

Ipplepen Primary School

June 2020 Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers

As we begin a new month it has been lovely to welcome our families back to school. I would like to thank everyone for their continued support in these very challenging and difficult times.

When I have bumped into or waved to families from my window it has been a real tonic and left me smiling throughout my day.

As we now have more children in our school and as the letter dated 29th May explained, most of the staff are now teaching in bubbles across the school. This will mean that the contact with the children at home will not be as regular. Can I reassure you that you can still contact us as there is always someone to take your call or email.

I would like to thank those of you that have been bringing their children to school for adhering to the social distancing advice while dropping them off and picking them up from school.

May I remind parents of children coming into school that the school is closed from lunchtime every Friday.

We are looking forward to welcoming some of our Year 6 children back to school on Monday after their break from school.

Working with the Community

During this "strange time" we are still going to continue with our work with the community. I have been in contact with Judy Dewhurst and we are going to work with the Silver Stories charity.

Silver Stories was created by David Carney-Haworth OBE and his wife, Elisabeth Carney-Haworth OBE. They created Silver Stories in 2015 in response to their knowledge about the loneliness that can be felt by the elderly in the community and their separation from the younger generation. Having both witnessed how magical the relationship between the generations can be, they wanted to create a way in which this could be fostered whilst also benefiting the participating children. So, from these desires Silver Stories was born.

Children (known as *Silver Readers*) telephone a *Silver Listener* and then read a short story or poem to them. This not only helps the children to become more confident in their reading skills but also links our children to the elderly community and helps diminish their chances of feeling isolated.

Therefore, from the 8th June our Year 6 children will be in contact with persons in our local community who have signed to agree to this initiative. The children will be supervised throughout the telephone. We are hoping that this will bring a great deal of comfort for those who may be experiencing loneliness.

School Anniversary

In February 2021, the school will have been open for 50 years. We would like to get the children and people in the community involved in making bunting to celebrate this special milestone. Anyone can help make the bunting, children, parents, grandparents or friends and you can make one or as many pieces as you wish. You can use any fabric you like and have it plain or embellished. Please use the template attached to this email as a guide for the size needed (please ignore the instructions on the template). This will be a lovely way for you or your children to contribute to something that will be used for many years to come.

Reports

You will have all received by email, your child's report; if you would like to discuss the report with your child's class teacher please email the school and the teacher will contact to make an appointment to discuss over the telephone.

Staffing

At the beginning of the Autumn term Mrs Jackie Hext will be starting her maternity leave. I am pleased to welcome Mr Jack Trolley who will be joining the Ipplepen team, teaching in Year 5. We would like to wish Jackie Hext well and look forward to seeing the new member of her family.

It is with great sadness that Mrs Julia Herbert will be retiring at the end of this term. She has been a teacher here at Ipplepen Priamry School for more than 20 years teaching predominately in Year 1. We wish her well for the next stage in her life, knowing she has many exciting plans. But we also will look forward to her dropping in and saying hello.

Sending best wishes to you and your family, do not forget to wave if you are passing the school.

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

Kind regards

Amanda Lacey

Head of School