

UPDATE

The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter

From the Head

Hello all.

Welcome to the summer term. I hope you all had a great Easter. This is a very important time in the school year with many events taking place and the culmination of a great deal of hard work and learning. It is most definitely a fun time but also a chance to show what progress everyone has made. In light of this, our key skill this term is "**Don't give up**" and that will be a focus for us in assemblies and many lessons. I hope to see you all at some point during the term, especially during some of our many forthcoming exciting events.

Term events

This term we have some summer sport fixtures (weather depending), Oceanfest, trips and theme days (including our residential to London), bikeability, our sports day, as well as open afternoon, parent's evening and the leaver's assembly. The year sixes will be also be preparing for the transition to South Molton. More about all of these and other events closer to the time.

Tests

This is the half term where many children take National tests or school versions of them. These tests form only one of the ways that we assess our children and we emphasise that children should not get stressed about them. We remind them to simply try their best and never to panic about them. This year is slightly different for us with the new national curriculum being tested with brand new tests that you have probably all heard a great deal about. We will send home some test guides very soon now and will post some information about them and how we report the results, on our school website. If you do have concerns about the tests or how children are preparing for them, do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher or contact me at school.

Outdoor Learning

We welcome Mr Scandrett to the school and are very excited about our brand new Outdoor Learning sessions. These are not only about learning about our rich habitats and environments but also about learning basic skills and key concepts in the natural environment. We have a wonderful woodland area which is now being used as part of these sessions.

School Council

Mrs Forder has re-started our school council and they are already very keen and full of ideas. A school council is a very important part of school life and we are looking forward to the children taking a leading role in their own learning and school life.

Summer weather

It is still somewhat chilly at the moment but very soon the warmer weather will be with us (I am always an optimist). We would like to remind you about sun protection as we head towards May and would also request that sun hats are sent when appropriate. Sun cream should be sent in or single application cream applied before school please. Please advise us of any special arrangements. Summer dresses or shorts will be suitable this term and sandals are acceptable. Trainers are to be reserved only for PE please unless in school (black) colour. Many thanks.

Enjoy the term

Tim Gurney



Summer Term 2016
Apr '16 Number 73

DIARY DATES

Dates may be amended or added

April 2016

Thu 28th RNLI Beach Safety Talk
Sat 30th Exmoor Challenge

May 2016

Mon 2nd Bank Holiday
Tue 3rd Whole School Photo
Mon 9th-Fri 13th KS2 SATS
Thu 12th Cricket/Rounders (yr 3/4)
Tue 17th Yr 6 visit to SMCC
Move-up Day
Mon 23rd NO SWIMMING
Mon 23rd-Fri 27th KS1 SATS
Wed 25th Governors Meeting
Monday 30th May—Fri 3rd June
HALF TERM

June 2016

Mon 13th-Wed 15^t Yr 6 London Trip
Fri 17th Oceanfest (Yrs 5&6)
Tue 28th Sports Day
Wed 29th Open Afternoon
Thu 30th Yr 6 to visit SMCC
Move-up Day

July 2016

Tue 5th Parents Eve 1
Wed 6th Bikeability 1
Thu 7th Bikeability 2
Fri 8th Bikeability 1
Tue 12th Bikeability 2
Parents Eve 2
Wed 20th Leavers Assembly +
Summer Fete
Last Day of Term

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Forder Mrs Yarney Mrs Everett-Kelway Mrs Partridge Mr Deveney

Mrs Loftus Mrs Dennis Mr Yarney Miss Mair Mrs Glasspool Mrs Dean Mrs Buckee

Mrs Mair Miss Cooper Mrs Rycroft Miss Mair Mrs Jones

'Part of the Exmoor Link Federation'

CLASS 1 (INFANTS) NEWS

Dear families,

Welcome back. The infants have lots of fun topics to look at this term. Our main topic is 'Houses and Homes' and as part of this we will be learning about 'materials'- in science, houses long ago- as part of history, where we live - in geography and looking at decorations and designs as part of our DT work.

Swimming has of course begun and so far we have had two great sessions.

