



Newsletter—Friday 8th September

Next week—W/C Monday 11th September 2023	
Monday:	
Tuesday:	KS2 Art Club
Wednesday:	
Thursday:	Class 2 PE KS2 Gardening Club
Friday:	Class 3 PE Class 4 PE

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Welcomes and Welcome Back!

Welcome back to all of the children for the new school year! I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday - certainly, from talking with the children this week, it sounds as though they did. We are delighted to welcome Jasper, Harry, Jessica, Olivia and Bessie. We hope that you and all of the children in school will have a fantastic year ahead with amazing learning and plenty of fun. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Jones into our EYFS. Claire will teach in Class One on Thursdays and Fridays, with Mrs Game continuing on Monday-Wednesdays.

### Thank you!

Many thanks to all of the parents of children past and present who have donated lovely books to the school's library. We really value this part of the school and love the fact that it is so well stocked with brilliant books. Thank you also to Rev Tracey and the church community for their very generous gift of beautiful new books, which have also gone into the library. Finally, a huge thank you to Victoria Day for the very kind donation of a new bench for the children in Class One and for doing all of the work to secure a substantial grant from Asda to cover the cost of a much-needed new potting shed at the school allotment: I know Gardening Club are going to be thrilled to have a safe, secure, dry shed as a result!

### KS2

Whilst the staffing at the school remains largely as it was in the Summer Term, there are a couple of slight alterations. Miss Trofa will be extending her SENDCo role to support children with SEND in another TEAM school each week. Mrs Kennard will now add to her Wednesday teaching in KS2 by working with Class Three on Thursdays in Miss Trofa's absence.

### Home - School Links

It has been amazing to see how the children have come back and just slotted back into school life so well. This is especially true of those years groups that have moved classes. If you have questions about your child's new class or year group, or just want to have a look in their classroom, please do see the teacher at the end of school to arrange a convenient time to come in. We try hard to be as available as possible and certainly welcome opportunities to share information. If you are unable to come in, or want to contact the teacher via email, please do so through the main school email address: [admin@high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk) Please do not use individual teacher emails. Parents of children in Class One will be able to contact school via Tapestry.

In the next week or so, you will receive an overview of the projects that your child will be learning about this term. Once we have completed some work in books, we will be setting up some after school 'drop ins' to give parents / carers the opportunity to see what your children have been up to. We are calling these sessions, "A Book and a Biscuit" - refreshments will be provided! Look at for dates and times around about half term.

## **Homework**

As last year, homework will be set across the classes and will consist mainly of reading. Reading is of such vital importance that it needs to be the main focus of any homework that takes place. In a normal week, children in the various classes can expect to have the following homework:

- Class One - Reading with an adult at home for a short time each day
- Class Two - Reading (15-20 minutes per day). Learn 5 spellings per week
- Class Three - Reading (30-40 minutes per day). Learn 10 spellings per week. x table practice each week
- Class Four - Reading (Y5 at least 45 minutes per day. Y6 at least 60 minutes per day). Learn 10 spellings per week. Maths facts each week

In addition, we will continue to use Google Classroom to put ideas for OPTIONAL homework linked to class projects. We also love to see and celebrate home learning tasks that children complete off their own bat because they have been inspired to do so. Please keep these coming! In KS1 and KS2, we are starting something called 'Learning in Depth' (LiD). We will be talking to the children about what this means and how it fits into their project work in the next week and I will send home some information about this next Friday.

## **Water in school**

In classes Two, Three and Four, please send you child in to school with a refillable bottle of water so that they are able to have plenty of drinks to keep hydrated during the school day. Class One have their own bottles that they keep in the classroom.

## **PE**

PE will take place on the following days:

- Class One - Every Day - No PE kit required.
- Class Two - Thursday morning
- Class Three - Friday morning
- Class Four - Friday afternoon

Children should come to school in PE kit on the days that they have PE (with a school sweatshirt / cardigan on top if cold) - there is no need to bring uniform at all on these days. Please make sure that your child has a school PE shirt in the colour of their Family Group. If you do not have a school shirt, these can be bought / ordered from the office at £3.50 each.

## **Breakfast Club**

A reminder that we run a Breakfast Club before school from 8:00am and any child attending HB school in Reception to Y6 are welcome. The cost of each session is £3.00 and this includes toast, cereal and a drink. There is no need to book, simply drop your child in to the 'Music Room' (the building on the playground) from 8:00am where they will be looked after until the start of school when they will go into class.

## **School Clubs**

With the exception of Gardening Club and KS2 Art Club which will start again next week, all other clubs will begin in the following week (week beginning Monday 18th September).

