



# Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

## Newsletter No 17



Illustrations ©Tony Ross for The Reading Agency

# 2017 Summer Reading Challenge (more information inside)

Tel: 01643 821254 Fax: 01643 821243

[dunsterfirstschool@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:dunsterfirstschool@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

[www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk](http://www.dunsterfirstschool.org.uk)

13 St Georges Street  
Dunster, Minehead  
TA24 6RX



# Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

Monday June 19<sup>th</sup>

Newsletter Number 17

Dear Parents and Carers

May I please bring the following to your attention:

## Diary Dates

**Friday June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Tuesday June 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday June 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Wednesday July 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday July 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday July 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday July 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday July 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday July 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday July 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday July 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Year 2 visit to Dunster Beach**

Year 4 Skipping Club Performance in the School Hall, 2.00pm

**Volunteers Assembly in the School Hall, 2.00pm**

New Parents Morning, 9.10am (more details to follow)

**Exmoor Coast Federation Family Support Drop-in Session - 8.40am**

Year 2 visit to Minehead (more details to follow)

**Meeting of the Board of Governors, 7.00pm**

Reception Class and Year 1 visiting the Wild Wood at Nutcombe Bottom (more details to follow)

**West Somerset Sports Association Area Sports at Knights Templar First School, 1.30pm (more details to follow)**

Orienteering event at Dunster Castle for Year 4 (more details to follow)

**Beacon to Beach Fun Run**

School Sports Day, 1.30pm

**School Sports Day (Reserve Day)**

Year 3 visit to Briddicott Farm (more details to follow)

**Year 4 Leavers Party, 6.00pm (more details to follow)**

Reception Class and Year 1 visiting Dunster Beach (more details to follow)

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**Wednesday July 19<sup>th</sup>**

Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup>

**Friday July 21<sup>st</sup>**

Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup> to

Sunday September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Monday September 4<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>

**Teddy Bears Picnic (more details to follow)**

Year 4 Leavers Performance, 1.45pm

**Last Day of Summer Term**

Summer Holidays

**School Closed for Staff Training**

First Day of Autumn Term 2017

West Somerset Sports Association's Catchball Gala

Congratulations to our Year 4 Catchball players who took part in the West Somerset Sports Association's Catchball Gala at Minehead Middle School on Friday June 11<sup>th</sup>.

The following children represented the school at the gala:

Dunster First School Girls

Alisha-Beth Fairbrother

Katy-Lou Bretherton

Lorena Bray

Gracie Goble

Hallie Gregory

Astral-May Margison

Dunster First School Boys

Zacc Binding

Harry Vince

Jude Stanbury

Leo Grigg

Oliver Groves

Jake Woodward



Both teams played really well and the boys' team remained unbeaten throughout the tournament.

Thank you to all those parents and carers who came along to support our teams. Thank you also to Mrs Lancaster and Mrs Vickery for running Catchball Club over the last few months.

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### Dunster Horticultural Society

The Chair of Dunster Horticultural Society, Mrs Ruth Webber has asked if I could pass on the following information:



"We would like as many children as possible, who attend Dunster First School and Dunster Pre-School to enter some of the classes in our flower show, which this year is being held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August in Dunster Tithe Barn.

The classes are:

- C1 Miniature garden (with a pond) on a plate
- C2 A dish of floating flowers
- C3 Vegetable animal
- C4 Three decorated cup-cakes (no cream)
- C5 Three cookies

Entry forms for the above classes are available from Mrs Thrush.

There is also a painting competition with children asked to paint a picture with the title, "The Seaside". Please write your child's full name and age on the back of the painting. Entries can be handed in to Mrs Thrush by the end of term.

Please contact Mrs Ruth Webber for additional information.

