



UPDATE

Thanks for taking the time to attend your child's Pupil Information Meetings over the last few days. I hope that you found the meetings useful. I would like to wish you all a restful half-term and to thank the children and staff for their commitment over the last few weeks. See you back in school on Monday 23rd.

HERO DAY



YEAR 5 CREPES



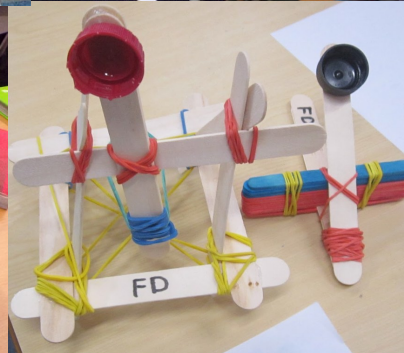
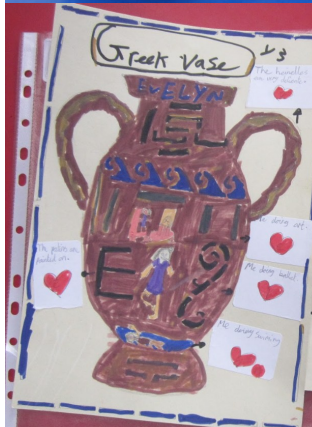
What an amazing Hero Day! The children enjoyed learning about their digital footprint, online learning, AI or not AI, Smartphone Resolution and contributing to the 'Wall of Online Well-Being' by adding their own brick. Thank you to Mr Baker for organising such an exciting day.

YEAR 2 PHOTOGRAPHY

This half term, Year 2 have been focusing on photography in their computing lessons. The children have been using iPads to take brilliant photos, making sure they consider the foreground, subject and background in each photo, as well as perspective.



PICK N' MIX



AN EXCITING MONET ANIMAL EVENT

Emmy-Lou will be back after half-term for another set of art workshops for the children. I have attached a letter which contains additional information. If you are interested in attending, please book directly with Emmy-Lou on the link referenced below.



Another really enjoyable sharing of Pick N' Mix across the school. It is brilliant to see the different ways that the children try and tackle the same project brief. It is lovely to see the creative ways they approach these tasks too.

PICK N'MIX SHARING

Wednesday 1st April 2026

COLOUR BLENDING TECHNIQUES
USING PENCILS & PAINT
4 WEEK COURSE

March
April
2026

LOOKING AT CLAUDE MONET

MONET ANIMALS ART PROJECT

BOOK ONLINE
AURORASHINEONLINE.COM

SPORTS STAR OF THE TERM



Well done to Lola, Finn, Alfie, Willow, Charlotte and Phoebe who are this term's Primary Sports Stars. Well done!

LUCY AWARD WINNERS



Well done to Noah who took great pleasure in giving back to his local community when visiting his grandparents in Cornwall. He helped by picking litter on Summerleaze beach in Bude. He had a great time in doing this and is excited to do it again soon.

Over the Christmas holidays, Leah went through her books and cuddly toys to decide which ones to donate. The Church Housing Action Team (CHAT) in Tiverton, were happy to accept the entire donation. What a generous gesture Leah!

PAINT POTS and HAYWARD'S ART WORK

What an incredible piece of artwork. Gemma, from Paint Pots, worked with the children to add every child's finger print to this piece of work that will be displayed at the train station. She is hoping to have a launch morning at the end of March and I cannot wait to see the artwork live.



KEY REMINDERS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

A reminder that I have **set the children the challenge of taking a photograph, on their own or with their family, of them doing something that is good for the mental health and well-being. I would be keen to make a display in school of this (and to share some extracts in the newsletter).** I would be really grateful if you could please send your contributions to the school office before or after half-term.

KICK START ART COMPETITION

This term's challenge is Mid Devon Monsters. Children are invited to design and create their own imaginary monster, using any materials they have at home. Monsters can be funny, friendly, scary or strange - there are no rules! The focus is on creativity, imagination and enjoyment, not perfection.

To enter: Take a photo of the finished artwork and email it to kickstartart100@gmail.com, including the child's name, school and year group. Closing date: Sunday 15th March 2026

WORLD BOOK DAY Friday 27th February!

As you know, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday the 27th February so that our Year 6s, who are on residential the following week, can join in the fun. We are inviting all children to dress up as their favourite book character, author or wear a costume in some way related to books! There will be a costume parade celebrating the costumes! We will be running a range of events throughout the week and day, for children to enjoy.

