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Newsletter - September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

This new term has started extremely well and has been very busy.

Since the beginning of term

- * The whole school watched a performance from theatre Alibi of "Apple John".
- * Year 3 had an exciting residential in Oakhampton Adventure Youth Hostel.
- * 4 children from Year 5 attended a maths workshop at Coombeshead Academy.
- * Eco councillors from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have been on an adventure day - coasteering and raft building.
- * Some children from Years 5 and 6 have completed their bikeability
- * Warburtons have come into school and cooked with Year 1.
- * The whole school were involved with a British values afternoon
- * Some Year 3 children have been having Forest school activities.
- * Years 3 and 4 have been involved with Exeter University and the archaeological dig here in the school grounds
- * Musicians from across key stage 2 have been to an orchestra music day
- * The school have planted trees in the grounds

School Uniform

All the children are looking very smart in their school uniforms, however may I remind you all that the new school uniform policy states that children should be wearing sweatshirts or sweat shirt cardigans.

Once again, for all parents who successfully apply for the Free School Meals scheme, the United Schools Federation would like to provide one free school sweatshirt to your child (and children registered as 'Service' children - at least one parent in the armed forces). This is our thank you for registering for this scheme. Please use this link to apply:

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

Cycling and Scootering

It is great to see the children cycling, scootering and walking to school. If children wish to cycle, they will need to do so with an adult. If they are 10 years of age or over, have completed a Bikeability course and have written permission, they can cycle alone. Bikeability has been organised for years 5 and 6.

To help ensure children stay safe, all children who cycle or scooter need to wear a helmet. Please can we also remind you that they should not ride their bikes or scooters on the school grounds.

School meals

School dinners for KS2 are £2.10 this term.

Please remember that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are able to have a free school meal, so you do not need to pay via ParentPay for them. They just need to know what they would like for their lunch each day.

On **Thursday, 5th October**, we are having a 'Fantastic Food Day'. Schools receive government funding based on the number of children who are eating a school dinner on that day and we hope you will encourage your child to have a school meal on Thursday 5th October. The ParentPay system accepts single payments of £2.10 if your child normally brings a packed lunch but would like to give School Dinners a try. The children will have the chance to win a prize - one from each class. Thank you.

Application for a Secondary school place

For children in Year 6, please remember that applications for a place at secondary school need to be submitted by **31st October**. You need to apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline to have the best opportunity of gaining your child's chosen place.

Please can I remind the parents of children in Year 6 that your children will sit their SATs in the week beginning the **14th May**? Please could we ask that, during this week, you try to make appointments either for the afternoon or for after school, and that you do not take any holiday.

Candlelit procession

The Candlelit procession will take place on the evening of Saturday, 25th November. Within school, we have 2 lovely helpers - Mrs Judy Dewhurst and Mrs Kerswell - who are supporting the children to create a willow sculpture for each class.

We really hope that each class can take their sculpture to this community event, but this can only happen if we have some lovely parent/grandparent volunteers as the creations will be quite heavy for the children.

PTA

I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Charlotte Harvey and Mrs Rebecca Sutherland who did a fantastic job last year as chair and vice chair. The events that they organised were fantastic and these ideas raised lots of money for the school.

We welcome Mrs April Meaden and Mrs Grace Kidd as the new chair and vice and already we have 3 PTA events to write in your diary:

Thursday 5th October is the second hand uniform sale at the end of the school day

Thursday 19th October will be Halloween disco - 5.30-6.30 KS1 and 7.00-8.00pm KS2.

Friday 1 December is the date of the school Christmas Fayre from 5.30 - 7.30pm

Half term holiday

Please note that school closes at 3:20pm on Friday 20th October and gates open again at 8:45am on Monday, 30th October.

If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Amanda Lacey
Head of School

Dates for the term

Dates for the term		Class Assemblies (Usually Fridays but subject to change)	
October			
2 nd	Harvest Festival at St Andrew's church - 9.30am start		
4 th	Year 6 to serve at Community lunch PTA meeting at 7.30 at The Wellington	6 th	Acacia Class Year 5
10 th	Year 1 and 2 trip - The World of Country Life	13 th	Sycamore Class - Year 6
11 th	Clip 'n Climb for Year 4		
16 th -21 st	Local studies week Ipplepen History Society will be visiting this week		
18 th	Year 6 Grandparents lunch		
20 th	School closes at 3.20pm	20 th	Oak Class - Year 1
30 th	School opens at 8:45am		
November			
1 st	Year 6 to serve at Community lunch Work showing 3:30 - 4:30pm	3 rd	Rowan Class - Year 2
6 th	Individual School Portrait Photographs	10 th	Cherry Class -Year 3
12 th	Eco Councillors to attend Remembrance Service in St Andrew's Church at 10.15am		
14 th	British Values afternoon		
17 th	Children in Need celebration day	17 th	Chestnut Class - Year F
25 th	Lantern Procession early evening	24 th	Willow Class - Year 4

27 th	Parents Evening - 3.30- 6.30pm		
28 th	Year 6 Christmas experience at Buckfast Abbey		
29 th	Parents Evening - 3.30- 6.30pm		
December			
5 th	School Christmas Carol concert led by Year 6 and Foundation @ St Andrew's church at 10.00am		
6 th	Year 6 to serve at Community lunch		
7 th	Year 5 Christmas Experience at St Andrews Church		
8 th	Coombeshead Year 10 performance of Mr Scrooge		
11 th	Year 1, 2 and 3 Christmas performance at 6.00 pm		
12 th	Year 1, 2 and 3 Christmas performance at 2.00pm		
13 th	Children's Christmas lunch		
14 th	Christmas party		
15 th	School finishes for Christmas holiday at 3:20pm		
January			
3 rd	School opens at 8:45am		