

UPDATES

The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter



From the Head

Hello all and welcome back to school

I hope you have all had a great summer and were able to see just a little sun. Although the weather has finally decided to settle down as we come back to school, the morning mists are beginning to appear and we are now looking ahead to another exciting school year. As always, it is really nice to see some new faces at school and I would like to welcome all new starters to East Anstey. I am especially pleased to see how well the youngest children are already settling in and beginning to enjoy school life.

AUTUMN at Anstey

First of all we welcome Mrs Forder to the school. As you will already know, Mrs Forder is working as our Head of Teaching and Learning and is mainly teaching year 5 and 6 in "Class 3". Do say hello (if you haven't already) and Mrs Forder will be at the helm when I am not on site. Mrs Everett-Kelway starts her days with Years 3 and 4 in "Class 2" which also remains as our hall space. You will notice several improvements as you come into school including our brand new playground and some excellent new storage. We were able to upgrade some windows and doors over the summer too!

This is always a fantastic term at school with so many events and festivities. After settling in to the term we will start preparing for the Harvest Festival. Before the clocks go back we hopefully will enjoy a number of sports fixtures if the weather stays on side (!!!) Later in the term we will be holding our annual book fair and then after half term start to prepare for all the excitement of Christmas. We will, as always, be staging a large scale performance but I will not be revealing what the play will be until we are a little closer with scripts. We will be holding a special nativity carol service this year – watch for details closer to the time.

IN CLASS

The classes have started really well and it is great to see everyone eager to learn. Everyone has settled into school life and the children are rapidly getting used to some new and some familiar routines. The classes are beginning their topics including: "The Incas" (Class 3), "The Indus Valley" (Class 2) and "All about me" (Infants – Class 1). These are all great topics (from our brand new *Exmoor Link Curriculum*) and I am really looking forward to some wonderful project work. English and Maths mainly takes place each morning and we of course continue to offer a very broad curriculum of all other subjects (see our website or read on for more details).

WEATHER

At the moment we seem to be enjoying a summer (a little late!) but as the colder and wetter weather comes our way please could you make sure that the children are suitably prepared with appropriate clothing (especially for PE). If in doubt, do check with the class teacher.

CLUBS

We are hoping to offer a very full programme of clubs again this year. This will hopefully include some different opportunities during the year. I will also be looking to run a number of interesting projects again for inquisitive minds this year. We can always do with help and if you feel that you could run or help to run a club then do please contact the office. It would be great to see you and we can provide training and full support.

Enjoy the term and I look forward to seeing you soon at one of our many events

Best wishes

Tim Gurney

Early Autumn Term 2015
Sep '15 Number 71

DIARY DATES

(Dates may be amended or added)

Sep 2015

Fri 18th *Reception Photo*
Mon 21st *Governors Mtg 6pm BN*

Oct 2015

Wed 7th *Harvest Festival 2pm*
Fri 23rd *Non-Pupil Day*

Mon 26th-Fri 30th Oct HALF TERM

Nov 2015

Wed 4th *Open Afternoon 2.30pm*

Monday 9th-Fri 13th Nov BOOK FAIR

Tue 10th *Parents Evening 1*
Thu 12th *Theatre Alibi at BN*
Thu 19th *Parents Evening 2*

Dec 2015

Tue 8th *Christmas Play*
Wed 9th *Christmas Play*
Thu 10th *Christmas Play*
Tue 15th *Xmas Dinner + Party*
Thu 17th *Nativity & Carol Service*
Fri 18th *Last Day of Term*

Mon 21st Dec - Fri 1st Jan
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Jan 2016

Mon 4th *Non-Pupil Day*
Tue 5th *Children Return to School*

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Forder 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
Mrs Mair Mrs Bateman Miss Cooper Miss Mair Mrs Jones

'Part of the Exmoor Link Federation'

CLASS 1 (INFANTS) NEWS

Dear families,

Welcome back to school. We hope that you had a wonderful summer. We'd like to welcome our new Foundation children to the Infant class and hope that they will soon find their feet and feel part of our school family.

We have an exciting term ahead. Our class topic is 'All about me' and we will be learning about our families, likes and dislikes, our bodies, health and growth and our feelings and senses.

We will be looking at portraits in art, pulse and rhythms in music, the children will be having PE with Pro-coaching every Tuesday and dance with Mrs Attwood every Thursday. (Please could parents make sure that the children have a complete PE kit for both of those days – trainers, t-shirt, shorts and leggings or jogging bottoms).

All children will take part in computing in class, using laptops and tablets and small programmable robots. We will also be learning about

Mary Seacole who was a nurse during Victorian times and will be finding out a little bit about hospitals and doctors and how they look after us.

The children will take part in daily phonics and spelling lessons, English and Mathematics. Once a week the children will have guided reading sessions (reading as part of a group) and should be read to on a one to one basis about twice a week. The children will be reading as part of their phonics lessons and English lessons daily but we may not change their reading books every day. However reading books and bags *should* come into school daily, so that we can check books and send home notes and information for parents.

