



Woolacombe School – 30th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have had a great start to the new academic year. September has been filled with many exciting learning opportunities and it has been wonderful to see our children so enthusiastic and engaged in their learning across the school.

Our new Reception children have settled into school really well. We are all very proud of them, well done Reception class, you are all super stars!

Inspiring Change makers



The children have already had many opportunities to be inspiring change makers through our C360 curriculum **Character**, **Community**, **Academic**, **Innovation**. We had a record number of children from each class put themselves forward to become School Councillors and Eco Warriors. They have demonstrated being Inspiring Speakers to become Inspiring Leaders and the successful candidates will be introduced in a whole school assembly this week! Our School councillors will be

completing their first duty as school councillors by visiting the local foodbank as our chosen charity for Harvest. All children across the school will be inspiring volunteers to collect much needed food, produce and products to make a positive difference to our local community.

Character

So far this term we have focused on the performance virtue of **Motivation** and the intellectual virtue of **Creativity**. Please speak with your children about the character virtues they demonstrate at home to enable them to recognise when and how they demonstrate these virtues in different contexts. Over the next few weeks we will be focusing on the moral virtue of **Respect** and civic virtue of **Courtesy** before linking our final moral virtue of **gratitude** with Harvest.

Community



It has been wonderful to invite parents into school and to see so many of you attending our meetings, workshops and events. Thank you for your ongoing support.

We have another parent open morning coming up this **Friday 7th October 2022 in the Teaching School Room (above the nursery) at 9.00am**. We would love to see you there!

The children have been engaging with the Community too. Year's 4/5 and 6 completed a litter pick around the meadow and the footpath. Year 4 collected nearly 20kg of Rubbish in just 1 hour! Thank you to Nicola Oliver, The National Trust and Plastic Free North Devon for supporting us to do this.



Reflecting and remembering Queen Elizabeth II. Rev Anne Lewis invited the school into St Sabinus for a special school service to give thanks to our amazing Monarch.

The children wrote messages of condolence and they shared their thoughts, feelings and memories of Queen Elizabeth II. In class we gave time and space to reflect upon the qualities of Queen Elizabeth II and the significance of her 70 years Reign.

LSC

We have vacancies for community members of our LSC, Local Schools Committee. The role of the Local Schools Committee Member is a serious yet extremely rewarding duty. Our Local Schools Committee plays an essential role in supporting the school. Local Schools Committee Members come from all walks of life and are able to bring a mixture of skills and experience to the role. It is an opportunity to use your existing professional and intellectual skills in a new setting. Many people do not realise that the everyday skills from their personal and professional life can add huge value to the school. Volunteering as a Committee Member is a great way to make a valuable contribution to your local school and be inspired by the impact of education. If you are interested and would like to discuss this further or ask for an application form, please email clerk@alumnismat.org.



PTFA – we need your help now more than ever!



Thank you to the parents who came to our first PTFA parent meeting on **Wednesday 21st September**. We really appreciate your support. We have already pencilled in some fundraising opportunities starting with a Cake Sale on **Friday 7th October**.

The AGM is planned for Wednesday 19th October at 6.30pm. This is a really important meeting as we need to vote in a new Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer to ensure we can keep the PTFA committee going. Please come along and support raising much needed funds for the school and our children. Together we can make a positive difference.

Academic



The children have started their class topics this term exploring a range of different themes across the school. Each class has started with a History themed focus this term. KS1 have been exploring significant figures from history through their topic 'Movers and Shakers' – including Mary Anning the amazing palaeontologist! Year 3/4 are exploring the Vikings through their topic of Invasion. We have an exciting Year 3/4 Viking workshop in School on Friday 7th October to

bring the topic alive through a hands on experience and exploring artefacts. Year 5 Maafa - The Maafa represents a way to discuss the historic atrocities and impact of the African Slave Trade. Year 6's topic 'Britain at War' explores both World War I World War II.



Innovation



Last week we celebrated what we named '**World Languages Day**'. Last Tuesday was officially European Languages Day but we decided to be **innovators** and celebrate our rich cultural heritage across the school and created our own celebration of 'World Languages'. The children took part in a range of different activities, explored languages and different cultures through song, dance and cooking! We have 18 different languages that are spoken in our family homes across the school, which is amazing! It was a wonderful day to share and



experience different languages. We were also very lucky to have Giles King Smith in to read to the children in Russian, the children shared their family languages, performed songs and a dance in a celebration assembly at the end of the day.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Robin Williamson who is Under 8 County Tennis Champion. This is an amazing achievement, well done Robin.



Our Year 5 and 6 children had a great day at West Buckland taking part in the sports festival - swim, run and compete event last week. The children completed a range of events starting with a cross country run, then a swimming gala and finally athletics track and field events. They were awesome with the first 8 children across the finish line being Woolacombe!



