

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024



Whimple Primary School

Issue 11

22.03.24

Attending the Dance Showdown at the start of the week reminded me that all the hard work is worth it! Although sometimes making arrangements to do things can be tricky, and involve a lot of work behind the scenes, the final product or event makes it all worthwhile. Seeing over a hundred children from across the Federation schools all perform to an audience was amazing. Eleven of our Year 5 children took part, presenting a 'Swing' dance to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons - 'Beggin'' and their performance was so good I asked them to perform it in assembly this week too.

I was also able to see the local Young Community Theatre 4All present The Little Prince in Talaton last night. A number of our pupils (and some ex-pupils) were involved and they all did a fabulous job which was a privilege to see.

Sometimes we have to remind children, and adults, that a lot of repeated hard work and effort has to be put in, in order to achieve such great outcomes, and it is not always easy. A key message for us all! The Community Theatre 4All are staging another production in May and more details will be available in next week's newsletter as they are looking for more children and adults to get involved.

Achievement Assembly-return trophies please

Please can those children who received our Most Improved Reader, Writer and Mathematician Awards in each class at the end of last term return them to school on Monday. This is so we can have our special assembly on Wednesday and award them to some other children for this term.

Reports

Parents should have received their child's annual report, some along with an invitation to make an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher.

These appointments will have been sent out earlier today - we appreciate that many of you have emailed, but from our end it is not a quick job to collate and organise, so bear with us.

Some appointments will still be available so do contact the office if you haven't already. If you do not receive a letter in with the report, but would like to meet with your child's teacher, please email the school office to arrange an appointment.

Meal Prices

Unfortunately the cost of our meals will be increasing after Easter, this means a school dinner will cost £2.85 from the start of next term. A new menu will be available next week and orders for the week after Easter will need to be completed by Thursday morning.

Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

On Monday afternoon and evening, children from all the schools in the federation took part in the Showdown performance at the Barnfield Theatre in Exeter. This was the culmination of ten weeks of practice at school as well as lots of time preparing costumes and perfecting make-up and hair. The children performed their pieces with confidence and real creative flair, sharing dances from around the world from Ireland to South America and everywhere in between. Performing on a real theatre stage to a live audience is a great experience for our children, especially the youngest children who were from Brampford Speke, and one that I hope they will treasure for many years to come. Huge thanks to the Premier Sports team for organising the show and for leading the rehearsals in school and to all the staff who accompanied the children during the afternoon and evening. Huge thanks too, to all the parents who came to support their children and were such an appreciative audience. We are looking forward to next year's performance, with a few changes to the administration of the show and seeing the creative brilliance of our children once again.



TERM DATES

The spring term ends on Thursday, 28th March 2024 and the summer term starts on Monday, 15th April. Half term is from Monday, 27th May to Friday, 31st May and the final Staff Development Day for this year is on Friday, 28th June. The summer term ends on Thursday, 25th July.

Whimble Litter Pick

All the children have been involved in cleaning up the school and areas around the village - over 4 large bags were collected - so well done to everybody involved!



The PTA newsletter is attached along with this one - please take the time to read it to see how you can get involved and what events are coming up.

Headlines:

- Easy fundraising, a really quick way to support school:

visit: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause and take it from there

- The next Bag2School collection will be on Mon 29 Apr: Again, please share this one with friends and family... the more bags which are collected and weighed means more money raised... Once you've sorted through your old clothes, shoes, handbags and accessories, put them into a black bin bag - the more the better
- Easter Egg Hunt tomorrow



Dates for your diary

March

- 25th Parent consultations Beech Class
26th Parent consultation Elm, Ash, Oak and Willow Class
28th Last day of term, 1.30pm finish.

April

- 18th - 19th Year 3 and 4 residential to Okehampton
29th Bags2School Collection

Key assessment dates for 2024

- Year 6 SATs w/c 13th May
Phonics Screening (Year 1) w/c 10th June
Times Tables Check (Year 4) w/c 3rd June

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

SPRING TERM 2024 4th January to 28th March 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024 15th April to 25th July 2024

May Day holiday - 6th May 2024 Half term - 27th May to 31st May 2024

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 3rd June and 28th June 2024

Term dates for pupils - 2024/25:

AUTUMN TERM 2024 5th September to 18th December 2024

Half term - 28th to 1st November 2024

SPRING TERM 2025 7th January to 4th April 2025

Half term - 17th to 21st February 2025

SUMMER TERM 2025 22nd April to 25th July 2025

May Day holiday - 5th May 2025

Half term - May 26th to 30th May 2025

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 3rd and 4th September, 29th November 2024, 6th January, 27th June 2025

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