

UPDATE

The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter

From the Head

Hello everyone and welcome to the autumn term.

I hope that you all had a great summer holiday. For once the weather was reasonably kind so that I hope you managed to make the most of it. We will have some good weather but Autumn is now on the way and the year marches on. "Soon be Christmas" is something that you may not want to hear just yet but actually this term always races along and this is one of the most exciting times of the school year.

It has been another lovely start to a school year at Anstey. As always in September we welcome our new children and families. The children have made a super start in their classes and I have enjoyed seeing the enthusiastic excitement as they all learn new routines or make some new friends.

Staffing

First, I would like to welcome some new staff members to our team. Miss Woollacott has joined us in the juniors in a teaching assistant capacity. We also welcome Mrs Bondy to cover Class 2 whilst we complete the process of recruiting the new class teacher.

Curriculum

Our Primary Learning Pathways curriculum is now underway. We will be updating the website during this term with this so look out for the logo. We will also be publishing lots of useful information and links to enhance the learning experience. We have now started to publish newsletters on our Facebook and Twitter pages and will be looking to add more regular class updates too.

The class topics are now underway. The infant and pre-school topic is Around the World with Barnaby Bear. The juniors will be studying Ancient Greece. These are the topic themes and give a framework for the term but all other curricular areas are planned into our provision. More on this below. One additional exciting project to mention is the Tim Peake Primary Space Project. We have been really lucky to have been selected for this work where we learn using space and space exploration to explore science and many other subjects. There is even a chance that we may get to meet Tim Peake himself!

Events

There are lots of these to look forward to this term. Our sporting festivals get underway again soon and we look forward to the Harvest festival that is just around the corner. We will have opportunities for you to come in to school, where the children can share their learning with you and we will hold the annual book fair soon. Keep an eye on our regular newsletters for more on these.

Christmas

The eagerly awaited Christmas play will begin preparations later this term. As always we look forward to some excellent performances. We will also hold Christmas dinners, parties and a Carol Service as part of our seasonal festivities.

Contact

We want to go green! Well, at least we would like to do our bit to save resources and as part of that we will be soon aiming to send newsletters via email (we would still send paper copies by request). Could you please use the Soundboard (at the back of this newsletter) to send in your contact email address or at least ensure the office has this information? We will then start to update our records. Many thanks.

I hope to see you all at our events very soon. Enjoy the term.

Tim Gurney



Early Autumn Term 2016
Sep '16 Number 74

DIARY DATES

(Dates may be amended or added)

Sep 2016

Wed 21st

Governors 6.15pm BN

Oct 2016

Wed 5th

Harvest Festival 9.30pm

Fri 7th

Big Bang (yrs 5 & 6)

Fri 14th

Open Morning

Fri 19th

Parents Eve 1

Mon 24th-Fri 28th Oct HALF TERM

Monday 28th Nov - Fri 2nd Dec

BOOK FAIR

Dec 2016

Mon 5th

Governors 6.15pm EA

Mon 12th

Christmas Play 2pm

Tue 13th

Christmas Play 4pm

Wed 14th

Christmas Play 6pm

Thu 15th

Xmas Dinner + Party

Fri 16th

Carol Service

Last Day of Term

Mon 19th Dec - Mon 2nd Jan

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Jan 2017

Tue 3rd

Non-Pupil Day

Wed 4th

Children Return to School

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Forder Mrs Yarney Mrs Bondy Mrs Partridge Mr Deveney
Mrs Loftus Mrs Dennis Mr Yarney Miss Mair Miss Woollacott Mrs Glasspool
Mrs Mair Miss Cooper Mrs Rycroft Miss Mair Mrs Jones
'Part of the Exmoor Link Federation'

CLASS 1 (IN FANTS) NEWS

Dear families

Welcome back to school. We've had a lovely start to the term and we'd like to welcome all of our new children into the Infants.

This term our topic will be 'Around the world with Barnaby Bear' and we will be finding out about countries around the world, as well as our own homes. This will include; festivals, food, the weather, geography, art work, music and how people live. We hope that you can get involved too by encouraging your child in their home learning.

As you all know, Mr Scandrett will be running outside learning and PE on a Monday and Chris our Pro-coaching leader will be running PE on a Tuesday. Your children will need a full PE kit for both of these days to include shorts, t-shirt, trainers, warmer trousers/leggings. Jumpers are optional but spare socks are usually a good idea. PE

kits can stay in school for a few weeks and we will send them home if they get muddy or wet.

Book bags will be sent home nightly to be returned to school every day. Letters and information often come home in bags so please check them in the evenings. We will aim to read with children one to one at least once a week but feel free to come and change your child's book if you feel that they have had it for a while.

