## LINK ACADEMY TRUST SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER



# FROM NICKY DUNFORD CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

#### Dear Parents and Carers.

This is my last CEO Newsletter and as such I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you that regularly support our schools whether it be the highly important job of fundraising, down to the kindness you show our staff and teachers-especially at the end of term when everyone is so shattered! Your commitment to our schools, often driving the dreaded lanes is so important, ensuring we remain cutting-edge schools giving the children the very best learning experiences. Your support of our schools has allowed us to do so much more for the children in so many ways, and you will see the enormous array of activities that are experienced by our children in the following school summaries. So again, a massive thank you!

Retirement is a strange beast, and I do go into it with some trepidation as our Trust of brilliant schools has been my life-blood- they have kept me busy, caused me some angst, but above all else have made me so proud. I have never felt a day of reluctance coming to work and that has been a direct result of the amazing people I have been able to work with and the integrity with which everyone is there to provide the best they can for the children.

Our schools work so well together as such great teams, learning and gaining ideas and knowledge from one another, but still free to bring a uniqueness to every school. I am so proud of the fact that every school is individual and has its own real strengths and has its own brilliant leadership that is totally dedicated to ensuring the best experiences our children receive for life.

Finally, I would like to say that the new CEO, Rachael Sharpe will be joining you all in September and I know will bring new ideas, however she has made it clear that she has a complete understanding of the Trust vision and values which will, I am sure, take you forward into exciting new grounds.

So once again thank you all and good luck to everyone, I shall be watching the social media pages to see all the great things going on and no doubt be envious that I am not there with them all. I will always know we lived by our strap-line-Small Schools, Big Opportunities!!!

Best wishes to you all, Nicky

#### **Bearnes Primary School**



This term has been bursting with energy, exploration, and unforgettable experiences for our pupils.

Sports Day was a joyful celebration of teamwork and school spirit. Every child gave their all, and it was heartwarming to see older pupils cheering on their younger peers with such enthusiasm and kindness. The day was filled with laughter, encouragement, and a wonderful sense of community.

Alongside this, our school trips have taken learning beyond the classroom in the most exciting ways.

Sycamores and Redwoods enjoyed a thrilling kayaking adventure on Decoy Lake. The children overcame any fears they had, showed immense resilience and all left smiling and saying they wanted to do it again. Chestnuts Class had an amazing time at the Dyno Climbing Centre in Buckfastleigh and all showed great courage and determination. The children all said they had such a fun experience. Oaks Class explored the prehistoric wonders of Kents Cavern in Torquay, discovering fascinating

insights into life thousands of years ago. They enjoyed learning about stone age animals that lived in the local area and really loved the cave tour.

Have a wonderful summer, from all the staff and children at Bearnes Primary School.

#### **Branscombe CofE Primary School**



It has been a year full of opportunities at Branscombe CofE with large amounts of time spent learning outside of the classroom. The minibus has been kept busy as we have been out on a number of trips and visits. Some highlights have been the trips to Exeter, a working mill, a working farm and Go-Ape. Closer to home, the children have spent time redesigning and setting up the forest school area and we are in the process of securing an allotment space to further enhance our outdoor learning provision at the school. We have also used the facilities in the village such as the village hall, orchard and cricket club for events such as our May Day celebrations. The 'stay and play' baby and toddler group has been successful and it has been great to see children from 0-5 access our fantastic facilities within the school. The term has ended with the children taking part in an enterprise afternoon where they designed, built and

enterprise afternoon where they designed, built and delivered a range of business ideas. We had everything from target games, bracelet selling and a cake stall. The local community supported the event and it was great to see everyone together.

From all at Branscombe, have a relaxing summer.



#### **Broadhembury CofE Primary School**



We have had a fantastic year at Broadhembury C of E and are incredibly proud of each and every one of the children for the outstanding progress that they have made. In the classroom, the children have had the opportunity to explore a wide range of areas across the curriculum. They have particularly flourished during creative tasks and have enjoyed the chance to design and produce work, whether that is in DT or a final write in English.

