

Newsletter

Live, love, learn

Let us spur one another of acts of love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24

28^h February 2020



The start of Lent

This week marked the start of Lent – the 47 days before Easter. The children have been learning about Jesus' time in the desert when he was tempted by the devil but resisted temptation and devoted himself to God. Today we celebrate this with pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and giving up something to remember the sacrifices Jesus made in the desert. I wish you luck and hope you can resist temptation if you have chosen to give up something sweet!

Shrove Tuesday and Lent celebrations

Reverend Leigh visited the school to speak to the children about Lent and the importance of making good choices. Class One also made pancakes to remember the importance of resisting temptation during lent.

Cross Country at Simmons Park

On Wednesday a team of children competed in a challenging Cross-Country race around Simmons Park, Okehampton. There were some notable successes with Kelsey finishing 5th and Skyla finishing 15th (out of 63) in the Year 3/4 girls' race and Neve finishing 15th (out of 84) in the Year 5/6 girls' race.

Everyone put in great effort and finished the course, which is a success in itself!

Messy Church

On Tuesday night the school staff, parents, Reverend Leigh and members of the community met to discuss launching the Messy Church.



The Year 3/4 girls' team at Cross

We are delighted to say that Messy Church will start on Tuesday 5th May and then the first Tuesday in each month from 3.30pm – 5pm. Messy Church is an inclusive session for parents and children (including any children/young people living in the community) to attend together. All children should have a responsible adult with them. As all teachers will be attending the Messy Church there will be limited spaces for children to attend whose parents cannot attend – but this must be booked through the app. The session will involve crafts, a message and then a communal meal. More details will be made available nearer the time.

World Book Day

World Book Day is Thursday 5th March. We will be celebrating books and reading throughout the day. Events happening that day include:

- Dress up as your favourite book character (Prizes for best costume in each Year)
- Shared story telling with each class teacher
- Unveiling of amount raised by 'Ready, Steady, Read' and the books we have purchased
- Prizes for top earner in each class of 'Ready, Steady, Read'
- Display of 'Extreme reading' photos and prizes for best photo
- Parents/carers are welcome to join us from 2.30 – 3.15pm to read a favourite book with your child.

We can't wait to see your brilliant costumes!

Upcoming sports events:

Our next Cross Country event will be on Monday 9th March, a mixed Key Stage 2 team will be entered into Boys and Girls races .

Thursday 12th March will be the Cyclo-Cross event at Mary Tavy. A year 5/6 team has been entered into this fun event.

Parking

Please can I remind you to be considerate when parking during school drop off and pick up. I am aware that parking is very limited in the village and the field is still too wet to use. None the less, the safety of the children must be paramount and I ask you to park in a considerate manner. Please DO NOT park on the yellow zig-zags outside of the school, this zone must be kept clear for the children's safety. As ever, please consider ways of sharing lifts, walking to school or parking slightly further away and walking to school.

Thank you for your cooperation.

