

The Update

Axe Valley Academy Newsletter: Friday 1st December 2017 - Issue 2



Year 8 and Year 9 girls at EDF sponsored STEM event at Exeter University

Headteacher's message

The speed at which Christmas approaches seems to catch me by surprise every year. I can hardly believe that the autumn term ends in just two weeks. It has been an extremely busy term and this bumper edition of the newsletter is testament to that.

I have spent a good deal of time this term popping into lessons right across the school and I have been on the whole very impressed with our students' attitude to learning. I began this year with a simple message; that 'good enough is not good enough'. I want our students to push themselves to achieve their own personal best, not just do the minimum required. I know that the launch of ClassCharts has been well-received by both students and parents and would encourage anyone who has not yet logged in to the system to do so. To be able to share both homework and conduct information with parents through a modern and interactive platform is an important step forward for the school. My next challenge for young people will be to ensure that all homework is not just completed, but completed to the best of every student's ability.

There is so much going on in the last couple of weeks of term. Alongside all of the regular festive activities, a huge amount of work has gone in to raise money for a variety of fantastic causes this half term. Staff from both Axe Valley and Holyrood are cycling up to 200km overnight on Friday 1st December to raise money for Crisis at Christmas whilst our year 9 ASDAN students are attempting to collect hundreds of items for our local foodbanks in Axminster and Seaton. In addition, the money raised from our Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term will be shared between ITV's Text Santa appeal and Save the Children. I am so grateful to all those who have given their time and money to support these events.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to Tracy Moran who will be leaving us at the end of term. Tracy has been working at Axe Valley for more than 24 years and during her time here has inspired thousands of young people to take part and compete in sport. Her commitment to the benefits of participation and her dedication to the PE department through both academic study and extra-curricular activities has marked her out as a legend within the community. I know that you will join with me in wishing her every success in the future.

I hope that you have a very happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to starting 2018 at Axe Valley on Tuesday 2nd January.

Steven Green - Headteacher

Diary Dates

Tue 5th Dec - Sixth Form London Visit
Wed 6th Dec - Year 9 Parent's Evening
Tue 12th Dec - Year 11 & 13 Prize Evening
Wed 13th Dec - Carol Service
Fri 15th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 15th Dec - 3.25pm - End of Autumn Term
Tue 2nd January—Start of Spring Term



Celebration Assemblies



Year 7

Year 7 continue their excellent start to their time with us. Between the four tutor groups they have astoundingly amassed almost eight thousand positive points, a reflection of the really positive impression that they have made in class. At our first Celebration Assembly we were able to celebrate some of the individual achievements but I would also like to congratulate the group as a year group for their hard work so far.

It is also brilliant to see Year 7s start to take part in our wider school community and to represent the school in various ways. A big thank you and well done to Owen Andrews and Toby Massey for their appointments to the Student Voice. I am sure they will be great representatives for our year group. It is great to see our sporting teams getting off the ground and particular congratulations go to Innes Fitzgerald for her superb performances in the regional Cross Country events.

Finally can I would like to say well done to all the tutor groups for their hard work raising funds for Crisis. It was really nice to see you all working so well together to raise funds for this important cause.

Well done again Year 7, I look forward to seeing you finish off a superb first term in style over the next two weeks.

Mr Carr - Year 7 Leader





Year 8

Well done to all the prize winning students, it's been a very busy term so far and a huge number of students have been awarded bronze and silver awards for their achievement points. Congratulations to Amy Zwickl and Jorja Lawrence for winning the Headteacher and Year Leader awards.

Mrs Osborne - Year 8 Leader



Year 9

Congratulations to all Year 9 prize winners in our latest celebration assembly.

Issy was awarded Year Leader prize for being hugely reliable and taking the lead in organising the Halloween party.

Elsa won the Headteacher's prize for always striving to do her best and being a positive role model in everything she does.

Mr Horn - Year 9 Leader





Year 10

Our year group has made a fantastic start to their studies in Year 10 and I am very impressed by their level of focus so far. I am also very proud of the achievements many students have made already this year and so many are realising their talents and aspiring to even greater heights. It was wonderful to hear Holly Smith showcase her singing talent in the Celebration Assembly (with the support of Mr Jevons) and this is just one example of many talents the year group possess.

