AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 12/05/2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

This week the year 6's have worked so hard to complete their SATs tests, some tests were harder than others and the main thing is they all tried their best and we are so proud of them. Thank you to all of the staff who have worked to support them not only this week but over all their years here. Next week, year 2 will continue with their reading SAT tests, we are sure they will all be as amazing as year 6.

Keeping fit and healthy! - we love to exercise here at Austin Farm Academy and have two exciting sporting events coming up:

Plymouth half marathon - the children have been training at lunchtimes and hopefully are ready to run their final mile on Sunday morning. As stated in the letter you received on Tuesday, please meet Mrs Bojang, Mrs Robinson, Mrs King and me outside the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 10.30. The children will need to be wearing their official t-shirt with completed race number attached. (We will have some spare safety pins if you need them). We look forward to seeing you there!

Plymouth Argyle half term roadshow - Wednesday 31st May - places are filling fast. If you are unable to access the online booking then we have paper booking forms at the office, please come and collect one.

Once again, we apologise for class photos not taking place last Wednesday, we were unable to control this. We have now scheduled the class photos for Wednesday 17th May 2023. The children must wear school uniform to school, and if this is their PE day, please bring their PE kit with them.

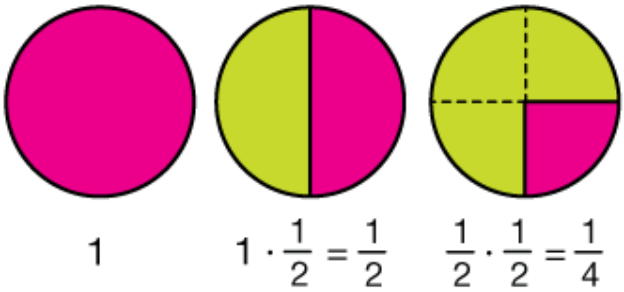
Thank you for supporting the school uniform policy as pointed out in the last couple of newsletters, there has been a definite improvement and the children look smarter! However, we are noticing an increase in toys being brought into school, please do not send your child in with a cuddly toy unless this is an agreement that has been made with the class teacher.

We encourage the children to drink lots of water throughout the day, please remember to send them to school with a water bottle, but do not send them in with PRIME bottles, even if they only contain water. If we see any PRIME bottles in school then we will keep the bottle safe until the end of the day and we will provide your with child with a cup to drink water from instead.

I hope you have a fun and active weekend,

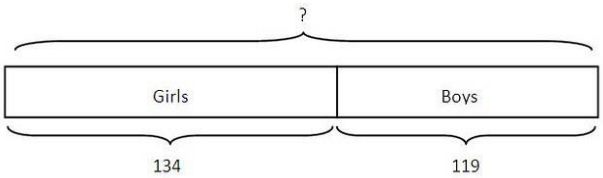
Foundation: We have been talking about our experiences celebrating the Coronation. We have been exploring how to make exotic mud feasts in our mud kitchen for street parties and celebrations. In Maths, we have been looking at teen numbers and making representations of them with Numicon and ten frames. In literacy we have just started our new book called Handa's hen . In this story Handa is very worried at the beginning but has a wonderful surprise at the end.

Year 1: this week, we have been looking at finding a half and a quarter of an object or a quantity in Maths. We used different objects to share into equal groups of 2 or 4. The children worked really hard on understanding the concept.



Year 2: we have been working hard completing practice tests ready for our SATs over the next two weeks. Our scores have really improved and we are ready for the challenge!

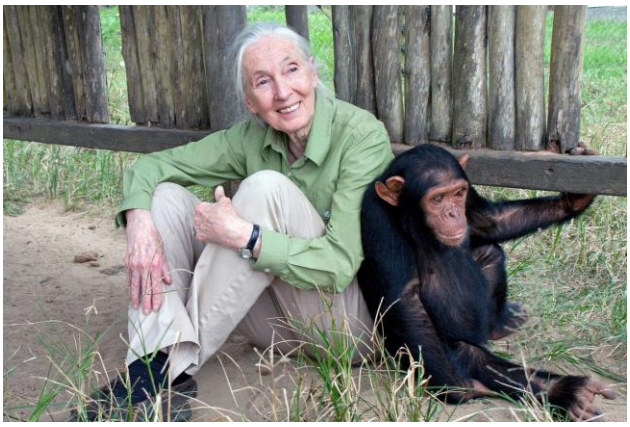
Year 3: in Maths lessons, we have started our second unit on fractions. We have been adding and subtracting fractions and reminding ourselves about the importance of the whole. We have also been using bar models to help find unit fractions and non-unit fractions. It has been lovely to see everyone challenge themselves and use reasoning skills to solve tricky problems.



