

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024



Whimple Primary School

Issue 5

02.02.24

Only one more week to go until half-term, it is hard to believe when it is only the start of February!

School Meals

For school meals after half-term, there will be no requirement to order a dessert. The desserts will still be available and we are trialling a simpler system with our provider. Even with the ordering, there have been complications with children changing their mind or selecting the wrong dessert, so we want to see if we can solve these issues using a more straight forward method. Children will get to choose on the day, (which was how it worked previously), there may be the odd occasion where a child does not get their first choice of dessert. We will monitor this for half a term and see how it goes.

School Uniform

In order to present the best image of the school, whilst helping parents avoid conflict over dress and reduce cost we ask that all our children/families follow our school uniform policy. This includes wearing suitable footwear, this should be black shoes. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Skills Builder Activity Passports

What are they?

A small booklet that includes eight activities matched to the skills and the schools 6Rs.

Why?

The tasks are linked to the curriculum covered in school and will hopefully help children make links between the activities and the skill they are using.

Who?

Every child has got one to keep in school. There is a different passport for each year group. Towards the end of the summer term, each child will be given the opportunity to discuss what they have done.

How can you help?

Next week, children will be given an activity passport they can use at home. The activities have been carefully selected to enable all children to be involved.



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe



Last Friday, I attended an event called the Exeter Peace Feast, which was run by the Diocese of Exeter at the Old Deanery. During the afternoon, speakers from Devon and beyond spoke about their experiences of living in multi-cultural Britain today. One of the real challenges for us is giving meaningful opportunities to our children to learn more about different cultures and backgrounds and this is a growing priority across our schools. In the next few weeks I will be updating our Equality Plan and completing this year's report. We are already planning work on developing writing across the federation from September and looking at some of the new and more culturally diverse teaching sequences that are now available to us. There is also an organisation that is based in Exeter that offers learning packages to schools to learn more about Devon's multicultural diversity and start to explore global citizenship, which has the potential to be very helpful for the future. Exciting times!

PRAYER ROOM

The next Prayer Room will be held at Sandford Village Hall on Friday, 9th February at 9.30am. More details from Andy Mathers [email: apmathers@gmail.com]. New parents are welcome to join us.

Online Safety

Safer Internet Day 2024 is taking place on the 6th of February 2024, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'.

Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year they cover an online issue or theme that speaks to the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Created in consultation with young people across the UK, this year Safer Internet Day will be focusing on change online, this includes covering:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
- Using the internet to make change for the better
- The changes young people want to see online
- The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline.

Children across the school will be involved in some tasks/activities to support their knowledge and understanding of this.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

**Safer
Internet
Day 2024** | **Tuesday
6 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

Dates for your diary

February

21st-23rd Year 5 residential to Bristol/Bath

March

18th Year 5 Showdown at Barnfield Theatre

w/c 18th Report go home to parents

w/c 25th Parent consultations if required

April

18th - 19th Year 3 and 4 residential to Okehampton

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

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): 3rd June and 28th June 2024

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