Outside of the classroom, we have participated in a number of sports events, science investigations at our local river and and adventurous trip to Go-Ape. The determination and courage that the children showed to take on the high ropes course was a real stand out moment from the year. Not only for the individual achievements but for the way that the whole school community came together to support each other and ensure that everyone was able to achieve their best. Have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to picking up where we have left off in September.

#### **Broadhempston Primary School**



What a wonderfully busy summer term we've had at Broadhempston! Our pupils have truly embraced the great outdoors and I couldn't be more proud of everything they've accomplished. From planting raised beds with a mix of flowers and vegetables to forest school sessions and exploring science and art in the great outdoors, all our outdoor endeavours helped us earn the Woodland Trust Gold Award. We now have our sights set on Platinum! Our school community also showed remarkable generosity and compassion organising a coffee morning and lemonade stand for our partner school in Uganda, as well as a charity fair and refugee run. These efforts were recognised with a Social Impact Award reflecting the kindness and initiative shown by our children in supporting others. Of course, summer wouldn't be complete without our traditional Sports Day which brought families together (and featured a fiercely competitive parents' race!) We also joined forces with Landscove for an exciting multi-activity day at Headlands. And what a term for adventure. From coasteering and

paddleboarding to climbing, caving, camping on Dartmoor and a three-day residential in Bristol, our learners have stretched themselves, built resilience and created memories that will last a lifetime.

It's been a term full of growth, adventure and celebration. Thank you to all the staff, families and children for your

energy, enthusiasm and teamwork.

#### **Cheriton Bishop Primary School**



Another successful term at Cheriton Bishop! The children have continued to work hard in their learning and we are very proud of the results in the Phonics Screening Check, the Multiplication Tables Check, and the Year 6 SATs. Huge thank you to all the staff for supporting the children so well. We have been delighted to see so many of our children embracing opportunities for their personal development this year. We now have lots of clubs being run by children, for children at lunchtimes on the playground: everything from reading to skipping! We are also very proud of our Year 6 children, who took part in the Torbay Civic Award this year. To gain the award, the children had to present evidence of them volunteering in the local community, volunteering in school, learning a new hobby and other things. We celebrated their success with an awards ceremony in partnership with Tedburn St Mary School. We have rounded off the term with our annual KS2 production. This year the audiences were wowed by performances of The Pirates of the Curry Bean, featuring songs, dances and lots of laughs. Well done, everyone!

#### **Diptford CofE Primary School**



As the academic year draws to a close, it is once again time to reflect on the incredible term we have had. This term kicked off with a triumphant start as our girls' football team clinched the year 5/6 football trophy, an achievement that showcased their great teamwork. Our Key Stage Two students embarked on exciting residentials, pushing their boundaries with activities like caving and mountain biking. The adventurous spirit continued with a whole-school trip to the River Dart, creating wonderful memories for all our children. In May, we took time to remember VE Day with a wonderful outdoor picnic and activities across the school to reflect on this significant event in our national history. In June, we enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day welcoming our community along to watch in the blazing heat! Our Diptford pupils showed their great sportsmanship and perseverance throughout the day led by our very able year five and six pupils. We were also incredibly fortunate to welcome Amy, a talented stained-glass artist, who inspired our students with her creativity. Pupils

across the school worked in their family groups to produce a lovely stained glass window to proudly display in school. Thank you to our FODs for funding this wider curriculum opportunity and so many more across the year. Their incredible fund-raising efforts and generosity of time enrich our curriculum offer for the children greatly. The term then culminated with our amazing production of Alice in Wonderland. The children truly shone, showcasing their diverse talents and bringing the classic story to life with passion and skill. Every child has contributed to making this term so special, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them. From all of us in Diptford, we hope you all have a lovely summer break, filled with rest, fun, and new adventures!