On Tuesdays the class will be able to take part in outside learning with Mr Scandrett from Bishop's Nympton and Chris will be continuing with outdoor games. We will be hoping to take part in an off-site visit at some point during the term and we have the fete, leavers assembly and sports day to look forward to.

Just some reminders:

Homework for Year One and Two must come back to school on Thursdays please so that I can mark it and send some more home.

PE kits on Tuesdays with outdoor clothes.

Swimming kit on Mondays.

Reading books every day.

Have a wonderful summer term and we look forward to catching up with you all over the next few weeks.

Kind Regards

Mrs Yarney,

Miss Mair

and Mrs Dennis.

School Website

www.east-anstey-primary.devon.sch.uk

Our school website will be undergoing some reorganisation over the coming weeks. The website will not be down at any time but some links may not work temporarily and pages may change or move.

Please bear with us while the changes are made.

Queen's 90th Birthday & Anstey Bake-Off

We had a fantastic red, white and blue day to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday complete with high tea. We raised £52 for the school council which will be put to good use in the near future. Thank you to everyone who donated.

All the children brought in amazing cakes for the Great Anstey Bake-Off. Choosing the winners was very difficult (although very tasty!) but after much deliberation the coveted titles of Champion were awarded to Millie, Sophie and Gabriel. Well Done to everyone!

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to pre-school for the summer term and a warm welcome to Chrissy Rycroft our new pre-school assistant. Chrissy is currently completing her Early Years degree and it is lovely to have her with us.

Our main topic this term will be Fairy Tales and we will be learning about houses and homes and linking this to our imaginative play. We hope to learn more about growing and life cycles and stories we plan to read include The Enormous Turnip, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Jack and the Beanstalk and The Gingerbread Man. We plan to build our very own castle and learn more about knights and princesses - linking to the children's interests in monsters, unicorns and horses.

Do you have a picture of your child's home we could share with the group?

Other areas of play and learning will focus on making relationships, understanding and speaking, the world and technology, moving and handling, health and self-care and number.

For some things to try at home:

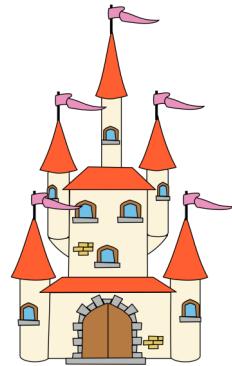
Make a story den and encourage this as a quiet area

Hide and seek numbers

Be a detective with a camera or hand-made telescope - can you spot particular numbers or letters?

We will be having an open afternoon on Wednesday 29th June and a parents evening on Tuesday 5th July. We also have Sports Day to look forward to on Tuesday 28th June - more details on all of these nearer the time.

For those parents whose children will be moving up to school in September, you should have received confirmation of your child's place by now. We will be putting a transition programme in place, to start with a 'Move-Up' Day on Tuesday 17th May when we invite the children into the infant class for a taster of things to come! More information will be coming home soon but if you do have any queries please let us know.



We look forward to a busy term!

Sarah Cooper, Chrissy Rycroft and Mia Jones

CLASS 2 (YEARS 3&4) NEWS

Dear all

I hope you all enjoyed your Easter break. The children have all returned in good spirits. It is going to be a long, busy but exciting term with plenty of opportunities for the children to learn outdoors.

In English this term, we will be completing our explanations in 'How to invent'. The children came up with some cracking ideas for a super teacher chair with features such as a mood monitor and lunch maker! Their next task is to create their own inventions of their choice. After this, we will return to fiction to work on 'How the whales came' where the children can write their own short stories.

In maths so far this term, we have worked on time and place value. We will then return to time to consolidate their learning, then move onto addition and subtraction. To continue with progress, we will have a weekly times tables challenge; the challenge being to improve their score every week up to half term.

In science, we will be working on

habitats, classifications keys, food webs and chains and mini beasts. This will involve investigation work in our local environment, as well as those of Mexico and South America to link in with our topic.

For all juniors

Our topic this term is the Aztecs. The children will be producing a guide book on how to be an Aztec, incorporating all our geography and history work. This will instruct the reader on how to dress, who to worship, what choice of jobs you could have and explain why they were quite unpopular! This is a very creative topic so there are great opportunities for designing and using Aztec patterns, undertake printing and create clay masks.

