

Newsletter March 2020

School Council Election

Congratulations to Blake Cracknell and Michelle Pawlowska who were voted onto our School Council at the end of term. We know that they will work very hard and with care on behalf of our school. Thank you to all the other brave and able candidates.

PTA

The PTA have donated funds of £1800 to the school supporting the school council's request to buy instruments. After discussing with class teachers, the School Council members have identified that each class should have their own box of percussion instruments, from the nursery class to Year 6. Year 4 teachers have requested that more steel pans are also purchased. The school has contributed another £1000 to this purchase enabling all the requests to be met and enriching our music curriculum.

SATS national testing days

All year 2 and 6 children must attend school during the week commencing Monday 11th – 15th May. Year 6 children will be expected to arrive at school at 8.30am, provided with cereal and a cooked breakfast on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during that week.

Changes to school meal and Cabin provision costs

From 1st April; A school meal will be £2.30, a Breakfast Club session will be £4.00 and an After School Club session will be £5.50.

New climbing play equipment at Alverdiscott Road entrance

Thank you to Ms Mower for all the hard work designing and arranging the installation of this exciting area. We are very fortunate to have successfully gained a grant to fund this equipment and have no doubt that all our children will enjoy and use this equipment. Please remember that you are responsible for the supervision of your child until 9am and after 3pm, prior to the start and at the end of the school day.

Litter Bug Teams

We now have teams of children who volunteer to pick litter each lunchtime. So far our teams have worked incredibly hard to make our school a tidier and more attractive place. Well done everyone for your commitment despite the rain, hail and wind!

Alverdiscott Road

Please can I ask that parents report any concerns you have about parking and careless driving to the Devon Highways Dept at Devon County Council. Any incidents of careless driving should also be reported to the Police. I appreciate there are concerns, particularly around the water pooling at the BT box. We have tried to address this with Highways but at the end of last year we had no feedback from them. Steph Slade and Lauren Rider are our Parent Governors, they are both keen to know your views and are willing to raise concerns at the next full governing body. Steph and Lauren can be contacted via the school office if you are unsure how to recognise them in the playground. This concern was raised and discussed at our last governors meeting.

Out and About

Our nursery children are out walking in the local area on a sound walk, listening to sounds in the environment. They are making a stop and a visit along the way! Fingers crossed the weather is dry.

Tarka Trail

Each Year 3 class will walk along the Tarka Trail to support science learning, over three days. Please ensure your child has suitable waterproof shoes and a coat to wear the day your child takes part. We are so fortunate to have this wonderful resource within walking distance of our school.

Sports Relief on Friday 13th March

Ms Mower and Ms Field have organised a dress up day to raise funds for this national charity event. Each child can come to school dressed up as a sports character in return for a 50p donation. Any child not wishing to dress up should come to school in normal uniform and can still donate if they wish to.

Green tops for recycle

We have been overwhelmed by the amount of green tops, making a total of 4900 tops collected since January! These will be sold for recycling and the funds will be sent to the Children's Hospice in Fremington.

Start of the school day

Please remember that the school gate will be no longer available as entry point once the whistle has blown at 9am. To ensure your child is in line before 9am, you really need to be in the playground by 8.55am at the latest. All our Teaching Assistants are kind people who work incredibly hard to support all our families, a group of

people we really do need here at our school. Please avoid being rude to duty staff over a decision to restrict the entrance by a minute, you are already late either way. If you urgently need to give information to the year 5 or 6 teacher, give it to the Teaching Assistant on duty outside Mr Matthews's classroom. At the end of the school day, of course the teachers are more than happy to chat.

Key dates for your diary

Easter break 28th March –13th April 2020

NB 8th May Bank Holiday will be on the Friday this year not Monday

SATS Week (Year 2 and 6) Monday 11th - Friday 15th May 2020

Summer half term 25th-29th May 2020

Parent consultations

Wed 24th and Thurs 25th June (Summer 2nd term)

Year 6 Leavers Assembly Wed 22nd July 2.15pm. No younger or older siblings are invited

Last day of summer term is 23rd July

Autumn term begins Monday 7th September

Autumn Half term 26th-30th October (this is not an extended break as in previous year)

Holiday dates for 2020, 2021 and 2022

Our new calendars and holiday dates are now available from our school website. Please note that October half term 2020 will be only one week long no longer with additional days. The extended half term will now take place in May, commencing May 2021.