#### **Drake's CofE Primary School**



The summer term has been action-packed, with highlights including Sports Day, SATs, a residential trip, Watersports Day, and a fantastic school performance. The families and friends of Drake's were treated to the most amazing performance of Pirates of the Curry Bean. The children worked really hard to learn their lines and tell the story so that everyone could hear. This year they had the added responsibility of staging and multiple props, but they once again rose to the occasion to provide us with the most wonderful show. We might be small, but we are most certainly mighty in the performing stakes! Heron Class enjoyed a brilliant day at the Sideshore Sea Safety event in Exmouth. They began with an environmental education session focused on the local coastline, followed by a creative activity painting a large 3D hermit crab. In the afternoon, they took part in sea swimming and water safety sessions led by Seaswim Devon, building confidence in the water. The day ended with a well-earned ice cream. Alongside these highlights, pupils had the chance to challenge

themselves, support one another, and enjoy a wide range of experiences throughout the term. We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable summer break.

#### **Farway CofE Primary School**



At Farway, the children have had a wide range of opportunities both within and outside of the classroom. Class 1 have designed and made luggage tags where they have showcased their sewing skills and the final products would not look out of place in a designer outlet! Class 2 have used their design skills to create bridges that could hold weights and experimented with different structures and shapes to increase their strength. We have also had lots of trips and experiences outside of school such as Go-Ape, where the children had an incredible time swinging through the trees and facing their fears. The children were a credit to the school and supported each other throughout the day. Sports Day was a huge success and it was fantastic to see so many families supporting the event. The children put on a real spectacle and the races were hard fought, but with fantastic sportsmanship being shown. We have also been visited by Sidmouth RNLI who spoke to the children about sea and beach safety. The session was interactive and engaging throughout and the children came away with a clear understanding of how to remain safe whilst having fun at the beach or near water.

Have a lovely summer!



#### **Harbertonford CofE Primary School**



The pupils of Harbertonford have had a bumper summer term: our wider curriculum offer has continued to expand so that children experience a huge range of activities and events that compliment the hard work they put in every day on our core curriculum. These include sailing, BMX biking, kayaking, orienteering, a residential on Dartmoor, a visit to Becky Falls, martial arts lessons, performing at Dartmouth Music Festival, water safety sessions at the beach, Bikeability, music curriculum days, World Explorer Days (Bangladesh and Nigeria), dance days, football fixtures, multi-skills events, Paignton Zoo, a visit from an Olympic athlete, a cricket tournament and more. We celebrated much improved exam results including phonics in Year 1 and reading, writing and maths in Year 6. This is a testament to the way we work here: our urgency and desire to educate the whole child is evident in the day-to-day lessons in the classroom and in the wide range of 'extras' listed above. We continue to welcome new applicants to the school from families who want to be a part of this.

Our brilliant community has rallied around the school this year and there is no clearer example than the Festival on the Field that took place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July, organised by our dedicated PTFA but enjoyed by members of the much wider community. It really is a sign that we are stronger together and it's great to be putting Harbertonford Primary School 'on the map.'

#### **Hennock Primary School**



What a hot one! Hennock has brought this term to a close with a scorching enrichment week. The week kicked off with Sports Day, which was held on our local village field and included our families and community. Competitive spirits ran high but as always we came together as a team. We travelled by train on Tuesday to visit the cathedral in Exeter where we learnt all about its fascinating history and also visited the RAM museum. Wednesday saw a visit from a Cultural Champion and Thursday led us to Methley Meadows where we learnt all about powerful plants and also cooled down with some water related games. Friday provided some relief too as we visited Bovey pool for some splashing fun, finishing off the day with some impressive circus skills. We also performed 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies' for our families and local community and our wonderful PTFA helped us to celebrate the end of term by cooking our own homemade pizzas in our pizza oven. What a fantastic few weeks jam packed with great experiences for our pupils and families - a special way to end the year. We wish you a restful break.





#### **Ilsington CofE Primary School**



We end the summer term after several weeks filled with memorable events, enthusiasm, and achievements across the school. Sports Day was a highlight, with children showing excellent teamwork and determination. The support from the Friends of Ilsington PTFA was greatly appreciated - as was the surprise inflatable staff race, which brought plenty of laughter! Our talented KS2 pupils truly shone in their end-of-term production of Let the Games Begin. From powerful solos to rapid-fire costume changes, every child gave it their all —an unforgettable experience for all involved. As well as visits to the beach and Eden Project, the term ended with a splash as the whole school took part in 'Water Fun on the Field', with water relays, games, and plenty of excitement! We were also blown away by the Year 5/6 enterprise projects—children created mini businesses from just £5 and raised funds for a chosen charity and the PTFA. Their creativity and teamwork were outstanding.

