



The Erme Primary School
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9th October 2026

Issue 05



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a busy week at The Erme, with lots of parent engagement events. Riverside enjoyed their Amazing Art session on Monday afternoon, where they created their monotypes with the support of their parents. This morning, we have had our EYFS Open Morning, welcoming new children and their parents to have a tour of the school and a 'Stay and Play' session, ahead of September 2027. Both of these sessions were really well attended which is fantastic!

Today, we were visited by Andrew Downton, a Singing Development Leader, as part of the Chorister Outreach Programme. We had our first workshop to learn the songs that we will be singing at Exeter Cathedral on Saturday 14th November. The children sounded fantastic already, and we will have two workshops to go! Thank you to those of you who signed up for this event, the support is greatly appreciated.

Harvest Festival Performance

Next week, we have our Harvest Festival performance in St John's Church. The service begins at 2:30pm, however the PTFA will be selling teas and coffees beforehand if you would like to arrive a little early. We hope to see you all there!

Playground Supervision Reminder

A reminder to all families that children must be supervised by a parent or carer when using the front playground before and after school. School staff are not responsible for supervision before 8:45am or after 3:30pm. Please also ensure children use the play equipment safely. The equipment is designed for low-level play and children should not climb or sit on top of the apparatus.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all children safe.

Front Gate Access Update

From Monday, a coded padlock will be fitted to the front gate during the school day to enhance site security. To access the playground for the school office, preschool, or to collect your child, please use the code [2026](#). A sign with entry instructions will be displayed at the gate when the padlock is in use.

If you enter the site during the school day, please ensure the gate is closed behind you and that the padlock is reapplied. If you experience any difficulties, please contact the school office on 01752 892247. For security reasons, please do not share the code with children.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in helping us keep our school site safe and secure.

TA Job Advert

We have two TA vacancies at the moment to support children at The Erme. Sadly, Mrs Wotton will be leaving us at the end of the half term to pursue a different career. She has enjoyed her time here at The Erme, and we will be sorry to see her go. If you know of anyone who is interested in the position, please encourage them to apply using the link below.

[TA Job Advert](#)

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Mrs Penhallurick

From Mr Jolliffe



At the beginning of each month senior leaders meet for their attendance clinic. During this meeting, we examine the attendance figures for each school and discuss any pupils who are causing concern because of low attendance. This month's meeting was very encouraging, with all schools showing attendance above 94% so far this year. Many thanks to everyone who has supported these positive figures this year by not taking holidays in term time and making sure that every day counts to enable every child to be in school when they are able to do so.

Parent meetings bookings



Parent meetings are taking place week beginning 19th October and are an opportunity for parents to talk to teachers about their child's progress so far this year. Parents are welcome to bring other adult family members or adults who play a significant part in their child's life to the meeting. If you have any concerns about the meeting taking place, please talk to your child's Head of School.

Parent meetings are now available to book on MCAS.

Meadowsfoot – Miss Gilberthorpe



Meadowsfoot have had a busy and focused week. In PE, the children have been practising their log rolls, concentrating on keeping their bodies straight and controlled as they move. In English, we are continuing our work on people who help us, thinking carefully about the important roles they play and working together to write simple facts about key helpers in our community. In

maths, we have begun our new unit on addition and subtraction, using a part-part-whole model to explore how numbers are composed and to build strong early number sense.

We enjoyed showing off our classroom this morning to families with children who are due to start school next year. We showed them our favourite areas of our classroom and how we work together with our friends.



Please sign up to support The Friends of The Erme Primary School - Ivybridge for free on #easyfundraising today!

It's completely free and would make a big difference to our fundraising. Once you've signed up you can raise free donations for us when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers.

Plus, when you reach £5 in donations, easyfundraising will match it!

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/foteps/6TGB7W/c2s/MtAb9Haa/SREV1/textcopy>

Learners of the week

Meadowsfoot - Guinevere for singing nursery rhymes.

Mothecombe - Violet for her excellent attitude to learning.

Riverside - Seb for his enthusiasm this week with his learning.

Oldaport - Wiley for his excellent answers in history and science.

Parent engagement sessions:

Oldaport (Y6) Mega Maths sessions – Tuesday 29th September 2026 – 8:45am

Come along and join in with some maths activities with your child!

Riverside (Y4/5) Amazing Art afternoon – Monday 5th October 2026 – 2:30pm

Spend an hour with us completing some artwork with your child.

Mothecombe (Y2/3) STEM workshop – Friday 20th November 2026 – 3pm

Join us to complete a STEM activity with your child.

Meadowsfoot (YF/1) Christmas Props workshop – Monday 23rd November 2026

Come along to help us make our props for our Nativity play!

Mothecombe – Miss Docking

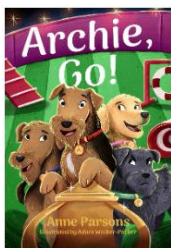


In Computing, the Mothecombe children became real-life “IT scanners”, tackling a practical challenge in our imaginative classroom supermarket. The children worked out barcodes, matched them to prices and explored how different pieces of IT equipment link together to help us in everyday life. Their teamwork and problem-solving were fantastic.

In Mathematics, the class have been stretching their number-bond knowledge to support their adding and subtracting. They loved using apparatus to show what happens to a number when we add or take away and it has really helped them to visualise the changes. Their confidence is growing beautifully.

