

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2024



Whimple Primary School

Issue 9

21.06.24

It was great to see so many of you this morning up at the Cricket Club for our annual sports day. It was lovely to see all the children take part; the children showed some real determination when taking part, especially in the tug-of-war. It is one of those events that is a bit like marmite - you either love it or hate it. There are not many occasions when children have to publicly demonstrate their skills in a curriculum area so it is important that we celebrate the participation. Exercise plays a vital role in good mental health.



School Summer Fair is tomorrow - 12 to 3pm

A gang of volunteers will be setting up from 10am in the morning ready for the fair to start at midday. This event is one of our main fundraisers for the year. This year the PTA have kindly subsidised the cost of the school trips by £5 per child which is nearly £700. This means every child has benefitted from the fundraising undertaken this year.

The weather is looking good so come along and have some fun! You may even win a prize or two!

PE Kits

No doubt PE kits will be either worn or taken home today for a good wash. Please remember to return them on Monday ready for PE next week.

Trips

Thank you to all those who have paid and returned their SOE3 forms for school trips. If you are unsure as to whether you have returned your forms, please ask at the office. Forms need to be returned at least a week before the trip so we can collate all the information to take with us.



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe



At this time of the year, the Heads and I start to put together our development plans for the coming school year. On Tuesday, we worked together to shape our strategic planning and identify the areas of learning and well-being that each school is going to focus on from September. This process includes taking into account the views of staff and parents, which we have received from the surveys that many of you completed earlier this term. We will be talking to staff about the themes of the school development plans next Wednesday and adding in their thoughts and ideas, which will include the voice of school councils and the children in each school. The wider Federation Development Plan will be shared with parents at the start of the new school year, followed by a summary of the School Development Plan for each school. I always enjoy the process of planning the new initiatives for next year and seeing how these improve the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes and personal development in the year to come.

YEAR 5 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Parents of current Year 5 children will be able to apply for their child's school place for secondary school between the 1 September 2024 and the 31 October 2024. Parents can do this by visiting [admissions online](#) between the above dates. If you wish to be sent an email or text message reminder when the online system goes live, then you can register your details with the admissions team now by [completing this form](#). There is further advice and guidance on the admission team's Facebook page by visiting [DCC School Admissions](#) or you the website, [apply for a secondary place](#).

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

The final staff development day of the school year is next Friday, 28th June and all the federation schools will be closed to children on that day. Staff will be working together at Silverton School on a new programme for improving writing with advisers from Devon Education Services' English team. Other members of staff will be undertaking first aid training and developing strategies to support individual children through two new resource materials. Children should be back in school as usual on Monday, 1st July.



Summer Fayre!

12 – 3pm Sat 22 June

Contact us at: whimple.pta@gmail.com

Dear Parents,

This year's school Summer Fayre will be held in the school grounds – hopefully with as much of the activity in the outdoor spaces if weather permits!

Timing	Activity	Note
1200	Enter via the school gate to pay for your activity and food tokens and Tombola tickets.	If wet weather, a payment hub will be set up in the school library.
12-2.30pm	Activities ran by class teams	Such as: Pirate Hoopla, Beat the Goalie, Tin Can Alley, etc
12.30 – 2.30pm	BBQ stall in top playground	
2.30pm	Teachers Tombola Prize Draw	
3pm	Close	

We need some more parent volunteers to assist with this event, which is fun for both the children and parents. Please reach out to your class reps via the WhatsApp / Messenger groups if you can help by either:

- Helping to run a class activity stall (even if just for an hour) on the day.
- Baking a cake (nut free) for the cake sale.
- Donating a prize for the Tombola draw.

As ever, we need your help to run events to support our children. Your PTA is organised and ran by a small team of volunteers who each have their own full time jobs and families to support, so the bigger the team, the more we can do together!



Dates for your diary

June

- 22nd School Fair 12-3pm
- 26th EVF Year 6 transition activity day at Silverton
- 27th Skills Builder Challenge Day
- 27th Year 5 Maths Challenge at Colyton Grammar School
- 28th Non-Pupil Day - staff training

July

- 1st Year 5 and 6 trip to Somerset Cricket Club
- 2nd Beech (+ Willow Year 5) School Trip
- 2nd School visits September Reception starters (appointments am only)
- 3rd School visits September Reception starters (appointments all day)
- 9th Ash Class School Trip
- 8th - 12th Year 6 Residential to Pixies Holt
- 17th Oak Class School Trip
- 22nd Rock Steady Concert

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

SUMMER TERM 2024

15th April to 25th July 2024

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 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

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