A huge thank you to our amazing children, dedicated staff, and supportive families for making this such a memorable year. We wish you all a wonderful, restful summer and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September!

#### **Landscove CofE Primary School**



The term has been truly jam-packed! Ofsted visited early doors, and it was great to have them confirm what we already know... "The school's clear and consistent values and ethos, are woven through every aspect of school life, creating an inclusive and nurturing environment where every pupil is welcome." This was followed the very next day with our Global Neighbour's assessment. The children and staff have worked tirelessly on fabulous links with our Ugandan partner school, our Food for Thought Project and of course all things Eco which run alongside this! We were all thrilled to receive the Silver accolade. From our Fairtrade commitment to fundraising for a project in Sierra Leone, and from introducing refillable glue sticks and LED lights universally across the school to proactively engaging parents to be save energy and use car shares as a means to travelling to school... "Landscove CE Primary has achieved Silver Award status in Christian Aid's Global Neighbours scheme, in recognition of its initiatives to encourage children to think of others throughout the world."

Sport and outdoor learning have once again been centre stage this term. In addition to the wonderful events organised by Matt Tanner, our children have also experienced adventure days, a camping wild night out was enjoyed by years 3&4 and a residential in Bristol was the icing on the cake for Years 5&6.

What a busy and exciting term to end the year!





#### **Littleham CofE Primary School**



A busy summer term has come to a close and what a term it has been, full of exciting and enriching experiences for all the pupils. The whole school ended the term with a trip to the beach and fun was had by all. The most memorable trip was certainly for KS2 who spent the day visiting the Mosque, Cathedral and Synagogue as part of their World views topic, looking at places of worship. Our year 6's have has some super visits, taking part in the Swim to Sea project, enjoyed an action packed day at Sandy Bay, winning the inter school football and getting ready to head off to ECC. The whole school enjoyed the fire service visit and reception and Pre School loved the fire engine. It has been lovely to see the children focusing on their learning in class and everyone enjoyed the whole school Art project to support the local community. The year ended with a trip to the beach, with everyone making the most of the lovely weather and taking part in beach games. A big thank you to everyone across the school community for all their hard work and efforts across the year and we hope you all have an amazing summer break



#### **Morchard Bishop CofE Primary School**



The summer term at Morchard Bishop has been absolutely packed with learning, laughter, and memorable experiences. From exciting trips to outdoor adventures, our children have made the most of every opportunity. Our older pupils had an unforgettable time at PGL Barton Hall—those campfire songs really never get old! The trip was a brilliant chance for them to build resilience, strengthen friendships, and create memories that will last a lifetime (even if it meant staying up all night!). Meanwhile, our younger children have been just as busy, enjoying a variety of sports activities and making the most of the sunshine with visits to the beautiful Rosemoor Gardens. Their enthusiasm and energy have been infectious! Last week was a whirlwind of activity, with sports day, play rehearsals, and our much-loved annual sponsored walk all taking place. The walk was a huge success and full of fun, all in support of our fundraising efforts for a new trim trail and playground. We're so grateful for every donation your support means the world to us and will make a real difference to our outdoor spaces.

And while we've been enjoying the present, we've also been looking ahead. Our new class groups for September are all set, and we're already excited to welcome everyone back, refreshed and ready to go for another fantastic year.





