

AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 28/02/2025

Dear parents/carers,

What a week we have had weather wise to welcome us back after half term! I was hoping for sunshine and after the torrential rain we did get some! The children were finally able to get back out into our new garden area during some lunchtimes and one class even had a lesson in there which they really enjoyed.

On Wednesday, we welcomed Mrs Bailey the Opening Worlds lead for Westcountry Schools Trust; she saw Opening Worlds lessons in KS2 and looked at our children's work. She was impressed with how much knowledge our children are learning...and remembering. Next, we need to make sure that the children's handwriting and presentation is as neat as it can be, we want to show pride in our work.

On Thursday morning year 2 had a visit from the Peninsula dental outreach team. They were taught the importance of brushing teeth twice a day for 2 minutes and how much toothpaste to use. Every child was also given a book to keep and a toothbrush pack.

Today, those children who achieved their AR reading target last half term wore mufti as their special reward. Please continue reading at home to see if they can achieve their target this half term.

The children have also been busy working in classes, please see below for what they have been learning this week.

Next week is March already and we have 2 exciting events.

On Monday, we have a cricket taster day for the school - every class will have a 45-minute session, please send all children in wearing PE kits.

World Book Day is on Thursday - your child can come to school dressed as a book character, or if they don't like dressing up, with a clue to their favourite book character.

I hope you have a lovely weekend...it is forecast to be sunny! ☀️ 😊

Foundation/Year 1: We have started investigating plants in our environment and creating perfumes using petals, leaves and stems. Both year groups have been focusing on number bonds to 10. We have also started our new history module looking at the Great Fire of London and what life was like back in 1666.

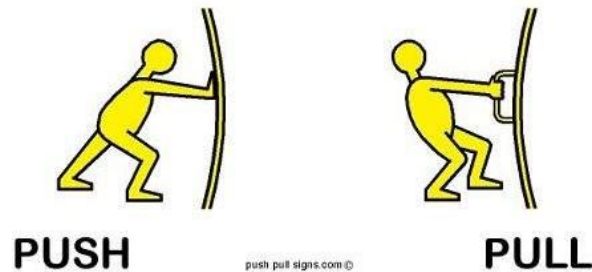


Year 2: We have started a new unit in Design Technology called 'Textiles and joining'. For our first week we were exploring and evaluating existing puppets as the outcome of our unit will be to make a hand puppet for another child. We needed to think about what the product is for,

who it is for, how it is used, are there any special features, what fastenings it has, how it is used and what it is made of. We had so many puppets to explore which enabled us to discuss similarities and differences.



Year 3: This week in science, we have started our new unit on Forces. We looked at pushes and pulls as a force and used different ways in which to push and pull a table tennis ball. We then showed our findings by drawing diagrams.



Year 4: This week, Year 4 have been busy enhancing their storytelling techniques, focusing on the use of adverbs and the present participle to bring their narratives to life! In Maths, they've delved into mixed number fractions, learning how to convert them into improper fractions – a skill they're mastering with enthusiasm. Meanwhile, in History, our historians have been exploring Christianity in the Roman Empire, discovering how faith shaped societies. What a great first week back! Well done!



Year 5/6: In English, we have been writing a class shared write for a new 'Hansel and Gretel' story. We have had some 'dark, gruesome ideas' which have really interested the reader! In DT, we have begun our new unit on CAMS and enjoyed exploring these. In PE we have begun a new unit on hockey, learning how to control the ball. We have had an exciting week getting to know our new teacher!



1 - Well done to our learners of the week!

Foundation: Z.Mitchell

Year 1: M.Honeywill

Year 2: A.Mitchell

Year 3: J.Medway-Gould

Year 4: P.Curran

Year 5: L.Grey

Year 6: P.Sellwood

Lunch Menu 2

Tuesday 04/03/2025 - Pancakes for pudding





Lunch Menu 2



Monday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Cheese and tomato pizza	Tomato and basil pasta bake	Beans Sweetcorn Spaghetti	• Cheese • Beans • Tuna	Crispy chocolate cake



Tuesday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Sausages	Vegetarian sausages	Mashed potato Cauliflower Beans Green beans	• Cheese • Beans • Tuna	Peach sponge and custard



Wednesday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Roast Chicken	Quorn Roast	Roast potatoes Broccoli Carrots Beans	• Cheese • Beans • Tuna	Artic roll



Thursday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Lasagne	Vegetable lasagne	Beans Mixed Veg Sweetcorn	• Cheese • Beans • Tuna	Shortbread



Friday

Main	Vegetarian	Sides	Jacket Potato	Dessert
Fish fingers	Cheese omelette	Beans Peas Spaghetti hoops	• Cheese • Beans • Tuna	Flap Jack



Available each day

- Seasonal vegetables
- Milk
- Water



LUNCH MENU 2

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to adapt some of our school dinners for next week.

Friday - Fish fingers and pasta instead of chips.

