

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2023

Whimble Primary School

Issue 5

3.02.23

I am very pleased to say that following our recent Ofsted inspection in December we continue to be a good school. I would like to thank everyone for their support. I want to thank all the staff for their continued hard work in all aspects of school life; also a special thank you to all of our school governors who give a huge amount of their time to support the school for free.

Drinks in School

We have had a number of children bringing in energy or other fizzy drinks into school to have with their lunch. This is to remind you all that drinks should either be water or weak squash and energy/fizzy drinks are not permitted.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is next Tuesday and we will be visiting aspects of online safety with the children in school throughout the week. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on children and young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: [saferinternet.org.uk/ SID-parents](https://saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents).

Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child. It is important that adults establish open relationships about what their children are doing online; learning alongside them about how things work and what is played is key to understanding the possible pitfalls and risks that can occur. Looking at parental controls for sites is invaluable as well as knowing how to report any concerns/issues.

If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or Mrs Shilston, our Designated Safeguarding Lead. Here is a link to a short useful video and don't forget we have lots of useful information on our website to support you. (Positively commented on by our Ofsted inspectors).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rl_gZTQ9F7w

https://www.whimble-primary.devon.sch.uk/website/online_safety/378283

Beading Club

Due to the popularity of Mondays beading club—it has been decided to continue offering this club until Easter.

Train Station Project

Here are the eye-catching barrels, planted with bulbs, and the Whimble Wonder tree, in its lovely pot, which are all now in position at the school end of the station platform. We would like to say a big thank you to Miss Yeoman, (with help from former pupil Fletcher Sherwood), for helping the pupils in Beech Class to combine elements from their initial ideas to create a bold and apple themed final design. Hopefully, the bulbs will burst into flower in the spring and add some cheerful colour to this part of the village.



Willow Writing

As part of our writing lessons in Willow Class, we have been learning using a non-fiction text called Animalium - a fabulous non-fiction book about all things in the natural world. We then chose an animal that we were interested in, and tried to create our own pieces of work using a similar style. We wanted to share them with you and would welcome any feedback to the school office! Thanks!

[Click here to read our book.](#)

Dates for your diary

February

Monday 6th Rock Steady Concert (for invited parents only)
Friday 10th Oak Class Forest School

Monday 13th to Friday 17th Half term

March

Friday 3rd March Whimble World Book Day - details to follow
Friday 17th March Comic Relief - details to follow
Friday 31st March Last day of term 1.30pm finish

Assessment arrangements for summer 2023

Month of May Key Stage 1 SATs (Year 2)
Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May Key Stage 2 SATs
Week commencing 5th June Multiplication tables check (Year 4)
Week commencing 12th June Phonics Screening Check (Year 1/Year 2)

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

AUTUMN TERM 2023 **6th September to 15th December 2023**
Half term - 23rd to 27th October 2023

SPRING TERM 2024 **4th January to 28th March 2024**
Half term - 12th to 16th February 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): 4th and 5th September, 3rd January, 3rd June and 28th June 2024

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