Well done to all. Mr Davies & Year10 Team



Year 11

It is a very serious year for our Year 11 students who are currently in the middle of their PPE exams. There is a lot of hard work still to be done and they must use their exam experiences to ensure they perform their very best in May next year.

Well done to all the award winners and in particular to Marc Paloma who won the Head teacher award for his incredible progress beyond his targets; his determination and perseverance are exemplary.



Children in Need

On Friday the 17th of November, the school raised money for the annual charity event, Children in Need. The fundraising activities were arranged by the Student Voice Team and included; a cake sale, selfie with our very own Pudsey Bear, a treasure hunt and sponge the student voice team.

All of the activities were well supported by our students and staff, especially the sponging, and combined with the total raised by the non-uniform day, the school raised an amazing figure of £1,311.57! I would like to thank everyone who donated cakes, who took part in the treasure hunt, threw water or got wet and of course everyone who got into the spirit of the day with fancy dress, sports and donations.

Louise Tyne 10RS – Chairperson, Student Voice



Year 7 student Ocean Phillips and friends spent their lunch break in the Gym having accepted a challenge from Mr Davies to exercise continually throughout lunchtime to gain a £10 donation.

Congratulations to this group of year 10 students who ran a multi-terrain 5km sponsored run and raised a staggering **£497.50!**



STEM Workshop



On Tuesday 28th November, Mrs Bishop and Mrs Pemberton were lucky enough to take thirty Year 8 and 9 girls to Exeter University where they took part in a STEM workshop.

The event, named "Pretty Curious" was run by female scientists from EDF energy.

Teams of girls from all over Devon competed to design and build a droid, a team from Axe Valley Academy won second prize! Their robot looked after your pets when you are not at home. Teams also enjoyed building a nuclear power station using virtual reality and examined smart homes of the future.



I hope our amazing female scientists are encouraged to consider a future career in science, technology, engineering or maths!

Mrs Bishop - Subject Leader for Science

Students commented: "I enjoyed building the droids and the virtual reality elements were definitely a new experience for me." "We learnt to work in teams and develop our ideas in a different environment." "the activities were awesomely up-to-date, amazing"



Student Update



Halloween Party

Thanks to all the students and parents that made the Year 9 Halloween party at Seaton Cricket Club such a success. We had amazing help from Issy Taylor's family who donated 2 suitcases worth of decorations for the evening and helped set up and clear up. Thanks also to Emily Grabham's mum who came and helped out too. Thanks also to Miss Thomas-Davies and Mrs McDonagh for their help.

We had a great night of games, food and music. The year group are extremely good at turning each other into mummies. The thing that stands out however is clearing up all the peas that Livvy was using to nurse her sprained ankle! Urghhhh.



Forest School

Wind and rain did not stop Forest School activities, students Grant Dyer, Elliot Kew, Freya Williams, Finley Munday and Codi Rowcroft brought the outside inside and created these lovely reindeers ready for Christmas.

Mrs Tresserras - Learning Support

Year 9 News

9EW - Car Wash Many thanks to Mrs Wagstaff and her tutees for running the staff car wash last week. It was great to see all the class working as a team and giving up their time to raise money for worthy causes.

9PS - Hot Chocolates Thanks to Mr Petty for organising the hot chocolate fundraiser on Thursday. This was another great example of a tutor group coming together to raise money and they managed to hit their target of 100 cups sold. Well done.

9MA - Assembly I tasked each tutor group at the start of the year to deliver one assembly. They chose themes and the first tutor group wowed their audience this week. The theme was "A Musical Performance" and they delivered a quite unique version of "Let it Go". Fronted by Livvy Matthews, the assembly started with a history of music. This slow start had many in the audience yawning but of course it was meant as a bit of a joke because next thing the whole assembly erupted into hilarity and some out of tune singing. Special thanks to Eowyn and Anna for their amazing dance routine and singing, to Yannick and Ellis for their startling chorus and amazing outfits and to everyone else that provided us with 5 minutes of fun.



