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## Newsletter 1

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### Welcome!

Welcome back - and welcome to new families! I hope the children had a good break over the summer holidays and were able to enjoy playing outside in some of the wonderful weather we were so fortunate to have. It was lovely to see everyone again and I hope they had a good first week.

We are deeply saddened by the news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The DfE has confirmed that schools should remain open currently. Once the funeral arrangements are confirmed by the Royal Household, the DfE will provide schools with further guidance, which we will pass onto parents.

If over the course of the year you have any concerns about your child's development, well-being or progress please make contact with the class teacher in the first instance and then possibly with Mr Boraston. Mr Boraston (one of our Assistant Heads) has an office in the bungalow and is usually at the main gate in the morning. Mr Boraston oversees Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs and Welfare Support. He will be happy to arrange an appointment to talk with you.

Mrs Strong our Family Support Worker is also based in the bungalow and is there to support children and families in many different areas and is usually found near the main gates too at the beginning and end of the day.

### The School Dinner Menu

The school dinner menu for the term is on the website and copies are available from the office if needed. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals it can be checked by going to

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals/> . Although all children in Years Reception, 1 and 2 are entitled to a

universal free school meal if you would be entitled to free school meals please still register as it brings in additional funding to the school to support the children.

### **PTFA**

There is a meeting on Thursday September 29th at 4.15pm in the Exmoor hall for the Annual General Meeting. This is the meeting where officers for the year will be elected and some of the events for the year will be decided. All are welcome.

### **The school day**

The school gates open at 8.40am and classroom doors from quarter to nine so children can come in and start their day. Registers are taken at 8.55am. After this time children are marked as late. Lunchtime is from 12.15 to 1.15pm and the school day ends at 3.15pm. Nursery session times are slightly different as mentioned at the meetings.

If your child is in years 5 or 6 and has always been collected but is going to start walking home from school, please let the class teacher know.

### **Snacks**

The government presently funds fruit and vegetable snacks for children in the Nursery, Reception, years 1 and 2. In years 3,4,5 & 6 we have snacks of cereal, breadsticks, toast and fruit for 20p which can be paid for on Parentmail and healthy snacks can be brought from home.

### **Absences**

Your help in letting us know about foreseen absences is very much appreciated, thank you. If you know your child needs to be absent for a medical appointment please let the school office know in advance. If your child is ill please phone and let the school know by 9.00am. Messages can be left on the answer phone if you phone before 8.15am.

Any requests for absence need to be made using the Absence Request form available from the office. If we have not heard from you by 9.00am and your child is not in school we will phone as part of our Safeguarding arrangements, in case a child has set off to school but has not arrived.

### **Uniform**

As we start the term please ensure uniform is named. We end up with lots of lost property and it is very difficult to match un-named items to the correct children. Please ensure children have PE kit in school every day (year 1 upwards) and appropriate old clothes and wellies on their Forest School days (Reception to year 4).

### **Mobile phones**

Children are asked not to bring items to school to avoid disappointment when things get lost or broken. If a mobile phone is brought to school because it is needed after school it needs to be handed in so it will be safe.

### **Clubs**

Clubs will run over the term and start the week of the 19th September. A separate letter will be sent outlining the clubs available for the term.

### **FISH**

Before and after school care is available on site with FISH. The contact details are: <http://www.funinschoolholidays.co.uk/> 08445 618847

FISH are situated in the hall near the nursery and use a room, playground and hall as part of their base. Children from nursery to year 6 are able to attend.

### **Devon Air Ambulance**

Thank you for the donations at the end of term. They raised £193 for Devon Air Ambulance.

## **The Tiverton Library Summer Reading Challenge Calling all Gadgeteers!**

It's been fantastic to see so many children in Tiverton Library this Summer taking part in Gadgeteers Summer Reading Challenge. To complete the challenge children must read 6 library books by **4pm on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September**. They will receive a medal, a certificate and be entered into the amazing Gadgeteers prize draw. There are lots of prizes on offer including £50 and £25 shopping vouchers, Crealy tickets, goody bags and cinema tickets. The school with the highest percentage of finishers will also win an inter-schools shield. Certificates will be posted to schools at the end of September to be given out to children in assemblies.

### **Child Safeguarding**

*We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for Child Protection within school is Mr. Boraston.*