

Milborne Message 02.10.20

Message from Sharon Hunt!

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all those who helped unload the van on Thursday. It was great to get the 'new' things into the hall ready to be cleaned and sorted, so we can start to use them as soon as possible.

Raccoons enjoyed an amazing trip to **Moors Valley Country Park** where amongst other things they tried out the Go Ape activities. This was part of their Camp Raccoons work, which had a focus on overcoming difficulty and supporting each other. It was great to hear all the positive messages and feedback from staff, parents and the children themselves. It was also wonderful to hear about individual success stories where the children have genuinely overcome anxieties and concerns and completed activities which they found very difficult, with the help and encouragement of their friends and classmates.

We really appreciate the fact that most of you followed our requests to wait patiently in the rain to collect your child from school and didn't take them straight from the coach. This is common practise when we return from a trip because:

- We need to know your child goes home with the correct person. This is very difficult to monitor if parents are all taking their child at the same time. It is horrible to be faced with the question when the children have gone about who collected A and you don't know for certain.
- In the situation when your child gets off a coach they automatically run to you, often heedless of other people, dangers, cars, traffic roads. This is made worse in wet conditions.
- Mrs Cheeseman is new to the school and is still getting to know all the parents and others who collect which is always hard to do considering neighbours, aunts, grandparents and others sometimes collect too.

As well as safety concerns by not following such systems, you are sending confusing messages to your child about the right thing to do, you are not being a good role model, and you are teaching that rules are only there for some- which is hugely disappointing on every level.

Planning a trip takes a massive amount of time and effort and I am delighted that the children got so much from it and you got good value for money as parents. As staff on duty on a trip like this you don't sleep the night before, you are on high alert the day of the trip and are usually absolutely exhausted at the end of it, but seeing the children benefit so much makes it all worthwhile.

A huge thank you to the adults who supported their children and the school by joining us on the trip. Hope you had fun too.

Thank you for all those making an effort to walk to school and to park away from the school site. There is extra car parking space available at the pub. They have kindly agreed to allow us to use the car park at drop up and pick up times so this should help to ease congestion. **Please can you make sure that any other adults picking up or dropping off your child are aware that the school car park is out of use currently unless you have a disability badge.** Please park considerately, keeping off the pavements and keep road access wide enough for any emergency vehicles to pass and not block any driveway access for local residents, The police will be continuing to be present at drop off and pick up times. I have

received photographs from parents where other parents have not left enough room for cars or emergency vehicles to get through, which is disappointing. I have also had comments from some residents.

We are delighted to say that we have been able to secure Mr Baucher for Monday and Tuesday until half term in Raccoons class, to cover Mrs Pratt.

A massive thank you to **Dave Lewis** who came in to take some photos for our promotional video in lieu of Open morning this year. They are great. If you consented last year to photos on the website or possibly social media for promotional purposes I will assume for the purpose of this video that you still give consent unless I hear from you. Equally, if you have not given consent I won't use the photos of your child unless you contact me to say otherwise- which I know you have done previously. Some of the year 4s have recorded themselves saying what they like about the school which I also hope to add. They are a reflective, insightful group!

Hope you all enjoy your weekend,

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Hunt

Sharon Hunt



External information:-

Dorset Family Information service newsletter link:-

<https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/september-newsletter?e=5ad5011868>

Dorset SEND newsletter link:- <https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/send-newsletter-3121142?e=5ad5011868>

Dorset Families magazine link:-

https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families_dorset_so20_issuu?fr=sMmM4ODE5MzEwOTA

Football Camp run by Total Sports on 31st October 2020 - see attached poster