

Class of 2022!

» We are really proud of the progress and achievement of our Year 11 Class of 2022. They have shown great resilience, adaptability and determination to achieve the best results the school has ever seen. A fitting reward for the hard work and commitment from the students and a testament to the relentless support from their teachers, parents and carers. We wish all of our students the very best in the next stages of their education, employment and training.



Prom

» We said farewell to our wonderful Class of 2022 in spectacular fashion at their end of year prom held in the beautiful surroundings of Powderham Castle. The students enjoyed a (non-alcoholic!) drinks reception on the rose terrace and a lovely buffet meal before dancing the night away in the grounds of the riding school. There were some flamboyant outfits and eye-catching modes of transport, including limousines, a number of high end sports cars, a disco bus and a fire engine complete with blaring sirens! The staff at Powderham commented that our students were the most polite and well behaved group they had ever hosted. They were a special year group who achieved amazing things and we will miss them greatly.

We wish the Class of 2022 every success and happiness for the future and look forward to welcoming them back in November for their Graduation evening.

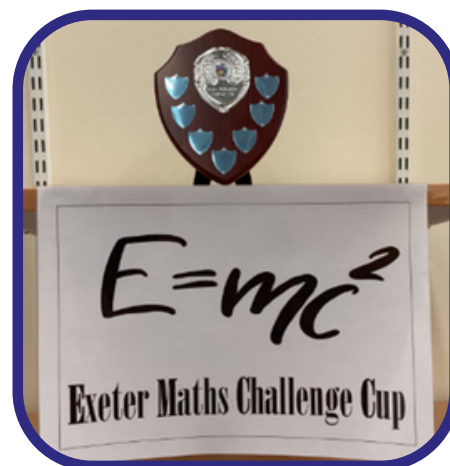


Mathematical Challenges

» Students at West Exe School have enjoyed another very successful year in the Intermediate and Junior UKMT Mathematical Challenges.

In the Junior Challenge which took place in April, Year 7 and Year 8 students achieved 8 gold, 15 silver and 42 bronze certificates bringing the total to an amazing 65 certificates overall!

Two students Mia W and Tom R were invited to participate in the next round of challenges, which means that they were in the top 3% of the 260,000 students who had entered this year. An amazing achievement!



Year 8 Students

Both students were recognised for their excellent efforts with Tom R achieving a certificate of distinction in the Junior Olympiad.

At a local level, a team of Year 7 and Year 8 students from West Exe School participated in the Exeter Maths Challenge cup at St James' School and won!



Year 7 Students

» Congratulations to Mia, Tom, Stan and Jamie from Year 8 and Leo, Theo, Klara and Phoebe representing Year 7. We are all very proud of your efforts!



Y7 & 8 Exeter Maths Challenge Cup team with Mrs Bowler



Barcelona Residential July 2022

» Bright and early on a beautiful July morning, 38 Year 9s set off with Ms Moorhouse, Mrs Presley, Mr Searle and Mr Mayes to spend a week in Barcelona. The excitement was palpable; for many of us this was our first trip abroad since the pandemic and we couldn't wait to get going! If we had thought England was hot, the heat in Barcelona was intense so every morning we covered ourselves in sunscreen, put on our sombreros and made sure that we had plenty of water before leaving our hostel and jumping on the metro to various destinations across the city. Students got to experience many aspects of Spanish culture from visiting the Picasso Museum, to ascending Montjuïc, Barcelona's Olympic mountain, by cable car. Every evening we got together in different Spanish restaurants to sample various authentic Spanish dishes. A highlight was a day trip to the Port Aventura theme park. At the end of the trip, our students said that they had really enjoyed spending time in a large city, being immersed in Spanish language and culture and having new, exiting experiences.



Paris Residential July 2022

» We loaded our bags onto the coach and with much excitement, departed on our voyage to Paris. Our daily adventures started each morning with a lovely breakfast at the Château de la Grande Romaine before we headed into central Paris to soak up the sights. Equipped with sun cream and lots of water to brave the 41-degree heat of our first day sightseeing, we relished the cool breeze of a beautiful boat trip down the River Seine before boarding the welcoming air-conditioned coach on our way to the next stop.

Our students enjoyed browsing the shops below the Sacré Coeur before heading up on the tram to discover Montmartre. Renowned for its artistic talent, cobbled streets and cafés, Montmartre stands full of charm like something out of a film set. The students were given the opportunity to explore this district and adventure off the bustling streets and into the calm of the Sacré Coeur.

On Wednesday our sight-seeing continued with a trip to the Eiffel Tower, where many brave students climbed right to the top to take in the city sights from a bird's eye view. We then ventured on to our next stop at the Louvre and then on to the famous Champs Elysées for a shopping opportunity. We came together for our final sightseeing stop at the Arc de Triomphe before heading for some much-needed dinner!

