



Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

Newsletter No 16



Key Dates

Catchball Gala - Friday June 9th

Volunteers Assembly - Wednesday June 28th

Area Sports - Thursday July 6th

School Sports Day - Tuesday July 11th

Teddy Bears Picnic - Wednesday July 19th

Year 4 Leavers Performance - Thursday July 20th

Last Day of Summer Term - Friday July 21st

Summer Holidays

July 22nd to September 3rd



Dunster First School

Headteacher: Peter Hoyland

Monday June 5th

Newsletter Number 16

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school after the half term break. May I please bring the following to your attention

Diary Dates

Monday June 5th

Friday June 9th

Monday June 12th

Monday June 12th

Monday June 19th

Monday June 19th

Friday June 23rd

Tuesday June 27th

Wednesday June 28th

Friday June 30th

Friday June 30th

Monday July 3rd

Monday July 3rd

Wednesday July 5th

Thursday July 6th

School Swimming lessons start

West Somerset Sports Association Catchball Gala, Minehead Middle School

Year 1 Phonics Check

After School Swimming sessions start

Meeting for parents and carers with children moving from the Reception Class into Year 1, 3.30pm

Beacon to Beach Run Offs. 6.30pm

Year 2 visit to Dunster Beach (more details to follow)

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 Nutcombe Bottom (more details to follow)

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

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Friday July 7 th	Orienteering event at Dunster Castle for Year 4 (more details to follow)
Sunday July 9th	Beacon to Beach Fun Run
Tuesday July 11 th	School Sports Day, 1.30pm
Wednesday July 12th	School Sports Day (Reserve Day)
Friday July 14 th	Year 3 visit to Briddicott Farm (more details to follow)
Friday July 14th	Year 4 Leavers Party, 6.00pm (more details to follow)
Tuesday July 18 th	Reception Class and Year 1 visiting Dunster Beach (more details to follow)
Wednesday July 19th	Teddy Bears Picnic (more details to follow)
Thursday July 20 th	Year 4 Leavers Performance, 1.45pm
Friday July 21st	Last Day of Summer Term
Saturday July 22 nd to Sunday September 3 rd	Summer Holidays
Monday September 4th	School Closed for Staff Training
Tuesday September 5 th	First Day of Autumn Term 2017

NSPCC Visit

Thank you to all those children and members of staff who supported our fundraising for the NSPCC by wearing something green on Tuesday May 23rd. I am delighted to say that we raised an impressive £130.00 for the charity.

In the assemblies provided by the NSPCC the children found out about how to keep themselves safe by "speaking out and staying safe". Time was spent discussing with them who the "trusted adults" are that they can speak to if they have a worry or feel that they might not be safe. They also found out about Childline; the free 24 hour counselling service provided by the NSPCC.



Bake sale for Bliss

Thank you to everyone who supported the Cake Sale organised by Carys Newell for the charity Bliss. The cake sale, guess the name of the baby and the raffle were all very popular and helped to raise £200 for Bliss. The name of the baby in the guess the name of the baby competition was Isla and the cake was won by Ellen Vickery.

Carys would like to thank everyone who donated cakes as well as those who entered the competitions or bought a cake. Thank you also to Jean Newell and Kelly Blay, who both helped with the sale.

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West Somerset Primary Tennis Champions

Congratulations to the 16 children who took part in the West Somerset Primary Tennis Challenge at Minehead Tennis Club on Monday May 15th. All of the children played brilliantly and were a credit to our school and tennis coach, Simon Barmby-King. It has been wonderful to see how the children have progressed from Absolute Beginners to competent and stylish tennis players.

Four teams from Dunster played against teams from Minehead First School and St Michael's First School and at the end of an afternoon of very competitive matches it was Dunster "A" (Oliver Groves, Ethan Mitchell, Gaia Di Campli and Izabella Antonelli) who won the tournament and will now represent the school at the area finals at the Blackbrook Pavilions in Taunton on Thursday June 22nd.

Thank you to all those parents and carers who helped to transport the children to the event. The picture below shows the sixteen children from Year 3 and Year 4 who represented the school.



Dunster First School Tennis Team

Moorland Hard Federation Consultation



Could I remind parents that the response forms for the Moorland Hard Federation consultation need to be returned to school by June 16th? Reply slips can be posted in the red post box outside the school office or alternatively any comments can be emailed to the school office at dunsterfirstschool@educ.somerset.gov.uk.

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Outstanding School Kitchen

On Monday May 15th our kitchen and school meals service were inspected by the Local Authority. During the morning and over the lunchtime period the inspector, Mr Brendan O'Connell, undertook a thorough check of all aspects of our school meal provision from standards of hygiene to quality of service for the children. His report is highly complementary and praises Miss Masters, Miss Olsanska and the Midday Supervisors team for the quality of provision.

On Friday May 19th West Somerset District Council undertook a food hygiene inspection. I am pleased to be able to inform you that following the inspection our kitchen was once again awarded the top rating, "Very Good".



On behalf of the children (and staff) who enjoy our school meals I would like to say a big thank you and well done to our lunchtime team.

