

WOOLACOMBE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Issue 03

November 2015

Dear Parents,

We have had a great start back to the second half of the Autumn Term and we now have a busy run up to Christmas.



As some of you are aware Mr Stevens will be leaving Woolacombe School after the Christmas Holidays. Mrs Georgina Parsons will be the New Year 3 teacher starting in January. Mrs Parsons also currently works in the school in the Reception Class. We are now in the process of ensuring appropriate cover is found for Mrs Parsons' role in the Reception class and Mrs Parsons will not move into Year 3 until this is organised.

Obviously, staff movement in school and out of school is sometimes completely unavoidable. I do recognise change can be difficult for all involved. Therefore, I really appreciate your support as parents with this issue to ensure we work together to try and make any transition as positive as possible.



Congratulations go to Mrs Allie Barnett and her Husband Tom as they are expecting a baby in May. Wonderful news! We will inform Year 1 parents of the Maternity Cover arrangements during the Spring Term.

Curriculum and Topic

Diwali



Year 2 enjoyed exploring the Hindu celebration of Diwali – 'Festival of lights.' They created some fantastic Rangoli Sun Catchers, Rangoli shape designs, Mehndi Henna hand designs and they also made some delicious sweet treats for our Diwali celebrations.



Sea School

The Woolacombe beach clean organised by Graham Hockley removed in total 54kgs of marine litter from Woolacombe and Combe Martin Beaches. Many thanks to Graham Hockley, Josette Arnold, Parkin's Estates, staff and parents who helped on the day. Alan Black from Parkin's Estate very kindly held a talk for our Year 6's and discussed his role and how they manage the beach. He also shared with the children the amount and kind of marine litter they collect on a daily basis! Alan also commented on how well behaved the children were during their visit!



Parent Workshops and Open Mornings

Maths Workshop



Many thanks to the parents who attended our Maths workshop last week. As a follow up we will arrange an open morning for parents to come into school and observe how Maths is being taught in the classroom in the Spring Term. We have ordered the parent Numicon packs for parents to purchase to support their children at home. Please come to the office if you would like to purchase a bag at the price of £18.95 and we will let you know as soon as they arrive.

Science Fair

We are holding a whole school Science and Invention Fair on Thursday 19th November 2-3pm. This is an opportunity for you to come into class and learn alongside your child and for them to share with you what they have been learning through their topic and Science this term.

PTFA & Parent Voice

Woolcombe Fireworks Display – Food Tent



Many thanks to the parents and teachers who were able to help with the food tent during the Fireworks event last week. Your help was very much appreciated, it was a very busy and muddy night! I will let you know how much was raised when we have heard back from the overall organisers of the event.

The Christmas Gift Evening – Wednesday 25th November 6-8pm

The Gift Evening is fast approaching, just a couple of weeks to go and we need your help please!

It would be great if each family with children at Woolcombe School could make a small contribution in any, some, or all of the following ways!

- * Raffle prize - wine, chocolates or, if you are a local business owner one of your products or a voucher
- * Tombola prizes or lucky dip prizes; bottles of drink (alcoholic or soft), sweets, small toys, smellies, etc
- * Cakes for cake stall
- * Donation of loose change for the money tree (a letter with more information and a money envelope will be going out next week)



For those of you who have never been to the Gift Evening, not only is it the PTFA's main annual fundraising event, but it is also a great social evening too! It's a chance to buy some unique, local crafts and gifts, chat to fellow parents over a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie or a drink from the bar, whilst the kids can take part in craft activities and games run by the teachers.

This year's event aims to be bigger than ever, with more craft and gift stallholders, oven-baked pizzas available from 5pm, ceramic Christmas decoration painting, and the soft play area will be open, as well. The wonderful Woolcombe School Choir will be opening the evening at 6pm!

So make a note of the date now 25th November, Twitchen House, Mortehoe 6pm-8pm - please support your PTFA!

Parent Voice

I will be holding our Autumn Term Parent Voice on **Wednesday 9th December 9.30am**. It is an opportunity for parents to ask questions and for me to share information with parents too.

Thank you



Thank you for your support with our Harvest Festival. It was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents in the church. Thank you also for your kind donations, £296.40 was raised for the Charity Refugee Support Devon.

To Specsavers in Barnstaple who have donated 50 High-Vis jackets to the school in support of our work with Brake, the road safety charity.

Congratulations

KS2 Cross Country – Stephen's Shield



Congratulations to all the children who took part in the Stephen's Shield before half term, it was a very wet and wild day but the children were brilliant and ran fantastically well and should feel very proud of their achievements.



Well done to - Joe Miles, Zak Miles, Joe Hatch, James Simpson Oscar Dean, Thea Davies, Max Craig, Alice Lilley, Zaiph Abram Bridges, Farli Abram Bridges, Sol Webb, Sunny Barnett, Georgia Evan, Bailey Ley, Amelia Stone, Sam Lewin, Emily Garness, Frazer Sanders, Robin White, Noah Zeale, Elise Evans, Emer Rendell, Halle Drew, Talia Maxwell, Jessica Stillo, Taylor Webb Stanley Kift, Cicely Wells, Finley Cope, Maddie Harrison, Callum Lewin, Bethan Kirby and Mani Ward.

Our Year 4 boys team - Joe Miles, Zak Miles, Joe Hatch and James Simpson made it through to the Devon Winter Games after coming 1st overall in their age group.

