

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have had a lovely week in school and are very excited for our new playground equipment which should be ready to use from next week. Today we had an assembly by The Dogs Trust and workshops for KS2 which were really informative and the children enjoyed them very much.

**Requiem Mass**

This week our 5/6 class went to the Requiem Mass at Church. The children enjoyed being back in Church again and behaved impeccably. It was lovely to receive the following email from one of the parishioners: *'I want to congratulate/thank all the Staff and Pupils who were at Holy Ghost this morning. I suspect that few of those present will have ever set foot in the Church before and fewer will have been to a long Service - let alone a Mass. It was a joy to be in their company!'* Well done 5/6!

**Mental Well Being**

We are delighted to welcome back Lucy and Paula from Heads Up this week. Next week we will begin training more children to be Mental Health Ambassadors. We aim for all our children to understand how to keep a healthy body and mind and notice when they need help and support. If you have any concerns regarding your child or yourself, our door is always open. Please contact myself, the class teacher or Mrs Monks. We look forward to updating you on our mental well being day later this term and welcoming you for a tea, coffee and catch up soon.

**Harvest Festival**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September is our Harvest Festival. We are once again inviting parents to make a donation for the Exmouth Food Bank. There is a poster in our noticeboard with the types of food they currently need. All donations will be gratefully received. There will also be a Harvest Liturgy at 9.10am. Parents and Governors are most welcome to attend.

**Author visit**

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October we have author Alex Wharton coming to talk to our KS2 children. This is an exciting opportunity for the children to hear a reading by a published author and ask them questions.

There is another opportunity for children to hear from an author at Budleigh Salterton Library on the 17th October from 5-6pm. Matt Oldfield, author of the Ultimate Football Heroes series is giving a talk.

Tickets to hear Matt are available in advance from Budleigh Salterton Library and will cost £1. All proceeds from ticket sales will go towards Libraries Unlimited, the charity which is responsible for all libraries in Devon. Please call 01395 443245 or email [budleigh.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk](mailto:budleigh.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk) if you need any more information.

**WhatsApp groups**

Whilst we recognise that class WhatsApp groups can be really useful for parents to update and share information between themselves please can I make very clear these are not at all linked to the school. I have been made aware by a number of parents lately that whilst they really like the groups for being able to share information and ideas some of the information on there is at times quite aggressive or forceful in people's opinions. It is making those parents feel uncomfortable but equally they do not wish to leave the group because at times it is useful. Whilst I have no control over what is said in these WhatsApp groups I would reiterate that as always if you have a school concern please come and see one of us and if you have another concern please think carefully about whether the class WhatsApp group is the place to share it. Certainly no child should ever be named and discussed over WhatsApp. As we say to the children please be kind.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mrs Taylor-Bashford

**Diary dates:**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September – Harvest Festival. Any donations for Exmouth Food bank gratefully received.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October – Science storytelling event in FSU 'Fly me to the Moon'

Week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening. Letters will be sent out.

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Rowan Class Tiverton museum workshop

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Flu vaccinations Rec – Yr 6

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Alex Wharton author visit

**Headteacher Awards:** Sycamore Class – Louie, Cherry Class- Thea, Chloe, Isla

**Stars of the week:** Oak Class – Darcey, Rowan Class – Bella, Sycamore Class – Louie E, Cherry Class - Harry, Maple Class – Isla, Beech Class – Elliott & Annie