

# UPDATES

The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter



Summer Term 2018  
Apr '18 No. 79

## From the Head

Hello all.

Welcome to our summer term. I hope you all had a great Easter holiday. This is always a very important time in the school year with the culmination of a great deal of hard work and learning. This is the children's chance to show what fantastic progress they have made and then enjoy the end of year events. As always, I hope to see you all soon and look forward to an exciting term.

### Events

Each summer term we have some fantastic events to look forward to. Some of these include: the Exmoor Challenge, (see back page), sports fixtures (we have already competed in the South Molton Tag Rugby tournament) and festivals, Oceanfest 18, theme days, trips (including our fantastic residential to London, Junior Lifeguard Award, Life Skills, Sports Day, as well as our open events, parent's consultations, summer production and our leaver's events. The year sixes will be also be preparing for their transition to secondary phase education. 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. We help the children to prepare themselves for them but also emphasise that children should not get stressed about them. We remind them to simply try their best and never to panic about them. 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.

### Funding

You may well have heard of the current pressures on school budgets in national and local media or through our own communications. We continually explore all avenues for fundraising to ease these pressures and in light of this you may well see correspondence from the school or PTA giving details of fundraising events and we hope you will participate in as many of these as you can, The Pupil Council are starting the ball rolling with the May marathon—further details are on Page 5.

### What's New?

Even with tight budgets, we always aim to improve our wonderful school wherever we can. In light of this, we will be looking to upgrade facilities wherever possible. We now have brand new windows which are fantastic and a great improvement. You may have noticed the excellent weather proof canopy sides in our reception play area. We are also looking to upgrade our computers and IT equipment as well and will also look to upgrade some of our other outdoor facilities.

### Summer weather

The weather has been a little up and down, but very soon generally warmer conditions will be with us (I am always optimistic). It is therefore time for me to send out my reminder about sun protection as we head into May and would also request that sun hats are sent in when appropriate. Sun cream should be sent in or single application cream applied before school please. Please could you also advise us of any special arrangements? Summer dresses or shorts will be suitable this term and sensible sandals are acceptable. Trainers are to be reserved only for PE please unless in school (black) colour. Many thanks.

## DIARY DATES

Further dates may be amended or added; please keep an eye out for any changes

### May 2018

Sat 5<sup>th</sup> Exmoor Challenge  
Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday  
Mon 14<sup>th</sup>-Fri 18<sup>th</sup> KS2 SATS  
Mon 21<sup>st</sup>-Fri 25<sup>th</sup> KS1 SATS  
Thu 25<sup>th</sup> Governors' Mtg 6.15 BN

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June HALF TERM

### June 2018

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Move up day 1  
Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Swimming begins  
Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Careers event, Dulverton  
Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Junior Lifeguard (Yr 6)  
Tue 12<sup>th</sup> Glider comp winners event  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Lifeskills (Yr 6)  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Oceanfest (Yr 5)  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup>-Thu 21<sup>st</sup> Yr 6 London Trip  
Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> EA Village Fete  
Thu 28<sup>th</sup> Move up day 2

### July 2018

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Open morning/afternoon  
Wed 4<sup>th</sup> South Molton music event  
Thu 5<sup>th</sup> Sports Day  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations  
(School and Pre-School)  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Business Afternoon  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Leavers Event and Last Day of Term

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Forder Mrs Yarney Mrs Partridge Mr Deveney

Mrs Loftus Mrs Read Mrs Dennis Mr Yarney Miss Mair Miss Woollacott Mrs Govier Mr Holloway

Mrs Mair Miss Cooper Mrs Rycroft Miss Mair Mrs Jones

'Part of the Exmoor Link Federation'

## INFANT NEWS

Dear families

Welcome back to school and our summer term. We have a really exciting topic this term called 'Sparkly Twinkly - Space'. In Science we will be learning about materials and how they are changed by forces, heat and cold and what animals and plants need to survive and why only Earth has life in our Solar System. The children will also be learning about the planets and for History about Neil Armstrong and why he is famous. For Design and Technology we will be looking at rockets and designing our own and also creating a healthy lunch for an astronaut. RE is about how the world was made and the different creation stories there are in different religions and cultures.

Our Literacy for the next three weeks will be based around the story 'August and his smile' and our Maths focus

will be on additive reasoning. Phonics will continue daily alongside guided reading, spelling practise and super sentences.

Mr Scandrett will be running Outdoor Learning on Wednesdays as usual and Chris will be in to run Pro-Coaching on a Thursday. So outdoor learning clothes will be needed on Wednesdays and PE kit on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The weather will probably be changeable for a few weeks so the children will need wellies and waterproof coats initially.

Homework for this term will be the same as last. During the first couple of weeks I will send home a project grid where the children can choose how they would like to represent their learning for this term: a model, a power-point, a poster etc. I would ask that children continue to

practise and learn the spellings from their 100 and 200 spelling sheets and continue with 'Mathletics' a few times in the week. Reading should be daily, and we will continue to award stickers and awards for children practising at home.

We are really pleased to welcome Mrs Jones to our class for the summer term. She is a final practise PGCE student from Exeter University and I'm sure you will get to know her well over the coming weeks. I am also very happy to welcome back Mrs Govier after her time away. We have really missed her in class and it will be great to have our team back together. Thank you so much to Mr Yarney, Mrs Dennis, Miss Woollacott and Sarah Cooper for covering and supporting over the last few months.

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## L.I.N.E (LEARNING IN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT)

I always look forward to our Wednesday L.I.N.E sessions. Class 1 are such an enthusiastic group of children wanting to enjoy and learn about their local natural world. This term we will be investigating pollinators and how humankind would not survive without them. We will explore their habitual needs and look into how we can create and sustain habitats for them on our school grounds.

Please ensure suitable clothing is in school on a Wednesday. We will be soil shifting, wood working, flower crafting, honey tasting and generally getting as close to nature as possible. Please also

## PRE-SCHOOL NEWS



Welcome back to all and a warm welcome to Lily and Callie as they begin their learning journey at Pre-school.

This term's topic Earth and Space 'Sparkly Twinkly' will enable us to explore the children's interests of transport and as we continue to learn more about the natural world. We hope to be planting seeds and developing our outdoor provision as the weather improves. We will continue to work closely with Class 1 and plan to join Mrs Yarney and Reception at least once a week.

Over the next few weeks we will be concentrating on 'rockets' and 'planets', talking about where we live and beginning to understand different concepts; including distance, time and size. Cardboard boxes and wallpaper will be used in quantity as we create our own space launch pad and space pictures! As we investigate space we hope to be broadening the children's language and imagination. Please encourage your child to bring in and share any 'space' toys you may have at home that we can use at our 'show and tell' circle time.

Celebrate your child's progress on the developmental app Tapestry. You too can comment on obser-

## 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 if we do not have this in place.
- 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.



Just a reminder that the school is 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](http://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. If you would like further details of the scheme please contact the office.

## JUNIOR NEWS

Welcome back everyone. The summer is, of course, the final term of the year—although you wouldn't be alone in thinking that this is some way off arriving. The Spring flowers growing along the hedgerows, however, now add a splash of sunshine to each day and gardens are beginning to burst with life. I don't doubt that Summer will replace Winter in very short order and then we really will be able to make the most of our beautiful setting. This term promises to be a busy one, as is traditional for this time of year. There will be plenty of events to look forward to, which I am sure will delight and engage the children and provide families with the opportunity to come in to school and celebrate achievements of one kind or another together.

### National Tests

We gear up for national tests from the beginning of the term and with your support ensure that the children are test ready. This year, preparations include focused and intensive sessions with me, during the afternoons (helped along by incentives of a sugary nature), in addition to small group, adult-led core delivery sessions which are time tabled in the mornings, as is usual. Dan Deveny will also work with some children to provide an extra boost, where necessary. A joined up approach will enable the children to take each test in their stride and with work with confidence. This will, of course, provide us- yourselves and school- with one part of the bigger picture, because developing the whole child is what is really important to us and remains very much at the heart of all that we accomplish at East Anstey. In the meantime, encourage your children to rest, relax and get plenty of sleep, so that they are mindfully ready for test week, which takes place the week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> May. Should you wish to discuss any matters regarding arrangements and how this will affect your child, then please do not hesitate to come in and speak with me.

### Events

The children will be working equally

hard at extra-curricular events, and making the most of the brighter weather afforded at this time of year. These range from annual events which have very much become part of our curricular experience: Sport's Day, the Exmoor Challenge, Business Afternoon and swimming; as well as school trips and the London residential. More information on all of these, later on in the term. Perhaps the pinnacle of the term is the Leaver's Assembly, a time of reflection, celebration and good cheer, as we send our lovely year 6s off on the next chapter of life's exciting adventures.

### Learning

Following on from our studies of the Great War, our attention turns to World War II, another of histories turning points. During this topic, the children will gain a war time perspective through the eyes of a child making comparisons between localities; developing an appreciation of time before, during and after the war and it's enduring impact on landscapes.

### Science

The topic this term is on sound and we will investigate how vibrations cause sounds and how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness.

### PSHE

There are a range of topics this term which will include drug awareness, emotional well-being, healthy eating and handling finance during our business week. The children will learn about these topics through discussion, information sharing and research.

### RE

Learning this term focuses on Sikhism. The children will discover the importance of key figures and scripture in their beliefs. They will also be looking at Sikh places of worship and their religious customs.

### The Arts

In music, the children will explore composition and music which denotes the

WWII era.

In art, as part of the children's study of World War II, the class will embark on an Anderson Shelter project. This will involve experiencing life inside, when seeking shelter during the London Blitz using a mock up in the hall. They will then research, design and build a model of their own.

### PE

PE will take place on Thursday and Friday, as before. Outdoor learning will be delivered on a Friday also. In the second half of the Summer term, the children will also take part in a five-week swimming course, which like last year will consist of five one hour sessions.

### L.I.NE (Learning in the natural environment)

We are edging closer to reaching our goal in the Green tree school awards as we are aiming for the prestigious Gold award. To achieve this we will be turning to the works of Shakespeare, creating habitual requirements for our pollinators and looking at how, as a school, we can become even greener.

Although the weather is hopefully improving, it is still important that suitable clothing is provided on a Friday as we will still be scrabbling around in the dirt. Sun protection will also hopefully be required.

### Pupil Council

Back by popular demand: Marathon in a Month, will take place during May. Early preparations are already in full swing. The Pupil Council team will be providing the children with all relevant information in the near future.

### Clubs

We have a full programme of clubs to look forward to:

- Eco Club
- Comic Club
- Pupil Council
- Archery
- Sports

All that remains is for me to wish you a happy and healthy Summer. I look for-



Well done to Mr Scandrett and the children for all the work they have been doing in their Outdoor Learning.

We are pleased to say that the school has been awarded the Woodland Trusts Green Tree Schools Silver award.

With a real push, we hope to get the Gold Award by the end of the year—watch this space!

## WELCOME

Hello East Anstey!

My name is Mrs Jones and I am a student teacher from Exeter University. I am completing my final teaching practice placement at your lovely school, working alongside the infant class. I am very much looking forward to getting involved in school life over the coming months and getting to know the staff, children and families alike.

### KITCHEN NEWS

In consultation with the children, Lorraine Kennealy, our Kitchen Manager, has developed the new menu for the summer. Copies have been emailed home and are on the website, but do contact the office if you need a hard copy.

You will see that the menu has retained some popular meals, introduced some new ones and reintroduced some old favourites. Meal charges remain at £2.30 each with free meals for all Infant children.

The meals are all nutritionally balanced and freshly cooked from scratch; a fabulous service that we are very lucky to retain.

We are looking at the feasibility of reintroducing the healthy tuck shop that we used to run here. Further details will be published as they become available.



Richard Holloway, our catering assistant at Anstey, is also a lay preacher for our local group of parishes. He has launched a blog that looks at the world through the eyes of a Christian parrot. The blog can be found at [www.christianparrot.com](http://www.christianparrot.com) — do have a look and see if his is something you would enjoy reading and/or participating in.

### TERM DATES

#### 2017/18

##### Summer Term 2018

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

May Day Holiday: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Half-term: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**Non-pupil days:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July

#### 2018/19

##### Autumn 2018

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Half-term: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

**Non-pupil days:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

##### Spring 2019

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

Half-term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

**Non-pupil day:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January

##### Summer 2019

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

May Day Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Half-term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**Non-pupil days:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We continue to encourage families to sign up for free school meals and pupil premium wherever possible as it results in additional funding that is directly available for your child. This can be used to subsidise trips, clubs etc as well as providing additional support if needed in school.

With the introduction of Universal Credit, the criteria for eligibility has slightly changed. Full details are available on <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

### PUPIL COUNCIL

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018, we will start holding a school marathon. This will include running a mile per day for 26 times. We will be running around the school field. The older children will run 8 laps a days and the younger children 1-4 laps. Children will be coming home with sponsorship forms on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of April. Please ask other members of family and friends to sponsor your children. Funds are being raised for school equipment.

Thank you,

*From the Pupil Council*

Thought for this term...

**Aim high - you will be amazed what you can achieve**

## *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*

**Thursday :** Sports (juniors) *Procoaching*

**Lunchtime clubs:**

**Wednesday:** Eco Club *Mrs Yarney*

**Thursday:** Sports (infants) *Procoaching*

**Friday:** Comic club *Mrs Jones*

## House Points



Totals so far this term

**Ruby 80 points**

**Sapphire 120 points**

**Emerald 63 points**

**Amber 71 points**

## *Summer Term Achievers*

### *Weekly Achievers*

*Infant Achiever: Grace & Lily*

*Junior Achiever: Judah*

## EXMOOR YOUTH CHALLENGE

If you have been following our school blog, Facebook or Twitter feeds, you will perhaps be aware of our preparations for the Exmoor Challenge. This event is a sixteen mile, circular walk across part of the moor starting at culminating at Dulverton Junior School.

The event, once again organised by the Rotary will see around six hundred competitors and takes place across some really challenging terrain. Our year 6 children take part as part of a curriculum module and this year we have two teams entered across the federation. Anyone completing the course receives a medal but teams are also battling the clock between checkpoints and trying to avoid penalty points to feature well in the final rankings.

The event takes place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May at Dulverton school with our teams getting underway around 09.50. Do come along if you would like to cheer them on (great refreshments available and the moor on your doorstep) but I am sure you will also join me in wishing them the very best of luck for the challenge.

*Tim Gurney*

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 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*