



Newsletter

13th January 2017



Our attendance target is 97%

Up until last week..
95.3%

Up until this week..
95.2%

I didn't think I would be able to even stand on the board...and I loved it!



Dear Parents,

We have had another busy and full week of learning this week. Hedgehogs and Badgers were introduced to Street-Surfing and Tchouk-ball. Due to its popularity, we are able to offer Street-Surfing as an after-school club on Tuesday. A letter will follow shortly.

This week we have been focussing on Internet Safety. I hope that the parents who went along to the meeting found the advice around 'training your children to be safe on-line' useful. Technology is not going to go away! It is our aim to teach children positive and safe ways to use the technology they have access to. **Please see more advice below.**

From Monday we are going to trial a different way of starting the school day. **From 8:45am all children will go straight into their classes.** If you arrive before 8:45am, you will need to supervise your child/ren until a member of staff is outside on duty (usually myself). If your child attends the Before School Club, they will be dismissed to their classes at 8:45am. **All children need to be in their classrooms ready to learn at 9:00am.** If your child arrives after 9:10am you must sign your child in giving a reason. They are marked as an unauthorised absence. It is your responsibility to ensure that your child arrives at school punctually. If a child is persistently late, we have a duty to inform our local Education Welfare Officer. Let's make a real effort to start our New Year routines as punctually as possible, maximising every learning opportunity.

Kind regards,

Clare Rinaldi

There will be a PTFA meeting at 3:45pm on Monday 16th January in the school hall to welcome new members and plan a *Spring Fundraising Event*. The PTFA is a rewarding and valuable committee that helps to raise funds to provide extras to promote the enjoyment of learning. **WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!**

Online Safety Meeting for Parents

On Wednesday 11th January, Peter Bower from UK Safer Internet Centre came to speak to pupils, parents and staff (over 250 people in all) about Online Safety. All sessions were excellent, giving clear information and we are thankful for 28 parents who attended the morning session and especially pleased that there were parents from every school in the federation. We will be sharing some of the information through newsletters and making information available on our websites. Here are just 2 of the points that we raised.

1. Asking permission to go on youtube

To all the pupils in Year 2 and 5 in the federation, Peter asked about pupils' use of youtube. 100% of pupils had seen videos on youtube. About 90% had seen videos without a responsible adult knowing. About 50% had seen videos that they knew a parent or responsible adult would not approve (i.e. could be considered inappropriate). The age limit for youtube is 13 with parental permission and 18 without. Whilst there are many, many fantastic videos on youtube, there are plenty that cause concern, please encourage your children to ask permission to watch youtube videos (this message was given repeatedly to both year groups). Please take an interest in what your children are watching and be supportive if they come across something that upsets them. We all know that it is easy to stumble across inappropriate content, so don't jump to the worst conclusions if your child finds something upsetting. Again, the greatest help we can be as parents and supportive adults is to keep an open and honest conversation with young people about the way they use online technology and what they enjoy.

2. Common Sense Media ([http:// www.commonsensemedia.org](http://www.commonsensemedia.org))

With all the games, movies, tv, apps, websites that young people enjoy, it is impossible to keep up and understand the benefits and concerns these present. Common Sense Media is an American website that covers many of these things. If something is popular, it will be on Common Sense Media. There are short 2 minute reviews, detailed explanations of why certain games or movies need an 18 (adults only) certificate. Please take time to look at the site, it is well worth it. The following link list 10 popular youtubers (Zoella and PewDiePie) explaining positives and negatives to their channels – e.g. what do they often talk about, is bad language used etc.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/10-youtube-stars-your-kids-love>

Swimming for Hedgehog Class

A reminder please remember swimming kits for Wednesday Mrs Burleigh and Mrs Young will be accompanying the children to the pool.

Uniform Orders for The Holt and School:

School uniform is available from School Trends please visit www.stparent.co.uk. **Orders will be placed on the 15th of the month for delivery at the end of the month.**

Please feel free to come to the office and check out the various sizes to ensure you order the correct size online. For The Holt check sizes with Mrs Clark. Remember anything with an embroidered logo is non-returnable to School Trends. The Holt polo shirts can be worn if your child moves on to the Otter Class in September before growing into a school polo shirt.

