

# UPDATES

## The Bishops Nympton Primary School Newsletter

### From the Head

Hello all.

Welcome to our summer term. I hope you all had a great Easter holiday. This is always a very important time in the school year with the culmination of a great deal of hard work and learning. This is the children's chance to show what fantastic progress they have made and then enjoy the end of year events. As always, I hope to see you all soon and look forward to an exciting term.

#### Events

Each summer term we have some fantastic events to look forward to. Some of these include: the Exmoor Challenge, (see below), sports fixtures (we are already South Molton Tag Rugby Champions!) and festivals, Oceanfest 18, theme days, trips (including our fantastic residential to London, Junior Lifeguard Award, Life Skills, Sports Day, as well as our open events, parent's consultations, summer production and our leaver's events. The year sixes will be also be preparing for their transition to South Molton. More about all of these and other events closer to the time.

#### Tests

This is the half term where many children take National tests or school versions of them. These tests form only one of the ways that we assess our children. We help the children to prepare themselves for them but also emphasise that children should not get stressed about them. We remind them to simply try their best and never to panic about them. If you do have concerns about the tests or how children are preparing for them, do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher or contact me at school.

#### What's New?

We always aim to improve our wonderful school wherever we can. In light of this we are looking to upgrade our facilities across the coming few terms. The school has already received some improvement and upgrades. We now have our fantastic heating system and also brand new windows, which are very welcome. We will be upgrading our computers and IT equipment (courtesy of our fantastic PTA) and also will be renovating some of our outdoor play and field areas. Watch out for updates in our communications over the next few weeks.

#### Summer weather

The weather has been a little up and down, but very soon generally warmer conditions will be with us (I am always optimistic). It is therefore time for me to send out my reminder about sun protection as we head into May and would also request that sun hats are sent in when appropriate. Sun cream should be sent in or single application cream applied before school please. Please could you also advise us of any special arrangements? Summer dresses or shorts will be suitable this term and sensible sandals are acceptable. Trainers are to be reserved only for PE please unless in school (black) colour. Many thanks.

Enjoy the term



### Summer Term 2018 Week Ending 27th April

#### Dates for the Diary:

*(Dates may be amended or added)*

#### April

Sat 28th Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk

#### May

Sat 5th Exmoor Challenge

Mon 7th Bank Holiday

Thu 10th Class Photo

Mon 14th to Thu 17th KS2 SAT's week

Mon 21st to Fri 25th KS1 SAT's week.

#### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 1<sup>st</sup> - HALF TERM

#### June

Mon 4th Move up day 1

Wed 6th Careers Event at Dulverton

Mon 11th Year 6 Junior Lifeguard

Fri 15th Oceanfest/Junior Lifeskills

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> to Thu 21<sup>st</sup>

London residential

Wed 27th Open morning/afternoon

Thu 28th Y6 Transition Day SMCC

#### July

Wed 4th South Molton Music Event

Tues 12th Sports Day

Mon 16th & Thurs 19th

Parent Consultations (Pre-School)

Thurs 19th Parent Consultations (School)

Thurs 19th Reserve Sports Day

committed

## The Bishops Nympton Team

caring

Mr Gurney Mrs Scandrett Ms Peter Mrs Guy Mrs Hancock Mr Scandrett

Mrs Baynes Mrs Loftus Miss P Alderman Mrs Cockram Mrs Howes Miss Jones

Mrs Partridge Mrs Kennealy Miss Jennings Mrs Pepperell Ms Pocock Mrs Cree Mrs Govier

Mrs Humphreys Miss C Alderman Mrs Yates

*'Part of the Exmoor Link Federation'*

# CLASS 1

## 'Space'



This term our learning focus is about Space. We will be learning about Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin as the first men to land on the moon. We will be learning about what it is like to travel and live inside a spaceship! We will learn about the planets and the sun and why the sun is so important for us and for life on Earth.

In our daily Maths, Literacy and Phonics sessions we will follow the Primary National Curriculum and the EYFS curriculum.

**Reading:** Reading and teaching the skills for reading, continue to be a major focus of our learning. All children should be reading a little every day, this helps children to recognise and learn words by sight, which in turn makes reading easier for them. Both reception and year one children should try to remember to look for places where two letters make one sound, such as 'sh' in shop or 'ch' in chip.

**Science:** Our topic this half term is link to our topic of Space, learning about the sun and why we need it for plants to grow. We will also be continuing to learn about the seasons.

