

AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 24/01/2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week the theme has been keeping active despite the bad weather yesterday and today.

On Monday, we all had a surprise when the balance bikes turned up for our EYFS/Year 1 children! Last-minute changes to planning meant they have managed to get out onto the playground most afternoons to develop their balance bike skills and this will continue next week, before the bikes have to go back.

On Tuesday morning, 3 members of the PSSP (Plymouth Schools Sports Partnership) joined us to run a rowing experience morning for our Year 5's and year 6's. The children were taught the correct technique and then took part in 3 individual races. They were encouraged to compete against themselves (rather than each other) and beat their previous score. Everyone smashed their 'first go' score with some nearly tripling it by their third attempt! Finally, they took part in team races and, again, they improved with each turn. It was lovely to see all the children enjoying themselves, pushing themselves physically, encouraging each other and working as a team. The PSSP staff commented on how lovely the children were and how they gave it their all. The children who rowed the furthest will be invited to the Plymouth rowing competition at the end of March.

As well as all this exercise they have been working hard in class, please see below for what they have been learning this week.

I hope you have a great weekend and avoid the yellow weather warnings of rain and wind on Sunday.

Mrs Baptiste

Foundation/Year 1: We have been completing balanceability training using balance bikes. The children impressed Mrs Watson with their amazing balance and ability to glide across the playground! The children have also participated in races and team games with the balance bikes. We have the balance bikes all of next week as well and the children will get the opportunity to negotiate turns and obstacles whilst riding the bikes.











In Year 2 this week, we have been focusing on our research skills in English. The children have used non-fiction books to find key information about animals and then they have carefully organised what they have found into sections ready to use in their writing. In Art, we have been exploring the work of Van Gogh and Cezanne, where we have been looking at their use of impasto and how they have layered paint of different colours with a variety of techniques. We then used paint and different tools to have a go at creating the same effects.



Year 3: In English, we have been writing our version of the poetic story, 'A River.' We changed the setting to a jungle and wrote our journey whilst going through the jungle. The children enjoyed using everything they have learned in this unit; they impressed us (and Mrs Baptiste) with their prepositional choices and use of subordinating clauses. In PSHE, we have been discussing our dreams and goals and what it would be like to achieve them. We discussed Jane Goodall, and how she dreamed of being a scientist working with chimpanzees. We enjoyed hearing more about how she achieved her dream.



Year 4: What a fantastic week it has been in Year 4! The children have been incredibly busy diving into the fascinating world of history, specifically exploring the remarkable life of Boudicca. It's been inspiring to see them learn about what a strong and influential leader she was, sparking some great discussions along the way. In science, the classroom has been positively glowing as they've been busy learning about circuits. They've even got hands-on experience making simple circuits, which was a delight to witness! Their resilience throughout the challenges was truly impressive. Maths has also taken centre stage this week as the class tackled the formal method for multiplying 2 and 3-digit numbers by a single digit. Their enthusiasm for this topic has made it a highlight of the week. Overall, it's been a super week of learning, and I couldn't be more proud of their efforts and progress.



Year 5/6: We have been focusing on our grammar skills in English lessons using our book 'My Planet' as a stimulus. We have revised subordinating conjunctions, extended our knowledge of parenthesis as well as expanded noun phrases. Using these grammatical skills will really help us to capture the reader's interest in our independent write, which we will be starting next week. In PE, we got a little bit wet during our Kwik cricket lesson on Thursday and we all thoroughly enjoyed our rowing experience on Tuesday. The children showed great resilience during rowing; there have been some achy arms as a result as well as a new desire to become a rowing champion!











Lunch Menu 1

Monday

| Main | Vegetarian | Sides | Jacket Potato | Dessert |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Cheese and tomato pizza | Vegetable bean wrap | Beans Sweetcorn Spaghetti | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna | Pancakes with banana and honey |



Tuesday

| Main | Vegetarian | Sides | Jacket Potato | Dessert |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| Katsu chicken curry | Cheese and potato pie | Mashed potato Cauliflower Beans Green beans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna | Chocolate brownie surprise |



Wednesday

| Main | Vegetarian | Sides | Jacket Potato | Dessert |
|--------------|-----------------|--|---|------------------|
| Roast gammon | Vegetable Plait | Roast potatoes Broccoli Carrots Beans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna | Custard biscuits |



Thursday

| Main | Vegetarian | Sides | Jacket Potato | Dessert |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Meatball in tomato sauce | Vegetable balls in tomato sauce | Beans Mixed Veg Sweetcorn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna | Apple crumble and custard |



Friday

| Main | Vegetarian | Sides | Jacket Potato | Dessert |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Fish fingers | Vegetable nuggets | Beans Peas Spaghetti hoops | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheese Beans Tuna | Oat and sultana cookies |





1 - A big well done to our learners of the week.

Foundation: G-M.Snowden

Year 1: R.Travers

Year 2: E.Goodwin

Year 3: J.Nankivell

Year 4: A.Parry

Year 5: D.Lisenko

Year 6: F.Bassett

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



Dates to remember!!!

