

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2023



Whimple Primary School

Issue 5

6.10.23

It has been another great week in school, and we are looking forward to some exciting things in the new few weeks.

Parental consultation slots are now set up on ESchools ready for booking from 6pm today. This is a great opportunity to catch up with your child's class teacher to find out how they are getting on and what things you can help with to support their learning.

Year 5 Sleepover

In order to help our Year 5 children for their upcoming residential to Bristol in February, we are offering a sleepover for one night in the village hall. This will be on Friday 3rd November. Further details will be sent home in a separate letter with your children today.

Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

Keeping children safe is a key part of the work of schools and a role that we take very seriously. Working with children, families and outside agencies takes a significant amount of leaders' time, often outside working hours. Part of our role is also to make sure staff stay up to date with the latest information about safeguarding and every member of staff receives regular training and updates. The DfE produce a document called Keeping Children Safe in Education every autumn, which contains a lot of very useful information about the different types of abuse and what to look out for if you have concerns. This year's update includes information about the internet filtering systems that schools use and a requirement for leaders and governors to assure themselves that the systems in place are adequate. The federation schools all use filtering systems that are compliant with the latest guidance and this has been verified by the companies who operate them. These systems are very robust and there have not been any filtering breaches for a long time, since these systems were introduced. If you would like more information about how to keep children safe online at home, there are several useful documents on the federation website, under the 'safeguarding' tab. The latest version of KSCiE is also on the same tab.



PRAYER ROOM

Every half term a group of parents meet to pray for the federation schools and everyone is welcome to join them. The next prayer room is on Friday, 20th October at 9.30am at the chapel in Brampford Speke. For more information, please contact Andy Mathers [apmathers@gmail.com]



Other Important Updates:

Reading in Reception

Please find attached with this email a really useful and informative document that helps our families to understand the reading journey our children take and how you can support this further at home.

Sidmouth Science Week

Children in Willow, Beech and Ash have created artwork to display in Sidmouth Science Week (Kennaway House) this weekend. There are lots of child friendly free activities around the town to see - for more details go to:

<https://www.sidmouthsciencefestival.org/>

Lunch Ordering

We are having an increasing amount of lunch orders from children that have not been done in advance by parents on the School Gateway app. Can you please ensure that you get these orders in at least 24 hours before. If you need any help accessing the app, please email Mrs Rowe on admin@whimpleprimary.co.uk.

When we change meal providers after half term we will not be able to make any changes on the day.

World Mental Health Day

Mental Health has declined in almost 40% of school children and that's why Well Schools is supporting the latest campaign from ITV delivered by our partners at Young Minds and Chartered College of Teaching. Britain Get Talking is setting the nation a different kind of homework this year, designed to help ease our stress and reduce our anxiety by asking what's on our minds.

The primary curriculum supports children's well being in many ways including PE, sport, and play over time that creates a Well Culture. This means children's mental health is always supported and helps improve behaviour and attendance and their access to learning.

A different kind of homework

This World Mental Health Day (10 October 2023), Well Schools are supporting the Britain Get Talking campaign to help children across the country open up about the subjects on their mind which cause them stress and anxiety.

<https://www.well-school.org/britain-get-talking-campaign>



Dates for your diary

October

Thursday 12th	Dogs Trust workshops
Friday 13th	Beech Class Forest School
Monday 16th	Willow Class Parent consultations 3.30pm to 6pm
Tuesday 17th	Elm Class Parent consultations 3.40pm to 5.40pm Ash Class Parent consultations 2.30pm to 6.30pm Oak Class Parent consultations 3.40pm to 6pm Beech Class Parent consultations 2.30pm to 6.30pm Willow Class Parent consultations 3.30pm to 4.45pm
Wednesday 18th	Oak Class Parent consultations 3.40pm to 4.45pm
Thursday 19th	Elm Class Parent consultations 3.40pm to 5.40pm
Friday 20th	Annual Apple Pick
Monday 30th	Vision Screening - Reception only

November

Friday 3rd November	Year 5 Sleepover
Tuesday 21st	Individual photographs

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

Headteacher: Mrs. Carole Shilston

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