

Dear West Exe families,

I cannot believe another term is over! We have had the most incredible start to 2025 at West Exe with our community experiencing so much success over the term. The moments of joy seem almost endless but I will endeavour to capture the great things that have happened in a few short words. From Year 11 cream teas and mock exams to artistic wonders. From sporting brilliance to a spell-binding production. From trips to outdoor education, our students have really done it all.

This update also shows how West Exe students get to explore real world issues, particularly in the Year 11 drop down day. The focus on peace and conflict is a humbles and sombre subject but so important to explore with your children in school. It gave plenty of food for thought.

We have also been thrilled to welcome some of our local primaries for art showcases and sporting events. We adore being part of this community West of the river Exe and are excited to meet some of the faces that will hopefully be putting on that West Exe uniform in the future.

We cannot wait to welcome you all back into school after the break. Until then have a fantastic Easter.

All the best

Julie

Celebrations

Let's Take Flight!

Year 8 students have been encouraged by their Art teachers to explore and experiment with creative freedom. The results of this can be seen in the 'Let's Take Flight' Bird Installation in The Eye at the centre of our school. Students are incredibly proud of their work and this shows in what can only be described as a vibrantly wholesome and inclusive display. We are looking forward to seeing more Art displays showcasing and celebrating our amazing students artwork, around our school environment.

Our brilliant D of E Team were out training the weekend before last, getting ready for the real thing.

Our 35 and 45 teams have been out on Dartmoor training in the penultimate weekend. It's getting close now! Come and support our amazing teams at the final event 10-11 May!

Year 5 Handball Festival 🏆

On 26 March, we welcomed Bowhill, Ide, St Thomas, and St Gabriel's for our second Year 5 Handball Festival. Teams competed in a round-robin format, playing at least 6 matches each.

There was fantastic energy on display, with impressive dribbling, shooting, and goalkeeping. A big well done to our Sports Leaders, who did an amazing job as referees, coaches, and officials — their confidence and professionalism were praised by visiting teachers. Congratulations to all who took part!

On Friday, 21 March, our Year 11 students took part in a themed drop-down day of Peace and Conflict. During the morning they took part in sessions on topics such as the ethics of war and nuclear disarmament. They also participated in a conflict resolution simulation. The day culminated in a Q&A session with a panel of visitors consisting of religious believers from various faiths and academics from the University of Exeter, who discussed issues including the war in Ukraine, the United Nations and the prospects for world peace.



Update continued

Whole school information

Focus Week, when we return after Easter will be mobile phones and being ambitious in learning. This week is about celebrating how ambitious our students are in their learning. There will be lots of opportunities throughout the week for us to celebrate how brilliant our students are with tutor competitions and year group prizes available.

We are posting fortnightly on our social channels, E-Safety posters surrounding different topics - keep an eye out for these when they land. They will also be available on our [website](#).

We'd love to hear from you to give a 'shout out' for your child/children involved in a club/group, activity or just trying something new outside of school. Please email admin@westexe.devon.sch.uk with photos and a brief explanation and we will celebrate this in our next update.

Our Cycle 3 timetable for PE and Sports Extra Curricular timetable is now available on our website [here](#).

Key dates - You can also visit our website [here](#).

Start of the Summer Term - Tuesday, 22 April 2025

May Day Holiday - Monday, 5 May 2025

Half Term - Monday, 26 – Friday, 30 May 2025

Last day of term - Friday, 18 July 2025

Mrs. Joslin, a dedicated and long-serving member of staff at WES, celebrated her 60th birthday this week. She was deeply touched and nearly speechless by the heartfelt words, chocolates, cards, and warm birthday wishes from our thoughtful students. Throughout the day, students took great joy in celebrating the occasion and sharing their best wishes with her.

We're delighted to celebrate how smoothly our students have adapted to the introduction of our new catering service and the transition to a fully cashless system. The response has been incredibly positive, with many students enjoying the improved taste, greater variety, and overall quality of the meals on offer.

The shift to a cashless setup has made the dining experience more efficient and convenient, while the exciting new menu options have been met with enthusiasm across year groups. It's been fantastic to see students exploring the expanded choices and embracing the change with such positivity. Lunch top ups can be made in your MCAS account via Dinner Money.

We look forward to continuing to provide a high-quality, enjoyable dining experience for all.

Year Group Information

Year 7

Date for the diary - Exe Valley challenge 2025 Sunday, 13 July.

Year 8

Date for the diary - Jurassic Coast Challenge 2025 Friday, 13 June 2025

Year 8 disco was a blast on Friday, thank you to all that came and danced the night away.

A table tennis tournament was hosted at WES, all top 4 ranked students were WES students, Well done! The practicing is shining through!

Year 8 students have been competing to be part of West Exe's innovation team in the TWMAT annual competition and five will be selected and go on to an event towards the end of the school year.

Year 9

To families of students going on the overseas residentials - does your child need/have you obtained travel visa? If you need any support from us, please email enrichment@westexe.devon.sch.uk and let us know which country's passport your child has and what help you need?

Year 9 will be making their humanity subject choice this week and next, will they choose History or Geography?

Year 9 students have been competing to be part of West Exe's innovation team in the TWMAT annual competition and five will be selected and go on to an event towards the end of the school year.

Year 10

Students will be completing the next session for their work experience - focusing on using our new platform Unifrog which will record the placement details for students.

Year 11

It was a pleasure to welcome our Year 11 students and their families to our Cream Tea event, celebrating their hard work and achievements as they near the end of their secondary school journey. This poignant time of year is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on their dedication and resilience, and it was truly heartwarming to see everyone come together to share in their success. Thank you to all who joined us—it was a lovely afternoon spent in great company, and we wish our students the very best for the exciting path ahead!

