



WEEK COMMENCING
Monday 8th December 2025



RED DINNER MENU



WEEKLY NEWS



THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

MONDAY 8th

- Breakfast Club
- Private music lessons, am

After School Club: - Drawing

TUESDAY 9th

- Breakfast Club
- Xmas Play Rehearsal
9am Drop-off at Village Hall

After School Club: - Football

WEDNESDAY 10th

- Breakfast Club
- 9am Drop-off at Village Hall for Rock Steady Concert - parents / family & friends welcome!

After School Club: - Choir

THURSDAY 11th

- Breakfast Club
- Brumble Bee & Reception trip to Scribbleton - please collect Brumble Bee children at 3pm and Reception children at 3.30pm from the Village Hall (unless staying for ASC)
- Xmas Play Rehearsal
3.30pm Collection from Village Hall

After School Club: - Stay & Play

FRIDAY 12th

- Breakfast Club
- Christmas Jumper Day
- Xmas Play Dress Rehearsal
3.30pm Collection from Village Hall

After School Club: - Lego

Life, Love & Learning

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the past few weeks, pupils have completed assessments in reading, writing, and maths. These help teachers understand how children are progressing and what support they may need next. We were especially impressed with the children's positive attitudes and the confident, calm way they approached each task. Teachers are now using the results to plan upcoming lessons and targeted support. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please speak with their class teacher.

The children have worked really hard throughout the autumn term, and we would love to celebrate their achievements with you. Please join us for an Open Morning on 19th December from 8:45–9:15, where you can see some of the wonderful learning they've been doing.

A big congratulations to our school choir, who travelled to Exeter Cathedral to take part in the *Teacher's Rock* concert. It was wonderful for the children to have the opportunity to sing as part of a much larger choir, and it proved to be a valuable and memorable experience for them. A huge thank you to Mr Pester for leading and supporting the choir throughout, and thank you to the parents for taking them and helping make the event possible!



Best wishes,

Miss Corrinne Smith





A huge well done to TJ and Arthur!

They completed an impressive ten-mile bike ride from Torrington to Instow and raised an incredible £1,455 for *Blood Bikes*. Blood bikes are a volunteer-run service that uses motorcycles, sometimes cars, to transport urgent and emergency medical supplies between hospitals and other healthcare facilities. Even more inspiring is that the idea was entirely their own. We are very proud of their kindness, determination, and community spirit—well done, both of you!



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Celebration of Achievement

Squirrels



This week Eli has been a curious cheetah during our cold places topic by asking questions and applying his knowledge. Bessie has been a thinking tortoise in our phonics lessons, always concentrating and doing particularly well with our red words. And Cora-May was a persevering parrot as she independently made a paper plate planet earth which showed the north and south pole. Well done Scarlett for being helpful and tidying up our outdoor area. Well done to Cody for your super spellings this week.

Hedgehogs



Well done to Legacy for receiving a 'You've Been Amazing' certificate this week for being really helpful to Miss Smith. Congratulations to James for reaching 3000 stars on Doodle Spell. Well done to Rowan for receiving the Curious Cheetah this week for finding patterns in maths. Congratulations to Peggy for receiving the Persevering Parrot for excellent work in history. Well done to Rowan for being Hedgehog class Top Doodler!

Foxes



Congratulations to Rosa, Ethan and Junior; they have achieved 500 stars on Doodle spell. Ernie has achieved 1000 stars on Doodle spell. Our Top Doodler is Harry this week! Harry and Freddie are our persevering parrots. They worked super hard on their Isambard Kingdom Brunel work in history this week. Rex has achieved his Mosey Mole reading award, Maisie has achieved her Hardey rabbit award and Isabel has achieved her Toodle bird reading award.

Owls



Well done to Flora for earning the Curious Cheetah learning power. Flora connected her knowledge of factors to our learning about simplifying fractions and explained her reasoning for this excellently.

Well done to James for earning the Persevering Parrot award. James tackles every challenge head on and always tries his best no matter how difficult.