Mr Horn - Year 9 Leader



Anti-bullying Week, 13-17 November

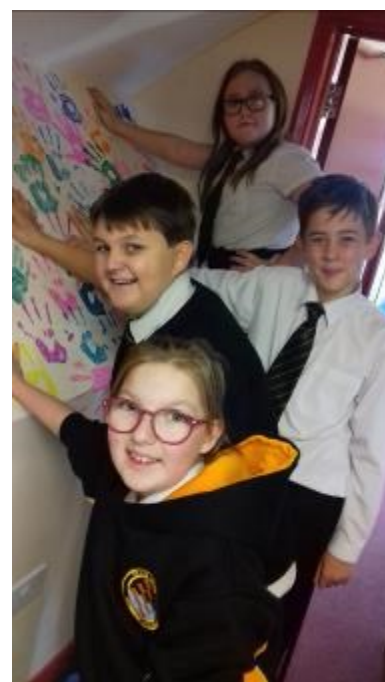
On Monday the 13th the whole school came in wearing odd socks! What a cheerful colourful day that was! The theme for this year's Anti Bullying Week was 'All Different, All Equal', staff and students across England wore odd socks to show that it is important to be you and to value differences.

During the week many pupils created cards to show what 'All Different, All Equal' means to them. These cards were then threaded on to string to form a garland and are now hanging around the quad.

Also, the week after, students from the Learning Support Department hand printed a section of wall to support the differences and equalities theme.

Thank you to every-one who joined in with activities and helped to raise awareness.

Olive Fitzgerald - 10RS
(Anti Bullying Ambassador)



Sixth Form Update

Amazingly Christmas is fast approaching and life in the Axe Valley Academy 6th seems to be getting ever busier. The Year 12's have firmly established themselves working hard both in their academic studies and supporting various charities. The Year 13's are now seasoned campaigners and are focussed on investigating their future option of employment, university or apprenticeships along with maintaining their high standards in the subjects they are presently studying. The pictures show both Lily and Phoebe celebrating the completion of their UCAS applications. Students have already been invited for interviews at their chosen universities and we look forward to others receiving offers to work towards in the coming months.



I would like to mention Bevan Brignall who has been successful in reaching the second stage of application in becoming a Rolls Royce engineering apprentice and wish him well in the process. In mathematics a group of students entered a national competition and all acquitted themselves very well with Gary Le making it into the next round – watch this space. Adelaide Williams has trod the boards in the West End and appeared in the Pauline Quirke Academy musical *Lazy Dee* in the West End and we all wish her well for her future roles.

Students have been actively volunteering (Giving back to stand out) in various ways around the Academy which is hugely appreciated not only by the staff but by the younger students they assist. Volunteers have assisted in most departments and special mention goes to those who organised students having injections, those who have assisted in the SEN Dept and to the numerous students who have helped the PE Dept in organising dance clubs, officiated at football tournaments, marshalled at the East Devon Cross Country Championships at Bicton. A big thank you to you all and we look forward to working with you next term.



The 6th form supported Children in Need in various wonderful ways with the girls in the picture wearing their onesies for the day. A student V staff bench ball game witnessed some very interesting attire especially from one member of staff! Obviously the staff took no prisoners and duly came out on top in this highly competitive challenge witnessed by so many.

Continuing the theme of raising the awareness of various charities the 6th form along with the rest of the Academy are supporting CRISIS (Homeless People at Christmas) and donating food for the community foodbank at present they have raised in excess

of £300 which is a great achievement.

The Student Voice are busy organising their annual Christmas lunch Thursday 7th December for Tudor Cottage Care Home and hope to repeat the success that they experienced last year.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone in the 6th form a wonderful and peaceful Christmas.

Mr D Owen - Sixth Form Leader



Sports Update

Rugby

Axe Valley's Year 9 boys had a great rugby game on 27th September, beating Clyst Vale Community College gaining them entry to Round 2 of the Exeter and East Devon Cup. James Lacey scored the first try and the rest of the team including, Finlay Livings, Tobias Akeroyd, Miles Akeroyd, Sam Searle, Billy Gait, Will Grogan, Yannick Barrett, Joe Richardson and Beck Finnemore had a great game. Thanks to Bailey Livings for running the line and coaching, and thanks to Andy for preparing the pitch.



They played Round 2 on the 10th October against Queen Elizabeth School, Cridition and lost 38-28. It was one of the best performances I have seen in a long time and it could have gone either way.

Their next match was for the Exeter & East Devon Plate Cup playing West Exe School (Away) in the Quarter Finals. The boys started slow in the first half and West Exe maintained a steady lead till half time. In the second half Axe Valley up'd their game and with some stronger play, particularly from Yannick Barrett and Beck Finnemore, the boys clawed the game back, including a try from Year 8 Theo Sauter Stone, and won 34-27.

