



## School Changes

### **Year 5 children can return to school**

We have had confirmation that Year 5 children are now eligible to return to school with effect from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Miss Slack has been contacting parents / carers of the families affected to discuss whether they would like their children to return. A letter outlining the arrangements is also being sent to these families.

Staff will continue to keep in touch with children who are still unable to return to school through Purple Mash and class blogs. Learning packs are available on the website and can also be printed off if required. Please contact the office if you would like a hard copy of these packs.

It will be very helpful if parents / carers whose children are eligible to come to school at the moment but who are not ready to take up their place, keep the school informed of any potential changes.

### **Miss Haworth**

We were pleased to welcome Miss Haworth back to school this week following her maternity leave. She is returning part time and will initially be helping in Meldon class.

### **Miss Parsons**

We have said farewell to Miss Parsons who has decided not to return to her post as a Teaching Assistant following her maternity leave. We wish her well with her other ventures but we hope we will still see her when she drops her children into school each day!

### **Year 6 Photos**

Just waiting for three more photos – you know who you are!!

We will be in touch to chase up these so that we can create our memento for our leavers.

## Safeguarding

Another school in our Multi Academy Trust was alerted to a Safeguarding issue involving some of their pupils. The children had uploaded videos of themselves onto the Likee platform (formerly LIKE Video). Two of the pupils were wearing their school uniform in the videos, making it much easier to potentially identify and meet them.

All of the posts are public, and viewers can send messages to individual video makers. The following website also highlights the concerns about the use of this site by young people

(<https://www.common sense media.org/app-reviews/like-magic-music-video-editor>)

### **Law on leaving children home alone**

We have received information from Devon Local Activity, following a number of concerning reports they have recently received from the community and housing associations regarding children being left home alone. There is no law about when you can leave your child on their own, but it is an offence to leave them alone if it places them at risk. As parents, you should use your judgement on how mature your child is before you decide to leave them at home. Read the government advice on the law on leaving children unattended (<https://www.gov.uk/law-on-leaving-your-child-home-alone>).

It is important to be aware that you can be prosecuted if you leave a child alone 'in a manner likely to cause unnecessary suffering or injury to health'. If you are at all unsure, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) recommends that children under 12 are rarely mature enough to be left alone for a long period of time, children under 16 should not be left alone overnight and babies, toddlers and very young children should never be left alone.

## Prayer Focus

This week's word from the latest online edition of the Wednesday Word, is "Faith". The online Wednesday Word can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/stopgap/Temporary-Special-Edition.pdf>

Having faith is to believe and trust in God's love for us. Faith is one of life's greatest blessings – it is a gift to be shared. Our prayer this week is:-

Dear Lord Jesus

Thank you for the gift of faith. Please increase the faith of our family so that we can know you more closely.

Amen.

## The God Who Speaks

You may remember from previous items in our school newsletter that the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales dedicated 2020 as a year of focus on the Bible and 'The God Who Speaks'. The ACN Child's Bible Project links in very well with the God Who Speaks. A short prayer and activity inspired by each chapter has been produced. These can be found at:

<https://acnuk.org/resource/childs-bible-project/>

Each day's activity is linked to a video on YouTube. The videos are released each weekday at 10am on Twitter (@ACN Schools) and at the end of each week, the links are added into the workbooks, so you can catch up if you've missed anything.

## Well done, Ollie!



Congratulations to Ollie who has learnt to ride his bike during lockdown! Here he is on a ride with Eva.

## Catechetical Camps

At this time of year, the school often receives details of Plymouth Diocese's Catechetical Camps for children. This year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they are organising 'virtual' camps instead. Anyone interested in registering their child should send an email with the full name of the young person, current school year, and Parish to: [junior1pdcamp@mail.com](mailto:junior1pdcamp@mail.com). The email should be sent from a parent or guardian account. Parental permissions will be required at an age appropriate level. The CO of the relevant camp will email back requesting the relevant permissions, following guidance from the Plymouth Safeguarding Office. Further details can be found on the poster attached to this email.

## Support Resources

### Devon Information and Advice Service for SEND children (DiAS)

Now that children are starting to return to school, DiAS has produced some information for parents and carers of children with SEND about transition. The information can be found from the following link:

<https://www.devonias.org.uk/going-back-to-school>

### Time for YOU

Two free Time for YOU supportive 8-week groups for mums of children with additional needs is being run in July (due to Covid 19 groups are taking place on Zoom) on Wednesdays and Friday mornings. Further information is available from the poster attached to this email.

### Mental Health support

The Children's Society has a range of support materials for young people, parents and schools in their mental and emotional health resource 'vault' including: anxiety, depression and mood, loneliness, obsessive compulsive disorder, phobias, self care, emotional resilience and mental Resilience. Resources can be accessed from this link: <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/coronavirus-information-and-support>

## Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency and funded by Arts Council England, encourages children aged 4 to 11 to set themselves a reading challenge to help prevent the summer reading 'dip'.

Each year the Challenge, delivered through public libraries, motivates over 700,000 children to keep reading to build their skills and confidence. Last year more than 14,000 children across Devon and Torbay took part. With the disruption caused by COVID-19 and the impact of social distancing on schools and public libraries, the 2020 Challenge will launch as a digital activity to keep children reading over the summer and support parents and carers with children already at home. The Challenge will run from June to September. This year, the Summer Reading Challenge 2020 celebrates funny books, happiness and laughter and features bespoke artwork from award-winning children's author and illustrator Laura Ellen Anderson (Amelia Fang; Evil Emperor Penguin; I Don't Want Curly Hair). Children taking part in the Challenge will join the Silly Squad, an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck into all different kinds of funny books!

The digital Challenge is free to access, featuring games, quizzes and digital and downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in reading-related activities at home. Although our library buildings are closed we have boosted the number of children's books available to borrow via our e-lending platforms which can be accessed from our Devon Libraries

(<https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena>) and Torbay Libraries

(<https://www.torbaylibraries.org.uk/web/arena>) websites. From July there will also be Silly Squad events and activities on the Buckfastleigh Library Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/buckfastleighlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/buckfastleighlibrary).

You can sign up on the Summer Reading Challenge website:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>.

If anyone would like their child to take part in this challenge but would struggle to get online to access the digital resources, please let the school know before the end of term, as Buckfastleigh library may be able to help by providing alternative resources.

## Schools Library Service

The Schools Library Service have sent through the following links which may be useful:

<https://www.littleinventors.org/>

This site asks children to imagine, design and write about solutions to real world problems, including a daily challenge and a newly released resource pack Mission: Protect Our Oceans. There is an option to upload your designs.

<https://www.theguardian.com/football/2020/may/22/the-guardian-and-football-schools-second-young-sportswriter-competition>

For the second year running the Guardian has joined forces with the Football School series to organise a Young Sportswriter of the Year competition. This exciting contest is aimed at seven- to 12-year-olds.

<https://www.lbq.org/home>

This website, Learn by Questions, has hundreds of lessons that children can work through and receive marking and feedback as they go.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/category/audiobooks?page=2&sort=latest>

A range of BBC Audiobooks for adults and children (suitable for Key Stage Two onwards) which are free to listen to.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/primary/zd7p47h>

BBC Teach; live lessons and clips to watch covering a range on National Curriculum subjects for all key stages, accompanying activities and worksheets.

## Speech and Language

### Speech and Language website

The website link below has a range of activities for parents / carers that may be useful to support children with Speech and Language difficulties.

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents>