



Dear Parents and Children,

Can you believe another academic year is almost over and another group of children are preparing to move on to the next part of their education journey. Everyone has been enjoying a wealth of activities around the whole school topic of farming, including farm visits and demonstrations and of course the Big Sheep trip.

The Children did an excellent job of sharing their learning in last week's assembly.

Transition

As well as their usual studies, Year 6 have been taking part in a number of activities to familiarise them with the school that they are moving on to and to get to know staff and the other year 6 children in the learning community:

Transition activities

GTS Transition camp

New pupil evenings

School visits

Year 5/6 choir

Sporting events

Don't forget that school websites and Facebook pages can be a good source of information and often have photos of recent events.

Staff and Governor Changes

We are saying goodbye to Ceri Moore, our teacher in Hedgehogs, who is moving to France to begin a new adventure! Ceri has contributed a lot to the life of our school, particularly with the music curriculum. She will be greatly missed by us all.

Good luck! to Rachel Sharpe (Early Years practitioner) who is going on maternity leave.

Congratulations to Miss Down who is getting married in the holidays. She will be known as Mrs Cannon in September.

Finally, a big thank-you to Katie Cross for all her contributions to the school both as the local curate and a Governor.

I'm sure you will all join us in wishing them all the very best for the future.

In September we welcome Vicki Knibb as the new teacher in Hedgehogs

Governor vacancies will be reviewed in September.

Attendance – Jeffers Mayo

Part of our role as governors of your school is to monitor the attendance of all learners and make sure that parents are aware of the importance of the role they play in the learning experience of their children.

I am sure that you are aware of the importance of your children attending school and the impact that absence has on learning and achievement. Occasional absences are inevitable but it is important to be aware that repeated absences quickly add up to a great deal of missed learning and opportunities to take part in exciting activities, all of which will have a negative impact on children's progress.

Learning at Beaford is carefully planned to build upon previous learning experiences so missing a day can adversely affect your children's experience of the activities on subsequent days. We appreciate your support in ensuring that your children attend school every day of the school year, unless this is impossible due to illness.

All requests for holiday in term time are unauthorised unless in exceptional circumstances.

Curriculum

Children have experienced a broad and exciting curriculum over the year. A strength of our school is the wide range of contexts and learning opportunities provided to support children's learning in all areas of the curriculum.

Reading

This year a few new initiatives have started to further engage children with the enjoyment of reading. These have included the termly 'Top 10 Reads' in the library, mixed age peer reading, purchasing box sets of authors chosen by the children as well as every term each class choosing new books for their class.

Music

The school has submitted an application to achieve a Sing Up award. We are looking forward to receiving the outcome of this.



PTA – Sam Doidge

“As the weather heats up ready for the school holidays and the school year draws to a close, the Governors would like to thank the PTA this year for all their hard work. We had a successful Sports Day and Fayre, without being rained off, with thanks again to all that turned up and helped on the day.

Please remember that our PTA supports a lot of funding for the school from subsidising school trips to the new school playground equipment. If you do want to help out or have any Ideas that the team could take forward please speak to a member of the committee.

The year ahead has a Quiz, Halloween Party, Christmas Fayre and so much more planned. So please get involved in any way you can, even if it’s just a bun or an ice cream at the end of the week!

Multi Academy Trust Update

Consultation on the proposal for St Helen’s Church of England Primary, Great Torrington School and Beaford Community Primary and Nursery school to form a sponsor Multi Academy Trust from Spring 2017 has now been completed. Consultation for St Helen’s and Beaford to become academies has also been completed.

A request will now be made for approval to the Secretary of State for Education.

The perceived and experienced benefits to the communities of all three schools in terms of learning and extra-curricular opportunities for children, high quality training and professional development for staff and the ability to share skills, knowledge and resources as appropriate across the Multi Academy Trust have been recognised.

The founding of this proposed partnership is not driven by designated catchment area; but by a shared vision for and commitment to education

and learning for all pupils and staff in our three schools.

Further information and frequently asked questions are available on the school’s website.

Thank-you

To Annette and her fantastic team for another outstanding year!

To all parents and carers for your continued support

To our amazing children for working hard, persevering and being kind to each other!

We hope you all have a fabulous Summer!

With kind regards from Alison Bennett and the Board of Governors