

# CONTACT

## The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Number 216

8.12.17

### Musical Entertainment

Last Friday we were entertained by children playing their guitars and recorders and then some songs by the choir. Two pianists, Katie Jaggs and Jemima Plank, also performed; they were all great.



The choir has had two further outings this week. Monday a visit to sing in Rowan Ward in Ottery Hospital. Then on Tuesday, they sang to the over 60s here in Whimble. Both performances got everyone in the Christmas spirit and were fabulous.



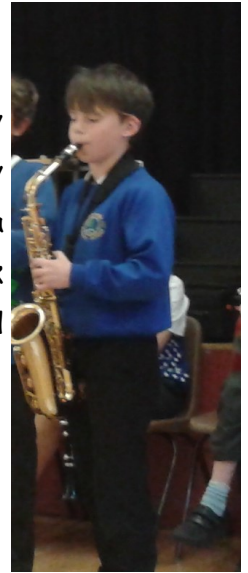
A special thank you must go to Crudge Coaches who provided the coach for the choir to and from Ottery Hospital for free.





### **Musical Entertainment continued:**

Wednesday, we were entertained by a fantastic group of children who have only had ten weeks of lessons with Mrs Carter this term. Mrs Carter very kindly offered to teach flute, clarinet and saxophone sessions for children to have a taster to see whether they wished to play an instrument. Lots of children took her up on her offer and many of them chose to perform in front of the school and their parents (very brave).



As Mrs Carter explained, although they have had 10 lessons, the first lesson was learning how to put their instrument together and then unpack it. The next two sessions involved learning how to get basic sounds from it. Finally, they were shown how to play a small selection of notes. So, to hear some simple versions of Christmas songs after just 10 weeks is very impressive. Most of these children have expressed an interest to continue after Christmas and we hope to start up a school orchestra again.





## Christmas dinner and the Christmas Hat Competition

On Wednesday 6th December it was Christmas dinner day. Children wore their Christmas jumpers - I never realised there were so many different ones available. There was also the option for those with a creative streak to make their own festive hats, and many children did. They came in all shapes and sizes. Children and staff voted and the winners were:

Year 6 Freddie Fenner and Bill Ramsay

Year 5 Max Mehrlich, Daniel Baker and Joshua Jones.

Year 4 Tom Knee, Mikey Trehearne and Alabama Hastie.

Year 3 Owen Major, Henry Woolston and Imogen Woollam.

Year 2 Imogen Quincey, Buddy Brown, Sophie Yendole and Peggy Jones.

Year 1 Jake Woolston, Sophia Hudson and Zachary Swain.

Reception Croyde Brown, Reuben Williams and Jessica Fairburn.



I think you will agree, seeing the jumpers and hats just brings a smile to your face.

*Thank you to all those who made the effort despite the short notice.*



## School Improvement Plan.

**Action 2:** To increase the percentage of pupils in Year 6 achieving expected standard in maths.

### *What does it mean?*

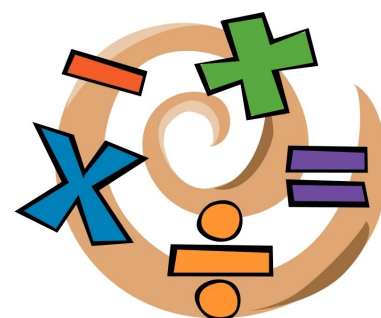
We want all children to achieve their potential. In education this is currently set at achieving 'expected' standard in the KS2 SATs.

### *How we will support you and your children:*

We will ensure children have good regular maths sessions to develop and deepen their understanding. We deploy teachers and teaching assistants effectively to enable adults to support children who need it.

### *How can you help:* (children in all year groups)

Take every possible opportunity to put maths into context for your child, for example, if you had 14 chips on your plate, how many more would you need to have 20? What about if you doubled it? Is that number a prime number? How do you know? Questions like this are an easy way to develop fluency and understanding in maths. Don't forget to count backwards as well as forwards.



Play games. Many board and card games help with building strategy skills and thinking one or two steps ahead. What if? If I move here, then this may happen.

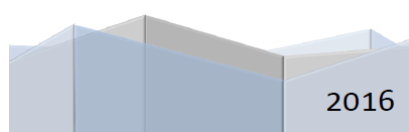
#### **Whimple Primary School**

Encourage your child to complete their homework and ask them to 'teach' you how to do something. Use 'Lumio' (an online maths site we subscribe to: <https://web.lumioeducation.com/app/signin.html>) to practice key skills.

#### **Maths Calculation Policy**

Addition

Carole Shilston



Find our calculation policies on the website 'Classes and curriculum tab' - classes and curriculum sub-category for details on how we teach the four number operations.

## **Church Service**

All are welcome to attend the Carol Service in the church on Monday - *readers, and choir members need to be at the church for 5.45pm for a 6pm start. Come along and join in the singing.*

## **Nativity Performances**

Children in Ash and Elm need to be brought to the pre-school room via the back entrance from 5.40pm onwards. This allows plenty of time for staff to help change them into their costumes. Again, due to space restrictions, we ask that you do not stay with your child, just hand them over to a member of staff.



## Volcano eruption in Oak class

Last week in Oak class we were inspired by our topic of Iceland, which we have been learning about this term. The children wanted to learn more about volcanoes. So we thought, what could be better than making and erupting our own volcanoes? We used paper mache and paint to build them and discovered an interesting mix of ingredients to create our eruption. As you can see the children did a fantastic job and were very enthusiastic.



I just love the look on their faces.

## An Activity Morning

Willow and Beech Classes made the most of the (eventually!) fine weather on Thursday morning by taking part in a variety of different activities at the Orchard and MUGA. These included orienteering, den building, drinking hot chocolate around the fire, and free play. Our main success though was that all 58 children who came took part in 30 minutes of competitive sport.

We saw a thrilling football match which ended 5-5 and went to a penalty shootout; a netball match which had plenty of goals scored; a last minute winning try in the tag rugby match and three epic dodgeball games!



# Don't Forget

- \* Children in the choir and year 6 readers need to be at the church for 5.45pm on Monday.
- \* Children in Ash and Elm need to be brought to the pre-school room via the back entrance from 5.40pm onwards.

## Dates for your diary

Monday December 11th Carol Service at the church by Key Stage 2 6pm start  
(including choir/recorders)

Wednesday December 13th Nativity by Ash and Elm class 6pm start

Thursday December 14th Nativity by Ash and Elm class 6pm start

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – School finishes at 1.30 pm**

Start of Spring term Thursday 4th January 2018

### Term dates for pupils - 2018/19:

**AUTUMN TERM 2018** 5<sup>th</sup> September to 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

*Half term - 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018*

**SPRING TERM 2019** 8<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

*Half term - 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019*

**SUMMER TERM 2019** 23<sup>rd</sup> April to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

*May Day holiday - 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019*

*Half term - 27<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019*

*Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 3<sup>rd</sup> June*

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