

22nd November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

These last two days I have been hosting our School Improvement partner as part of our partnership with Edison Learning. It has been a pleasure accompanying him in lessons and speaking with children about their learning and the fantastic things they are doing at school. He was very impressed with the children’s learning.

This week I start by saying well done to the Year 6 children who represented the school in the Honiton Learning Community Quick sticks hockey event on Monday. My thanks to the staff who accompanied the children. On Tuesday afternoon, the children all thoroughly enjoyed Beauty and the Beast pantomime. My thanks to the PTFA for funding this lovely experience for the children. Yesterday Year 6 held their Victory in Europe VE day celebrations which included welcoming parents for a tea party as their express event for ‘a child’s war’. Thanks again to Mrs Small for contributing so much to this event, including her original WW2 medical vehicle. Also this week, 5CB successfully completed their bikeability course this week. They have been praised by the instructors for their behaviour and attitude. Next week it is the turn of 5ZU.

Next week on Monday some Year 5 and Year 6 children will represent the school at the Honiton Learning Community sportshall athletics at the leisure centre. 3RB/RH will again visit Adelaide lodge on Tuesday afternoon. Also on Tuesday we welcome drama students from Exeter University to work in the hall with some of our talented performers. On Wednesday Reception hold their Express Event for their ‘Why do squirrels hide their nuts?’ topic. On Thursday we will host the Year 5/6 maths parent information evening at 6pm. Please attend this if you can as parent feedback has been incredibly positive from previous meetings. Also, please see below details about additional parent information meetings focussing on Growth Mindset and Mental Health with Mrs Hawkins and Mrs Newman.

Finally, as we near the end of November the Primary school Christmas period we all love will be upon us! It starts next Friday when there will be a non-uniform day raising money as part of the PTFA Christmas fayre. Please offer your support if you can to assist Sarah and the team for organising this amazing and large scale event. One way you can help is to provide a ‘Jolly Jar’ for the fayre - the more creative the better! I spoke to children about these in assembly and you should receive a letter from the PTFA. The actual fayre itself is Saturday 30th November 10am - 1pm and I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

**Nursery**

We made Autumn windows.

We made potions in our mud kitchen.

**Reception**

We’ve been practicing cutting.

We did ‘We’re all going on a bear hunt’ in yoga/P.E.

**Year 1**

We watched Beauty and the Beast.

We learnt to jump safely.

**Year 2**

We have been learning about Mr Underbed.

We are learning parts for our Christmas play

**Year 3**

We’ve been learning words with ey.

We have started our iron man book.

**Year 4**

We have been learning perimeter in maths.

We did beach house assembly.

**Year 5**

We have started Egyptians in topic.

We started bikeability.

**Year 6**

Cooking for VE Day.

We have done letters of persuasion.

**Messages**

**Growth Mindset / Mental Health parent meetings**

We would like to invite all parents/carers to our Growth Mindset and Mental Health information meeting on Wednesday 4th December at 2pm and 6pm. We will be sharing how we are supporting your children’s well being, perseverance and resilience towards their own learning, including resources and key language used with in school. I am sure you will agree that developing children’s mental health and growth mindset will only be truly impactful if school and home share the same approach and ethos.

**School events/Dates**

**Week beginning 25th November :**

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| Nursery outdoor classroom  Sportshall athletics | 4SD outdoor classroom  3RB/RH Adelaide Lodge  Exeter University drama visit | Reception Express Event 9am hall | 4GW/GA outdoor classroom  Y5/6 Maths information evening 6pm | Non uniform for PTFA Christmas fayre  Christmas Fayre Saturday 10am - 1pm |

**Community news**

**Honiton rugby club**

The Honiton Rugby Club under 7s and under 8s are looking for new players.

If your child is in year 2 or 3 and interested in tag rugby, please contact Meg Vallender on 07787606018. Join them for a free taster session. The teams train on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 6-7pm. Under 7s/8s age group play matches most Sunday mornings, throughout the winter season.

Children in the under 6 age category (year 1) will be invited to join training sessions in the new year. Parents can get in touch now, to register interest.