### **Clubs for this half term will be:**

- Monday: Lunchtime Choir Club
- Tuesday: Lego Club 3:30 - 4:15pm. KS1 and KS2. KS2 Art Club—please let Mrs Goss know by Monday if your child would like to attend.
- Wednesday: Monthly After School Church Club YR-Y6 (if your child has not attended before please ask Mrs Goss for a form!)
- Thursday: Lunchtime Eco Club (Y2-Y6, Library), Sports Club 3:30 - 4:15pm. KS1. Gardening Club 3.30—4.30pm, pick up at new site. KS2.
- Friday: Karl's lunchtime Coding Club (Y5 & Y6, Class Four), Lunchtime Drama Club, Sports Club 3:30 - 4:30pm. KS2

### **Class Three and Class Four Trips**

Both Class Three and Class Four will be off on project-related trips in the next couple of weeks. Letters will be coming home on Monday. PTA have generously heavily subsidised both trips, but we do need to ask for £20 per child to make sure that they can go ahead: the cost of coaches continues to be very high, but we do need to travel in order to visit the very worthwhile sites.

### **Appledore Book Festival**

Once again, we will be taking part in the Appledore Book Festival this year. The authors we will be welcoming are:

- Wed 27th Sept. Andy Seed (KS2 / Class Three)
- Wed 27th Sept. Manjeet Mann (Class Two)
- Thu 28th Sept. Tom Palmer (Class Four)
- Thu 28th Sept. Layn Marlow (Class One)

There is no cost to parents for this event, but you may like to buy a book by any of the authors in advance and then they will sign it for your child to keep. Details on how these can be ordered through the school can be found below.

I hope that all children, families and staff have a happy and rewarding term.

Rob Norton  
Head of School

### **Appledore Book Festival**

As part of Appledore Book Festival, Waterstones are giving a 25% discount on books ordered through school for these events. Some authors have recommended specific books for their events, which can be seen below. If you would like to order a book for your child, please e-mail [admin@high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk) by Wednesday 13th September.

Andy Seed (KS2) - The Plot Against the Emperor—cost through school £6.74

Manjeet Mann (Class Two) - Whirly Twirly Me—cost through school £5.99 and Small's Big Dream—cost through the school £5.24

Layn Marlow (Class One) - Noah's Seal—cost through school paperback £5.24, hardback £8.99. Paperback is currently showing as a longer delivery time.

Tom Palmer (KS2) has a wide variety of books, but had not recommended a specific title that he is interested in. If you would like to order any of his titles, there will be a 25% discount on the full price listed on the Waterstones website. <https://www.waterstones.com/author/tom-palmer/7362>



### **Dates for your diary**

Class Three trip to Bath—Friday 29th September  
Class Four trip to Bristol—Thursday 21st September  
Christmas Service—Tuesday 12th December

## Attendance celebration!

The first week of term is really important for children to settle back in to the new school year, and it's been great that we've had 100% attendance across the whole school this week. Keep it up everyone!

100%

## Pupil Premium

Please have a look at the Pupil Premium leaflet attached with this newsletter. If your child has their eligibility for pupil premium confirmed before the end of September, they will receive a book token.

## Notice for Class Two parents

In Class Two each week, the regular homework will consist of reading.

At school we value reading and want to make it an enjoyable part of your child's life and we hope you will help us continue the excitement at home. Reading is extremely valuable to aid your child's learning and can also be used as a time to spend quality moments with your child; supporting speaking and listening skills as well as phonics, word recognition and comprehension.

Reading each day can consist of you listening to and supporting your child with reading their school books from their book bags. As well as reading school books, it can also be a chance to share a range of books, which you can choose from a library or your home, to read with your child.

We recommend that in Year One children read for 15 minutes per day with an adult and Year Two read for 20 minutes with an adult.

Please can your children bring their book bag to school each day containing their Reading Record (provided by the school) and their school reading book.

Your child's reading book in their bag is matched to their phonics and reading ability.

Please can you log when your child has read/shared their book with you at home by writing it in their Reading Record. When your child has completed their book with a parent/carer or teacher and it has been logged, they will be able to select a new book from the classroom.

Happy reading!

## What happened at school this week?

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!



### Learning Lions (Class One)

What happened in the story 'Where's my Teddy?'

How can you show you are listening, when someone is talking to you?

How do you play the game Duck, Duck, Goose?



### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

What would you like to achieve with your learning this year?

Can you draw a picture of your new friends?

Can you find out some facts about a dinosaur to share with the class?



### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

Can you explain the computing terms Input-Process-Output?

How do you say hello, hi, good evening and goodnight in French?

Can you remember our SHINE behaviour code?



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

Can you remember the new School Code?

What do you know already about our new project? What can you find out yourself?

What are your personal goals for the school year ahead?

### **Class One**

This week has been spent learning about our class and our friends, old and new who have joined class one- including a new teacher, Mrs Jones! We have had a Teddy themed week and read the story of 'Where's my Teddy' alongside bringing in our own teddies to play with. We have made teddy pictures, patterns and even teddy headbands too. Class one has talked about what good learning looks like across our classroom and this is a theme that will continue throughout the term as we grow together.

### **Class Two**

In Class Two we have had a successful start to our school year. The children have shown that they are ready and keen to learn. They have been learning about the expectations for Class Two and have been practising many basic skills to get them ready for a full week next week. The children have enjoyed earning many marbles, merits and leaves for our learning tree already! We start the year with our new topic 'Dinosaur Planet' where we will find out about life 250 million years ago including learning facts about discoveries, fossils and significant historical individuals.

### **Class Three**

We've had a great week settling back into KS2, we started the week with working on our presentation skills for our new books. Yesterday, we created our own designs for our new school behaviour policy 'Shine' they are looking great! Today, we have started to make our new display all about Building Learning Power! We have made our own potion bottles with ingredients on how to be a magnificent learner!

### **Class Four**

This week we have been focused on 'standards and skills' as we set expectations for our work and behaviour for the year ahead. The new Y5s have settled so well into Class Four - helped by the Y6s who are 'old hands' now - and everyone is setting high standards already. We have thought a lot about our School Code and how we can live up to this. Each letter of the word SHINE reminds us of one of the five parts of the code. Mr Norton says that we are the biggest ever class in Class Four, but he has been incredibly impressed with how quietly we get on with our work and focus our attention - especially as the heat in school has been so draining this week! It is a bit of a squeeze in the classroom, but not too bad. When we have completed a few weeks of work, we hope that our parents and carers will be able to come in and have a look around. Today we have elected our first two School Council reps and we know that Alice and Jacob will do a fantastic job. Next week, we will elect our last two members and select librarians for the school library: Mr Norton says this will be a big responsibility, keeping all of the books we have in order!

### **Next Week's Menu—W/C 11th September**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spud day— cheese and baked beans toppings	Beef lasagne, crusty bread and mixed vegetables Jelly whip	Roast chicken, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables	West country sausages, mashed potatoes and vegetables	Fish fingers, golden fries, seasonal vegetables
Tinned fruit and meringue nest		Fruit platter	Iced sponge	Chocolate cracknel



## Chulmleigh College

### SEPTEMBER OPEN EVENTS

We are delighted to invite prospective families to our September Open Events.

#### Open Mornings: Monday 11th September & Thursday 14th September - 11.30am to 1pm

The morning will begin with a presentation from Executive Headteacher Michael Johnson, followed by a tour of the school led by a member of our Senior Leadership Team. After the tour there will be refreshments and the opportunity for an informal Q&A with our Senior Leadership. The Academy Business Manager, Tina Harrison, will also be available to answer questions relating to our School Transport Service for families out of catchment.

Please book a place via this link <https://forms.office.com/r/JJzQuQCLRC>

#### Open Evening: Thursday 28th September - 4.30 to 7pm

At our Open Evening we offer the opportunity for individual tours led by pupils, or self-guided tours around the College. Teaching staff will be available in all departments, with activities for visitors as well as showcasing the work of our pupils. There will be presentations from our Executive Headteacher Michael Johnson at 5.15pm and 6.15pm, and from our Head Boy Nat Hughes and Head Girl Heidi Flowers.

Please register for the evening via this link <https://forms.office.com/r/sfahCSbvtg>

Chulmleigh College offers a subsidised transport service for pupils who are out of catchment, from: CREDITON , TORRINGTON, RACKENFORD, BARNSTAPLE and HATHERLEIGH areas. For more information please visit our [School Transport](#) page.

## Church News

St Mary's churches are holding a Pet Service 4pm on 10th September at Atherington Pavilion. All types of pets and well behaved owners welcome.



**BINGO**  
in aid of North Devon Hospice



**North Devon Hospice**

**Saturday 23rd September**  
**At High Bickington Community Centre**  
**Doors Open 6PM**  
**Eyes Down 7PM**  
Bring friends & family along for a great evening!  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**  
**Raffle Tickets & Refreshments available on the night**  
For more info contact Jen - 07563603156