

1.10.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sports Challenge Event

This week, some of our brilliant Year 5 and 6 children went to South Dartmoor College to take part in a sports challenge event. This was the first event of this type for a number of years and it was fantastic to hear how much the children enjoyed themselves and got stuck into all the activities.

Over the coming term, there will be various events of this type organised and different year groups will be attending. Some are for whole classes while others are for smaller groups.

On another note, it has been a pleasure to see so many children enjoying themselves at after-school clubs this week. There are still some places available at Tag Rugby club if your child would like to join. Henry Clement, our coach, is a professional rugby player for Plymouth Albion so the children will be learning with an expert.

Boiler and Lunches Update

Thank you all for your patience regarding school lunches. We have been equally as frustrated with the kitchen closed but we hope that will change soon. Over the last few days, we have begun the process of fitting a brand new water heater to replace the old one which was 18 years old. We hope that sometime next week this will be up and running and we will be able to return to our normal lunchtime menu. I cannot guarantee which day that will be but will keep you up to date with any changes.

Next week, the lunch menu is as follows:

- Monday lunch is cheese and tomato pizza or vegetable bolognese available to Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and FSM children.
- Tuesday lunch is sweet and sour chicken with rice or macaroni and cheese available to Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and FSM children.
- Wednesday onwards (until the kitchen reopens fully) will be packed lunches available to every child (cheese, ham or tuna sandwich with carrot sticks, fruit, yoghurt and biscuit/cake).

Data Collection

It is important that we hold up to date emergency contact details for every pupil in the school. All children will be bringing home a print out of the information we currently hold which includes emergency contacts, special dietary requirements and medical conditions. We would really appreciate it if you could review this information as a matter of urgency, make any changes (by writing directly on the paper), and return the form to your class teacher or the school office as soon as possible. Every child must have the details for at least two emergency contacts. Any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you.

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Eco-Council – Wild Tribe Ambassadors

Every class has nominated two children to be Wild Tribe Ambassadors on the school Eco-Council. Dan Wase and Libby Hamilton will be the staff representatives. Are there any parents who are passionate about the environment and sustainability who would like to get involved on Eco-Council. You will be able to share ideas and expertise as well as help the children to implement environmentally minded initiatives at school.

If you are interested, please speak to Dan Wase, Libby Hamilton or another member of the team.

Free School Meals

Please get in touch if your circumstances have changed and you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals. Applying now would mean that your child receives Free School Meals until the end of primary school even if your circumstances change. In addition, in the event of another lockdown, food vouchers may be available again.

A child may be eligible for free school meals (FSM) if their parents receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided the parents are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax credit
- Universal Credit – for those applying on or after 1 April 2018, their household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits they get). See section below for protections in place for those affected by the introduction of this income threshold

There have been no further reports of positive Covid-19 cases at Buckfastleigh Primary School since the one reported earlier in the week.

Have a great weekend and take care,

Eddie Brown

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