



NEWSLETTER 22

01404 812599 Thursday 28th February 2019. Website www.west-hill-primary.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents,



The week before half term the whole school's attendance was 96% which is below our target of 97.5%. This may be due to numerous parents taking unauthorised holidays in the final week of term.

WOW MOMENTS

EAST DEVON HOCKEY FINALS

Congratulations to the Year 6 hockey squad who took part in the East Devon hockey finals on Tuesday this week. They played exceptionally well and displayed plenty of outstanding talent. The squad won their group stage and made it through to the quarter finals. Well done to the whole team.



CAKE SALE

Thank you to everyone who contributed cakes and to everyone who came along to support the cake sale which was held on Friday 15th February. Evie, Anna and Libbie raised an amazing £388 for Alzheimer's Society. A very big well done to the girls for organising such a terrific fundraising event.



PARENTS' EVENING APPOINTMENTS

Parents' evenings are being held next week on Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th March. Appointment lists are now in the school office so please speak to Wendy or Jo if you still need to book a slot. We will have a couple of governors available in the staff room on each evening between 5.20-6.20pm if anyone wishes to pop in for a chat and cup of tea.

WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 7th MARCH



We would like to invite the children to come dressed as their favourite **book character** (be prepared to tell your class a little about who you are and why). We will spend the day off timetable celebrating books with some exciting events and activities planned for the children to enjoy. The children will all receive a World Book Day voucher.

There will also be a special lunch menu that day and details are attached.

CRICKET CLUB

Alex Clements will be running a cricket club on a Wednesday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm starting on Wednesday 6th March. The club is open to anyone from classes 2 to 6 and costs £15 for five sessions. Flyers have been sent home with the children and a copy is attached to this newsletter.

HOLIDAY REQUESTS

May we please remind you that holidays in term time cannot be authorised (unless there are any exceptional circumstances). Since September 2018, we are now reporting unauthorised absences for holidays in term time to Devon County Council who may issue a penalty notice if a child has at least ten, half-day unauthorised absences recorded against their name within six months.

Any requests for absence in term time should be completed on a S2 form, giving sufficient time for the school to consider the request.

DATE REMINDERS

MARCH	
Tuesday 5 th March	Y3 Viking Day
Tuesday 5 th March	Parents Evening - 3.40pm to 6pm
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 7 th March	Parents Evening - 3.40pm to 6pm
Monday 11 th March	- Beam House Residential all week for Y6 - Activity week for Y5
Friday 15 th March	Class 2 sharing assembly 10.10am
Friday 29 th March	Class 1 sharing assembly 10.10am
APRIL	
Wednesday 3 rd April	Easter Service for parents of Y3 & Y4 children - 1.30pm
Friday 5 th April	- Trophies Assembly - Y3 & Y4 Katie Murray dance performance to parents - 3pm - Last Day of Term
EASTER HOLIDAY 8 th - 22nd April 23 rd April-Teacher training Day Children return to school on Wednesday 24 th April 2019	

SEND REVIEW OF THE LOCAL AREA

Ofsted and the CQC (Care Quality Commission) have now published their report on the SEND review which took place in December. The report, whilst recognising some strengths across the local area, also acknowledged some strong and clear messages from parents and carers about their experiences and identified some significant areas for improvement. The report can be found here:

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50054047>

Jo Olsson, who chairs the Devon Children and Families Partnership Executive, said '*I am especially pleased that the hard work of our SENCO's was also reflected*';

"Many parents and carers report that they receive good support from special and mainstream schools and Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs). This is a significant strength."

PTFA NEWS

The Fete

We are still eager for more offers of assistance for the running of the fete. Thank you to the five who have volunteered over the past two weeks, but we still need a lot more helpers, as well as some who can actually take on some of the organising roles. The form is attached. Please fill in and return by next Friday, or simply contact Scott Massie. We are at a really crucial time and have to make the decision on whether to go ahead or not.

General fundraising

As I mentioned last time, we would like to organise a West Hill tea-towel, ideally before the Year 6s depart. Are there any volunteers to take this on? Likewise, can anyone assist in looking to collect old printer cartridges? Neither task is particularly onerous, we just need someone to spend an hour or two.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MESSY CHURCH

Fun activities, informal worship and share food. Friday -3.45pm-6.00pm.

March 22nd - Fit for Life

St Michael's Church, West Hill. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



Have a lovely weekend.

With my best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Cheryl Boulton'.

Mrs. Cheryl Boulton
Headteacher