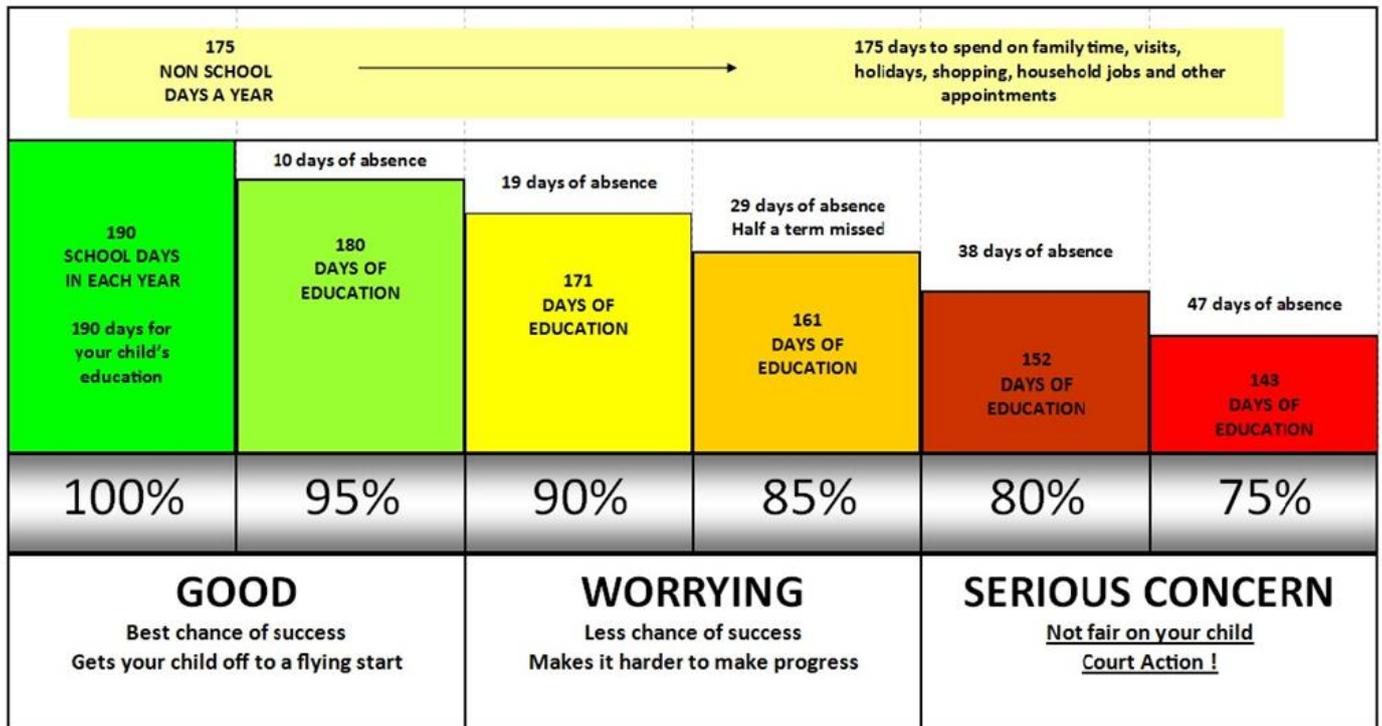
Attendance

Attendance to school is extremely important and we set our expectations very high. Research shows that attendance under 95% can have an impact on a child's academic achievement. Therefore we will contact any parent who's children's attendance falls below 96%. If attendance fails to improve a second letter will be sent before a meeting will be arranged with Mr Hill to discuss attendance. If attendance continues to be low, the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) will be contacted. Those children who's attendance falls below 90% (missing 19 school days, or nearly 4 weeks, of the year) will be classed as 'persistently absent'. If the school can assist you in any way in getting your children to school, please do not hesitate to ask.



Children enjoying their Shrove Tuesday pancakes

DAYS OFF SCHOOL ADD UP TO LOST LEARNING



PLEASE DON'T LET YOUR CHILD MISS OUT ON THE EDUCATION THEY DESERVE - EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Drop off and pick up times

Please be respectful of the drop off and pick up times of the school day. Children must be in class for register at 9am. They are welcome on the playground from 8.50am. Children should be collected at 3.30pm, or promptly at the end of after school club. It is sometimes the case that staff have to attend off site training or have personal obligations that mean they need to leave school promptly.

Sometimes, inevitably, we all run late – if this is the case please call the school to pre-warn staff you are going to be late or that another adult is going to collect your child. Finally, if you are late, it is only polite to apologise and thank the members of staff who have kept your children safe in the interim.

Ready, Steady, Read!

The children have recently brought home sponsor forms and you have been sent information regarding our Ready, Steady, Read! Fundraiser. We have partnered with Usborne books who will provide us with books based on the sponsorship collected by the children. In addition, there will be a percentage of free books given to the school.

If we raise £120 (£2.50 per child) we will receive an additional 10% of free books.

If we raise £250 (£5.00 per child) we will receive an additional 30% of free books.

If we raise £600 (£12.00 per child) we will receive an additional 60% (£360!) of free books.

Finally, there are also prizes for the top earner in each class. Sponsorship money should be in school by the 27th of February, cheques made payable to Jackie Butler (Usborne book coordinator).

Coronavirus

There has been lots in the news recently about the Covid-19 virus or coronavirus. The Department for Education and Public Health England have been issuing advice to schools to minimise the risk of spreading germs/viruses. Please be reassured that the school's current hygiene practices already encompass all the advice given and we will be using the E-bug resources to educate our children about the spread of viruses. There is no need to be unduly worried about the virus nor any reason not to attend school.

Further advice is attached to this newsletter.

Heatree residential

The Heatree residential for Years 4 and 5 will run on the 8th to the 10th July. There will be an information evening by the Heatree staff on Wednesday 11th March at 4pm at Boasley Cross Primary. All those attending are encouraged to come along.

Class One Parents' evening

Please be aware Class One will have their parents afternoon/evening on Tuesday 17th March as Miss Bryant is on a training course on the 19th. Booking time slots will be available next week.

Diary

March

- 2nd - School council event at Oke Primary
- 5th – World Book Day!
 - Dress up as your favorite character
 - Unusual places photo competition end
 - Parents welcome from 2.30pm for shared reading event
- 9th – Worship with Rev Leigh
- 9th – Cross Country at Sleeker's farm – Selected team
- 11th – Heatree meeting – 4pm, Boasley Cross
- 12th – Cyclo Cross – Selected team
- 17th – Class One Parents' afternoon/evening
- 19th – Parents' afternoon/evening
- 20th – Years 4,5,6 watersports event – Meeth Quarry
- 23rd – Worship with Rev Leigh
- 24th – Easter service – 2.30pm at St Mary's Church – Led by Class Three, all children singing.
- 25th – Parents' forum – 5.30pm
- 30th – 13th April – Easter Holidays

Advanced dates

- 8th May – VE Day Bank Holiday (moved from 4th May)
- 11th – 14th May – Year 6 SATS (Free breakfast club for Year 6s)

- 22nd – 26th June – Year 6 transition week
- 1st – 3rd July – Year 6 Bristol Residential
- 8th – 10th July – Year 4 and 5 Heatree Residential
- 17th July – Last day of summer term.

Mr Hill – head@exbourne-primary.devon.sch.uk

Parents Policy: Behaviour and Use of Social Media

Please find attached a link to the current code of conduct policies followed by staff and governors across all of the MAT schools. There is also a copy of the code of conduct for all parents. This outlines the acceptable and unacceptable behaviour of adults whilst on the school premises as well as the usage of social media. Please take some time to familiarise yourself with this useful document.

Policies-

https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/uploads/8/0/6/1/80615962/dmat_code_of_conduct_for_parents_and_social_media_use_statement_v1.0_jan_2020.pdf

https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/uploads/8/0/6/1/80615962/dmat_staff_conduct_policy_v1.5.pdf

https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/uploads/8/0/6/1/80615962/code_of_conduct_trustees_and_governors_v1.1.pdf

Star of the Week

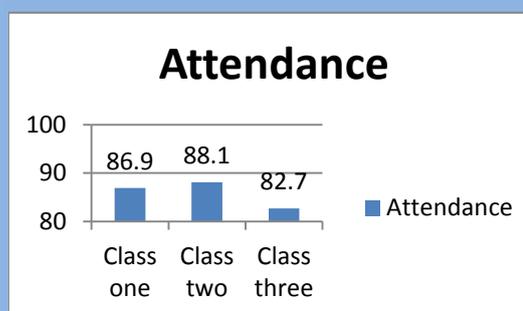
28th February 2020

Class one – Camilla – for always trying her best in every lesson.

Class two – Grace for a brilliant week – so helpful too.

Class three – Libby for positive, hard working and high standard of work.

Attendance since 24th February



Attendance is very low for the first week back after half term break. All students please can we try our best next week to attend school.

*To provide the highest possible quality of education for all local children,
in order to ensure pupils from all backgrounds are able to succeed.*



Coronavirus - Advice for Parents/Guardians 26.02.2020

The government is closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and is providing updated guidance for schools and the travelling public. As the situation is complex and fluid, this guidance is being regularly updated. The latest information can be accessed following the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

The overall risk of Coronavirus to the UK is rated as moderate. However, the Department of Education is currently advising parents/guardians that they should not be unduly worried about the possibility of catching the Coronavirus. The overall risk to individuals remains low and, with the important exceptions described below, there is no reason why your child(ren) should not continue to attend school as normal.

These exceptions are:

Firstly, any pupils or staff who have visited specific lockdown regions since February 19 should self-isolate and should not be in school regardless of whether they display symptoms or not. These lockdown regions are: the Hubei province in China, special care zones in South Korea, Iran, specific lockdown areas* in Northern Italy.

The specific lockdown areas in Italy are currently:

In the Lombardy Region:

- Bertinico
- Casalpusterlengo
- Castelgerundo
- Castiglione D'Adda
- Codogno
- Fombio
- Maleo
- San Fiorano
- Somaglia
- Terranova dei Passerini
- In the Veneto Region:
- Vo

Secondly, any pupils or staff who have visited since February 19 Northern Italy (defined by a line above, and not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos or Myanmar and they develop flu-like symptoms, should self-isolate and phone the NHS 111 number.

Full guidance on these geographical areas can be found by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas>

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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