



Abbas and Templecombe Church of England Primary School



Newsletter (1) Friday 10th September 2021

It was lovely to see everyone back after the summer break. All the children were very keen and settled really quickly into being back in school. The highlight of the week for most was being able to play with friends in other classes again – this was truly lovely to see.

A special welcome to our new pupils, not just in Year Reception, but across the school. We hope you have all had a good first week and settle quickly with us.



Collective Worship Reflections



Collective Worship

Another highlight this week was being able to once again join together for assembly; sharing thoughts and singing as a community has been greatly missed. As is usual, we have begun the year with a focus on our four primary school values: love, perseverance, respect and inspire.

During our Friday reflection time we shared pupils' reflections on all our values. Diamond's Darcey said, "We can be kind to our friends if they are feeling sad – this would show love". Emerald's Pippa shared, "The story of The Good Samaritan teaches us about the value of love. The good Samaritan showed love by taking care of the injured man".



Worker of the Week



Diamond

Tamsin for an amazing first week in Year 1. Tamsin has focused brilliantly.

Theodore for an excellent first week back. Theodore has really helped us set an example to the new children.

Reception children for settling in really well during their first few days in school.

Emerald

Freddie S For showing amazing enthusiasm in maths this week, you really did try your best!

Patrick for being such a calm, helpful, useful team member during our team activities.

Ruby

Mason for making an excellent start in Ruby class and having a fantastic first week back at school.

Charlotte for her fantastic attitude towards her learning and being extremely kind and helpful to everyone.

Topaz

Imogen for settling into Topaz class well and already showing a super learning attitude.

Harry for trying really hard with his presentation this week in all subjects but especially English.

Charlie F for having a mature learning attitude. A great start to Year 5.

A big well done to all of you!



TOPIC – Amazing Animals

Next week we will begin our “Amazing Animals” topic, which lasts for three weeks and will focus mainly on science-based learning. The children across all classes will be concentrating on the same area of learning but meeting objectives for their age and stage. It is great this year that children will be able to share their learning at the end of the topic with other classes. We will be starting our topic with a whole school hook - Pitcombe Rock Falconry will be visiting on Monday morning and children will get the chance to meet the birds, learn about their super skills and see them fly.



Food and Drink in school

A reminder that we operate a “no nuts” policy due to concerns over undiagnosed nut allergies. We encourage healthy balanced meals with both our hot and packed lunches. In packed lunches we do ask that there are no glass bottles, cans of fizzy drinks, or chocolate bars/sweets/chewing gum. It is important to keep hydrated, i.e. not being thirsty, throughout the day as this is good for health and concentration levels. For this reason, children are encouraged to bring “sports type” plastic bottles of water with them into the classroom. All bottles should be clearly named. Your child can bring a fruit or vegetable snack for playtime, this should be brought into the classroom with them (please pack and label it separately from their lunch). Crisps are not permitted, except as part of their packed lunch.

Pants please...

If you have any spare pants (boys and girls) for our younger classes, we would be very grateful to receive them.

Parent Consultations

The Autumn Term parent consultation letters came home yesterday, please send responses back to class teachers as soon as possible – thank you to those that have already done so. Different classes have different dates and times so please be sure to complete a separate form for each child.

School Term Dates

We have been informed that due to the special Jubilee Bank Holiday during the summer half term holiday, all schools (pupils and staff) have been granted an additional day's holiday during this school year. Somerset County Council have set this day as Friday 22nd October 2021, therefore we will now break up for the half term holiday at 3.30pm on Thursday 21st October. We are sorry for the inconvenience this will cause some of you around work. You will find the revised 2021/2022 academic year dates attached to this email.

School Applications – Year 6 pupils

It is vital that applications for Secondary Schools are submitted before the deadline of Sunday 31st October. Applications need to be made through Somerset County Council's website: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/#starting-school>. As well as linking to an online application form, this webpage holds a wealth of related information, including a directory of schools, catchment areas and admissions policies.

Open Evening information:

King Arthur's School – Monday 20th September from 4pm

Gillingham School – Thursday 23rd September, 6.30-8.30pm

Sturminster Newton High School – Thursday 30th September, 6.30-8.30pm

Gryphon School - Tuesday 5th October (timings to follow when available)



PTA

Our PTA does amazing work organising events and raising money to purchase things for pupils that we simply wouldn't be able to provide due to our funding levels. For these events to take place a very dedicated team of volunteers meet regularly to discuss ideas, plan and agree spending with school staff. As the PTA is a registered charity it must meet annually for an AGM to agree positions, report on the year just gone and plan for the year ahead. This meeting is taking place on Tuesday 12th October at 7pm in school.

The PTA need your help if they are to continue with their vital work. Due to the pandemic, we haven't seen many younger pupils' parents coming forward and hope now that this will change. Please do come to this meeting, meet the team and consider how you might be able to support, in whatever way you can – without a growth in this leadership team, many events will simply not be able to take place this year.

We hope you all have a great weekend.

Mr Webb

Enc: Revised academic year dates