



# Eden Park Academy

## Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025



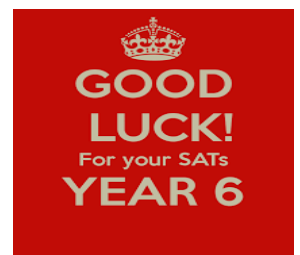
Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at Eden Park, we have been proudly marking the **80th anniversary of VE Day**. Across the school, children have been learning about the end of World War II in Europe and reflecting on the significance of this moment in history. On Friday, we joined the rest of the nation in a **two-minute silence** to honour those who gave so much for the freedoms we enjoy today. Even our youngest children showed great respect and understanding during this moment of reflection.



On **Thursday** this week, our Key Stage 2 children took part in a special VE Day anniversary event at the **Pannier Market in town**. It was a memorable and enjoyable trip for both pupils and staff, and we hope your child shared some of what they saw and learned with you at home.

Looking ahead, our thoughts and best wishes are with our **Year 6 pupils** as they prepare to sit their SATs next week, alongside children across the country. They have shown fantastic determination and effort in their preparation, and we are confident they will do themselves proud. This can be a challenging time for Year 6 as they face assessments and also begin to think about the transition to secondary school.



**A good night's sleep and plenty of encouragement at home will make a big difference**, and we'll be supporting them in school by offering a **free breakfast each morning next week** to help them start the day with energy and focus. Thank you, as always, for your continued support!

Please also see a letter attached to the end of this newsletter regarding the successful merger of our new school trust.

We wish everyone a safe and happy weekend.

*Mr Blunt, Ms Warner and Mrs Newman.*

## Upcoming School Trips!



Kingfishers class have an exciting upcoming trip to Woody Bay Station to support the children's learning around train travel. This will take place on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** and the cost is £10.

Key stage 2 also have a trip planned to Lynton & Lynmouth on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May** and the cost for this is £8.50. This is part of their learning around how the area changed during the Victorian era.

These trips can be paid online via MCAS or in cash at Reception. Please can all payments be made and all consent forms returned by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you all for your support with this.

Thank you also to the PTFA who have supported school with donations which enable us to keep the cost of school trips down as much as possible. We know the children will have a brilliant time!

## Sun Safety Reminder

The weather looks to be warming up again next week! Please can children bring sun cream and a summer hat to school.



The sun cream should be applied before they leave home, so that they can then top it up at school when needed. They will be spending time outdoors throughout the day, so this will help protect them whilst at School.

## Join Us!

A colorful advertisement for the Eden Park Summer Fair. The text reads: 'EDEN PARK SUMMER FAIR FRIDAY 27TH JUNE FROM 3PM'. Below the text are illustrations of a 'HOOK A DUCK' game, a large ice cream cone, and a 'COCONUT SHY' game. At the bottom, it says 'FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY' and 'SWEETS'. The background is a bright blue and yellow sunburst pattern.

## Pirate Non-Uniform Day

**PIRATE THEMED  
NON-UNIFORM DAY  
FRIDAY, 23RD MAY**



**SUGGESTED DONATION OF £1  
WITH MONEY GOING TO THE PTFA  
TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL**

A reminder about our Pirate themed non-uniform day, which will be held on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**.

Please don't feel a specially purchased costume is necessary. We love to see creativity and homemade creations are wonderful to see! Think pirate hats, eye-patches, stripes and bandanas!

We look forward to seeing your fabulous pirates on the day!





## Attendance

Attendance Ladder How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 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

## Upcoming Community Events

2025  
**Devon**  
 COUNTY SHOW  
 15 • 16 • 17 MAY

A CELEBRATION OF THE  
 DEVON COUNTRYSIDE



## FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY



Book your advance tickets now at  
[WWW.DEVONCOUNTYSHOW.CO.UK](http://WWW.DEVONCOUNTYSHOW.CO.UK)  
 Westpoint Arena, Exeter

**KIDS GO FREE\***  
**SATURDAY**

\* 2 children admitted free with 1 paying adult





## Wild Nurture Holiday Clubs

Rewild your child with our outdoor experience days.

Light a campfire, create a den, whittle a stick, take part in campfire cooking using fruit and veg foraged or picked from the garden.



Opportunities to play, discover and grow. there's never a dull moment!

### Woolacombe School.

Weds 28th May  
Weds 6th August, Weds 13th August,  
Weds 20th August, Weds 27th August

### West Croft School.

new for the Summer Holidays  
Thurs 14th August, Thurs 21st August

### Appledore School.

Thurs. 29th May  
Fri 8th August, Fri 15th August, Fri 22nd August, Fri 29th August



9.30am – 3.30 pm £37 per day  
sibling, friend and multi-day discounts available  
or try our shorter sessions  
10.00am – 2pm for £25

[www.abreathoffreshair.education](http://www.abreathoffreshair.education)

ROMAR  
SPORTS

# MAY HALF TERM FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB



Join us for a fun filled  
May half term of football,  
games, competitions & prizes  
Girls & Boys / All abilities  
Ages 5 - 15 years / 9am - 4pm



SPECIAL CHECK  
OUT CODE

**IID501**



## MAY HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUBS



HOLSWORTHY

EX22 6HD

BARNSTABLE

EX32 9AX

TORRINGTON

EX38 7DJ

BIDEFORD

EX39 5AP



[pop-upsports.co.uk](http://pop-upsports.co.uk)

INFO@POP-UPSPORTS.CO.UK

ENRICHING & EMPOWERING CHILDREN THROUGH PLAY



## Recruiting in North Devon:

- Primary Teachers
- Primary Teaching Assistants

No need to travel, we are hosting recruitment days throughout the summer term in a North Devon school.