**Helping your child at home:** If you want to help your child with their learning at home, you can do this in your everyday activities by noticing and talking about sounds, words, numbers, shapes, colours and time as you go about your daily routines with your children. When out and about, it would help to talk about names of trees, plants and animals and to notice the changes in the seasons, to tie in with our ongoing learning in Science.

**PE kits** should be kept on your child's peg during the week. They need to have PE kits in school every day. This term sessions will be on Tuesday afternoons with Chris from Pro Coaching.

**Leap into Life/Garden Yoga:** Pre-school children will also continue to come to the school once a week to take part in our 'Leap to Life' or Garden Yoga sessions with the Reception children, as part of our PE programme, helping to develop gross motor skills, an essential precursor to developing fine motor skills and writing!

**Labels:** Please ensure all items of clothing are named and labelled as changing for PE gets very muddled

**Parental Involvement for Reception Children:** As part of our Assessment and Reporting during the Reception Year, it is important for us to have your input into how your child is doing. Previously we have done this on paper, but this year we have started a using a new online system called Tapestry. You should soon be receiving an email from Tapestry supplying you with a link to set up your own access from home to be able to see photos and comments that we have logged at school and you should also be able to add comments of your own. This should be a lovely way of staying in touch and please bear with us whilst we set this up until it is running smoothly! Thanks.

**Transition for September new starters:** On Monday afternoons we will continue to do Leap into Life or Garden Yoga with pre-school, afterwards the children who will be starting school in September will come into the classroom and join us for while so that they get to know the school layout and the school staff. We have done this for the past two years to ensure children are comfortable and confident within the school and it has helped them to make a really smooth transition into the Reception year. There are also two 'move up days' in June when the children all visit their new classes for the day; further details on these will follow in the next couple of weeks.

We will also be running some **parent sessions for parents of children due to join us in September**, at the moment we're thinking of running one in June or July to talk about what to expect and address any concerns you may have. Then we will also be running further sessions to talk about how we teach reading and phonics in September. If you have any requests of other areas you'd like discussed please feel free to put forward.

suggestions and, time permitting, we'll do our best to fit them in. It's in all our best interests for transition to run smoothly and your children to settle well and we're open to suggestions of how we may help each other to achieve this. We will let you know when the sessions are going to be and look forward to meeting you then.

**Parents evening:** Unfortunately, I wasn't able to run parent consultations last term and I'm aware that the next one is scheduled for July, so, as always, if you have any questions or concerns about how your child is doing please don't hesitate to catch me before or after school or even a phone call if you're unable to come in. If you feel that you would like a longer meeting, please also feel free to contact me to arrange a meeting after school one day. I'm very happy to meet with you. Alternately phone the office 01769 550 387 to arrange an appointment.

**Staff Team:** I (Mrs Hancock) am in class at the beginning of the week (Mon - Wed), leading the Infant team. Miss Jones continues her support role on Thursdays and some Fridays, with additional support from Mrs Lake. Miss Alderman, Mrs Howes and Mrs Pocock continue to work in the classroom as our teaching assistants.

Many thanks as always for your continued support, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries.

Alison Hancock and the Infant Team

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## CLASS 2

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Summer Term. As usual, it looks like it's going to be a busy one! Class 2 have started the term enthusiastically and with a great attitude and have already nearly completed their first Literacy topic of the term. So far, they have been writing persuasive letters to convince Mr Gurney to change the school uniform and to convince you to let them walk or cycle to school; I wouldn't be surprised if some of you have heard these ideas already!

### Topic

This term our topic is Mountains, Rivers and Coasts. We have started by thinking about how a river forms, learning some river features and looking at specific UK rivers. The class have also created some beautiful water swirl paintings. Over the course of the term, children will learn about how a river is used and why people settle in particular places. We will then move on to looking at major rivers and mountains around the world and the continents which they are in. The class will learn about different animals that live at the coast and the food chains that they are part of.

### Homework

Homework will remain the same with work being given out on a Friday to be handed in by Tuesday. Please could you also continue to read with your child as often as possible. All children have their Mathletics login stuck into their homework books and I'd like to encourage children to use this on a regular basis. The website contains lots of different activities for children to complete to support them across the maths curriculum.

### Other information

If children wish to keep a drinks bottle in the class to use throughout the day, I would prefer this bottle to contain only water with squash being reserved for lunch times. This is partly to prevent sticky spills but also to help with the health of your child's teeth.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come and speak to me before or after school, or make an appointment through the office.

Mrs Guy and the Class 2 team

### Outdoor Learning

I am so pleased to be back with class 2 on a Thursday afternoon for our L.I.N.E sessions. Such an enthusiastic class of children wanting to enjoy their local natural world. This term we will be investigating pollinators and how humankind would not survive without them. We will explore their habitual needs and look into how we can create and sustain habitats for them on our school grounds.

