



Exmouth
Community
College

Belonging · Ambition · Responsibility

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29th May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope that you have enjoyed a really good half term, and have been able to enjoy the lovely weather.

In this letter:

- Updates for this half term
- Parent Carer Forums
- Thank a Teacher Day 2026
- Headache Workshop
- 'Tap Out' TikTok challenge
- Communications between home and school

Updates for this half term

Demolition of Science Labs on Gipsy Lane

Four of our Science labs on the Gipsy Lane site were condemned by the DfE in 2023 due to containing the faulty type of concrete (RAAC). The work to demolish them has started over half term. This has been timed to minimise disruption (with much of the work happening over the Summer holidays), but this does require us to re-room a significant number of Science lessons from neighbouring labs over this half term.

Most of these (and any other) room changes are now live on MCAS / Classcharts, but there are a few more late changes required by the contractor. Please ask your child(ren) to check their ClassCharts timetables, and all students will be given a new, hard copy timetable early next week once any final room changes have been made.

Yeargroup Dining Hall moves

From Monday Year 9 will move permanently to the Telfer Canteen, with Year 11 students using Hall 4 for the remaining couple of weeks before the end of exams, after which Hall 4 will be closed for the remainder of the Summer Term. We will inform them by ClassCharts and the School Broadcast, but please ensure that they are aware of this. All other yeargroups are unaffected.

Phear Park Gate

This was closed for a period of time prior to half term due to tree works. Due to ongoing considerations of site safety and the introduction of phone pouches in the next few weeks, the Phear Park gates will remain closed this half term. We will continue to review the impact of this as we plan for September.



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Parent Carer Forums - Monday/ Tuesday 8th & 9th June

A reminder about these parent-carer forums, taking place soon, where we will share our reflections from recent surveys as well as take time to discuss our planned changes from September and hear your questions. To book a place at one of these please click here:

[Parent and Carer Forum Monday 08.06.26 at 9.30am](#)

[Parent and Carer Forum Monday 08.06.26 at 6.00pm](#)

[Parent and Carer Forum Tuesday 09.06.26 at 9.30am](#)

[Parent and Carer Forum Tuesday 09.06.26 at 6.00pm](#)

National 'Thank a Teacher' Day 2026

I am indebted to so many staff who go 'above and beyond' to give our students the very best experience that they can, whether every day in the classroom or in their support around the school, or on the stage, on the sports field, on trips and visits or in so many other ways. Hearing from students or parents that their support is appreciated means a great deal, and motivates staff to continue to do all we can to make this the very best school for your children.

Wednesday 17th June 2026 is National 'Thank a Teacher' Day (NB it's for all school staff, not just teachers!). So, as we are near the end of the school year, we'd be really grateful for any messages of thanks to any staff that you feel have supported your child. Please use the link below – parents and students are able to submit their thanks – which will be delivered to staff on the day itself (please select the option to send on the day). We have also sent an announcement on ClassCharts.

[Thank a Teacher Form - Thank a Teacher](#)

You are able to thank as many staff as you'd like - but please submit a new form each time. Just enter the school name when asked, and the member of staff's name. Don't worry if you don't know their email address - we'll make sure the message gets to them! Thank you so much – they will be thrilled to receive them.

Headache Workshop

A reminder of this free webinar is being run in collaboration with Dr David Kernwick focusing on headaches. It takes place on Tuesday, 2nd June between 6.00 and 6.30pm. To 'sign up', please click on, or copy this link into your browser:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/xpdBAXRHYc>

'Tap Out' TikTok challenge

We have been made aware that young people have been engaging in a game referred to as "Tap Out". This is a TikTok Challenge where one child places another child in a chokehold (arm around their neck and throat). The child will then apply pressure in the chokehold until the other child taps them out by tapping on the arm etc. Outside of College we are aware of a few children filming this and putting it on social media, intended as a light-hearted challenge.



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While this may be intended as a form of play, it can quickly become very unsafe and there have been one or two awful stories nationally of it going incredibly wrong. Where we have been made aware of students playing the game we have spoken with the students and parents involved to reinforce the importance of keeping themselves and others safe, and to ensure they understand the potential risks of this type of activity. Please reinforce this message strongly at home – we can't bear the thought of a serious accident happening to one of our students.

Communications between home and school

We massively appreciate the support that you give us. We hugely value the relationship we have with parents and carers and it's so important that we are able to work in partnership in support of your children.

Recently, we have become aware of a couple of instances where screenshots of emails or messages from school staff have been shared publicly online. We would ask that private communications from colleagues are not posted on social media. School communications may contain personal information, confidential discussions, or content that can easily be taken out of context when shared publicly. Posting screenshots of emails or messages without permission may breach privacy, confidentiality, or data protection expectations, and can cause distress to members of staff and the wider school community.

If you do have worries or concerns (and of course you sometimes will), we ask that you contact us as soon as possible. If there are lessons to learn for the school then we seek to reflect on these in a transparent manner and will address these issues as quickly as possible, and if you do not feel that issues are satisfactorily addressed, there is a clear route to escalating your concern through the complaints process. It also models how to approach areas of concern or disagreement to our young people. Thank you for your ongoing support with this.

We wish your child(ren) a really positive start to the final half term of the school year. Please ensure that they have all they need for school, and we especially send our best wishes to Y11 and Year 13 for their ongoing public exams. I will be in contact again with parents soon regarding our ongoing plans for September.

With best wishes,



Tom Inman
Headteacher



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