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Headteacher: Mr S Duncan

Newsletter December 7th 2018

View from the Head's Study

Some of you will be blissfully unaware that your child has had a few tests this week, which is as it should be. Testing children is not something that this school has traditionally done in the past outside of their Y2 and Y6 SATs, but the vast majority schools in England do, and that includes all of our TVP partner schools. For the children it gives them the chance to show how much they have learnt in the term, and gets them used to being in a test situation: like it or not, children in England will have a range of increasingly important tests and exams as they journey through education. For us as a school it gives us a solid measure of how well children are doing from term to term, and year to year. It reminds me of an old Devon saying: "You don't fatten the pig by weighing it", but it does help to know how well it is growing, and this is what testing does.

On a completely different subject, the leaves on our Kindness Tree in the reception foyer are growing in number. For those of you who don't know, when a member of staff witnesses or is told of an act of kindness by a child, they write the child's name on a paper leaf and hang it on the tree. By July the tree will hopefully be heavy with leaves. It has been lovely to hear of various small acts of kindness around the school. Just one example is when Robert in Year 5 went out in the pouring rain at lunchtime on Wednesday to make sure that one of our Reception children came back into the dry of the school building. The world can often feel a cruel and unkind place, but seeing our children behave like this should give us great hope for the future.

For the attention of all parents/carers with a child due to start school in September 2019.

If your child is due to start school for the first time (born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015) then it is very important you make an on time school place application.

Deadline for primary admissions 15th January 2019

To download the primary booklet for parent's, to make an on-line application and for further information please visit our website www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions and choose the page Apply to Start School.

School Uniform

Due to problems with School Trends we have moved our uniform supplier to **Taunton Uniforms**. You can order online for shop collection or home delivery from the link below.

<http://tauntonuniforms.co.uk/>

The shop also holds a small supply of school uniform and can be found at: 144b East Reach, Taunton Somerset TA1 3HT. Tel 01823 278080 Email. shop@tauntonuniforms.co.uk.

Christmas Fun Run

On the morning of Monday 17th December we are organising a Christmas fun run. There is no charge. All children (from reception to Year 6) are encouraged to join in and the emphasis is on taking part and having fun.

The route will go around the school grounds and will take place during the normal school day. Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school. They are welcome to add festive details to their outfits!

Mrs Johnson



Poppy Appeal

Another "Thank you" to parents and children who bought poppies- an amazing £191.07 was raised.



Clubs

We have begun putting together our timetable for after school clubs for the Spring Term. Across the years, we have had a variety of different clubs run by parents (such as cooking). If you would be interested in offering a club for our children, perhaps with one or two other parents, and you hold a current DBS, please either see me or email the school office before 12th December to discuss details.

Thank you,

Mrs Ker

Christmas and Wintertime Art Competition.

As Christmas approaches, it will be great to see some festive Art on our board in the school hall. The simple title/theme is Christmas. This will allow you to be as creative as you wish. Perhaps you will choose to sketch a festive picture showing a Christmas tree surrounded by presents, perhaps you would like to paint an image of the baby Jesus in the stable. Alternatively, you may wish to take a more abstract approach and do some collage work in vibrant golds, greens and reds. Please feel free to go with your own ideas and provide us with a picture, which to you, says Christmas! You may also wish to create a picture which captures what Wintertime means to you. These pictures can be used in the hall both before and after Christmas. Feel free to choose an idea that inspires you – maybe a snow scene or a picture of a stormy night on your street! Entries can be handed into the school office as they are finished. Please make sure that your full name and class is on the back of your picture. The deadline for entries is Wednesday 12th December – you haven't got long! If you get your entry in before the 12th, it will have a strong chance of going up on the board! There will be a small prize for the winning picture.

Mrs Stead.

Calling for all used soap dispensing bottles.

To encourage independence in Reception we would like to offer our paints in pump type bottles, so that children can help themselves. If you usually have soap at home in bottles with the push down dispenser, please could you save them for us rather than throwing away/recycling when they are empty? We will put them to good use! Thank you.

Mrs Hayes & Miss Leat

Teachers Rock Youth Choir

On 26th November the Teachers Rock and Teachers Rock Youth choir took part in a concert at Exeter Cathedral. The choir was 260 strong and consisted of Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Support staff and of course children from lots of schools across Somerset and Devon. Three children from Wiveliscombe Primary School took part Oliver Tilley, Fern Hellings-Langdon and Paige Cox we would like to congratulate them for taking part in such a memorable event



Dates for your Diary

- 13th December 18 7:45 Bear Skittle Alley
 - 14th December 18 Church
 - 17th December 18 School
 - 17th December 18 School
 - 17th December 18 Church
 - 18th December 18 1:45 in the Hall
 - 19th December 18 9:30 in the Hall
 - 19th December 18 3pm
 - 21st December 18
 - 7th January 19
 - 18th January 19 School
- Next PTFA meeting
 - Rehearsal KS2 Carol Service
 - Christmas Fun Run
 - Christmas Lunch
 - KS2 Carol Service
 - KS1 Nativity
 - KS1 Nativity
 - Christmas Hamper Draw
 - Last Day of Term
 - Return to school
 - PTFA Film Night