Our final Music lesson of the unit was a real highlight. The children composed their own call-and-response animal themes using a range of instruments. They worked brilliantly in their small groups and performed with such enthusiasm and confidence.

Reading continues to be a big hit in Mothecombe. The children are so motivated by the chance to earn a raffle ticket each time they read at home. Thank you for taking the time to listen to your child read and for signing their reading diaries — it makes a huge difference to their progress and enthusiasm/love of reading.



Author visit

Anne Parsons, a children’s author, will be visiting our school on Friday 16th October. Anne will be sharing the story of Archie, Go! With our classes and will be offering the chance of buying a signed copy of her book with a dedication. Books will be available to buy on MCAS from Friday 9th until Friday 23rd October. Please keep an eye out for more information!

Values of the week

Meadowsfoot - William for being trusted to try his best in phonics.

Mothecombe - Henry for his perseverance in typing sentences on the computer.

Riverside - George for his perseverance with proving his maths answers.

Oldaport - Perseverance is awarded to Charlie for challenging himself in maths.

Riverside – Mrs Pasmore



This week, Riverside welcomed parents into school for our Amazing Art session. We were delighted to work alongside our families as we created the next stage of our Monotype Books. Together, we carefully collaged pages inspired by our harvest poem, and it was wonderful to see such creativity and collaboration. We are looking forward to adding the stencil prints next week as the final stage of the project before sharing our finished books.

In Maths, we have been developing our mental calculation skills by adding and subtracting near multiples. The children have worked hard to use efficient strategies and explain their mathematical thinking.



On Friday, we were excited to attend a Science lesson at ICC in one of their Science Labs. Everyone demonstrated excellent listening skills, enthusiasm and curiosity throughout the session. The children represented our school brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves.

In English, we have continued our work on *The Tear Thief*, focusing on using expanded noun phrases and adverbial phrases to make our writing more detailed and engaging. We have been impressed by the imaginative ideas and descriptive vocabulary the children have used.

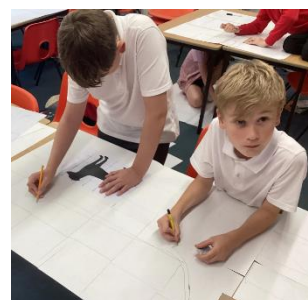
It has been another fantastic week of learning, and we are incredibly proud of the effort and resilience on display.

Oldaport – Mrs Benson



This week, Oldaport class have been exploring *Shackleton's Journey*, focusing on adverbials and fronted adverbials. We have been learning how to use these effectively to add detail to our writing and make our sentences more interesting and engaging. In maths, we have been developing our understanding of factors, common factors, multiples, common multiples and prime numbers. We have been practising how to identify these and use our mathematical knowledge to solve problems. In science,

we have been investigating how horses have evolved over time and what we can learn from the changes they have undergone. We have explored how horses have adapted to their environments and how studying fossils can help us understand the history of living things. In French, we have been learning vocabulary for different items of clothing. We have also been practising the correct spellings of masculine and feminine forms, helping us to describe clothes more accurately in French.



Reader of the Week Certificates:

Meadowsfoot	Toby
Mothecombe	Cruz
Riverside	Ivy
Oldaport	George

Reading with your child at home is one of the simplest and most powerful ways to support their learning. Just a few minutes each day helps build language skills, confidence, and a love of books, while also creating special time together. Talking about the story, pictures, or characters makes reading even more meaningful and fun for children.

We appreciate your support with reading at home and ask that you please log any reading that you do in your child's reading log. Thank you.



Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
Tuesdays	Year 4, 5 and 6 swimming – last session is 20.10.26	pm
Wednesday 14 th October	Harvest Festival at St John's church	2:30pm
Friday 16 th October	Author Visit and Workshops – Anne Parsons	am
w/b Monday 19 th October	Parents evening week – now live on MCAS to book	various
Monday 19 th October	Junior Life Skills event – Year 6 at Ivybridge Leisure Centre	am
Friday 23rd October	Last day before half term	
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school	
Monday 2 nd November	Flu vaccinations, all years with consent	am
Tuesday 3 rd November	Swimming begins for Mothecombe and selected Yr6 pupils	pm
Saturday 14 th November	Orchestra Event at Exeter Cathedral with Mrs Penhallurick and Mrs Pasmore – information sent via MCAS	Afternoon
Friday 20 th November	Mothecombe STEM parent workshop	3pm
Monday 23 rd November	Meadowsfoot Christmas Props workshop	2:15pm
Friday 27th November	Non pupil day	
Friday 18th December	Last day of Autumn Term	
Tuesday 5th January	Children return to school	

Devon County Council Inspection

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are carrying out an inspection of services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Devon.

As part of the inspection, inspectors want to hear directly from children and young people with SEND, parents and carers, and practitioners. They use this feedback to help them understand people's experiences of SEND services and support across the local area.

Complete the survey here: <https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10420455>

The surveys will remain open **until 9am on Tuesday 13th October**. Your responses will be treated confidentially by the inspection team.

Please take the opportunity to share your experiences and views with inspectors.

You can find out more about the Area SEND inspection process on Devon's SEND Local Offer website. The page includes links to information from Ofsted and the CQC for parents, carers, children and young people. [Ofsted and CQC Local Area SEND Partnership Inspections](#)

Thank you for your support. We greatly appreciate your help in ensuring that children, young people, families and practitioners across Devon have the opportunity to share their experiences with inspectors.