



“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Our children join us as “little acorns” and through the teaching and modelling of our vision, values and aims by all members of our school community, our children leave us as “mighty oaks”, equipped with the transferable skills to continue their journey of life-long learning.

Message from the Head

Christmas lights switch on!

Thank you to everyone who entered the Christmas lights switch on competition. Congratulations to Viktor in Reception and Oscar in Year 6 who were successfully picked at random during our assembly earlier in the week. The lights will be switched on at 7pm at The Guildhall this Saturday.

Lost property

We have a large quantity of unnamed clothing which has been collected over the term. As we have done in previous years, this will be laid out in front of the main school office doors, during the last week of term, either at drop off or collection time. Please look if you think your child is missing any items!

Staffing update

We will be saying farewell to Miss Short at the end of this Autumn term – she will be sorely missed.

Christmas in school

Children	Dates	Event
Reception, Years 1 and 2	5 th and 6 th December	Nativity Performances
All classes	8 th December	Christmas Craft Morning. Parents and carers are welcome to attend between 9.15 - 10.15am . Children can also wear a Christmas jumper (over normal school uniform).
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	11 th December	Key Stage 2 Christingle Service at St Disen’s Church – parents are welcome to attend.
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	12 th December	Key Stage 2 pantomime trip to Northcott Theatre (afternoon) - <u>approximate return time to school is 5pm</u> .
All classes	14 th December	School Christmas Lunch – children can order on the day (main or vegetarian) - please note jacket potatoes will not be available on this day.
Reception, Years 1 and 2	4 th January	Travelling pantomime production in school.

Messages from the PTFA

Events

Thank you to everyone who attended the delayed disco last night. What a treat it was to see all the children having so much fun – in total over £280 was raised! A reminder that we will be selling tea, coffee, and mince pies at the upcoming nativity performances to raise vital funds for the school. Please also see the attached flyer, at the end of the newsletter, for the Clothes Swish and Gin Bar being held on Friday 8th December. Proceeds will be shared between the Duchy School PTFA and other local charities.

Uniform donations

A gentle reminder that we believe we currently have enough uniform to meet the needs at the moment, so we politely request that **no more donations are made** until we ask again. Our ambition is to put the rails out every two weeks and have a selection of the stock out per age group. It won't be everything so if you can't see something you need, please ask one of the members and we can check in the stock we have available.

Sports Update

On Monday 20th November, the year 5/6 football team hosted a team from Willand Primary in a friendly match. Conditions were tricky due to the recent heavy rain. However, The Duchy consistently applied pressure to the Willand goal taking a narrow 1-0 lead at half-time. The second half was a much closer affair with The Duchy grabbing a second goal before a lob immediately from kick-off to pull Willand back into it at 2-1. However, it wasn't enough, and The Duchy extended their lead to take a 3-1 win. Thank you to all those who came to cheer on the team.



On Thursday 30th November, the year 3/4 football team hosted Hemyock Primary School in the opening league fixture of the season.

In bitterly cold conditions (even including a light flurry of snow), it was The Duchy who came out victorious – the final score finished 5-1.

Congratulations to all who represented the school (many for the first time!) and thank you to everyone who came along to support the team.



Celebrations

Please see details below of the new certificates that we will be awarding each week to celebrate successes in school.

- Our **Values Champion** certificate will be used to acknowledge the efforts of those children who have represented the school values through their actions.
- Our **Learning Champion** certificate will be used to recognise those children who have demonstrated passion and pride in their work, delivering a moment or moments of brilliance in a subject that have captured their teacher's and their peers' attention.

Values Champion				Learning Champion		
	24.11.23	01.12.23			24.11.23	01.12.23
Reception	Harry	Libby		Reception	Arlo	Poppy
Year 1	Kaiden	Harrison		Year 1	Bessy	Evie
Year 2	Betsy	Daisy		Year 2	Mia	Brodi
Year 3	Harper W	Violet		Year 3	Edwin	Charlie
Year 4	Kayden	Edward		Year 4	Olivia	Jackson
Year 5	Oliver	Rory		Year 5	Rosie S	Tom
Year 6	Mia	Ellie		Year 6	Effie	Gracie

In assembly time, we have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Year 1	Bobbie	For completing Learn to Swim – Level 1.
Year 2	James Hay	For completing Stage 2 in swimming.
Year 3	Charlie	For completing Learn to Swim – Level 1.
Year 5	Dex	For obtaining a “Clear” rosette at the Conquest Equestrian Centre.