Please ensure suitable clothing is in school on a Thursday. We will be soil shifting, wood working and generally getting as close to nature as possible. Please also ensure adequate sun protection.

Mr Scandrett

### **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

We continue to encourage families to sign up for free school meals and pupil premium wherever possible as it results in additional funding that is directly available for your child. This can be used to subsidise trips, clubs etc as well as providing additional support if needed in school.

With the introduction of Universal Credit, the criteria for eligibility has slightly changed. Full details are available on <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

Thought for this term...

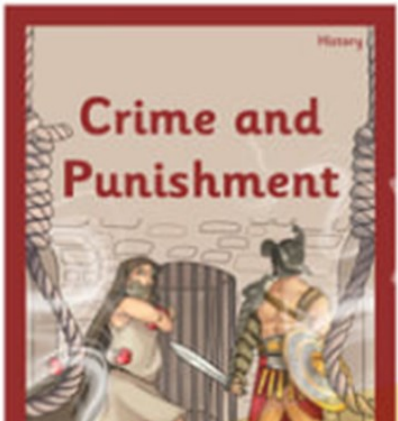
**Aim high - you will be amazed what you can achieve**

## CLASS 3

Welcome back everyone. The summer is, of course, the final term of the year-although you wouldn't be alone in thinking that this is some way off arriving. I don't doubt that Summer will replace Winter in very short order and then we really will be able to make the most of our beautiful setting. This term promises to be a busy one, as is traditional for this time of year. There will be plenty of events to look forward to, which I am sure will delight and engage the children and provide families with the opportunity to come in to school and celebrate achievements of one kind or another together.

### National Tests

We gear up for national tests from the beginning of the term and with your support ensure that the children are test ready. This year, preparations include focused and intensive sessions with me, during the mornings (helped along by incentives of a sugary nature), in addition to small group, adult-led core delivery sessions which are time tabled in the afternoons, as is usual. Mr Gurney will also work with the children to provide an extra boost, where necessary. A joined up approach will enable the children to take each test in their stride and with work with confidence. This will, of course, provide us- yourselves and school- with one part of the bigger picture, because developing the whole child is what is really important to us and remains very much at the heart of all that we accomplish at Bishop Nympton. In the meantime, encourage your children to rest, relax and get plenty of sleep, so that they are mindfully ready for test week, which takes place the week beginning **14th May**. Should you wish to discuss any matters regarding arrangements and how this will affect your child, then please do not hesitate to come in and speak with me.



### English

In English we will write around themes covering:

Journalistic writing- The children write a newspaper report to inform others about a crime committed.

Balanced arguments- In class, we will respectfully challenge opinions and debate on some discussion point such as, should children be allowed to wear own clothes? and should children be allowed to vote?

Persuasive formal letter- The children will write a letter of complaint

Instructional writing - By the end of this unit of learning children will create a 'how to be a Superhero guide' for any budding superheroes with clear and concise instructions.

### Maths

Further develop children's understanding and skills in mental and written calculations including problem and real-life situations. Oral reasoning and collaborative learning activities will be crucial in Maths as well as fluency and speed of basic calculation.

### Science

Children will be learning about forensic science, doing investigations carefully and teaching skills they would need to solve a crime. Science stimulates and excites pupils' curiosity about phenomena and events in the world around them. It also satisfies this curiosity with knowledge. Because science links direct practical experience with ideas it can engage learners at many levels. The Scientific method is about developing and evaluating explanations through experimental evidence and modelling. All pupils will learn to question and discuss science-based issues that may affect their own lives. It will also give children the opportunity to immerse themselves in their learning whilst engaging with it at a greater depth.

### History

We will be exploring British Crime and Punishment through time. Children will look at:

The Roman legacy- Learning about the impact Roman crime and punishment had on current legal system in Britain.

Anglo- Saxon Laws and Justice - Looking at similarities between roman systems and current

Tudor torture- Looking at crime and punishment during this time period

Dick Turpin- Hero or Villain? The children will write biographies as well as balanced arguments weighing up the evidence for and against Dick Turpin.

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## CLASS 3 CONT'D

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### Art

We will be looking at graffiti using ICT creating stencilling. We will also be looking at portraits in the styles of a courtroom artist Martin Shkreli. The children will use different mediums such as charcoal and oil pastel, perfecting how to use them effectively.