Thursday brought more excitement with a full day at Disneyland. Arriving around 10am, students had until 11pm to fully explore the magic that Disney has to offer. The day was filled with high thrill rides, meeting cherished Disney characters and a fantastic firework display at the end of the evening over the famous pink Disney Castle. We then boarded the coach homewards very much ready to give our weary legs a rest after the excitement of a jam-packed week.



The Newest Member of WES!

» Hello my name is Ernie, I am a Cockapoo, I am 11 Months old and my mum is Jo O'Neill.

I am the newest member of staff at West Exe School and my job is to offer wellbeing support to both students and staff.



I have completed all of my assessments and passed with 'flying colours'!

I have been really well trained, I can sit, stay, lie down and wait (although sometimes I do push my luck) I am very gentle and I love cuddles!

I enjoy treats when I am good and I can give you my paw or do a high 5 to say thank you!

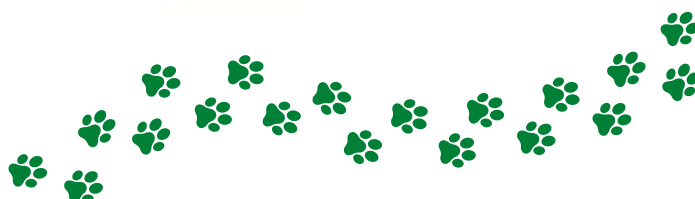
I like playing with other furry friends and running really fast!

My favourite thing is to play ball and I can play for a really long time without getting bored but I do seem to go through a lot of tennis balls!



I have met lots of staff and students already and they have made me feel very welcome.

I am really looking forward to being a school dog and working with students who may need a bit of support. I hope they will enjoy playing ball with me and giving me cuddles.



Year 6 Primary Sports Festival

» In October we held our annual Year 6 Sports Festival. The morning consisted of a Netball and Football tournament in which our 7 local primary schools were invited to take part.

This was the first Primary sports festival held at WES this year and was superbly officiated by our Sports Leaders. They refereed the matches and took charge of the results table. The festival included 17 Year 6 teams from 6 primary schools.

Congratulations to all who took part, well done and we look forward to seeing you all for our next event.



Sports Leaders help out in City SEN Swim Festival



» In July a group of West Exe Sports Leaders took part in a SEN Swim Festival as part of the Commonwealth Games 2022 Queen's Baton Relay event. Our sports leaders assisted the swim coaches in helping students participate in each activity. WES students received so many positive comments from teachers throughout the day and had a chance to see

the Queen's Baton Relay come to the venue (St Sidwell's Point) as part of the 2022 Commonwealth Games celebrations. Once again WES students were a credit to the school and well done to all!

Year 5 Transition Event

» In May we held a Year 5 Primary transition event. Three schools were invited to take part in a Handball Festival.

Exwick Heights and Bowhill attended the festival with around 120 students actively participating in this event.

The festival consisted of two groups of 6 teams who all played in a round robin. All the matches were very competitively played and the standard of all the teams performing was really high.

A big thank you to all the primary school teachers and helpers and most of all to our wonderful sports leaders who officiated the matches.

Results as follows

Group 1 - 1st Place – Exwick Heights,
2nd Place – Exwick Heights
3rd Place – Bowhill

Group 2 - 1st Place - Exwick Heights
2nd Place – Bowhill 5
3rd Place – Exwick Heights



Duke of Edinburgh Awards



» Last term we were lucky enough to run our Bronze DofE practice and qualifying expeditions. 4 walking weekends, with 37 students successfully completing their qualifying expedition. The students were challenged by the unusually hot weather and for some, the organisation involved in being in an overnight camp was eye-opening! It was lovely to see so many students grow and develop some of the soft skills we take for granted but which are essential life skills. All students had to contribute to team navigation, campcraft and work together on a project. With no technology allowed, it provided a welcome opportunity for students to interact and engage in group activities, sit around the campfire, chat and make toasted marshmallows and even playing Uno was exciting. Everyone really enjoyed their expedition experience – despite some sore feet! We have had our largest cohort of students enrolled on the Bronze DofE this year and students have been busy completing their sections. At Bronze level, students need to complete 4 sections: We have had students volunteering in charity shops, student leadership, librarians, and students supporting various groups (particularly during the difficult Covid period) to name but a few of the amazing things they have done. From learning a new language, or playing a new instrument, learning sign language, cooking, playing different sports and Couch to 5k challenges are just a few of the exploits of our resilient students. The challenges imposed by Covid have not hindered our students and as they strive to complete their sections, we are very proud of them.



Life after West Exe...

» The Careers Offer saw lots of exciting opportunities during the summer term, particularly for our Year 10 students who attended a Post-16 Destination Fayre and went out on work experience. The Post-16 Fayre allowed all students to talk to representatives from Bicton College, Exeter College, QE 6th form, PETROC, South Devon UTC, Maynard's and students from local Universities.

