North Molton Primary School Weekly News

Friday 16th October 2026

www.north-molton-primary.devon.sch.uk
northmolton@thsp.org.uk

Headteacher's message

Love Learning...Learn Well.

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a brilliant week we have had at North Molton Primary School!
It has been a real pleasure to spend time in classrooms throughout the week and see the children so engaged and enthusiastic about their learning. There is always something special about seeing pupils fully immersed in lessons, asking thoughtful questions and taking pride in their work.

On Tuesday, our Year 3 children took part in Bikeability training. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to develop important cycling skills and learn how to stay safe when riding on the roads. They approached the training with great maturity and enthusiasm, and we are very proud of how they represented the school.

One of the highlights of my week has been talking to children about their learning. I have been particularly impressed by the phoneme knowledge demonstrated by pupils in Owls Class, who confidently shared their understanding and applied it brilliantly in their learning. In Falcons Class, it was wonderful to hear children using a wide range of scientific vocabulary so naturally and accurately. These moments really showcase the progress our pupils are making across the curriculum.

I also enjoyed spending time with our Stars of the Week. When chatting with them about what they enjoy most about North Molton, they spoke enthusiastically about spending time with friends at break and lunchtime. What was especially pleasing, however, was hearing so many children talk positively about their writing and the enjoyment they get from expressing their ideas and developing their skills.

Next week brings us to the end of another busy half term. I am not quite sure where the time has gone! A reminder that next Friday is an INSET day, so school will be closed to pupils.

Before then, we look forward to welcoming you to our Harvest Service on Thursday. As usual, we will be collecting donations of canned and non-perishable goods for the local food bank. If you are able to contribute, we would be very grateful for your support.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Phil Lewis (Headteacher)

Upcoming School Diary Dates

Thursday 22 October - Harvest Festival at the Methodist Church. Service to start at 9.30am, all welcome. The Methodist Church will be providing tea and coffees after the service so please do stay behind and enjoy some refreshments with them. Donations of tinned/non-perishable foods will be gratefully received and donated to the North Devon Foodbank.
If you are able to help walk the children to the chapel, please let the office know.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THE NEW ARBOR PARENT PORTAL! If you haven't already done this, please look out for an email today with a new invitation. Any issues please let me know asap.

Around The Classes



This week in Early Years we have been creating rocket pictures carrying on from Space week and building junk models. Some of the children made boats out of junk modelling and took them outside to test to see if they floated in the water tray. We have been enjoying the stories Whatever Next and Rabbit takes a nap. Robins can't wait to sing their Harvest song to you next week at the Harvest Festival!



This week Owls have been learning to play the Ocarina. We have learnt the first 7 notes of 'Twinkle Twinkle'. By practicing each week, we are developing our musical memory. We are learning to hold our instrument correctly, developing breath control and playing with good rhythm. During art we have made finger pots out of clay for a fairy tale character and made collage fairy doors by layering paper and coloured oil pastels.



This week Falcons Class have started their next unit of work on addition and subtraction in maths. They have been using number lines to jump forwards and backwards to add and take away. In English we have read the book "The Street Beneath My Feet" and have begun writing our new explanation text. The children have enjoyed learning about the three different types of rock: igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks and we will be writing about this as we continue our journey under the ground!



The children in Sparrowhawks are halfway through their swimming lessons and are making excellent progress, with most having already completed the National Curriculum expectation of being able to confidently swim 25m by the end of Key Stage 2. Well done Sparrowhawks! Keep working to perfect the different strokes! This week we have also had a big push on securing our knowledge and rapid recall of times tables facts. Please can all children continue to practise at home by logging in to their TTRS accounts. We will then be able to identify any weaker areas and support children with these, as knowing multiplication facts is fundamental to success in Maths in Upper Key Stage 2. Next week, our first year 5 group will be completing their Bikeability Level 2 training so please check over the weekend that bikes and helmets are in good working order. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at next week's Harvest service.



Stars Of The Week



Robins

This week we are celebrating
Ronnie
because he is always happy, he plays with me and helps me fix my model. He is a star! He is kind and good at playing games. The teachers love that Ronnie is helpful, does his best and always thinks about other people. He is keen to please.

Owls

This week we are celebrating
Freddie
His friends are really proud of him for being the kindest and most caring friend on the playground. They notice how he is always following our school rules, showing how to be respectful, ready and safe at all times. Well done, Freddie!

Falcons

This week we are celebrating
Artie
He has settled back into our school really well since he came back to the UK. His friends say he is kind and funny. They say he likes to help – especially in PE. He's good at hockey and he tries his best. He has worked really hard at his neat handwriting!

Sparrowhawks

This week we are celebrating
Tabitha
for being very kind, always willing to help other children with their learning. Her friends say that she is a mathematician and a great artist! Always smiling, she approaches everything with a positive attitude.

Notice Board



Weekly Attendance

Every day at school counts. The evidence is clear - even a few days of missed school can have a significant impact on a child's education and future prospects.—*The Education Hub 2025*

Our weekly class attendance below.

Robins -96%

Owls - 99%

Falcons - 93%

Sparrowhawks - 86%

0 days of school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Cleaner Required

We require a cleaner at North Molton. 10 hours per week, 2 hours per day Monday-Friday

Please see the advert below.

Cleaner

Lunch Menu for Week Beginning 12th October

LUNCH MENU – WEEK 2

Harbour Schools Partnership
A guiding light for education

27th April – 18th May – 15th June – 6th July – 7th & 28th Sept. – 19th Oct.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato & Cheese Pasta Bake	Chicken Tagliatelle & Garlic Bread	Toad in the Hole (Butchers Pork Sausage & Yorkshire Puddings)	Butchers Pork Meatballs in Tom. Sauce served in a Finger Roll	Breaded Fish Fingers
Quorn Bolognaise	Sweet Chilli Halloumi Wrap	Veggie Wellington	Feta & Potato Tart	Veggie Nuggets
Jacket Potato with Various Fillings	Jacket Potato with Various Fillings		Jacket Potato with Various Fillings	
Tuna Mayo & Cucumber Sandwich	Ham & Lettuce Sandwich	No option	Ham, Cheese & Cucumber Sandwich	Egg Mayo & Cress Sandwich
Crusty Bread, Diced Carrots or Salad	Corn on the Cob or Salad	Roast Potato, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy	Potato Wedges & Mixed Vegetables	Chips, Salad Sticks & Tomato Ketchup
Fruit Iced Smoothie	Fresh Fruit Platter	Pineapple Cake	Cookie	Chocolate & Date Krispie Cake

Notice Board



North Molton Amateur Dramatic Society
presents

TREASURE ISLAND

AT
NORTH MOLTON VICTORY HALL

Wednesday 4th November at 7:30
Friday 6th November at 7:30
Saturday 7th November at 2:30 & 7:30

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE DURING THE INTERVAL.

PRIZES FOR THE BEST DRESSED PIRATE

10AM
23rd
Oct

YEAR 7 ASSESSMENT & ACTIVITY DAY 2026

Spend the day discovering life at West Buckland School, take part in our Year 7 assessment activity and enjoy an exciting programme of fun and engaging activities in the afternoon.

WEST BUCKLAND SCHOOL

SIGN UP:

FOR MUMS | FOR DAUGHTERS | FOR SISTERS | FOR FRIENDS | FOR YOU !

SCRUMS, SPIRIT & SISTERHOOD

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

TASTER SESSION

SUNDAY 20TH SEPT
2-3PM | BIDEFORD RFC
VICTORIA PARK

- FOR ALL GIRLS YR4+ & WOMEN
- NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
- JUST TURN UP!

100 YEARS
1926
BIDEFORD R.F.C.

TRY RUGBY TOGETHER!

Most parents want to talk to their kids

about things like
online safety,
relationships
& peer pressure

What stops them isn't a lack of care.
It's not knowing where to start.

Notice Board



North Molton Primary School PTA

HALLOWEEN RAFFLE

£1 per entry

Lots of prizes to be won

To enter please post a named envelope with entry money inside into our raffle bucket which will be on the school roundabout

Multiple entries accepted
Raffle will close and be drawn on the morning of Thursday 22nd October

THE DULVERTON EXMOOR LITERARY FESTIVAL 2026 CHILDREN'S WRITING COMPETITION

WRITE A STORY ABOUT FOOTPRINTS ON EXMOOR

IN UP TO 500 WORDS!

Write your own short or long story about 'Footprints on Exmoor' (to a maximum of 500 words).

We don't mind about perfect spelling and grammar, just let your imagination fly and have fun! If you enjoy pictures, you can illustrate your story too. Perhaps you will write about a young explorer who discovers mysterious footprints across the moor. Who do they belong to? Where do they go?

Enjoy writing something original with a great plot, characters and language. Think about atmosphere, curiosity… perhaps folklore, mystery and courage. Write a story you'd love to read!

The competition is open to children aged under 13. Entries to be submitted by FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER 2026. Email your entry to hello@visitdulverton.com or put it in the special box in Dulverton Library. Please include the name and contact details of an adult with whom we can get in touch to invite the shortlisted entries to the Awards Ceremony. Entries cannot be returned so please keep a copy. The Judge's decision is final.

Please note that no stories influenced or written by AI are allowed. Any found will be removed from the competition.

Prizes will be awarded to the Winner and Runners Up at the Dulverton Exmoor Literary Festival in Dulverton Town Hall on Saturday 14 November at 5.30pm after the 'Book Club' fiction author talk with multi-million-copy bestselling authors Patrick Gale, Rachel Hore and Kate Lord Brown. The winning entry will be read out at the Ceremony by the Competition Judge, children's author Emily Lloyd-Gale.

The winning story will be published on the Visit Dulverton website visitdulverton.com

DULVERTON
GATEWAY TO EXMOOR



Ferdinand Collective

FC CAMPS

OCTOBER HALF TERM

FOR AGES 5 - 14
DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES

TARKA	KINGSLEY	ILFRACOMBE
26 - 30 OCTOBER	26 & 27 OCTOBER	28 OCTOBER
9AM - 4PM	10AM - 3PM	10AM - 2PM

BOOK ONLINE HERE

WWW.FERDINANDCOLLECTIVE.COM