



South Dartmoor
Academy



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I can. I do. I have. I am.

6th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to say a big thank you to all the children, parents and staff for making me feel so welcome during my first week at Buckfastleigh Primary school. It has been a fantastic week and one which I have thoroughly enjoyed. The children have come back brilliantly and it has been wonderful to see the new children settle into Reception with Mrs Harvey and Mrs Ashman.

I've had a chance to speak to many of you already on the playground and I am starting to learn the names of all the children at school. It is going to be an exciting year and one in which I expect to see the school to go from strength to strength with the support of both yourselves and the committed staff we have here.

Over the next few weeks, I would like to invite you in to meet me for tea, coffee and biscuits. It will be an opportunity for you to find out some of the things we will be doing this year at Buckfastleigh and for me to get to know you better. I have put some different times and dates in my diary to make things as convenient as possible for you all. Please come along to the school hall on either:

- Thursday 12th September 9-9:45am
- Wednesday 18th September 2:30-3:15pm
- Monday 23rd September 5:15-6pm

It would be great to see as many of you there as possible.

Updates about the Trust's Future

As you are probably aware, South Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust is in the process of transferring to a new trust. This will mean that Buckfastleigh Primary School, along with the other local schools in our trust, will move to join another one during this academic year. Initially we were aiming for a very ambitious 1st January 2020 transfer date. However, it is more realistic to look at a 1st February transfer date. I do have to add that, if there were to be a general election, then this could add at least an extra 6 weeks to the decision making process due to the impact on government departments at this time. As new information becomes available, I will endeavour to keep you as up to date as possible. In the meantime, this will have no effect on the school as we will be continuing with our primary focus, the care and education of your children.

SaMM Open Day

This Saturday there will be an open day for enthusiastic young musicians at the Areil Centre, KEVICCs, Totnes. The morning is from 9:30 - 12:30 and parents and children are both welcome. It is a fun way for young people aged 5-18yrs to learn music. All abilities welcome. Click on the link for further details. (www.sammtotnes.org)

Brilliant Year 5 Fundraiser!!

Fundraiser Olivia Chapple has had her hair chopped off for Charity. She has been raising money for cancer treatments after her nan sadly passed away from the disease earlier this year.

Olivia donated nine inches of her hair to the Little Princess Trust, who will use the hair to make wigs for children who lose their hair during cancer treatment.

Well done to Olivia. Everyone at Buckfastleigh is really proud of you.

Meet the Teacher

Each class from Year 1 to Year 6 will be holding a short meeting in the next 2 weeks straight after school. It will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and find out about rules and routines in their new year group. The teacher will also share with you some of their plans for the curriculum over the coming year and you will have a chance to ask any questions.

The following dates and times will apply for each class:

- Year 1 – Thursday 19th September @ 3:30pm
- Year 2 – Monday 16th September @ 3:30pm
- Year 3 – Friday 13th September @ 3:30pm
- Year 4 – Wednesday 11th September @ 3:30pm
- Year 5 – Thursday 12th September @ 3:30pm
- Year 6 – Friday 20th September @ 3:30pm (to include final arrangements for the residential)

ALL THE VERY BEST

MR EDDIE BROWN

