

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

Whimble Primary School

Issue 13

21.07.23

Another amazing week packed full of events right to the end! Hopefully, everyone will get to do something they enjoy over the break, whether it is something adventurous, or just relaxing somewhere. Thank you to all those who have passed on cards, messages and gifts - just hearing some positive comments at the end of term makes it all worthwhile, the staff really appreciate it.

I don't usually add lots of photos to our weekly newsletter, but it has been such a busy week, I haven't been able to resist!

We will see the majority of you on Wednesday 6th September.



Monday morning saw our Rock Steady bands perform to both the children at school and then to all their parents.



It was great to see how much they have improved over the past few months, both in ability but also confidence.



Heritage Centre Visit

Monday afternoon, Willow Class made a visit to the Heritage Centre to complete some learning on local history whilst also taking the opportunity to look at one of their peers, Zac, own display on fossil hunting and metal detecting. We are very lucky to have this facility in the village. If you haven't been take a look over the summer, there are lots of treasures inside.



Community Art Project

Throughout the year, children in Oak and Beech Class have been involved with the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership and local artist Alistair Lambert, and on Wednesday, they got to see the result of their combined artwork ideas at the station.

The plants in their planters are thriving and the new signs are fabulous. All the things add a lot of colour to the station platform and will be enjoyed by many railway passengers. It has been great to be involved with this project.



They have also worked to produce a commemorative art piece for the Coronation of King Charles, which is now displayed on the noticeboard near the entrance to the school.

Top Talk Club

On Thursday morning, a small group of children gave an oracy talk, ably supported by Mrs Shorer.

The tasks included the children reciting a poem, talking about a subject of their choice and reading aloud from a book.

They all did really well in front of the ESB assessor and should be very proud of themselves and their achievements.





Leavers Assembly

The children of Year 6 performed in front of the whole school on Wednesday morning as a practice ready for their final show to parents on Friday afternoon. The children, (and staff), across the school really enjoyed it and hopefully it has helped the children overcome some of their nerves. They have all done a fabulous job.



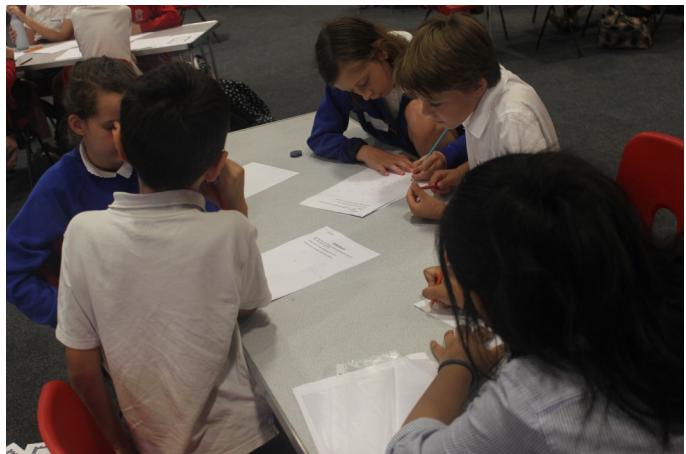
More Live Music

On Thursday afternoon, we were delighted to host a group of musicians from the Band of HR Royal Marines CTCRM to perform for our children. Eight fabulous band members played a range of well-known songs for the children to enjoy and join in with. Some children picked to play percussion. We were lucky enough to be able to hold this outside so even people walking past on the path to the station stopped to listen! This was all arranged by Devon Music Hub and was a great way to end the term.



Colyton Maths Competition

With the support of a couple of parents to help transport children, I was privileged to take two teams of Year 5 children to Colyton for the day a couple of weeks ago. A number of school were involved and the children undertook a variety of mathematical challenges in different formats throughout the day. We did not win, however, I was very proud of all their efforts and I think they surprised themselves with some of their mathematical abilities.



FROM MR JOLLIFFE

I am delighted that Whimble will be joining the Exe Valley Federation from 1st September and I am looking forward to spending most of the first couple of weeks of the next school year with you. This will enable me to get to know children, staff and families better and I will be available to talk to parents before school or during some of the days so we can start building a really positive relationship between us. In the meantime, I hope you all have a lovely summer holiday and really good family time together.



A great big thank you to all those who helped to organise the school summer fair last weekend. Despite the inclement weather, a barbecue was held outside and lots of games and activities were set up in all the classrooms.

It was lovely to see so many of our families supporting this event, in many ways, as well as catching up with ex-pupils too!

An update on what has been raised will be reported in September.

BBC Support for Families (click on the links for lots more information)

Welcome to the [Parents' Toolkit](#)

With the long school holidays, summer is the perfect time to get our kids outdoors and playing adventurously. We know the pandemic has had a [negative impact on some children's mental health](#). But recent research suggests that children who spend more time playing adventurously have fewer mental health issues like anxiety and depression.

To get you started, Parents' Toolkit has pulled together lots of ideas to help you get the kids outdoors and exploring for the [Summer of Adventure](#). There are articles about what to look for at the seaside, quizzes on birds, trees and bugs and loads of tips for stuck parents. So, what are you waiting for?

The Reading Challenge has already started!



Dates for your diary

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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