Homework for Year 2s will start over the next couple of weeks and will include some maths, spellings and some writing practise. I will send it home on a Thursday, to be returned the following Wednesday please.

Children will receive some free fruit daily but are welcome to bring a healthy snack for morning or afternoon break. We are promoting a healthy lifestyle and will be asking children not to have crisps, sweets or chocolate. Muesli bars, crackers, cheese or fruit bars are a good alternative.

Harvest festival is on the horizon and we will be getting ready for our special assembly over the next few weeks. What a busy term!

If you have any questions or would like a chat, please come in after school or contact the office. We are looking forward to catching up with you all over the coming weeks.

Mrs Yarney,
Mrs Attwood,
Miss Mair
and Mrs Dennis.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to pre-school - we are delighted to welcome Mrs Bateman back from her maternity leave.

Our main topic this term will be All About Me and we will be looking at the children's likes and dislikes, home life, people who help us and learning about our bodies and senses.

Other areas of play and learning will focus on self-confidence and self awareness; listening and attention; people and communities; moving and handling; shape, size and measure; early handwriting skills and exploring media and materials.

For some things to try at home:

Measure the height of different family members - who is the tallest?

Look in the mirror with your child and compare hair and eye colour. Encourage your child to imitate as you sound out letter and words of what you see.

Shape hunt - hide shapes and ask your child to find them, then encourage them to draw around the shapes they find.

We will also be joining the rest of the school for Harvest Festival on Wednesday 7th October at 2pm 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!

Catherine Bateman, Sarah Cooper
and Louise Mair

Thought for this half term...

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

(popular)

CLASS 2 (YEARS 3&4) NEWS

Dear families

Welcome back to a new school year, a new class and a new class room!

Class 2 have settled into all the new aspects of this year very quickly and are already working beautifully together.

This term in literacy, we are working on poetry and art followed by non-fiction reports. The learning of spelling will continue as last year, with children learning the tools to spell and a half termly list of statutory words to learn in class. Again, any additional home practise will be very beneficial. We will also continue with daily spelling activities and weekly guided reading sessions. Additional reading practise at home remains vital to continued progress in reading ability and comprehension- the latter

becoming increasingly important as children progress to longer stories.

In maths we will be working on place value of 3 and 4 digit numbers, using number bonds to 20 and addition/subtraction of 2 digit numbers; addition and subtraction using partitioning and counting on; describing, sorting and naming 2D and 3D shapes; doubling and halving of 2 and 3 digit numbers and learning times tables multiplication and division facts; adding and subtracting to/from 3 and 4 digit numbers and finally, mental strategies for addition and subtraction within 3 digit numbers. Throughout the half term there will be a weekly focus on using and applying the maths they have learnt to challenges in a variety of contexts. Continued home learning of times tables will again be beneficial in helping your child progress

successfully through year 3 and 4.

Maths home work will continue to be administered through Mathletics (if you have any problems accessing please let me know) and English will usually be a grammar/punctuation activity sent home. Further detail of this will follow next week.

Finally, if you have any concerns or anything you wish to discuss, you can contact me through the office or catch me after school.

I look forward to seeing you at our autumn term events.

Dawn Everett-Kelway,
Elspeth Dennis,
and Dave Yarney

RECEPTION CLASS PHOTOGRAPH

The Mid Devon Gazette will be in school on Friday 18th September at 2.15pm to take a photograph of the reception children for the 'First Class' supplement. This should be in the papers for the week of Thursday 8th October but we will confirm details once we have them.

Autumn Term Achievers

Weekly Achievers

Class 1 Achiever: **LOUIS**

Class 2 Achiever: **OLIVER**

Class 3 Achiever: **GEMMA**

House Points



Totals so far this term

Ruby	61 points
Sapphire	40 points
Emerald	47 points
Amber	50 points

School Meals and Pupil Premium

A reminder that school meals are FREE for all children in years R,1 and 2 and we would like to encourage all families to take full advantage of this scheme. All infant children are automatically included in the scheme - no form filling is necessary!

Our kitchen team work hard to provide both a nutritionally balanced and an appetising menu. Do please contact us if you would like further information or to discuss the scheme.

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. 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 (YEARS 5&6) NEWS

Hello everyone and welcome to the new year.

Along with many other exciting changes to the school that have taken place over the summer, the upper Key Stage 2 classroom has come to fruition. I am thrilled to be working here with you at East Anstey and am looking forward to getting to know the children and families of the school, as year 5/6 teacher and Head of Teaching and Learning.

Class 3 have had a fantastic start to the year and have shown me that they are keen and ready to learn. Work has already begun in earnest. Below is an overview of the delights that they have in store, this term.