Congratulations to our Top Doodler, Alfie G!

Well done to Flora for earning 1100 stars on Doodle Spell.

Well done to Emily for earning 500 stars on Doodle English.

Well done to Cece, Emily, Dylan T and Alfie W for earning their Ready Reader certificates.

20 Merits

Ethan, Hunter, Azalea,
Ashleigh, Edison, Violet,
Jack, Ethan, Bowen,
Wilbur, Arabella

Golden Welly Award

Kaydon





CHRISTMAS JUMPER FRIDAYS

We would like to invite all children to wear their Christmas jumpers every Friday in December to support the Save the Children charity.

FRI 5TH, FRI 12TH AND FRI 19TH DEC



Suggested donation £1 per child

Thank you for your support in helping us raise money for a wonderful cause!



Save the Children

JustGiving™



Christmas Play

Reminder to provide a costume for your child – We do have some items in school that we can allocate, and if you need help with any part of the costume, please let us know. Please bring costumes into School week commencing Mon, 8th Dec in a carrier bag with your child's name clearly marked on it! **Dress rehearsal is on Friday, 12th December!**



Like last year, we need to ticket both performances to ensure that we don't break any fire regulation rules at the Village Hall. Tickets are **FREE** of charge but with increased pupil numbers we encourage family members to only attend one performance each please. **Tickets are available from the school office via Mrs Jones (mornings only).**



Village Hall Drop-off & Collections

DATE	VILLAGE HALL	TIME	WHO
Tuesday 9 th	DROP OFF	9am	Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
Wednesday 10 th	DROP OFF	9am	Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
Thursday 11 th	COLLECT	3pm 3.30pm	Brumble Bees Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
Friday 12 th	COLLECT	3.30pm	Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

Children who are staying for after school clubs will walk back to school, for collection at 4.30pm



Rock Steady Music Concert

We would like to invite Rock Steady children's parents / family & friends to an end of term concert on Wednesday, 10th December at UMBERLEIGH Village Hall.

Please drop children (except Brumbles) to Hall for 9am and we will then walk back to school.



Brumble Bee & Reception visit to Scribbleton - Thursday 11th December



Please note that you will need to collect Brumble Bee Children from the Village Hall at 3pm and Reception children at 3.30pm again from Village Hall (due to play practice for rest of school) If your child attends after school club, please collect from school at 4.30pm.

Christmas Post Box is now OPEN!

If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their friends this Christmas, they can post them in our Christmas post box located in the Fox and Owl cloakroom. Please ensure your child clearly writes the recipient's name and class on the envelope to help our Year 6 pupils deliver the cards quicker with Christmas cheer!



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Children's Christmas Lunch & Party



The children's Christmas lunch will take place on **Wednesday, 17th December** at Umerleigh Village Hall, followed by a Christmas Party with a special guest.

All the children are encouraged to join the whole school in enjoying a traditional Christmas lunch.

Menu

Roast Turkey with all the trimmings

Roast potatoes & fresh vegetables

Or

Cauliflower Cheese

Desserts

Chocolate Profiteroles

Fresh Berry Meringue

Christmas Pudding

Jelly & Ice Cream

Jelly

Ice Cream

Children will be asked for their order in class on Tues 9th Dec.

If your child will be packed lunch from home on this day - please make sure they know this!



Children are invited to wear their party outfits to school on this day if they wish!

Brumble Bee children will be joining us for this special occasion.

If your child's pre-school session is not a Wednesday normally but you would like them to join us, please book them in with Mrs Jones asap.

Children will need collecting from the Village Hall on this day at 3.30pm. There will be NO after school club!

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FUS Minutes

Meeting 19th Nov @ 2pm

Attendees: Helena Mellows, Janette Murch, Sarah May, Jenni White, Angharad White, Shantelle Buckingham, Lindsay Reed, Grace Pluckrose-Oliver.

Apologies: Katherine Capaldi, Suse Andrews, Laura Price, Laura Palmer, Meg Higgins, Anne-Marie Warne, Nicki Murch.

