

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 3-20

24.01.20

New Faces

We welcome two new adults to our team for the next two terms. Miss Lauren Stack as a teaching assistant on Mondays and Mr Steve Bampton as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant on Tuesdays.

It is also great to have two students on placement this term, Mr Barrowcliffe in Beech Class and Mrs Issacs in Ash Class.

Please also find attached to this email a 'Who is who' in school.

Attendance and Holidays

All school aged children are expected to be in school unless they are legitimately ill.

The government and Ofsted have high expectations of school attendance and expect children to be in school a minimum of 95%. All schools are reported and judged on this.

You will be surprised to realise that it only takes 10 days to take a pupil's attendance below 95%. 20 days absence and attendance is below 90%. If this happens regularly throughout the seven years of primary education, over 140 days are lost and this is equivalent to more than two terms of schooling. This has a huge impact on their educational success and fulfilment.

At Whimble, we are noticing an increase in the number of children with lower attendance along with many families requesting holidays in term time. Whilst I appreciate everyone's personal circumstances are different, we are having to be more strict when authorising or not authorising, and informing parents of the implications. If requesting a holiday absence, this has to be done three months before the dates and can only be authorised on each individual case. Also, previous school attendance has to also be considered as part of the process.

Honesty is the best policy - isn't that what we say to our children?

We do not want parents to feel like you can't ask and then just call saying the children are ill, as this will have the same impact and does not foster a relationship of shared honesty between the school and your family. This relationship between yourselves and the school is critical to the success of your time at Whimble Primary. We like to work with each other with respect, and not against each other.

After School Provision

Don't forget to complete the questionnaire regarding after school provision. Paper copies can be collected from the office area or the questionnaire can be completed on Survey Monkey via the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WFPVCZS>

Hello Parents, Carers and friends of Whimple school.

The first FoWS meeting of 2020 will be held next Tuesday 28th Jan at the Thirsty Farmer, 7pm.

Really hoping that many of you can come to discuss fundraising for the rest of the year and the future of FoWS.

See you there!

Ali Large - FoWS Chairperson



Dates for your diary

January

Tuesday 28th January FOWS meeting 7pm

February

Tuesday 4th February Multi skills at Clyst Vale - Oak Class

Monday 17th February Half term holiday

March

Week commencing 9th March Annual reports Year 1 to Year 6

Week commencing 16th March Parent consultations

Tuesday 24th March Drama production - Year 6 (time tbc)

Wednesday 25th March Drama production - Year 6 (time tbc)

Thursday 26th March Oral Hygiene Workshop - Year 3 and 4

Friday 27th March End of term - 1.30pm finish

Week commencing 11th May Key Stage 2 SATs

Week commencing 8th June Phonics screening/times tables testing

Monday 6th July - Friday 10th July Year 6 Residential to Pixie's Holt

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

Telephone/fax: 01404 822584

Email: admin@whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk

Website: www.whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk