

# UPDATES

## The East Anstey Primary School Newsletter

### From the Head

Hello all.

Welcome to 2020 and a brand new decade! I would like to start by wishing you all a very happy New Year if I haven't already seen you and hope that you all had a lovely festive season. It already seems like quite a while ago.

#### Spring Term

The Spring Term is often quite short but it is always a very full one. This year is no exception and there are all kinds of exciting things to look forward to during this Season. We have new school themes, trips and visits and, of course, Easter activities to look forward to at the very end of the term. We have been really impressed by the way the classes have settled back into school and we are already getting stuck into our exciting new focus on "Planet Earth". Outdoor learning is underway once again and I am delighted to announce that Clubs have also resumed with a varied range on offer. In particular, it is great to see climbing back again and we are now opening sports clubs (football this term) up to our sister school We are hoping to boost this further with other clubs coming online as the weather improves (hopefully) after half term. We are very happy to continue to host Playgroup at school and this continues to run on a Monday morning (generally in the hall). If you know of someone who might enjoy attending, then do please spread the word!

#### Staffing

We sadly say a fond farewell soon, as Mrs Govier leaves us later this term. Mrs Govier has covered lunches and worked as a teaching assistant for some time at Anstey. You may be aware that Mrs Govier has unfortunately been off for a little while. We would like to thank her for her amazing work for us all and wish her all the very best for the future. We will hopefully see her soon to say our goodbyes.

#### New Year, New Challenges...

We are hoping to enter the Exmoor Youth Challenge once again this year. This is a highly challenging event for teams of year sixes and includes full open moorland walking over a sixteen-mile course. The event also involves map reading, orienteering and extremely close timings! We will begin our training and practices as soon as the weather improves and this year we are opening these to all junior children and their families. Hopefully as part of the programme, we will once again stage the "Hawkridge Hike" as a fun and exciting day for our families and community. Look out for more updates as we get closer to what was a really popular event last year

You are probably also aware that we are getting ready for our annual residential trip to Heatree Activity Centre on Dartmoor for year 4 and 5 children. This is always an excellent venue with very exciting outward bounds and adventurous activities including everything from Raft Building to Abseiling and High Ropes! The skills on this residential supplement our excellent and well established outdoor learning programme as part of our Primary Learning Pathways curriculum.

New for 2020 is the offer of a 24 hour residential for Year 3 children. We will ask Year 3 parents annually if they would like us to run this, with potential venues such as Rock and Rapid or other local centres being possibilities. We will email you about this very soon to see if this appeals.

No matter what year group, there is so much exciting learning this term to get involved with. Remember everyone, aim high and dream big!

#### Winter weather

This is the worst half term for the weather and so as always, could I request that children are well prepared for both wet and wintry conditions with coats, gloves and appropriate footwear. Although mild and stormy so far, this is the term when we are often hit with colder conditions. 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: the School Text Service, Facebook & Twitter, Radio Devon and the Devon County Website (please sign up for email alerts). These are the main systems as staff may not be able to get to the school to update other systems or put notes on the gates. If bad weather strikes during a school day, then you will be contacted accordingly.

Enjoy the term and I look forward to seeing you all during some of our exciting events.

Best wishes

*Tim Gurney*



Spring Term 2020  
Jan '20 No. 84

### DIARY DATES

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

#### January

- Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Moor Voices history workshop, KS2
- Tue 21<sup>st</sup> Yr R/6 height/weight
- Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Yr 6 Mr Godwin Transition Visit
- Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Governors Meeting, 6.15, Bishops Nympton
- Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> High 5 Tournament, SMCC, Yr 5/6
- Mon 27<sup>th</sup> League football match at North Molton Primary (selected pupils)
- Tue 28<sup>th</sup> Chinese New Year menu change

#### February

- Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> League football match at South Molton United Primary (selected pupils)

#### Monday 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February Half Term

#### March

- Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Individual photographs
- Thu 5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day
- Wed 11<sup>th</sup> - Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Heatree Residential Yr 4/5
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Open Afternoon
- Thu 19<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Governors Meeting, 6.15, East Anstey
- Thu 26<sup>th</sup> KS2 RSC assembly Blundells
- Thu 26<sup>th</sup> End of term Easter assembly, 2.00pm
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Wear a Hat day
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

#### Easter Holidays

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April - non pupil day  
Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April - children return

committed

The East Anstey Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Scandrett Mrs Yarney Mrs Partridge Mr Deveney Mrs Thompson  
Mrs Loftus Mrs Read Mrs Dennis Mr Yarney Miss E Mair Mrs Govier Mr Holloway  
Miss Cooper Miss L Mair Mrs Mair  
'Part of the Exmoor Link Federation'

## INFANT NEWS

Welcome back. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

This term our theme is all about the Earth. We have already been learning about the continents and some countries around the world and will be moving onto climates and comparing islands in different parts of the world.

This week the children have been looking at the layers of the Earth and making Volcanoes. In Maths we are looking at shape over the next few weeks and then will be moving onto addition and subtraction.

In Science our theme is all about Animals (including humans) and we will be learning about what living things need to stay alive and how animals fit together in food chains and in different habitats. As usual if the children have any photos, favourite books or artifacts about what we are learning about then please send them in.

We will be using 'Show and Tell'

to talk about things we would like to share, in the way of interesting books, photos or experiences but won't be looking at toys this term. It would be helpful if children don't bring toys into school unless they need a special toy to settle, as we find they get lost or misplaced. Thank you.

PE is still every Tuesday and Thursday with Mr Yarney and Miss Nichols and Outdoor Learning will be continuing every Thursday. We do endeavour to go outside in most weathers, so children need a change of clothes and wellies. Waterproofs are also a good idea.

Mrs Thompson will be back with us on a Tuesday afternoon to teach music. The children will be looking at African music, percussion and call and response songs.

We plan to start homework next week, which will consist of a theme task to cover this half term together with spellings and athletics. Spelling tests for KS1 will happen every Friday morning.

Please continue to read with your child as often as you can. Short frequent reading makes the most difference to children's fluency and confidence. If you have any questions concerning homework or reading please pop in for a chat.

Lots of children have been suffering with colds and coughs this term so we are insisting that the children wear coats and jumpers at playtimes. Please send your child into school with a coat everyday - hats, scarves and gloves are a good idea too in this windy weather but please make sure they have names inside.

As usual if you have any questions or queries don't hesitate to pop in for a chat. We look forward to catching up with everyone over the next few weeks.

Kind Regards

*Liz Yarney and the  
Infant team*

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## NOTICES AND REMINDERS

- Please let us know in the school office if any of your contact details change so that we can alter them on our system. This is particularly important for mobile numbers that can change quite regularly, but we do also have a legal responsibility to ensure that all the information we hold on each family is up to date and correct.
- 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 should be brought in through the lower entrance.
- 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!

## SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

As part of our continuing drive to reduce our use of physical resources and the associated waste that comes with that, we are proposing to begin sending our school communications via email in the first instance. We will follow this up with a text informing you that a particular communication has been sent in this format.

If you would prefer to continue receiving hard copies of letters etc., please let us know in the office so that we can arrange to provide these on an individual basis.

Our hope is that letters will no longer get lost en route home and parents will be more aware of what has been sent home and any requirement for reply slips etc. School Pay has the facility to give your permission for trips etc., so we will also begin using that more routinely.

Obviously the main requirement of this system is that we have an up to date email address for anybody who needs to receive information from the school. We have recently sent out the pupil data sheets for checking, so hopefully we have these for most families. We can send to more than one address for each family if required. Please let us know if you change your email address or if you would like more added to the system.

If anyone has any thoughts or comments to make about this proposed change to communication, please let us know.



Just a reminder that the school is signed up for 'easy-fundraising' which helps raise funds for the 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 like to 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.