Junior Topic

This term's topic is the Indus Valley, which will incorporate most of our history, geography, art and DT work. We will undertake a study of mountains: how they are formed, where they are located and who explores them. We will investigate how this very early civilization was founded, the cities that developed there and what daily life was like. We will find out about food and farming and how that civilization changed over time. Through archaeological remains, we will look at the construction of buildings and create some of our own. We will also study artefacts and make replicas using clay.

RE

Our RE topic this term is signs and symbols; what they represent and how they influence us. We will compare symbols from a range of faiths; how these reflect beliefs and the sense of belonging they create.

Science

In science, we are making connections with mountains and will be finding out all about rocks, soils and fossils. This will include a study of rock and soil types and how they are formed. Later the children will investigate permeability and apply this to real life situations. As we enter the second half of the Autumn

term, we will be looking into Darwin's theory of evolution, Earth's ancient history and variation.

PE

PE will take place on a Monday and Tuesday. As well as Pro-coaching, I am pleased to announce that we have secured a place with Exeter Chiefs for the first half of the term. More information about this will be available, shortly.

Full kit is required each week, with layers for warmth, as we move into Autumn - although you would be forgiven for thinking it was upon us now! Could I please ask that all clothing is named, so that we can ensure that items are returned, at the nearest possible opportunity.

Enrichment and Collaborative Learning Across the Curriculum

Planned opportunities for enrichment, will form part of the wider curriculum this year, with particular emphasis on real life experiences and making connections with skills beyond the classroom. The children will also learn more about what it means to be part of a collaborative learning community, through a range of activities and across subject areas.

PSHE

With the new year, comes new beginnings. This will form the main theme: establishing class and school codes of conduct and setting personal goals for the academic year ahead. In other aspects of Health Education, year 5 and 6 will explore different types of dangers and make connections with actions and outcomes. The children will also consider safety: how they keep themselves safe and which important people look after their safety.

Home Learning

Homework will be set on a Friday and due in the following Tuesday. Weekly maths activities will be set and accessed online using Mathletics. The children will also have an English task, which will be linked to learning in school. We

continue to encourage all of the children to read regularly, either independently, to an adult or both. As a federation we are keen to promote a love of reading; the more avid their reading behaviour, the better writers they become.

Termly spelling lists will be produced, to include words which children aged 9-11 are expected to be able to read and write. This list will also include subject specific vocabulary, linked to the topic or science learning. In addition to this, daily spelling lessons will take place and assessment of these strategies will form part of the learning in school.

A weekly times table quiz club will replace a traditional times table test. As with reading, it goes without saying that any additional practice at home, would be beneficial. If you wish to know more about this and would like to assist with your child's learning, then I would be happy to help.

There may be occasions when science or topic homework will be set, which will be designed to consolidate or extend the children's learning. In this event, it will replace the English task for that week.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely Autumn term. I look forward to meeting you all over the next few months, at up and coming school events. Should you need any further information regarding class routines or wish to discuss individual queries or concerns, then please do not hesitate to contact me, via the office, or come in in person to arrange a convenient time to meet after school.

With very best wishes

Nic Forder,
Elspeth Dennis,
and Dave Yarney

Year 6 Transition to Secondary School

Advance notice that South Molton Community College are holding their Open Day and Evening on Thursday 24th September. The school is open from 9.30am-12pm and 2pm-3pm for day visits and in the evening from 5.30-7.30pm. We should receive further details soon, including details of when SMCC will also be visiting our school later in the term.

All applications for secondary school must be made by 31st October. Families of year 6 children will be contacted shortly with full details of the application procedure or you can visit <http://www.devon.gov.uk/learningschools/admissions/how-apply-school-place/admissionsonline.htm> for more information.

Clubs

After school clubs: (3.30-4.30pm)

Tuesday: Tag Rugby (juniors)
Pro-coaching

Thursday: Choir (years 1-6)
Mrs Yarney

Lunchtime clubs:

Tuesday: Tag Rugby (infants)
Pro-coaching

Wednesday: Netball (juniors)
Mrs Everett-Kelway

Thursday: Craft
Mrs Attwood

2015/2016 TERM DATES

Autumn 2015

Thursday 3rd September to Friday 18th December
Half term - Monday 26th to Friday 30th October
Non-pupil Days: Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September and
Friday 23rd October

Spring 2016

Tuesday 5th January to Thursday 24th March
Half-term - Monday 15th to Friday 19th February
Non-pupil Days: Monday 4th January

Summer 2016

Tuesday 12th April to Wednesday 20th July
May Day Holiday - Monday 2nd May
Half-term - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June
Non-pupil days: Monday 11th April

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. Some payment envelopes are being sent home with this newsletter– please contact the office if you would like more.
- 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 9th November. We will be selling books and stationery. We will also be running our second-hand book stall. If you have any of the following for our second-hand stall, please bring them into the office by 6th November -

- Good quality books - suitable for any age
- Comics

Thank you in anticipation,
Year 6

Do join us for our

Harvest Festival

on

Wednesday 7th October

2.00pm

East Anstey Church