Mr T Davies Year Leader & PE Teacher

Year 7 Football Tournament

The Year 7 Girls football squad won their first ever tournament overall against various East Devon Schools. The girls were unbeaten winning their first game against Exmouth 2-0 with both goals coming from Kayla Froom. The second game against Sidmouth ended 0-0 both teams having multiple opportunities to break the deadlock. In their final game Axe Valley took the lead against Kings with Allison Sojeebun hitting the roof of the net, however Kings soon equalised and the game finished 1-1. For some of the girls, this was their first competitive football game, the whole team played exceptionally well.

Congratulations to you all.



Girls Sports Academy,

So far this term the girls Sports Academy has got off to a flying start, the current game play focus is on Netball due to the East Devon League. All games have been incredibly tight with some exceptional wins and very close matches ending up even. When not training the girls are focusing on cardiovascular endurance to enhance fitness levels as well as building up core body strength.

The Girls Sports Academy were given a rare opportunity to work with a specialist netball coach "Trish Warwick". Trish is a local netball coach that has been recognised by East Devon District Council for "promoting and leading netball in the local community for many years". She is part of the Devon Satellite Academy where young talented performers can develop their skills and work their way up from grass roots to the elite level.

The team were treated to an hour training session that focused on specific netball skills such as defending and creating space. The Academy really enjoyed the session and were able to use some of the skills that Trish had taught them in the training session in the game at the end. I would like to thank Trish on behalf of the Academy for giving up her time to come and coach the team as it was a fantastic opportunity for them.

Girls Sports Academy vs Woodroffe

The U16 Girls Sports Academy played Woodroffe away in a friendly. The game was to give the team a different challenge outside of the area and prepare them for their two remaining games in the East Devon League on Tuesday 28th November. The performance started off a little inconsistent with turn over ball being given away. However, the second half demonstrated a much higher standard of play which pushed the home team all the way. The final score was Axe Valley Academy 12 Woodroffe 17. The team learnt a lot from the game and are focusing hard of the areas for improvement.

The U15 girls also played Woodroffe away in a friendly. The game was to give students an opportunity to play a competitive game against another school, and ensure that their attendance and effort at training was recognised. Some of the students have not represented the Academy before so it was nice to see them challenging themselves.

The Axe Valley Academy students conducted themselves in an exemplary manner and I was proud to be part of the evening.



Mrs Baker - PE Department Leader



Badminton

Year 8 boys, Dan Brookes, Owen Enticott, Corbin Cox and Cody Dwyer attended their first Badminton tournament. They were a credit to themselves in the resilience they displayed and team work.

They had a fantastic 3 games to 2 WIN over Honiton.

They didn't progress to the next round as they came up against a very good Colyton side.

Mrs Moran - PE Teacher



PE STARS

in October and November 2017



WHO?

WHY?

Boys:

Joel Jeffries—Effort in Fitness
Casey Gibbons—Skills in Handball
Alex Hubbard—Helpfulness and effort
Drew Scott—Effort in Fitness
Jaydon Locke—Holding his position in Football
Finlay Livings—Helpfulness and commitment in PE
Aaron Conway— Superb performance in Gymnastics
Rowand Newman— Exceptional Gymnastics
Fredryk Bogdanski—Consistent hard work in PE
Stephen Johns— Challenge—Running with Y10 Cross Country and completing
Coby Patch—Cross country perseverance
Alfie Trott—Good co-operation in Gymnastics
Morgan Jones—Good co-operation in Gymnastics
Taylor Lee—Fantastic start in Gymnastics
Zak Foxwell—Performance in Gymnastics
Will Sydenham—Great in PE
Brad Croton—Helpfulness in PE
Morgan Sommerville—Good skills in Handball
Harry Lawrence—Good skills in Handball
Kieran Massey—Good skills in Handball
Brad Bolton—Outstanding effort in Circuits
Corrie Andrews—Excellent performance in Gymnastics
Ewan Guppy—Excellent performance in Gymnastics
Drew Scott—Excellent attitude to learning
Alex Hubbard—Excellent attitude to learning

WHO?

WHY?

Girls:

Innes Fitzgerald— Challenge—Running with Y10 Cross Country and winning
Molly Clinch— Good Handball skills
Min Dack— Good Handball skills
Caitlin Minshull—Good Handball skills
Ella Down Parkes—Effort in Handball
Beth Cook—Fearless Volleyball skills
Liberty Widger —Fearless Volleyball skills
Jessica Richards—Excellent shooting in Netball
Chloe Bolton—Good effort in netball
Maisie Green—Great team player
Alisha Meaker - Understanding the position of GA
Ebony Melarky Williams—Supporting another student
Anna Broderick—Good knowledge of Badminton rules
Jodie Sibley—Dance, adapting to extra person
Megan Ozenbrook—Progress in badminton
Ella Richardson—Superb Volleyball skills
Molly Jones—Progress in Badminton
Faith Phillips— perseverance in Dance
Chloe Morgan —Brilliant peer teaching
Rhiannon Watts—Knowledge of rules Badminton
Maddie Richardson—Tactical awareness in Badminton
Keesha Wheeler—Improvement in Badminton
Emily Grabham—Improvement in Badminton
Megan Conell—Improvement in Badminton
Danielle Nisbett—Excellent attitude to learning

East Devon Cross-Country Championships 08/11/2017

Congratulations to all the students who took part and represented Axe Valley Academy impeccably at the East Devon Cross Country Championships. With a cold start to the day and the wind picking up in the afternoon all performed exceptionally over the tough terrain. Noticeable performances from Alex Farrant, Daniel Rowe, Lewis Burrridge, Innes Fitzgerald, Brianna Barrand, Elsa Wood, Samidi Nanakkaya, Caitlin Sloman and Poppy Tooze. We are waiting to hear who will be moving forward to the next stage of the championships.

Once again, well done to all who took part.





Sports Leadership Events

Our keen Year 10 have been leading the way in true style working alongside our new year 9 sports leaders. So far they have ran our High 5s primary netball league; Year 5/6 swimming gala; a recently completed Indoor Athletics event They are now in planning for the Rec/yr 1 dance festival coming up shortly. The year 9s are working alongside some very experienced dedicated leaders who i am sure will show them many valuable skills to apply in work out put of school situations.

Athletics: Our Year 9 and 10 Leaders ran the annual Year 5/6 indoor sports hall athletics competition on Tuesday 21st November. This involved setting up athletics equipment and leading each event. Each group were responsible for a group of 12 athletes. The leaders helped the children by giving them tips on how they could improve their jumps; throws or shorten the running times. The leaders also measured and timed the 6 events accurately whilst motivating and giving these score to the primary children as they progressed.

A HUGE well done to all teams! Every single athlete tried their best and contributed to the overall score. Congratulations to Seaton and Kilmington Primary schools who are entering the next level of competition at The Kings School. Thank you to the fantastic leaders from Axe Valley for making the event possible. Mrs Oxley was impressed with the level of leadership skills the Axe Valley Students demonstrated and the encouragement they can throughout the festival

Mrs Oxley - Sports Coordinator



ASPIRE

Visit to Northcott Theatre

Our first outing was to see **Around the World in 80 Days** on October 11th. It was a fantastic performance that is very cleverly crafted to convey a rich variety of locations with minimal props and scenery.

The ingenuity wasn't lost on the students who admired the way they conjured up the rocking motion of the sea, the suggestion of fighting as well as an elephant on stage among many, many other inventive little details that made it such an enjoyable performance. We were all spellbound from start to finish.



Kitchen Chemistry Science Workshop

Year 7 students joined together with primary students to work on a series of experiments relating to food. They made ice cream using liquid nitrogen, exploded surgical gloves with baking powder, tested the acidity of different foods, created rainbows with sweeties and measured the energy contained in snacks.

It was an extremely busy afternoon where the students were able to carry out their own experiments in teams. It was particularly fun for the primary students to experience working in the science labs of a secondary school.



Music in the Castle

On November 10th we visited Powderham Castle in Kenton, Exeter for a concert performed by the Alke String Quartet including pieces by Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert.

The concert was introduced by the Countess of Devonshire and held in their beautiful James Wyatt Music Room. The musicians gave an impressive performance which was followed up with a question and answer session.

The students were particularly fascinated by the musicians' early training and career progression which was so relatable and very inspiring for the students.



Skills for Success, Emotional Intelligence

Local life coach Wendy Knee came to work with the students on the topic of emotional intelligence. The students worked in groups exploring the issues of self-esteem, confidence and body language. It was a very enlightening session and a topic that we hope to explore further in future sessions.



Book Club

Last Wednesday we had a very lively Book Club meeting with Primary and Year 7 students. Their first book was *The Wizards of Once* by Cressida Cowell, which was extremely well enjoyed by nearly all the students. Characters were dissected and favourite passages were read aloud. The overall consensus was that if you enjoyed *Harry Potter*, then you will love this book.

Spring Term - ASPIRE events for Spring Term are listed in our new booklet, please contact Mrs Pemberton if you haven't had your copy.

Mrs K Pemberton - ASPIRE Co-ordinator

Careers

As part of the careers guidance and education programme we deliver at Axe Valley Academy students have access to Kudos, the latest program from CASCAID.

Kudos is accessible online and we are encouraging the use of it at home to involve parents with the important decisions students have to make about their future options.

Kudos



Kudos helps to assess interests and skills, as well as allowing students to explore and research different education and career options, enabling them to make informed decisions.

To access the program please visit www.cascaid.co.uk/login and click on the 'Login' button, students can then log in using the access details given to them by their teacher.

All CASCAID programs come with a comprehensive range of support materials including a Parents'/Carers' Guide to Careers Education & Guidance. This Guide will help clarify the options available at each transition stage. To view the Parents' Guide please visit www.cascaid.co.uk/support/products/kudos/getting-started/guides/ Scroll to the bottom of the page to download the guide.

At Axe Valley Academy our aim is to ensure that all students have the resources to fully explore and research their future options in order to make informed choices. We hope that you find Kudos useful and informative.

For any additional information about careers guidance, please contact Mr MacCormick or Mrs Whipp.

CAREERS FAIR

Axe Valley Academy will be holding their next Careers Fair on Thursday 1st March. A wealth of local businesses and organisations have already signed up to attend on the day, all willing to share their knowledge of the employment market with the students, parents and members of the community.

It is a unique opportunity to learn more about the world of work, to inspire and motivate and to help map out future career paths.

Doors open at 3.30pm and close at 6.30pm. All are welcome. Enquiries telephone: 01297 630372.

If you know of an organisation that would like to be part of this exciting event please contact Anita Whipp on the above number.



Community Page

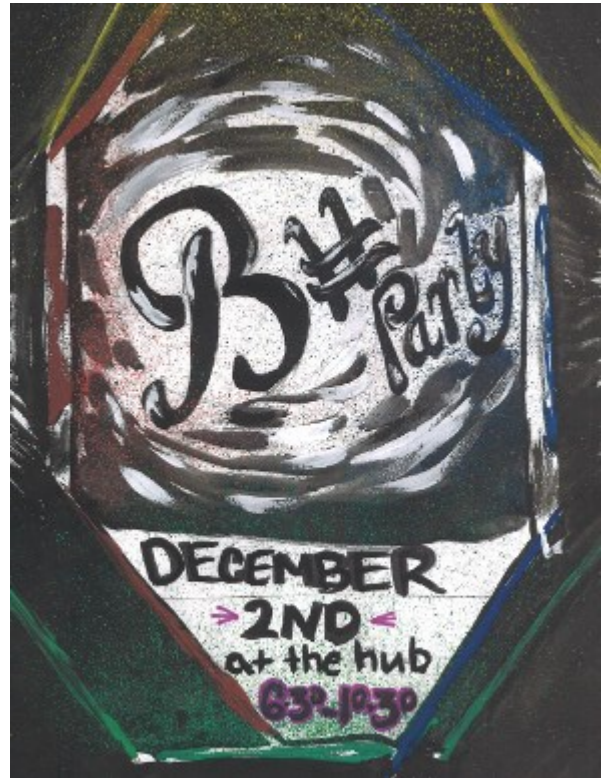
Axe Valley PTFA

Annual General Meeting
on
Monday 15th January 2018 at 7pm
in L1 (above Reception)

If you are interested in helping to raise funds,
offer fun community events and
decide how funds are spent
we would very much welcome your support.

We hope that as many parents
as possible will attend.

Merry Christmas!



Foodbank Challenge

Every tutor group is collecting food for the local food-banks in Axminster and Seaton this Christmas

Every pupil is being asked to donate 1 item of food from a specific list of items requested by the foodbanks.

Final day for donations is Monday 11th December

Please help us, to help others.