#### **Moretonhampstead Primary School**



Moretonhampstead Primary School have had a wonderfully busy and exciting Summer term! Back in early May we enjoyed a marvellous VE day event. The Parish Council worked with Med Theatre, FOMS and the school to provide a 'street' party and performance. There was a wonderful afternoon tea with sandwiches, cream scones and cakes. This was followed by a performance in the school hall. The performance was guided by Med Theatre (funded by the Parish Council) working with the children from Y1 to Y6. We also had the school choir and the wider school singing! Parents and the wider community joined in this lovely event. We have been lucky to have Med theatre work with us again. This time the theme was Dartmoor, in particularly the prison at Princetown. The children learnt some of the history and then wrote their own scripts towards a joint play. A group of children created the music to accompany and for special effects! Another child made the backdrop using an animation programme. It was an exciting and

We were invited to visit Coppelia house residential care home as it was National Care Home Week. Mr Downton took a group of children who sang beautifully despite the heat! Songs ranged from 'We'll meet again' to 'A million Dreams' definitely tear jerkers! In the last few weeks we have also had art days with artists Nic George and Sandi Nightingale. The children have produced some super work which will be displayed over the summer at local events. We have also enjoyed a sunny Sports' Day and a wet and windy Swimming Gala! Have a lovely summer, The Moretonhampstead Staff Team!

#### **Otterton CofE Primary School**



The summer term at Otterton CofE primary has been jam packed with experiences, adventures, team building and all-round exciting opportunities! The Year 6 children have been on their school residential, having a wonderful time on Dartmoor with other pupils from Drake's and Cheriton Bishop. They took part in mountain biking, orienteering, weaselling, bouldering, climbing and spent quality time together developing independence and resilience before starting their next journey at secondary school. The children in Heron class had a fantastic time at Wildwood Escot for a Living History Day - they conquered the maze; went back in time to experience life as Anglo Saxons and got to have a go at jewelry making, wood carving and bread making; they went on a foraging walk; saw the bears and the wolves and even got to have a go at the drop slide! More recently, they had fun at Haven Banks, enjoying Bell boating and raft building.

Otters had a fantastic trip to Clip and Climb. Everyone challenged themselves to climb as far as they could. As part of the reception literacy work on the book 'The Big

Book Of Bugs', all the children form Hedgehogs and Otters spent the afternoon using clay to make models of different bugs. We've continued to strengthen our links with the local community and held a successful Village fete again in conjunction with St Michael's Church. We also held a very popular chocolate bingo night, all in aid of raising funds for new playground equipment. All the children should be proud of their achievements this year, many of which have been celebrated during our end of term service. We wish our Year 6 children the best of luck at Secondary school and thank all who have supported the school throughout this year.

#### **Sparkwell Primary School**



As we approach the end of another vibrant academic year at Sparkwell Primary, we've been busier than ever with a wonderful mix of learning, exploration, and celebration. Our woodland adventures have sparked curiosity and creativity, as children explored nature, made discoveries, and deepened their connection with the outdoors. In the classroom, we've been learning all about healthy eating—making informed choices and understanding how to fuel our bodies and minds.

A real highlight was a visit from an Olympic gymnast, who inspired us with their story and even led a gymnastics session that had everyone moving with energy and enthusiasm. This tied in perfectly with our Sports Week and Sports Day, which were filled with excitement, friendly competition, and a strong sense of inclusivity and team spirit. We also celebrated the incredible talents of our pupils during our Sparkwell's Got Talent performance—what a showcase of creativity, confidence, and joy! And we're now eagerly counting down to Spark Fest next week, which

promises to be a fantastic finale to the term. Our children have achieved some truly fabulous results this year, and we've taken great pride in celebrating their successes with our parent community. They have also achieved more than they ever thought possible and, even though I've only been here 6 months, I have been blown away with their potential. As we look ahead, we're excited to welcome our new Hedgehogs in September and begin another chapter of learning and discovery together.

#### **Stoke Gabriel Primary School**



As we come to the end of another fantastic year at our school, we're proud to reflect on the many achievements and memorable moments we've shared together. Our pupils have shown outstanding team spirit while representing the school at various Link Academy sports fixtures. Their enthusiasm and dedication have been truly inspiring. One of the highlights of the year was our wholeschool adventure day at Go Ape, where many children stepped out of their comfort zones and challenged themselves — a huge well done to all who took part! From the next academic year, our preschool will be moving onto the main school site and this move will give our youngest learners outdoor space to enhance their provision. With the preschool now at full capacity and it has been wonderful to see such strong engagement at our monthly Stay and Play sessions. Throughout the year, we've embraced outdoor learning more than ever. Our EYFS team has introduced weekly outdoor sessions, with "Mud Day" being a firm favourite!

