



Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

A small school, learning together in the local community

20th September 2019

Dear parent/carers,

The Autumn term is now in full swing, with clubs up and running again and forest school sessions resuming also. New provision this term includes Drama workshops with Mrs Davis in Class 2 to help us prepare for a traditional Christmas production this year (details to follow!) and Music teaching by Mrs Joliffe. We enjoyed a woodwind Music assembly this week delivered by Mrs Osborne. The children were exceptionally behaved and the music was inspiring. If you would like your child to take up an instrument, more information can be found in the school office.

Our inspiring curriculum design embodies creativity and promotes outdoor learning wherever possible so that pupils develop thinking skills, problem solving, personal and social skills which feed into the vision and ethos of our small school.

Behaviour at the school continues to impress staff; even our new EYFS pupils have quickly jumped on board with our new 'Good to be Green' system. All pupils are offered a chance to 'Stop and Think' about their behaviour before warnings and consequences are put into action. The children are certainly living up to adult expectations of behaviour and conduct around the school. A great start!

School Council



Our 2019 – 2020 School Councillors are Emily, Hector, Matthew, Leah and Andrew!

Safeguarding



Lydford Primary adopts a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing. We are a school that helps children flourish, learn and succeed by providing opportunities for them, and the adults around them, to develop the strengths and coping skills that underpin resilience. Positive mental health and wellbeing is fundamental to our values, ethos and culture.

Attendance and punctuality

This week, the attendance has been very positive with this week's whole school figure at 98.9% which is fantastic! Staff will mark your child as late if you arrive after 9am as our school day starts with drop off from 8.50am and register is taken at 9am. We are tightening up on all timings throughout the school day and so the earlier your child arrives, the sooner they will be able to settle and start learning. Please ring in as early as possible to let us know if there is a medical reason why your child is unable to make it into school. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Homework/ Reading and Curriculum overviews

Homework expectations and the term's curriculum overviews for each class are now available on our website. Teachers can provide a hard copy if you wish also. We hope that you will find our curriculum meaningful and suitably enriched to provide opportunities that fully support the development of your child, promoting their academic ability and social and emotional resilience also.

Reading underpins the entire curriculum and all learning. We expect you to engage at home with your child's reading. We can teach the technique of reading and how to approach reading comprehension (the skills of inference and deduction) but it down to parents at home to ensure that children are practicing. It is a like any skill, the more practice, the better the result! We want every child to reach their full potential and it is a fact that those who practice reading at home perform better academically. We hope that everyone will engage fully with their child's reading. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Parent View

Ofsted Parent View is an online survey that allows parents to give their views about their child's school. Parents can complete the survey at any time. It is also the main mechanism for parents to give their views to inspectors at the time of a school inspection. Statements which parents/carers can agree/ disagree with include 'The school has high expectations for my child' and 'My child feels safe at this school'. AS a school, we actively promote this survey – for more information please visit: <https://ParentView.ofsted.gov.uk/link-to-us>.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Deirdre Petersen (Acting Head of School)

Gallery



Diary dates

Tuesday 24th September – Year 6 Junior Life Skills (Oke College, 9.30am – 12pm)

Tuesday 24th September – Guardianship Day at the Gorge, Class 2 **NB. Drop pupils at school for register as normal**

Thursday 26th September – Harvest assembly, Rev. Brooks (3 – 3.30pm)

Friday 27th September – Year 1 Multi-skills event (Parklands Leisure Centre, 10am – 12pm)

Tuesday 1st October – ETHOS COMMITTEE meeting – school hall, 3.45pm, all welcome

Thursday 3rd October – Rotary Gardening Club prize-giving (Fountain Inn, 12.30pm)- **best vegetable plot 2019!**

Friday 11th October – Cake raffle begins!

Tuesday 15th October - Guardianship Day at the Gorge, Class 2

REGULAR EVENTS:

Day	Club
Monday	Lunchtime Story Club (Mrs Waddington)
Monday	After school OCRA
Tuesday	After school gardening club
Wednesday	After school chess club (Miss Horton)
Thursday	After school ball skills club (Mrs Luxford)
Friday	Lunchtime Recorder club (Mrs Waddington)

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

Thursday afternoons from 2pm – Stay and Play (everyone welcome!)

Tuesday morning (first lesson) – Drama workshop, Mrs Davis (Class 1,2)

Tuesday afternoon – Forest School Class 2 (please bring appropriate clothing)

Thursday afternoon – Forest school Class 1 (please bring appropriate clothing)

Friday afternoon, Class 2 – OCRA PE session

Friday afternoon, both classes – Music lesson, Mrs Joliffe