

# NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2023



## Whimple Primary School

Issue 10

17.11.23

Yesterday was a busy day with some children involved in fire safety awareness talks and three classes having the opportunity to press some of our collected apples into apple juice. The children all got to have a taste and they are always surprised that the taste does not match the colour!

### Children in Need

It was great to see the children involved in Children in Need today - participating in the mini-sporting challenge helped raise awareness whilst helping the children to appreciate that life can be challenging in lots of different ways, and that we should appreciate what we have and can do.

If you haven't already given a donation and would like to, please use the App link below

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=11779>

### Illness

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

A useful leaflet with regards what to look out for with coughs and cold is also attached.

### NSPCC

I am pleased to inform you that we are participating in the NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* Programme later this month. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline. The workshops/survey are only for children in Year 5 and 6. For more information see attached letter. #

**REMEMBER SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS TUESDAY 21ST NOVEMBER.**



## Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

The federation's board of governors work incredibly hard to support and challenge senior leaders in their strategic role. All the governors are volunteers who spend several hours or more each week on their governance responsibilities. Our Chair, Mrs Enright meets with me every Monday morning so that I can keep her informed about the developments in each of the federation schools and we are joined by Mrs Margesson and Mr Edlin-Benwell [vice chairs] regularly for a fuller briefing meeting. Each school has a 'home team' of two or three governors who work alongside the Head to get to know one particular school in more depth. The members of the school teams read the Head's report ahead of each governing board meeting and then spend part of the meeting talking about the school with the Head. We have recently welcomed some new board members; Digory Smith and Sarah Butler have joined the board from Whimble and Lisa Price, Liam O'Brien and Hannah Jones-McVey have joined as co-opted governors. The home school teams and pen portraits of the governors are attached to this newsletter, please do open them and find out more about their backgrounds and interests. Governors for each school can be contacted via your child's school office.



## Admissions policy for 2025-26: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2025-26. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposals which are based on policies for this year and next year and have your say.

Our proposed policy is on our [admission page](#) and you can see all policies at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy>. Further information is here: [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements). Links to these are also under the admissions section of the [Whimble Primary School website](#).

The consultation runs until 12 January 2024. Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March next year. You can comment at [schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk) or by emailing the school.

## Whimble PTA

The count down is on! Just 22 days to the Christmas Fayre! Please see the attached letter for more information and how you can help make this a wonderful afternoon for the children.



## Christmas Fayre raffle

As in previous years we're organising a 'raffle' to support the Christmas Fayre on Friday the 8th December. There will be some wonderful prizes donated by local businesses.

There are three ways to buy tickets (£1 a ticket/£5 per strip)

- Face to face at drop off and pick up from Catherine Evans Martin in the key stage one playground
- Bacs payment to Whimble Primary School PTFA Lloyds bank Sort Code 30-94-36 Account number 01582240

Please put the ref as 'raffle followed by your surname'. Following your transfer please use messenger to contact Catherine Evans Martin with your name, how many tickets you paid for and your telephone number. Catherine will confirm your ticket numbers and good luck!

# Dates for your diary

## November

Tuesday 21st	Individual photographs
Tuesday 28th	PTA AGM 7pm

## December

Tuesday 5th	KS2 Carol Service, 6pm
Thursday 7th	NSPCC Workshops - Year 5 and 6
Monday 11th	Rock Steady Concert (morning - invited parents only)
Monday 11th	Federation Carol Service (Credon)
Wednesday 13th	Christmas Dinner
Wednesday 13th	KS1 Nativity 4.15pm
Friday 15th December	Last day of term, 1.30pm finish

## Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

### AUTUMN TERM 2023

**6<sup>th</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

*Half term - 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023*

### SPRING TERM 2024

**4<sup>th</sup> January to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

*Half term - 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024*

### SUMMER TERM 2024

**15<sup>th</sup> April to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

*May Day holiday - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024*

*Half term - 27<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024*

*Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024*

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