



Congratulations to this weeks winner – Cornwall with 245 points!

Running total for the term:

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Devon</u> | <u>Dorset</u> | <u>Somerset</u> | <u>Cornwall</u> |
| 672 | 589 | 715 | 731 |

Keep up the great work everyone!

Class Assembly

Class 3WL are holding their class assembly on Friday at 9.10 am. All parents of these children are welcome to come and watch. Entrance to the hall will be via the Foundation Stage doors.



Update!

Congratulations!

For World Book Day, the Devon School's Library Service organised a competition to design a T-shirt featuring a favourite book character and we were delighted to find out that Archie won in the KS1 category with his delightful BFG.

Archie's design was made into a T-shirt. A big well-done to Sophia in Reception and Ellie in Year 5 – we sent your entries off to the library service too.



Story in a Box Exhibition – Thurs, 12th March

It was wonderful to see so many children celebrate World Book Day with a story box last week. To celebrate our children's creativity, we would like to invite parents to a **Story Box exhibition in the school tomorrow from 3:30pm**

– 4:15pm. Please enter via the school office.

School Focus Week – Zambia

We would like to remind you that the school council have set-up points at break and lunch to collect donations for Nayamba School lunches - £1.40 pays for a whole month of lunches!

On Friday, children are invited to come in non-school uniform with any donation that you would like to send.

As Year 1 children will be visiting the Tiverton Museum on this day, they will need to wear school uniform to school but can still donate, if they would like.



Attendance

As part of Devon County Council's drive to improve school attendance, we will be sharing our attendance statistics with you for the week ending Friday, 6th March 2026

| Year Group | %Attendance | Year Group | %Attendance |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Reception | 94.14 | 3 | 89.42 |
| 1 | 96.43 | 4 | 96.72 |
| 2 | 95.33 | 5 | 96.45 |
| | | 6 | 98.73 |

The Current National figure for comparison is 94.82%

CVSA Cross Country at Killerton

The Willand team went to the second round of the CVSA Cross Country event at Killerton on Tuesday 10th March, where results were added to round one in October. Every child in the team worked incredibly hard on very slippery terrain and pushed themselves to achieve their best results. Special mentions go to Toby and Tilly who both achieved 1st place and to our other top ten finishers- Sullivan, Orlaith, Orla, Elliot, Eva, Minnie, Sonny, Aaron, Teddy, Elsie, Amalie, Elodie and Evelyn. So many amazing results meant that Willand came 1st! Thank you to Mrs Warren who came to help and to all the children for their superb sportsmanship.



Tiverton Book Festival

As part of the Tiverton Book Festival, local author Olivia Tuffin will be coming into school tomorrow to meet children in Years 5 and 6.

Olivia will be reading an excerpt from her book 'The Secrets of Wild Hill: Lottie's Dream' and children will have the opportunity to ask questions during an author Q&A.

Parents can pre-order 'The Secrets of Wild Hill: Lottie's Dream' by clicking on the link below and Olivia will be available to sign these books at the end of her session.

<https://www.liznojanbooks.co.uk/product-page/the-secrets-of-wild-hill>



Thank you for your continued support
Naomi Tottle
Headteacher

Online Safety – 'Wake Up Wednesday'



This week's theme is ...

'New campaign - "You won't know until you ask" - support for parents'

The Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (DSIT) has recently launched the "You Won't Know until You Ask" campaign, providing parents with practical support they can use immediately and the confidence they need to have a conversation with their children about the content they see online.

Backed by behavioural research and academic insights, new guidance has been made available to parents on safety settings, conversation prompts, and age-appropriate advice for tackling misinformation and harmful content – including ragebait and misogynistic content.

The campaign has been developed with expert organisations including Parent Zone and Internet Matters.
<https://kidsonlineafety.campaign.gov.uk/>

As always, if you have any questions relating to online safety, please contact Mrs Maynard (Online safety Lead)

Comic Relief

The School Council have plans to celebrate this year's Comic Relief Day by fundraising in the following ways:

- **Crazy Hair Day** For a donation, children are asked to come to school with crazy hair. Children can also wear non-uniform.

- **'Joke Off' Competition.** For 20p per joke, from Monday, 6th to Friday, 20th March, children will have the opportunity to share a joke with their class. The winner of each class will meet for the final 'Joke Off' at the Willand Wonder assembly to vote for the best joker!



