

Friday 10th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful half term, enjoyed jubilee celebrations if you participated in them and I wish you a very warm welcome back to the last half term of the school year.

It has been a busy week as we now focus, simultaneously, on finishing this year and prepare for the next. Our Year 6 children begin to have transition visits from various Secondary schools this term and Honiton Community College visited the children on Monday. Year 6 have also begun rehearsals on stage for their end of year performance. Elsewhere, on Tuesday, Mr Garland visited Reception to talk about diving. He showed the children his diving equipment and taught some underwater signs for the different creatures we might see. See if your child can remember any signs to teach you. Year 2 have had outdoor classroom this week with 2DB/AB yesterday and 2AL today. Also today, it has been fantastic to visit our Year 1 children dressed brilliantly and enjoying their Victorian school.

In sport, yesterday, our Year 5 and 6 Quad kids participated in the East Devon finals at Kings school. As sporting successes this year continue, I would like to congratulate our Key Stage 2 gymnasts who submitted videos of floor routines to Devon virtual gymnastics competition and subsequently succeeded in achieving two 3rds, two 2nds and a 1st place in various categories. I also want to congratulate our Dancers who achieved first place in their virtual competition back in the Spring. This week we have also begun our Summer Term Inter House sport competitions facilitated by Mr Bilcock with Year 6 playing Dartmoor 3D ball this Wednesday afternoon. As well as the actual scores and results, these competitions focus on the children scoring points for displaying the following sporting values; Respect, Determination, Honesty, Teamwork, Passion and Self belief. Points totals will be added to sports day scores to generate our grand house totals later in the term.

Please find information below on sports day timings, the playground before and after school and plans for meeting next year’s teachers.

Finally, the children are very excited today as we look forward to hosting our first school discos for the children for over two years this evening. My thanks to the PTFA for organising these today and to the school staff who are attending to support. Please see all relevant information below and in the PTFA news below.

Yours faithfully,

David Perkins 

Principal

**News from the children**

**Nursery**

This week, in Nursery, we have been talking about our favourite thing to do at the beach.

**Reception**

This week, in Reception, we had Mr Garland come in to teach us all about sea creatures.

**Year 1**

This week, in Year 1, we have been doing Victorian day and counting in 10s.

**Year 2**

This week, in Year 2, we have been doing directions in literacy and using homophones.

**Year 3**

This week, in Year 3, we have been finishing our moving toys in DT and completing our Maths assessments on time. We have been writing our stories called ‘Journey’ and have also been doing yoga in PE.

**Year4**

This week, in Year 4, we have been learning about food chains of ocean inhabitants. Also, we are doing dodgeball in PE.

**Year 5**

This week, in Year 5, in Maths we have started to learn about 3D shapes. We have started our new topic called Scream machine and we have written a persuasive text about Landfill.

**Year 6**

This week, in Year 6, we have been learning about electricity. In literacy, we have finished our book.

We have been completing team building tasks and rehearsing our performance.

**Disco reminder**

Parents of KS2 will need to sign their children into the Disco and leave a contact number for emergency contact. Please do not just drop your child off. Please refrain from bringing siblings to the KS1 Disco unless absolutely necessary, with an awareness they will need to stay with the adult at all times.

**This term’s PSHE focus**

You will all have received a letter before half term from Mrs Hawkins detailing the Relationship and Sex Education being taught this half term. The new Personal, Social and Health Education topic ‘Changing Me’ was introduced in assemblies today with several children sharing some of the changes they have seen in themselves since starting in Reception.

**Playground before and after school**

As we move further into the Summer and warmer weather, please can I ensure we are all reminded that children are parent’s responsibility until 8:50am in the morning and after school. It is very important that children stand with parents until it is time to line up and after school if waiting for siblings rather than play and run around the playground. This is to ensure the safety of the children, safety of others such as babies in buggies and smaller children and also reduce the chance of any behaviour incidents or accidents. At the end of the day, please remember to leave the playground promptly. Do get in touch if you have any questions about this. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation.

We have also recently noticed a number of parents of school aged children coming into the playground at the end of the day whilst PE lessons are still taking place on the playground. Unless you are collecting a nursery child at 3pm, please do not come onto the playground until all children have gone back into school and the playground is clear as a learning space.

**Term time holidays**

As you may be aware, I have authorised all term time holidays this academic year that have been booked due to families being unable to go on holiday during the pandemic or that have been rearranged or postponed as a result of the pandemic. This has been my decision as Headteacher to support families having this quality time together after such a challenging time. However, as this year draws to a close and as we continue to focus on supporting children’s progress to compensate for lost learning time we will be returning again in September to all term time holidays being unauthorised. I know we are all experiencing increased cost of living currently and that holidays in term time are cheaper, but I am not able to authorise these for financial reasons. If you have any questions about this please don’t hesitate to contact me.

**Next year classes and teachers**

After not being able to do so for two years, we will be returning to our previously successful arrangements for preparing children, teachers and parents for their classes next year. These include a ‘class swap’ day which will see children spend time in their new classrooms with their new teachers on Wednesday 6th July. On Thursday 14th July, we will dedicate staff meeting directed time to allow parents to visit the school and classrooms to meet next year’s teachers. There will be three 30 minute ‘slots’ to allow those with multiple children to visit each of their children’s classrooms. More information on both of these events in due course. I hope to be able to finalise arrangements for staffing for next year very soon and you should be informed of teachers and classes by the end of June.

**Breakfast/After school club taster session**

We are offering a free 'Taster session' for either Breakfast/After school club between 20th June-1st July (availability dependent) if your child/children have not come to either club this academic year.

If you are interested in this opportunity please follow the link below.

<https://forms.gle/tc4QHmbAFY7WwCuh9>

**Sports days**

We can now confirm start times and approximate durations of sports days below:

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| **Tuesday 12th July morning 9:15am - 10:45am** | Nursery and Reception |
| **Tuesday 12th July afternoon 1:30pm - 3pm** | Year 1 and Year 2 |
| **Wednesday 13th July morning 9:15am - 10:45** | Year 3 and Year 4 |
| **Wednesday 13th July afternoon 1:30pm - 3pm** | Year 5 and Year 6 |

**Week Beginning 13th June 2022 events**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday 13th June** | **Tuesday 14th June** | **Wednesday 15th June** | **Thursday 16th June** | **Friday 17th June** |
| Nursery outdoor classroom |  | Y5 Inter House competition |  | Reception outdoor classroom |
|  |  | Colyton Grammar Y4 literacy visit |  |  |

**PTFA news**

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We look forward to seeing many of you at the disco later on – our first disco in over 2 years. Come along and have fun! Thank you in advance to all those who are helping us.

**School Disco: Friday 10th June 2022**

Key Stage 1 (nursery to year 2) 6-7pm

All children for the above disco must be accompanied by an adult for the duration.

Key Stage 2 (year 3 to year 6) 7.15pm – 8.15pm

Children must be signed in by an adult. Please bring your child in and leave a contact number in case of emergency. They will also need to be collected from the school hall

and will not be allowed to leave unaccompanied.

£2.50 entrance fee to include crisps and drinks.

If your child has any allergies or medical conditions which we might need to be aware of whilst your child is at the disco please let us know.

There will always be members of staff present but the PTFA are ultimately responsible for the running of the disco. We want everyone to enjoy their evening and work hard to make this happen. Any children who persistently misbehave may be prevented from attending future disco

There will be a toy shop available at both of the discos selling

pocket money toys between 30p and £1.50.

Temporary tattoos are 30p each.

There will also be a tuck shop at the Key Stage 2 disco – 50p per item