Year 4: we have been working hard in Maths learning about decimals – they have been amazing! In English we have started our practising writing. The children have contributed excellent ideas to our class story.

Year 5: this week we have been learning to use language such as parralled and perpendicular when describing shapes, lines and angles in Maths. In Science, we have learnt about the work of Jane

Goodall- the British scientist who has studied the chimpanzees for over 60 years. In RE, we learnt abut the message Jesus was trying to share when he gave his sermon on the mount.



Year 6: this week has been our SATs week. The children have demonstrated resilience, perseverance but also (and in my opinion, just as important), compassion and support for each other. I am really, REALLY proud of each and every member of Year 6… and the breakfast has been good too!

Learners of the week, well done everyone !!

Foundation: L.Choak

Year 1: O.Cruickshank

Year 2:

Year 3: J.Lyndon

Year 4: K.McDonald

Year 5: L.Stidwill

Year 6: All of Year 6

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This week's attendance winners are...

Year 6, getting a 100% attendance this week.

We are delighted to be hosting a PAFC Roadshow at Austin Farm Academy during Whitsun Half Term.

The Roadshow will run on Wednesday 31st May which will be a Multi Sports Roadshow (Tennis, Football, Dodgeball and Netball)

The roadshows are suitable for ages 5-12 years old and cost a reduced fee of only £14 for the day (usually £20).

You can book on via the link below or pass the cash and consent form to the office. Forms are located in the admin office.

Please ensure you bring a packed lunch, plenty of fluids and suitable attire for the day and to book on please use the link provided below.

https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/courses/plymouth-holiday.html

Any questions, please feel free to ask

Charlie Hardcastle

Dates to remember!!!

Class photos - Wednesday 17/05/2023

Plymouth half marathon - Sunday 14/05/2023

Yr5/6 Residential trip - Monday 22nd May 2023

May half term - Friday 26/05/2023 - Children to return Monday 05/06/2023

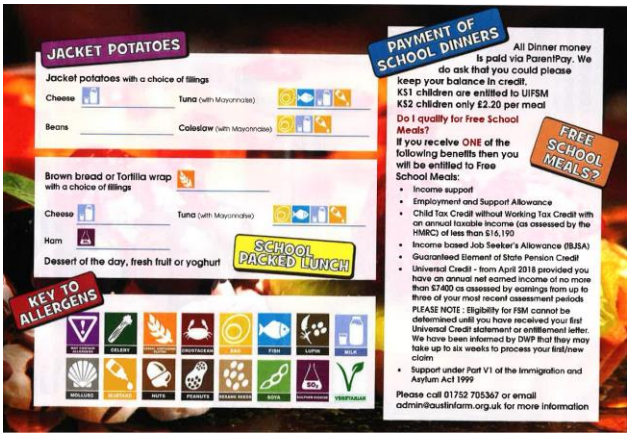
Paignton Zoo trip Thursday - 08/06/2023

Sports day 19/06/2023

Yr 6 Prom - 14/07/2023

Dinner Menu w/b 15/05/2023 - Week menu 2

School packed lunches are available



Staying safe online

Yr 6 Prom - Friday 14th July 2023

Attendance.

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. The higher a child's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments. We are implementing new procedures to help parents get their children to school.

Do you know your child's attendance ?

95% Attendance - 2 whole weeks of school missed.

90% Attendance - 4 whole weeks of school missed.

85% Attendance - 6 whole weeks of school missed.

80% Attendance - 8 whole weeks of school missed.

75% Attendance - 9 plus whole weeks of school missed.

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ERFECT ATTENDANCE
PERFECT ATTENDA
PERFECT ATTENDANCE

5 minutes late, does it really matter ?

Lateness = Lost Learning

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

- **5** Minutes late each day - **3** days lost
- **10** Minutes late each day - **6.5** days lost
- **15** Minutes late each day - **10** days lost

- **20** Minutes late each day - **13** days lost
- **30** Minutes late each day - **19** days lost

Term dates

WeST Term Dates | **2022 to 2023**

Aug 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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May 2023						
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31						

Important dates

To shade (or clear) cells in the month tables, select the cells to shade and then, on the Table Tools Design tab, choose Cell Shading.
To view this calendar with all formatting and layout, on the View tab, choose Reading View.