We would encourage children to keep books so that they can re-read them at least twice. Please see our reading booklet for more information.

At the end of the week we will send home a 'home learning' pack this may include spellings, on-line maths games (mathletics) or something to find out about our topic. Please return to school the following week for checking and to be renewed.

We have a no home toys policy in the infant class. This is because we are quite short on space and things get lost, which causes lots of upset. We understand that at this early stage lots of our new children need a small comfort toy, but we will be encouraging them to keep them in their bags. We will be running special show and tell days so that children can bring in interesting things to share. I'll let you know when this is all set up.

We hope you have a lovely term and we look forward to meeting you at our open afternoons and on parents evenings. Please don't hesitate to contact the office or pop in at the end of the day if you have any questions.

*Liz Yarney, Lizzie Mair
and Elspeth Dennis*

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to pre-school and a special hello to our new families!

Our main topic this term will be Barnaby Bear. We will be gathering inspiration for activities from Barnaby's adventures and will be asking you all to take turns to provide a loving home for Barnaby over a weekend.

Other areas of play and learning will focus on self-confidence and self awareness; listening and attention; people and communities; moving and handling; shape, number; rhythm and rhyme and exploring media and materials.

We meet with the reception class every Wednesday afternoon and will be taking part on celebrations and events such as the Harvest Festival and Autumn and Halloween activities.

For some things to try at home:

- Teddy bear hide and seek
- Footprints in the garden that lead to a den—who lives inside?
- Autumn colour walk—how many colours can you find?
- Crayon leaf rubbings

We will be joining the rest of the school for Harvest Festival on Wednesday 5th October at 9.30pm at East Anstey Church. All pre-school children and families are welcome to come along, even if your child does not normally attend on a Wednesday.

We look forward to a busy term!

Sarah Cooper, Chrissy Rycroft, Louise Mair and Mia Jones

CLASS 2 NEWS

Hello from Class 2!

My name is Mrs Bondy, and I will be teaching in Class 2 every morning. I will also be covering Class 3 every Wednesday afternoon until October half-term. I feel very lucky to be teaching in such a welcoming, happy school.

This term, yellow *Home Learning* books will be sent home with the children on Wednesdays, with various homework pieces inside. Please return the books, with the homework completed, on Mondays.

In Class 2, the children will have five spelling words to learn per week; there will be a quiz on Fridays to test their knowledge of these words. Also a maths quiz will be sent home for the children to practise when there is an upcoming Friday maths quiz; this won't be every week thankfully!

There will be Mathematics challenges set online for the children and it's always good if they practise their times tables at home two to three times a week. Homework is not meant to be a chore and is instead intended to

keep you, as parents, in the loop about what topics we are covering in school and give you a chance to help extend your child's learning and enhance their progress. We ask that you try to read with your child three to five times a week for ten minutes.

In Religious Education, we will be covering Harvest celebrations this term which will include poetry and the art work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo. I look forward to working with you and offering the pupils an enjoyable education.

Kristin Bandy

Autumn Term Achievers

Weekly Achievers: last week

Class 1 Achiever: **MILLIE**

Class 2 Achiever: **JAMES**

Class 3 Achiever: **SOPHIE**

Autumn Term Achievers

Weekly Achievers: this week

Class 1 Achiever: **JOLYON**

Class 2 Achiever: **BROEDY**

Class 3 Achiever: **AMBER**

House Points



Totals so far this term

Ruby 64 points

Sapphire 73 points

Emerald 59 points

Amber 72 points

School Meals and Pupil Premium

Our kitchen team work hard to provide both a nutritionally balanced and an appetising menu and we would like to encourage all families to take advantage of the opportunity for their children to have a hot meal at lunchtimes. A reminder that school meals are FREE for all children in years R,1 and 2 and are automatically included in the scheme - no form filling is necessary!

A reminder also to all families to contact us if you think you may be eligible for free school meals. If you are eligible then the school will also receive Pupil Premium for your child(ren) which has many benefits for them, including discounted school trips and visits and other resources within school. Please note that even if your child is in the infant class and automatically receives free school meals it is still important to apply if you think you may be eligible. The application process is quick and simple and can be done via the office or for more information see www.devon.gov.uk/free_school_meals.

CLASS 3 NEWS

Hello everyone

May I begin by warmly welcoming you all on your return to school, following the summer break. I trust that you were all blessed with a peaceful and relaxing holiday with your family. The long break offers everyone the opportunity to properly unwind and spend those precious times together.