SEND Information

BBC Bitesize Parenting: This is a place for mums, dads, caers and the whole parenting community to find stories, expert advice and fun activities that will help you support your child in a changing world.

The Bitesize team have now created a Parents' Toolkit, including topics on how to support your child's emotional outbursts, healthy eating and anxiety. To access this valuable resource please use the following link:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/parents>

BBC CBeebies PARENTING
Fun and easy speech & language tips to try at home!

- Get face to face
- Use simple language
- Add a word
- Talk about what you and your child are doing
- Pause and give them time to respond
- Let your little one try to say words
- Repeat what they say with the right words or phrases
- Use statements instead of asking lots of questions
- Sing nursery rhymes and songs
- Use the same words in daily routines
- Name things your child can see
- Ask open-ended questions

Scan here for activities and advice

[bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting](https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/parenting)

Instagram, Facebook, YouTube icons

Contact us: Telephone: 01884 820367 / 829463 Website: www.willand.devon.sch.uk Email: office@willand.devon.sch.uk
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Online Payments: <https://login.schoolgateway.com> PTFA: willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

PTFA NEWS

*Today we will be holding our next meeting - ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME!
For those of you who would like to join us, please come to the school office for 6:30pm.*

Easter Disco Tickets are now on Sale 📌

Please use this link to purchase your tickets: <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/Q1L9RUM7>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - You will need to add the following information when using the payment link to purchase your ticket:

- Email Address
- Emergency Contact Number
- Child's Name
- Child's Class

Without this information we may not be able to process your request.

Please note to be more environmentally friendly a physical ticket will not be issued, you will receive email confirmation of your purchase. On the night a register of all tickets purchased will be checked upon entry, therefore we regret to inform you that this event is advanced purchase only.

What will be at the disco:

- A DJ playing a variety of music specially selected for the audience
- Quiet Room with various activities (Included in ticket price)
- Unlimited Squash (Included in ticket price)
- Tuck Shop - Children can purchase a snack on the night (List of items on sale will be released soon, our aim is to keep cost to a minimum at around 50p per item)

We are also looking for parent Volunteers to help at the Disco's, if you are able to be there to support us please email us at willandschoolptfa@gmail.com.

Willand School Lunch Menu for week commencing Monday, 16th March

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Pork meatballs | Chicken Nuggets | Gammon and pineapple | Sausages | Salmon Fingers |
| Vegan balls | Quorn Dippers | Cheese & Broccoli bake | Quorn sausages | Vegetarian Pizza |
| Spaghetti Green beans Crisps Salad Bar | Pasta/ waffles Sweetcorn Tomato sauce Salad Bar | Roast/Mashed Potatoes Fresh Carrots Gravy Salad Bar | Pasta or mash Baked beans/ peas Salad Bar | Chips or Pasta Seasonal vegetables Tomato Sauce Salad Bar |
| Arctic Roll Fresh Fruit Yoghurt | Chocolate cracknel Fresh Fruit Yoghurt | Orange Jelly and mandarins Fresh Fruit Yoghurt | Selection of cake Fresh Fruit Yoghurt | Homemade Cookie Fresh Fruit Yoghurt |
| PASTA POTS with Italian tomato sauce or cheese JACKET POTATO with cheese, beans or tuna WRAPSWITH FILLINGS: Ham, Chicken or Cheese | | | | |

| Diary To remember... | |
|--|--|
| Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th March | School Focus Week - Zambia |
| Thurs 12 th March | Story Box Exhibition in School Hall 3:30pm-4:15pm |
| Fri 13 th March | Non-uniform Day in aid of Nayamba School |
| Fri 13th March | Class 3WL Assembly |
| Fri 20 th March | Comic Relief Day – Non-uniform and Crazy Hair Day! |
| Fri 27th March | Class 4MC Assembly (Easter) |
| Fri 27th March | PTFA School Disco |
| Thurs 2 nd April | Non-pupil Day |
| Friday 3rd April | Start of Easter Holiday |
| Monday 20th April | Start of Summer Term |
| Tues 7 th July | UKS2 Play – Dress rehearsal(pm) |
| Wed 8 th July | UKS2 Play – Performance 1(pm) |
| Thurs 9 th July | UKS2 Play – Performance 2(pm) UKS2 Play – Performance 3 (eve) |

Contact us: Telephone: 01884 820367 / 829463 Website: www.willand.devon.sch.uk Email: office@willand.devon.sch.uk
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Kids Holiday Heroes

Wrap around care at Willand School

We are open from 8-9am and from 3.30-6.00pm Mon-Thurs and 3.30-5.30pm Friday. The service will be available for all children from Year 2 to Year 6.

