



18th September 2026



With respect, kindness and resilience, we flourish together.

Dear Parents/Carers

What a fantastic week it has been across the school.

I have been particularly proud of the resilience our children have shown as they continue to settle into new learning routines and embrace the challenges of their year group curriculum. Whether tackling new concepts, adapting to classroom expectations, or developing greater independence, our pupils have approached their learning with determination and a positive attitude.

It has been wonderful to see children persevering when tasks become challenging, supporting one another, and celebrating their achievements along the way. These qualities are helping to create strong foundations for a successful year ahead.

I am also thoroughly enjoying seeing the flourishing community we have around our school. The kindness, encouragement, and sense of belonging shown by our children, families, and staff are what make our school such a special place. As we move through the term, I hope these connections continue to grow and strengthen, enabling us to work together to provide the very best experiences for our children.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to seeing our school community continue to thrive in the weeks ahead.

Ms Gabby Stevens
Acting Head Teacher



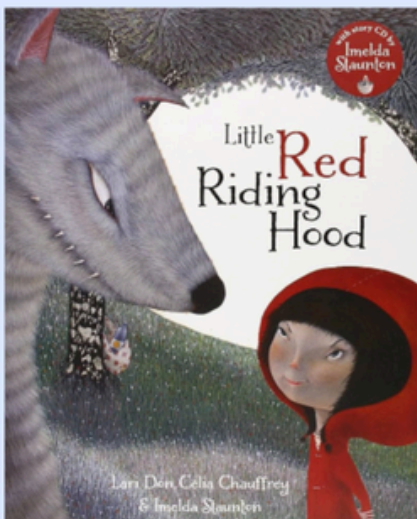
From the Classrooms...

Reception/N2



In EYFS and Nursery, we have been learning all about families. We have enjoyed talking about the special people in our families and sharing who lives in our homes. We have also been practising our counting skills and can confidently count to 3 using songs, games, and fun activities. We are very proud of all the learning we have done so far! 🌟

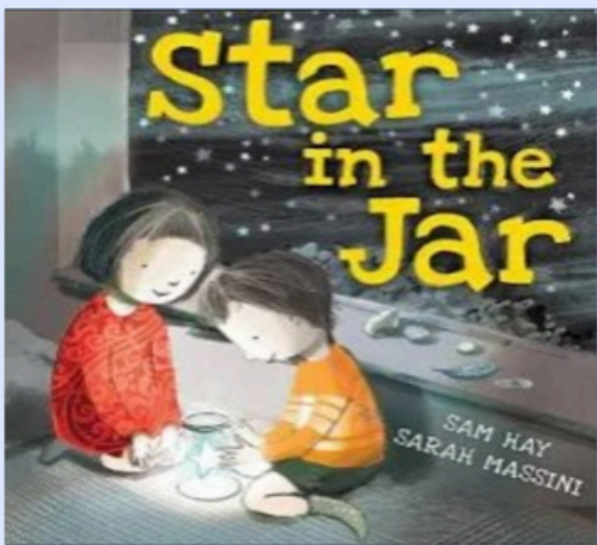
Year 1/Year 2



This week in Year 1/2, we have started reading our new class story, *Little Red Riding Hood*, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the characters and story events. In English, we have been practicing writing clear sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In Science, we have been learning about plant growth and discussing what plants need to grow healthy and strong. In History, we have been talking about our school day and developing our understanding of chronology by ordering events and thinking about what happens first, next and last. We are very proud of all the hard work and enthusiasm the children have shown in their learning this week!



Year 3



Year 3 have continued to explore Star in the Jar in English and Place Value in mathematics where we have looked at partitioning numbers to 1,000.

In history, they have begun to explore the prehistoric era – even older than Mr. Smith – and learned that the Stone Age was divided into the paleolithic, mesolithic and neolithic periods.

Year 4



This week, Year 4 have been looking forward to creating their very own Golden Tickets, inspired by Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

As part of our learning, we have explored relative clauses to add extra information to our writing. We used these to describe Charlie's grandparents in more detail, for example:

The four old grandparents, who were huddled under blankets, stared in disbelief as Charlie flung himself through the front door.

We hope Year 4 are as excited about designing their golden tickets as Grandpa Joe was about visiting Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory!



Year 5



Year 5 have been making friendship suncatchers this week.

We used card, sticky back plastic and tissue paper to create a stained glass window effect.

We did this to promote kindness and friendship in our classroom.

Year 6



During art, we have been learning about recycled art; art made from materials that cannot be easily recycled. This week, we learnt how to make "plarn," a skill used by Ifeoma Anyaeji to make installation pieces inspired by her love of nature and her cultural tradition of hair braiding.



Explorers



The children in Explorers enjoyed using the Conversation Cubes last week. They were great at taking turns, sharing their ideas and listening to others. The children have all shown that they can be 'ready', 'respectful' and 'safe' in school. Great job!



LEARNING LEGENDS

*Well,
Done!*

*Well,
Done!*



*Well,
Done!*

*Well,
Done!*



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Safeguarding Information for Parents

As part of our commitment to keeping children safe, we would like to share an upcoming online session for parents hosted by the Dartmoor Academy Trust Safeguarding Team.

Let's Talk Primary: Building Strong Foundations

 Wednesday 30 September

 7:30pm to 8:30pm

This informative session will provide practical advice and guidance to help parents support their children's wellbeing, safety and development.

To book a free place, please visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lets-talk-primary-building-strong-foundations-tickets-1996778772059>

We encourage all parents and carers to take advantage of this valuable opportunity.



Green Box Scheme

All parents are welcome to come and take advantage of this fantastic deal for Okehampton families, which also helps the environment! For just **£2.50**, you can get a whole box of good quality surplus food, valued at over **£10!**

We look forward to seeing you there!