We've also transformed part of our school field into a vibrant and more accessible learning space, thanks to the generous support of our parent community and the Horticultural Society. A heartfelt thank you to our children, staff, families, and the wider community for making this year such a success. We look forward to building on these achievements in the new academic year. Wishing you all a safe, restful, and happy summer break





#### **Tedburn St Mary Primary School**



Hello from Tedburn St Mary Primary School! Our School Values focus this term has been Pride and the children have shown this value in abundance. At Tedburn, we strive to encourage all our children to be the best that they can be, to be proud of who they are and where they come from. There have been many moments to feel proud at our school this term with a Year 6 residential trip to London, Okehampton Adventure residential for Years 4 and 5, day trips to Plymouth Aquarium and Kent's Cavern, school choir performing at Devon County Show and our fantastic Year 5 and 6 children performing their Summer show 'The Tyrant of Tedburn'. Our after school clubs have been as popular as ever with the children enjoying photography club, school choir, guitar club, playground games and campfire cooking. Thank you to all our TA's who help to run these amazing opportunities for our children, providing lifelong memories and experiences for all. All of our children make us proud each day and they all continue to amaze us daily with their talents and achievements, and enjoy sharing these with us.

A special 'Congratulations' to our Year 6 children for their incredible SATS results this year, with 100% achievement for Maths and 88.2% in both Reading and Writing! A phenomenal achievement and I know they are incredibly proud of themselves. We wish them all the luck in their future ventures at Secondary School. A huge 'Thank You' to our Friends of Tedburn St Mary (FOTSMS) who are always fundraising to provide our children with firsthand experiences, supporting school trips/residentials, buying a new 'Buddy Bench' for our playground and ongoing fundraising for our Sensory Garden, to name but a few. They also held a successful annual Summer Fun Day, which had a reappearance of what is quickly becoming a firm favourite at Tedburn, the Wacky Races! Finally, we would like to say a final goodbye to Nicky Dunford, our CEO. Thank you for being a supportive figure at Tedburn over the past few years. We will miss you! We hope everyone in The Link Academy has a wonderful Summer Holiday – see you September!

### **Widecombe in the Moor Primary School**



Here at Widecombe, our summer term has been full of adventure and drama! The whole school rose to the challenge of our inaugural 10km event, and we had a fantastic time at Sports Day 2025, where the Green Team emerged victorious. Lower Dart have been busy exploring —from their visit to the Eden Project to crafting clay swallows at Southcombe Barn, building forest nests, cooking nettle fritters, and even busking at the Bovey Craft Festival! They also completed their Level 1 Bikeability and passed with flying colours. Upper Dart have had a jampacked term too. After working hard on their SATs, they enjoyed a brilliant residential in Bristol, learning about the city's history, exploring the Science Museum, creating street art, and relaxing with golf and bowling. They also took part in the Dartmoor Clayscapes workshop and are now preparing to perform The Tempest—break a leg! Webburn and Cherry Brook have embraced outdoor learning with Stacey in the woods, made great progress in our school pool, and tackled the local tors with climbing

and weaselling adventures. Cherry Brook also had a memorable visit from the RNLI, bringing their coastal studies to life. We were also treated to a stunning performance by the Lyric Chamber Orchestra, with children even trying out the instruments themselves—an unforgettable experience! As we prepare to say goodbye to our wonderful Year 6s, we wish everyone a joyful and restful summer.

#### **Wolborough CofE Primary School**



What a wonderful end to a fantastic year! We've had so many exciting activities and events – it's hard to know where to begin! Our PE calendar was packed as usual, kicking off with the brilliant Moors Festival, where children explored Dartmoor, taking on the challenge of letterboxing and map reading like true adventurers! Back on home turf, Wheely Wednesdays have been a big hit – the playground was full of laughter as children zoomed around on bikes and scooters with their friends.

