

# Delabole Community Primary School Newsletter

October 2018

See this newsletter and more on our school website [www.delaboleschool.org](http://www.delaboleschool.org)



Dear parents and carers,

## Trust and Collaboration

### 'How Are We Stronger Together?'

#### Entering the realm of a story.

As this term rapidly draws to a close, we are seeing the outcomes from the children's learning everywhere around the schools, and more than anything, it has been an enjoyment of the story texts we are exploring which has created a buzz.

Our Delabole Class 1 children have enjoyed exploring 'Wild'. It has been so lovely to see them learning outside and exploring freedom, music and nature with such enthusiasm. I was roared at several times as I went to look at their Wild Thing crowns. Higher up the school, children have been really enjoying our Orpheus and Eurydice focus. This is a challenging but hugely thought provoking story, but the children are really 'in it' through their drama and the Class 3 journey to the Underworld at St Nectan's Glen.

Our oldest children have the immense challenge of exploring our oldest Anglo Saxon story – Beowulf. The language is rich, the tone is dark and the tension is rising...will Beowulf defeat the hideous Grendel and put an end to the loathsome creature's reign of terror?

This is just one element of our provision for Reading, which not only prepares children for the rigours of meeting National Expectations at the end of each Key Stage, but also promotes a love of reading for life. We have excelled with last year's reading outcomes – see below – and results like this can only be achieved when Reading provision is rich, engaging and uncompromising in its expectations. Of course we cannot achieve this without you. Please, above all else, read to and with your child – and if they are still grappling with the early stages of learning to read (and it is a struggle) help them to develop their skills by practising just a little each day. We promise, it will make a difference, and what greater key to success and confidence is there?

Delabole School KS2 Results 2018 Reading	Working within the end of KS2 expectations and above		Working at a greater depth within the end of KS2 expectations		Average Scaled Score	
	School	National provisional 2018	School	National provisional 2018	School	National provisional 2018
	82%	75%	46%	28%	108	105

Mrs Cox will be available at the late Parent Evenings in each school next week to talk through – and show parents – examples of the end of Key Stage Assessments so that they can see what the expectations and challenges are for the children. Together we can help them achieve more.

5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

### **Maths Mastery Development**

We have been fortunate enough to have two teachers (Miss Court and Miss Whymer) from across both schools to join the excellent West Devon Maths Hub, who are a group of practitioners leading the way in Maths Mastery. This is a huge commitment from each school with ten days of training and action research linked to developing maths excellence alongside other professionals. We are very excited to be part of this and it will be a key focus for all children next term and moving forward.

### **Playground Protocols**

In all that we do in school, we try to create a sort of oasis, so that children feel safe and able to focus on the challenges of new learning every day.

We understand that things happen at home and beyond the playground, which may impact on school life - such as altercations between parents and crises within families. Sometimes, a parent may want to bring an issue concerning another pupil or family to our attention. It is the role of SLT to always listen, keep the child in focus and deal with issues if they effect school life. For that reason, we would ask that parents come and talk to us - we are almost always available on the gate - rather than taking issues into their own hands and confronting a child or another parent on the playground. An incident of this nature creates potentially unsafe situations and we would have to address this with the strongest response. We hope that you trust us to address your concerns appropriately.

### **Staffing Update**

Unfortunately, I have now been informed by Mrs Ubyly, that due to complications linked to her pregnancy, she will not now be fit to return to work until after her maternity leave has ended. I am sure your thoughts are with her...she is struggling to let go of work and misses the children as we miss her. We have already started our recruitment drive and will be interviewing for the post before the end of term. It is my hope that the opportunity will present itself to recruit someone for next term. I will keep parents informed.

### **Teacher Absence in Class 1**

I have been informed by Mrs. Hibbert that she will be signed off for a further week and so we will not be able to honour the parent evening appointments for Class 1. I can only apologise for this inconvenience and disappointment. If you have any pressing concerns, please do contact the office to talk to myself or Mr Pritchard. We will reappoint parent evening meetings for as soon as she returns. In order to sustain continuity for the children, we have booked the same supply teacher for a second week. Thank you for your patience.

### **After School Clubs**

Due to Parents Evenings, all clubs, with the exception of Gardening Club, will not be running on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Road Safety**

It has once again been brought to our notice that some drivers are not behaving responsibly when passing the front of the school at drop off and pick up times. It is very busy during these times and we cannot allow ourselves to become complacent because the price of an accident is too high to pay. Please be very vigilant and considerate towards pedestrians. There should be no parking or stopping even for the briefest moments directly outside the school gates. We have asked the police to come and do some spot checks and registration numbers will be reported in recognition of the duty of care we owe to all our children.

### **Round Up Of Events**

#### **Cross Country Success**

Thank you to all the Tintagel and Delabole children who flew off to a fabulous start at this year's Cross-Country season beneath clear blue skies at Wadebridge. There were stellar performances by everybody who represented our schools. The team comprised both gnarled veterans who have returned for another year of exciting, exhilarating and invigorating running and fabulous novices in their first year of competition. Each child represented themselves and our School Tribes with the utmost distinction. Thank you to Mr. Pritchard and parents for supporting this event.

5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

### North Cornwall Book Festival

Our Year 6 children had a fantastic day with their teachers, joining author workshops and exploring the current crop of best sellers in children's literature. Thank you to all who represented the school at this event.

### Day of Frenchness

We will be celebrating European Day of Languages this year with a Day of Frenchness in school on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Please could children come to school wearing red, white and blue (the Tricolor colours). There will be a pop up French Café in each school organised by Mrs Smith and hopefully some lovely language development.



### Harvest

Don't forget to gather your Harvest donations for the Harvest Celebration at St John's Church Delabole on 18<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am. As always, your generous donations will be circulated to those who need them most.

### FODs Halloween Disco

FODs will be holding a Halloween Disco on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October. If your child wishes to attend the disco, please ensure you complete and return the consent form, which will be sent home next week.

### Fundraiser

The Bettle & Chisel are kindly holding a fundraising event on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 8 pm to raise money towards funding for our school crossing patrol. Please see the poster by the office for more information. Thank you.

Best Wishes

Handwritten signature of Sue Cox

Sue Cox and the team

### Key Dates

Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 3.30 till 6.30pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 4.00 till 7.00 pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Change of Menu – Fish & Chips
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Change of Menu – French Menu
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Day of Frenchness
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30 am	Harvest Celebrations at St John's Church
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	FODS Halloween Disco