**EVERY
THURS**

OKEHAMPTON GREEN BOX

📍 Okehampton Primary

🕒 15:00



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Can you help?



**The Green Box Project -
at Okehampton Primary School is looking for
more volunteers!**

- Volunteers are needed to join a friendly team on Thursdays, even if you only have an hour to give on occasional weeks.
- Tasks are fun and can involve receiving the food delivery, stock taking, making up the boxes with a variety of foods, or selling the boxes to families.
- This is an environmental project and an exciting scheme to be part of.
- Please contact Melissa Trudgill at mtrudgill@dmatschools.org.uk for more information - we would love to hear from you!





ABSENCE REPORTING & OFFICE HOURS

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please ensure you notify the school office by email (admin@okehamptonprimary.org.uk) or telephone (01837 52866) **before 9:00am on the day of absence.**

For planned medical appointments, parents/carers must inform the office in advance by completing the S2 Absence/Holiday form, available here:
<https://www.okehampton-pri.devon.sch.uk/Parents/Forms-and-Documents/>

The completed form should be submitted either by hand or via email, and must include evidence of the appointment where possible. We understand that emergency appointments can arise; however, the school office must still be notified as soon as possible.

Please note that the school office is open from 8:30am to 4:00pm, Monday to Friday, during term time.

UPDATES TO PHOTO CONSENTS ON ARBOR

Since our photo consents were last updated, technology has developed considerably, particularly in relation to artificial intelligence (AI). We have therefore reviewed the wording of our consent statements to make sure they remain up to date and provide families with clear and transparent information about what can happen to images once they are shared online.

We want to reassure you that this does not mean we are changing the way we currently use photographs or other media of our pupils. The reason we are asking you to review your consent again is simply because the wording needs to reflect the changing online and technological landscape.

We would be very grateful if you could take a few moments to review the updated consents in Arbor and confirm your preferences.

Information about how to access Arbor can be found here:

<https://www.okehampton-pri.devon.sch.uk/Parents/Arbor-Schoolgateway/>

DATES FOR THE DIARY



29

SEPT

NHS FLU VACCINATION VISIT

📍 R – Year 6

🕒 9:00AM

29

SEPT

OCRA WEST DEVON FOOTBALL

📍 Tavistock

🕒 11:00AM

30

SEPT

OCRA NEON RUN – YEAR 6

📍 Oke College

🕒 VARIOUS

7

OCT

INDIVIDUAL TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHS (MORE INFO TO COME)

📍 OPS

🕒 9:00 AM

9

OCT

HELLO YELLOW – YOUNG MINDS

📍 OPS

🕒 VARIOUS

14

OCT

PARENTS EVENING

📍 OPS

🕒 3:30 PM

15

OCT

PARENTS EVENING

📍 OPS

🕒 3:30 PM

YOUNGMINDS

**Hello
Yellow**
FRIDAY 9 OCT

**Wear yellow,
say hello.**

**Support young people's
mental health.**

Dear parents and carers,

Our school will be taking part in Hello Yellow on Friday 9th October 2026 (World Mental Health Day) to raise awareness and funds for YoungMinds, the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health.

No young person should feel alone with their mental health and that's why Hello Yellow matters. We're taking this opportunity as a school community to come together and show our students that we're with them and they're never alone with their mental health.

We'll be taking part by wearing something yellow with our school uniform. You can also donate to support our school's fundraising by clicking on the donation link or QR code below.

Most importantly, we want to share the resources which YoungMinds offer to support parents and carers if you ever need help and advice to support your children. This includes:

- online resources (www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/)
- a phone line, open 9.30am-4pm (0808 802 5544)
- an online chat for parents and carers to speak to trained professionals if you're concerned about your children's mental health (www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline/)



<https://fundraise.youngminds.org.uk/s/1061/1063>

#HelloYellow

M&S | YOUNGMINDS

YoungMinds, registered Charity in England (1016068) and Scotland (SC039700)

Join a new club or learn a new skill!

Drum Lessons
Now offered
at school.

For more info contact Ben at:
devondrumschool@gmail.com
Tel:
07966-488481



Okehampton Hockey Club Junior Hockey



Saturday Mornings

STARTING on SEPTEMBER 12th 2026

Okehampton College All Weather Pitch

Years 4 to 7 - 10am to 11am

Years 8 to 10 - 11am to 12pm

Just £3 per session

All standards welcome

Shin pads and mouth guard required

Contact - okejhc@gmail.com

www.okehamptonhockeyclub.co.uk



Devon Country Classroom

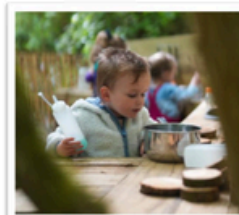
Hooperton Farm • Crockernwell

Term Time Clubs

Nature Explorers

Pre-School - Year 6

Thursdays after school from 3.45-5.30pm
£8/child to include a snack toasted on the fire.
The perfect way to unwind after a busy day at school!



Mini-Nature Explorers

18 Months – 5 Years

Thursdays and Fridays 10-11.30am
£8/child to include a snack toasted on the fire.
Children to be accompanied by an adult.



Led by qualified teacher, Katie Grist and supported by Level 3 Early Years Practitioner, Christine Grist.

Book now!

www.devoncountryclassroom.com





Okehampton College PTFA
&
Okehampton Primary PTFA



Coffee Morning



Charter Hall

Saturday 19 Sept
9.30am – 12noon

Get in touch
if you'd like a stall



Okehamptoncollegeptfa@yahoo.com



Cakes



Raffle

**The PTFA are holding their first event of the school year,
a coffee morning on Saturday 19th September in the Charter Hall.
Please pop in for a cuppa and cake, browse the stalls and have a chat.**