We had lots of children who finished in the top 10! Well done to Bethan Kirby who finished 1st and Elise Evans who finished 10th for the Year 5 girls, Callum Lewin who finished 6th for the Year 6 boys, Georgia Evans who finished 1st for the Year 4 girls, Joe Hatch who finished 1st, Joe Miles who finished 7th and James Simpson who finished 9th for the Year 4 boys. Many, many thanks to all the parents who stood in the pouring rain to help with the Cross Country event!

Year 2 Tennis

Well done to our Year 2 children who took part in the recent Tarka Tennis event. They all played really well and it was a wonderful experience to play in a proper tennis tournament for the first time!

Well done goes to - Dan Burge Smith, Stan Eveleigh, Jamie Gray, Felix Greenbank, Isabella Holmes, Jamie Hookes, Jackson James, Calib Martin, Leo McCormick, George O'Neill, Sennen Rice, Evie Swan.



Exeter Cheer Festival – Cheerleading Competition

Jess Stillo, Maddy Swan and Halle Drew – Ilfracombe Tornados

1st – Level 1 Teenies

3rd – Level 1 Junior B

5th – Level 2 Group Stunt

A Few Reminders

Purchasing School Uniform

Our range of uniform can also be purchased online - your orders will be received in the office the following day and will be available to collect within 24 hours, if in stock.

If you are making payment for new uniform by either cash or cheque, there is an order form available in the dispenser in the front porch which should be completed and returned to the office with full payment. Your order will then be available to collect the following day, if in stock.

We hope this system will reduce the amount of time parents have to queue at the office each morning.

Finally – if you do have any problems or you wish to ask a question, please do not hesitate to speak to us. We are here to help you and your family and by working together we can ensure the very best for your child.

Please look at the diary dates below to keep up to date with events over the year. The online website calendar will be updated regularly.

Gail Holmes

Head of School

Dates for your Diary

26th – 30th

Half term week

November

- 4th Mini Red Tarka Tennis – Year 2
- 5th KS1 Maths Parent Workshop 3.30-4.30pm
KS2 Maths Parent Workshop 5.00pm-6.00pm
- 6th PTFA Meeting 9am – In School
Firework Display – PTFA food tent
- 11th Football Match Yr 3/4 & Yr 5/6 Caen V Woolacombe
- 13th Problem Solving Yr 3/4 1-2.30pm Ilfracombe
- 18th Mini Red Tarka Tennis- Yr 3/4
- 19th Science Fair – School Hall and Classrooms
- 25th Mini Red Tarka Tennis – Yr 5/6
Christmas Gift Evening 6-8pm @Twitchen Holiday Park



December

- 10th KS1 Christmas Production 1.30 -3.00pm
KS1 Christmas Production 6.00 – 7.30pm
- 15th Senior Citizens Christmas Carols and Mince Pies 2.00pm-3.00pm
- 16th Whole School Christmas Dinner
- 17th Whole School Christmas Carol Service
- 18th Last day of term
- 21st – 1st Jan 2016 **Christmas Holidays**



January

- 4th **New Term Begins**
- 8th Athletics Year 5/6 ND Leisure Centre
- 11th -15th 100 Years of Woolacombe School – Centenary Celebration Week**
- 14th KS2 Centenary Production of Peter Pan – Twitchen Holiday Park 6.00pm
- 15th KS2 Centenary Production of Peter Pan - Twitchen Holiday Park 6.00pm
- 25th - 29th SWSF London Yr 6 Residential**
- 29th KS2 Devon Winter Games @Torbay



February

- 5th Devon High 5 Qualifier – Ilf Academy Year 5/6
- 12th **Professional Day**
- 15th -19th **February Half Term**

March

- 1st High 5 Netball Yr 5/6 Park School
- 8th Quadsticks Hockey Yr 5/6 Park School
- 10th Cycling Go Ride – Year 5/6 Torrington
- 11th Tag Rugby Qulaifier Yr 5/6 Ilf Academy
- 17th Devon Winter Games Yr 5/6 Torbay
- 24th Easter Service – St Sabinus - **Last Day of Term**
- Good Friday 25th March – 8th April Easter Holidays**
- 2nd -10th April – Woolacombe School Ski Trip to Pila, Aosta - Italy**



April

- 11th **New Term Begins**
- 13th Yr 3/4 Mini Red Tarka Tennis
- 22nd Mini Soccer Competition Yr 5/6 Ilf Academy 1-3pm

May

- 2nd **Bank Holiday**
- 9th-13th **SATs Week (All children in School this week please)**
- 13th Rounders Qualifier Yr 5/6 Ilf Academy 1-3pm
- 17th Mini Soccer – Yr 5/6 Barnstaple Football club – all day
- 23rd Tempest Group Photos 1pm Start
- 25th Quadkids Yr 5/6 Athletics – Braunton
- 27th **Professional Day**
- 30th **May -3rd June** **May Half Term**



June

- 6th **New Term Begins**
- 7th Petroc Tag Rugby Tournament – Yr 5/6 Barnstaple Football club
- 8th Mini Red Tennis – Tarka Tennis
- 14th Rounders Competition – Pilton College – Yr 5/6



July

- 4th **Professional Day**
- 6th **Sports Day – 1-3pm**
- 20th **Last Day of Term**