



Newsletter 10

Friday 1st March 2024

Updates & Reminders

Thank you to all those who attended the **Online Safety Workshop** on Tuesday. Ensuring your child is safe online is vitally important, and the best way parents can achieve this is by fostering open and positive discussions around this topic with their children. Monitoring your child's activity online is also hugely beneficial as we need to stay ahead of what they are accessing and ensure they are not being exposed to inappropriate content. Slides and resources from the session will be sent home on Monday.

Sports Day has been finalised as **Thursday 4th July 2024**. We will email nearer the time with further details, but we are aware parents and carers are keen to book this date in.

For those parents in Year 4 & 6 who haven't yet paid a deposit or indicated whether their child is attending their year group **residential**, could you please respond by Monday at the latest so we can confirm final numbers and arrangements.

If children are **late to school**, could parents and carers please sign the yellow sheets by the office hatch and let the office staff know that your child has arrived to ensure that register and dinner registers are updated.

Message from the PTFA

You will probably remember the unfortunate incident before Christmas when the children were delayed in getting to the pantomime by a contractor from South West Water blocking the road with his lorry and refusing to let the coaches through.

The PTFA made a substantial contribution to the cost of the coaches, using the money you have helped us raise by buying our raffle tickets, tea towels, cakes, hot chocolates and so much more, to help bring down the cost for each child to attend.

As a charity, we were particularly upset that the money we contributed had been devalued by the actions of the lorry driver and we wrote to South West Water to express our concerns. They were very sorry to hear about how this had impacted the children and confirmed that an internal investigation was in progress to make sure that this would not happen again.

As a gesture of goodwill, South West Water also agreed to repay the PTFA for the donation we made towards the trip. We are delighted about this and have set this money aside to help fund next Christmas's panto. They also asked us to pass on their apologies to the school community as whole so we wanted to let you know what had happened and that South West Water have done what they can to make up for the incident which occurred.

Thank you South West Water!

Volunteers

If any parents/carers are interested in volunteering at school to either hear children read, help to prepare KS1 snack or to offer their support with any other curriculum areas, please do let us know. If you would like to volunteer regularly, as a school, we need to ask for an application form, references and carry out a DBS check. This may seem quite robust for a volunteer, but as part of our role to keep children safe, we need to ensure that adults working with children are properly vetted. As mentioned above, please contact the office for further information.

Staffing

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Tate today. She has been such a fabulous TA over the past few years and has carried out her role with kindness and compassion. She will be sorely missed, but the secondary school are gaining a wonderful person who will do an awesome job in the front office. We will all see Mrs Tate again as she will be invited to future school events, and we will see her whenever we visit the secondary school. We all wish you the very best of luck, Jo, and thank you for being a brilliant staff member and friends to so many colleagues here.

Message from Mrs Tate: *Thank you so much for everyone's kind words and gifts over the past few weeks. I would also like to say a very special 'Thank You' to the parents and carers in Year 2 for your incredibly generous gifts. I have been bowled over by the beautiful flowers and the very generous gift card. I will miss all the children at school but look forward to seeing them continuing to flourish as they pass through the school and when they join the secondary school.*

Sports Round-Up

Over the past few weeks, children have represented the school in various sports. The children performed amazingly well in each event, but it was their behaviour and support of each other that we are most proud of. Please see the results below:

- On Wednesday 7th February, we took part in the local area **swimming gala**. The team finished third overall, which is the joint best performance we have ever had.
- On Tuesday 20th February, the **Cage Football** team competed in a local area tournament. We sent two teams, with one finishing in first place, and the other team finishing in 5th place.
- We also sent two Year 4 teams to a **tennis tournament** at the secondary school. Both teams played amazingly well, and one team finished 9th, with the other winning the whole tournament.
- Finally, the **Year 4 football team** played against Willand Primary School, beating them 6-1. An excellent result after a hard-fought game.

A huge well done to every single child who represented the school teams above. Over the coming weeks and months, there will be even more opportunities for children to participate and represent the school.

PTFA

We had a productive PTFA meeting last night where we discussed various school events and plans. We also discussed requests for PTFA money, and the PTFA have kindly agreed to buy some whole class glockenspiels and some more laptops for the school.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank those PTFA members for all the hard work, effort, and organisation that they provide during their own time. All money raised does make such a big difference for all the children across the school.

However, numbers do seem to be dwindling and I am keen to ensure we futureproof this wonderful charity, so we can continue giving our children the best possible experiences within school. I know that many of our school community would like to be involved somehow, so if you would like to help, volunteer at events, or attend PTFA meetings, then please let us know. If you would like more information, please contact the PTFA directly, or speak to me, or the school office, and we can discuss how you can help.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 25th March**.

Diary Dates

MARCH		
Thursday 7 th		World Book Day
Friday 15 th		Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)
Wednesday 27 th	9:15am	Reception Vision Screening
Thursday 28 th	1:45pm	Easter Service at St Mary's Church Last day of Spring Term
Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024 - Easter Holidays		
APRIL		
Monday 15 th		First day back of Summer term
Tuesday 23 rd		Tempest Class Photographs
MAY		
Monday 6 th		Bank holiday – No School
Monday 13 th – 16 th		Year 6 SATSs Week
Friday 24 th		Ambition Day
Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May - Half Term		

Yours sincerely,
Fraser Wallace
HEADTEACHER