

AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 28/03/2025

Dear parents/carers,

Thank you to those of you who attended parents' evenings, it is so important to show your children how much you value their education and that you are proud of their hard work. Please see below for what they have been learning this week.

Reminder- for the safety of our children, parents are not allowed to drive on the school drive, the speed of one parent today was dangerous. Thank you for keeping us all safe.

Foundation/Year1: We have been continuing our book "The Scarecrows Wedding" in English, learning new exciting words such as "spotted" and "hunted", and trying to use them in our daily talk. We have been continuing to look at repeating patterns in Maths and how we can change colours, shape and size to create a pattern. We also have been learning about road safety in PSHE and how we can cross the road safely - remembering to Stop, Look, Listen and Think.

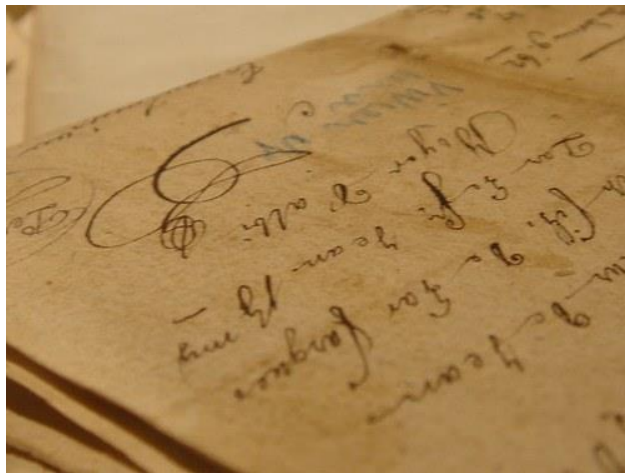


Year 2: In our history lesson this week we were learning about the explorer Sir Robert Falcon Scott. We pretended we were Scott and used drama to act out his expedition to the South Pole. We had to walk alongside a sleigh pulled by dogs and ponies through treacherous conditions. We slept in sleeping bags made out of reindeer fur and some of our team died. By the time the remaining 5 finally reached the South Pole disappointment hit because we had realised we had been beaten by the Norwegian team as their flag had already been put in the snow! During our journey back, sickness and starvation took over and sadly we all died in the snow

Year 3: What another busy week we've had in year 3. In science, we have been learning that magnets have a north and south pole, and what happens when magnets attract and repel. We have been drawing scientific diagrams to show our understanding. In Design Technology, we have started making our hand puppet designs and we cut out our hand puppets using a template of our hand, then joined it together using a running stitch. We're looking forward to finishing them next week.



Year 4: We've had an exciting week of learning. In maths, the children have been understanding decimals! They've been working hard to on how to use and manipulate them, and it's been fantastic to see their confidence growing. In History, we took a fascinating journey back in time to the Aksum Empire as we learned about a stunning church carved into a cliff a staggering 600 feet above the ground! The stories and facts surrounding this remarkable structure have truly amazed our budding historians. Additionally, in our writing sessions, the students have been focusing on the perfect aspect. It's brilliant to witness their creativity flourish as they experiment with this technique. All in all, it's been a week full of learning, awe, and inspiration! Keep up the great work year 4!



Year 5/6: This week we have been doing invasion games focusing on tag rugby in PE. In Maths y6 have been investigating the angles of quadrilaterals, In DT we have been building a box frame for our Cam Mechanism, In science we have been investigating classification. We have been doing invasion games in PE focusing on tag rugby.



1 - Well done to our learners of the week!

Foundation: S.Almotlak

Year 1: A-J.Rowe

Year 2: K. Doyle

Year 3: Z. Adey

Year 4: L. Skitmore

Year 5: P. Willis

Year 6: F. Bassett

LUNCH MENU 3



Lunch Menu 3

Monday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Cheese and tomato pizza	Quorn and vegetable fajitas	Beans Sweetcorn Spaghetti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna 	Strawberry mousse



Tuesday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Fish Pie	Cheese wheels	Cauliflower Beans Green beans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna 	Sticky toffee sponge and sauce



Wednesday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Roast pork	Quorn and leek pastry puff	Roast potatoes Broccoli Carrots Beans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna 	Fruit jelly



Thursday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Beef Bolognese	Mediterranean Bolognese	Beans Mixed Veg Sweetcorn Pasta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna 	Chocolate crunch and chocolate sauce



Friday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Jumbo fish fingers	Vegetable nuggets	Beans Peas Spaghetti hoops Chips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna 	Jammy Dodger



Well done to Year 4 on getting 97 % attendance this week.



Dates to remember!!!

03/04/2025 - Headteacher's award assembly 2.30pm.

03/04/2025 - Easter tuck shop 3.15 - 3.45pm

04/04/2025 - Last day of Spring term & PTA Easter Hamper draw!

04/04/2025 - Class photo's

22/04/2025 - First day back of Summer Term. It's a Tuesday!

Information on term time holidays from West Country Schools Trust.




WESTCOUNTRY
SCHOOLS TRUST

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160




2 FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE
10 IN 10 **5**

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = **2** Sessions




+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160
4 children & 1 parent = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

3 FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS

+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160


4 children & 2 parents = £1280
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days



If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

4

<p>2ND TIME</p> <p>2 parents and 1 child = £320 2 children = 640 3 children = 960 4 children = 1280</p> <p>No discount for early payment</p>	<p>3RD TIME</p> <p>A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child</p> <p>1 parent & 4 children = £10,000 2 parents & 4 children = £20,000</p>
---	--



2 - Before you book your term time holiday, consider is it worth it? One of our families has been fined already this year, don't be the next one.

5 minutes late, does it really matter ?

Lateness = Lost Learning

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

- 5 Minutes late each day - 3 days lost
- 10 Minutes late each day - 6.5 days lost
- 15 Minutes late each day - 10 days lost
- 20 Minutes late each day - 13 days lost
- 30 Minutes late each day - 19 days lost

WeST Term Dates 2024-2025

WeST Term Dates 2024 to 2025

Agreed for wider distribution

Aug 2024							Sep 2024							Oct 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4							1	1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

Nov 2024							Dec 2024							Jan 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3							1		1	2	3	4	5		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31		
							30	31												

Feb 2025							Mar 2025							Apr 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

May 2025							Jun 2025							Jul 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4						1		1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

Key: Peach - holiday periods; light green - weekends; blue - Trust NPD; yellow - School NPD

Important dates

Autumn Term Dates: Monday 2 September to Friday 25 October, then Monday 4 November to Friday 20 December

Term 1: 40 days (inc. School NPD Mon 2 Sept and WeST NPD Tues 3 Sept)

Term 2: 35 days

Spring Term Dates: Monday 6 January to Friday 14 February, then Monday 24 February to Friday 4 April

Term 3: 30 days (inc. School NPD Monday 6 January)

Term 4: 30 days

Summer Term Dates: Tuesday 22 April to Friday 23 May, then Monday 2 June to Tuesday 22 July (Note: NPDs on Mo 21 and Tu 22 Jul '25 are

disaggregated for staff twilight training throughout the year. The last day of the academic year for students and staff is Friday 18 July 2025)

Term 5: 23 days

Term 6: 37 days

WeST Term Dates 2025-2026

WeST Term Dates 2025-2026

Aug 2025							Sep 2025							Oct 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31		
25	26	27	28	29	30		29	30												

Nov 2025							Dec 2025							Jan 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30		
24	25	26	27	28	29	29	29	30	31											

Feb 2026							Mar 2026							Apr 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1						1		1	2	3	4	5			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

May 2026							Jun 2026							Jul 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30												

Key	
	Holiday periods
	Bank holidays
	Weekends
	Trust NPDs
	School NPDs

Community Notices

EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE

14 March 2025

We are excited to promote a new website with information for parents on childcare.

Check it out here: [Plymouth Childcare Possibilities](#)

This website links back to Plymouth City Council's website where parents can find the parent contact form.

Look out for social media posts promoting childcare in Plymouth.

Best wishes,

The Early Years and Childcare Team

[Working in early years and childcare](#)

You may have already heard about the Department for Education's national 'Do something Big' campaign which is designed to raise awareness of childcare as a career.

The Plymouth City Council early years team will be holding an event on **24 March 10 am – 4 pm** at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel.

If you are interested in finding out more information on a career in Childcare.

[Do something big - Early Years Event](#)

[Access to Higher Education with Marjon](#)

Are you an adult in Plymouth or the surrounding area who has always dreamed of going to university but never thought it was possible? Our Access to Higher Education Diplomas can help you make that dream a reality. Perhaps you already work in a school or nursery but want to be a teacher?

- Flexible and Accessible: We offer a variety of study options to fit your lifestyle.
- Affordable: Adult Learner Loans are available to cover course costs. We also have a range of financial support options.
- Supportive: Our experienced tutors will help you every step of the way.
- Recognised: Access Diplomas are recognised by universities across the UK, including Plymouth Marjon University.

