

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School.

Number 181

7.9.16

Welcome back

We would like to give a warm welcome back to school to all our families. 'CONTACT' is the school's main newsletter and it is important that it is read thoroughly. It will be sent out by email regularly to keep you up to date with all that is happening at school but hard copies are available from the School Office on request.

We would like to start by welcoming Hannah Clarke to our teaching team. Miss Clarke will be teaching Beech class with Mrs Killen who is now working part time. The children have returned to school with positive attitudes and the new Reception children have made a great start and are enjoying their mornings with Mrs Shilston and her Early Years team.

We are at the start of another exciting term with new topics, visitors and visits. Keep an eye out for our curriculum newsletters which will have details of what your child will be learning. Our theme for learning this half term is 'What have you done today to make you feel proud' with a focus on books. Along with this we will be having our annual Anti-Bullying Week this term, our Harvest Apple Pick, class assemblies for parents, Bikability training for Year 6, a visit from Theatre Alibi and our Arts Week. Remember to check the calendar on the website - this works as a phone app once you have entered the site. You can also login to the learning platform to check for class information.

Fantastic Fridays!

We will be starting our new Friday afternoon curriculum this half term. The children will be organised in their year groups and will cycle through the activities. The aim of our Friday curriculum is:

- To promote the school's 6Rs - Responsibility, Resilience, Respect, Reasoning, Reflecting and Resourcefulness, in the outside environment.
- To enable children to learn to manage risk.
- To equip children with the skills to undertake problem solving activities.
- To enable children to work as part of a team, showing respect for everyone's ideas and challenging where ideas can be improved.
- To further broaden the school's curriculum.
- To show our commitment to the place of the creative arts in primary education.



- To promote mental health and wellbeing through 'mindful' activities.
- To promote respect for the environment.
- To equip children with practical skills

If you are free on Friday afternoon, can make a commitment of a half term and would be interested in helping with any of our activities please let us know via the Office. We are always happy to have extra help in school so whether it is hearing readers or helping with sports at the MUGA just let us know. Please note volunteers are subject to safeguarding checks.

The activities will be as follows:

- Outdoor education at the MUGA – these will be Forest School activities once staff have completed the training. **Children will need to bring in an old pair of long trousers and have a long sleeved top, a suitable top and wellies in school when their year group is at the MUGA. We will send out a reminder by email.**
- Creative arts and music
- Cookery – help needed. **Inspired by the Great British Bake Off? Come and join us.**
- Relax Kids
- Board games – help needed. **Any donations of complete good quality games would be welcome.**
- Life-skills
- Crafting – George Bayley – more help needed. **Can you crochet, knit or sew? If so we need your help.**

Quick reminders

Here are our usual reminders and some new information, please read thoroughly.



Class names

The newsletter will refer to classes by the name of the class. Some information will be for a particular year group so learn the names and keep an eye out for year-specific info.

Elm Class	Mrs Shilston
Ash Class	Miss Norton
Oak Class	Mrs Lindsey
Beech Class	Mrs Killen and Miss Clarke
Willow Class	Mr Brown

Mornings

All children from Year 2 upwards can wait in the top playground from 8.50 a.m. onwards, parents are welcome to stay until the bell if they wish to. The children may put their coats and lunch boxes in the cloakrooms but should not go in to the classrooms. Children should line up to go into class when the bell goes.

Children in Year 1 can be left in the Key Stage One playground from 8.50 a.m. onwards, however if parents wish to stay with their child until the bell they must wait with them in the top playground. This is to reduce the number of parents in the bottom playground and enable the teacher on duty to be able to supervise the children whose parents don't stay until the bell.

Parents of Year 1 children are asked to let children put their lunch boxes and coats away by themselves. They should go into class when the bell goes.

Children in Reception can wait with their parents in the Key Stage 1 playground or be left from 8.50. When the bell goes try and encourage them to go into the classroom on their own.

Safety

I will be reminding the children that they should not climb on the equipment before school – please could you reinforce the message with them. **Can we also ask parents to make sure that the bolts are put across on the gates as they leave the playground.**



Home time

Parents of children in Elm, Mrs Shilston's class, should wait for their children outside of their classroom in the Key Stage 1 playground. If you have older children they should be told to find you in the Key Stage 1 playground (we will remind them). All other children should be collected from the top playground.

Class teachers

If you need to speak with the class teacher we would ask you, where possible, to do so at the end of the day. The mornings are always very busy for the teaching staff who need to prepare for the school day. Children are welcome to take their parents into the classrooms at the end of the day to show them work, etc.

Clubs



Children attending after school clubs must go and wait quietly in the library until the person in charge of the club comes to collect them. Registers for clubs are always taken. If your child is in school but will not be attending an after school club for which they are registered you must let the person/organisation running the club know that they will not be attending. If your child has been absent from school we will inform the club that they will not be attending.

