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Believe in ourselves, be the best we can be

Newsletter- 18.3.21

Successful Return

I wanted to once again say how proud we are of our children and families as we have successfully negotiated another tricky return to school after the most recent lockdown. Considering the Christmas break and half term, many of our children had no contact with their friends, their school or their teachers for eleven weeks! This is such a long time for all of us but especially our children. It has been fantastic to see them return so positively to their learning and reunite with their friends. I am sure you will join me in hoping that this is our last enforced absence and that we can focus on supporting our children to achieve their potential and thrive as part of our fantastic school community.

Building Update

We have been very lucky to receive some funding to reconfigure our office arrangement at the front of the school. The new building work will create a new reception in what is currently our large foyer, an office for school leaders and then an additional meeting room to be utilised by a variety of people across the week; this will include a base for our SENDCo and a private space for music lessons. This work will start on 29th March and will continue over the Easter Holidays. During the last four days of term you will not be able to access the main reception area so please phone the school and we will come and meet you. This is another exciting update for our school and will fully utilise the space we have for existing staff and visitors.

Bishopsteignton Heritage

During the first lockdown last year, a group in our community asked for some input from our children as to their experiences of what was an unprecedented time. These reflections have been collated by the people at Bishopsteignton Heritage and are published on their website. They give a unique insight from the children's perspective into their feelings and thoughts about what was going on in the world and how it impacted on them. We have added the link below in case you were interested in reading what they said.

<https://www.bishopsteigntonheritage.co.uk/people/bishopsteignton-primary-school-reactions-to-lockdown/>

Bishopsteignton Heritage have also published an article with an aim to support children's understanding of the Census. The link and resources can be accessed below. <https://www.bishopsteigntonheritage.co.uk/events/2021-census/>

Forest School- Summer 2021

Our Forest School provision is extremely popular and we are delighted that this will resume in the summer term. We were very keen for our Discoverers and Voyagers to not miss out after the changes this term due to the most recent lockdown. Clare Hunter, who runs our Forest School provision, has agreed to come in for an additional day so we can run two sessions a week throughout the summer term in school time and also two after school clubs so that all of our Key Stage Two children get to benefit from this wonderful experience.

SUMMER 1 Forest School	Tuesdays	Wednesdays
PM Session in School	Year 3	Year 6
After School Club	Year 3/4	Year 1

SUMMER 2 Forest School	Tuesdays	Wednesdays
PM Session in School	Year 4	Year 5
After School Club	Year 5/6	Year 2

Further information will be sent out prior to the provision starting with specific dates and what needs to be worn on the days. **As ever, we would like to thank our FOBS team for funding this provision!** Your support of future fundraising events will be more important than ever if we are to keep offering this fantastic provision in the future.

Preschool Update

We have had a very busy half term so far creating our woodland area. The children have been keen to use their camping skills; lighting pretend fires and preparing picnics. We have ordered a couple of tents to continue this theme and hopefully the children can help us put them up!!

In the next couple of weeks we will be doing some exciting activities relating to Easter. Also, we have several Easter items which our previous committee planned to use at the Easter Fayre last year. Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled in view of the pandemic. We will be putting together 'Easter Goody Bags' with these items which will be on sale from the middle of next week. Please check your emails for further details. **Yeash Burkill- Preschool Lead**



Pupil Voice

As some of you will have seen as part of the Remote Learning, we have been revisiting our School Values in our weekly assemblies. This week the focus was on COLLABORATION and the children were asked why they thought this was an important value for our school.

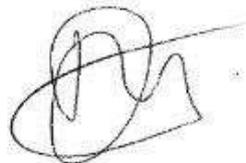
'It is important because sometimes you can't accomplish big things on your own and you need help and support'- Riley- Y5

'I think collaboration is one of our most important values because it helps us learn'- Bryony- Y6

'Collaboration is important because it is about teamwork and friendship'- Mia- Y3

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards,



**Dave Killoran
(Headteacher)**

FUTURE DATES FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

WB 22.3.21	Parent and Teacher Meetings via Zoom
Thursday 1st April	Last day of Spring Term
Monday 19th April	First day of Summer Term
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday Monday