Autumn Term Dates Monday 5 September to Friday 21 October then Tuesday 1 November to Friday 16 December

Term 1 35 days **Term 2** 34 days **WeST NPD Thursday 1st September/ Friday 2nd September/ Monday 31 October**

Spring Term Dates Wednesday 4 January to Friday 10 February then Tuesday 21 February to Friday 31 March

Term 3 28 days **Term 4** 29 days **Trust NPD Monday 20 February**

Summer Term Dates Tuesday 18 April to Friday 26 May then Monday 5 June to Friday 21 July

Term 5 28 days **Term 6** 35 days **School NPD Monday 17 April**

Three Trust NPD's and three school NPD's. 189 teaching days in total.

Peach – holiday periods, Purple weekends, Green Trust NPD's, Blue School NPD's.

WeST Term Dates | 2023 to 2024

Aug 2023						
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Sep 2023						
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Nov 2023						
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Dec 2023						
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Jan 2024						
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Feb 2024						
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Mar 2024						
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Apr 2024						
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Jun 2024						
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Jul 2024						
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Autumn Term Dates Monday 4 September to Friday 20 October then Monday 30 October to Tuesday 19 December

Term 1 33 days **Term 2** 36 days **School NPD Monday 4/WeST NPD Tuesday 5 September/ WeST NPD Monday 30 October**

Spring Term Dates Wednesday 3 January to Friday 9 February then Monday 19 February to Thursday 28 March

Term 3 28 days **Term 4** 28 days **WeST NPD Monday 19 February**

Summer Term Dates Monday 15 April to Friday 24 May then Monday 3 June to Tuesday 23 July

Term 5 29 days **Term 6** 35 days **School NPD Monday 22/23 July**

Three Trust NPD's and three school NPD's. 189 teaching days in total.

Peach – holiday periods, Purple weekends, Green Trust NPD's, Blue School NPDs.

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and parents of the Woodlands Park community at the earliest opportunity and planning for a super start to the 2023-24 academic year in September. I am sure you will join me in wishing both Mr Bone and Mrs Vollans every success as they take up their new posts.

Continuing the theme of Headship, I am pleased to share two key appointments. Mrs Sarah Honywill has been appointed as the Headteacher of Holbeton Primary School and Mrs Samantha Wilkinson has been appointed as the Headteacher of Wembury Primary School. Again, we wish them and the children in their care every success.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish all our public examination pupils in KS2, GCSE and 'A' level the very best in their upcoming tests and exams.

Best wishes

Rob Haring
CEO
On behalf of Westcountry Schools Trust

WESTCOUNTRY
SCHOOLS TRUST

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12 May 2023

Dear parents / carers

We have returned from the Easter break to a very busy Summer Term.

Firstly, I hope that everyone enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend and the associated coronation celebrations.

WeST, as a family of schools, has hosted several Ofsted inspections across our primary and secondary schools, in fairly rapid succession. Whilst we note that there is always work to do and improvements to be made, we are extremely pleased to read the positive validation of our work and the richness and quality of education from which our children benefit. I will take a moment here to specifically recognise the achievement of Glen Park Primary School at being judged 'Outstanding' in all categories by Ofsted in its recent inspection.

Further good news:

Congratulation letters have been received from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State at the Department for Education:

- Yealmpton Primary School for achieving 100% in Phonics Screening Check (PSC) – Year 1. Top 1 per cent of all primary schools in the country, a brilliant result for the children and staff.
- Three of our schools, Plympton St Maurice Primary School, Morley Meadow Primary School and Wembury Primary School also received letters acknowledging the wonderful performance of their children in last summer's Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). These schools were recognised as being in the top 200 schools nationally.

Quite some achievement given that there are nearly 18000 primary schools in England!

I now wish to inform you of forthcoming leadership changes at three WeST schools. Mr Steve Bone is commencing his new headship after May Half Term so I am delighted to share that Mrs Eve Vollans will start her Headship of Woodlands Park Primary School from 1 June 2023. Whilst this arrangement might, at first, seem unusual, it does give Mrs Vollans the chance of getting to know the children, staff

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