



Exmouth
Community
College

Belonging · Ambition · Responsibility

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10th April 2026

Dear Parent/Carers,

Please find below the following updates as we move into the Summer term:

- Celebrations from last term
- Assistant Headteacher Vacancy
- Changes to Budleigh Salterton Bus Service
- Mobile Phone Pouches
- Moving to a Three-Lesson Day from September
- Looking after our local environment
- Parent Carer Survey Thanks
- Free Parenting Clinic – Mon 20th April
- Start of Term – Monday 20th April

Celebrations from last term

We had a really busy but successful term last term including a smooth introduction to Sparx Maths in our Maths classrooms; really positive mock exams series for Year 11 and 13; a term of significant success on the sports field (we have had national champions crowned and ex-students making their international debuts); amazing Dance, Drama and Music performances; lots of charitable fundraising; a wonderful first Community Iftar during Ramadan; students showing true resilience through challenging weather in Ten Tors training season; trips and visits far and wide (including a group of year 11s visiting Kenya at February half term and this week's brilliant ski trip to Austria); and much more.

As I shared with students in our House Celebration Assemblies at the end of term, we are incredibly proud of our students for the commitment and contribution that they make every day, both in the 'big' ways (including some of the above) but also in the small ways – the kindness they show to each other, the positive engagement they have with staff, and the small contributions that make our community the brilliant place it is to work and be part of.



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Assistant Headteacher Vacancy

We don't normally advertise vacancies direct on our letters to parents, but I would like to draw your attention to a current vacancy for 'Assistant Headteacher - Behaviour and Attitudes'. The reason for highlighting this is because we are advertising it as a non-teaching role as well as a teaching role. This is not normally the case in schools, but we believe that this role could be brilliantly fulfilled by a non-teacher as well as a teacher, and we would like to spread the word as wide as we can in our local community. So please do share if you know anyone that you feel could be suitable.

All of our current vacancies can be found on our website: [Exmouth Community College - Vacancies](#)

Changes to Budleigh Salterton Bus Service

Those affected should have been informed of the changes to the bus services from Budleigh Salterton from Monday 20th April. Any queries or concerns should be directed to the School Transport Team at DCC. We will monitor the situation and if we see that it is having an adverse impact on our students and the school day then we will also engage direct with them.

Mobile Phone Pouches

Following the decision to implement mobile phone pouches, we have been continuing to develop our plans, including visiting a number of schools that have implemented them recently. To ensure the smoothest possible introduction we may include a trial implementation period in the final few weeks of the summer term to ensure that any initial issues are resolved prior to September. We'll communicate more about this in coming weeks.

In the meantime please remind your children that mobile phones should not be used during the school day; they should be switched off and placed in bags. Please do not try to contact them or respond during the school day; it's really important that students get used to this and learn to use the school's support systems. If there is a genuine reason for a student needing to contact home (or vice versa), this would always be supported by staff in an appropriate way.

Moving to a Three-Lesson Day From September

From September, we plan to move to a structure of three longer lessons per day, each lasting 95 minutes (nb this will not affect the time of the start and end of the school day).



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This has been something that we have been thinking about for some time. We have engaged in depth with the experiences of a number of schools that have introduced a similar model in recent years, who have been incredibly positive about the move.

Our current timetable involves frequent movement around a large and complex site. This results in lost learning time, congestion and lateness. With a 30 minute 'break' between each of the three main lessons this will significantly reduce these issues, resulting in more learning time and a calmer, more focused school day. Fewer lesson changeovers reduce corridor (and bridge) pressure and behaviour issues linked to transitions. Students will have a substantial break after each lesson, helping them reset, refocus and return to learning ready to do their best.

Longer lessons also allow students to get properly "stuck in" to their subjects. They create space for practical work, extended independent work, and meaningful discussion, as well as time for teachers to check understanding and offer individual support. Teachers will spend more meaningful time with each class, helping them to get to know students quickly and respond to their needs effectively. This is particularly important for students who benefit from greater consistency and fewer daily transitions.

With fewer classes in a day, students have fewer room changes, fewer instructions to process and fewer homework deadlines. This simplifies the school day and supports better organisation and wellbeing.

We also know that no structure is without its challenges, and especially as a new structure 'beds in'. We are carefully planning to ensure all students are appropriately supported, especially those with additional SEND needs.

In order to support the curriculum planning necessary for this change we will be having an additional INSET Day on Friday 26th June. We have considered carefully the impact of this on students' learning, and are reassured that the long term gain will be considerable as we move to the new school day, which will gain 10 minutes additional learning time per day, as well as additional time currently caused by lateness.

Looking after our local environment

As the weather improves please remind your children how important it is to look after the Beach. We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful part of the world. Simply taking litter to a bin or bringing it home helps protect wildlife and keeps the beach a clean, welcoming place for everyone. Encouraging them to take pride in their environment not only sets a positive example for younger children but also strengthens their sense of responsibility as young adults. Thank you.



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Parent Carer Survey Thanks

Thank you to all those that completed the Parent Carer Survey. Your views play a vital role in helping us understand what we are doing well and, just as importantly, where we can continue to grow. Once the results have been compiled we'll share what we're planning to do in response.

Free Parenting Clinic – Mon 20th April

Parenting coach Anisa Lewis is hosting a free 30-minute online clinic on 20 April at 12.00pm, focusing on emotional regulation and understanding children's big reactions. The session offers practical strategies for parents and carers of children aged 3–16, with a replay available for all who register. To book, see [THIS LINK](#). Contact: hello@anisalewis.com | 07792 176888.

Start of Term – Monday 20th April

We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 20th April. We're looking forward to a busy and exciting term with a packed calendar of opportunities and activities as well as our key exam seasons for Years 11 and 13.

Please ensure that students are in a position to meet our expectations for the start of term, especially in terms of uniform, appearance and equipment. This will allow a really positive start of term so that we can continue to raise the bar for our students. As a reminder:

- Hair colour – hair should be a natural colour and should not have any streaks / parts that are not a natural hair colour.
- Piercings - students are limited to one stud in each ear, and nose studs / other facial piercings are not allowed
- Shoes must conform to the school expectations – as with other uniform, if students are not wearing correct shoes, they will be asked to borrow a pair (the school has a stock of new shoes for students to borrow for the day).
- Those wearing skirts need to ensure that they are of a decent length – skirts are sometimes rolled up significantly and in a way that is inappropriate.
- Students must continue to wear jumpers to school and to / from lessons. We will inform students when this is not required once the weather warms up.



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Thank you, as ever, for your support and partnership. It's a genuine privilege to continue to work with you and your children. Wishing you all the best for the remainder of the Easter break.

As ever, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Inman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tom Inman
Headteacher



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