Well done also to all our Gliddon and Squire Cross Country runners we have 15 children entered this year. There were some amazing performances and absolutely fantastic running at Northam Burrows on

Sunday, well done everyone! Congratulations go to - Year 3/4 Girls – Otti Abram-Thorn, Lani Connelly and Gwen Grant, Year 3/4 Boys – Bode Smith, Marlow Murray, Xavi Grant and Logan Witt. Year 5/6 Girls – Mya Witt, Kitty Connelly, Hetty Bickley and Imogen Roy. Year 5/6 boys – Eben Corry and Jenson Taylor.



A few important reminders.....

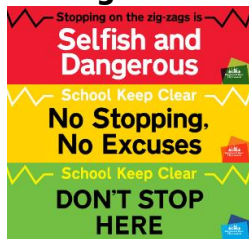
Attendance – Lateness

I have noticed that an increasing number of children are arriving late into school. Please ensure you arrive in school by **8.50am** at the latest. It is really important that all children arrive in school on time. It is very disruptive to the children arriving late but also the children in the class who are already settled. Children miss valuable learning time and it is also unsettling for them when they come into school late. Please ensure your children arrive on time and are in class by no later than **8.50am**.

Uniform

I have noticed that not all children are wearing appropriate school uniform. Teachers will be reminding children about appropriate school uniform in school. Please ensure children are wearing the correct school uniform. If you are unsure of this, please use the link to the school website for further information on the school uniform. <https://woolacombe.devon.sch.uk/uniform/>. Please also ensure that children are not wearing jewellery in school, no bracelets, anklets and necklaces please. Long hair also needs to be tied back at all times please.

Parking



Please ensure that you **DO NOT** park on the zig zags and bus stop area on Beach Road. These areas are clearly marked on the road and must not be blocked.

When cars park in these areas it means that the island crossing area is blocked from vision and it can force cars to drive on the wrong side of the road to get past the inappropriately parked cars. Please leave enough time to park appropriately and safely.

Gates

The Nursery side gate at the bottom of the steps of the village hall car park and bottom gate will only be open at morning drop off and after school pick up times. During the day these gates will be locked. All access to the school site during the day, between **9.00-3.00pm**, will need to be via the main school gate.

End of the school day

We also politely ask that all parents leave the school site by **3.30pm** at the latest. All the gates will be locked at **3.30pm** for after school club provision. This is so the children in after school club can utilise the school site safely with all the external gates locked.

Kind Regards,

  **Alumnis**
M o r e i n f o r m a t i o n

Mrs Gail Holmes - Headteacher - Woolacombe School

Term Dates 2022-2023

Autumn Term

Non-Pupil Day

Friday 21st October

October Half Term

24th 28th October

Start of 2nd Half of Autumn Term

31st October 2022

Last Day of Autumn Term

16th December 2022

Spring Term

Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

First Day of the Spring Term

Wednesday 4th January 2023

Spring Half Term Break

Monday 13th February 2023 - Friday 17th February 2023

Last Day of the Spring Term

Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term

First Day of the Summer Term

Monday 17th April 2023

May Bank Holiday

Monday 1st May 2023

Summer Half Term Break

Monday 29th May 2023 - Friday 2nd June 2023

Non-Pupil Day

Friday 14th July 2023

Last Day of the Summer Term

Friday 21st July 2023

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2022

October 2022

October Black History Month

Thursday 6th October

National Poetry Day- Theme Environment

Friday 7th October

Year 3/4 Visiting Viking Workshop

Parent open morning 9.00am Teaching school room

PTFA Cake sale after school

Monday 10th October – Friday 14th October

Year 5 Dorset Residential

Friday 14th October 2022

Stephen Shield Cross Country Run

Monday 17th – Thursday 20th October

Parent Consultation Week

PTFA AGM

Wednesday 19th October 2022 – 6.30pm

Thursday 20th October

Harvest Festival St Sabinus – TBC

Non-Pupil Day

Friday 21st October

October Half Term 24th 28th October

Start of 2nd Half of Autumn Term

31st October 2022

November 2022

Saturday 5th November

Fireworks on the Field – PTFA Running the BBQ

Friday 11th November

Remembrance service St Sabinus

Friday 18th November

Children in Need

Thursday 24th November

PTFA Christmas Gift Evening TBC

December 2022

Thursday 1st December

KS1 Christmas Production 2022 – Village Hall TBC

Thursday 8th December

Year 5/6 Christmas Production 2022 – Twitchen TBC

Tuesday 13th December 2022

EY Nativity

Wednesday 14th December 2022

Senior Citizens Christmas Carols

Thursday 15th December 2022