

EXWICK HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer Newsletter –July 3rd 2019

Check the Website for all information about the school and updates to the termly calendar/key assessment periods/events etc
www.exwickheights.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a busy few weeks we have been enjoying here at school! The children have been working hard and I am again delighted by their efforts, behaviour and unstoppable enthusiasm – all of which help to make our school a truly special place!

Sports Days

Our five Sports Days were all held last week. The children were incredible; they really did give their all and should feel proud of their efforts. I would like to thank each of you who attended for your support and encouragement for the children. It makes it such a special occasion and I hope that you enjoyed these events as much as we did as a school.

Maths Challenge: Eight children from Years 5 and 6 participated in the Exeter Maths Challenge. Both teams went through to the final from their heat and we are thrilled to announce that they came 1st and 2nd out of the 40 schools who entered. Their attitude and mathematical ability were outstanding and adults from other schools commented on their brilliance!

Bikeability: Our Year 5 children will participate in this free and very worthwhile event over the next two weeks. Supported by the Bikeability team, they will work in small groups to develop their knowledge of road safety, riding around the local area on the roads to gain experience and knowledge safely.

Charity Day: I would like to thank our amazing school council (elected members of each class from Years 2 -6) who organised last Friday's **non-uniform day**, on the theme of FURRY FRIDAY! The event was really well supported and so I would like to thank you all for your support. £463 was raised and has been donated to the children's chosen charity, the RSPCA.

Parking: A local resident has approached me to ask if parents and carers on the school run could consider turning their engines off whilst stopped in the roads surrounding the school waiting to pick up or drop off children. The resident has noticed that several vehicles are parked with engines running for over twenty minutes each day – which is obviously not particularly environmentally friendly and costly to the driver. We would be most grateful if you could consider this whilst completing the school run. Thank you.

September 2019 - Staff Information:

Changes in Staffing: As we prepare for a new school year, we sadly need to say a fond farewell to three members of our teaching team. Mrs Bickham, who joined us as a newly qualified teacher back in September 2013. Mrs Bickham has worked in a part time capacity since the birth of her daughter three years ago. She has taken the decision to take a career break whilst her daughter is growing up. She is a fantastic teacher and we wish her every happiness.

We sadly also need to say goodbye to **Miss Herbert and Miss Westlake** who are both excited to announce that they are about to begin an exciting new chapter: they are both setting up new businesses teaching yoga! Both have spent the last few years qualifying as yoga instructors and are excited to now be ready to do this in a full time capacity. Miss Westlake hopes to continue to work with us as a supply teacher while she initially sets up her business, whilst Miss Herbert is going to utilize her experience as a nutritionist, working for the charity Magic Breakfast.

Finally, Miss Woolner and Miss Willett will both work in a part time capacity next year.

I'm delighted to announce that our remaining team (of over 80 staff) remain unchanged.

New (and returning) staff joining the school for September 2019: I am pleased to welcome back Mrs Worthington from her maternity leave this year, following the birth of her daughter in the autumn. Joining Mrs Worthington, we will also welcome Mr Taylor to our team. Mr Taylor has been a fantastic addition to our teaching team this year, working in Year 3 alongside Ms Haswell.

Further to this, we have also appointed two other new teachers, Mrs Prentice, and Miss Stone, who will be covering Mrs Johnson's maternity leave across next year. We are delighted by their appointments and look forward to welcoming these high calibre teachers to our teaching team.

Reminders & Forthcoming Events

Yr 6 Production of Mulan

These are now on sale to the parents and carers of our Year 6 pupils. Once we are happy that all parents of the Y6 pupils have had the opportunity to purchase tickets, we will offer any remaining tickets to the rest of the school. If you wish to purchase tickets please call into the main office from Monday, they are priced at £2.50 each.

Show dates and times are: -

Monday 8 th July 2019	Yr 6 Production 6.00pm
Tuesday 9 th July 2019	Yr 6 Production 9.30am
Wednesday 10 th July 2019	Yr 6 Production 1.45pm & 6.00pm

School Disco

The PTA School Disco will be held on Tuesday 16th July – FS/KS1 (with a parent/carer please) 5:00 – 6:15pm; KS2 6:30 – 7:45pm.

Children who are in our Early Years or KS1 will need to be supervised throughout the disco. At this event, if any child is being collected by someone other than their usual parent/carer after the KS2 disco, **please inform the school office.** All KS2 children will need to be collected from the hall. £1.00 entry on the door for children and parents. Please can we ask that children do not bring mobile phones and that their footwear is suitable, i.e. no 'Heelys.'

Yr 6 Leavers Assembly - Tuesday 23rd July at 2pm

This wonderful event is always held on the last day of term. Please ensure you have this in your diary; a separate letter will be sent out shortly. A polite reminder though, this is not an open assembly and is open only to Year 6 parents/family members, school staff and Governors. Two seats per Year 6 child will be allocated. Thank you for your co-operation.

With best wishes,



Caroline Neal