

# Newsletter



25<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## Welcome to our new vicar

I had the pleasure of attending the installation of Reverend Leigh Winsbury on Wednesday evening. Leigh will be our new vicar at Exbourne and I welcomed Leigh to the community on behalf of the school. We have already had discussions about how we can work together to develop closer links with the Church and build upon our already strong Christian ethos. We look forward to seeing Leigh in school and meeting the children.

## Fire service talk

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue service visited the school on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> to speak to Class One and Class Three about how to prevent fires and keep safe. The children were really engaged and the volunteers from the Fire Service were complimentary about our children's knowledge and behaviour.

## Learn Devon FREE workshops

Learn Devon visited the school to run a FREE workshop for parents and carers on maths. The parents discussed how best to help their children with Maths and fun ways to keep children engaged. The next workshop will be on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February** and will focus on Reading.

## Parent's forum

The next Parent's forum will be on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of February 4pm- 5pm**. Following the poor turnout at the last forum I have asked several questions of the community to seek a more convenient time. I understand that we are all busy but these forums are a place for you to express any thoughts around the direction in which the school is going and I would encourage everyone to attend if they can.

A poster for a 'Fun with reading' workshop. At the top left is the 'learndevon' logo with the tagline 'adult learning and skills'. To the right are logos for 'Education &amp; Skills Funding Agency' and 'Devon County Council'. Below these is the text 'Learn Devon is funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and European Social Fund. Courses subject to terms and conditions.' The main title 'Fun with reading' is in large green letters. Below it, it says 'Family learning workshop' and 'Parents and carers can come and make resources to support their children's reading in fun ways.' The course code 'FL8210' is listed. The date and time are 'Friday 1 February 1.25-3.25pm' and the location is 'At Exbourne Primary School'. Contact information includes 'Email alison.duckers@devon.gov.uk' and 'Text 07976673315'. A note says 'Please let school reception know if you would like to take part in this workshop.' At the bottom is a photograph of a woman and a young boy smiling and looking at a book together.

At the bottom of this newsletter is a tear off slip for you to suggest topics you would like to discuss, or points you would like made in your absence.

## The door is always open

Please remember that all members of staff are more than happy to meet with parents at a mutually convenient time to discuss your child's learning or issues you may wish to raise. The school number and email are always available for you to make an appointment.



### **Food waste**

Jackie has asked that parents check the school dinner choices with their children to avoid food waste. At the moment many children are refusing to eat parts of their lunch which is causing waste. If you know your child is a fussy eater, but will eat the choices they have made with persuasion, please speak to your class teacher to share the strategies you use at home.

### **Class Two and Three trip to Stonehenge**

We are very excited to have the fantastic opportunity to visit Stonehenge on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February. Stonehenge is the UK's top Prehistoric monument and we are very lucky to be close enough to visit for the day. To ensure we have enough time at the stones we will be leaving school at 7.30am, and returning at approximately 4.30pm. The PFA have very generously agreed to fund the coach for the trip and we thank them for that as it would be unviable without their support. There are other costs associated with extra-curricular trips and we are asking parents for a £5 donation per child attending in addition to schools funds being used. Children will need to bring their own packed lunch and wear full school uniform whilst dressing appropriately for the weather. There will shortly be a full information letter coming out to children in Classes Two and Three.



### **Non-uniform and cake sale for PFA**

Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February will be a non-uniform day with a cake sale at the end of the day to support the PFA.

### **Children, parents and staff questionnaire**

We recently released an online questionnaire for children, parents and staff to give feedback on some key areas of school. The results from the children's and staff questionnaires are very positive some highlights include:

100% of Key stage 1 children feel happy talking to staff when they have a problem

97% of Key stage 2 children say the school encourages them to have a healthy lifestyle

100% of staff stated they are proud to work at our school.

The results from the parental questionnaire were positive but with some clear areas for development, for example 86% of parents felt their child was happy and safe at school (out of 22 respondents). Again I would remind parents they are always welcome to speak to staff about any concerns they have.



Making a New Stone Age roundhouse!

## Diary

### February

- 1st – Parent Forum – 4pm – 5pm, any issues you wish to discuss welcomed
- 5th – Year 3 Gymnastics, Dance and Trampoline event at Okehampton college (All year 3)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Non-uniform and cake sale for PFA funds
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Class Two and Three trip to Stonehenge
- W/B 18<sup>th</sup> – Half term
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Back to school

### March

- 1st – Class One trip to Paignton Zoo
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Learn Devon Fun with reading course
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jumble sale in support of the PFA and Pre-School 2-4pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country (Selected Team)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – West Devon Hockey (Selected team)
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Tag Rugby (Selected team)
- 25<sup>th</sup> – West Devon Football (Selected team)

### April

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Small Schools X-Country (Team event)
- W/B 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> - Easter Holidays

Mr Hill – [head@exbourne-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:head@exbourne-primary.devon.sch.uk)

### Star of the Week

17<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Class one – Jago for consistent cursive writing

Class two – Kelsey for persevering with her learning

Class three – Luke for trying really hard to improve the presentation of his work

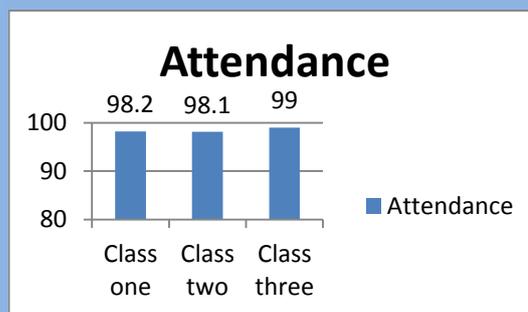
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Class one – Olivia for a great work ethic

Class two – Nina for fantastic writing and story telling

Class three – Malachi for excellent word choices in his poetry

### Attendance since 11<sup>th</sup> January



Fantastic attendance everyone! This is great!

**Parent's forum 1<sup>st</sup> February**

I would like to discuss \_\_\_\_\_ at the parent's forum on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February.

I cannot attend but my views are:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (This can be anonymous if you prefer)

Please return to Mrs Chapman or Mr Hill by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January.