



# School **Update** - *Autumn 20*

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*The East Anstey School Newsletter*

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## Welcome

**18th September 2020**

Welcome to the Autumn term. School is fully open (albeit under different circumstances) and it has been great to see families and children returning once again. It is always a delight to see new faces at this time of year as well - welcome to you if you have just joined us. We will be aiming for as full an "Autumn Experience" as possible this term and across the year with virtual versions of events and provision planned where appropriate. This includes some exciting seasonal events right up to Christmas! More on this as the events take shape.

I hope to see you all as the season progresses. Enjoy the term.

Infant News



Dear families

Welcome back to school. We are really happy and excited to be starting our new year with all of the children back at school. Things will obviously be quite different but please don't hesitate to message or ring with any questions or concerns as they arise.

We started off this term with a week focused on our feelings and emotions. We were keen to make sure that we understood how all of the children were feeling on coming back to school and to provide support should they need it. We had a lovely week talking about our experiences and things that made us feel happy, sad, angry etc. We made sunshine suns and hopeful rainbows, which are displayed in the hallway. We will continue to make this a focus for the weeks to come.

This term we will be learning about our seasons, Autumn and the weather for science – this gives us the opportunity to spend lots of time outside, observing, collecting and comparing. In art we will be learning about portraits and famous artists such as Da Vinci, Andy Warhol and Matisse and creating our own self portraits. Geography will be about where we live, our local area and our school environment. Getting a sense of where we live and how this is the same and different to where other people live.

In our maths lessons we begin the cycle with counting, understanding numbers, place value and comparing the value of numbers. In English we will be looking at stories in familiar settings and linking our writing to other areas of the curriculum.

As you already know, PE will be on a Wednesday and PE and Outdoor Learning on a Thursday – so children will be expected to come to school in their PE kits with only their Outdoor Learning things as extra. Many children now have a reading book at home, and could we remind you that the children only need to return them to school on a Friday – so that we can change the books and see how you have been getting on. (We will be continuing with our 'read 3x to get a voucher' scheme, where children will earn a prize or treat if they read 3x at home.) Reading is more important than ever, due to our long break, so we encourage families to read as often as they can. Little and often is the best method for fluency and confidence. Your children will have an additional book to be kept at school for daily reading here.

For the youngest members of our Class the Nursery children will be focusing on settling into school over these first few weeks, getting used to routines and each other again. We are starting with talking about our homes and families, painting pictures, portraits, craft faces, feelings, where we live and our friends.

Mrs Yarney will be setting some KS1 spelling practise, athletics challenges and topic projects on Fridays, through Office 365 – so that we can reduce passing things between home and school. We will explain more as we get started.

We are still awarding Dojo points for work and behaviour and you can access your child's account in the same way as you were doing during our break. Mrs Yarney is also happy to answer any queries through Class dojo messages.

We look forward to making contact with everyone over the coming weeks and although parents have restricted access to our school site we are keen that you can talk to us or contact us when you need to. Mrs Yarney will be running virtual parent meetings via Teams on Office 365 later in the term but we are more than happy to chat to people after school on the phone or set up a Teams meeting if you should need one.

## **The Infant Team**

Mrs Liz Yarney, Misses Lizzie Mair, Sarah Cooper, Louise Mair

## Junior News



Hello everyone

I would first like to send my best wishes to you all during these very uncertain times. The last few months have been, and continue to be, tricky for us all but a glimmer of hope is that your children have returned to school with such an amazing attitude that I have been bowled over.

We spent the first couple of days settling them in, promoting how to protect our mental health and providing them with a number of strategies to deal with any emotions or thoughts they may have been having. We also spent some time finding out where the children were in regards to their learning ready for the term ahead.

I am pleased to say that whilst we have uncovered some areas for our immediate attention, that broadly the majority of children are ready to be fully immersed in our exciting and full curriculum.

Our team in CL2 are myself, Mr Scandrett, Mrs Dennis and Miss Nichols. We have more capacity to split the four year groups to allow for more targeted teaching this year, which is working well. The children come together first thing in the morning for guided reading and then during the afternoon for foundation subjects. The class is then split into Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 for core (literacy and numeracy) which not only allows us to extend children further and closer to their age appropriate objectives and provide effective provision, but also allows us to spread out across the two classrooms and library space that we have.

We are lucky to have lots of space to enable children to spread out throughout the day whilst still allowing for group discussions and sharing ideas with their peers.

### **Teacher**

#### **Session (s)**

#### **Mrs Scandrett**

Literacy, Numeracy, Music, Science, ICT, MFL, RE

#### **Mr Scandrett**

Literacy, Numeracy, Outdoor learning, PE, Geography, PSHE

### **Mrs Dennis**

DT and Art

### **Miss Nichols**

Sports coaching - PE

### **Physical Education and Outdoor Learning**

Mr Scandrett will be delivering PE each **Wednesday** and then Outdoor learning each **Thursday** afternoon.

Miss Nichols will be delivering Sports coaching each **Thursday** afternoon.

At the moment we are asking parents to send their child/children into school dressed in their PE kits on these days. If they can also bring waterproofs for the outdoor learning session each **Thursday**, as the children will be going outside 'whatever the weather.'

### **Home Learning**

Home learning is a very valuable part of your child's education not only in practising skills, but mainly in the interaction it can provide when working alongside a parent or older sibling. It will take a variety of forms and will be sent home each **Friday**. This will then be due the following **Wednesday**, when all home learning books need to be handed in.

### **For your information:**

- **Times tables** to be practised each week in preparation for our 6-minute club each Friday morning.

Children will have their **own individual times table** to learn and these can be taken directly from the board in class as the child progresses.

