

UPDATES

The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter

From the Head

Hello all.

I would like to wish you all a very happy new year and hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break. Welcome to the spring term and 2015. It never feels very much like spring this early in the year and we always keep a close eye on the forecasts. We are never put off by the weather though, and we are already racing into the exciting new term.

Spring Term

This is as always, a short but very full term. Classes are already launching into their new topics – Toys in the infants and India in the juniors (read on for more details in each class). Look out for the school blog which will let you know about what we have all been doing. We will be planning a number of exciting activities linked to these topics, so watch out for more info in the weekly updates as well. We welcome back Pro Coaching to the school and also look forward to some dance tuition this term. We are planning a number of sporting fixtures this term but they are likely to take place when the weather is a little improved. These will hopefully include some home and away football fixtures and perhaps even an exciting tournament later in the term. There might be opportunities for netball / tag fixtures as well. There are also some fantastic musical opportunities with the chance to attend or participate in a number of performances (more details to follow).

Swimming is not taking place this term but is instead planned for next term at our usual Tiverton pool venue.

Heatree

As you are all probably aware the spring residential trip is to Heatree Activity Centre on Dartmoor. This is an excellent venue with varied adventurous activities and should again be very exciting. As in previous years children from our sister school Bishops Nympton will be on site as well. The two schools will be separate in terms of accommodation and most activities but will join up at certain times. More details will also be sent out soon about our London trip for year 6 in the summer.

Exmoor Challenge

We are hoping to enter three federation teams in the Exmoor Youth Challenge this year. You may be aware that this event is a highly challenging event for teams of year sixes and includes full open moorland walking over a sixteen mile course. It also involves map reading, orienteering and extremely close timings! We will begin some trials and are planning more practices this year - just as soon as the weather improves! More updates as we get further into the term.

Winter weather

This is the worst half term for the weather and so could I request that children are well prepared for wintry conditions with coats, gloves and appropriate footwear. If severe wintry weather occurs then please follow the **SNOW CLOSURE GUIDANCE** (previously sent). Please be aware that the systems to find out if the school is open include: Facebook, School text system, School Answerphone, Radio Devon and the Devon County Website. These are the main systems as staff may not always be able to get to the school to put notes on the gates. If bad weather strikes during a school day then you will be contacted accordingly.

Enjoy the term

Best wishes

Tim Gurney



Early Spring Term 2015
Jan '15 Number 69

DIARY DATES

Dates for the Diary:

(Dates may be amended or added)

Jan 2015

Tue 20th *BBC 10 Pieces at SMCC (Yr 6)*

Feb 2015

Monday 16th to Friday 20th February

HALF TERM

Thu 12th *Infant Trip: Tiverton Museum*

Tue 24th *Open Afternoon*

Mar 2015

Mon 2nd *Parents Evening 1*

Mon 9th *Parents Evening 2*

Thu 12th *Photographs*

Wed 19th-Fri 21st **HEATREE**

Fri 27th *Last Day of Term*

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April
EASTER HOLIDAY

Apr 2015

Mon 13th *Non-pupil Day*

Tue 14th *Children return to school*

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 Mair Mrs Glasspool Mrs Dean Mrs Buckee Mr Hutcheon

Mrs Mair Miss Cooper Miss Mair Mrs Jones

INFANT CLASS NEWS

Dear families,

Welcome back to the infant class. We hope you had a lovely Christmas. We are looking forward to our New Spring topic all about 'Toys - old and new' and all of the exciting things that we have planned. We would also like to welcome Miss Lizzie Mair to the classroom. She is filling Miss William's role in the classroom and we are all really looking forward to working with her.

For our topic we are going to be finding out about toys that we play with today and how they are different from toys that our parents and grandparents played with. We have a trip to Tiverton Museum booked in to look at and learn about their large collection of modern and old fashioned toys. In science we will be looking at materials and what our toys are made from and also how they move, pushes and pulls, and what forces are needed to make them work.

Literacy will be made up of a selection of fiction, non-fiction and poetry as well as more of a focus on spellings, grammar and punctuation. Maths will be the progression of counting,

problem solving and number facts. We will look at shapes and measures, money and time.

For RE Mrs Attwood will be covering Divali and the run up to Easter as well as our PSHE topics about Health and Growth, Safety and friendships.

Class routines:

The infants will need a **PE** kit every **Monday and Thursday** (this includes a school t-shirt, dark blue or black shorts and some shoes suitable for running and games.) On a Monday our Pro-coaching sessions are usually outside, weather permitting, so it may be a good idea for children to bring in a spare kit for on the field. This could be any kind of PE kit that you don't mind getting muddy. As the weather is colder now children could bring in some leggings or tracksuit bottoms.

The children will also need to bring in their **reading folders** daily and we ask that the children read at home as often as they can. You are welcome to come and change their books if you would like to but we do ask that children read their books at least 2 or 3 times before you

change them and that they stick to their book band colour unless a change is agreed by a teacher. We also put lots of notices and letters in bags so please check them regularly so that you don't miss any messages.

