

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School.

Number 198

12.05.17

Safeguarding Update

During a recent premises and site security inspection our perimeter gates came under scrutiny. You may have noticed some changes have already been made to them. This is to ensure the safety of all children in our care during the school day.

The lower metal gate (by the bridge), and the top wooden gate (leading from the steps to the Victory Hall car park), will be open for people to use at the start and the end of the day but will be secured between 9.05 am and 3.20 pm. Please leave the gates ajar so other parents can enter the school before and after school.

Access into school during school hours will only be in through the left-hand blue main gate.

Changes in collection of children at the end of the day from Monday

All children in Ash and Elm class need to be collected from the lower Key Stage 1 playground area. Children from Elm will come down the ramp as they do now, whilst the children of Ash will continue to come out from the side door and walk around to the front of their classroom.

It would be extremely helpful if parents could stand along the playground against the main building opposite the class from which their child is leaving. If people can refrain from waiting on the grass area and keep this clear, it will help with visibility and safe handing over of all children whilst enabling others to leave.

Children with younger siblings have been asked to come and wait with the younger child in the lower playground. The children in Oak will be taken around to the top playground rather than walking across the Key Stage 1 playground.



Also, could I take this opportunity to remind you that if you are unable to collect your child at the end of the day and have made alternative arrangements **you must inform the office**. We cannot hand your child over to other people (even if we know them) unless we have your prior consent.

Finally, if you have to bring something into school for your child during school hours you must call into the office and not walk around school bringing things in. Again, this is to ensure the safety of all children in our care and your co-operation in all these matters is greatly appreciated.

Readathon ends

Total donations received: £336.25. This is a fabulous amount, many thanks to all those who supported this great cause whilst encouraging your child to read more.



Holiday Requests

Requests for term time absence have not changed after the recent court ruling with regards the Isle of Wight school holiday case. Attendance at school is very important and now with the pace of education it becomes more difficult to catch up on missed activities. Unavoidable absence from school will be authorised if it is for the following reasons:

- Genuine illness
- Unavoidable medical/dental appointments (try to make these after school where possible)
- Days of religious observance
- Seeing a parent who is on leave from the armed forces
- External examinations

Each holiday request is considered individually, also taking the child's attendance into account.



Year 6 SATs week

Congratulations and well done to all our Year 6 children who have completed their SATs this week with great diligence and maturity. I am sure the enticement of the breakfast helped to settle them into the day - who wouldn't say no to croissants and pancakes. Apparently, Coco Pops and Cheerios' are locally grown in the gardens of Whimple - I have never seen them!

Thank you to Mr Brown and all the parents who came in to help prepare and serve breakfast.

New Intake Parents Evening at Clyst Vale

Clyst Vale has confirmed the date of this as Wednesday 12th July. This event gives parents the opportunity to meet the tutor responsible for their pastoral care during their time at CVCC and their Head of School.

Although our children are on their residential trip that week, I would recommend parents attending. You should receive an information pack from Clyst Vale shortly.

Class Photograph Date Change

Our photographer has had to postpone this until Tuesday 27th June.

Fisherman visit

Beech Class had a visitor on the 9th May from Lyme Bay's Fisheries and Conservation Reserve. Their education outreach representative, Neville, brought lots of costal objects, videos and slides to show the pupils in order to help them to understand why everyone needs to put a stop to overfishing and has a duty to protect marine life.

Neville, introduced the class to some of the wonderful life that exists below the waves in Lyme Bay, including cuttlefish, crabs, scallops, lobsters, pink seafans, starfish and lobsters.



Then he talked about how people can fish sustainably, using single lines and nets with large holes rather than nets with small holes. This means that only some of the older fish are caught and allows other younger ones to go free. This results in the healthy numbers of mackerel, wrasse, sole and other species of fish in our seas.

Some of us acted as fishermen and some of us pretended to be different fish, which was great fun. Right at the end, we all met Larry (a live lobster) and learnt about his life cycle. Many of us were brave enough to touch him and to ask some questions about him as well.

We all really enjoyed joining in with all the activities and everyone learned such a lot.

FOWS



Dates for your diary

Monday 29 th – Friday 2 nd June	Half-term
Friday 9 th June	Year 6 Science visit pm
Monday 12 th June	Phonics screening week
Tuesday 13 th June	Instrumentalists assembly
Friday 16 th June	Sports Day
Friday 23 rd June	Sports Day reserve
Saturday 24 th June	Summer Fair 1pm - 4pm
Monday 26 th June	Life Skills – Year 6
Tuesday 27 th June	Class photographs
Thursday 29 th June	Women's World Cup Cricket, Taunton
Friday 30 th June	Crealy – Year 6
Saturday 1 st July	Start of Village Week
Wednesday 5 th July	Clyst Vale Transition Days
Monday 10 th July	King's Transition Days
Monday 10 th July	Residential Week Pixie's Holt – Willow
Friday 21 st July	Leavers Assembly, last day of term for children.

Term dates for pupils - 2017/18:

AUTUMN TERM 2017

6th September to 15th December 2017

Half term - 23rd to 27th October 2017

SPRING TERM 2018

4th January to 29th March 2018

Half term - 12th to 16th February 2018

SUMMER TERM 2018

16th April to 26th July 2018

May Day holiday - 7th May 2018

Half term - 28th May to 4th June 2018

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 4th & 5th September 2017, 2nd & 3rd January, 2nd July 2018

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