

Weekly Update: 23rd April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the summer term, and Happy St George's day. It has been wonderful to return to school with sunshine and this helps everyone feel more positive and makes the future so much more hopeful. The children have been wonderful this week, now established in routines and really wanting to learn and develop.

Whether you are a fan of the monarchy or not, the passing of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh has been a significant event for the nation even amidst this time of pandemic. We remembered his life on Monday with a special collective worship and minute's silence.

Throughout this pandemic it has been shown in so many ways that you can make a difference for others, individuals or a community, through simple acts of selflessness and generosity. Schools and churches have been key in this and members of this community continue to do amazing things. So, as a new term commences with the hope and joy of Easter still fresh and as we look forward to the warmer weather, let us start with a 'thank you' to you all for the positive difference that our staff, parents and others are making, every day, to the lives of children and young people, to families and to our community.

ΡΤΑ

Thank you to the PTA for supporting the development of the school's Daily Mile track- they are contributing $\pounds4000$ towards this project to enable a path to be built around the edge of our field, enabling year round access to the full extent of the grounds, but also enabling the Daily Mile to be part of our sport provision.

The members of the PTA continue to develop wonderful fundraising ideas despite COVID restrictions. You should receive a flyer regarding a 'Silly Spoons' competition next week.

Communication

Communication between home and school is vital for a productive working relationship. If you have any concerns, please email the school (<u>curryrivelprimary@educ.somerset.gov.uk</u>) and your message will be forwarded to the class teacher. You can also phone the school office to ask the class teacher to call you if you prefer. We appreciate that there is a wonderful family atmosphere here, and not being able to linger for chats is hard for us all. You have been very complimentary about how we have kept you informed over the year- continuing this will be vital.

Dates for your diary

COVID restrictions are still in place, and therefore there continues to be guidance for schools which has not changed a great deal since September. However, working within the guidance and using safer working practices we have plans for many events and activities: a sports day (will be different of course), local visits, Road Safety Day, 'Pjamarama', Year 6 performance and leavers' assembly, a Year 6 activities week and lots more. Hopefully, we will have a class bubble performing at the village fete on the 17th July. The dates for these events (and more) are below, but please bear in mind that all activities will be organised differently and may not involve live audiences. However, for our ever-adaptable children, these events will be their 'normal'.



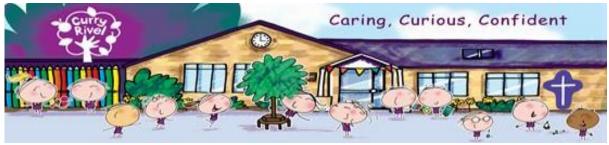
4/6th May: Parents' evenings Friday 7th May: Somerset Day Friday 14th May: Pjamarama w/b 17th May: Year 6 cycling awareness Wednesday 26th May; Inter-house sport competition Thursday 10th June: Class photos 31st May-4th June: Half term w/b 28th June: Assessment week Wednesday 7th July New classes morning Friday 9th July: Road safety day Tuesday 13th July: Sports day (Details to follow) Thursday 15th July: Year 6 'production' (TBC) Saturday 17th July: Village fete w/b 5th July: Year 6 activities week (TBC) w/b 19th June: Reports out to parents Tuesday 20th July: Sports day reserve Wednesday 21st July: Leaver's service (TBC) Friday 23rd July: End of year assembly Friday 23rd July: Last day of term

Parents' Evening

Today, you will be receiving a letter regarding parent's evenings which will be held on Tuesday 4th and Thursday 6th May (Gala class have an additional date). These will be held remotely using 'Teams', as we did in the autumn term.