In RE, we will be looking at rules! Through the rules of different religions, we will find out what they all have in common and how people make choices based on the rules they believe in.

Chris is back this term to take the class for cricket. Mr Scandrett will also continue with outdoor learning

which is incorporating aspects of our science, our local habitat and art work. We had a very positive start to swimming. All the children worked hard in their first lesson and were well behaved and organised. Some reorganisation of groups will take place over the next couple of weeks as the children settle into their lessons.

Homework this term will continue to be athletics, times tables and a literacy based task. Home reading continues to be vital for continued steady progress. Some children have problems completing athletics at home and are therefore given some opportunity at school to do this. If this is the case for your child, please let me know.

If you need to speak to me about any issues or have any questions just pop in in the mornings or after school. If not, I look forward to seeing you later in the term.

Dawn Everett-Kelway
and the
class 2 team

Easyfundraising

Just a reminder that the school is now signed up for 'easy-fundraising' which helps raise funds for both school and pre-school. Over 3000 retailers donate a small percentage of the retail price to our cause whenever you shop with them online via the easy-fundraising website. The retailers are all household names such as Next, Sainsbury's, M&S, Amazon etc and registering is free and easy.

To register go to:
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/eastansteyps

We would encourage as many people as possible to sign up and spread the word to friends and family. Some families are signed up already and we have raised over £80 for the school so far. If you would like further details of the scheme please contact the office.

2015/2016/2017 TERM DATES

Summer 2016

Tuesday 12th April to Wednesday 20th July
May Day Holiday: Monday 2nd May
Half-term: Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June
Non-pupil days: Monday 11th April

Autumn 2016

Monday 5th September to Friday 16th December
Half-term: Monday 24th to Friday 28th October
Non-pupil days: Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September

Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4th January to Friday 31st March
Half-term: Monday 13th to Friday 17th February
Non-pupil days: Tuesday 3rd January

Summer 2017

Wednesday 19th April to Friday 21st July
May Day Holiday: Monday 1st May
Half-term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June
Non-pupil days: Tuesday 18th April and Monday 24th July

CLASS 3 (YEARS 5&6) NEWS

I would like to begin by welcoming everyone back, after the Easter holiday, which already seems like a life-time ago. I trust that all had a restful break and enjoyed the sunshine. The children have returned refreshed, in high spirits and have begun the term with a positive attitude and plenty of smiles.

This term, as is the case every year, is a busy one. There are plenty of sporting events, school trips and the London residential to look forward to. It is also a term when we think about moving on and say our goodbyes to our year 6 children. I do hope you are able to join us in end of term celebrations, when we shall be sending them on their way!

A new addition to the summer schedule will be a business week, which children in year 5 and 6 will run. It will provide them with a great opportunity to develop their entrepreneurial skills and learn to use spread sheets to calculate profit and loss. Any monies raised will be spent collectively on an end of year class treat.

Curriculum opportunities will extend to Outdoor Learning, which will take place, in earnest, each week with Mr Scandrett. The children are lapping up opportunities to learn outside and have warmly welcomed Mr Scandrett to the school. We are very fortunate to be surrounded by a beautiful outside space, which over time, Mr Scandrett and the children will look to enhance.

This term, of course, has a heavy emphasis on end of year and end of KS2 tests. Preparations are now in full swing, so that the children are ready to show us all what brilliant progress they

have made throughout the year. I am proud of each and every one of the children and want to let them know, that regardless of how well they do, they all have special qualities and talents and are all developing into fine young adults. Good luck!

Topic

Our topic this term is the Aztecs. The children will be producing a guide book on how to be an Aztec, incorporating all our geography and history work. This will instruct the reader on how to dress, who to worship, what choice of jobs you could have and explain why they were quite unpopular! This is a very creative topic so there are great opportunities for designing and using Aztec patterns, undertake printing and create clay masks.

Science

This term, the children will be involved in further learning about animals and habitats. We will begin by looking at and understanding food chains in different ecosystems; then moving on to animal classification where the children will read and construct identification keys. In addition to this, the children will look at life on a microscopic level, creating their own compost bins and observing the effects of decomposition with organic matter. For much of this, it is hoped that that we will be able to make the most of our outdoor environment.