We are also delighted to be welcoming The Bookery in to celebrate World Book Day with us. They will bring their Top Titles for 2026 which include a fantastic selection of the best recently published books for children aged 3-12. There are graphic novels, adventure, fantasy, scary books, a football story, non-fiction, the most colourful picture books, and the return of Gordon, the meanest goose. Books are discounted for the event with two for £10 or one for £6. Please send money in an envelope with your child's name, indicating if siblings are sharing money, and send the money with the youngest child.



SHORT STORY COMPETITION GOLD

We will be running a short story competition club after half term. KS2 children will have the opportunity to enter



The Royal Mint Museum's annual competition, writing a story no more than 500 words, inspired by "Gold." We will be launching this after the holiday and will provide children with the space and resources to work on their entry during lunch times and we will submit any written entries as part of a school entry.

However, if your child would like to work at this on home please see the link for more details. Stories written at home will have to be submitted as individual entries by parents, not by us in school. [Short story competition](#)

RESIDENTIAL PAYMENTS

With the residentials arriving quickly, can I ask that families check payments and ensure that these are all up to date please. If there are any concerns about payments, please come and discuss these with me.

HEADTEACHER AWARD



Well done to Jack and Sienna who worked hard together to produce a factfile about Queen Elizabeth I, to Mia who has been working incredibly hard on her handwriting and phonics, to Tom who has impressed his swimming teachers with the improvement in confidence over the last few weeks and to Oliver and Isaac who impressed Mrs Thom with their cooking skills. Well done to all of you.

At Hayward's we have recently introduced a 'Writer of the Month' display which you may have seen when you arrived in school for the Pupil information Evening. Each month we will be selecting a writer who is showing really potential and is working hard with their writing. Well done to George and Clara (Year 1), Marcie and Seth (Year 2), Josie and Florence (Year 3), Arthur and Ivy (Year 4), Natasha and Sophie (Year 5) and James and Jess (Year 6) who appear on the board this month.

KEY DATES FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Thursday 26th February 2026	KS2 Reading Café (9-10am)
Fri 27th February 2026	World Book Day at Hayward's
Friday 27th February 2026	Year 5 Cake Stall (3:30pm)
2nd-6th March 2026	Grenville House Residential —Y6
Thursday 5th March 2026	KS1 Reading Café (9-10am)
Friday 13th March 2026	PTA Disco
Friday 24th March 2026	Year 4 Cake Stall (3:30pm)
Fri 27th March 2026	Year 5 Poetry Celebration Assembly
Weds 25th to Fri 27th March 2026	Great Potheridge Residential — Y4
Thurs 2nd April 2026	Y3 and Y4 Greek Day—Families invited to attend
Thurs 2nd April 2026	Last Day of the Spring Term 2026
Monday 11th to Thursday 14th May	KS2 SATS Week
Friday 24th April 2026	Year 3 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Friday 19th May 2026	Year 2 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Fri 22nd May 2026	Year 4 Poetry Celebration Assembly
Mon 8th to Fri 12th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening check and Year 2 Phonics retakes.
Mon 8th to Fri 12th June	Year 5 Bikeability Week
Friday 19th June 2026	Year 1 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Fri 3rd July 2026	Year 1 Poetry Celebration Assembly
Fri 10th July 2026	EYFS Poetry Celebration Assembly
Friday 14th July 2026	EYFS Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Tuesday 21st July 2026	Last day of the Summer Term 2026

THE POWER OF READING



A Reading reflection:

What sort of books have you read this year? Have some of the books been like mirrors - making you think about your own life, or your own feelings - did you relate to the characters in the story? Have you read a book like a window: it let you look into what life might be like for somebody else? What about an overcoat or a blanket? A book that gave your comfort, made you feel warm, made you feel wrapped up and safe? Have you read a book like a flying carpet, which took you off to a magical world? Look at the picture below and reflect on your reading so far this year. Where has it taken you? What has it given you?

And...look at the unopened treasure waiting to be read: what might your next book give you? Where will you go? What will you see?

BUG BRUSH CLUB

Families from across Devon are invited to a free, NHS funded Oral Health Webinar taking place on Saturday 28th February at 10:00am.

This session is suitable for families with children aged **0–12 years**, and it provides practical, evidence-based guidance on supporting good oral health at home. [Big Brush Club Webinar - Saturday 28th February at 10am - For Parents and Caregivers of young children](#)

