

Friday 9th February 2024

Hello everyone. This newsletter was supposed to come to you on the last day of our half term, but it's been a very busy week...



Shakespeare By The Sea

After much rehearsal and anticipation, our Year 3 and 4 pupils finally took to the Weymouth Pavilion stage on Wednesday night to perform their version of Romeo and Juliet. And what a performance it was! Fizzing with energy and enthusiasm, the children brought the story to life through the clever use of action, song and choral speaking. It was brilliant to watch and I am sure the whole theatre would have enjoyed it.

The Shakespeare By The Sea festival is designed to inspire primary-age children with the works of Shakespeare and this year also involved The Prince Of Wales First School and St Johns Primary School. We were delighted to take part and felt our children's performance was of such a high quality that Mr William Shakespeare himself would have been proud of how his play is still enthusing young people.

As always, these things are a team effort and many people at school were involved in producing the play. Special mention to Mr Prior and Miss Hutton though, who brought the play to life and kept our young cast motivated to reach such impressive heights of acting and performing. As you've probably gathered, I loved it!

<u>Link</u> to school website report and photos.

Parent Survey

Please help us by completing our <u>Parent Survey 2024</u>. The questions have been designed to help us with many aspects of our school improvement work, from feeling safe at school to the curriculum and to LGBTQ+ issues. As your experiences may be different for different children in school, please complete one questionnaire for each of your children if you wish. The survey will close on Friday 23rd February. Our findings will be shared with you later in the term. Thank you for your help.

Nut free school

Just a reminder that we are a nut-free school. Please could you ensure that you do not send your child with chocolate spread sandwiches/crepes/pancakes in their lunch box or any other food containing nuts or sesame seeds. Food containing even small traces of nuts are dangerous to the children at our school with allergies. Please help us with this - we need to be really careful.

Also, please can parents remember that we ask for <u>water only</u> in drinks bottles, and fresh fruit or vegetables for morning snack. We try to encourage the children to eat and drink as healthily as possible and would be grateful for your help with this. Many thanks.

Reports and Parents evenings

Teachers are currently busy writing the children's annual reports. These will be with you towards the end of March before our next round of parents' evenings. Please note the dates in your diaries - Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th March from 3.30 - 5.30pm each day.

Make sure your child is protected against measles

Dorset Council have asked me to pass on the following message:

Measles is an infection that spreads very easily and can lead to serious illness and complications, which is why it's important to get your child vaccinated.

The MMR vaccine is safe and offers the best protection for children. If you are unsure whether your child has had their MMR vaccines, check their personal child health record (red book) and speak to your GP practice to book a free appointment to catch up.

For advice on measles, including symptoms and what to do if you think you or your child has it, visit <u>publichealthdorset.org.uk/news/advice-on-measles</u>.

Online safety warning

You may recall that, last term, I offered a safety warning about a website called Omegle. I am please to say that the site closed down shortly afterwards (I can't take any credit) but its demise has sadly prompted the creation of several similar platforms to fill the vacuum. One such is Monkey - a site that allows video calling with random strangers. The safeguarding concerns to parents are obvious and you may know that activity on the site has recently caused problems at a local school. I have attached a guidance fact sheet here.

Sustrans Family E-news

Sustrans is the national charity who aim to encourage sustainable forms of transport and we work with them as a school to help spread this message far and wide. Please see their latest family Enews.

Attendance and lateness

You know I love to mention the importance of good attendance whenever I can. Dorset Council are currently campaigning to increase school attendance, so I am pleased to include one of their new posters:



That's it for this newsletter. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school at 8.45am on Monday 19th February.

I hope you all have a great half term.

Paul Mason



Other messages for our parents and carers





Ryan Bissett's Tennis Camp

We are pleased to announce that we are going to be running a half term sports camp in February. A perfect opportunity for your child to participate in a range of sports and multi skills.

The camp will be run inside at The Wey Valley Tennis Centre at Wey Valley School and involve a mix of tennis, multi skills and some other sports. There will be coaching, individual and team skills and lots of games!

Date - Wednesday 14th February

The camp will run from 9-12pm and the session cost is £15.

The camp is aimed for children from aged 4 up to

If you would like to book your son or daughter in, please email me or send me a text which includes:

Child's name

Age

Contact number

Any medical conditions we need to be aware of.

Payments can be made via bacs or cash.

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