

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

Whimble Primary School

Issue 6

26.05.23

Well here we are at the end of another half-term! It is no wonder children struggle with the concept of time - in some ways we are all tired and glad of a break, however, May seems to have flown by.

The half-term curriculum newsletter is also included today so you can see all the wonderful things children have been up to. Hopefully this warm and dry weather will continue for at least another week so we can all enjoy it. Have a good half-term break.



Team Points

The winners of this half-term team points are Squirrels. They will be able to wear their own clothes to school on Friday 9th June.

Dear parents and carers,

Now the formal information about Whimble joining the Exe Valley Federation has been shared with you, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am very excited about Whimble joining us in September and sharing our experiences and learning from the children, staff team, parents and governors at Whimble. We have already benefitted from Mrs Shilston joining us for leadership team days and Mr Brown and Miss Clarke, and others, have been involved in teaching and curriculum team days. I am looking forward to continuing to build on this work next year and sharing more with the staff at Whimble. We are also making plans to include children at Whimble in residential visits and building in some more outdoor learning opportunities for Whimble children to join us. The Year 6s are coming to our Year Six Celebration Day in June, which will be held at Sandford School.



So, a little bit about me. I have been a teacher for 28 years, having previously trained as a surveyor. I have worked in a wide range of schools in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset and have led both church and community schools since becoming a Head in 2002. In 2016 I moved to Devon with my family and now enjoy the challenges and privileges of working with the Exe Valley Federation schools. For me, working as part of a dedicated and professional leadership team is one of the best parts of the job, along with teaching children across the schools on a regular basis. I am married to a music teacher and have three children and one grand-daughter so have seen education from both sides of the school desk for quite a long time!

In the first few weeks of the autumn term, I will be based at Whimble for a week so that I can get to know the school better. Do introduce yourself to me then so that we can get to know each other as soon as possible.

With best wishes,
John Jolliffe
Executive Headteacher



#Keeping Safe in the Sun

We are continuing to remind children of the importance of wearing sun hats and sun cream. Please help to remind them to bring their hats to school.

PE Kits have been sent home for washing and need bringing back after half-term.



100-Club

Over the past year or so, the number of 100-Club active subscriptions has dwindled, with numbers dropping from 75 in May 22, down to just 25 in May 23. We hope to reinvigorate interest in the 100 Club from September this year with the new intake of pupils.

Participating in the 100-Club, as well as using the Easyfundraising app are two "slow but steady" non-event-fundraising methods which can accrue small amounts of money over the course of any given year. The PTA subsequently allocates that money to directly benefit the children, e.g. assisting with transport costs for school trips, etc.

We will issue the 100-Club prize draw results via email to subscribers on a monthly basis moving forward, so if you would like to join in as we revive this small monthly lottery, please do drop us an email at whimple.pta@gmail.com.

Easy Fundraising

Sign up [here](#) to start donating today!

[How Easy Fundraising works](#)

Bag2School

Thanks to everyone's clothing donations in March, the PTA has received £205 from Bag2School. It's almost time to start having another clear out as there will be another chance to drop off your unwanted good quality clothing on **Thursday 29th June**.

Dates for your diary

Half term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

June

Friday 9th June	Ash Forest School
Thursday 15th June	Ash and Elm Class Trip
Friday 16th June	Ash Forest School
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
Friday 30th June	Non Pupil Day (staff training)

July

Monday 3rd July	Oak Class Trip
Friday 7th July	Elm Forest School
Friday 14th July	Year 5 Sleepover

Assessment arrangements for summer 2023

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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