Starting in September 2025:

[Access to HE Diploma \(Art and Design\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Creative Industries\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Early Years Education\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Education\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(English Studies\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Health Science\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Humanities\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Nursing\)](#)

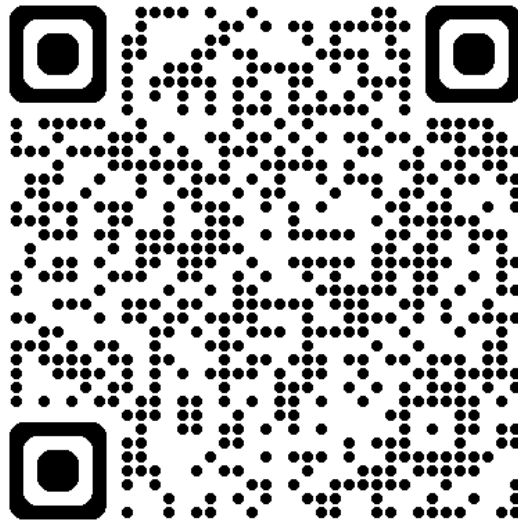
[Access to HE Diploma \(Sport Studies\)](#)

[Access to HE Diploma \(Sports Science\)](#)

Find out more [Access to Higher Education — On Course South West](#)

Information for Parents/Carers

We have updated our website for parents [Childcare information | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](#) and added a contact form if parents would like to ask any questions about childcare.



Childcare Expansion – 2024 - 2025

[Support to access Early Years training and employment](#)

Skills Launchpad Plymouth is working in city-wide partnership to connect local people and businesses with opportunities for skills, training, education, careers and jobs. Whether you are an employer struggling with recruiting or upskilling your team or thinking about the next steps to take for your own career in the childcare sector, Skills Launchpad Plymouth can help.

To access support, visit the website www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk to access free resources or sign up for 1:1 support. Alternatively, you can drop in and see the team on the first floor of Barclays Bank in the city centre on a Monday between 10am and 2pm'

[Promote your business at Plymouth Armed Forces Day](#)

Be part of Plymouth's exciting Armed Forces Day, as it returns to Plymouth Hoe on Saturday 28 June 2025. Each year Plymouth shows its support to the Armed Forces and celebrates their

outstanding contribution to the city and UK. Plymouth Armed Forces Day is one of the city's signature events, and last year saw approximately 45,000 visitors throughout the day, and is one of the country's largest Armed Forces Day celebrations outside of the National Event.

This is a great event to showcase your business to visitors, residents, service personnel, veterans and military families. We have many pitch and advertising opportunities available, including the LED big screen and official website, with prices starting from £100.

[Promote your business at Plymouth Armed Forces Day | Invest Plymouth](#)

Online learning: free courses and resources for all Cornwall, Devon, the Isles of Scilly, Plymouth and Torbay families. Plus, specialist emotional and mental health learning for teenagers.

[Free wellbeing online courses – inourplace](#)

Family Workshops



FAMILY

EASTER HOLIDAYS

- Chemistry easter eggs & bottle rockets
- Stop Motion Animation
- Creative writing & Drama Games
- Cupcake decorating
- Renewable Mosaics
- Family Yoga
- Easter Bug Hunt
- Easter Bonnets & wreaths
- Paper crafts

The graphic includes a photograph of three children wearing bunny ears and holding Easter eggs, sitting at a table with various craft supplies.

Learn to weave Treasure Hunt — 2 locations!



To book, please contact:

E: info@oncoursesouthwest.co.uk

T: 01752 660713

www.oncoursesouthwest.co.uk

Family First Aid workshop



FAMILY FIRST AID WORKSHOP

Equip yourself with essential skills to handle emergencies! Within this workshop you will learn about:

CPR

The Recovery Position

How to assist with choking

Basic wound care

And more!

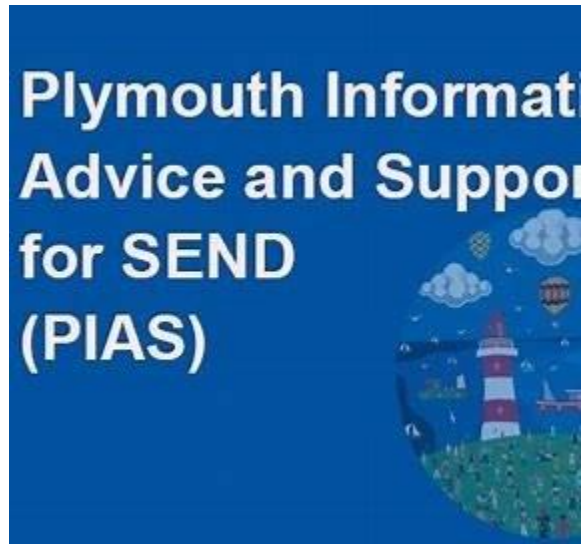
This informative workshop provides practical knowledge and hands-on skills to help you protect your loved ones.

To book on please contact your school/local community centre.

Please note: This course is for knowledge and skill building and does not result in a formal qualification.


on
course
SOUTH WEST





[Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND. - Supplying you with information, advice and support \(plymouthias.org.uk\)](http://plymouthias.org.uk)