

14.10.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sure many of you are aware of the vote that is happening next week about the local pool. We have been discussing the topic with the children this week and debated it in our 'Question of the Week' on Wednesday. From the school perspective, we feel it would be a real shame if the pool had to close as it provides such a benefit to the children because so many of them learn to swim at school.



Every year, all the children from Years 1-6 have swimming lessons up to twice a week for 6 weeks. In my experience, most schools are not able to offer this amazing opportunity because they are not situated so close to a pool and have to travel in a coach. Coach travel has a huge impact on costs as well as squeezing curriculum time for the groups that go along. As a result, schools limit the number of classes that go swimming to one or maybe two each year.

At present, swimming lessons cost the school around £2-£2.50 per child per lesson. If we had to travel by coach to either Ashburton or Totnes, the cost would almost triple and that doesn't take into account any increases in costs over the coming two years. This is not something the school could afford and we would have to reduce number of children that could go swimming each year.

We appreciate that things are tough at the moment but hope that you can support the swimming pool and vote yes on October 27th. The pool is an amazing resource for our children and they all deserve to leave primary school being confident in the water.

Parent Meetings

Don't forget it is parent meetings from Tuesday 1st to Thursday 3rd November. Teachers will already have sent you out an appointment on Class Dojo if you have sent them a request. Any parents that still need to make an appointment should message their child's teachers with the following information.

- Preferred day – Tuesday 1st Nov, Wednesday 2nd Nov or Thursday 3rd Nov
- Before or after 5pm.

I would encourage all families to organise an appointment. Not only will you find out how your child is doing in class but it also sends a positive message to them about home and school working together. Please bring your child along with you to the meeting.



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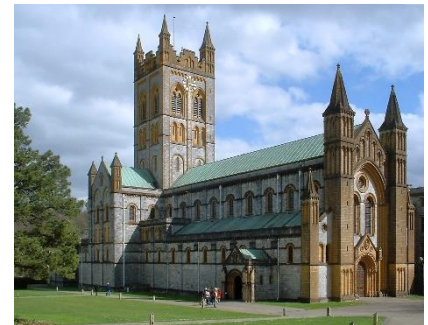


Sidmouth Trip

Years 4 and 5 had a brilliant trip to Sidmouth on Monday as part of their Geography and Science Learning. All the children really loved it, coming back full of excitement and knowledge of what they had learnt. A big thank you to all the parents who were able to come along and help.

Buckfast Abbey Wellbeing Week

All the KS2 classes visited Buckfast Abbey this week as part of their wellbeing week. The children attended four different workshops about their feelings and emotions and spent time reflecting on how they manage these effectively to have good mental health. Again, thank you to all the parents that supported by going along with the children.



Girl's Football Club

With all the success of the England Lionesses at the recent Euro Championships, we want to encourage more girls to play football. As a result, we will be running a girls only football club from Monday 7th November. Open to all ages from Year 1 upwards, the club will run straight after school and finish at 4:30pm. If your daughter would like to go along, please get in touch with the school office after half term to be added to the list.

Non-Pupil Day Reminder

The Monday after half term is a non-pupil day. Teachers will be in for training and school will not be open for the children until Tuesday 1st November.

I hope you have a great half term,

Eddie Brown

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