



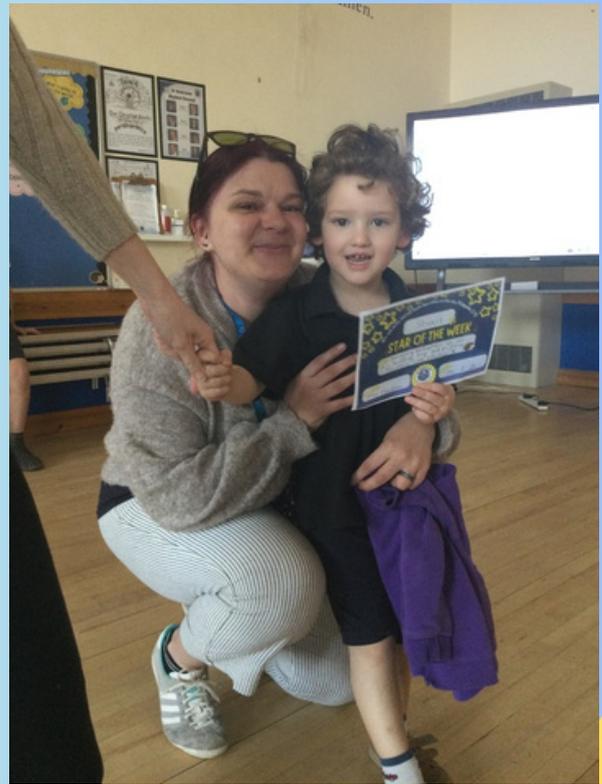
More Easter experience fun and reflection



Adventure Class spent the afternoon planting seeds. A huge thank you to those who donated seeds this week! We can't wait to show you what we grow.



Celebrating our Achievements



Celebrating our Achievements



Notices:

Don't forget to order school lunches. If for any reason you are unable to access using the link, please pop in or call the office.



Message from Mrs Walker-Blair



I feel like the spring season has finally sprung this week. We've been busy creating entries for the spring show and the communi-tree competition, a huge good luck to all of the children who have entered.

Last week we celebrated the science fair, where many children from our school went to showcase their projects. We are so proud of you all.

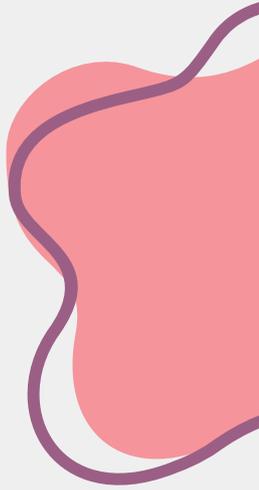
Some lovely news that I'd like to share is that Mr Payne and his partner welcomed the safe arrival of their daughter this week. They are home and settling into family life. Mr Payne will return to work on the last week of half term, and in the interim Adventure class is being covered by Moorland teachers Miss Cavanagh and Mrs Legge.

We are looking ahead to the last two weeks of term now, with lots of exciting things happening! Trips to Minehead, the Easter hat parade (entries due 27th March please) and of course our Year 4 residential to Pinkery.

Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs W-B

Wellbeing Support

- [Click here for Support for Families](#)



Calendar Dates

Dates for the next few weeks:

Porlock Spring Show

Saturday 21st March

Friday 27th March

Easter Hat Parade

Tues 31 March – Thurs 2nd April

Y4 Residential Trip to Pinkery

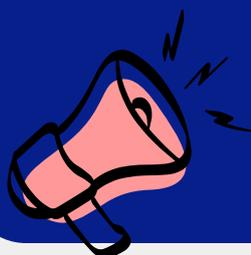
Thursday 2nd April

Easter Service – 2.30pm in church

Thursday 9th April

Easter Bingo

Events calendar now
live on our website.
[Click here to find out what
is happening in your school!](#)





RAFFLE DRAW CHILDRENS PICTURE BINGO AND COLOURING COMPETITION

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!



£5 ADULTS
£2 KIDS

PLEASE BOOK YOUR TICKETS AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

5.15PM

(EYES DOWN 5.30PM)

THURSDAY 9TH APRIL

ST DUBRICIUS SCHOOL HALL

TICKET INCLUDES: 6 ADULT GAMES (+ KIDS ONLY GAME & LUCKY DRAWS) BYO DRINKS AND SNACKS

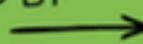


WINNER WINNER CHICKEN DINNER FULL HOUSE PRIZE! (OR NUT ROAST)

OTHER PRIZES INCLUDE CHOCOLATE GOODIES!