And now, of course, refreshed and reenergised, here we are with a new year ahead of us to look forward to. The Autumn term is very much about new beginnings, establishing routines and expectations and setting out on a journey of new discoveries. All of the children, I have the pleasure in reporting, have begun brightly, with fantastic spirits and a real desire to learn.

This term-and indeed across the year-is very much about promoting our key school drivers: standards, skills, experience and confidence, which you will see evident in the learning environment, the children's learning, as well as their attitudes and behaviours. Events throughout the term will give families the opportunity to come into school and see for yourselves what this looks, sounds and feels like.

Learning this term has already begun. The Ancient Greeks form the theme for much of the learning, along-side space exploration. There will be a number of opportunities to participate in high quality STEM engagement (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.) This includes a class trip to a Big Bang event in Torrington in October; involvement in a new and exciting Tim Peake project, run in collaboration with the national STEM Centre and which will, in actual fact, run throughout the whole academic year; and membership to a newly formed science hub at Dulverton Junior School, which will champion science experiences, including the chance for pupils to become involved in an astro camp, a met office sleep over and other projects like Lego robotics. I can't wait.

In addition to high standards in core

subjects, we are very much in pursuit of excellent specialist provision in other curriculum areas too. It is with the greatest pleasure that I can reveal that Mr Scandrett has now become an intrinsic part of the team at East Anstey. He will lead outdoor learning and the development of the outdoor learning environment, across the school. Mr Scandrett will work specifically with the junior children on a Friday afternoon, which will regularly include a PE session. The children will, of course, need to come fully prepared for activities outside and for all weathers- remembering to take all clothing home with them at the end of the day, please.

Chris will continue to lead an additional PE session, as in previous years, taking place on a Tuesday. Please ensure that your child comes fully equipped with appropriate clothing for this session.

This term marks the return of Mrs Partridge to the junior class, who will be delivering topic sessions, as well as PSHE and computing. She will be joined by Mrs Bondy, who will teach art and technology and RE. I would like to welcome Mrs Bondy to the school and wish her a happy time with us here at East Anstey.

Home Learning:

Reading

Home learning will be set on a Friday and due in the following Wednesday. As part of this, children will be expected to complete a follow-up guided reading task-usually reading. They are also encouraged to read individual books as often as possible at home- to themselves and to an adult- as this improves fluency and confidence with their reading. Spending time reading to your children is likewise extremely beneficial- encouraging a love of reading and widening their experience of a range of books. It also provides a lovely excuse to spend quality time with your children.

Spelling

All children will be given a list of words, each half term, which they are required to know how to spell by the end of KS2. We practise strategies in school, which they develop over time to help remember spellings and they will be expected to use these methods to practice spelling the words, once each week, as part of home learning.

An English task will be set each week, but this will be largely based on other areas of the curriculum and be project based. It will provide the children with the opportunity to apply literacy skills and work in a more open-ended and creative way.

Maths

Most weeks, a Mathematics task will be set, linked to learning in class. New for this year, will be weekly times tables or mental maths practice. Once the children have begun practising in class, they will bring home a copy of the test, which they will sit in school, each Friday (times tables and mental maths, alternately.) They will progress through levels, as they achieve full marks in each test. To help your child progress quickly, they will need to practise at least once each week. Obviously, the greater the opportunity to practise, the more fluent they will become.

Once the term is in full swing, we will be holding the first of this year's open afternoons (set for a morning this time) and parent consultations, at which we can discuss how well the year has begun and well your child has settled in. I very much look forward to meeting with you then. Should you wish to pop in before, my door is always open. With a non-teaching commitment Monday and Wednesday-Friday afternoons, I am available to speak to then, or indeed after school, if that is more suitable.

Wishing you all and the children the very best for the term ahead,

*Nic Farder,
Elspeth Dennis, Dave Yarney
and Becky Woollacott*

Clubs

After school clubs:

Tuesday: Multiskills (juniors)
Pro-coaching

Wednesday: Chess (juniors)
Finishes 4.15pm
Mrs Bondy

Thursday: Eco Club
Mrs Yarney

Lunchtime clubs:

Tuesday: Multiskills (infants)
Pro-coaching

2016/2017 TERM DATES

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

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).
- 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!



Book Fair



Dear Families

Year 6 will be running a book fair for the week beginning Monday 28th November where we will be selling books and stationery.

We will also be running our second-hand book stall and nearer the time we will be collecting the following-

- Good quality books - suitable for any age
- Comics

Look out for more details nearer the time.

Thank you in anticipation,

Year 6

Do join us for our

Harvest Festival

on

Wednesday 5th October

9.30am

East Anstey Church

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