RE

In RE, we will be looking at rules! Through the rules of different religions, we will find out what they all have in common and how people make choices based on the rules they believe in.

PE

This term, swimming takes place each Monday; and PE on a Tuesday with Chris, who will lead cricket for the first half and athletics for the second. Full swimming and PE kit is required. Please ensure that all clothing is named; the lost property pile is growing by the week!

Home Learning

Home learning for the first part of the summer will primarily focus on short Sats' style tests. Whilst the children are expected to complete these independently, there is a lot to be gained from looking at how they approach questions and exploring strategies and giving advice, together. This is a useful exercise for me too, as it allows me to assess what they know and where their gaps are in their understanding.

Once the assessment period is complete, then home learning will return to more familiar ground: half termly spellings, follow-up reading linked to guided sessions and a weekly athletics activity.

The children will continue to have science or topic homework that will be research or project based. These tasks still continue to be very popular with the children and make an enormous contribution to their learning and the learning environment.

As is the case every term, there are a number of up-coming whole school events, which I hope to see you at. However, should you wish to come into school before then, you are very welcome.

Nic Forder,
Elspeth Dennis,
and Dave Yarney

Notices and Reminders

- If sending money in to class, please put it in a named envelope stating what it is for to make sure it is allocated correctly.
- Most payments (e.g dinners, trips etc) can now be made online via Tucasi. We would encourage parents to use this system where possible - If you would like a reminder of how to register for online payments please contact the office. Payment can also be made by cash or cheques (payable to Devon County Council unless otherwise advised).
- If you would like the school to administer medicines such as antibiotics or painkillers, please ensure a permission form is signed in the office. We are unable to give the medicine otherwise.
- Please label all uniform as it is easy to mislay items even in our small school.
- Please remember to let us know by phone or note if your child's normal after school transport arrangements will not apply. This is particularly important when after-school clubs are running.
- We would be grateful if parents could avoid using the staff car park (including visitor space) during the morning and afternoon drop off/collection to allow safe access for the school buses.
- Children can be left in school from 8.45am onwards. If you do arrive earlier than this please stay with your children until that time.

Thank you!

Clubs

Our after-school and lunchtime clubs for this half term are as follows:

After school clubs: (3.30-4.30pm, except archery 3.30-4.45pm)

Monday: Archery *North Devon Archery Academy*
 Athletics *Mrs Everett-Kelway*

Tuesday: Cricket (juniors) *Procoach*

Wednesday: Computing *Mrs Yarney*

Lunchtime clubs:

Tuesday: Cricket (infants) *Procoach*

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Vouchers are available in stores until 3rd May and our collection box is in reception. We will start counting up shortly so do have a rummage in purses and wallets for any strays!

Many thanks

Thought for this half term...

Aim high. You'll be amazed at what you can achieve.

Spring Term Achievers

Weekly Achievers

Class 1 Achiever: *JUNO*

Class 2 Achiever: *CHAKITA*

Class 3 Achiever: *GILES*

House Points

Totals so far this term



Ruby **171 points**

Sapphire **146 points**

Emerald **162 points**

Amber **153 points**

EXMOOR YOUTH CHALLENGE

GOOD LUCK! to our teams across the Exmoor Link Federation who will be taking part in the Exmoor Challenge on Saturday.

We are fortunate to have been given an extra team this year so everyone who wanted to is now taking part and we have five teams in total, all setting off at various times.

Huge thanks again to Graham Turner for providing logistical support and helping with first aid.

We look forward to hearing how everyone fared next week!

Tiverton Museum Victorian Family Day

On Saturday 30th April Tiverton Museum are holding a Victorian family event: dress as a Victorian, try not to get into trouble in a Victorian school day, play parlour games or with Victorian toys and games or try our mangle.

No booking required and most activities free with admission.

See www.tivertonmuseum.org.uk for more details.

What is working and what isn't? Please use the Soundboard below, pick up the phone or come in and see us. All suggestions and issues are important to us and we will work together to resolve any problems.
We hope you are finding the new website useful, but any requests or suggestions for content etc would also be very welcome.

Please cut this out and return it to school with any comments/suggestions/questions etc.

Soundboard