

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2024



Whimble Primary School

Issue 11

05.07.24

The week started with our Year 5 and 6 children travelling to Taunton to watch a county cricket match. Although it was dry here, it was not the case in Taunton. Luckily, the weather cleared and the children did get to see some overs bowled. Apparently a true cricket experience!



Tuesday saw Beech Class and Willow Year 5s go off on the train for a trip to Exeter Museum. Activities were linked to their learning about World War 2. They all came back very enthused. Next week, sees the final residential of the year - this time it is the turn of our Year 6s and they are off to Pixie's Holt.

It was lovely to welcome many of our new children for September into school this morning. As I walked around the classes, it was great to see lots of collaboration going on. I think as teachers we often forget how much children develop over a school year and its not just about how tall they become!

Finally, just a brief reminder about ensuring only water is sent to school in their bottles which should be no larger than 500ml. Children are able to fill and refill their bottles throughout the school day.

Whimble Flower and Craft Show

Over the next few weeks teachers will be encouraging pupils to have a go at entering something in the Village Show which takes place in the Hall on August 10th (Doors open at 2.15pm). We are very grateful to them for helping to keep this village tradition alive.

We would be delighted if parents or other relatives decided to get involved too. If you head down to Whimble Stores they have "Show Schedules" which list all the different things you could have a go at. A cake? A photograph? A house plant you care for? There are too many things to mention them all here!

The shop has entry forms and instructions. If anything isn't clear or you want any additional information please ring up one of the organisers. All the numbers are listed in the schedule.

The schedule and entry forms are attached with this newsletter so take a look - there are plenty of categories for adults too!



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe



The political landscape has changed overnight with the landslide victory of Labour at the general election. Whilst education has not been high on the agenda this time, the new government has made it clear that lots of aspects of policy will change during the course of the next parliament. Education has always been subject to political policy and each new Secretary of State has brought their own ideas and viewpoints to the role. Sometimes, these policies have a significant impact on all schools, but at other times, only some sectors are affected and the impact on small schools such as ours can be very limited, although it can be difficult to work out what new policies will look like in practice in our context. After 14 years of the same party being in power, there are bound to be changes as Labour come to power but whatever happens, we will make sure that the well-being and learning of our children remain at the heart of what we do here.

FULL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The EVF governors met on Tuesday evening, with a focus on the strategic future of the federation. The team had a positive in-depth discussion with challenging questions raised. The aim and focus for the governors is to secure the long term future for all our fantastic schools and the federation. All schools in readiness for the new school year are developing school development plans, with clear objectives allowing closer monitoring for the governors. Attendance remains an important priority for governors and school leaders, with an update given during the meeting. The impact of children not being at school on learning and friendships was highlighted to the governors.



Next Bags 2 School Collection is on Wednesday 17th July.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE TIME WITH FRIENDS

THURSDAY MORNINGS AT WHIMPLE CHURCH



Parents with or without children are very welcome to drop in for breakfast on Thursday mornings

9.00am - 11.00am in the children's corner of Whimple church

No charge but donations welcome

Dates for your diary

July

- 9th Ash Class School Trip
- 8th - 12th Year 6 Residential to Pixies Holt
- 15th Ottery Library assembly
- 16th Water/sea safety assembly
- 16th Willow Class Forest School am only
- 17th Oak Class School Trip
- 19th EVF Cross Country Competition
- 22nd Rock Steady Concert
- 25th Leavers Assembly for Year 6 parents 1.30pm

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

SUMMER TERM 2024

15th April to 25th July 2024

Term dates for pupils - 2024/25:

AUTUMN TERM 2024

5th September to 18th December 2024

Half term - 28th to 1st November 2024

SPRING TERM 2025

7th January to 4th April 2025

Half term - 17th to 21st February 2025

SUMMER TERM 2025

22nd April to 25th July 2025

May Day holiday - 5th May 2025

Half term - May 26th to 30th May 2025

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 3rd and 4th September, 29th November 2024, 6th January, 27th June 2025

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