



AWLISCOMBE PRIMARY NEWS

Newsletter 7
19/10/2018

01404 42031 Website: www.fort.devon.sch.uk

The next few days ...

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Monday 29 th October | - DON'T FORGET NO CLUBS THIS WEEK |
| | - Handball Years 5 + 6 |
| Tuesday 30 th October | - Bags 2 Schools collection |
| | - Go Ride Cycling |
| Wednesday 31 st October | - NHS Vision Screening - Reception |
| Thursday 1 st November | - Hi 5's Netball Years 5 + 6 |
| Friday 2 nd November | - Kingfisher projects to be handed in |

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

Walking around the classes this morning I saw lots of tired children. They have all worked so hard this half term and for of the little ones it has been their first autumn in school. I think it is fair to say we are all ready for a few days off.

This week has been busy.

On Monday a Kingfishers went to Payhembury School to take part in a Netball competition. It was a great afternoon with super sportsman's attitudes. Three games were played. Awliscombe won the first two and Payhembury pulled the last one back. The children were buzzing and really enjoyed it. It was a Close competition!

Our teams played a lot of netball, but throughout the afternoon, they were energetic, respectful and supportive of each other. They also displayed some superb netball skills, particularly in the way they worked up the court with lots of options to pass the ball in their first and second games.

As well as the match results, which were;

Game 1 - AWL 7 / PAY 2

Game 2 - AWL 3 / PAY 0

Game 3 - AWL 0 / PAY 4

Mrs Moran also awarded points for School Games Values of Team work / Determination and Respect (5 points for each value in each game)

The results for these were AWL 38 - PAY 37

It was a fantastic afternoon and we hope to organise many more between the two schools. A huge thank you to those parents who transported the children to Payhembury, with help we wouldn't have been able to do it.

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend parents' evenings this week. We had a really high turnout. If you needed more time or had any further questions, please don't hesitate to arrange an addition meeting with your class teacher. I know 10 minutes can seem very short sometimes.

On Tuesday, we carried out interviews for a new Year 5 and 6 teacher at Payhembury Primary School to start after Christmas. It was an intense day with the children taking an active role in the recruitment process. The school council interviewed each candidate and fed back their views to the interview panel. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Claire Hulbert to the Fort Federation team. She will be taking up her position in Oak class from January with Mrs Gunningham moving into the position of teaching assistant in Key Stage 2.

On Wednesday evening we had a full Governing body meeting which started with safeguarding training. I provided a short training session for governors and then we moved into the business meeting. During the meeting, we discussed issues around recruitment and the impact it has on schools. We had an in-depth discussion of the school's finances and the future budgets available to both schools. The minutes of a full governing body meeting are always available for you to read. You will find them on the website. Following this meeting, the Resources committee met on Thursday evening to scrutinise in detail the school's finances. The governors have a lot to look at now. We have two full school budgets, two preschool budgets, breakfast and afterschool budgets. It is a very full agenda.

Back in May, we had new data protection laws introduced that we need to adhere to. It was called GDPR, as a result we have an action plan which we are working through but one small change I am obligated to make is the removal of surnames of children in the newsletter. So from now on we will only refer to children by first name and occasional an initial for a surname if we have more than one in a class. It's sad that we can't fully celebrate but that's the world we live in.

Thank you also to all those who have been able to return the questionnaires, I will begin to work through the responses and I will summarise the results for you.

The first week back after half term will be Arts Week! Children will do many different activities based on the books, 'The Dot' and 'Beautiful Oops!' to develop their creativity and artistic skills with the emphasis on encouraging the idea that each and every one of them is a talented artist. We will also be visited by a member of the education team from The Thelma Hulbert Gallery in Honiton who will be announcing an exciting new scheme to get the children engaged with the arts.

On Monday 29th October, we have Kingfishers taking part in a handball tournament and on Thursday, they will return to HCC to take part in a Hi 5's tournament. All part of working within our local learning community.

On Tuesday 30th October, it is Bags 4 school collection. Please bring in your donations and leave them in the front porch for collection. It is always amazing how much we collect.

Finally, on Wednesday 31st October we have four children from each school taking part in the Go Ride at Bicton, which should be an exciting event.

Don't forget Kingfishers projects are to be on Friday 2nd November.

