

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 1-19

6.09.19

Welcome Back

Firstly, I hope you have all had some restful and relaxing time with your children and made the most of some of the lovely weather. With the summer holidays behind us, September is now upon us and we are at the start of yet another school year.

Please read the newsletter carefully as there are lots of reminders of routines included to help ensure we can all keep all of our children happy and safe.

We welcome 18 new reception children into Elm Class, Darcy into Year 5 and teacher, Miss Juliet Corwood into Elm Class on Thursdays and Fridays.

'CONTACT'

'CONTACT' is the schools main newsletter and is sent out weekly, usually on a Friday with all the key information and dates for parents/carers. If you have other family members involved in child collection and you would like them to also receive it, please provide contact details to the office. Where possible we try to put all information in this to try to reduce the number of emails filling up your inbox.

Alongside this there will be a monthly Newsletter which will provide information about what the children have been doing throughout the month across the curriculum, including photographs and links to the relevant class pages on the schools learning platform. (more details to follow)

Both will be sent out by email to keep you up to date with all that is happening at school but hard copies are available from the School Office on request.

This first CONTACT newsletter is full of important information to help provide a calm beginning to the start of term.

Packed Lunches and Snacks

Just a quick reminder that no nuts or products containing nuts are permitted as we have a number of children with allergies. Also if you are providing grapes or olives to remind younger children not to eat them whole as there have been a number of incidents of young children choking in schools.

All school dinners, including universal free school meals for reception, year 1 and year 2, should now be ordered online with School Gateway. All parents have had an email regarding set up. If you are unsure or need any assistance please call into the office.

We encourage one healthy snack for playtime and tuck shop sells a selection of items for children to purchase either before school or at playtime. (Parents need to buy snacks for younger children before school please.)

Safeguarding All Children

As many of you are aware, any adult working with children has a responsibility to keeping children safe. As our pupil numbers continue to rise, we adapt our policies and procedures to ensure we continue to keep your/our children safe.

The systems we put in place last September worked really well with everyone's cooperation so they will continue.

In the morning:

Children are supervised by a teacher on duty in the lower (Key Stage 1 playground) and the bottom Key Stage 2 playground from 8.50 a.m. We encourage parents to leave once their child is settled to reduce congestion both in the playgrounds and on the roads.

Reception children can be taken into class to help settle them and then parents can either leave their child with the class teacher or wait with their child in the playground until the bell is rung.

Year 1 to Year 6 children should take their belongings into their cloakroom and then come out to the playgrounds as follows:

Year 1 and Year 2 children - lower Key Stage 1 playground

Year 3 to Year 6 children - bottom Key Stage 2 playground.

If parents choose to stay until the bell rings then your child/ren must stay with you in the top Key Stage 2 playground (where the shelter is) and be under your responsibility. They then line up with their class when the bell is rung.

If children want to play they must go to the relevant playground and their parents leave the site.

This is really important as duty staff need to know which children they are responsible for. Children **cannot** play independently in the appropriate playground and then return to say goodbye to their parent. We need to know where they are and who is responsible for them.

Your co-operation in this matter is really appreciated. Children have been reminded of this.

Wet Mornings

If it is raining in the morning the children will be asked to stay in their classrooms rather than come back out to the playground. Please can you say your goodbyes before they go in and then we encourage you to leave so our sheltered areas don't become congested. The shelter in the lower playground is part of the outside classroom for the reception children and will often be set up with activities for the day so please refrain from standing under it. Mrs Terrett/Miss Corwood spends a lot of time making it look lovely. Thank you.

School Uniform

Just a reminder that school uniform includes wearing black shoes or trainers (or sandals). Children can wear any trainers for P.E. but must change into them. Ideally, we would prefer for children to keep a separate smaller bag in school with their P.E kit in so it is available to them all the time.

School T-shirts, cardigans and sweatshirts are available, together with back-packs, from the School Office.

All items of clothing should be clearly named for easy identification if mislaid.

Jewellery, make-up, temporary tattoos and nail varnish are not permitted with the exception of a watch and small stud ear-rings which must be removed or covered for P.E.. Long hair must also be tied up.



Home time

Parents of children in Ash and Elm, classes, (Miss Norton and Mrs Terrett) should wait for their children outside of their classroom in the Key Stage 1 playground. If you could stand along the length of the main building rather than on the grass area it enables greater visibility and access for all.

Children in Elm class will be handed over to each parent individually. To help this work fluently please keep an eye out for your child and if they are near the front of the line head over to the class teacher to collect. If your child isn't visible just hang back so others can see.

Key Stage 2 children are collected from the top playground. Due to increasing numbers we request parents of children in

Oak collect from the lower Key Stage 2 playground

Beech collect from outside their class (lower side of shelter) and

Willow collect from top playground.

This is to enable staff to ensure children have been handed over. We have had a number of heart-stopping incidents in the last school year where someone has come to collect a child and that child has already left with someone else.

If you have children in more than one class please collect from the youngest child's class first, as older children can wait with their class teacher.

At this point can I also remind you that no child can be collected by someone else unless the school is informed prior to collection, so please phone or email the office to let us know if any collection arrangements have altered that we are unaware of.

