



Message from the New Headteacher

Welcome to our first newsletter this school year. I would like to express how thrilled and honoured I am as the new Headteacher for East-the-Water Primary School and Little Skippers Nursery.



As many of you know, I have been at East-the-Water Primary School for over 13 years. I started here in 2008 and progressed to Deputy Head in 2010. Now as Headteacher, I am looking forward to working with the governors, staff, parents and children to build upon the success the school already has and to take the school forward in the next chapter of its history and development.

I am passionate about this school and dedicated to building opportunities for the children to achieve the highest academic standards. I believe that every child has the right to receive an excellent education to help them find the path to a career they wish to pursue as an adult.

If you have any concerns, thoughts or opinions please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Best wishes
Adam Buckeridge

Tempest Photography

We are pleased to inform you Tempest Photography will be in school on Thursday 18th November to take individual portraits. Please ensure your child comes into school wearing full school uniform including their jumper/cardigan.

Author Visits - Appledore Book Festival

Experts agree that reading to children and encouraging them to read daily is one of the most important things we can do to improve our children's self-esteem and their chance of success in the adult world. This is why we are passionate about encouraging children to become readers and to read for pleasure.

This term, we have arranged for 5 amazing and successful children's authors to attend our school and spend time with the year groups to tell them about the magic of reading.

Miriam Latimer will visit Reception on Monday 4th October

Joshua Seigal will visit Year 3 and Year 4 on Monday 4th October

John Dougherty will visit Year 1 and Year 2 on Thursday 7th October

Jess Butterworth will visit Y5 on Thursday 7th October

Dave Cousins will visit Year 6 on Friday 8th October



Face masks and coverings

Unfortunately, Covid-19 is still currently high in our community and so we are continuing to ask parents/carers to please wear face mask or coverings before they enter the school premises. This includes the time you might enter the school playground to pick up or visit the school office at any time during the day.

We thank you for your continued support keeping our school as safe as possible for children, staff and parents/carers.

School clubs

We have been very excited to have the after school clubs back up and running and it has been great to have so many children taking part (just over half the school). A massive thank you to our staff who have provided such a marvellous selection of activities.

Lunchgate/Fake News

Unfortunately, it has been posted on Facebook that we only give children 10 minutes to eat their lunch. I would like to clarify that this has never been the case and that all children have at least half an hour. Most children finish much quicker and some may leave some of their lunch because they want to get outside for all of the fun activities (a tell tale sign of this is when they have only eaten the tasty stuff!). While we encourage children to eat their lunch, we are not going to police what children do and do not eat unless a parent has raised a concern to the school.

Misunderstandings like this are easily avoided by a quick phone call or chat to the teacher. Rather than posting on Facebook, to clarify information or rectify a problem please use one the following options below:

1. Contact the school by phone
2. Contact the school by speaking to a teacher
3. Contact the school

Harmful App



We have made aware of a new, extremely dangerous, website and app called Monkey. This allows users to make video calls with strangers and advertises itself to children as a platform to make friendships online 'face-to-face'. While reviewing this platform, Barnstaple Police have reported it for containing '**inappropriate, disturbing and harmful content**' which is transmitted through web cameras. In addition to this, users are highly likely to be exposed to sexual content, nudity, profanity as well as mature and suggestive themes.

This app has a **government age restriction of 17+ years** however it does not require any form of age verification meaning that a child of any age can download and access this easily.

In the app's privacy statement, they broadcast that children who use their website/app will have no control over how their personal information and media (including photos, videos and screenshots) are shared and used.

We advise, as a school, that our pupils are **not** able to download or access this app/website for their own safety. If your child has access to devices that can connect to the internet, please ensure that they have not downloaded the app and make them aware of the **serious dangers** it possesses.

Medicines in School

Just a timely reminder that school cannot administer any medicines that have not been prescribed by a doctor and a Permission to Administer form being completed.



Please do not send any medicines (prescribed or over-the-counter) in with your child in their book bags as this is a health and safety issue. Medicines falling in to the wrong hands and being taken by the wrong person can potentially be lethal. Also with not knowing what the child has already taken, there is the potential for overdosing.

We may seem to you to be over cautious but I am sure you will understand all medicines are controlled substance and we all must ensure safeguarding of the children in all instances.

School Diary

Week commencing 4th October - Appledore Book Festival - Author visits

Week commencing 11th October -Year 6 SATS and residential presentation

Week commencing 11th October - Nursery Wilderness Week

13th October - Nursery Speech and Language parent workshops

21st October - Year 2 Northam Burrows trip

15th October (Jellyfish) & 18th October (Octopus) Year 3 Geography trip on The Quay

18th and 19th October - Year 2 Reading and Vocabulary parent workshops

20th and 21st October - Year 3 Reading and Vocabulary parent workshops

25th to 29th October - half term

