

Weekly Update: 22nd July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I will try to keep things simple. Firstly, 'Thank you.' For all you have done to support the staff team this year, the encouragement you have given your children and the support you have given one another in the school and village community, workplaces and beyond. Second, is to say 'Happy summer!' You deserve a good break during the summer to rest and refresh; I know many of you will be busy working, but I hope you get a break at some point.

I have thanked our staff team for the amazing job they have done this year- they all show complete commitment to doing the best for each and every child, to make sure the school premises, administration and curriculum are as good as they can be. It's true, there is no 'I' in TEAM!

#### Final celebration of the year

I have recorded the final awards assembly on Google Classroom, and it is now available to watch. If your child has a trophy to collect, please pop into school tomorrow or on Monday (26<sup>th</sup>). A list of the award winners is at the end of this message. In the assembly, I focussed on the word 'end':

Fri<u>end</u>. We all have good friends here at school. Sometimes we don't get to see them over the summer, which can be difficult. How can we keep in contact with each other?

M<u>end</u>. Sometimes it's important to mend some things before we finish. We might need to mend some friendships which are broken, by saying sorry and forgiving each other.

Dep<u>end</u>. We thought about the team of people around each of us on whom we depend- in school everybody matters and everyone plays their part!

Asc<u>end</u>. Next September we will all have moved up a class, and Year 6 will have 'ascended' - gone up into secondary school. It's an exciting time, and a sad time too.

Sp<u>end</u>. How are we going to spend the holidays? How can we plan our time so that we don't just look at screens all day? How can we make sure we stay safe when we're not at school? How can we help people at home?

Spl<u>end</u>id. I wished everyone a 'splendid' holiday!

Finally, we wish our Year 6 pupils the very best for their future- they have enjoyed an amazing few weeks in school and their final week of virtual events has also been very special. We will miss you, but you are ready for the next step!



#### Reports and exercise books

Please come and collect your child's belongings and end-of-year report. Please can all reading books and library books come back into school- you will have received an email about reading over the holidays (and the reading challenge is enclosed with the report).

### COVID Update

In September, it is likely that we will maintain all measures to continue to minimise the risk of spread of infection- this is likely to include the wearing of masks on the playground at drop-off/pick-up.

I will keep you informed about arrangements for the new school year, including procedures we may keep as they have worked well in COVID and could support our school moving forward. Please note, that the situation is changing rapidly, and more measures than expected may be maintained in September (like bubbles).

### Buying uniform

Please can you ensure your child wears **sensible**, **comfortable** shoes for school in September- these are essential for the Daily Mile and playtime activities. (Ballet style slip on shoes are not appropriate)

**PE kit**-we would still like children to wear PE kit on PE days. One change however- school jumpers/ cardigans must be worn on these days (Not hoodies and tracksuit leisure tops). Black shorts please (Jogging bottoms for the colder weather).

Items can be ordered via the school office. Book bags are also available at school. Please ensure that all clothing is clearly named so that we can return clothes that are found and also to help the children when they are changing. Also, especially when your child is young, velcro or elastic on shoes is much easier for them rather than laces. We also ask that every child has a waterproof coat every day of the year so that they are properly dressed for outside play.

### All items must be labelled with your child's name.

### Nursery Works & Premises Improvements

Mr Silver will be working over the summer to continue improving our school grounds. We also hope to have contractors coming in to update the upper school toilets (New toilets, sinks and cubicles). Most importantly, we have work being completed in the nursey garden which will continue into the first weeks of term- this is a massive piece of work to rebuild the wall against the culvert and is fortunately going to be funded by the Local Authority. This work will stabilise the ground and also enable Little Pips to have a new garden surface and design. Please be prepared for some disruption to the carpark and some play spaces early in September.

### Test and Trace Support Payment scheme- have you been effected?

Information on the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme can be found at the link below:



<u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme-claiming-financial-support/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme</u>

You may be eligible for support payments you should ring the Self isolation service hub on 0203 743 6715. You will need the CTAS ID, which you can get from the person who has tested positive, along with the details of the people who have been identified as contacts.

### SEND

This week's SEND weekly newsletter is now available - please click on the link below: <a href="https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/send-news/">https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/send-news/</a>

### Dates for your diary

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September: INSET Day Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September: First day back to school

### Term dates summary:

Term 1: 06 September - 22 October 2021 (35 days) Term 2: 01 November - 17 December 2021 (35 days) Term 3: 04 January - 18 February 2022 (34 days) Term 4: 28 February - 08 April 2022 (30 days) Term 5: 25 April - 27 May 2022 (24 days) Term 6: 06 June - 26 July 2022 (37 days)

# INSET Days:

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 20121
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- One additional day for all Local Authority Maintained schools to be agreed (In lieu of the extra bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee)

### Award winners for the year

### Class Award (For effort, endeavour and achievement):

Pippin: Izabelle and Oliver Maigold: Arya and Henry Gala: Milla and Toby H Discovery: Bea and Alex Camelot: Maisie and Oscar Blenheim: Esther and George L



#### Merit Award (For highest number of merits):

Pippin: Rosie and Jason Maigold: Darcey S and Henry Gala: Bethany and Toby W Discovery: Harriet and Joseph Camelot: Lottie and Oscar Blenheim: George P and Natasha

#### Highest overall merit achievement (The Alan Norton Merit Cup): Bethany (Gala)

#### PE Award

Pippin: Elliot and Isabelle-Faith Maigold: David and Lily H Gala: James and Sienna Discovery: Joseph and Akaisha Camelot: Alfie and Lexi Blenheim (The Langport Area Development Trust Shield): George P and Sophie E

#### Year 6 Awards

The Saskia Cup for Modern Foreign Languages: Mason M Achievement in music: Amy P Charlotte Hamlett Drama Shield: Isobelle Leonard Willey Outdoor Pursuits shield: Ryley United Reformed Church Friendship Award: May Ginny Smith outstanding achievement Cup: Andreea

#### House Merit Cup

Blackdown - 4709 Mendip - 4731 Polden - 4929 Quantock 4487

Congratulations Polden House

## **Sports day Cup** Blackdown - 489 Mendip - 485 Polden - 444 Quantock 414

#### Congratulations to Blackdown House



#### Well being tip for the week:

Be intentional throughout the holidays, about prioritising time to breathe, to rest, to relax - and then do it! Put notes in your calendar, reminders on your phone, block out times - whatever it takes to ensure you give yourself a good break.

Mrs Ali Pook Head Teacher