### Quad Kids Athletics Team

Congratulations to our Quad Kids Athletics Team who took part in and finished as runners up in the West Somerset Quad Kids athletics competition at Minehead Middle School on Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Our team competed against schools from all over West Somerset in five different events; the standing long jump, the 50m sprint, the 400m distance run, the "mini howler" throw and a whole team relay. The team



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representing the school were Abigail Sweet, Noah James, Izabella Antonelli, DJ Walton, Gaia Di Campli, Ethan Mitchell, Jude Stanbury and Lorena Bray

The results from the competition were as follows:

Place	Team	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	Minehead First A	1385
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dunster First	1225
3 <sup>rd</sup>	St Michael's A	1149
4 <sup>th</sup>	Minehead First B	1099
5 <sup>th</sup>	Dulverton A	1079
6 <sup>th</sup>	St Dubricius	1034
7 <sup>th</sup>	Minehead First C	1026
8 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael's B	984
9 <sup>th</sup>	Minehead First D	890
10 <sup>th</sup>	Dulverton B	843
11 <sup>th</sup>	St Michael's D	624



### Swimathon

On Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> the children who swam in the Dunster Dolphins team at this year's Rotary Club's Swimathon were awarded with their medals for coming joint first with Old Cleeve in the competition for First schools. Our team, pictured below with their medals was: Izabella Antonelli, Ben Higgins, Jude Stanbury, Harry Vince, Oliver Groves and Amelia Marsh.





### School Gates

May I remind parents and carers of the need to supervise their children while waiting for the school gates to open in the morning. There was an incident last week when two children climbed over the locked gate into the school playground. The gates, like other railings around the school and in the churchyard, have spikes on them and attempting to climb over them could cause serious injury.

### Summer Reading Challenge

The summer holidays are fast approaching and all of the libraries in Somerset are getting ready for children to take part in their annual Summer Reading Challenge, organised by the Reading Agency.

This year the theme is Animal Agents, illustrated by the UK's best-selling children's illustrator Tony Ross. The story is...



*"This summer there's something peculiar happening at the local library - and that's where the Animal Agents come in! From solving the case of the graffiti writing to the strange case of a missing lunch, children will join in the fun with the Animal Agents by reading along. As children read library books on the Summer Reading Challenge, they will receive a host of stickers, some with mysterious smells. By collecting these clues in their detective folder, young readers will help the Animal Agents find out what's really been going on behind the scenes!"*

Children who participate will be encouraged to read up to 6 library books during the school summer holidays. They will be rewarded with stickers and a certificate, while those who read all 6 books will also get a medal.

Last year **45 children** from our school participated in the Summer Reading Challenge.

The summer reading challenge is designed to help school children keep up the reading habit during the long summer holidays and avoid the September slump when they get back to school!

To join in is free and easy! Take your child down to the library after the 15<sup>th</sup> of July and ask to register for The Summer Reading Challenge. If your child is not already a member of the library, then you'll need to bring some form of ID with your address on it and they can be signed up very quickly (that's free too). Details of library opening hours can be found at [www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries).

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If you have access to the internet then your child can also have a look at the Summer Reading Challenge website: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk> where they'll find lots of games, competitions and blogs from some of their favourite authors.

Here's to a great summer filled with reading!



### Roll on Summer

The last few days have seen the arrival of the summer and some very hot weather. To keep your child sun safe could I ask you to consider doing the following:

- Ensure that if at all possible your child brings a named sun hat to school each day. Hats that shade the face, neck, ears and scalp give great protection.
- Apply sun block with at least SPF 15 and UVA/UVB to any exposed skin at the start of the school day.
- Provide your child with long sleeved shirts/ blouses and long shorts so that the amount of exposed skin is reduced.



## The Great Somerset Cycle fundraiser for St. Margaret's Hospice



Year 1 parent Lucy Payne will be taking part in a long distance cycle ride of 38 or 75 miles on August 6<sup>th</sup> to raise money for St Margaret's Hospice.

To help Lucy raise as much money for this charity as possible we are running a colouring competition.

Accompanying this newsletter is a colouring sheet and if your child wishes to take part all they need to do is colour in the picture and return it to school with a 50p entry fee. Please make sure that their name and class is on the back of the colouring sheet. Prizes will be awarded for the winner in each class.

Entries need to be returned to the school office by Friday July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Yours truly,

Peter Hoyland  
Headteacher