## SPORTS AND OUTDOOR LEARNING KIT

Please can all parents make sure that their child has the appropriate kit in school for the days on which they do PE or outdoor learning. For this term that is Tuesday and Thursday for all children.

The PE kit consists of; a burgundy top, black/blue shorts and trainers. Jogging bottoms and a jumper for when the weather is cold.

**Please note the requirement** that children also need shin pads for football and mouth guards for hockey (later in the term). The school will hold a small stock of shin pads for those who forget on a particular week, but we cannot provide them for the whole school. If any families will have difficulty providing this additional equipment, please contact the office.

Outdoor learning kit consists of:

- Long sleeve tops/shirts for both Winter and Summer and a warmer top when colder
- Bottoms that cover the whole leg e.g. Trousers/leggings/track suit bottoms
- Wellies/boots etc when outside is wet/muddy
- Trainers/boots etc when weather is dry/warm

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS/ PUPIL PREMIUM

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.

This is different to the **Universal Free School Meals** that are provided for our Infant children so, even if your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 and receiving a free meal, it is still worth applying for pupil premium.

All applications should be made via the citizen portal - full details are available on:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

If you need any assistance with any part of the process, please call in to the school office.

We encourage our new Reception intake to take up those Infant Free Meals as much as possible. There is a choice of at least three options every day and even a 'packed lunch' choice on most days. If your child has any specific dietary requirements, please let us know.

## JUNIOR NEWS

Hello to all my parents,

We have had another fabulous start to the term. The children have returned to school eager to continue with our exciting theme 'Transformation', this term zooming in on planet Earth – our home habitat. Yet again the quality of work which came in from the children for their Christmas research projects was outstanding. Nearly all the children in Class 2 completed their projects, an even higher number than in the Autumn term. Well done to all the children who contributed and also to parents who supported them.

My team remains as Mrs Dennis, Mr Yarney, Mrs Thompson and Miss Nichols. We are very lucky to have such a dedicated and hard-working team to deliver our exciting curriculum to your children and the whole team are very happy to liaise with parents if ever there are any concerns or queries.

### Transformation

#### Planet Earth – Our Home Habitat



As with last term we began with an immersion morning where the children were encouraged to share their research projects with the school (please see our blog for photos). They then worked in their new research groups (mixed across the school) and had a morning session to research and develop a project board on their allocated continent. This form of collaborative work is a very exciting approach and one which helps the children really engage with the

development of their critical skills. Also this pupil-led learning approach is proving to be very effective and powerful in empowering the children to push their own learning.

Our exciting new curriculum offer sees most of our subjects being linked together to try to reinforce a more relative understanding of knowledge alongside the skills needed to cultivate a life-long love of learning.

#### Physical Education

Miss Nichols from Primary Sports will continue to deliver sports coaching each Thursday. Mr Yarney will also continue to deliver some physical education on a Tuesday afternoon. Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for this.

Outdoor learning will also continue to be delivered by Mr Yarney each Thursday afternoon and the children will be expected to take part 'whatever the weather.' Therefore, please also make sure your child has suitable clothing, such as wellies and waterproof clothing, as they are taken outside in most weather conditions.

#### 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.

- 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. They will then be tested each Friday during our SPAG (Spelling punctuation and Grammar) sessions.

- 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 piece of numeracy and literacy 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 Spring term and I look forward to seeing you at any of our celebrations such as the Easter assembly; open morning and of course parent consultations.

Kindest regards,

*Jenufa Scandrett and  
the Junior team*

## JUNIOR CLASS TEACHING

Teacher	Session(s)	Day(s)
Mrs Scandrett	Literacy, Numeracy, Music, Art, Topic, PSHE	Tues, Wed, Thurs mornings Monday and Friday all day
Mrs Thompson	Science, RE, MFL	Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon
Mr Yarney	Outdoor learning, PE	Tuesday and Thursday afternoon
Miss Nichols	Sports coaching	Thursday afternoon

## CLUBS

Our after-school and lunchtime clubs for this half term are:

### After school clubs: (3.30-4.30pm)

**Thursday :** Football (KS2) *Miss Nichols (Primary Sports)*

### Lunchtime clubs:

**Tuesday:** Sewing *Mrs Yarney*

**Wednesday:** School Council *Mrs Scandrett*

**Thursday:** Multi Sports (KS1) *Miss Nichols (Primary Sports)*

Land Management *Mr Yarney*

**Friday:** Art *Mrs Dennis*

Please make sure you have returned the relevant permission slip. Thank you.

