Leigh on Mendip School Nurturing Curious Minds

Newsletter 31 - 24th May 2024



We have reached the end of Term 5 and I know the children are looking forward to having a week's break before our final term, which is already looking full of various events and opportunities.

I would like to pass on the sad news that Mrs Newbury will be leaving us at the end of the school year. She has been with us for over two years now and has been a fantastic teacher in Key Stage 2. She will be moving to a different kind of role in education and we all wish her the very best. When we return in Term 6, we will advertise for a new teacher for next year's Swallow Class.

We have noticed that some of the children in Key Stage 1 have not had any comments written in their reading records recently. The expectation is that you try to read with your child five times a week, so please can you write this in the record each time. Regular reading and discussing these at home is key to supporting their development in school.

As many of you have been asking, we wanted to let you know about our plans for next year. It is always a challenge working out the best way to group the children in their classes, especially with some larger and some smaller cohorts. One of my principles is to try to avoid splitting any year groups and so with this in mind the classes for next year as below. This means the children already in school will stay with their current teachers, except of course for those in Swallows.

Kingfisher - Reception and Year 1 - Mrs Layland Starlings - Year 2 and Year 3 - Mrs Ball Goldfinches - Year 4 - Mrs Smith and Mrs Phillips Swallows - Year 5 and Year 6 - teacher tbc

I hope you all have a good break and look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 3rd June.

Mr Turull

Packed Lunches

Please find below a reminder of the Trust guidelines for packed lunches. Our lunchtime staff - in both the main school hall and in Robins preschool - have noticed that a lot of unhealthy snacks (such as chocolate and sweets) are making their way into lunchboxes. While it is fine for children to bring some sort of pudding for their lunch - in the same way that the children having school dinners receive a pudding - please can this be kept to one item, which should not be a chocolate bar or any sweets.

The government has placed a duty on schools to ensure that every child is healthy. Eating healthily is important because it will help children to:

- ✔ Be fitter and healthier now and later in life.
- ✓ Support concentration
- ✓ Improved behaviour

Government guidelines recommend that packed lunches **should** include:

- At least one portion of fruit and one portion of vegetables every day e.g. apple or carrot sticks
- One portion of meat, fish or other source of non-dairy protein (e.g. lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus, and falafel) every day
- Oily fish such as tuna or salmon at least once every three weeks
- A starchy food such as whole meal bread/wraps/roll, pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, every day
- Dairy food such as milk, cheese, yoghurt or fromage frais everyday
- Only water, sugar free squash, semi-skimmed milk, or smoothies

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News from the Classrooms



Children in Robin Class have been learning about bees this week. They have enjoyed threading bee patterns, creating symmetrical bee paintings and making a hive out of jelly, pasta and lemon slices. The children have talked about pollination and the importance of bees.





During this last week of term, we had a lot of fun writing about the magical world of *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. In PSED, we also learned how to be good friends.





Starlings have thoroughly enjoyed this term's computing unit on making music. This has been done using a website on the iPads to look at pitch, rhythm and tempo. They have also explored the different sounds a variety of instruments make. If you would like to have a go, you can visit https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/















This week Swallow class and Goldfinch class have been busy learning lines and getting themselves into character as rehearsals for the end of year play have started. We have seen a lot of fabulous acting and singing and definitely have a lot of future stars in the making! The play will be performed in the theatre at Writhlington School on Monday 24th June. More details will follow next term.



Diary Dates

<u>June</u>

Monday 3rd First day of Term 6

Tuesday 4th Rags 2 Riches Collection organised by FOLS

Wednesday 5th Olympics event for Reception - Year 2s. Please wear PE kit.

Thursday 6th Sponsored Run to Paris Event in school

Friday 7th Swallow Class and Goldfinch Class Trip to the Natural History Museum

Friday 14th Rec year and Year 6 Height and Weight check by NHS School Nurse Team

Tuesday 18th Sports Day (If wet, the alternative date is Tuesday 9th July)

Carymoor Trip - Kingfisher Class and Starling Class

Our children had a great day out at Carymoor last Friday, enjoying a range of outdoor activities.



"I liked making the dens. We took a lot of time to place willow to make a structure and placed sheets on the side to complete our den." **Daisy**

"At the end we made s'mores, it was really yummy, chocolatey and sticky. We made it by toasting a marshmallow over a fire on a stick and then when it was ready we put it on a chocolate biscuit, put another one on top and squished it together. It was fun!" **Emily**

