

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School.

Number 183

7.10.16

A plea for some help (especially men although women are more than welcome)



As part of our Friday afternoon curriculum the children have been using The Orchard for some great activities led by Mrs Wall.



Our lovely caretaker Billy has been spending some time trying to clear areas to increase the space children can access. We are hoping to get a shelter erected in the area in the near future as well.



In order to really use the whole space (which is a large one) we would ideally like to clear away more of the brambles and nettles which have been allowed to take over. Do you have a pair of gloves and some shears or a strimmer? Could you spare us a couple of hours on the morning of **Saturday 15th October**? Great, the more the merrier! We will meet at The Orchard at 9 a.m.



It would be wonderful to be able to clear it prior to our apple pick.

Harvest Apple Picking

This year we are going to apple pick throughout the whole day. Hopefully, this will mean we collect more apples (and there are plenty there to pick up), which we will then sell to Darts Farm to make cider. Children in Oak and Beech classes will go to The Orchard between 11 a.m. and lunchtime and the children in Ash, Elm and Willow will go for the afternoon, 1.30 p.m. onwards. Children need to bring in a pair of gloves and a pair of old trainers or wellington boots to wear.



We would welcome the help of parents/grandparents and friends - bring a bucket or bag; wear a pair of gloves and a pair of wellies and come and join us!

Toys in School

In order to resolve the many losses and playground disputes we have had recently, the children have been asked to leave all their toys at home. This is with the exception of items that have been specifically requested for a class activity, for example, something for 'show and tell' or a particular item linked to a topic being covered. We appreciate your cooperation in reinforcing this.



Arts Week

Our Arts week is the week starting 17th October and the theme is Autumn Festivals. The children will be involved in a variety of activities throughout the week. On Tuesday 18th everyone will get the opportunity to attend a drumming workshop. The children in Oak class are having the last session of the afternoon and parents of children in that class are welcome to come along and join in as well from 3 p.m. onwards.



On Friday 21st October there will be a grand display of artwork in the hall from 3-4 p.m. for everyone to come and see.

Keeping us up-to-date

At my recent safeguarding training the importance of keeping in touch with our families was reiterated.



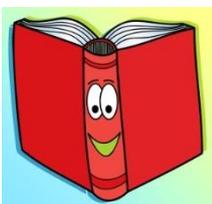
Staff at Whimpe Primary School endeavor to listen to all our children with the emphasis on keeping them safe. If required, please contact your child's class teacher to agree a suitable time to discuss things that are concerning you.

It is important that you keep us informed of any changes that occur in your family set-up or routine, for example, a family illness or bereavement, changes in your working day

so childcare arrangements have altered. Sometimes the little things that seem insignificant to us often have a huge impact on our children and their mental well-being. Please don't be offended if we ask you any questions regarding your child's welfare, it is only because we care and want to support families where and when required.

Please ensure that your contact details held in the School Office are correct so if we need to contact you, for instance if your child is unwell or had an accident, we can.

Volunteers Required

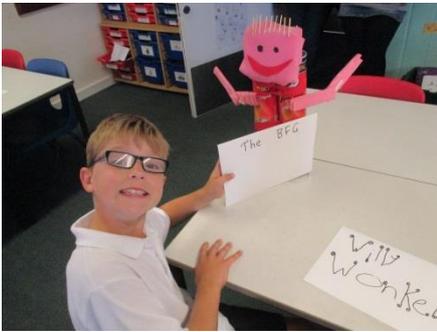


We are looking for some volunteers to hear children read across the school. The commitment does not necessarily have to be every week and no previous experience is necessary, although all volunteers are subject to safeguarding checks.

If you are interested, or know someone in your family that may wish to help, please leave your details at the School Office.

Fantastic Fridays!

We have just completed our first cycle of our new Friday afternoon curriculum. The next set of activities will start on Friday 14th October. (Please note children will not be participating in these activities on 21st October due to Arts Week.)



Year 2 children will be trying out the outdoor nature activities - these children need wellies, trousers, a long-sleeved top and a waterproof to change into prior to walking to The Orchard. If children do not have the appropriate clothing they will be unable to participate as we need to ensure their safety.

Year 1 and Year 5 will be participating in Relax Kids and cooking. **Year 4** will be learning and playing board/card games whilst **Year 3** will be involved in music and drama activities. Finally, **Year 6** will be getting stuck into some craft activities.

(I promise more photos in the next Contact.)

Friends of Whimple School (F.o.W.S)

FoWS AGM, Tuesday 11th October 7.30 pm in The Thirsty Farmer

As well as talking about the upcoming fundraising events we have, we will also be electing the committee members. We are going to need a new treasurer and a vice chairperson, without these positions filled we will not be able to continue FoWS, so if you think you might be able to do either of these roles then please come along. I'll obviously be bringing wine, soft drinks and snacks!

Cake Sale Friday 21st October, at pick up.

This cake sale is being run by Elm class we have however been running out of cakes in the last few sales so it would be great if some other parents could bake too. Oh and don't forget to bring your money on the day!

Tickets Still On Sale For Whimple Primary Schools Halloween Disco!

Friday 21st October 5.30-7.30, Victory Hall

£2 each Child (Whimple Primary School children only), available in the School Office, please can the adults purchase the tickets as we require contact details for each child.

This is a drop off and leave disco, but if you would like to attend then there are also volunteer tickets (only 20), these are free and on a first come first served basis. You will be required to dress up in your Halloween finest and help on the evening. (Can these tickets try and be left for the reception parents as much as possible.)

Please remember if you child has been sick that they need to be kept off school for 48 hours from the end of their illness.

Dates for your diary

October 10 th to 14 th	Bikeability (Year 6 – all week)
October 17 th	Arts Week
October 18 th	Drumming workshops
October 19 th	Harvest apple picking (reserve 21st)
October 21 st	Halloween Disco 5.30-7.30 pm
Half term – Monday 24th – Friday 28th October	
November 7 th and 8 th	Parents' evenings
November 8 th	Flu Vaccinations (p.m.)
November 9 th	Theatre Alibi visit 'The Boy Who Climbed into the Moon'
November 14 th	School photos (individual & family photos)
December 2 nd	Non pupil day (disaggregated)
December 8 th	Carol Concert in the Church
Friday 16th December – School finishes at 1.30 pm	

More dates will be added. Whilst we try and give as much notice as possible we occasionally get last minute opportunities which are too good to miss!

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