



Weekly Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

What's happening in the school this week and next

The duathlon that has been taking place this week has been such good fun. It has been a physically challenging activity for all of the children with lots of red cheeks. Thank you again for helping your child bring their scooter or bike into school, together with a helmet. It's just Willow and Ginkgo classes turn tomorrow. Please hand your completed sponsor forms and/or money to the office by Friday 3rd February. On Tuesday next week Years 5 and 6 will be going to KEVICC to watch 'Matilda'.

Class restructure September 2017

Thank you so much for the feedback we are getting. We will publish the feedback themes in a couple of weeks. The general big question for Year 1 and 2 seems to be whether we plan to completely mix up the children in their year groups. This is not planned but there is a chance to make slight adjustments where children haven't gelled. If you would like us to consider this for your child, please let us know. The other main question is around Year 6 still being able to do all their Year 6 special things as a single year. This will happen, residential will be for Year 6 only, as will the sleepover for Year 5, and Year 6 will finish their year with their performance.

Leadership and management

The leadership team have been rewriting the school improvement plan taking us into the new financial year.

The Governing body

The governing body had two constructive meetings last week. The Resources Committee looked at capital expenditure and agreed to replace the back gate and tarmac the drive, making a more attractive and safer entrance. This committee and the Teaching & Learning Committee discussed the benefits and any issues around the proposed class structure. The final decision on the class structure will be taken by the Full Governing Body. The Teaching & Learning committee also discussed how to improve attendance, school educational visits, and arranged governor monitoring visits to a number of different areas in the school. These visits enable the governors to have a good understanding of the school and to monitor areas where the school is aiming to be even better. The governors are also working hard with the school to ensure the website is easier to navigate and is kept up to date.

Ginkgo Tree Class Dartmoor Trip

Ginkgo class visited Dartmoor last week to investigate the myth of Bowerman and his hounds. Having parked at Manaton, we proceeded to scale the steep and craggy hill that led to Bowerman's Nose. The children (and Yas!) produced some amazing sketches of the rock pinnacle. We then headed on to Hound tor to explore the strange rocks and their possible origins. It was a super trip that also involved some letterboxing. We managed to find eleven at Hound tor. We also placed our own Ginkgo class letterbox at Bowerman's Nose - see if you can find it but be careful of the witches!

School Council - Fundraising for CRY

First of all, a huge thank you to the parents and carers from Banyan class for their cakes last Friday - we had loads. This Friday it is Lime tree class's turn to donate home baked goodies. Please label your tins and leave them in the staffroom or hand them to Ms Caldwell at the end of the day.

The PTA

The PTA are looking for a parent at the school who works in a high street bank. We are told that if a direct relative works at a bank, there is usually a facility for the bank to match fund what is raised by the PTA. So if any of you are in this position, please get in touch via the PTA email address."

Staff Absences

Miss Smith is out all day Friday and will be covered by Mrs Jarvis.

Praise Assemblies

The first praise assembly will be Ginkgo Tree class on Friday 3rd February at 2.45pm.

Kind regards

Hilary Priest