The Chair opened the meeting, minutes from the last meeting agreed.

Treasurers report

£10892.11 currently in the account (£428 of this is the pond grant)
Parentkind Insurance, Beafords Arts Show & VR Day to be paid out shortly.

Discussions around the upcoming playground works. ½ payment due soon. HM to discuss with CS regarding clarification of exact amount.

Fundraising purchases/upcoming events

- BrumbleBees/reception request for xmas trip to Scribbleton agreed.
- VR Day had been previously agreed and was happening the same day as the FUS meeting.
- It was decided that the Xmas jumper swap would not go ahead this year but look to request jumpers after the xmas break for next year.
- September's Antiques fair (28/09) had (6) school volunteers, extra requests for volunteers (3) to go out for Novembers Fair (23/11)
- Wreath making advertising in progress (4/12)
- Christmas Bingo (27/11) Non Uniform Day discussed to pull in raffle prizes (HM to discuss with CS)

Event Feedback

- The Beaford Arts Puppet Show had very positive feedback.
- Lego Club receives good numbers each week.
- Jumble Sale was well attended raising £1428.53

Other business

- Discussion around new ASC ideas.
- Discussion around potential YR5&6 involvement in FUS fundraising.
- AW to look into organising a school disco.
- Request for a cycling proficiency programme at school.
- The new cow (donated by S. Winson) at the school gates is now for FUS advertising (to confirm a thank you card has been sent).
- Whatsapp groups to be decided. We aim to keep to a minimum with the idea that every parent/carer is in their child's class group for all FUS and school reminders. This may for some parents mean 2 groups (or even 3!!!) but essentially the large-group whatsapp chats to eventually go.

Date of next FUS meeting Wednesday 11th Feb 7pm for 730pm start
at The Rising Sun, Umberleigh.

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☆ **Hettie Nettle's** ☆
 Handbook for Hedgewitches

CLAIRE BARKER
 LOCAL AUTHOR/ ILLUSTRATOR
 COMING TO UMBERLEIGH ACADEMY
 TO TELL A CHRISTMAS STORY
 'THE YULE TREE'
 THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER
www.clairebarkerauthor.com

Breakfast Club

Time: - 7.45am - 8.45am

£4.00 per child



Please book in advance with Mrs Jones

Sessions will be invoiced to your Arbor account

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UMBERLEIGH ACADEMY MENU - AUTUMN 2025

	Week 1: 01/09, 22/09, 13/10, 10/11, 01/12	Week 2: 08/09, 29/09, 20/10, 17/11, 08/12	Week 3: 15/09, 06/10, 03/11, 24/11, 15/12
M O N	Bacon Mac & Cheese V – Mac & Cheese Green Veg Apple Cake & Custard	“Tiny Tree” & Sausage Pasta V – Sausage Pasta Sweetcorn Bakewell Slice	Toad in the Hole V – Sausages in the Hole Mash potato, Seasonal Veg Oat Cookie
T U E	Chicken Fajita’s V – Quorn Nugget Fajita’s Sweetcorn & Salad Lemon Drizzle Cake	Hunters Chicken V – Macaroni Cheese Rice & Sweetcorn Chocolate Sponge & Custard	Honey Chicken Stir Fry V – Quorn Honey Chicken Rice, Broccoli & Sweetcorn Sticky Toffee Pudding
W E D	Roast Gammon V – Cauliflower Cheese Roast Potatoes & Fresh Veg Scotch Pancakes with Yogurt & Fruit	Roast Pork & Apple Sauce V – Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes & Fresh Veg Fruit Salad & Chocolate Pot	Roast Chicken V – Cheese & Onion Pie Roast Potatoes and Fresh Veg Fruit & Ice Cream
T H U R	Beef Pasta Bolognese V – Quorn Pasta Bolognese Garlic Bread & Vegetables Fruit Jelly & Ice Cream	Homemade Meatballs & Spaghetti V – Quorn Meatballs & Spaghetti Garlic Bread & Seasonal Veg Fruit Muffin	Homemade Ham & Peperoni Pizza V – Margarita Pizza Veg & Salad Fruit Crumble & Custard
F R I	Cod Fishcake V – Cheese & Broccoli Bake Chips & Seasonal Vegetables Flapjack	Battered Fish V – Omelette Chips & Seasonal Veg Apple Tart	Fish Fingers V – Cheese Wheel Chips & Seasonal Veg Shortbread Biscuit & Milkshake

