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10th January 2020

Happy New Year

I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year over the last two weeks. It has been great to have the children back in school. They have come back in with a very positive attitude and smiles on their faces. We are looking forward to a great Spring term full of inspiring learning and fun events. Within the next week, you should be receiving a letter from your child's class teacher which explains what they will be learning this term in their topic.

Early Start

This week the doors to school have been opening at 8:35am to welcome the children into school. This has been to get the children into school a little earlier so we can start the first session of the day more promptly. It also gives the children longer to settle down and catch up with their friends before lessons start. Teachers have set up activities for each class to get on with as well as welcoming each child to class.

The children have responded really well to the changes and have found the start of the day calmer and more relaxed. Thank you to the parents who have also passed on positive comments about the changes. It seems to have made Bossell Road slightly less busy with cars at a time of day when lots of children are crossing the road to get to school. If you wish to pass on any other messages, a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be on the doors each day and can pass on any relevant information to your child's class teacher.

Teachers will complete registers by 8:55am and at this point the doors to the school will be closed. Anyone who arrives after 8:55am must go to the office. If you have taken your child to class to drop them off, please make sure you have left the school building by 8:55am when the doors close. We appreciate your cooperation with this.

Safeguarding Support - TIKTOK

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. Please see the attached guide for what you as parents and carers need to know about it and some safety tips.

<https://2j39y52a62gm1afygb3g1xbu-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NOS-TikTok.pdf>

Parent Voice

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 14th January at 9am. We will be joined by Elaine Musgrave who is a community development officer. She is interested in finding out how she can support the local community with mental wellbeing. It will also be an opportunity to talk further about how things are going at school.

2020-2021 Dates

School dates for 2020-21 are now available on the school website. They are in line with the other schools in Westcountry Schools Trust.



Music PPA

Rosina Kellman has started music sessions for Years 3 to 6 this week on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. This goes alongside the PE sessions run by Saints South-West. The children have done singing, drumming and dancing this week and have been very enthusiastic in every year group. They are working in teams to produce a soundscape for their project work. Rosina is really looking forward to working with them for the rest of the term.

Clubs

In the next week, the clubs letter will be going out. It lists all the extra-curricular clubs that the school will be offering this term. Please read this carefully and sign up for any clubs that your child would like to go along to. It will go out on ParentPay and paper copies will go out at the start of next week.

Football club and multi-sports are run by Saints South-West are on again. It would be great to see more children signed up to these clubs as the cost is only £1 per week for an hours sporting fun after school.

Class Dojo – Introduction for Parents

We would like to introduce ClassDojo across the school as a way of sharing the wonderful learning going on in classes. It is a brilliant App that all parents can access securely. We will be holding meetings for parents on the following dates:

- Thursday 16th January @ 9am
- Monday 20th January @ 3:30pm

Please come along to one of the sessions to find out more.

Net Zero Heroes Workshop

Net Zero Heroes is a new project from South Dartmoor Community Energy to help families take climate action and reduce their own carbon footprints. Eco-Council have invited them into school. There will be workshops in school on Thursday 30th January. Then on Thursday 6th February we there will be a roadshow event in the school hall for families and the wider community to drop in after school and chat to some experts on reducing their carbon footprint. We'll have people on hand to advise on diet, travel, home energy, waste, and how to get involved in local action.

Important - Additional Non-Pupil Day

Our new Trust have added an additional non-pupil day to this academic year. It means school will be closed on Friday 14th February, 2020. We apologise for the short notice but reassure that this is to ensure that all our staff are ready for the new academy changes.

Question and Word of the Week

Please have a chat about them at home. They will be discussed next Friday during Family Groups.

Question: *If you were going to be a superhero, who would you be and why?* Word: *Incandescent*

HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND!

EDDIE BROWN

THE NEWSLETTER IS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE