

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2024



Whimble Primary School

Issue 10

15.11.24

It was great to see all the children in their own colourful clothes or pyjamas today. After a special Children in Need assembly, where children learned a little more about how the monies raised are spent and the amazing challenges being completed all over the country. Everyone took part in some 'wheeled' challenges this afternoon either at school or over at the MUGA.

There is still time to donate using the link below:

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=16402>



Reading event for Reception Parents

There is still time to book and attend:

'Ready, Steady, Read! Family Workshop' on Tuesday 19th November 2 to 3pm
We would like to invite parents of our Reception children to attend an afternoon session on Tuesday 19th November, to support families with their child's reading journey.

Pupil & School Health and Wellbeing Survey.

Children in Year 4 and Year 6 have been asked to participate in this survey. A letter will be emailed out to parents to explain what is involved. There is also a paper copy in the school office should you wish to look in more detail. (along with printed consent forms if required). Children will complete the surveys in December.



Federation News from Mr Jolliffe

The consultation period for the proposed re-federation between Exe Valley and Moorsway closed today and the questions that parents and other members of the school stakeholder groups have asked are on the updated consultation document, along with the answers. The full governing boards of both federations will take into account the feedback from parents from the consultation when they make their final decision on Tuesday, 26th November. I will let you know what the outcome of the meeting is at the end of that week. This term, we have been working with senior leaders and teachers in the South Hams federation as well, which gives us more capacity to work more intensely with the Moorsway schools and governors are exploring the possibility of a more formal collaborative arrangement with this group of schools next year.

YEAR 3 and 4 RESIDENTIAL VISIT PAYMENTS

The Year 3 and 4 residential visit is planned for Wednesday, 30th April to Friday 2nd May 2025 and we will be going by train from Crediton to the YHA at Okehampton. Silverton, Thorverton and Whimble will be going away for Wednesday and Thursday including Wednesday night; Cheriton Fitzpaine, Sandford, Newton St Cyres and Brampford Speke will be going for Thursday and Friday including Thursday night. We are still finalising the activity plan for the two year groups who are going and are waiting for confirmation of the cost. The visit is likely to cost around £110 for the two days, including activities, travel and accommodation. We appreciate that this is a significant outlay for parents so there will be a phased payment system set up on School Gateway for parents to start making payments of £20 each month towards the cost. We will confirm the price for the visit as soon as we can and let parents know.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Just a reminder that Friday, 29th November is a staff training day and schools will be closed for children on that day. Staff will be working on the teaching of shared writing with the English advisory team from Devon Education Services and our English lead teachers.

PTA

Christmas Hampers - this year we are going to put together some Christmas Hampers which will be raffled off at the end of term.

Next Friday - 22nd November - children can come to school in their own clothes in exchange for a donation for the hamper. Donations can be placed in the boxes in the playground first thing in the morning. More details of how to purchase tickets to follow.



Here are some suggestions for possible suitable donations:

Chocolate bars or boxes of chocolates, packets or tins of biscuit, tubes or packets of sweets, bottles of wine or other alcohol, bottles, cartons or cans of soft drinks, e.g cordial, juice, crisps, savoury biscuits, jars of jam or chutney, Christmas pudding.

Items for the Christmas fair are still being collected, so please give them to the class reps.

Don't forget the next Bags2School Collection is Thursday 28th November.



Dates for your diary

November

- Tuesday 19th Ready Steady Read - Reception reading event 2pm
- Wednesday 20th Individual School Photos
- Thursday 21st Meet the PTA - Thirsty Farmer 7pm
- Friday 22nd Donation day for Christmas hampers
- Thursday 28th Bags2School Collection (PTA)
- Friday 29th Staff training day - school closed to pupils

December

- Friday 6th Christmas Disco (PTA)
- Wednesday 11th KS1 Nativity 4pm Whimble Church
- Friday 9th Rock Steady Concert 10.30am
- Thursday 12th KS2 Carol Service 6pm Whimble Church
- Friday 13th Christmas Fair (PTA)
- Monday 16th EVF Carol Service, Crediton Church 6pm
- Wednesday 18th Christmas dinner
- Wednesday 18th School finishes at 1.30pm.

Term dates for pupils - 2024/25:

AUTUMN TERM 2024

5th September to 18th December 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): 29th November 2024,
6th January, 27th June 2025

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