Curriculum

You will receive today a class curriculum newsletter, and knowledge organisers. (They can also be found on Google Classroom and on the school website). These are designed to inform you about what your child will be learning this term, and to help you support you child in talking about their school day. Did you know we teach 13 primary school curriculum subjects? We have worked hard to ensure our curriculum is broad and balanced, and you will notice that French is being taught this term in Key Stage 2 (Each KS2 class will have 3 half terms of French a year). Also, Design Technology teaching is being strengthened with 3 half terms of DT a year, with most classes' DT lessons this term starting after half term. The school is funding Discovery class music lessons which are whole class ensemble teaching sessions, where they receive 10 weeks of Samba drumming lessons. Of course, Maths and English are foundation subjects, and we know that children need a broad set of skills and knowledge to prepare them for their futures. We want the children of Curry Rivel to be enthused about their learning, to 'know more', be able to 'do more', and 'remember more'. Next week, children in Years 2-6 will be completing assessments in maths and English which will be used to identify gaps and help us measure progress over this term. Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) sessions this term will focus on 'Health and Wellbeing', and 'transition'.



New School Banner

Although the closing date for designs is today, last minute entries can come in on Monday- please see Google Classroom for more details.

Library

The children (Years 1-6) have the opportunity to apply to be librarians as we are launching a lunchtime lending library where each class has a lunchtime once a week to borrow interest books (Not banded, levelled or requiring AR quizzing). Each class needs two librarians, so if your child is interested and have not yet applied, the application form is attached to this letter.

Staffing news

This week, we have welcomed Miss Vicky Collard, who is our new intervention teacher for children in Discovery and Camelot. Also, Mrs Hannah van Cole who is the class teacher in Gala on a Monday and Discovery on Tuesdays/Wednesdays. Mrs Samuel is going on maternity leave, and we all wish her well as she prepares for the arrival of her second child.

Premises

We have been working hard to improve the school environment and premises. Mr Silver has been working with Curry Rivel in Bloom to create a wonderful butterfly garden at the front of the school. Also, he is working to improve the front barked area to enlarge it and remove rotten fencing. Miss Westlake (nursery manager) and I have been working closely with the local authority engineers and surveyors regarding significant works which will be happening over the summer holiday- this work will be to reconstruct the nursery garden which is next to the school orchard.

Do you have a baby? Do you know someone with a baby?

Debs Powell (Apple Trees) is delighted to be launching Stepping Stones Minis for babies in arms and their parents/carers! Starting Thursday 22nd April 2021. Find out more:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/877717802562783/permalink/1400424670292091/

Birthdays

If your child has a birthday, and they would like to share food with their classmates to celebrate, please can we ask that 'packaged' food only is sent into school- no homemade cakes please. This is with COVID restriction in mind.

Award winners for this week

New House Captains

A big thank you to the Year 6 pupils who were house captains so far this year. We now have our second 'batch'. Miss Tucker and I have found this a very difficult decision; in some houses we had to put all exemplary pupils into a hat and draw names. There will be disappointment of course for some, but the pupils know that whether they Headteacher:



are house captains or not, they are valued, respected and they will continue to thrive. Of course, there are many opportunities across school life to lead by example and have roles of responsibility. The new house captains are:

Blackdown: James Myhill & Andreea Marinocovici

Mendip: Thomas Cox & Ivy Routledge

Polden: Sophie Hall & Lily Stewart-Lake

Quantock: Ava Hope & Miley Simpson

Class cup: Pippin: Luca Maigold: Dylan Gala: Barney Discovery: Harry Camelot: Jaylon Blenheim: Dylan

Lunchtime awards:

Pippin: Archie T Maigold: David Gala: Jacob Camelot: Amy C Blenheim: Sophie E

50 Merit Certificates: Yusef

100 Merit Certificates: Cayden, James M, Tiana, Summer, Sophie P

Merit cup: Mendip 383; Quantock 343, Blackdown 341; Polden 335. Well done to Mendip

Special mention: Alfie D (Discovery): Alfie has achieved his red belt in karate. Alfe J (Camelot): The Saints South West has offered Alfie a place in the under tens team

Well being tip for the week

Be courageous and wise to do something simple and make a positive difference for you. Perhaps use the longer evenings to take a walk or to simply sit outside, or inside by a window, and consciously do nothing other than relax, breathe and take in the moment.

Have a restful weekend.



Mrs Ali Pook Head Teacher