Fortnightly Headteacher Update

This headteacher update is the final act of another action packed half term at West Exe. It seems like only yesterday I was writing to you all after Christmas and looking forward to the term ahead. We have had so many brilliant things happen from the Talking Futures Fayre to Literacy Week and seeing children making the most of these opportunities has been wonderful to see.

As the mornings become that bit lighter we know that the brighter months lie ahead and there will be so much to look forward to in the second half of the year. Today, the Gateway to the Prom was the first chance for Year 11 to plan their final months at school and the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. We will be their with them every step of the way and cannot wait to see what they achieve.

There will also be more school events next term: from our curriculum choices evening for Year 8 to the much anticipated school production of The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, our community will be coming together and celebrating just what makes this school special. I for one cannot wait.

In the meantime, I wish you and your family a safe and restful half term break and look forward to welcoming the children back on 24th February.

Best wishes Julie

Celebrations

A fantastic physics enrichment activity today took place for our Year 7 & 8 students, courtesy of the National Space Academy! Our students designed and launched rockets, testing their flight ability and timing how far they traveled before landing. An inspiring hands-on experience! To view more photos <u>click here</u>.

Exciting news! We've got TWO brand-new clubs in our extra-curricular lineup!

Table Tennis Mondays – Join Mr. Coleman in the Assembly Hall after school for some fast-paced fun! Open to all years – come show off your skills!

Dodgeball Fridays – Y7s, get ready to dodge, duck, dip, and dive in the Dance Studio after school with Mrs. Davies! Our timetable can also be viewed on our website <u>here</u>.

On Thursday, 6 February we took a Year 8 cricket team to Exeter University to take part in a Indoor Cricket Festival. This was our first experience in a performance environment and our WES team did brilliantly! The bowling and batting skills improved no end over the course of the day and we demonstrated fantastic fielding skills. We played Matford Brook, Cullompton, Axvalley, St lukes and St Peters, coming away with 1 loss, a draw and 2 wins! Well done to Cora E, Grace L, Ella B, Daisy B, Darcey L, Sonia W, Annie T, Amelie V, Nina M, and Sophie A who all took part.

On Tuesday, 11 Feb 2025, 'Petrichor', our incredible Year 11 band, took the stage at the regional Battle of the Bands competition at Uffculme School – and they absolutely smashed it!

West Exe School proudly presents our School Production of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. Students from Years 7-9 have been working incredibly hard during their electives to get show ready. Over 90 students are taking part, acting, singing and working as the production team. We are very proud of them, and they would love to share their work with you. Please come and support their efforts.

The shows start at 7pm, Wednesday, 5 March, Thursday 6 March and Friday 7 March. Tickets are only £7 and available in MCAS, the money raised is used to support the making of our productions so we appreciate your support. We look forward to seeing you there!

West Exe's Year 11 football team secured a 5-3 victory over St James in an exciting match. A dominant first half saw them race into a 4-1 lead. Their attacking play and clinical finishing put them in control by the break. St James came out stronger in the second half, applying pressure and scoring twice to make it 4-3. However, West Exe remained composed, defending well and sealing the win with a crucial fifth goal. Despite St James' fightback, West Exe's resilience and attacking quality ensured they took home a deserved victory. It was a strong team performance that will boost their confidence moving forward.

Whole school information

Exciting News! 🧩 Price and Buckland, our uniform provider have launched a new website! To make the transition easy, Price and Buckland have created a helpful flyer.

 Existing Customers – Reset your password (you can use the same one as before) to explore their
new site!

New to Price & Buckland? – Simply register as usual to explore their new site!











Update continued

Did you know! There are 2 main ways that our students to volunteer Through the DofE Award:

• Volunteer in the local community, helping with Park Runs, in Charity shops, beach cleans,

 Volunteer in school by helping out in the library, acting as reading or maths mentors, or running sports opportunities e.g. our DofE students run the Year 7 Dodgeball club on a Friday.

Students commit for 3 or 6 months and we are very grateful for the time and effort they put into

supporting others in our community.

Through our Sports Leadership Programme:

Students enrol and gain skills in our Elective programme to allow them to support and help run the Primary festivals and Primary League Tournaments held here in school.

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 <u>website</u>.

We'd loved 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 <u>admin@westexe.devon.sch.uk</u> with photos and a brief explanation and we will celebrate this in our next update.

Focus welcome week - our first week back after half term will be taking pride in school uniform, with the focus on uniform and jewellery.

Key dates

Half Term: Monday, 17 – Friday, 21 February 2025 Non Pupil Day Monday 24 March 2025 End of Term Friday, 4 April 2025 Start of the Summer Term Tuesday, 22 April 2025 You can also visit our website <u>here</u>.

YEAR GROUP INFORMATION

YEAR 7

We are really proud of our Year 7 students that have started on bikeability. They have all been amazing, representing the school really well while learning life skills and safety.

Year 8

Well done to our Year 8 Netball squad for their fantastic efforts in Exeter on Wednesday, 5 February against Exeter School! Year 8 vs. Exeter School A – A brilliant 21-15 victory for WES! Year 8 vs. Exeter School B – A hard-fought game ending in a 10-17 loss. Great teamwork and determination from everyone!

Year 9

The Talking Futures Careers Fayre on the 6 February 2025 was a great opportunity for students to meet employers and discuss career options for the future. This will support them further in applying for their work experience.

Year 10

The Talking Futures Careers Fayre on the 6 February 2025 was a great opportunity for students to meet employers and discuss career options for the future. This will support them further in applying for their work experience.

Year 11

As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, Year 11 students in 'Food 7 Nutrition' have been showcasing their impressive skills in the kitchen. Over the past few weeks, students have been working on a range of technical dishes, honing their culinary abilities, and refining their techniques. From beautifully plated fine dining dishes to hearty, nutritious meals.

Looking ahead, the GCSE practical exam is fast approaching in March. This will be a vital opportunity for students to showcase everything they have learned throughout the course. We are confident that their dedication and hard work will result in exceptional dishes that reflect both their technical skills and their passion for food. We wish all our Year 11 Food & Nutrition students the best of luck as they prepare for this important milestone.

The latest newsletter from Exeter College has been published <u>click here</u> to view this.











West Exe School presents... THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

By C S Lewis Dramatised by Adrian Mitchell Music by Shaun Davey

Show Dates: Wednesday 5th March at 7pm Thursday 6th March at 7pm Friday 7th March at 7pm

Tickets £7 by MCAS

This amateur production of THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk