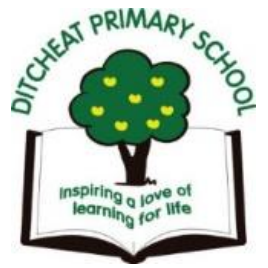




Ditchheat Primary School

Inspiring a Love of Learning for Life

Friday 27th March



Dear Parents/ Carers

There has been a bustle about school now the weather has got sunnier – everyone has a spring in their step! The children are showing great progress in their learning at this point of the year, as the teachers do their assessments. It's not long till the Easter holidays now and still lots of exciting things to fit in.

We celebrated National Science week as a school and experienced the Devon Science show visit for the whole school on the Monday morning. There was a lot of screaming with excitement and wows as elephant's toothpaste was made in the hall and plenty more magical chemical changes took place – lots of whizzes and bangs as changes were made between solids, liquids and gases.

Willow class had Sixth formers from Sexey's, Bruton visit and they did a workshop on the human body, including dissections of the heart and lungs and lots of practical activities. The children learnt about famous scientists especially women as it was also International Women's day. Holly class did science every afternoon and all classes focussed on science.

Year 4 enjoyed seeing the performance of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at Sexey's School from the drama department – this was a lovely experience and they transported the children in their own buses to and from. There was great acting and singing, as well as fantastic stage props.

Last week, we were lucky to be offered a cricket engagement day from Somerset Cricket. Sean 9 from Castle Cary cricket) and Ben came into school and did an inspirational assembly, followed by active cricket coaching sessions for every class. The children loved the day so if your child would like to play more, contact Castle Cary Cricket club, who offer lessons for all primary ages (All stars lessons for up to 8 year olds and Dynamos for 8-11 year olds).

There has been lots of sport and tournaments going on over the last few weeks. Mrs Bates took the cross country runners to Millfield last week for the running event. Lots of our children ran well and enjoyed the sunshine and less mud, than previously. Well done to the determined cross country runners, who have persevered all year at all the events, despite the harsh weather conditions along the way. Our netball team also went to an afternoon at Millfield to play against other local schools. The netball team have also played at Ansford and look forward to the Federation netball match at Upton next week too.

Red nose day was a huge success again this year with a red mufti and children designing and wearing their own designed nose all day at school! Thank you to parents for their support for this charity.

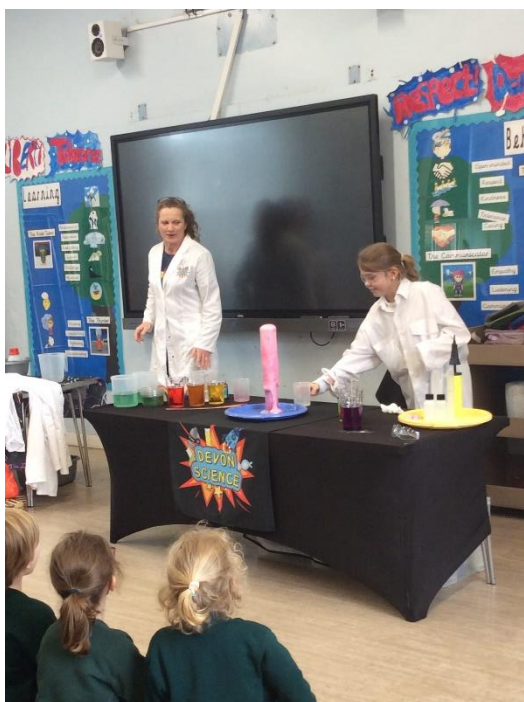
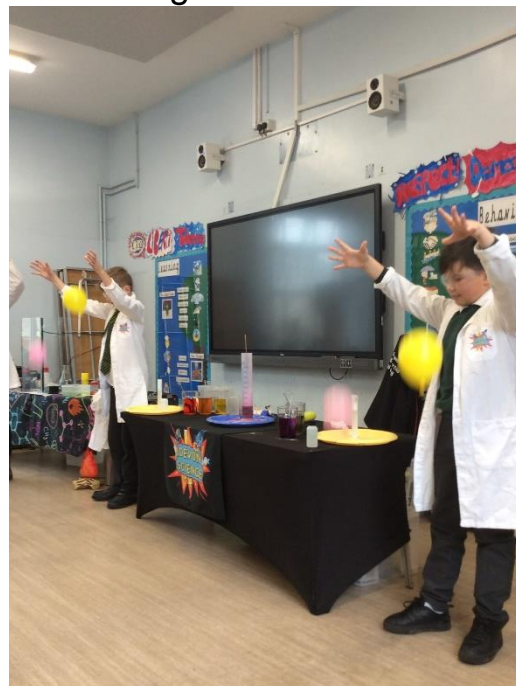
We look forward to seeing you at the Easter Church service on Tuesday 31st March at 2.30pm, when you will meet Reverend James, the new vicar for Ditchheat.

Happy Easter with your families.
Best wishes

Mrs Cosser and Mrs Bisset
Head of School Executive Headteacher

Science Show in National Science Week 9th March

The whole school experienced solids, liquids and gases – lots of bangs and excitement. Thank you FODS for funding this event.



Wellbeing tip of the week Spring Clean...



A tidy environment can lead to a clearer mind. Spend some time decluttering your living and work spaces. Donate or recycle items you no longer need. Organise your belongings in a way that makes your space more functional and pleasant to be in.

Helping Families Talk About Online Content: 'You Won't Know Until You Ask'



The government has launched a new campaign called You Won't Know Until You Ask. It is designed to help parents and carers talk to children about harmful or upsetting content they may see online — things like body-shaming, unkind posts, or videos designed to shock. Research shows that many parents have never talked to their child about this, even though most 11-year-olds now have a smartphone. Many adults say they are not sure what their child is seeing online.

The campaign gives simple, easy-to-use help, including:

- step-by-step guides for safety settings
- quick conversation ideas
- tips for talking about false or harmful information

These small conversations can make a big difference. They help children understand what they see online and know they can talk to a trusted adult.

You can find the campaign here:

<https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk>

Willow Class Science Workshop

In Science week, students from Sexey's School, Bruton came to teach Willow class about the human body. They dissected a heart and lungs and talked about how they work. There was lots of practical work and the children had a great afternoon. Sexey's Bruton thanked the class for cooperating so well and hope to return sometime soon.



Beautiful Bird feeders made in forest school by KS1.

Cherry garden looking beautiful in the Spring.

Thank you to Nicola and Bridget from nature club, who volunteered to trim the willow arch for us.



Netball Tournament Millfield – the team played well.



Safer Internet Day Report 2026 – Children's Use of AI



Safer Internet Day took place on 10 February, focusing on safe and responsible use of AI. To support the day, the [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) released [new research](#) showing how widely children now rely on AI. **97% of young people have used AI**, with many primary pupils using AI-powered search tools for schoolwork, and over a third using voice assistants daily. The report highlights real concerns from children, including fears about AI being used to create manipulated images, even among those as young as eight. Many also say they find it difficult to work out what online content is real.

Although 74% would speak to a parent or carer if something worried them, only 19% of parents have set any rules about AI at home, often feeling less confident than their children. **More than half of young people say they want more lessons on AI safety.**

18th & 30th March - FREE Parent/Carer Sessions: Online Grooming & Exploitation

We are pleased to share the new dates for the free Parent/Carer Session on Online Grooming and Exploitation.

These sessions will be led by Prevention Officer Andri Nicolaou from the dedicated Child Exploitation Team at Avon and Somerset Police and will help participants understand how to keep children safe online and recognise the signs of grooming and exploitation.



Could you tell if your child was being exploited?

Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer Andri Nicolaou

18 March 7:00-8:30pm | 30 March 10:30am-12:00pm

Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/abuse children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page or scan the QR codes below

18 March 30 March

Cricket Workshops – Somerset County Cricket came in for the day and delivered an inspiring assembly, followed by workshops in every class. Children loved the cricket and learnt lots of skills. Our local cricket club for Dynamos or All stars cricket lessons is Castle Cary club so do find out and take your child along if they enjoyed the day.

See : <https://castlecary.play-cricket.com/home>



Young Somerset **FREE**

Confident Parents – Raising Confident Children Who Bounce Back

Topic: Resilience 🧠

This is a 2-hr workshop facilitated by Young Somerset. It is an opportunity to meet other parents and to share common concerns. We discuss what helps young people to feel more confident in dealing with the up and downs of life.
Tea, coffee and biscuits provided

Tuesday 28th April 2026
9am – 11am

To sign up please contact the office of the school your child attends

East Somerset Federation Schools
Bruton Primary, Ditcheat and Upton Noble

www.youngsomerset.org.uk @youngsomerset

Young Somerset **FREE**

Confident Parents - Helping Your Child to Meet Everyday Challenges

TOPIC: Anxiety and Low Mood

This is a 2hr workshop facilitated by Young Somerset. It is an opportunity to meet other parents and share common concerns. We talk about, the signs and symptoms of everyday challenges such as anxiety and low mood, some do's and don'ts and share hints and tips on how to support your child. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

Wednesday 1st April 2026
9am - 11am

Book your space by contacting the office at the school your child attends

East Somerset Federation Schools
Bruton Primary, Ditcheat and Upton Noble

www.youngsomerset.org.uk @youngsomerset

Red Nose Day 2026

We raised over £200 for red nose day and the children enjoyed designing and wearing their own noses in school!

Thank you for your support.



Wells Literacy Book Club

A group of Willow children have been meeting once a week for Book Club – books all bought by Wells Literacy Festival. Irene came along to see how the Children were enjoying the book:

Somerset Tsunami by Emma Carroll
Its an interesting read about a historic tidal wave in Somerset.



Waste Workshop – The Carymoor team came in and did an assembly and recycling workshops in Maple and Holly class this week.



 *Ditchheat Primary*

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

APRIL 23RD TO MAY 21ST



THURSDAY Athletics (Years R, 1 and 2)



At just £5 a session your child will really love this after school club. We run from 3.30 to 4.30 and the children will be able challenge themselves in their running, throwing and jumping. They can set their own goals as well as challenging the others around them!

Head to our website and click the book now to book today!

WWW.TLESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK

After Easter

Mrs Catherine Walker, who has been based in Willow class, is sadly leaving at Easter to spend more time with close family. Miss Kate Dando is transferring to Bruton Primary School after Easter to complete her apprenticeship. We would like to thank them for all their work at Ditchheat.