Children that have not been collected by 3.40pm will be taken to the computer room to wait. Parents need to come to the office to collect them so we know when they have left.

If you bring younger siblings into school please keep them with you at all times as the playground is a busy place and we have had children wander onto the road. **Due to Health and Safety NO children are allowed on the playground equipment before or after school.**

Fantastic Friday

This half-term Fantastic Friday will be held on Fridays, 13th 20th, 27th September, 4th October and the activities are as follows:

Activity	Year Group	Equipment required
Forest School See email to see groups	Year 1 and 2 (half)	Wellies, long sleeved top and trousers, waterproof coat, gloves.
Crafting - quilting project	Year 6	none
Creative Arts - music and drama	Year 4	none
Mindfulness and Art Skills	Year 1 and 2 (half)	
Cookery	Year 5	none
Sporty Stars and Computing Skills	Year 3	P.E. Kit (which should be in school)

After School Clubs

Currently there are the following clubs available for this term

All these clubs can only keep running if there is enough take up as they have to be financially viable.

The links are now open to book your child in to after school clubs with SportyStars for this term. Clubs start on Monday 9th.

<http://www.sportystars.co.uk/after-school-clubs/>

Monday: Street and Disco Dance (with a specialist dance teacher) for Years 1 - 4

Tuesday: an invitation only club with details to follow soon

Wednesday: Athletics for Years 1 - 6

Thursday: Dodgeball for Years 3 - 6

Friday: Football for Years 1 - 6

Children need to go to Willow Class to be registered and then change.



We are also delighted to continue to work with Gurmare at Tiger Style Sports Karate to provide Karate on Friday's after school. If you are interested in signing up, then please contact Gurmare directly at tigerstylesportskarate@yahoo.com or visit <https://tigerstylesportskarate.co.uk/> for more information. Sign up for this club should be done through Gurmare directly.

Music Tuition

Ruth Toze will be continuing her guitars lessons after school on Mondays until 4.30pm (commencing Monday 16th September. ruthtoze-music@hotmail.com

Emma Palmer will be continuing with choir on Tuesdays after school until 4.30pm (commencing Tuesday 17th September. Children from Year 2 upwards are welcome. £12.50 pp for the term (£22.50 for a family). Contact Emma on empalmusic@gmail.com

Please contact both directly for costs and any other information.

There are still places available for musical instrument tuition. If would like to contact the music teachers involved the details are below:

Jude Carter: clarinet, saxophone, orchestra and beginner piano judecarter70@gmail.com

Emma Palmer: choir, recorders, piano and clarinet empalmusic@gmail.com

Sarah Greinig: violin goldenstring@icloud.com www.goldenstring.co.uk (01404 823541)

Gail Denning: brass instruments: cornet, trumpet or tenor horn
gaildenning@outlook.com (07779993816)

Ruth Toze: flute, bassoon, guitar, music summer school ruthtoze-music@hotmail.com

Parent Information Sessions - advance notice.

Each class teacher will be holding a brief information session for parents to provide updates on how to support your child at home, including reading and spelling support. Dates will be confirmed in the next newsletter. These sessions will also give parents the opportunity to ask the teachers any questions.

Parent Workshops


Claire Hollingsworth continues to run some fabulous workshops which are all free - she also makes fabulous treats too! Parents who have attended have found them really useful. This half term workshops include sensory processing, learning to wait, settling into school and autism. For more details go to the website.

https://whimple-primary.eschools.co.uk/website/free_workshops/378196

ATTENTION ALL!

Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat rehearsals start this weekend. We're looking for children years 3 – 8, the launch is this Saturday, 2 – 4pm in Whimple Church (see below), and adults on Sunday 2 – 4pm in the Church. If there's any part of you that fancies this, you should come along and see what we're about. If you're keen to take part, but **really** can't do this weekend, please let me know beforehand. Cast members don't have to live in Whimple, and the children don't have to attend Whimple School.....get the cousins & friends involved!

Community Theatre 4All
Announce an "Introductory 'Junior Cast Workshop'" for their next production



In St Mary's Church Whimple on Saturday 7th September 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

An introductory Music and Drama Workshop that is open to all interested young people who will be in school years 3 to 8 in September 2019. Parents are welcome to come along with their children, or to leave them to work with Emma Palmer and Tom Samson for the first 90 minutes. All parents are requested to be present from 3.30pm when all the rehearsal and performance commitments will be fully explained. Performances will be given in early February 2020.

Any pre-workshop enquiries to Tom Samson on 07979 876211
The Creative Team for this project will be Choreographer: Emily Thornhill;
Musical Director: Emma Palmer, Stage Director: Tom Samson.

Dates for your diary

September

Monday 9th September	Sporty Stars Club starts
Friday 13th September	Fantastic Friday starts
Monday 16th September	Guitars start
Tuesday 17th September	Choir starts
Thursday 26th September	FOWS meeting 7pm

November

Friday 1st November	FOWS Halloween Disco
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Welcome backwe've already got plans afoot for fun and fundraising. There will be a Halloween disco on the 1st November and a stall at the Bonfire night at the cricket club. Come along to our first FoWS meeting of the year on Thursday 26th September, 7pm, in the school Library.

See you there.

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

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