The cost of wrap around care will be £5.80 per hour.

During our breakfast club from 8am to 9am we provide your child with a healthy breakfast. A healthy snack and drink will be available during the after-school club.

For Bookings or any further questions, please email bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk

EVENTS

Please see the noticeboard outside the school office for the following events



Join the **1st Culmstock** **BROWNIES**

CULMSTOCK VILLAGE HALL

MONDAYS
5:30-7:00 PM

CRAFTS **GAMES** **OUTDOOR FUN**

GIRLS AGED 7-10 WELCOME!
COME AND JOIN THE FUN!

Girlguiding
1stculmstockbrownies@gmail.com

Please note that we are unable to check on the validity of the companies or the people running the schemes, and if those working with children have the correct police checks

Calling parents, school staff, governors and councillors...

PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS DEVON SCHOOLS FUNDING CRISIS

Schools in Devon face job losses, reduced SEND capacity and increased stress across the remaining workforce. This is due to a funding crisis caused by several factors;

- Devon schools are historically one of the **worst funded counties** in England
- **Devon cut 0.5% from school budgets** despite the Government writing off 90% of accumulated SEND debts of £200 million. This was despite the Devon Schools Forum voting not to cut school budgets.
- Schools face **rising SEND need** alongside falling numbers of school staff caused by years of underfunding
- The Government plans for future **pay rises to be financed from existing budgets**.

The public meeting will:

- Explain why Devon receives lower funding
- Set out what the 0.5% transfer means for school budgets
- Outline the wider campaign for fair funding
- Give parents, staff and residents the opportunity to ask questions and have their say

Speakers include headteachers, school staff and parents. Please join us at this important meeting.

Thursday 12th March 5:30pm

Rougemont Room, Exeter Library EX4 3PQ

Organised by the unions GMB, NAHT, NASUWT, NEU and UNISON



WELCOMING NEW SWIMMERS

FOR FUN - FOR FITNESS - FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE

HELP YOUR CHILD REACH THEIR SWIMMING GOALS WITH OUR HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND FRIENDLY COACHES

SMALL NURTURING CLUB BASED AT WELLINGTON LEISURE CENTRE

SUITABLE FOR ALL SWIMMERS CAPABLE OF 50M IN BACKSTROKE BREASTSTROKE AND FRONT CRAWL

TRAINING SUNDAY TUESDAY & FRIDAY EVENINGS

FULL MEMBERSHIP (ALL/ANY TRAINING SESSION)

£45 PER MONTH

FREE TRIAL WEEK

WELLINGTON SWIMMING CLUB

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL EMILY.TEARE@GMAIL.COM

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Being entitled to Free School Meals, not only provides children with free school lunches but also opens doors to several additional benefits

such as:

Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF):

Free access to activities during school holidays. All children registered as entitled to Free School Meals receive a HAF code, this gives access to the [Holiday Activities and Food programme](#) during each school holiday.

School Holiday Food Vouchers:

All families receive a supermarket voucher from the [Free School Meals Holiday Voucher Scheme](#), currently £15 per child per week during each school holiday. These can be used at Tesco, Aldi, Farmfoods, M&S + more

My child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 gets a Universal Infant free meal anyway, do I still need to apply?

Even though all children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a Universal Infant Free Meal, this is not the same as being registered as eligible for Free School Meals. We strongly encourage all families that could be eligible, to complete the online application to secure their Free School Meal entitlement as it will be protected until the end of Year 6, it also entitles them to the benefits mentioned above.

Applying for Free School Meals is Easy!

We encourage you to apply if you think your child might qualify as you may be entitled to £30 of food vouchers at Easter

Here's how:

Online: The quickest and easiest option for faster results.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals/>

Phone: Call the Education Helpline at 0345 155 1019.

Important Note: FSM Code. If you are awarded a Free School Meals (FSM) code, please update the school office office@willand.devon.sch.uk.

We understand that financial situations can change, so please don't hesitate to apply even if you haven't qualified in the past.

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