One of the highlights of the term has to be our Year 5-6 team winning the Dartmoor Schools Partnership Athletics
Tournament! A huge achievement and a real testament to the team spirit and dedication this group has shown over the years. We're incredibly proud of them. We celebrated tradition in style with our lovely May Day celebrations. Our Yr 6 children danced beautifully around the Maypole in town and the other classes showed off their folk dancing skills. Families then joined us for a lovely picnic back at school, and more dancing after the Mayor arrived to crown our

Queen – a magical day for all. Elsewhere, classes have been busy with bread making, pottery, a trip to the library to learn how to read Braille and a combined WW2 history and art project with the library and museum. Another stand-out moment was our Kindness Day – the children decorated cups and gifted them, along with a tea bag and biscuit, to members of the public. The smiles and warm responses showed just how much kindness matters. Wishing you all a happy and fun-filled summer.

#### **Woodbury Salterton CofE Primary School**



Its been a very active term at Woodbury Salterton with numerous sporting events and fixtures including: an inspiring day of Cricket; participation in Dartmoor Three Ball tournaments for all our Key Stage Two pupils, an energetic skipping workshop that definitely raised heartrates, swimming lessons for all pupils in years 2 - 6, a fabulous trip to Go Ape where each child challenged themselves out of their comfort zones, a swimming lesson in the sea where pupils were taught to swim safely at the beach and of course our annual Sports day! Our Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed widening their experiences by watching the most popular opera of all time, Puccini's La Bohemean at the Barnfield Theatre. The children were mesmerized by the story and acting and have been able to showcase their own performing skills in our whole school production of Alice in Wonderland which saw all our pupils from the ages of two to eleven performing in this wonderful story. Our Key Stage One pupils received a visit from Tiverton

Museum who took them back in time to experience what

school life was like during the Victorian era for children their age. The children loved participating in a Victorian lesson and exploring the artefacts. Last year when we took our pupils to a local music festival, it inspired many of them to learn an instrument of their own so it was wonderful to return to the festival again this year, where our Key Stage Two pupils not only sung as a choir but our budding new musicians were able to perform on their instruments as well! We were also fortunate to receive a visit from Will at Let's Go Zero who has performed an extensive audit of our school to help us create our Climate Action Plan as we continue to work together in our school community to become more sustainable and agents of positive change.

#### **Yeoford Primary School**



This summer term at Yeoford Primary has been bursting with fun, achievement, and memorable experiences that truly reflect the spirit of our school. Sport has once again taken centre stage, with pupils from all year groups stepping up and giving their all. Our Year 5 and 6 students showcased their skills at a netball tournament, while our girls' football team made us proud by clinching a well-earned victory. The whole school came together for a brilliant Sports Day, full of friendly competition and high energy. Meanwhile, our younger pupils took part in a multi-sports festival, and our Year 3 and 4 children displayed excellent sportsmanship at a cricket tournament. Across the term, athletics events kept everyone moving and motivated. Our older pupils have had some truly magical experiences, from becoming wizards for the day at QE's Harry Potter event to enjoying a thrilling activities week. Year 5 and 6 hiked Dartmoor, cycled the Tarka Trail, went paddleboarding in Exeter, camped overnight at school, explored Teignmouth and Shaldon, and even spent a day at Crealy! Year 3 and 4 also had their share

of adventure with a trip to Paignton, while our younger children enjoyed a sunny seaside visit to Exmouth Beach. On the creative side, the summer performance of Pirates v Mermaids was a roaring success, filled with laughter and lively talent. Behind the scenes, the Eco Council led the way in environmental action with their inspiring 'Big Blue Day' to help protect our oceans. There's been plenty happening around the school grounds too. Our forest school has had a wonderful revamp, with exciting new water play and mud kitchen areas. The PTA has also given our outdoor 'Burrow' area a much-needed makeover, and we now have a fantastic new trim trail for everyone to enjoy.

Academically, it's been a strong term. SATs, times table checks, and phonics tests went smoothly—with 100% of our pupils passing their phonics screening! We also marked 80 years since VE Day with thoughtful celebrations and reflections. As we look to the future, we've welcomed our September new starters for transition days, and we'll soon be saying goodbye to those leaving Yeoford Primary this year. But before that, we'll enjoy a final summer party—sure to be the perfect send-off to a term (and year!) full of joy, growth, and community spirit.

