

EXWICK HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer Newsletter –July 5th 2018

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

In the ten years I have worked here at Exwick Heights, I don't think I can remember a year where we have been able to enjoy such amazing weather, with none of our Sports Days having to be cancelled! The children have been 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 them as much as we did as a school.

Class Photos were taken on the 29th of June by one of our parents, Mrs Bates. I would like to thank her for her considerable time in taking these for us, we really appreciate it. The pictures are great and will make lovely mementos. Today was the last day to order copies for your child's class.

Summer Fete: This was such a success! Thank you all for your support, donations and huge smiles on the day. It was one of the hottest days of the year, which made my time in the stocks much more pleasant! We were thrilled by the way the day went and with the children's smiles. I will confirm the total amount raised in my next newsletter but we believe it is over £1200! This is fantastic and will really help us to develop our playground over the summer holiday – thank you!

Gala: Pupils from Exwick Heights participated in a swimming gala last month at the Pyramids Swimming Pool along with many other schools. Our children were amazing; they were so determined and their behaviour was impeccable throughout, demonstrating true sportsmanship. I am really proud of each child and would like to thank them for their super performances.

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 4th and 6th 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 have been participating in this free and very worthwhile event this week. Supported by the Bikeability team, they have been working 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 3 -6) who organised last Friday's **mufti day**, on the theme of FAMOUS FRIDAY! The event was really well supported and so I would like to thank you all for your support. £351 was raised and has been donated to Cancer Research.

September 2018 - Staff Information:

Promotion:

I am delighted to be able to announce that we have appointed Mrs Moretta, who currently leads Years 2 and 3, to become our third Assistant Headteacher. She will be supporting leadership across the school, alongside Miss Bradbury and Mrs Hackworthy, as we continue to grow. I am delighted to welcome her to her new role and am sure you will join me to congratulate her on her well-deserved promotion.

Support Staff Leavers: Mrs Nicola Jackson and Mrs Helen Moore: Mrs Jackson and Mrs Moore have been wonderful teaching assistant in the Early Years, supporting our youngest pupils. Their warmth and kindness have been a real asset for our Foundation Stage pupils. Mrs Jackson is leaving us to embark on a teacher training programme, specialising in the Early Years in September and Mrs Moore is taking a new role, developing community cohesion across wards in the city. I am sure you will join me in wishing them both every success in their new roles.

Teaching Staff Leavers: We sadly also need to say goodbye to **Mr Vanstone and Mrs Roddy** who are both moving abroad to begin the next exciting chapters of their life, teaching in international schools. Mr Vanstone is travelling to Thailand with his partner and will be teaching in an international school, while Mrs Roddy is travelling to Dubai with her husband and young daughter. Mrs Roddy will take a short break from teaching whilst the family adjust to their new surroundings before joining her husband and sister teaching in an international school. **Mrs Hogg and Miss Green** are also sadly moving on to new and exciting challenges. Mrs Hogg has accepted a promotion, leading writing across her new school and Miss Green is looking forward to joining a preparatory school from September. Like Mrs Roddy and Mr Vanstone, they are exceptional teachers who will be real assets to their new schools. We are really excited for the opportunities that they will enjoy and would like to offer our congratulations and wish them every happiness.

Change of Name: I'm very excited to share that Miss Moles (who currently teaches in Reception) gets married this summer. We wish her every joy and happiness for her big day and look forward to sharing her pictures! Miss Moles returns to school in September as Mrs Benham.

New (and returning) staff joining the school for September 2018: I am delighted to welcome 5 teachers to our teaching team from September. Firstly, I am delighted to welcome back Miss Sasha Middlemost, who many of you will remember as an exceptional Reception teacher here at Exwick Heights. Miss Middlemost moved to Qa'tar following her engagement last year. After an amazing 12 months, she is returning to Exwick Heights in September, following her marriage this summer. Her married name will be Mrs Davies.

Mr Sam Tanner: Mr Tanner has been a fantastic addition to our teaching team this year, working in Year 5 alongside Ms Willett. Mr Tanner will cover Mrs Worthington's maternity leave across next year. I am delighted to announce that we have been able to appoint him from September and so will also have Mrs Worthington teaching as a non-class based teacher, working across the school to support pupils to catch up following the summer until she begins her maternity leave in the middle of the autumn term.

Further to this, we have also appointed five other new teachers, Miss Megan Woolner, Mrs Sarah McDonald, Mr Liam Avant, Mrs Victoria Glanville and Mrs Lianne Johnson. We are delighted by their appointments and look forward to welcome these high calibre teachers to our teaching team.

Reminders & Forthcoming Events

Yr 6 Production of Aladdin

These are now on general sale to the whole of the school. If you wish to purchase tickets please call into the main office, they are priced at £2.50 each, show dates and times are:-

Monday 9th July at 1.45pm

Tuesday 10th July at 9.30am and 6.00pm

Wednesday 11th July at 6.00pm

Yr 6 Leavers Assembly - Tuesday 24th July at 1.45pm

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**