Main meal in **Bold** V = Vegetarian option Available Everyday: - Jacket potatoes with filling choices of tuna, cheese & / or beans. Yogurt pots & fresh fruit
Brumble Bees - £2.00 per day **Infant Children** – FREE **Junior Children** - £2.58 per day
 Please make payments via Arbor

Dates for your Diary 2025-2026		
16 th December	Christmas Play Performance at Village Hall	2pm
16 th December	Christmas Play Performance at Village Hall	6pm
17 th December	Christmas Lunch & Party at Village Hall	pm
19 th December	Brumble Bees Danny Go Christmas Party – parents are welcome	2.30pm – 3pm
19 th December	Last day of Autumn Term	
22 nd Dec – 5 th Jan	Christmas Holidays	
6 th Jan	First day of Spring Term	
3 rd – 6 th Feb	Y5 London Residential	
16 th – 20 th Feb	Half Term	
1 st April	Rock Steady Sharing Concert at Village Hall	9am – 9.45am
2 nd April	Last day of Spring Term	
3 rd -17 th April	Easter Holidays	
20 th April	First day of Summer Term	
4 th May	Bank Holiday	
11 th May	Y6 SATs	
12 th May	Y6 SATs	
13 th May	Y6 SATs	
14 th May	Y6 SATs	
17 th May – 22 nd May	Y6 Bude Residential	
25 th – 29 th May	Half Term	
1 st June	Non-pupil day	
30th June	Sports Day rescheduled from 7th July	2pm – 3.30pm
8 th – 10 th July	Year 3 & 4 Wildside Residential	
15 th July	Rock Steady Sharing Concert at Village Hall	9am – 9.45am
17 th July	Leavers Assembly	2.30pm – 3.30pm
21 st July	Last day of Summer Term	
22 nd – 24 th July	Non-pupil days	

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Any articles which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only

Apply for a primary school place

Was your child born
between 1 September 2021
and 31 August 2022?



Apply online at:
devon.cc/admissionsonline

or scan the QR code. Applications open from
15 November 2025 to the **15 January 2026**

If you can't access the school admissions website you can get more information by emailing admissions@devon.gov.uk or call our Education Helpline on:
0345 155 1019



You must apply through the Admissions Team, even if you've already given details to a school. Applications made directly to schools or on their lists will not be accepted.



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SOUTH MOLTON
WINTER WONDERLAND
FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER
6:30PM - 9:00PM

MEET THE REINDEER - LIVE MUSIC WITH WREN CHOIR
 & FREEDOM FIELDS CEILIDH BAND - HOG ROAST
 WINE BAR - OUTSIDE INN - STREET FOODS
 FREE FACE PAINTING - SNOW GLOBE
 CHILDRENS ENTERTAINMENT - LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

South Molton
Town Council

SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER

South Molton Fatstock Show




SANTA'S GROTTO

The Details:

-  From 10am to 2pm
-  In the Old Calf Shed
-  £3 on arrival
-  To include a small gift

Kindly supported by

-  The Sheep Show




Christmas Carol Singing
 with the
SOUTH MOLTON TOWN BAND


 6pm Sunday
 7th December 2025
 Ilfracombe Lifeboat Station

REFRESHMENTS & MINCE PIES
FREE ENTRY
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Registered charity no. 209603

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CHITTLE YFC

INVITES YOU TO A

LIVE NATIVITY



MONDAY 15TH DECEMBER
CHITTLE CHAPEL ROOMS
7PM

**HOT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE FOR
DONATION TO CHARITIES!**

EVERYONE WELCOME

