

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 1-20

11.09.20

It has been lovely to see you all again even if it is at a distance - your children have been amazing, particularly our new reception children who have entered the playground in the morning with beaming smiles on their faces and confidently leaving their parents.

Picking up is also settling into a new routine and many of our older children are enjoying their new responsibility of meeting their parent a short distance away from the site. This is helping to reduce congestion at the gate alongside those who collect their child and promptly leave from our small area to allow someone else to take their place. Thank you for your support in this matter.



'CONTACT'

'CONTACT' is the schools main newsletter and is sent out weekly, usually on a Friday with all the key information and dates for parents/carers. If you have other family members involved in child collection and you would like them to also receive it, please provide contact details to the office. Where possible we try to put all information in this to try to reduce the number of emails filling up your inbox.

Alongside this there will be a monthly Newsletter which will provide information about what the children have been doing throughout the month across the curriculum, including photographs.

Both will be sent out by email to keep you up to date with all that is happening at school but hard copies are available from the School Office on request.

Pick Up Time for Reception

For pick up week commencing 14th September to Friday 18th September children in reception are to be collected from the hall main doors at 1.10pm.



A Fond Farewell

Mrs Maria Wallis is standing down as a governor after many years. She has had a variety of roles in her time as governor including chair, vice chair, community link, village hall representative and many more. She has also been a representative for a number of forums for Devon. Maria's extensive knowledge on all things to do with governance will be greatly missed as well as her willingness to help with anything needed and support given to the school. We were hoping to have a little celebration at the end of last term but as everything, Covid put a stop to that. We instead plan to give a gift to show our appreciation, at her garden gate.



Building maintenance and updates

During the summer the roof to the main building was repaired and re-leaded to help prevent any further leaks. More lighting has been replaced in the main building and Oak Class.

Unfortunately, due to a number of issues, including getting materials our replacement windows for Ash and Elm Class have not materialised. Some works have taken place on the exterior walls but this is also uncompleted due to problems sourcing cladding.



School Orchard/MUGA

A **MASSIVE THANK YOU** to Daniel Williams for clearing and tidying our orchard area - it was a mammoth task due to under use and the weather encouraging lots of growth.

Two classes have already made use of this wonderful space.



I am pleased to announce we have a new FOWs committee as follows:

Chairperson - Carla Whitaker

Vice chair - Polly Luscombe

Secretary - Alison Shorer

Parent Liaison - Sara Jones

They continue to look for someone to take on the role of treasurer. An Extraordinary General Meeting is being held on 30th September at 7.30pm via Zoom. You are all invited to attend.

Packed Lunches and Snacks

Just a quick reminder that no nuts or products containing nuts are permitted as we have a number of children with allergies. Also if you are providing grapes or olives to remind younger children not to eat them whole as there have been a number of incidents of young children choking in schools.

All school dinners, including universal free school meals for reception, year 1 and year 2, should now be ordered online with School Gateway. Please make sure you order meals in advance. If you are unsure or need any assistance please call into the office.

Reading and book arrangements

A key area in children's learning and education is developing reading skills: from starting to learn sounds and phonetically decode, leading to increased fluency and vocabulary, through to the more complex skills of inference and reasoning. We want to encourage as much reading as possible whilst ensuring we are practically doing things to ensure the wellbeing of all children and staff.

How does this look for your child?

- **All books** brought back into school will be placed in a **quarantine** box for a minimum of **72 hours**.
- Children in **Elm** and **Ash** Classes can then choose another reading book to bring home, (if an adult in school reads with a child they will listen to them read this new book not the one they have returned).
- Children in **Elm** and **Ash** Classes can also select a library book from a selection of books in class.
- Those children following books from reading stages in **Oak Class**, will return books as above. Children who are *free readers* will be able to take a book from the class selection (a mini library of books, kept within the classroom itself). This book is to remain at home to read until completed and needs changing. Children will also have an additional book to read and keep in school.
- Children in **Beech** and **Willow** Classes will be able to select a book from the library and this will be closely monitored. As above, this book should remain at home until complete.
- Children in **Key Stage Two** may also have an additional book to read and keep in school.
- All guided reading will take place in class in a different format and the books kept in school.

Curriculum newsletters which will include specific information regarding spellings, P.E. will be sent out shortly.

Children in Key Stage 2 need their PE kits in school so they can change for their PE lessons.





WHIMPLE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Starting this September 2020

We will be open from 3.30pm until 5.15pm Monday to Friday term time at Whimple Primary School.

For children from Reception up to year 6, places are limited so if you are interested please email Sarah at whimpleafterschoolclub@gmail.com

Tel 07854017113

Lots of fun games
and activities to
enjoy with friends.

Arts and crafts
puzzles and stories

Healthy fruit for
snack time.

Outside play

Fees

3.30PM – 4.30PM £5.00

3.30PM – 5.15PM £9.00

Prices include a snack
and a drink.

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

Telephone/fax: 01404 822584

Email: admin@whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk

Website: www.whimple-primary.devon.sch.uk