Illness and Absence

If your child is absent from school, you are requested to contact the school office before 9.15am. As required by our Safeguarding Policy if the administration team have not heard from you by early morning they will contact you to establish why your child is not in school. If we are unable to establish contact we may have to report this to the School Education Welfare Officer. **If your child needs to attend a medical appointment in school time, please complete the S2 form which can be found on the school website below or a hard copy is available from the entrance.**

<http://www.shuteprimary.co.uk/parents/general-information-for-parents/illness-and-absence/> or ask Mrs Haysom for one prior to the absence.

If a child is late, he or she must be signed in by a parent or carer, they must follow the instructions in the entrance and use the intercom to alert a member of staff they have arrived. Persistent lateness has a negative impact on learning and we support families to ensure all children arrive in good time. A letter or email must be sent to school with the child on their return to school and for any planned medical appointments.

Nut Allergy

We have a child in school with a **severe nut allergy** so please **do not** bring any foods into school containing nuts under any circumstances.

School Diary:

January	
16.1-20.1.17	HEADCOUNT WEEK HOLT FSU
16.1.17	PTFA meeting
17.1.17	Federation Football Tournament 2:45 at Seaton
18.1.17	Hedgehog Swimming Lessons
20.1.17	Hedgehog Tram trip more details to follow
23.1.17	Federation PE Academy afternoon
24.1.17	Reception Dance Festival
25.1.17	Hedgehog Swimming Lessons
30.1.17	Celebration Assembly in the Church parents welcome
1.2.17	Hedgehog Swimming Lessons
6.2.17	Hedgehog Gym Celebration
7.2.17	Move, Make & Motivate
8.2.17	Hedgehog Swimming Lessons
13.2.17-17.2.17	HALF TERM
20.2.17	Cubs Donkeys
28.2.17	Pancake Races on the field (9:00am) SHROVE TUESDAY
28.2.17	Year 3&4 Swimming Gala
1.3.17	Fox Swimming Lessons
2.3.17	WORLD BOOK DAY EVENT
2.3.17	Devon Library Service Mobile Library
3.3.17	Celebration Assembly in the Church parents welcome
6.3.17	Otters Group Donkeys
8.3.17	Fox Swimming Lessons
9.3.17	Playleader Training for year 4s
15.3.17	Fox Swimming Lessons
17.3.17	Y5/6 Tag Rugby Festival
22.3.17	Parachute and Skipping Festival Otters
22.3.17	Fox Swimming Lessons
23.3.17	PARENTS' EVENING
27.3.17	Otters Group Donkeys
29.3.17	Fox Swimming Lessons
30.3.17	Devon Library Service Mobile Library
31.3.17	BREAK UP FOR EASTER



Making waves in the new year...

We are excited to announce our new music-making project for young people in East Devon, which starts next week. *Soundwaves* is an exciting after-school activity for young aspiring musicians and singers ages 9-11 who play an instrument or sing – as well as for those who would like to try out something new for the first time.



"We welcome everybody, whatever their level of musical experience, style or interest," says B Sharp professional music leader Jacques Verhaeren. "The sessions are held in a relaxed, creative, fun and friendly environment and we will have a range of instruments available for those who don't have one."

Jacques will be working with Axminster-based fellow music leader and band member Jon Pogson from local band *Mr Jean*. The sessions will bring musicians together to play music, improve personal, social and musical confidence and will develop ideas generated by the young people to see where they lead.



All sessions are open to children from across the area including all local primary schools. The sessions run termly and take place at Axminster Primary School from January 11th to April 6th inclusive. The sessions run every Wednesday from 3.45pm for a 4pm start until 5pm.

The cost per young person per session is between £1 and £3.

B Sharp also offer bursaries where applicable.

Registration and booking is advisable but those who wish to participate are welcome to just turn up with a parent or guardian to meet the music leaders and other participants for the first session. To find out more information contact Fran Williams fran@bsharp.uk.com or visit www.bsharp.uk.com