Music clubs

Choir is held on a Tuesday after school, 3.30-4.30 p.m. in the hall. Emma would welcome any offers from parents to stay and supervise (she will get you singing!) so please let her know if you can help out. For further information on music clubs please read on.



Sports clubs

Keep an eye out for flyers and emails about sports clubs and information on other clubs. If you would like to run an after school club then please let us know. The children would be particularly keen on an art and craft club and a chess club. These could be weekly or monthly.

Additional Clubs

Relax Kids has proved very popular and will continue to run on a Wednesday after school. Art and Craft club will run on Fridays after school. Both clubs will be run by Mrs Terrett. Keep an eye out for letters with start dates and information.

Parking



If you have no option but to drive to school we would request that you **park in the Thirsty Farmer's car park or in the Square and walk the last part of the journey.**

This eases congestion around the school and makes it safer for the children. We will be leaving the top gate unlocked at the end of the school day but still politely request that you come down into the playground to collect your child/ren.

Term Dates 2016-2017

Half term	24th – 28th October 2016
Non pupil Day	2nd December
Last day of term	16th December 2016 - 1.30 p.m. finish.
Spring Term	
Non Pupil Day	3rd January 2017
Term starts	4th January 2017
Half term	13th – 17th February 2017
Last day of term	31st March 2017 – 1.30 finish
Summer Term	
Term starts	18th April 2017
Bank Holiday	1 st May
Half term	29th May – 2 nd June 2017
Last day of term	21st July 2017

Remember to check term time dates before booking your holidays as absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Parents who take their children out of school without authorisation may be issued a penalty notice by the Education Welfare Officer

Community Theatre 4All

'In Remembrance of a Lost Generation'

The story of the Great War from a local standpoint, - that of the residents of Whimble, Talaton & Escot.

As well as the adult cast,

(open workshop this Saturday, 10.30-3.30, Talaton Village Hall)

we would also like to have children involved, age 8 -13.

There is a Children's Workshop on

Tuesday 13th September, 4.30-5.30pm in Talaton Village Hall.

Project Director - Tom Samson, Musical Director - Emma Palmer

email: communitytheatre4all@yahoo.co.uk for more details.

PE kits and coats

Please make sure that your child has a full PE kit in school (KS2) and that they bring a coat to school. Unless it is pouring we like to get the children out to play in the morning and at dinner time but many of them come without a coat!

Snacks

Whilst we are more than happy for children to bring a snack to eat before play, please only provide one item. Some children are bringing two or three items and by the time they have eaten them there is very little playtime left for them to run around, burn off some energy and get some fresh air!

Music Clubs – Autumn 2016

Dear All,

As always, there are a variety of music clubs to give Whimble School's pupils lots of opportunity to take part & enjoy a wide variety of music. The clubs perform each term for the school, parents & community. The choir sometimes have other performances during the year.

The clubs available are:

Beginner Recorder Club - Yr 2 and up, they will learn to play & to read music. This will be during lunchtime, probably Mondays.

Advanced Recorder Club - the existing group, anyone who learned to play & read music at their previous school, + last year's beginners. After school on Mondays, till 4.30 in the library. Children may bring a small snack.

Whimble School Choir - Yr 2 and up. Rehearsals are Tuesdays in the Victory Hall, pick up is by the side door at 4.30pm. Children may bring a snack & drink. They are registered in the library before going up to the hall together.

Guitar clubs - there is no new group this year.
Guitar clubs are lunchtime, day to be confirmed.

The fees for the clubs are as follows:

Choir - £10 per child for the term. £7.50 for 2nd child in a family, 3rd child - free.

Guitars & Advanced Recorder Clubs £2 per week, per child, I will confirm the number of weeks when I've spoken to Mrs Jessop.

Beginner Recorder Club - £2.50 per week, again, I will confirm the number of weeks.

If your child would like to join a club, please email me as soon as possible.

If your child is NOT continuing with a club, please let me know.

Regards Emma

empalmusic@gmail.com

FOWS MEETING

Tuesday 20th September at 7.30pm in the school library.
All are welcome. If you attend regularly see if you can bring a new 'friend' along or invite a new parent. The more people involved the more money we can raise for the children.

Please do not park in the Victory Hall car park or too near to the school. Saving 5 minutes time is not worth a child's life!

Dates for your diary

**Clyst Vale Community College
Open Evening for Year 6 students
Tuesday 13 September 2016, from 6 pm**

September 20 th	FoWS meeting - 7.30 pm in the library
October 10 th to 14 th	Bikeability (Year 6 – all week)
October 17 th	Arts Week
October 19 th	Harvest apple picking (reserve 21st)
Half term – Monday 24th – Friday 28th October	
November 7 th and 8 th	Parents' evenings
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!

Headteacher Susie Jessop
Telephone/fax: 01404 822584
Email: admin@whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk
Website: www.whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk