

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to Autumn Term 2011. We extend a special welcome to all the new children who have joined us: Sophie, Emma, Jasmine, Joshua, Eleanor, Tom, Lewis, Matthew, Anya, Carmella, Daniel, Holly, Paige and Ashleigh, and hope that they will spend many happy years with us. School has been wonderful this week. Everyone looks very smart in their new uniforms and the teachers report that their classes are already settled and 'on it'.

There has been quite a lot of activity in School during the holidays which, I hope, enhances our learning environment. The wooden tubs have gone (they were on their last legs and becoming quite dangerous) and the front playground has been tidied up.

Mr Colegrave has built a splendid 'decked' area for us at the back of Camelot and Blenheim classes and the children have already started working out there. The children's toilets have been painted as have the two classrooms in the Elliot building. You may have noticed that some of the doors look rather 'tatty'. They have been repaired and are awaiting their new coat of paint.

I have already mentioned plans for the gardens – the new School Council are meeting next week and we will begin to gather ideas – watch this space.

In the first week of term we assess the children's reading and writing levels. I write a letter to them (hopefully Level 4B!) and they respond. I really enjoy reading their letters. They are full of detail regarding the ups and downs of a six week break. I will choose some examples to display on the board next to my office – do come and have a read. We have also begun a new reading programme called Accelerated Reader. We are in the process of setting things up (your child may tell you about 'levels' and 'quizzes'). Once we are fully up and running, I plan to hold a parents' evening and send out more detailed information.

Our topics start next week. I have added a topics letter detailing our plans for the year at the end of the Newsletter. Please do read it as we are looking for expertise and resources and you might be able to help!

I do hope that the weather warms up for the weekend – my grass now looks like a meadow as the rain seems to begin as soon as I head towards the mower!

Best wishes

Amanda Russell

Letters etc sent out this week

Somerset Art Weeks Leaflet

Helen Laxton School of Dance Leaflet

Various PTA letters

Letter re Governor

Letter re child

Parent Talk

Family Service Note

SPORTS NEWS:

After School Clubs on Offer:

see separate note to be returned by early next week.

Netball Club will be starting again on Thursdays for KS2 pupils – commencing next week 15 September

CLP Orchestra starts again Wednesday 14 September at Charlton Mackrell School 3.30pm to 4.15pm. Everyone welcome who can play 8 notes!!

SMARTIE SWAP – FUNDRAISING FOR THE OLD SCHOOL ROOM

Take home a packet of smarties, courtesy of Alan at the Post Office, eat them (!) and pledge to fill the empty tube with £1 or 20p coins – to be returned by April 2012 – date to be confirmed in the Curry Rivel News. Any questions please contact 01458 251595

Thursday 22 September

Give Blood: Ridgway Hall, Langport

Tel: 0300 123 23 23 for information

Morrisons Let's Grow Vouchers are available again

We are still collecting Box Tops as well

Dates for your Diary

Tuesdays until half term

Friday 16 September

Friday 16 September

Sunday 18 September

Monday 19 September

Saturday 24 September

Thursday 29 September

Sunday 2 October

Friday 14 October

Monday 17 October

Wednesday 19 October to

Friday 21 October

Friday 21 October

Monday 31 October

Monday 31 October

Tuesdays from half term to Christmas

Monday 21 November

Monday 12 December

Friday 16 December

Wednesday 4 January

Thursday 5 January

Swimming for Blenheim Class

Library awards in Assembly

Tour of Britain Cycle Race *through*

Curry Rivel at 10.51am!!

All Age Family Worship 11.00am St Andrew's Church

Messy Church – 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Playdays on the field

School Harvest Festival 2.30pm St Andrew's

11.00am Harvest Festival St Martin's Fivehead

6.00pm Harvest Praise St Andrew's

Life Education visit all day

Life Education visit am

Beam House activity days

Start of Half term

Return to School from Half term

Academy Portraits Individual Photos

Swimming for Camelot Class

Messy Church 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Messy Church 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Last day before Christmas Holidays

Inset Day

Pupils return to School

Final Message from Mrs Russell:

Dear Parents/Carers

TOPICS

Listed below are the topic areas that we hope to cover this year. Judging by the success of our homework topics, I realise that we have a very valuable, untapped resource of expertise and resourcefulness – namely you!!

As a parent, I always found it helpful to know the sorts of thing that my children were studying in School, so that I could plan trips and keep an eye out for books/resources that might be useful - if not this term then maybe the next or even the one after that. With this in mind I have mapped out our plans for this year as far as I can. Pippin and Maigold Class are more fluid as to their topic choices. At KS1, the foundation curriculum is led to an extent by the children and events around them. KS2 is more structured as the National Curriculum places more emphasis on specific learning objectives in each of the foundation subjects. Year plan below:

Class	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
Pippin	Goldilocks	Bonfire, Christmas, Cold				
Maigold	Circus	Bonfire, Christmas, Cold				
Discovery	Living together	Rainforest	Going for Gold Olympics	Feeling better Health and fitness	Earthquake volcanic Active Planet	Explorers and Adventurers
Camelot and Blenheim	Space	Climate Control Global warming and sustainability	Swifter Higher Stronger Together Olympics	The Big Picture Historical Overview	Go with the Flow (Rivers)	Feelings

NEW SCHOOL YEAR REMINDERS:

Requests from the Office:

- Any money – cash especially - *in named old envelopes please* – spare ones with pencils and sellotape in the lobby by the School Office
- All School lunches to be paid for by the **Wednesday before** the week that lunches are required. Main meals are automatically ordered for those on Free School Meals unless the parent informs the Office as above.
- Lunches (*including Free School Meals*) must be cancelled by 9.30am on the day or you will be charged - £2.60 per meal.
- There is a Postbox in the lobby area by the School Office – this can be used for permission slips etc and is opened every day.

- The Give it a Go Scheme has finished and monies available are at the discretion of the School. It has been decided that each child entitled to Free School Meals will be able to access £50 only for the cost of After School Clubs until 31 March 2012, when the situation may be reviewed as a result of next year's School Budget constraints.

Other reminders:

- PE Kit must stay in School all week – white T-shirt/polo shirt, black shorts, daps – white school logo polo shirts are available from the School Office
- As the Autumn weather starts to get colder, track suit bottoms in blue or black only (not patterned or coloured) will be allowed for outside PE

STOP PRESS:

PTA AGM – CHANGE OF VENUE

**This will take place in School
Thursday 15 September
At 7.30pm**