Key Dates for Year 4 Parents and Carers

With just a few weeks now until our Year 4 children Move On Up to Minehead Middle School here is a reminder of this half term's key dates.

Thursday June 15th Year 4 spend the afternoon at Minehead Middle School

Monday June 26th Meeting for parents and carers at Minehead Middle school at 6.30pm. This meeting is for parents and carers only. No children to attend please.

Tuesday July 4th Year 4 spend the day at Minehead Middle School. During this visit they will find out which class they are in and who their teacher is going to be.

Meeting for Year 4 Parents and Carers at Minehead Middle School starting at 6.30pm.

Friday July 7th Exmoor Coast Federation Orienteering at Dunster Castle. This is an event for all the children who will be transferring to Minehead Middle School in September. More information on this event will be sent home to Year 4 parents later this term.



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Year 4 Pinkery Art Competition

Congratulations to all of the children (and Miss Turton and Mr James) for the wonderful pictures and paintings that they have produced following their trip to Pinkery in April. The art work is currently on display in the front lobby outside the Year 4 classroom with those pictures that have been shortlisted for the Webbers Estate Agents art competition on display in their office in Friday Street, Minehead.

If you pop into Webbers you can cast your vote for your favourite picture. The winner will be announced at the Year 4 Leavers Performance on Thursday July 20th.



School Swimming Timetable

The school swimming timetable for the second half of the summer term is as follows:

School Swimming Timetable 2016	9.10am to 10.15am	11.00am to 12.20pm	1.45pm to 3.10pm	After School Swimming
Monday	Year 4		Year 3	Year 1
Tuesday			Year 3	Year 2
Wednesday	Year 4	Year 2	Year 1	Reception
Thursday		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Friday	Pre-School		Reception	Year 4

Please can parents and carers make sure that their child's swimming kit is in school for the days when they will be swimming.

Labelling School Uniform

With the start of the swimming season could I remind parents and carers of the importance of labelling school uniform, PE kit and swimming kit. Many of the names that were written on labels at the start of the year may have faded and if so will need to be redone. Your help with this would be greatly appreciated.



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After School Swimming Clubs

After school swimming clubs will be starting week commencing June 12th. The timetable for these sessions is included in the main swimming timetable (see above).

After School Sessions for Children in Year 4

For these sessions we will need parents and carers who have been DBS checked to supervise the children who are swimming. In addition, we also need parents and carers who have been DBS checked to supervise waiting children.

Any brothers or sisters of those children who are swimming must be supervised by their own parents/ carers. It will not be the responsibility of those parents and carers who have volunteered to look after children from the year group who are taking part in school sessions to look after children from other year groups. If required children can be booked into Monstas After School Club.

Regrettably, with the possible exception of those parents and carers who are helping to run after school sessions, we are not able to allow brothers and sisters to swim in the same sessions as each other.

We will be expecting a very high standard of behaviour from children taking part in after school swimming sessions. Children who are not able to behave appropriately will not be allowed to attend these sessions.

If you would like your child to attend after school swimming club sessions please complete and return the slip at the end of this letter by Wednesday June 7th. Reply slips returned after this date may not be accepted.

After School Swimming for Children in the Reception Class and Years 1, 2 and 3

Parents and carers with children in Year 3, Year 2, Year 1 and the Reception Class will need to supervise their own children at after school swimming sessions. However, we will still need to have one or two "nominated" parents and carers from each year group to lead the sessions.

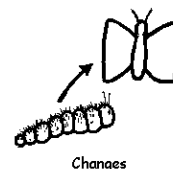
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SEAL - Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning

Changes

As part of all the children's Personal, Social and Health Education the children are continuing to follow a programme called Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning, known to the children as 'SEAL'.



Each half term there is a new theme which is introduced in a special whole school SEAL assembly. This half term we are working on the theme called 'Changes'. The children will have the opportunity to find out about different types of changes and how to understand and manage the feelings associated with change. This work will help the children with their transition to their next class or for Year 4 children, their next school. There will be a celebratory assembly at the end of this half term to share their work and honour their learning and achievement.

These are some ideas you can do at home to support this theme:

- 1) Talk to your child about their highlights (sparkly moments) from this year - what is their most memorable event?

Explain that changes are as natural as the changing seasons and discuss what your child is looking forward to next year.

Car Parking

May I remind parents and carers that they should not park in the car park on the allotments.

This car park has been leased from Dunster Parish Council for school staff to use for parking. Under the terms of the lease we need to ensure that only school and pre-school staff use the car park and that there is always enough space for allotment holders. I would therefore be grateful if parents and carers refrained from parking in this area.



Yours truly,

Peter Hoyland
Headteacher

After School Swimming 2017 (for children in Year 4)

I wish my child (name) in Year to take part in After School Swimming.

He/ She will be taken home by

I am able/ unable to help with supervising children in the pool

I am able/ unable to help with dressing and supervising waiting children

I have a current DBS check

Signed..... (Parent/carer)

Please return to the School Office by Wednesday June 7th



Reception Class, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3
After School Swimming - 2017

I will/will not be taking my child to after school swimming sessions

Name of child.....

Year group.....

Signed..... (Parent/carer)

Please return to the School Office by Wednesday June 7th

