

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School.

Number 191

10.02.17

It's hard to believe another half-term has flown by. It has been a busy one and I would like to thank you all for your continued support. At least now the mornings are starting to get lighter and as I write the sun is shining (let's hope we see some next week too).

Safer Internet Assembly

Well done to the children of Willow class for providing a great informative assembly about internet safety. Thank you to all the parents for attending; it was great to see you all. Throughout the week children have all been involved in some activities to enable them to be more aware of the pros and cons of technology today.

There is a lot of information available to view on our school website - safeguarding and online safety tab: online safety tips and a guide to games and apps. Here is where you will locate the Common Sense Media site (link below), where you are able to review movies, games, apps, websites, TV shows, books and music. Each review provides an age and star rating but more importantly a section called 'What every parent needs to know', providing very clear information.

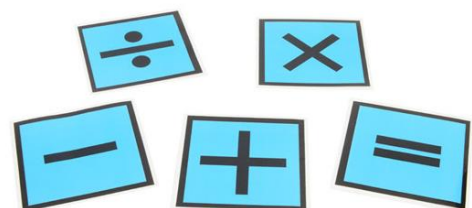
<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/homepage>

For those parents who were unable to attend a copy of 'Digital Parenting' along with two information sheets should have come home with your child. If you haven't received your copy please call into the office to pick one up.

Maths Information Evening

Thank you to those who attended our recent information evening - hopefully you left knowing a little more about the four calculations and the methods used to solve them.

Our four calculation policies, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, are available to view on our school website - classes and curriculum tab and scroll down to the bottom of the page. Each one details how we teach and record each particular calculation from Reception to Year 6. There are lots of photographs and pictures to illustrate the resources we use to teach in a practical way before written recording.



Great news!

We have finally commissioned the build of a shelter over at the orchard. Hopefully, work will commence in early March.



Mrs Wall has been busy building a fire pit with the children in Year 5 and 6 and the children have enjoyed some more adventurous activities.



Fantastic Fridays next half-term

Find below details for each year group for the first four Fridays after half-term:

Year 5 and 6 - Drama (getting ready for their production of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean').

Year 4 - Crafting activities.

Year 3 - Outdoor education. Children need to bring in wellies, trousers, a long-sleeved top and a waterproof (preferably coat and trousers) 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 2 and Year 1 - a combination of Relax Kids and playing board games. Year 1 will participate in Relax Kids on 24th February and 10th March; Year 2 on 3rd March and 17th March.

Parent Governor

Many thanks to all parents that took the time to vote in the parent governor election; it is great to see the interest and support our parents have in what happens here in school. Mrs Linden Best was voted as your new representative who joins the two other parent governors - Mr James Terrett and Mrs Kate Mackay.

Last term Mrs Helena Hastie joined the governors as a co-opted governor with specialist skills in business and finance.

We welcome both of them onto the team.

Again for more details about governors and how they support the school - see the school website.

Tag Rugby Competition

Ten children took part in a tag rugby competition today. It was held at Sidmouth Rugby Club's training pitches; the competition was the conclusion of 5 weeks of training with an Exeter Chiefs community coach. Whimble played Otterton, Sidmouth A, St Peter's and St Andrews. All games were either won or drawn - their skills improved with each match. I must also comment on their team spirit and comradery which was first class and a credit to each other and the school.

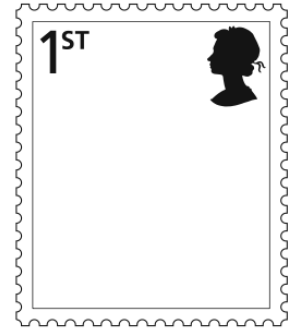


It was a great event that was well organised and a privilege to be part of (despite standing on the sidelines frozen to the spot!)



Royal Mail Christmas Stamp Design Competition 2017

I have applied to Royal Mail and obtained some entry forms for this year's competition. If your child has a creative streak, encourage them to design a great image over half-term. The theme is 'What does Christmas mean to you' and children are asked to design an image that best describes what the festive season means to them. There are two age categories - 4 to 7 years and 8 to 11 years. Entries will need to be sent off in early March. Children can obtain design sheets from their class teacher or from the school office.



This competition does not happen every year, in fact the last time was 2013, so don't miss your chance to have a go.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting the vouchers again this year so please ask for them when you shop and pop them into our collecting box in reception area just inside the main door. In past years we have used our vouchers to purchase items for the children to use in the playground at lunchtimes, cookery items and some P.E. equipment. Vouchers are available to collect until 2nd May - so start collecting!

The Witches of Whimple: Whimple Pantomime

Saturday 18th February
matinee at 2 pm

Come dressed as a witch
or wizard, prizes for best
costume



FOWS

Don't forget: cake sale today in both KS1 and KS2 playgrounds (under the shelters)

Date for the diary: Easter Egg Hunt- 18th March 2017

Dates for your diary

Monday 13th – Friday 17th February – Half-term holiday

Wednesday 22nd February

Thursday 2nd March

Thursday 2nd March

Wednesday 22nd March

Friday 24th March

Tuesday 28th March

Wednesday 29th March

Wednesday 29th March

Friday 31st March

Parents evening for Reception (from 2 pm)

World Book Day – don't forget to dress up!

Start of Readathon

KS1 Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation evening for parents

Reports home to parents KS1 and KS2

Willow drama production

Willow drama production

Parents evening KS1 and KS2 where requested

End of spring term – 1.30 pm finish

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, 2nd & 3rd January, 2nd July

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Carole Shilston

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