## Spring Term Achievers Weekly Achievers

Infant Achiever: **Judah**

Junior Achiever: **James**

## House Points



Totals so far this term

**Ruby 133 points**

**Sapphire 140 points**

**Emerald 216 points**

**Amber 119 points**

Thought for the term....

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

Popular

## EAST ANSTEY DEFIBRILLATOR

Following the sale of the community hall at Oldways End, the village defibrillator has been re-sited at the school. It can be found on the side of the building, towards the rear of the car park and will be accessible at all times.

The Parish Council have given us a stock of key rings that have details of the access code and a telephone number to ring if assistance is needed. The number on the keyring simultaneously calls 10 local people who have undergone training in the use of the defibrillator, and one of those will be available to take the call and offer assistance. The keyrings will be sent home with the children next week so please do look out for them.

In the meantime, please make a note of the code for access to the defibrillator and the telephone number:

**Access code: C123X. Telephone number: 01398 505565. For additional emergency aid, please call 999.**



Together with the Parish Council, we are also hoping to offer training on the use of the equipment and will send home further information as this is arranged.

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.

Please cut this out and return it to school with any comments/suggestions/questions etc.

## Soundboard



## Anstey Playgroup

Meeting every Monday in term time 9:30-11:30

A supportive parent led playgroup at East Anstey school for children 0-5 years. A great opportunity to meet other local Mums whilst your child plays and make new friends too. Unstructured play, craft, messy play and snack time. Refreshments provided.

£2 per family      Call for details: 01398 341 369

# PETROC™ ADULT COURSES

## OVER 100 ADULT COURSES STARTING THIS JANUARY

Whether you're thinking about a change of career, need new skills to secure a promotion or want to return to education after a break, make 2020 your year.

Choose from over 100 different programmes starting this January, including hair and beauty, art and design, care and business, plus GCSEs, functional skills, industry training and distance learning.

All courses are aimed at those aged 19+.

Visit [petroc.ac.uk](http://petroc.ac.uk) to find out more.

# SMART

## South Molton's Music centre

We're back on Thursday's  
from 16th January




Instrumental and vocal lessons for children KS2 onwards. Only £20 per term for 10 x 90 minute sessions.

**South Molton  
United C of E  
Primary School**

**4.30pm to 6pm**

Contact [csms2s@outlook.com](mailto:csms2s@outlook.com) for more information



### Speech, Language and Communication Needs Parent Workshops 2020

A free workshop for parents of children and young people with speech, language and communication needs.

We will be focusing on strategies to support your child with vocabulary learning. We will be looking at how to support word learning through book sharing, as well as exploring visual ways in which you can support your child to learn new words throughout their school career.

This workshop is suitable for parents of children at Primary and Secondary school.

Please choose from the following venues:

	Venue	Date	Time
<b>Exeter</b>	St Michael's Primary Academy	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	13:30 - 15:00
<b>West Devon</b>	Stowford Primary	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	13:30 - 15:00
<b>South Devon</b>	Haytor View Primary School, Newton Abbot	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	09:30 - 11:00
<b>East Devon</b>	Marpool Primary, Exmouth	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020	09:30 - 11:00
<b>Mid Devon</b>	St Andrews Primary, Cullompton	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	13:00 - 14:30
<b>North Devon</b>	Sticklepath Primary, Barnstaple	5 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	10:00 - 11:30

To book your free place, please email [sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com](mailto:sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com)