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Issue 4 29.9.16

DSSP KS2 Cross Country

On Wednesday 21st September, 51 children from Exminster School took part in a cross country event at Stover School. It was fantastic to see so much effort and determination shining through from the Exminster children and their consistent display of the Rainbow Values. It was also great to get such high numbers at one event and see so many yellow tee shirts representing our school. The Year 3/4 team were crowned champions and have added to the Exminster silverware. The Year 5/6 team finished 5th out of 16 schools. Well done to all the children who took part. A special mention must go to Thomas from 4S who came 1st in his race against more than 100 other competitors.

Thanks again to the generosity of our parents who provided transport and cheered on Team Exminster. Without your help these events could not be possible

Wildside experience

Our Year 4 children enjoyed their 2 day, 1 night residential visit to the Wildside experience last week. Staff at the venue were exceptionally complimentary of our children's behaviour, their team work, their listening skills and their 'can do' attitude. All the school adults that went thoroughly enjoyed the children's company over their 2 days and emphasised how much the children got out of the outdoor learning experience and activities. Well done to all the children, our thanks to all the staff and hope that you have all caught up on your sleep by now!

Census Day

Thursday 6 October 2016 is an important day for the school in terms of school meals as we have to collate the number of children who actually have a 'Universal Free School Meal' on that day and inform the local authority who, in turn, then apply for the funding that comes into school to enable us to provide this facility.

It is for this reason that we are asking for your support to ensure that we maximise meal numbers on that day. As far as possible, we would like every child who is entitled to a 'Universal Free School Meal' (all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children) to have a school lunch. The menu for Thursday 6th and Friday 7th will be changed as follows:

<u>Thursday:</u>	Battered Fish and Chips Vegetarian Stir Fry Jacket Potato with beans Plain Jacket Potato Ham or Cheese Packed Lunch option Fresh Fruit Salad	<u>Friday:</u>	Macaroni and Ham Bake Tomato and Vegetable Tumble Jacket Potato with cheese Plain Jacket Potato Ham and Cheese Packed Lunch option Chocolate Rice Krispies
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Could you be entitled to register for Pupil Premium?

Your child could be entitled to Pupil Premium funding which school could use to support them if:

- You are a service family
- You have adopted your child
- You are on certain benefits. Please see the list on the attached application form.

Even though this does not mean Free School Meals until they are in Year 3, it does mean that educational visits will be half funded and that school will be in receipt of Pupil Premium funding which could be used to support your child in school. If you think you could be entitled, fill out the form attached and return as soon as possible.

Flu vaccinations date

The Flu vaccination date has been confirmed as Tuesday 11 October. This is for Years 1-3 only.





School Uniform and PE Kit

Reminder: Our school uniform does not include jewellery, trainers or hoodies. Watches are allowed to be worn to school but items such as fitbits and wearable technology are not permitted.

Our PE kit is dark blue or black shorts and a yellow T-shirt with the school logo on it. Please ensure children have their school PE kit in school and at school sporting events as not only do we want to continue to be recognised for our behaviour and sporting achievements outside of school but also for the pride we take in our uniform, PE uniform included.

Townfield gate

There was much discussion, both at parental and governor level last year, about the closure of the Townfield gate leading into school after a near miss. As a result of this, Alan Connett has formally requested a safety Audit is undertaken by the county council in relation to pedestrian access to our school. Alan has met with our local PC Jon Croft and some parents to discuss the issue further. Whilst this issue is continuing to be discussed at a county council level, can I encourage parents to choose the route to school that they feel is the safest route for their family.

Dogs:

Dogs are not to be left unattended at any of the school gates. I would also remind you that dogs are not allowed in any part of the school grounds.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 30th Sept we will be supporting Macmillan by holding a coffee morning in school at 9am. This will not only benefit Macmillan but will give parents a chance to catch up over a cuppa and a slice of something delicious for a good cause. We are hoping to hold the event in the outside classroom, weather permitting but in the event of rain it will be in the staffroom/hall depending on numbers. Please could you 'Bake or Fake' a cake/cakes to share.

We are asking the children to come to school in non-uniform on the day in exchange for cakes or a small donation. Within their RE and circle time sessions the children will get the opportunity to talk about charities and what Macmillan does to support people in our communities. Please keep an eye on our RE/community board situated opposite the music room where the children's work within these sessions will be displayed and with more information about the day.

Finally, after school on the day we will be holding a cake sale with any of the remaining cakes. So please, please help us to raise as much money as possible for this amazing charity.

Shopaholic event

This event is on Wednesday 5 October, 7pm in the school hall. Willing staff (with a little gentle persuasion) will be modelling (I use this term loosely) clothing from a range of high street brands that will be available to buy for a 40-70% discount. Tickets for the event are £5 and can be purchased from the reception area in the mornings for the next 2 weeks. This is a school fundraising event, we will use the commission we receive plus the money from the ticket sales to go towards the traverse climbing wall that the children voted for last year. There will be a range of clothing, scarves, bags and accessories for you to buy. Bring your female family members, neighbours, teens and enjoy a retail therapy evening. **Please buy tickets by this Friday** so we can ensure numbers for the event.

Help Required:

We are looking for someone to come in and assist with tidying up the school hall every day at 1pm, after the children have finished their lunches. This would take half an hour. If you are interested please pop into the office and leave your details.

Music

We now have a woodwind teacher in school with spaces for those keen to learn saxophone, flute, clarinet or recorder. Please pick up a music interest form or contact music Devon online to register interest and find out more about times and costs.