### L.I.N.E (Learning in the natural environment)

Our productive growing zone is now near completion. Raised beds are in place, composting facilities are in progress and we are ready to have a go at growing some summer salad crops and fruit.

We still require further wood chips / bark to complete the pathways around the zone. If anybody has any spare seeds or young vegetable plants that they are willing to donate to the school then we would be very grateful.

We are edging closer to reaching our end goal in the Green tree school awards as we are aiming for the prestigious Platinum award, the highest accolade there is. To achieve this we will be looking at the world in a very different way and creating some photographic artwork to portray this.

Although the weather is hopefully improving, it is still important that work clothes are provided on a Monday and a Tuesday as we will still be scrabbling around in the dirt. Sun protection will also hopefully be required.

### P.E

With the summer season approaching the sporting opportunities increase. Outdoor athletics, biathlons, and football fixtures are already in place with more opportunities on the horizon, not to mention our recently earned tag rugby county final!

Practice for these and a multitude of summer sports will be practiced during P.E sessions on a Monday and a Tuesday. Our intra house sports competition will be in top gear as we aim to find out at the end of the year which house is our best sporting house.

Looking forward to seeing you on the sidelines.

### Questions and Concerns

I have an open door policy, I am more than happy to see parents and discuss concerns or great progress made at home. Please feel free to come and see me in the morning or after school.

**Ms Peter and Mr Scandrett**

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## PRE-SCHOOL

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### Pre School News

We hope you all had a nice Easter break. The children all returned happy and settled back in well. We welcome Jack and Skylar who have started at Preschool.

Our focus of Learning this term will be all about Growing. We will be planting seeds and learning what they need to grow into healthy flowers and vegetables. Also look out for our Grass heads!!

Dates for your diary

Consultations - Monday 16th July and Thursday 19th July.

Preschool - Sports Day - 23rd July

Unfortunately, this is our last term with Sam Baynes in Pre-School and we have loved having her. We look forward to having Anya back to join us in September after her maternity leave...

Regards

Kath Humphreys and The Pre-School Team





## House Points

Totals so far this term

<b>Ruby</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Amber</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>Sapphire</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Emerald</b>	<b>139</b>

## Star Achievers Amethyst Awards

**Class 1 achiever: Hope**

**Class 2 achiever: Phoebe**

**Class 3 achiever: Cole**

If you have been following our school blog, Facebook or Twitter feeds, you will perhaps be aware of our preparations for the Exmoor Challenge. This event is a sixteen mile, circular walk across part of the moor starting at culminating at Dulverton Junior School.

The event, once again organised by the Rotary will see around six hundred competitors and takes place across some really challenging terrain. Our year 6 children take part as part of a curriculum module and this year we have two teams entered across the federation. Anyone completing the course receives a medal but teams are also battling the clock between checkpoints and trying to avoid penalty points to feature well in the final rankings.

The event takes place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May at Dulverton school with our teams getting underway around 09.50. Do come along if you would like to cheer them on (great refreshments available and the moor on your doorstep) but I am sure you will also join me in wishing them the very best of luck for the challenge.

Tim Gurney

## KITCHEN NEWS

In consultation with the children, Lorraine Kennealy, our Kitchen Manager, has developed the new menu for the summer. Copies have been emailed home and are on the website, but do contact the office if you need a hard copy.

You will see that the menu has retained some popular meals, introduced some new ones and reintroduced some old favourites. Meal charges remain at £2.30 each with free meals for all Infant children.

The meals are all nutritionally balanced and freshly cooked from scratch; a fabulous service that we are very lucky to retain.

We are looking at the feasibility of reintroducing the healthy tuck shop that we used to run here. Further details will be published as they become available.

## TERM DATES

### 2017/18

#### Summer Term 2018

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

May Day Holiday: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Half-term: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**Non-pupil days:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July

### 2018/19

#### Autumn 2018

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Half-term: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

**Non-pupil days:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

#### Spring 2019

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

Half-term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

**Non-pupil day:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January

#### Summer 2019

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

May Day Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Half-term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**Non-pupil days:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July

## Clubs

Our after-school and lunchtime clubs for this half term are as follows:

**After school clubs: 3.30-4.30pm**

**Tuesday :** Multi Skills (KS2)  
Procoaching

### Lunchtime clubs:

**Monday:** Sports Club (KS2)  
Mr Scandrett

**Tuesday :** Multi Skills (KS2)  
Procoaching

**Tuesday :** Darts (KS1 & KS2  
alternate wks)

Mrs Hancock

**Wednesday:** Drawing (KS1)  
Miss Peter

**Thursday:** Recorder  
Mrs Guy