

UPDATES

The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter

From the Head

Hello all,

Welcome to the summer term. I hope you all had a great Easter holiday. This is a very important term in the school year with many events and the culmination of a great deal of hard work. It is a fun time but also a chance to show what we have been learning. In light of this, our key skill this term will be "Aim high" 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 exciting events.

Exmoor Challenge

Our year sixes are training hard for the Exmoor challenge which takes place tomorrow. Last Saturday we completed nearly 9 miles of the course in some nice conditions and all did extremely well. This Saturday we hope the teams will complete all 16.1 miles. The walk will take around 7 hours to complete. I must again say a huge thank you to Graham Turner, Rob Partridge, Mrs Everett- Kelway and Nicky Boundy for providing logistical support and helping with transport. Good luck to the teams for the bank holiday weekend.

Term events

This term has many fun events for us all to look forward to. We have some area music festivals, summer sport fixtures (weather depending), Oceanfest, life skills, trips and theme days, sports day and fete, as well as open afternoon, parent's evenings 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.

Exciting Developments

You may know that the school is preparing to implement the new national curriculum from September. As part of this we will be holding an overall school review. One part of this will be to plan to develop our grounds and premises and all aspects of our provision. This is a very exciting time with some great plans already being created (I have spoken to some of you already about this). We want to involve you and I will be contacting you over the next few weeks to find out what you think and to get you all involved in the next phase of school improvement for East Anstey.

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. If you do have concerns about the tests or how children are preparing for them, do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Summer weather

Hurrah! The sun is now on its way. With the warmer weather I would like to remind you about sun protection and would 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 now 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



Early Summer Term 2014
May '14 Number 67

DIARY DATES

Dates may be amended or added:

May

Sat 3rd Exmoor Challenge
Mon 5th May Day Bank Holiday
Wed 7th Group Photos
12th-16th KS2 SATS Week
Mon 19th PTFA AGM 8pm (tbc)
Wed 21st SMCC to visit Yr 6
Thu 22nd KS2 STEM at Petroc

Half term

Mon 26th - Fri 30th May

June

Mon 2nd Junior Lifeskills Yr 6
Wed 4th Junior Music Festival
Mon 9th Open Afternoon 2.30pm
Tue 10th Yr 6 to visit SMCC
Fri 13th Bikeability Day 1
Mon 16th Bikeability Day 2
Fri 20th Oceanfest Yrs 5&6
Mon 23rd Sports Day 2pm

July

Tue 1st Yr 6 to SMCC
Move-Up Day
Mon 7th Parents Evening 1
Mon 14th Parents Evening 2
Wed 23rd Leavers Assembly & Fete
Thu 24th Last Day of Term

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Yarney Mrs Everett-Kelway Mrs Partridge Mr Deveney Mrs Attwood Mrs Loftus
Mrs Dennis Mr Yarney Miss Williams Mrs Glasspool Mrs Dean Mrs Buckee Mrs Tilbury Mrs Mair

INFANT CLASS NEWS

Dear families,

We hope you had a lovely Easter. We are looking forward to a fun filled summer term. Our topic this term is 'Plants and growth'. The children will be learning about the parts of a plant and how plants grow, also the many different plants and animals that we can find in our local environment.

We are inviting the children to bring in pictures of their gardens or plants at home so that we can put them up on display. We will return these at the end of the term. Please write your child's name on the back of your photo so that it gets home safely. (If any budding gardeners out there have some spare bedding plants to share then we would be very grateful. We'd like the children to experience as many different plants as possible.)

In our Art we will be looking at the paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe and how she painted flowers and natural objects. Later in the term

the children will be taking part in an Art Week and we shall let you know the details closer to the time.

Our History and Geography topics are based on where our food comes from. We shall be looking at the voyage of Christopher Columbus and the discovery of the West Indies. We'll also be looking at the journey of chocolate across the world as well as other foods that we know today.

Our Literacy will be a range of texts from 'traditional tales', information texts, recounts and stories with familiar settings. Our Maths will be a mixture of calculation, shape, space and measure, data handling, time and money.

PE: All children will need a full PE kit for this term. This should include, shorts, t-shirt (school PE t-shirt preferably) some warmer leggings or track suit bottoms and PE shoes. Trainers are the best thing for running on the field and in the playground.

We will be taking part in Sports Day and other sporting activities throughout the term, as well as dance every week so children will need PE kits to take part. If you have any problems then please contact Mrs Yarney or Miss Williams. Long hair will need to be tied up out of the way.

Please could I ask parents to remind their children to only bring in a small toy from home. Our classroom is quite small and it soon fills up with bigger toys. I have asked the children to only bring in a toy if it can fit in their tray and nothing precious or important in case of breakages. One toy per child please.

We look forward to catching up with everyone over the coming term. If you have any questions or concerns please come in and see us.