CHICKEN DINNERS KINDLY SPONSORED BY



Wilkie May & Tuckwood

01643 862249 * STDUBRICIUS@MOORLANDFED.CO.UK

Join in the St Dubricius



EASTER

Hat parade

Entries due in

9:00am Friday 27th March

One egg-cellent prize for each year group from Nursery to Year 4, plus a smaller prize for each entry!

Kindly sponsored by

one|stop

Website Information

- What we are learning
- Term Dates
- Newsletters
- Events
- Online Safety
- Vision & Values



Contact Details

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS –

Our designated safeguarding lead is Mrs Walker-Blair.

Our deputy leads are Miss Jennings and Mrs Pravato

Click [here](#) for all Safeguarding details.

GENERAL SCHOOL QUERIES –

Contact Mrs McLaren in the School Office:

01643 862249

stdubricius@moorlandfed.co.uk

Mrs Walker-Blair

lucywalkerblair@moorlandfed.co.uk

Mrs Pravato

lizpravato@moorlandfed.co.uk



Donate to the Moorland Mums Fundraising Walk

You may have spotted the Moorland Mums across social media over recent weeks, well the 19th March marked the start of their incredible Exmoor challenge.

As they set off on this ambitious journey around the perimeter of Exmoor National Park, we wanted to take a moment, as a Federation, to share a little more about who they are and why their efforts mean so much to our school communities.

The Moorland Mums are a group of parents and friends with children across our Moorland schools, particularly St Dubricius in Porlock, Cutcombe and Exford. Their name reflects exactly who they are; local mums rooted in our moorland communities, passionate about opportunities for children growing up here, and determined to make a difference.

This is not a school-run group or school-led fundraising initiative. This is something they have created independently, driven by friendship, community spirit and a shared belief that rural children deserve access to rich, memorable experiences.

Last year, they completed the Three Peaks Challenge, raising funds that directly enhanced opportunities for children, including supporting the refurbishment of the Cutcombe swimming pool and the St Dubricius Forest School area. Now, they have set themselves an even bigger challenge, walking the full perimeter of Exmoor National Park to raise £15,000.

This is an enormous physical and logistical challenge, involving:

- 8 walkers
- 4 support team members
- Hundreds of kilometres across challenging terrain
- Months of planning, training and personal commitment

From a Federation perspective, we are incredibly grateful. Like all schools, we work hard to provide the very best education and experiences we can for all our pupils. However, we also operate within the realities of school funding, which means we cannot always offer the full breadth of wider enrichment experiences we would love to. Community-led support like this genuinely helps us extend what is possible for children.

We are hugely thankful for the time, energy and personal commitment the Moorland Mums are giving to support our rural school communities. Their effort is a powerful example of what makes Exmoor and our Federation special, people stepping forward to support the next generation.

We also want to recognise and thank all of the volunteers who support our schools throughout the year. This includes the incredible teams who run our 'Friends of' groups (our school PTAs), who give their time to organise and run events such as summer fetes, tuck shops, quiz nights and so much more. These events take planning, teamwork and dedication, and the impact they have on enriching school life for our children is significant.

To every volunteer, fundraiser, event organiser and supporter – a huge thank you!

Your support truly does make a difference to our schools and to the experiences we can offer our children.

If you would like to follow the Moorland Mums' journey, cheer them on, or support their fundraising, please visit their Moorland Mums Facebook page or their fundraising page: <https://gofund.me/eb8bbb683>



**WE ARE
HIRING!**

**LUNCHTIME
SUPERVISOR**

**5 hours per week
term time only**

Be part of a dynamic & enthusiastic team
An opportunity to make a difference in our
school environment
Welcoming, caring & inclusive ethos

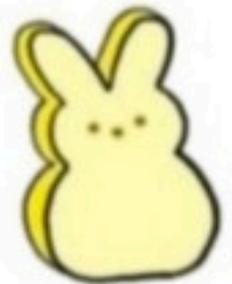
CONTACT: 07947 994052
WWW.MOORLANDFED.CO.UK



Moorland Federation

CHARITY FAMILY

BINGO NIGHT



**Minehead Rugby Club
Ellicombe Ln,
Minehead TA24 6TR**

Friday 27th March

**Hot food
Available!!**

**Doors open 5pm,
eyes down 6pm**

**Burgers
Hotdogs** 

*** RAFFLE * BINGO * GAMES
* CASH FLYER * TREATS**



**GREAT RANGE OF PRIZES
FOR ADULTS AND
CHILDREN**



HOME START

For more information
or to reserve a table
please contact
Porsche Marchant on
Facebook
or call 07919854007

