

20.11.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

What's Going On...

Last week, Year 2 enjoyed a composting workshop on the theme of mini-beasts. As part of this they went on a bug hunt and sowed some cress seeds.

Year 1 had a really exciting morning on Tuesday. They made sandwiches which they had designed themselves. Unsurprisingly, the best bit was eating the sandwiches at the end!

All the teachers had fun on Wild Tribe training after school on Tuesday. This involved fire building, wood cutting, boiling water for hot chocolate and toasting marshmallows. As you can imagine, it turned into a very popular training session! The next part of the training is going to be held in January and we hope to start sessions with the children during the Spring term.

Permissions Forms and IT Forms

We are still waiting for some school permissions forms and IT Forms to be returned from families. These make it much easier and quicker for us to support remote learning, organise school trips, give access to apps in school and take photographs and know how they can be used. If you haven't yet returned one of these forms to school, please give it to your child in an envelope to return to their class teacher. Contact the school office if you need a new one. Thanks.

Christmas Present Room Donations

Despite not being able to run a Christmas Fayre this year, we will still be organising the annual 'Present Room' in the last week of term. This is always a firm favourite of the children and an opportunity for them to wrap something up to give to mum and dad on Christmas Day.

Please send in donations of presents that the children can wrap. These will be stored in a COVID secure way until the last week of term. They should be gifts suitable for an adult that are appropriate for a child to give. Further information on how we are organising everything will follow next week.

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FOBS Penny Challenge

FOBS are still trying to raise important funds for the school. At the moment, we are holding a Penny Challenge. Each class has a jar which they are trying to fill with small change. Should you have any small change lying around at home, we'd love it if you donated it to the FOBS funds which are used to support the education of the children.

Birthdays and Treats in School

It is always great to celebrate children's birthdays when they come into school. Sometimes parents send in cakes or sweets to share with the children in their child's class. While we love to see homemade goodies, please do not send in homemade cakes or biscuits at the moment. We appreciate your support with this.

Governor Corner

Each week, we will be introducing a member of our Governing Body in the newsletter. This week it is the turn of our Chair of Governors, Malcolm Cowper.

I have 3 children who have been pupils of the school. Felix (17) and Dylan (12) are now at South Dartmoor and Ava is in Year 5. I'm married to jazz musician, Zoe. In addition, my three older children in their 30's left home several years ago.



I am recently retired from the Princes Trust where I worked for 17 years having been Head of Operations (SW) and Outcomes Manager. Prior to this, I worked with Dartington Tech (Developed a National Forestry Training Programme, Managed Education at HMP Channings Wood and Dartmoor, Apprenticeships and other Young People Projects). I then took on the role of Managing Director in 1997 leaving to join the Princes Trust in 2001. My interests include cricket, cycling and woodwork.

I started as a Governor in 2017 and became Chair in 2018. My priorities are to:

- *Continue to move the school forward following a period of change.*
- *Support the Headteacher and staff in developing the curriculum to ensure our children receive the best education possible.*
- *Promote the school within the community.*

Parents, carers and staff really value the school and this needs to be made known to potential parents looking to place their children next year.

COVID Tests

...and finally, Buckfastleigh Primary School has had no positive COVID tests this week for either children or staff.

I hope you have a great weekend,

Eddie Brown

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