



Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

A small school, learning together in the local community

6th December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

The second half of our Autumn term is drawing to a close and we are busy rehearsing for *'The Snow King'* and our grand performance on 18th December at 6pm. All are welcome to attend, no tickets are needed but please make sure children arrive at 5.30pm ready to get changed in time for the start of the show. Refreshments and raffle tickets will be on sale on the night.

Please note rehearsal dates below. On these days, collection at home time is at Nicholls Hall at 3.30pm, as normal.

Just a reminder, all class 2 children need black top and leggings/trousers and class 1 children need white top and leggings/footless tights. Please send these in as soon as possible in named bags. All other costumes will be provided.

Safeguarding

Many thanks for being so patient with us as we promote increased site security – our main door will open at 8.50am each morning. This is to safeguard pupils already on site (attending Breakfast club). Similarly, we do not allow pupils to open the door to anyone, including known adults. The main door is kept securely closed throughout the school day, with the exception of break and lunchtimes when pupils need to access the building. Your ongoing support with increased vigilance around site security is much appreciated.

We are looking forward to our theatre trip to the Northcott, Exeter to see *'Beauty and the Beast'* next week. Please ensure that your child is in school at 8.50am prompt on the morning of the 10th as we will be leaving at 9am on the coach. It should be a great experience for our children as we aim to provide the cultural capital they need to succeed in the arts. Watching live theatre will also benefit our own performance as we embark on our upcoming production of *'The Snow King.'* Children need ordinary school uniform, coat, water bottle and a packed lunch (no eggs or nuts please), ideally in a backpack. No bookbags are needed on the day.

Swimming provision

We have decided to change our swimming provider this year to Aquastars Swimming Academy, Brandis Corner. This is a wonderful venue with fantastic swimming tuition for all abilities. Have a look at their website to find out more <http://www.swimaquastars.co.uk/>



Aquastars is a highly rated swimming academy, boasting excellent tuition in swimming. In September 2015, they opened a new 25 metre swimming pool called Ruby Oak Park at Brandis Corner near Holsworthy. Our session will be on a Tuesday afternoon from Tuesday 14th January and we really hope that the pupils will benefit from this positive change in venue. A letter will follow early next week.

Forest School

Our official forest school opening this week was a huge success! The weather was kind with some winter sunshine and there was a fantastic turn out of over 100 people – parents, grandparents, community members, school staff and governors, the Rotary Club, the Mayor of West Devon and many others flocked in to appreciate the work behind the development of the new outdoor learning site. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Waddington for all the extra work that she continues to put into the development of the forest school provision. The children are truly lucky to now have this site on their doorstep and it is wonderful to watch it grow. Many thanks also to FOLS for once again arranging refreshments. The hot tea certainly was welcome in such brisk weather!

Forest school in the last two weeks is a little different to usual, please note changes below and make sure your child has appropriate clothes for their sessions.

Christmas fun at Lydford

Our Christmas meal is on Wednesday 18th December. On this day, pupils may bring in a Christmas jumper or accessory to put on for the meal.

The children's Christmas party is on Friday 20th December. On this day, children should bring in a small, named plate of party food for their own consumption, no eggs or nuts please. They may also bring a named bag of party clothes to change into for the party.

Lastly, all the staff at Lydford wish parents/carers and pupils a wonderful wintery weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Deirdre Petersen, Acting Head of School

Diary dates

Monday 9th December- Class 2 forest school session.

Tuesday 10th December – whole school theatre trip to Northcott Theatre ‘Beauty & the Beast’

Wednesday 11th December Rehearsals Collect from Nicholls Hall

Thursday 12th December- Class 1 forest school session

Friday 13th December – Dartmoor Trust school council meeting, Okehampton Primary (details TBC)

Monday 16th December Rehearsals Collect from Nicholls Hall

Tuesday 17th December Rehearsals Collect from Nicholls Hall

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas lunch and evening production of ‘*The Snow King*’, 6pm

Thursday 19th December- Last forest school session for the WHOLE SCHOOL

Friday 20th December – last day of term, Christmas party

Tuesday 7th January – PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Tuesday 14th January – first swimming session at Aquastars (whole school)

REGULAR EVENTS:

Day	Club
Monday	Lunchtime Story Club (Mrs Waddington)
Monday	After school OCRA Last session 9 th December
Wednesday	After school chess club (Miss Horton) last session 11 th December
Thursday	After school cookery club (Mrs Luxford) last session 12 th December
Friday	Lunchtime Recorder club (Mrs Waddington)

NB. ALL CLUBS ARE ON SCHOOL GATEWAY – SIGN YOUR CHILD UP THROUGH THE APP

Fundraising news



This term's Bag 2 School collection weighed 110kg which gave us the grand total of £44 for the school!

Thank you to all who helped to raise money for this year's poppy appeal. £66.02 was collected by the school. Without donations the Royal British Legion would be unable to continue to carry out vital welfare and benevolent work.



GALLERY



Advent assembly



Forest school fun!



Working together with parents and community



Christmas decoupage