Well done to Year 5 on getting 98% attendance this week.



Dates to remember!!!

Spring term - Year 6 and Foundation Height and weight checks - Date TBC.

03/03/2025 - Cricket taster day! Sessions for all classes - PE kits for all pupils please.

04/03/2025 - Healthy smiles - 2nd Fluoride application for EYFS & Year 1 pupils.

06/03/2025 - World Book Day - dress as a book character or wear a clue for your favourite character. £1 book tokens each child.

13/03/2025 - Kurling taster sessions for all classes - PE kits to be worn by all pupils please.

25/03/2025 - parents evening, 3.30 - 5.30pm - EYFS/Yr1, Year 2 & Year 4.

26/03/2025 - parents evening, 3.30 - 5.30pm - all classes.

27/03/2025 - parents evening, 3.30 - 5.30pm Year 3 & Year 5/6.

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!

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

Community Notices

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](#)

FL Workshops

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL course

SO U T H W E S T

The word 'FAMILY' is displayed in a stylized, blocky font. The letters are primarily purple, with the 'A' and 'I' being teal. The letters are set against a white background.

Ofsted

Good

Provider

WORKSHOPS!

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



Paper crafts

Learn to weave Treasure Hunt — 2 locations!



To book, please contact:

E: info@oncoursessouthwest.co.uk

T: 01752 660713

www.oncoursessouthwest.co.uk

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>
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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	
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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						
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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						
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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						
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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						
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Sep 2025						
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Oct 2025						
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Nov 2025						
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Dec 2025						
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29	30	31				

Jan 2026						
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Feb 2026						
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Mar 2026						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

Apr 2026						
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May 2026						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Jun 2026						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30					

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

Key	
	Holiday periods
	Bank holidays
	Weekends
	Trust NPDs
	School NPDs

family First Aid workshop A5



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



South Devon Dads Project

Construction Skills #1

Learn basic carpentry - make a wooden toolbox to take home

With expert tuition from Plymouth City College

Sat. 8th March

Plymouth City College, Picquet Barracks,
Cumberland Road, Devonport, Plymouth. PL1 4HX

9.30am - 12.30

Booking Essential - limited to 10 dads & 10 children

Cost: **FREE** (donations welcome)

Wear suitable clothes & shoes (e.g. no flip-flops).

Hot drinks/ water supplied. All equipment supplied.

Free parking. You must book.

All dads and male carers with children aged 5 and over only.

PLEASE BOOK: info@thedadsnetwork.org



CLAY DAY

Spend the day
foraging, clay
plate building and
campfire s'mores
eating!

FREE
aged between 12
and 18 living in
Plymouth.

Location: Poole Farm
Date: Monday 17th
OR Tuesday 18th
February 2025
Time: 10am - 4pm



For more info and booking contact:
Emily: emily.richards@fgct.co.uk
OR Emmie: emmeline.kwaan@fgct.co.uk





MARKET HALL

FREE DOME EXPERIENCE

FOR DADS & MALE CARERS



Come along and enjoy:

- ◆ A taster of our immersive dome experiences
- ◆ Finding out more about our new series of free sessions for dad's
- ◆ A chance to learn more about Market Hall and meet new people

FREE TO ATTEND!

4pm - 5pm
Monday 17th February

For more information about Market Hall, visit: www.realimmersive.org



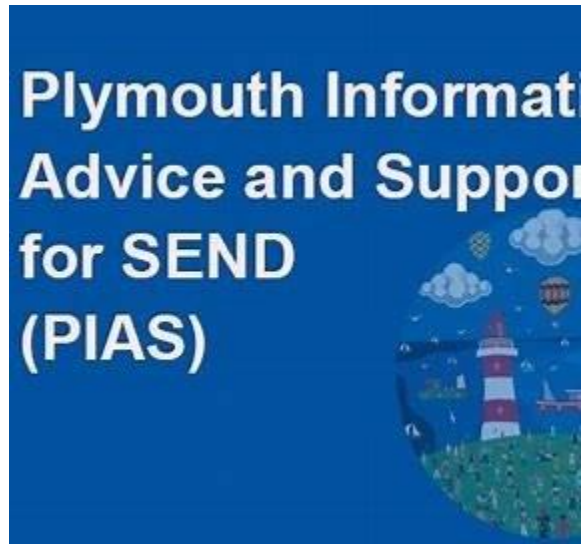
Half-Term Fun

Monday 17th
9.30-11.30 Pancakes, Café, Games & Crafts St Edward's Church Hall
3.30-5.30 Community Cafe and Hygiene Hub Christ Church Estover

Tuesday 18th
10.00-12.00 Pancakes, Cafe, Games & Crafts Christ Church Estover

Wednesday 19th
11.30-2.00 Community Cafe St Edward's Church Hall
2pm Family Quiz St Edward's Church Hall

FREE EVENTS - DONATIONS WELCOME



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