So lots of things planned for the start of next half term, which is a very long and full one. Key dates for your diaries will be coming out soon. I hope you all have a restful holiday and will be looking forward to your return on the 29th October.

With regards,

Mrs Hammett

Star of the Week - Well Done To....

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|--------|
| <u>Cygnets</u> | Harvey | |
| <u>Swans</u> | Jimmie | |
| <u>Robins</u> | William | Katana |
| <u>Woodpeckers</u> | Elowen | Grace |
| <u>Kingfishers</u> | Freddy | James |

Governors

"I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Chair of Governors for the Fort Federation to those new families who have joined our community this year. I have been a Governor since 2013, prior to the formation of the Fort Federation I was on the Awliscombe Governing Body, and I have been Chair of Governors since 2016. I continue to enjoy being a part of the Fort Federation and feel it is great to see that our schools are continuing to thrive within the Federation. I have two girls, Rosie and Elowen who attend Awliscombe Primary, however this is not a prerequisite to being a Governor, and we are very lucky to have Governors from both the Payhembury and Awliscombe communities, all bringing a different group of skill sets to the role.

The role of the Governing Body is to provide strategic management and to support the work of the Executive Headteacher and all other staff within the school.

There have been a number of Governing Meetings already this term where we have completed some brief training on exclusions, reviewed pupil data, reviewed and agreed some school policies and completed a skills audit of the governing body. As governors we also have a duty to monitor what happens within school. I very much enjoyed monitoring a maths lesson in Mr Bladon's class with Mrs Hammett a few weeks ago, and learnt a few things myself! I have also been involved in the recruitment of a new Key Stage 2 Teacher for Payhembury and attended a consultation on schools finance with Mrs Hammett.

It has been lovely to hear such positive reports about the school trips that have taken place this term and the fantastic feedback that our staff get from members of the public that see our pupils out in the community during these visits. There has been such a lovely atmosphere in both schools when I have visited this year and pupils on both sites have been excited to share with me the amazing things they have been doing.

I would like to wish you all a lovely and restful half term and look forward to seeing you all after the break. If you are interested in finding out more about what the Governors do or you would be interested in becoming a governor please feel free to come and have a chat with me if you see me in the Awliscombe playground or at Payhembury during one of my visits. Alternatively you can always email me on: chairofgovs@fort.devon.sch.uk "

Emily Meek
Chair of Governors

Letters Sent

Primary Times
Bags2Schools
Sea life leaflet
Blackdown Hills
Shoebox Appeal

2017/18 Academic Year

22nd - 26th October - Half Term
29th October - Don't forget no clubs this week
29th October - Handball Yr5/6 @ Honiton Leisure Centre
30th October - Bag2School collection
31st October - Vision screening Reception only
2nd November - Kingfishers projects in
6th November - Yr 3/4 swimming starts
8th November - PTFA meeting @ Honiton Inn
13th November - School Photos - am
15th November - Shoebox appeal service @ 10.10am all welcome
16th November - Shoeboxes being collected
28th November - Flu Vaccination Reception to Year 5.
1st December - Awliscombe village Christmas market
7th December - Kids Cafe
5th - 12th December - Scholastic Books
14th December - Christmas Jumper Day
14th December - Phoenix Theatre
20th December - Christmas Dinner
21st December - Last day of term
7th January - Start of Spring Term
3rd April - Cone and Sing

PTFA



Hi, Many thanks to everyone who donated cake and supported kids café last week, we made £120 which is fantastic... a little bit closer to our much needed new tablets! Our next kid's café will be Friday 7th December at the usual time of 3-4pm to coincide with the school hosting a pop up bookshop (scholastic books) there's a great range of books on sale for all ages.

Please keep saving your unwanted stuff for our Bag 2 School collection on Tue 30th Oct, 9am.... adults & children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, ties, handbags & soft toys. The bags are weighed and we are paid a set amount per kilo so lots of heavy things please! Just bring them into school on the morning, here's the company web address if you'd like to see what they do: www.bag2school.com Please follow our FB page Awliscombe C of E Primary School PTFA. Thanks for your continued support. Blue Skies, Nic Greenland.

Events in the community

Secondary School places

Year 6 parents are invited to apply for their child's secondary school place for 2019. The timescale to apply is from 1st September to 31st October 2018. Any queries please call 0345 155 1019.