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

03/02/2025 - 07/02/2025 - Mental Health awareness week.

07/02/2025 - Mufti day to raise funds for Livewell (mental health support)

14/02/2025 - Last day of Spring 1 half term.

24/02/2025 - First day of Spring 2 half term.

Community Notices



BARNADO'S

'Jump' with Dad

FREE

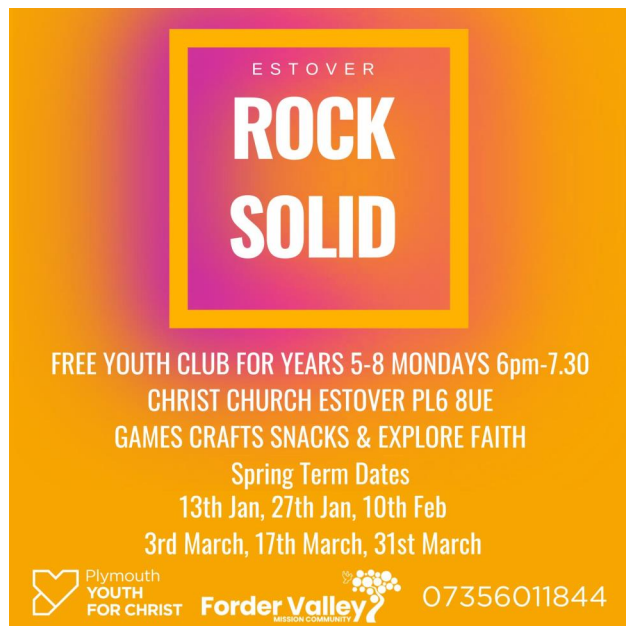
SOFT PLAY SESSION
at
Jump Plymouth

The 1st Tuesday of every month, 3.30-6pm
Starting from 7th January

PLYMOUTH FAMILY HUBS

jump

The poster features a central illustration of a man holding a young child. The background is decorated with yellow stars, a sun, and two rockets. The Barnardo's logo is at the top, and the 'jump' logo is in a purple oval at the bottom right. The Plymouth Family Hubs logo is at the bottom left.



ESTOVER

ROCK SOLID

FREE YOUTH CLUB FOR YEARS 5-8 MONDAYS 6pm-7.30
CHRIST CHURCH ESTOVER PL6 8UE
GAMES CRAFTS SNACKS & EXPLORE FAITH

Spring Term Dates
13th Jan, 27th Jan, 10th Feb
3rd March, 17th March, 31st March

Plymouth YOUTH FOR CHRIST Forder Valley? 07356011844

The poster has a vibrant orange-to-purple gradient background. The title 'ROCK SOLID' is in large white letters inside a yellow-bordered square. The text below provides details about the youth club, including dates and contact information. Logos for Plymouth Youth for Christ and Forder Valley are at the bottom.

Cost of living
Help IN Plymouth

We are a warm, welcome space

Where Christ Church Estover - Next to the Elm Centre PL6 8UE

Opening times Mondays 3-30-5:30
Warm snacks & activities

Find more information and support at plymouth.gov.uk/costofliving

 
Christ Church
ESTOVER

Does your child have sleep issues? Please follow this link for some useful information.

[Sleep Advice Service - Cerebra](#)

It also has booklets to download for anxiety and sensory processing.

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

2ND TIME


2 parents and 1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment

3RD TIME

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

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000



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 | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 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 | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 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 | | |
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| Feb 2025 | | | | | | | Mar 2025 | | | | | | | Apr 2025 | | | | | | |
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| 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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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

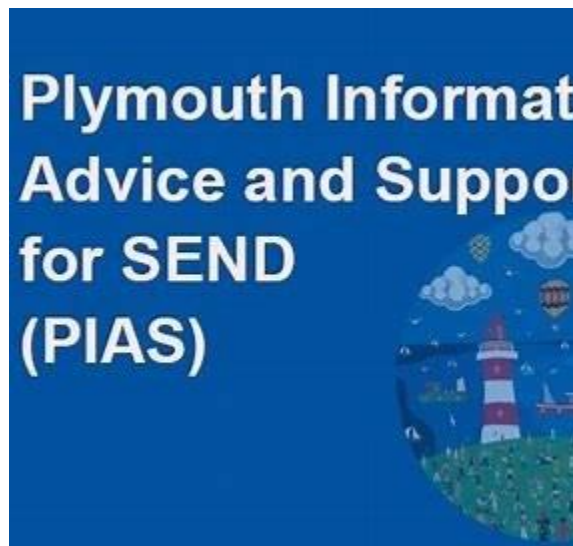
| Aug 2025 | | | | | | | Sep 2025 | | | | | | | Oct 2025 | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
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| Nov 2025 | | | | | | | Dec 2025 | | | | | | | Jan 2026 | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| | | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 29 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
| | | | | | | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | |

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

| Key | |
|---|-----------------|
| | Holiday periods |
| | Bank holidays |
| | Weekends |
| | Trust NPDs |
| | School NPDs |



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