Diary Dates

Please regularly check and review the Diary Dates section of the newsletter; we will be updating with details of further trips, events and activities as and when they are confirmed.

Term	Commences	Finishes
Autumn	6 th September 2023	15 th December 2023
Spring	2 nd January 2024	28 th March 2024
Summer	15 th April 2024	23 rd July 2024

5 th December	Reception /KS1 Nativity (2.30pm)
6 th December	Reception /KS1 Nativity (3.45pm)
6 th December	Y3 Trip to Kents Cavern
8 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
8 th December	Christmas Craft Morning-Parents invited (9.15-10.15am) <i>(please note revised time from previous newsletter)</i>
11 th December	Key Stage 2 Christingle at St Disen's Church (2pm)
12 th December	Key Stage 2 Pantomime trip to Northcott Theatre
14 th December	School Christmas Lunch
15 th December	Last day of term
18 th – 29 th December	Christmas Holidays
2 nd January	Spring Term starts
2 nd January	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
4 th January	Reception & Key Stage 1 Pantomime travelling production (2pm)
31 st January	Y5 Trip to O2 Arena (Young Voices)
8 th February	Y4 Trip to Paignton Zoo (please note the revised date)

In the Community



Duchy Preschool, Bradninch
Filled with creativity & adventure!

Wraparound Care

We offer before and after school clubs for children attending the Duchy School

- Breakfast Club: from 7.45am - includes a light breakfast
- After school club: 3.30pm - 5pm - includes a light tea
- Late session - 5pm - 6pm

For more information, please contact us:

duchypreschool@gmail.com 01392 881 975

KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES
Run by teachers

NEW

Kids Holiday Heroes is a fun School Holiday Club for children aged between 5 and 12.

Run by experienced teachers!

£25 A DAY
8:30am - 4:00pm
Monday - Friday,
during school holidays only

SAVE £10 PER CHILD when you book a full week!

At Willand School
Gables Road, Willand,
Cullompton EX15 2QL

BOOK ONLINE

Our online booking system is always open. Please book in advance as places are limited.

FOLLOW US

kidsholidayheroes Kids Holiday Heroes



Fun and educational

timetabled days, suitable for all children aged 5 to 12.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

Team building, sports, games, orienteering skills, campfires, bat and ball skills, and more



Run by experienced teachers!

Matt is an experienced primary school teacher with additional qualifications in PE. He believes children should have a wide range of opportunities to be active and have fun at the same time! Matt is passionate about keeping active and enjoys playing a range of sports. He is a qualified first aider and is trained in safeguarding.

Oliver is an experienced primary school teacher, who is passionate about learning and believes wholeheartedly in the benefits of new experiences and challenges. Oliver is at home in the outdoors and can often be found surfing, climbing, hiking or cycling. He is a fully qualified first aider and holds Level 3 Safeguarding.

All sessions are held at Willand School. The best way to book is online. You can contact us by email: bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk



CONTACT US



kidsholidayheroes



Kids Holiday Heroes



KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES

Run by teachers

Clothes Swish & G I N B A R

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER
THE GUILDHALL, BRADNINCH
BRING CLOTHES FROM 7
SWISHING STARTS AT 8

- Bring pre-loved clothes and accessories (2-5 items) and swap for new-to-you clothes.
- Experience the thrill of shopping without spending tons of cash.
- Help the environment while having fun.
- Find your new Christmas glad-rags.
- FREE glass of Prosecco on arrival.
- Pamper yourself at our well-being stalls.
- Tickets £5 - available at Bradninch Spar.
- All proceeds shared between Duchy School PTFA and other local charities.

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