

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School.

Number 197

28.04.17

Parking around the school

Please can I remind parents who have to drive to school to drop off and collect their child, to **park considerately** and respect the villagers who live in the surrounding area.

Whilst we appreciate it is difficult when nearly 100 families are trying to leave with their children at the same time, we do need to ensure the safety of all of them, including very young children.



We encourage those who have to drive, to park at the Thirsty Farmer, the station or in the Village Square, and walk to school. Please **DO NOT** park in the Victory Hall car park or block household entrances. We want to have a positive relationship with all those who live in our community.

Readathon ends

Total donations received to date: £336.25.

Sponsors can pay by cheque or cash, or pay online at

www.readathon.org/sponsor

We will send off our monies by the end of next week so if you have any outstanding sponsorship please can you hand it in at the office.



Reports Reminder

If you haven't already done so, please could you complete the parent/child comments section on the final page of your child's report. The teachers put a lot of time and effort into completing and personalising reports and they really do appreciate your comments and feedback.

Fantastic Fridays

There will be no Friday afternoon curriculum on Friday 5th May but this will continue on Friday 12th May.

Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation evening

Thank you to all those who attended our information evening. Hopefully the content provided was useful and informative. An evaluation form will come home with your child next week. Please can you complete and return this form to the school office next week to help us plan future evenings.

In school we use (and recommend), the Oxford Primary Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Dictionary. We are willing to make a bulk purchase to save on postage. If you would like to order a copy the cost is £4; please hand in your money (with your name) to Mrs Smith in the office by Friday 5th May.

Visitor talking about rainforests - Beech Class

Last Friday Claire, a scientist, who has worked in cloud and rainforests in Colombia, came in to talk to Beech Class about her experiences. It was a really interesting talk and the child learned about several things: sometimes planes can't land and take-off because of fog and mist; coffee farming is very popular in Columbia but you can't let the beans grow too old otherwise they will become bitter; we are the most dangerous animals to the rainforest and the animals. The children are now writing thank you letters to Claire and some of them are keen to visit Columbia one day.



Parent Safety Information - Backless Booster Seats

Changes to the law relating to child car seats are on the way. The rules are changing regarding backless booster seats which, when approved, will limit the use of backless booster seats to older children.

Under current UK law, all children travelling in a car must use the correct car seat until 12 years old or 135cm tall. The new booster seat rules:

Backless booster seats will only be approved for use for children taller than 125cm and weighing more than 22kg

At the moment, children weighing as little as 15kg, that's around three years old, can travel in backless booster seats. But many child car seat experts agree that this type of booster seat is unsuitable for such young children. A small child isn't held as securely in the seat, the adult seat belt isn't guided across their little body in the best way, and most importantly, a booster seat offers no protection for a child in a side impact crash.

Backless booster seats, also known as a booster cushion, currently satisfy the car seats law for children up to 135cm tall, they are temptingly cheap to buy but lack crash protection. High-backed child car seats might be more expensive, but are safer, so it's worth paying a bit more for extra protection, 'Which?' child car seat expert says:

'A decent high backed booster seat provides better protection in a front crash, as they're designed to guide the adult seat belt across the child's body properly, and our crash tests prove they offer much more protection in a side impact crash than a backless booster seat alone.'

The new additions to the child car seats regulations should come into effect in February 2017 but will only apply to any new products appearing on the market. So establishments or services looking to buy a booster seat should start to see that they're not approved for use with children under 125cm and 22kg. Schools or teams that already have a booster seat will still be able to use the seat without breaking any rules. But these seats offer such little protection in a side impact crash that is it really worth the risk?



FOWWS



Dates for your diary

Monday 8 th – Thursday 11 th May	KS2 SATs
Wednesday 24 th May	Class photographs
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
Friday 16 th June	Sports Day
Friday 23 rd June	Sports Day reserve
Saturday 24 th June	Summer Fair 1 pm – 4 pm
Monday 26 th June	Life Skills – Year 6
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

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