

Learn, Care, Grow Together

Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust
...everyone in our Trust.



30 September 2022

Newsletter



Dear Parents/ carers,

As the weather turns more Autumnal, we have plenty of learning activities both in the classroom, outdoors and across our Trust to enjoy this term. Our Year 6s enjoyed a Life Skills session this week at Parklands Leisure Centre where they learnt about keeping safe, Lifeguards, recycling, Dartmoor Rangers and staying safe around electricity. Here is what the Year 6s had to say about the event –



Pupil Voice

Evie – ‘We learnt about caring for dogs – it’s best to leave them alone because you don’t know if it might be dangerous.’

Maisy – ‘We watched a video where someone hacked into an account. We learnt not to share your personal details online.’

Cross Country Success



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Congratulations to all the Ruby Class children who took part in the Holsworthy Cross -Country run on Monday. All the children showed great determination and perseverance just to complete the course. Special mention must go to Ruben who came second in the Yr 5 and 6 boys race and Hannah who came 6th in the Yr 3 and 4 girls race. However, all the children represented the school well both on the course and in support of each other. We look forward to many more sporting events with Mr Pearson as our PE/Sport lead across our Trust schools. Mr Pearson will be able to raise the profile of PE/ Sport in our small schools so that every child can benefit and feel successful.

Moorland Hub Chair of Governors

We are delighted to introduce Richard Hollingsworth as our new Chair of the Local Stakeholder Board (Governors). We wish to thank Bridget Down, previous Chair, for her wonderful work and we are lucky that Bridget is still working on the team for our Moorland hub schools.



Richard graduated with a first class degree in Physics and a Masters in Geophysics and spent 30+ years working in the Oil Exploration business around the world for BP. He was also a non exec director for a small oil and gas company. He has 2 children - one at Lydford primary and one recently graduated from Edinburgh university. As a governor, Richard is keen to make a difference and to help enrich the school lives of children in this area. Our governing body are looking for new members – if you are interested, please ask at the school office for more details.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Reading at Home

We have noticed that not all parents are completing reading records when a child has read at home. The expectation for Home Reading is that an adult listens to the child(ren) reading at least 5 times per week to practice the skills learnt in school. Every day is best for emerging readers. The children learn first building their fluency, but also need to read aloud as confident readers, sharing their interests and thoughts about the text to improve comprehension skills. Please support your child at home with reading. We will be re-introducing the Reading Raffle, where a book prize can be won for the winner each week. At least 5 home reads will equal one ticket. Get home reading!

Our Pupil Voice Champions have been expressing their feelings on Reading also which shows the school's high priority on reading success and reading for pleasure:

'Reading takes you to another world – our teacher reads to us every day; we really enjoy listening to our class book.'

'Reading is something you can do if you feel bored.'

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In addition, we are having a **Parent Information Session on our Read Write Inc scheme for early reading on Tuesday 11th October at 3.45**. All parents are welcome. Mrs Rees and I will set out the expectations for reading at home and talk to parents about how we teach reading in school.

Maths focus

Maths learning is a key focus in our school across the classes – we want children to be able to become confident in their number work as well as be able to explain their thinking. This starts with counting and number recognition in real life contexts. Encourage your child to see numbers in their environment as well as to count in different steps, such as 2s, 5s and 10s. Times tables is a focus from Year 2 – when children know their times tables, they understand number relationships and see pattern in number. Mental arithmetic becomes easier too! These skills will help them to master problems easier and help them with everyday activities like shopping, budgeting and cooking. Maths is a life skill that we hope you will encourage at home too.

When does my child need to know their Times Tables?

In England, the expectations of our National Curriculum for each year group are:

- **Year 1:** count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10.
- **Year 2:** be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the **2, 5 and 10** multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
- **Year 3:** be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the **3, 4 and 8** multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
- **Year 4:** be able to remember and use multiplication and division facts for the multiplication tables up to **12 x 12**.
- **Year 5:** revision of all multiplication and division facts for the multiplication tables up to **12 x 12**.
- **Year 6:** revision of all multiplication and division facts for the multiplication tables up to **12 x 12**.

Please ask your child's class teacher if you require any extra help in practising times tables.