"I didn't realise there were so many places and so many different courses. I need to get thinking!"



For the final week of the term our Year 10's went out into our community to complete their work experience at a huge range of different businesses from primary schools, The Royal Mail, law firms and RD&E. The reflections from the week have been interesting and students gained valuable skills which will propel them into their future careers. Highlights were wide ranging but included learning to fix bikes, helping in a forensic pathology lab, learning how to communicate with customers, understanding the needs of small children and much more! Some of our students had such successful weeks they secured a part time job and even secured apprenticeships for when they finish at West Exe next year.

Unlocking Potential 2021-22

» The AQA Unlocking Potential scheme is a unique mentoring programme for young people aged 11–19, run jointly with the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust. Now in its eleventh year, the programme has engaged 500 young people from schools across the country. Our students were selected back in December to be part of this prestigious project. With 80 students involved nationwide, we are very proud that 4 of them are students at WES.

WES is the only school in Devon and the South West involved in the project this year and it is our 3rd year working with AQA and DKHT.

Ruby, Wiktoria, Ellie and Freya have been working with our athlete mentor Dave Hill and the AQA team developing their skills and confidence to be able to implement a social action project. Their project is based around mental health awareness and they have developed publicity and guidance material to help all students in our community.

Our students have travelled to Guildford and presented their project to the 'Dragon's Den' team and other students. They were a real credit to the school, presenting professionally and maturely. This was followed up with the final presentations which allowed the students to travel to London and present to a much wider audience in the Gherkin building. Being able to experience London, travelling by train and tram on the recently opened Queen Elizabeth line and then being on the top floor of the Gherkin was an exciting and nervous moment for them. We are so proud of their achievements and having this opportunity to showcase what our students can do. Well done girls!



Creations from Year 9



» The Y9 Photography students particularly enjoyed creating their cyanotypes – a camera-less form of photography where they placed objects on a photo-sensitive coated paper and left it to expose in the sun for 20 minutes. Once the chemicals are rinsed off the paper turns a cyan blue, hence the name.

Athletics Championships

» In May a number of our students competed for Exeter Harriers in the Devon Athletics Championship.

Sophia I competed in 3 events and did brilliantly.

100 m Gold – Devon Champion!

200m - Silver

Long Jump - Silver

All of Sophia's results were personal bests!

A fantastic achievement!

Congratulations to Leo D-C who competed in a Fell running competition on Dartmoor and came 1st in his age category.

Leo had to run 4km over tough moorland terrain beating a high calibre of athletes.

Well done Leo!



» Over the summer Sophia I above, became the Champion of Long Jump for the South West with a fantastic distance of 4.68m!





The West Exe Innovation Competition

» The West Exe Innovation Competition Team had an amazing day at the IOT at Exeter College for the Ted Wragg Trust Innovation Competition. Not only did they present their solution for vehicular carbon emissions, they immersed themselves in VR experiences, and ultimately took home the Winners' trophy (and tablets!) Well done to Clara, Teni, Tobias, Toby, and Tom!



» South West Teacher Training depends on the excellent skills and knowledge of teachers at West Exe School, who provide training for around 40 new teachers every year. We were delighted to send another great group of Primary and Secondary teachers into the workforce this summer. We will soon be recruiting for the next cohort of school-centred trainee teachers. Email swtt@westexe.devon.sch.uk if you would like to find out more about joining this great profession.



Train with us!

- School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT)
 - Secondary and Primary
 - PCGE and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)
- Placement schools all over Exeter, Devon, Somerset and Cornwall
 - Intensive support model
 - Part of the Ted Wragg Trust
- Additional training hubs at Torquay (Secondary) and Plymouth (Secondary & Primary)
- Call us to discuss your options in more detail or visit our website!

Contact us: 01392 686165 swtt@westexe.devon.sch.uk
www.swtt.net @swttexeter

Have you thought of working at our school?

Visit our website to view our latest vacancies

<https://westexe.devon.sch.uk/>

Support Services

- Have your circumstances changed?
- Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?
- Is your child a service child?
- Is your child adopted from care, or left care under a special guardianship or residential order?



It is important that we have the correct email address and mobile telephone number for every parent/carer.

Please inform us at admin@westexe.devon.sch.uk if there are any changes to your contact details, stating the name and year/tutor for your child/ren.

Thank You



Courage



Compassion



Citizenship

Looking ahead

Non-pupil day/

Staff development day Monday, 12 December 2022

Last day of term

Friday, 16 December 2022

Spring Term

Term Commences:

Tuesday, 3 January 2023

Half Term:

Monday, 13 - Friday, 17
February 2023

Non-pupil day/

Staff Development Day: Monday, 27 March 2023

Last Day of Term:

Friday, 31 March 2023