### **Spellings**

- Ten weekly spellings which will be practised within school developing methods and also looking at spelling patterns. Spelling is an important requirement in the English curriculum and requires support from both school and home. Children will then be tested each Friday during our SPAG (Spelling punctuation and Grammar) sessions.

### **Reading**

- All children are encouraged to choose a book from school to take home to read. However, I am more than happy for children to read a range of texts and try to make it clear that I want them to develop a love of reading, so anything which interests them is fine. We do weekly guided reading sessions whereby I formatively assess and also develop comprehension skills through group texts. We encourage parents to listen to their **children read at least once each week** and also, to make a comment within the reading record, if possible. It is a great home school link.
- Children will also receive **one other piece of homework** each week. These activities are designed to encourage home interaction along with developing basic skills. Lots of the

activities are game based and very enjoyable. All activities are explained to the children when handed out.

Finally, can I wish you all a great Autumn term and I look forward to seeing you at any of our online celebrations such as the Harvest assembly; open morning; our Carol Service and of course parent consultations.

With kindest regards

Jenufa Scandrett

### **If Your Child is Unwell**

The government regulations remain that anyone (including children) that show any of the recognised Covid 19 symptoms should be tested as soon as possible.

The symptoms are listed as:

- A high temperature or
- A new continuous cough or
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

To book a test you should go to the online [NHS Test Booking page](#) or call **119**. Tests can be booked either at a testing centre (more coming on stream every week), or for a home test kit to be sent out. We know of frustrations in trying to book slots for tests - new appointments are released at 8.00pm each day for the following morning and at 10.00am for that afternoon. If anyone is struggling to get a slot, it may be worth trying at those times. We do understand the frustrations of trying to book tests at the moment, but have no control over these systems.

Please let the school know if your child or any of your immediate family are going to be tested. Please could you then let us know the result (whatever the outcome) as soon as possible - there are systems that the school needs to follow in these circumstances and we do rely on families informing us of their situation. Our normal rules of confidentiality and data protection will apply in these circumstances.

Should a child become ill during the day, we will call home to get them collected in the usual manner.

## **The Edgemoor Challenge**

We have received some information from The Edgemoor Group of Parishes regarding forthcoming walks that you and your families might like to take part in. See below for details.

Each route can be walked, horse ridden or cycled, skateboard or roller blades. EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT IS RECOGNISED EVEN IF THE ROUTE IS NOT COMPLETED.

If you are interested in participating we would appreciate if you could contact us and a pre-pack of FULL details including routed maps (plus details of the Ultimate Champion Challenge - not yet revealed!) will be sent either by email or post prior to event. This also gives us an idea of how many to cater for.

\*There will be a small charge of £5.00pp/£3.50 for under 12 years to cover the cost of your CHALLENGE T-shirt. (cash only)

**For more information contact:**  
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[www.edgemoorparishes.org.uk](http://www.edgemoorparishes.org.uk)

**THE EDGEMOOR CHALLENGE AUTUMN 2020**

**'Bringing Our Communities Together'**

**Refreshments along the walk with a Cream Tea at the end!**



**The Edgemoor Autumn Challenge** is an inspiring, fun event spread over several weeks giving a wonderful opportunity to extend friendships and share life experiences with those living within the Edgemoor group of parishes. What better way for our well-being is there other than exploring our beautiful North Devon countryside with friends, neighbours and family?

**WALK 1: ( 8.3 miles)**  
 26<sup>th</sup> September:  
 Starting from 10 am :  
 From: Bishops Nympton Church to Mariansleigh to Rose Ash finishing at Knowstone

**WALK 2: (6.16 MILES)**  
 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
 Starting from 10am:  
 From : Knowstone Church to West Anstey finishing at East Anstey

**WALK 3: ( 6.71MILES)**  
 10<sup>th</sup> October:  
 Starting from 10am:  
 From: Molland Church to Twitchen finishing at North Molton

**WALK 4: (6.96 MILES)**  
 17<sup>th</sup> October:  
 Starting from 10am:  
 From: North Molton Church to High Bray finishing at Charles



## Term Dates

### 2020-21

#### Autumn 2020

Monday 7th September to Thursday 17th December

Half-term: Monday 26th to Friday 30th October

**Non-pupil days:** Thursday 3rd , Friday 4th September and Friday 18th December

#### Spring 2021

Tuesday 5th January to Thursday 1st April

Half-term: Monday 15th to Friday 19th February

**Non-pupil day:** Monday 4th January

**Summer 2021**

Tuesday 20th April to Friday 23rd July

May Day Holiday: Monday 3rd May

Half-term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

**Non-pupil days:** Monday 19th April

## You Can Adopt!

We have had some information through from Devon County Council giving further details on up to date adoption procedures. If you would like to take a look, please [follow the link here.](#)

## Good News



**Awards** Class 1 Achievers - Reef Class 2 Achiever - Juno

Well done everyone for an excellent week at school. Everyone is settling into their new routines so well.

## East Anstey Church Fundraising



Keith and Kate Bavin is have set up a 'gofundme' page as part of efforts to raise money to restore the bells at East Anstey Church.

Please take a look at the page [\(available via this link\)](#) to find out more and donate if you wish.

Connect:



Do you have some good news for us or an advert you would like to share? Do you have some community news or would like to promote a project or event? Connect with our newsletter and reach a wide audience. Children, do you have something to share (book reviews, hobbies etc)?

- Email your news or adverts direct [news@exmoorlink.org](mailto:news@exmoorlink.org)

- Email the office [eastanstey@exmoorlink.org](mailto:eastanstey@exmoorlink.org)

This newsletter is also available as a PDF

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*Thought for the term...*

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**The Hills are not as High**

**The Sea so Deep...**

**As a Dream**

*Kit Williams (Masquerade)*