French trip for Year 6 Pupils

We are delighted to announce the details of our Year 6 residential next year to Normandy in France. We have secured funding to take all Year 6 pupils from Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust Primary Schools in the summer term. Following a rigorous and competitive application process, Mrs Jordan (Trust French Lead) and Mrs Underwood (Trust Executive Principal) received the news that all travel, accommodation and visit costs for 230 pupils and 50 staff will be covered by the government's Turing Scheme funding.

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Year 6 pupils will deepen their knowledge of History, RE, Art and PSHE through a range of inspirational visits including; the Bayeux tapestry, Mont St Michel, the D-Day landing beaches and the magnificent new British Normandy Memorial. Pupils will of course also further develop their confidence to speak French through a shopping challenge at a market, as well as visits to partner schools in Normandy. This residential will also enable Year 6 pupils across the Trust to unite and develop friendships in preparation for secondary school.



There are meetings planned for Y6 parents and pupils in all schools this half term. If parents are unable to make the date and time of the meeting, please let us know as you may be able to join a meeting at another school. Please check the calendar at the end of this newsletter for the date/ time of our meeting.

Help for hardship

With the increase in energy costs, we know that families are feeling the effects and some are experiencing financial hardship. We want to support where possible and you can check for support available here -

[Check benefits and financial support you can get - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

PINPOINT Devon [Help and support for parents and families in Devon \(pinpointdevon.co.uk\)](http://pinpointdevon.co.uk)

Okehampton community funding including crisis funds [Okehampton United Charities | Funding for the Community \(okehamptoncharities.org.uk\)](http://okehamptoncharities.org.uk)

If you are in receipt of Pupil Premium Grant funding, we may be able to help with costs relating to school provision. You can also find out about how to apply for Free School Meals here - [School meals – Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](http://devon.gov.uk)

Reminders!

- Smart Start begins at 8.45am – pupils who arrive late are missing out on valuable learning time first thing! Please ensure your child(ren) gets to school for Smart Start.
- Smart school uniform is expected every day so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately and with correct uniform, including smart school shoes (not trainers). Many thanks.
- Please ensure that your child(ren) has their **reading record and book with them every day**. Many thanks for your support with Home Reading.

We wish you all a peaceful weekend.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Petersen'.

Mrs Petersen, Principal

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This week's whole school attendance is 92.5%

Celebration Assembly



Friday 16.09.2022

Star of the week TARKA –

Ethan for excellent effort in your writing this week.

Star of the week RUBY –

Riley for consistently doing your best in all your learning areas.

Learner of the week –

Ellarose for independent writing during Read Write Inc and for your wonderful approach to independent learning.

RUBY HEART award –

Archie: You have shown what a caring nature you have and demonstrate our school values wonderfully.

Friday 23.09.2022

Star of the week TARKA –

Rory for trying really hard in your letter formation

Star of the week RUBY –

Isla for your excellent reasoning and explaining your thinking in Maths.

Learner of the week –

Kit for working really hard with your handwriting

RUBY HEART award –

Brooklyn for engaging and helping younger children in PE showing your caring nature.

Special mention for Y2s for stepping up in Tarka Class and showing excellent learning behaviour.

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GALLERY



TARKA CLASS

Busy in the garden and careful cutting with scissors.



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Our corn has grown well and Tarka Class are very artistic in studying 'Orla Kiely' designs.

Dates for the Diary

PE: There will be physical exercise most days so please have PE kit in school all week

26 th September PM	Cross Country Event at Holsworthy CC (KS2 only)
27 th September	West Devon Skills at Okehampton (Year 6 only)
29 th September	NHS Flu Vaccinations. (Please provide consent on NHS gateway. The link closes on 21st September)
4 th October	Parent information meeting for Year 6 French Trip in 2023 – Boasley Cross Primary School at 3.45pm – Remember this trip is FREE!
14 th October	NSPCC visit to school
18 th October	Parent Forum (3.30pm)
24-28 th October incl.	Half Term Break
21 st October	Tempest Photography Visit: Family, Class and Individual Photos
1 st November	Parent Consultations with Teachers
4 th November	Alibi Theatre Visit
11 th November	Homework Celebration
18 th November	Open morning for prospective new parents
15 th December	School Trip to Northcott Theatre to see Robin Hood Pantomime
16 th December	Last Day of Term