

# CONTACT

## The Newsletter for Whimpe Primary School

Issue 7 - 21

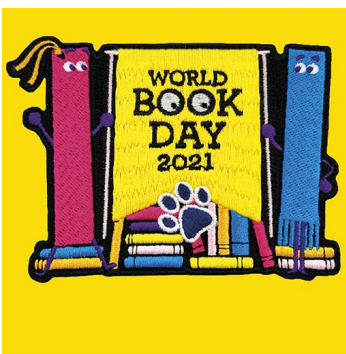
26.02.21

### A Welcome Return for All

Hopefully, you managed to all have a good half-term although the weather wasn't up to much. Thankfully, the week started with the great news that all children are expected to return to school on Monday 8th March.

The arrangements for children will be the same as in September with children kept in their class bubbles and I have included the class booklets so you can read through and remind your child of the routines in place at school.

I appreciate that some children may be anxious about returning; I know some children in school are. Please reassure them that they will be fine and anything that was in place to support them previously will still be here and the changes are not as significant as when they came back in September.



### World Book Day and more

We are going to hold our **World Book Day on Thursday 1st April** - the last day of the spring term. We thought it would be a lovely way to finish off with everyone in school. This year we are not selecting specific authors - we would just like everyone to come as a book character. The more interesting and unique the better.

We will also be doing some other things throughout the four weeks as it is Comic Relief and Science Week in March too.

Our Jigsaw theme for the term is 'Healthy Me'. This will be our overarching theme for March to ensure the mental and physical wellbeing of all of the children in our care. It is really important that we help everyone to settle back in and provide opportunities for the children to re-establish routines whilst discussing their thoughts and emotions.



## Whimble Cricket Club – Junior Cricket in 2021

Attached is a flyer with some information about Whimble Cricket Club. This season is a great opportunity for young people to play sport after the limited opportunities in recent months. We welcome young cricketers who have played before and new-comers to the game. Our program includes Friday evening coaching, 'All-stars' cricket for 5-8-year-olds, and representative teams at Under 10, Under 12, and Under 14 level. New for this year, we are partnering with Ottery St Mary Cricket Club to enter local girls cricket tournaments. To help us prepare for the season ahead, we would appreciate you registering your interest through this link:

<https://forms.gle/B4Dwzd1Fu821csoJ8>

### Lifeline Services

Although our libraries are currently closed for browsing, we are offering a few lifeline services.

#### Digital Library

We have been increasing our catalogue of eBooks and eAudiobooks for children including our Beginner Reads collection. This means that families who do not currently have access to books from school can find new things to read via their laptops, tablets, eReaders or smartphones.

For the grownups in addition to eBooks we have free access to eMagazines and newspapers and other digital resources such as Ancestry Online.

You will need to be a library member to access these resources but joining online is free and easy via our website [Devon Libraries](#) or [Torbay Libraries](#)

### Choose & Collect

If you are unable to access our online resources and need to borrow physical books, some of our libraries are open for Choose & Collect. This service is currently strictly by appointment to make sure everyone stays safe. Again, we have boosted our collections of children's Beginner Reads to support those children learning to read, and we have also increased our non-fiction collections in some libraries to support some popular topics from the school curriculum. If you would like to arrange to collect a bagful of books handpicked for you by our library staff, then please contact your local library on 01404 813838 or email [ottery.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:ottery.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk)

If there are any other ways that you think we might be able to support your **families in need**, please let us know.

### Arts Award

Finally, in a couple of weeks we will be launching a webpage that will enable children aged 5-12 to achieve their Arts Award (Discover) from the comfort of their own homes. We have partnered with a variety of local artists to create some simple arts challenges that only use resources currently found in most homes already. These activities will be freely available for anyone to take part, but families wishing to receive an official Arts Award certificate will need to pay £6 to cover the costs (although in some cases we will be willing to waive this fee for families where this cost presents a barrier to taking part).

If you might be interested in working with us to enable your pupils to achieve their Arts Award (Discover) in this way, please email Kate Mackenzie, Service Development Manager, at [kate.mackenzie@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:kate.mackenzie@librariesunlimited.org.uk)

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