

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

Whimble Primary School

Issue 8

16.06.23

It has been another scorcher and generally the children are doing well, although we know many are showing signs of sleep deprivation. The majority are remembering to bring and wear their hats, as well as drinking plenty of water throughout the day. Well done to all those children who undertook their phonics screening this week - they have all done an amazing job! Ash and Elm Class had a great day at Axe Valley Wildlife Park yesterday - they all came back full of stories to tell. Many thanks to the class teachers for organising it.



Next week, Beech Class have their trip on Monday, followed by Year 6 going to Sandford on Tuesday, Sport's Day Thursday (more details below) and finally, Willow Class trip on Friday.

Attendance Updates

In order to support good attendance and improve parental awareness, we will be sending out regular updates regarding your child's attendance. In the next week or so you should receive an email which will detail your child's attendance from the start of this academic year (September) until May half-term. Please also read the attached letter which reiterates authorisation of absence procedures.

Sports Day

Sports day is being held on Thursday 22nd June at Whimble Cricket Club. Parents are welcome to attend to watch their child from 10am. As this is a public and open space, there will be certain arrangements that will need to be adhered to in order to ensure we are compliant with health and safety and safeguarding procedures. All children are asked to come to school in their PE kits and bring coats, etc. They also require a packed lunch. **Please read the accompanying letter** for more information regarding the format and timing of the morning.

Parents Survey 2023

As we head towards the end of the academic year (where did that go?), we like to collect your views to help us ensure that we are all working together on the same priorities. You will recognise many of the questions from last year, although there are a few different additions towards the end. Your help in completing this online questionnaire is very much appreciated. If there is any questions that that don't apply, or you have no direct experience of, please either select 'don't know' or 'not applicable'.

Link: <https://forms.gle/mZtm4nz8GXFTgSxHA>

If you have more than one child at school it would help us if you filled in a separate questionnaire for each one. Paper copies are also available from the school office. Thank you for your time, we really value your feedback. Could all the surveys be submitted before end of the day on Thursday 29th June.

School Summer Fair

Whimble School summer fair will be held at the school on **Saturday 15th July**! There will be lots of games stalls and prizes to be won, as well as a BBQ, bar, and ice cream for sale. Gates will open at 11am and the fair will end at 3pm, with the raffle draw and other announcements at 2.30pm.

The stalls will be run by pupils this year, helped by teacher and parent volunteers. The pupils will be hearing more from Mrs Shilston over the next couple of weeks about how the stalls will be run. Make sure you put the date in the diary so you don't miss out!

We need **good quality** donations of:

Teddies

Used school jumpers

Raffle prizes



We also need some **parent volunteers** to help the pupils run their stalls, as well as the bar and ice cream stall - this can be done in shifts. If you are able to help to run a stall, please email whimble.pta@gmail.com.

Staff Tombola

The tombola is always a popular stall at the fayre. We hope to run it in the usual format, with a tombola for children and one for adults. It's time to give you some advance warning to look in cupboards to discover unwanted items such as toiletries, unused gifts, sweets, chocolates, etc. In exchange for not wearing uniform on Friday 7th July, the children are asked to bring in one item for the stall.

Children who are unable to provide a suitable tombola item are still allowed to wear their own clothes. In the past this has been well supported with some great items which has raised over £100 for the school.

Parent Governor Elections

Following the joint decision by governors to re-federate to include Whimble Primary School in the Exe Valley Federation, we have to hold elections for two parent governors. Being a parent governor is interesting and enables you to see more about how the federation works at a strategic level. The nomination form for parent governors was attached to last week's newsletter.

Request for Packaging Items

For a couple of projects we are undertaking this half term we need the following items:

- Large milk cartons
- Egg boxes
- Newspaper
- Cardboard tubes and boxes
- Yogurt pots

A recycling box will be left in the reception area to place your items in. Any that are not used will be then placed out for recycling.

Dates for your diary

June

Monday 19th June	Beech Class Trip
Tuesday 20th June	Year 6 Celebration Day Sandford Primary
Thursday 22nd June	Sports Day 10-12.30pm
Friday 23rd June	Willow Class Trip
Friday 23rd June	Elm Forest School
Thursday 29th June	Skills Builder Challenge Day
Friday 30th June	Non Pupil Day (staff training)

July

Monday 3rd July	Oak Class Trip
Monday 3rd July	Civic Award Presentation Year 6
Friday 7th July	Non-uniform day for tombolo donations
Friday 7th July	Colyton Maths Competition
Friday 7th July	Elm Forest School
Friday 14th July	Year 5 Sleepover
Saturday 15th July	Summer Fayre 11am to 3pm
Monday 17th July	Rock Steady Concert
Thursday 20th July	Summer Sounds Music Event - Year 4 and 5
Friday 21st July	Leavers Assembly Year 6 (afternoon, time tbc)

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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