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Newsletter - September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

Since the beginning of term

- * The whole school celebrated Roald Dahl day.
- * Some children from Year 5 attended a maths workshop at Coombeshead Academy.
- * Reverend Andrew Down has taken a Key Stage 1 and a Key Stage 2 Harvest assembly
- * The whole school were involved with a British Values afternoon
- * The whole school were involved in a Martial arts demonstration
- * Years 4 and 5 have been involved with Exeter University and the archaeological dig here in Ipplepen

Harvest Festival

You are invited to our Harvest Festival at St Andrew's Church on Wednesday 3rd October at 2pm. If you would like to donate some food to Homeless in Teignbridge, your child can bring it in to school with them on Wednesday. Please see attached poster for further information.

School meals

School dinners for KS2 are £2.25 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, 4th 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 4th October. The ParentPay system accepts single payments of £2.25 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.

History Society

The Ipplepen History Society will be working with the school again this year. This will be in the week beginning 15th October. The focus of this week will be World War 1, to commemorate 100 years. To support our work we would like to hear from and see any resources you and your family might have. If you could help please contact the class teacher.

Members of the History Society are invited to share lunch with us on Wednesday, 17th October. On this day, they will be presenting the Arthur French Memorial Trophy.

Grandparent's Afternoon tea

On Thursday, 11th October, the children in Years F, 1 and 2 would like to invite their grandparents to share an afternoon tea. While in school the children will be wanting to ask the visitors questions about their childhood and memories. This is a new and exciting opportunity.

World Mental Health Day

Wednesday 10th October is World Mental Health Day and we will be joining other schools across the country by taking part in #HelloYellow to show young people they are not alone with their mental health. Children are invited to wear yellow clothes to school. Please see www.youngminds.org.uk/helloyellow for more details.

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.

This date is in the middle of our 2 week half term and therefore if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Year 6 team or myself.

Please can I remind the parents of children in Year 6 that your children will sit their SAT's in the week beginning the **13th May 2019**. 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, 24th November at 6.30pm. The procession will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine in St. Andrew's church and this is where the judging will take place.

Within school, we will again be working with Mrs Judy Dewhurst and Mrs Kerswell, who are going to be 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.

Further information regarding this will follow, There will also be Lantern making sessions at the Hub which will take place on the following dates:-

TUESDAY 23rd OCTOBER 10 – 12.30pm
SATURDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2 – 4.30pm
SATURDAY 17th NOVEMBER 10 -12.30pm

PTA

I would like to say a big thank you to Mrs April Meaden and Mrs Grace Kidd 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.

The PTA have worked hard throughout the summer and we now have a new website, please ensure you have visited this and sign up for the new payment method to ensure you purchase tickets for the many events planned throughout the year.

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

Second hand uniform will be on sale at all times through the new PTA website

Wednesday 17th – 19th October children will be able to bring in a carved pumpkin to be displayed in the school.

Thursday 8th November – Winter Disco

Saturday 1st December School Christmas Fayre from 11.00am- 2.00pm

Health and Safety

Dogs in School

Can I please remind everyone that dogs are not allowed on the school premises, that is anywhere within the school gates at both the back and the front of the school.

Staff Car Park

Please can I ask everyone to be very careful at the front of the school, especially in and around the car park? No child should be in the car park as it is in constant use. Please also take extra care when crossing the entrance to the car park.

Playground

Can we remind all parents and carers that the climbing frames in the playground should not be used at the end of the day by the children at school or their siblings.

Also can I please ask that parents and carers exit the school playground swiftly at the end of the school day. We have many children attending a range of clubs and we need to ensure that these children are safe.

Safety

Just a reminder that parents and carers should say good bye to their children at the playground door. Adults should not be inside the school building, a member of staff will be at the door to greet the children. If you have to speak to the class teacher can we ask that you come to the office and either make an appointment or leave a message to be passed on.

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.**

Illness and Medication

If your child is ill, please phone the school office by 9.30am. If your child has had sickness and/or diarrhoea, they need to stay at home for 48 hours after the last bout. Thank you.

Please do not send your child in with throat or cough sweets, as we are not allowed to give them to the children. We will ensure that they are able to drink regularly to relieve any tickly coughs.

Half term holiday

Please note that school closes at 3:20pm on Friday 19th October and gates will open again at 8:45am on Monday 5th November. Remember that half term is for 2 weeks this year.

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

Kind regards

Amanda Lacey
Head of School

Dates for the Autumn Term

Dates for the term		Class Assemblies (Usually Fridays but subject to change)	
October			
3 rd	Parents Meeting – Normal Magic (Mental Health) Training		
3 rd	Harvest Service at St Andrews Church at 2.00pm		Harvest Service at St Andrews Church at 2.00pm
4 th	Fantastic Food Day		
5 th	US Eco-council trip		
W/B 8 th	Bike ability for Year 5 and 6		
9 th	Assembly about the UK Parliament –by Tomas Williams		
10 th	World Mental Health Day – children encouraged to wear yellow to school		
11 th	Key stage 1 and Foundation Grandparents afternoon tea		
W/B 15 th – 19 th	Bikeability for Year 5 and 6 Local studies week		
17 th	History Society lunch and assembly		
19 th	Carved Pumpkin display		
19 th	Last day of term		

November			
5th	First day back		
7th	Work showing 3:30 – 4:30pm		
7th	Year 5 and 6 Digital communication		
8th	School open morning for prospective parents of 2019 Foundation stage children		
		9th	Year 4 Willow Class Assembly
14th	Flu vaccinations – Years F, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5		
16th	Children in Need	16th	Year 6 Sycamore Class Assembly
23rd	Tempest – individual school photographs		
26th	Year 6 Christmas Experience at Buckfast Abbey		
		30th	Year 5 Acacia Class Assembly
December			
Saturday 1st	PTA Christmas Fair		
10th	Parents evening		
10th	Years 1, 2 and 3 Christmas performance – dress rehearsal to grandparents		
11th	2.00 pm Years 1, 2 and 3 Christmas performance		
12th	6.00 pm Years 1, 2 and 3 Christmas performance		
13th	Parents evening		
19th	Children's Christmas lunch		
20th	Children's Christmas Parties		
21st	School finishes for Christmas holiday at 3:20pm		
January			
7th	School opens at 8:45am		
9th	M and M productions – Robin Hood		
23rd	PTA – Bags2School		