Snacks: The children are allowed to bring in a morning snack and the school will provide fruit for free. We do ask that any other snack that the children bring in for playtime is a healthy one. We are promoting healthy eating and children will be allowed to have fruit or a fruit based snack, a wholemeal flapjack or muesli bar or cheese, cheesy strings etc. No sweets, chocolate or crisps please. If you have any questions about snacks then please just ask.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns then please don't hesitate to pop in for a chat.
Happy New Year!

Liz Yarney,
Lizzie Mair,
Elspeth Dennis,
Lisa Buckee
and Martin Hutcheon

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. 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). We are approaching the end of the financial year so we would be grateful if accounts could be kept up to date. Many thanks.
- 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.

Thank you!

Thought for this half term...

Today is the first day of the rest of your life.

JUNIOR NEWS

Dear families

I hope you all had a relaxing Christmas break. It is great to see the children looking fit and healthy after all those colds at the end of last term. It was also lovely to hear so many of the children describe the best part of their Christmas as time spent with family and friends.

Our topic this term is India. It's a great topic with many opportunities to link across the curriculum into literacy, art, maths, RE and dance. We will begin with discovering where India is in the world, the landscape and weather using maps, atlases and the internet. We will use two contrasting locations in India as case studies- Chembakolli and Bangalore.

In literacy, we will be blocking our work into topics. The first three weeks will be supernatural and magical places story writing. We will then learn about letter writing and writing adverts.

In maths, we will be learning about place value and addition; addition and number; addition and subtraction; shape and measure; multiplication, division and fractions; number and fractions and written multiplication and division.

In science, the topic this term is electricity. This will involve investigations creating a variety of circuits, as well as staying safe with electrics.

In music, we will continue to practice music notation but will also be trying to play that music on brass instruments. You may be relieved to hear that the children will be unable to take the instruments home but they will be available to play after school on a Tuesday, if they would like further practice. In RE, we will make links to the variety of religions practised in India.

PE will continue to take place on Monday and Thursday afternoons.

Please continue to provide a warm track suit on a Monday, as we will be outside as much as possible for circuit training. Full school PE kit is needed for Thursday's lesson in dance and long hair must be tied up please.

Further information regarding residential will follow later in the next few weeks. If you have any questions or concerns, Claire or I are always available for short periods of time in the morning or after school for longer.

We look forward to seeing you all at open afternoon.

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

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to Pre-school! It is lovely to see everyone back and full of news from the Christmas holidays. This half term runs for six weeks to Thursday 12th February. Half term break is Monday 16th to Friday 20th February and we return on Tuesday 24th February.

Our main topic this term will be Toys and Winter, including winter festivals and weather change. We hope to 'show and tell' with toys and favourite books from home; look at how toys are made and operate; make our own toys; look closely at the winter weather and how it changes and affects us. We will also celebrate Chinese New Year, with 2015 being the Year of the Sheep.

Other areas of play and learning will focus on our feelings; speaking; the outdoor world; how things work; shape, space and measure; moving and exercise; making marks and using media and materials.

It would be lovely if parents could bring in a photograph of their child and their favourite toy to include in a display for later in the term. Could we also request that children bring warm coats, hats and gloves as we like to get outside as much as possible. Thank you.

We look forward to a busy half term!

*Sarah Cooper,
Susan Mair,
and Louise Mair*

SCHOOL MILK

The Department of Education's new School Food Plan requires that all pupils at school be provided with the opportunity to have a daily drink of milk. In order to administer this the school has joined the Cool Milk scheme. Milk is free of charge to children under 5 and those in receipt of free school meals; for other pupils the cost is subsidised at around 22p per day. Letters have been sent home regarding this but just to confirm for those families who would like their children to receive milk:-

- Families of children over 5 and not in receipt of free school meals - register with the scheme either online or by post.
- Families of children in receipt of free school meals - contact the office to register (milk not provided automatically)
- Families of children under 5 - your children have been registered automatically.
- Families can opt in to the scheme at any time .

Please note that the Cool Milk scheme replaces our current milk arrangements as of Monday 19th January. We will finalise and send home any amounts owed for milk up to Friday 16th January and will also refund any cash held on account.

If you would like any further information, including another copy of the letters recently sent home, please contact the office.

2014/2015 TERM DATES

Spring 2015

Tuesday 6th January to Friday 27th March
 Half-term - Monday 16th to Friday 20th February
 Non-pupil Days: Monday 5th January and 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

Clubs

After school clubs are:

Monday: Multi-sports

(Pro-coaching)

Tuesday: Music Club (to 4.15pm)

(Mrs Everett-Kelway)

Wednesday: Table Tennis/Chess

(Mrs Partridge)

Thursday: Dance

(1610/Duncan Hume)

All after school clubs run from 3.30 -4.30pm (except Music)

Lunchtime clubs are:

Friday: Art & Craft

(Mrs Attwood)



Burns' Supper

In aid of East Anstey Primary School PTFA

Fri 23rd January 2015
West Anstey Hall, Yeo Mill

Tickets £15 to include
 haggis supper, games and dancing.

Drinks from 7.30pm, Supper at 8.15pm

Tickets from Sarah 01398 322975
 or Cath 01398 341765
 Booking Essential

Cash Bar

Black Tie

House Points



Totals so far this term

Ruby 98 points

Sapphire 62 points

Emerald 71 points

Amber 74 points