Liz Yarney, Nicola Williams,
Elspeth Dennis.

Art: Georgia O'Keeffe	Geography: where our food comes from	History: the voyage of Christopher Columbus	Science: Plants and growth	PE: Leap into life, striking and kicking, dance.	Music: what's the score? Following symbols in music	RE: our beautiful world, creation stories.	ICT: art programmes, using Kodu
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PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Pre-school enjoyed a belated Easter Egg Hunt on Tuesday 29th April. Thanks to Prilla Vereker for organising this lovely annual event which is always enjoyed by all the children.

Thanks must also go to Michelle Maltby and her amazing efforts in fundraising for the Pre-school. Michelle organised a quiz night and a murder-mystery evening and both events were very well received, raising well over £1300 - a fantastic achievement.

It is good to note that pre-school is now extremely well attended with numbers almost at capacity. We had hoped to complete the transfer from committee to governor run provision from the start of this term, but unfortunately some small procedural delays meant it could not take place at that time. We are now hoping to make the change during the second half of this term. If you have any queries about the process, please call in to the pre-school or school.

Thought for the term...

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

JUNIOR NEWS

Hello and welcome to the summer term. I hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing break over Easter.

In the junior class this term, we have a final teaching practice student, Emily Jones. Emily has settled in quickly and the children are already enjoying the literacy lessons on story writing, she has taken so far. She will be working with us until July, so you will have a chance to meet her throughout the term.

As you know, year 6 SATS and optional SATS (years 3, 4 and 5) will be taking place the week commencing the 12th May. We have been revising the maths curriculum we have studied so far this year and have been practising the types of questions the children will encounter in the tests. These tests are nothing for the children to worry about. They just form part of our end of year

assessment. During that week, the children will be able to undertake a research and fact file creation project on whatever subject they wish to. This can be something for the children to think about over the coming week so they are ready to start their project on the Monday of that week. This project can be on anything that interests them, as long as they know enough about it through research or books from home or the school library. We will also be completing a version of Batik art work on rivers that week.

We have started our topic on rivers for the term. We will be looking at the course of the river, geographical processes, flooding, local and worldwide rivers. Through science, we will look at the water cycle and river habitats. We are hoping to have a field trip towards the end of

term to a river location.

In RE, the children are comparing Christian and Buddhist creation stories and beliefs and how they influence their everyday lives. For PHSE, we are looking at feelings; what makes us happy and how to deal with bad feelings.

In PE we have started work on track and field events, preparing for sports day, and cricket skills.

In you have any questions or concerns, please come in and speak to us. Otherwise, we look forward to seeing you later in the term.

Dawn Everett-Kelway,
Claire Partridge,
Elspeth Dennis,
Dave Yarney

2014/2015 TERM DATES

Summer 2014

Wednesday 23rd April to Thursday 24th July

May Day Holiday - Monday 5th May

Half term - Monday 26th to Friday 30th May

Non-pupil Days: Tuesday 22nd April and Friday 25th July

Autumn 2014

Monday 8th September to Friday 19th December

Half term - Monday 27th to Friday 31st October

Non-pupil Days: Thursday 4th and Friday 5th September

Spring 2015

Tuesday 6th January to Friday 27th March

Half-term - Monday 16th to Friday 20th February

Non-pupil Days: Monday 5th April Monday 13th April

Summer 2015

Tuesday 14th April to Wednesday 22nd July

May Day Holiday - Monday 4th May

Half-term - Monday 25th - Friday 29th May

Non-pupil days: Thursday 23rd July 2015

Exmoor Challenge

Best of luck to

**Joe
Edward
Kiedis &
William**

for the Exmoor Challenge
tomorrow.

Clubs

After school clubs are:

Tuesday - Study club

Finishes 4.15pm

(Mrs Everett-Kelway)

Wednesday - Dance club

(Atalia)

Thursday - Cooking club

(Dates to be confirmed)

Finishes 4.30pm

(Mrs Yarney/Mrs Partridge).

Lunchtime clubs are:

Wednesday - Gardening

(Mrs Attwood)

**N.B. Clubs will change after
half-term**

PTFA

PTFA QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 9th May, 7.30pm

Sportsman's Inn,
Sandyway

£10 per head to include
Carvery Supper

For further details or to
book a team

Contact Sharon on
01398 341932.

Notices and Reminders

- Look out for a letter coming home today regarding the introduction of free school meals for all infants in September. It would be really helpful if the form could be returned as soon as possible.
- We are in the process of changing our on-line payment system with training ongoing. We hope to introduce the new system in the next few weeks so look out for more information soon. In the meantime please do not use the School Money system for online payments. Cash and cheques payments are of course still welcome.
- Junior tuck shop - Cheese, crackers and cereal bars are available. Each child has a named wallet for their tuck shop money.
- Infant break - free fruit and/or vegetables, with milk available at 10p per cup.
- 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.

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