- Submit your application and attend an online interview
- Meet with us to complete your document checks at a school local to you
- Discover ESP's unique approach



North Devon Recruitment Days:

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Apply now!

## Online Safety

### **Roblox and Parental Controls - South West Grid for Learning**

*Roblox, the popular Minecraft 'style' game has announced a new raft of parental controls. The website which ranks among the most popular games for children in the e-space, has previously been accused of possessing weak child protection tools. Their new raft of adaptations is important due to the game's position among school aged children. The new features have been adopted to allow parents to take control of their children's game time in a more comprehensive manner.*



*Parents & Carers will now be able to block individuals who communicate with their children, as well as have more detailed oversight over their usage of the programme. Real-time awareness measures have been increased and these changes represent a big step forward in making popular multiplayer games more secure for underaged users. If interested, the South-West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) has produced a comprehensive run down of these changes. Please copy the link following into your browser for more information: <https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/roblox-launches-new-parental-controls/>*

7<sup>th</sup> May 2025



Woodwater Academy,  
Woodwater Lane,  
Exeter, EX2 5AW.

**E:** [info@thsp.org.uk](mailto:info@thsp.org.uk)  
**W:** [thsp.org.uk](http://thsp.org.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers

I am very pleased to advise you of the successful merger of Ventrus and Tarka Learning Partnership on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025. Our two trusts together form 'The Harbour Schools Partnership'. Our ambition for our new trust is to be a resilient organisation: serving the children and families in our communities. Further information can be accessed from our website [www.thsp.org.uk](http://www.thsp.org.uk)

For our children and families, the rhythm of daily school life will remain largely unchanged. We will continue to build on the relationships that have already formed between our schools during the lead up to merger to ensure the advantages of the merger are maximised within our partnership for the benefit of the children, families and communities we serve.

Last term, the Board of Trustees held a consultation inviting stakeholders to submit their views on the proposed merger. Their response to the main themes of that consultation is included within appendix 1 of this letter.

Meanwhile, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting your child(ren)'s education and the school within your community.

Yours sincerely

**Gary Chown**  
**Chief Executive Officer**



## **Appendix 1: Response to stakeholder consultation on the proposed merger of Ventrus and Tarka Learning Partnership.**

The stakeholder e-brochure was distributed via schools in the first week of the spring term to more than 10,000 stakeholders and the consultation closed on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025. We received 47 responses, the majority of which were in support of the merger.

Below we respond to the main themes arising from the consultation feedback.

**1) Respondents were keen to ensure the schools do not lose their local ethos and voice within the community**

The Trust's ethos is centred on the primacy of the headteacher as the leader of improvement within their school, supported by their local Governing Body who are representative of their local area. The system of governance ensures there is a mechanism for the Governing Body to link directly with the Board of Trustees on a regular basis.

**2) Concerns that the merger would result in increased executive salaries**

Trustees can confirm that the salaries of both previous CEO's (now CEO & Deputy CEO) have not increased as a result of the merger and the overall cost of executive leadership is significantly less within the merged trust than that of the separately run entities.

**3) Ensuring the trust remains outward facing and continues to work with other partners**

We value the opportunities that working with external partners bring. Be that through supporting others on their improvement journey or being open to learning from best practice. The trust takes part in national network forums both as contributor and listener to ensure we continuously reflect upon and improve our practice.

**4) Concerns about implications for staff and resourcing**

The public sector is facing significant financial challenges and education has not been protected from this. In the lead up to merger we have scrutinised how the trust ensures as much money as possible goes to support the children in their classrooms. We have done this by making back-office functions as efficient as possible whilst providing high quality support to the schools. It is our moral duty to ensure as much resource as possible is directly supporting the children. Working within a larger trust offers greater resilience to the pressures of resourcing by allowing greater flexibility to manage the challenges the sector is facing. The cost of back-office services has decreased upon merger.

**5) The hope that special educational needs and inclusive provision will improve, and the trust does not adopt draconian policies in relation to behaviour**

Both trusts, pre-merger were very much aligned on the importance of an inclusive education upheld by a culture where relationships are valued. The Harbour Schools Partnership believe it is the right of every child to flourish, and we will work tirelessly with our schools, the local authority and external agencies to meet the needs of all our pupils within the resource we have available.

The Harbour Schools Partnership is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales number 7821367. Registered office: Woodwater Academy, Woodwater Lane, Exeter, EX2 5AW.

*Keep an eye out for our next newsletter on: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025!*