West Somerset

All proceeds to Home-Start
West Somerset
Registered Charity No.
1113944

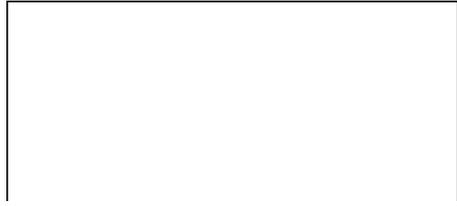
**£5 Deposit required
to Book seat**

Date	Time	Cost	Venue	Activities
Tue 7 th April	9.00-1.00pm	£14.50 or via SASP HAF Holiday Provision	Dunster First School, St Georges Street, Dunster,	Team Games, Dodgeball, Human bowling, Darts Football, Parachute Games and many more
Wed 8 th April	9.00 - 1.00pm	£14.50 or via SASP HAF Holiday Provision	Dunster First School, St Georges Street, Dunster,	Team Games, Dodgeball, Human bowling, Darts Football, Parachute Games and many more
Thurs 9 th April Gymnastic Bars Workshop	9.00 - 1.00pm	£14.50 or via SASP HAF Holiday Provision	Minehead First School, Townsend Road, Minehead, TA24 5RG	Gymnastic workshop focusing on bars - we have two sets of bars. This will suit anyone who would like to practice their skills and anyone wanting to give it a try.
Friday 10 th April Gymnastic Beams Workshop	9.00 - 1.00pm	£14.50 or via SASP HAF Holiday Provision	Minehead First School, Townsend Road, Minehead, TA24 5RG	Gymnastic Beams workshop focusing on high, low and foam beams. This will suit anyone who would like to practice their skills and anyone wanting to give it a try.

Transport is available from different areas so please do enquire if required, subject to criteria

- Age:** Children will need to be aged 5 years and upwards to attend.
- Who:** Open to all children.
- Food:** Lunch/Tea will be provided as well as snacks. Please bring a refillable water bottle.
- Wear:** Casual, comfortable clothes, daps or trainers.
- Cost:** £14.50 per day or if you have a HHH (Happy Healthy Holidays code which you will be supplied by your school you can book <https://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays>
- Book with a code:** You will need to book on . For assistance please contact HHH@SASP.co.uk; Helpline 01823 653992. Please see <https://www.sasp.co.uk/happy-healthy-holidays>
- Paying:** Please contact Suzanne e-mail: suzannenumber1WS@gmail.com
- Book by:** Please book by Wednesday 1st April 2026
- Bookings will be made on a first come first served basis. Limited numbers.





March 2026

Important changes to holiday food voucher provision in Somerset

Household Support Fund grant ends 31 March 2026

The government's Household Support Fund (HSF) ceases at the end of the month (31 March 2026).

It is being replaced by a new fund called the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF).

Free school meal holiday vouchers under the HSF scheme

Holiday food vouchers (known to many parents in Somerset as free school meal holiday vouchers) were part of the original HSF government package.

Parents who qualified for the vouchers through the HSF scheme received them as usual during the recent February half-term holiday.

However, this was the final voucher provision of its kind under the HSF scheme. And government have told us there will be no holiday food vouchers issued under the HSF scheme after the 31 March date.

This means no HSF vouchers will be available for parents during the Easter holidays, as these holidays fall in April this year.

What's replacing the meal vouchers?

The government is replacing HSF with a new Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF). This new fund will provide access to food help. Any family facing food shortages will be able to secure 'cash-first' support.

However, this is a very recent announcement, and it's a new grant set-up from the government. Somerset Council is required to replace the previous voucher system with new forms of support, and this change has to be made in a short space of time.

Somerset Council is in the process of making that switch and finalising the new arrangements with a designated provider. We will be starting this scheme shortly, and it will be in place

before the May half term holidays.

As soon as we are able, we will provide details to staff, councillors, stakeholders and schools about how families can access 'cash-first' support if they are facing food shortages.

Where can I get help during the upcoming Easter Holidays?

In the meantime, and whilst arrangements are being put in place, details of a number of other existing sources of help are listed below, if parents are concerned about the change.

For example, what is absolutely continuing this Easter, as in past holidays, is the [Happy Healthy Holidays \(HHH\) programme](#). This is a brilliant scheme and take up in Somerset has always been very high.

If you receive questions or queries from families, please can you signpost them to the HHH programme, and the many other support options that are available in our communities.

Thank you for sharing, and for your patience.

[The Local Pantry Network in Somerset](#)

[#Help4All](#)

[Community Hubs](#)

[SASP – Happy Healthy Holidays](#)

[Healthy Start – NHS – healthy food and milk](#)

[Cost of living support for Somerset residents](#)

Further information on national schemes to support families can be found at:

[Cost of living support: Overview - GOV.UK](#)

[Universal Credit: What Universal Credit is - GOV.UK](#)

[Child Benefit: How it works - GOV.UK](#)

[Free Childcare for Working Parents: Check if you're eligible - GOV.UK](#)

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