

# CONTACT

## The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 1/18

5.01.18



Welcome back to the start of a new term. We hope you all had a pleasurable break and, like your children, all full of enthusiasm to be back at school.

Despite the weather, the children settled in really well on their first two days back.

### **Don't Forget**

If for any reason your child is absent from school you must inform the school office by 9.30 a.m. so we can complete our registers. If we are unable to do this we will call the first and then the second contact number, leaving messages if unanswered. If this is unsuccessful and a child is absent for a second day without any given reason, then we will ring all contact numbers to determine the child's whereabouts.

So please help us to help you by ringing in to the office to inform us if your child is not in school and the reason for it.

### **Snack Time**

When providing your child with a snack for playtime, remember that it is something to keep them going until lunch, which for the younger children in the school is only an hour later. Not only do they run out of time to eat the snacks if they have too many, they also then do not want to eat their cooked lunch. We continue to encourage children to eat healthy snacks as much as possible.

## **Swimming**

The dates for Beech class to go swimming have altered slightly. Swimming will now start on Monday 15th January for four weeks. Please ensure children bring their swimming kit, remembering they must have a swimming cap.

## **After School Clubs**

*Drama club* for Year 5 and 6 starts on Wednesday 10th January.

*Tiger Karate* starts tonight Friday 5th January - for more details contact Gurmare (chief instructor) on 07748992776

or e-mail: [tigerstylesportskarate@yahoo.com](mailto:tigerstylesportskarate@yahoo.com) or visit [www.tigerstylesportskarate.co.uk](http://www.tigerstylesportskarate.co.uk).

## **Sporty Stars**

All clubs start the week commencing 15th January and finish at 4.45pm

Monday: ball skills (year 1 to 3)

Tuesday: gymnastics (invitation only)

Thursday: netball/bench ball (year 3 to 6)

Friday: football (year 2 upwards)

To sign up for any of these clubs go to: <http://www.sportystars.co.uk/after-school-clubs/>

Scroll down the page and select the club you wish to sign up for.

## **Music Clubs**

Choir, recorders and guitars will all start the week commencing Monday 15th January. Children (year 2 upwards) are welcome to join choir (Tuesday after school) at any time. For more information contact: [empalmusic@gmail.com](mailto:empalmusic@gmail.com)

## **Minecraft Club**

This club is for children in year 4 this half-term and will start on Wednesday 17th January.

## **Individual Music Lessons**

For those continuing their instrument lessons with Mrs Carter, lessons will be in school time and are likely to commence in the week of 15th January. She will keep you informed by email of any changes so children know when to bring in their instruments.

*For all clubs, except choir and minecraft, children are collected from the main doors of the village hall to ensure their safety on dark evenings.*

## **Fantastic Friday**

The next block of activities will start on Friday 12th January and are as follows:

Year 1 - Relax kids, life skills and craft activities

Year 2 - Art skills

Year 3 - Relax Kids and Life skills

Year 4 - Forest Schools (so children need waterproofs, wellies and warm clothing)

Year 5 and 6 - Drama (for a production at the end of March, dates tbc)

## **Waterproofs**

Please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day, (or even better leave one in school). We try to get the children out in the fresh air as much as possible so coats are essential and they need to be warm and waterproof. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

## **New Year's Resolutions**

The start of a new year often means making resolutions and taking the next step in life's journey.

It is at this point of the year we start to encourage our younger children to become more independent. How can you help?

Say your goodbyes in the playground and let your child go into class and settle on their own. At this point, you then need to walk away and leave the playground, (try to resist the urge to look in the window and check on them - we appreciate this is a challenge for you too), but this really does help all the children to settle in quickly.

Children in year 3 and 4 should be starting to remember to do their homework without being asked or reminded. We are going to have two short lunchtime sessions where children who have not done their homework will have to complete it (in order to keep up with their classmates) or some children may choose to do some of their homework then. Things like spellings are learned more effectively if done little and often.

For older children, get them to take responsibility for remembering what they need each day and also carrying it to school. Occasionally, they may forget things but as long as it isn't something essential (like a swimming kit) then they will learn to manage and are more likely to remember their things next time. It's all part of growing up and getting ready for secondary school.

Finally, for parents, just to remind you to order your school meals if you haven't.

Things to see and do:



# Exeter Children's Orchestra

# Open Day

## 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018

10.00 am to 12.00 pm (Juniors from 11.00 am to 12.00pm)  
St Leonard's Primary School, St Leonard's Road, Exeter EX2 4NQ

**No Scary Auditions!**

Contact: [exeterchildrensorchestra@gmail.com](mailto:exeterchildrensorchestra@gmail.com)



# Dates for your diary

## January

Friday 5th	Tiger Karate starts
Wednesday 10th	Drama club starts
Monday 15th	Beech swimming
Monday 15th	All after school clubs commence
Friday 26th	M & M Productions - Beauty and the Beast
Tuesday 30th	NSPCC 'Buddy' revisits
Wednesday 31st	Visiting author
Wednesday 31st	Book People - Book Fair (for a week, more details to follow)

## February

Tuesday 6th	NSPCC workouts
Monday 12th	Half-term

**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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