

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024



Whimble Primary School

Issue 2

26.04.24

Children in Ash Class enjoyed a great day of outdoor learning yesterday, they all came back and were very enthusiastic about what they had been doing.

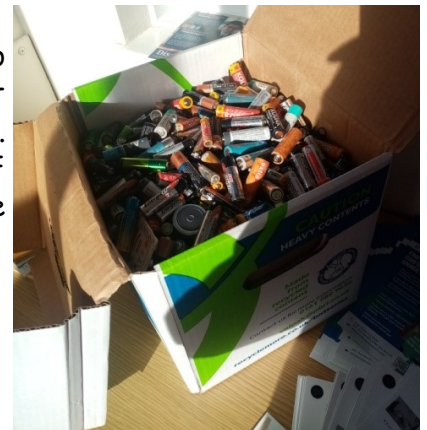


Park Run in June

Please don't forget to sign your child up to take part in the Cranbrook Junior Parkrun on Sunday the 9th of June. We would like to see as many of our children and families there to take part and hopefully raise a little money to support all the fantastic opportunities we are busy organising for this summer. [Click here \(and check your emails from earlier in the week!\) for all the information and the form to fill in.](#)

Eco News Update

Thank you for sending in your used batteries for the "Recycle to Read" campaign. We filled our box really quickly and had our first collection this week. **Please keep sending in your used batteries.** The more collections we can arrange, the better our chances are of winning free books for school and of course the more batteries we can keep out of landfill, the better it is for our environment.



Netball Club

A couple of parents have kindly offered to run a netball for children in Year 4 to 6 on a Tuesday 3.30 to 4.30pm. A with all of our clubs, the cost would £5/week. If your child is interested, please [sign up here](#)

Unfortunately there was not enough take up for dance club to run this term so we will try again in the autumn.



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

Being a governor is an interesting and challenging role and one that enables parents to help shape the current priorities and future direction of the federation. The educational landscape is constantly changing and evolving and governors have an important role to play in supporting and challenging school leaders at a strategic level. Being a governor opens up opportunities to find out more about how the education system works nationally, locally and at a federation and school level and learn about the way we hold in tension the demands of providing an excellent education for every child with the increasing financial restrictions being imposed upon us. We have a vacancy for a parent governor and would welcome a new member of the governors' team to join us. At present we do not have parents from Silverton School so would particularly welcome representation from there but everyone is welcome to apply. If you are interested in finding out more about the role of a parent governor, please do contact me via your child's school office. Nomination forms can be requested from Mrs Heidi Last, Clerk to Governors [hlast@exevalleyfederation.org.uk] and should be returned to her by Friday, 10th May 2024. Prospective governors will be expected to complete enhanced DBS checks before taking up their role.

PARENT SURVEY

The annual parent survey is your opportunity to help shape the priorities of the federation schools for the coming year and your views are really important to senior leaders as they begin to plan for the autumn and beyond. This year's parent questionnaire includes the questions that Ofsted ask in their parent survey and also focuses on mental health and wellbeing. Please could all parents take a few minutes to complete the online survey over the next two weeks so that we can learn more about your views? The survey will be open early next week and can be found by following this link:

<https://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/Parent-Questionnaire/>

So that we can consider all the responses ahead of shaping the new Federation Development Plan, please can you complete the survey by Friday, 10th May. Thank you very much for your help.

CAN YOU HELP US PREPARE YEAR 5 and 6 FOR THE FUTURE?

Many thanks to the parents who have offered to help give our Year 5 and 6 children the opportunity to find out about a wide range of careers and be better prepared for their future. At this stage, we would like to put together a list of parents who would be willing to talk to the Year 5 and 6 classes on line about their work and answer questions for about 20 minutes each. If you did not respond to last week's email there is still time to volunteer to be involved, whatever your job or career, so please could you let Mr Jolliffe know via your child's school office and he will be in contact with you with more information about how this will work.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE TIME WITH FRIENDS
FRIDAY MORNINGS AT WHIMPLE CHURCH

DON'T FORGET



BAGS 2 SCHOOL
collection
on Monday
at the Thirsty Farmer



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

9.00am - 11.00am in the children's corner of
Whimple church from 26th April

No charge but donations welcome



Dates for your diary

April

29th Bags2School Collection

May

3rd Beech Class Outdoor Learning Day

9th Oak Class Outdoor Learning Day

17th Willow Class Outdoor Learning Day

24th Elm Class Outdoor Learning Day

June

21st Sports Day (morning only at the Cricket Club)

Key assessment dates for 2024

Year 6 SATs w/c 13th May

Phonics Screening (Year 1) w/c 10th June

Times Tables Check (Year 4) w/c 3rd June

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

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): 3rd June and 28th June 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

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

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