

Our School Newsletter

3rd July 2026



This week in **Nursery**, the children have enjoyed designing their own artwork in preparation for our Art Gallery. They were proud to express their creativity and enjoyed exploring the wonderful artwork created by children across the rest of the school.

Discovery class
enjoying a story
with Mary in the
cooler weather





Explorer Class enjoyed a fantastic transition day together. The children spent the morning painting and decorating their self-portraits, then worked collaboratively to create our new class rules, proudly 'signing' them with their colourful hand cut-outs.



Adventure class enjoyed our Move Up Day and had a fantastic day together. In the morning, we spent time getting to know each other through a range of fun team-building activities including a challenge to build the strongest bridge.

Art Gallery Event 26



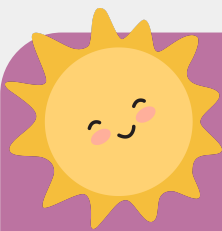
Art Gallery Event 26



Notices:

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Medical forms must be completed and signed in order for us to administer medicine throughout the day. Please see Mrs Rich if your child is at breakfast club, or one of the staff on the gate between 8:45-8:55am who will be able to support you with this. Thank you for your cooperation.



Message from Mrs Walker-Blair

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Good afternoon, St Dubricius parents and carers. Thank you again for your patience during the recent closures for the extreme weather and the fallen tree. The children have worked their socks off this week to make up for those lost days and also preparing for today's art gallery and next week's summer musical!

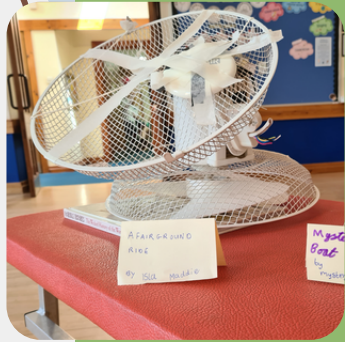
There are still tickets available for the showings - please do pop in to reserve your seat for just £1 per person and show your support to our Year 3 & 4 children and their production. There will also be raffle tickets available to purchase, with the draw being held after the Friday afternoon show.

I'd like to say a huge well done to our two triathlon teams for their success last weekend - they showed real courage and perseverance and we are all very proud of them!

Have a wonderful weekend
Mrs Walker-Blair



Message from Stacked Wonky



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Hello!

Sarah here from Stacked Wonky.



We've loved working with everyone during our Friday afternoon Passion for Porlock sessions.

Old car radios, fans, plugs, DVD players and even a mammoth stereo system were carefully taken apart by the children, before being creatively reassembled as fantastical machines, sculptures and instruments. It was brilliant to see the children's imaginations fired up and the wonder generated by discovering copper wire or magnets within.



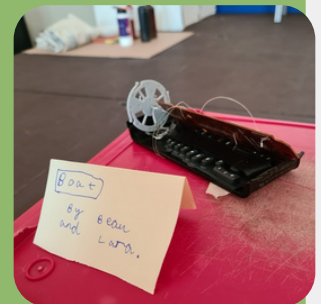
A big thanks to Lucy and her staff for inviting us in.

Stacked Wonky will be running summer sessions over the holidays, most of which are suitable for ages 6+.



Movement and fashion for the catwalk
Tuesday 28 July
Porlock Village Hall

Stacked Wonky Minehead Eye Takeover Day
DJ, parkour and break dancing
Thursday 30 July
Outdoor juggling + performance
Friday 31 July and Saturday 1 August
Porlock - location TBC



If you'd like to know more, please contact: angie@stackedwonky.com

Attendance:



We will be sharing our whole school attendance with you on each newsletter – our aim is for at least 95% by the end of the year! Let's work together and smash this target!

An attendance level of...	...means a pupil will miss this many days...	...and this many lessons
100%	0	0
95%	10	50
90%	19	95
80%	39	195
50%	95	475

This week:
94.1%

Information for Parents about Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Absence from School

Following the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued for unauthorised absences recorded after 19 August 2024. This information refers to penalty notices that are considered for irregular attendance and unauthorised term-time leave.

All penalty notices are issued within the Somerset Penalty Notice Code of Conduct.

Who can be fined?

Penalty Notices can be issued to each parent/carer of each child whose unauthorised absence meets the national threshold.

For example, in a family with two parents and three children taking unauthorised term-time leave, each parent could receive a penalty notice for each child absent from school, resulting in six penalty notices being issued.

The National Threshold

Schools are required to consider whether a penalty notice is appropriate when a child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. 10 sessions would typically be the equivalent of five days.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be a combination of any unauthorised absence codes (G, O, N or U).

The rolling ten school week period can span terms, school years and schools.

The First Offence

The first time a parent is issued with a penalty notice in relation to a child's absence, they will be able to pay the reduced amount of £80 if they pay within 21 days, otherwise the full amount of £160 is payable within 28 days.

The Second Offence

If a parent is issued with a second penalty notice within three years the amount payable will be £160 within 28 days. The reduced amount will not be available.

The Third Offence

If a parent becomes eligible for a third (or more) penalty notice within three years of the first being issued, a penalty notice can not be issued and the Local Authority will consider other measures to address attendance concerns. This may include prosecution, which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and the parent having a criminal record. If convicted, the offence will also show on any future DBS checks.

Not Paying a Penalty Notice

Penalty notices are only issued to parents when they have committed the offence of failing to ensure their child's regular attendance at school.

A penalty notice gives the parent the chance to write the offence off without needing to go to court.

It is not an offence not to pay a penalty notice, but the Local Authority may then prosecute the parent for the original offence.

The Law

Penalty notices are issued in line with Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 when a parent has failed to ensure their child's regular attendance at school.

Penalty notices can only be issued when:

- ✓ A child's absence meets the national threshold
- ✓ Support has been attempted (if appropriate)
- ✓ Issuing a penalty notice is compliant with the Somerset Penalty Notice Code of Conduct

Wellbeing Support

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



Calendar Dates

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Dates for the next few weeks:

Thursday 9th / Friday 10th July – Summer Musical

Tuesday 14th July – Nursery Graduation

Wednesday 15th July – Explorers Class Trip – Dunster Castle

Thursday 16th July – Leavers Day Y4 (shhh)

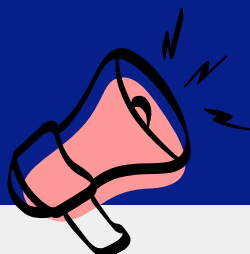
Friday 17th July – Leavers Service 2:30pm

Monday 20th July – Last day of term

Monday 7th September – Back to School!

View our Online Events Calendar

[Click here to find out what is happening in your school!](#)



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





Wild about the outdoors? So are we.

To join email us on
1stexmoor@gmail.com

#SkillsForLife

Squirrels. The youngest branch of the Scouts' family tree. Where 4 & 5 year olds can join in too. You can start from your 4th Birthday.

This is an age when minds are fizzing, when energy and curiosity levels are sky high, when little lives are full of wow and wonder.

Set them free with us. Who knows how far they'll reach?

Start your adventure today and make new friends whilst having lots of fun.

1st Exmoor Squirrels meet on a Monday, based in Alcombe but we are out and about exploring in the Summer months.

Squirrels