



NEWSLETTER

Holsworthy C E Primary

March 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have made it to the end of term. What a busy few weeks since half-term. There is lots to share with you about things that have been going on in school and that are coming up in the future.

As always please take time to read through this rather lengthy Newsletter and make a note of all that is relevant to you and your family.

Ethos Committee

The governing board of our school are reestablishing an Ethos committee, a group of people to oversee our Christian Distinctiveness. The group will meet half-termly to receive information from school staff about the performance of the school and question the evidence for areas of the inspection framework. They will also be involved in planning events and activities as well as meeting with the Pupil Ethos Group.

The group will be made of representatives from local churches, staff and governors as well as parents. If you are interested in being part of this initiative, please contact clerk@holsworthy-primary.devon.sch.uk by Friday 19 April 2024.

Parking

In recent weeks a number of parents and members of the local community have contacted us about parking in Great Oak Meadow. Please can we remind you to park safely in this area, no double or on the pavement parking, so that our children are not at risk when making their way into school.

Can we also remind you of the Park and Stride scheme which operates from the Leisure Centre car park. Permits can be obtained from the school office. This allows you to park for free at the start and end of the school day and walk safely via the footbridge.

St Peter's Day

You will already know that we have moved our **non-pupil day** from 03 July 2024 to **10 July 2024** to coincide with the annual St. Peter's Day fair in the town. The school will be closed to children on this day so please add it to your calendar if you have not already done so.

The Y6 residential to London will go ahead that week as planned.

Senior Leadership Team

Our school currently has a leadership structure which includes our four Phase Leaders;

Early Years – Miss Sarah Fast

Y1/2 – Miss Amy Cann & Mrs Mel Butler

Y3/4 – Miss Roisin Butters

Y5/6 – Mrs Vikki Moore

The Phase Leader role is key in supporting staff, pupils, parents and carers with any questions or concerns relating to their experience of school.

Can we please ask that all queries or issues are raised with class teachers initially, if further conversations are needed then the phase leader may become involved. If they feel that additional support is required they will raise it with a member of the senior leadership team which includes our Business Manager, Assistant, Deputy and Interim Headteachers.

We hope this clarifies the current leadership structure in our school.

Important Update from Devon County Council

Families in Devon who receive benefits-related free school meals for their children will continue to be supported with food costs over the upcoming Easter holidays. Approximately 21,500 children have been sent supermarket vouchers worth £30 to spend during the two-week break to replace the meals they would have had at school during the day.

Vouchers are being sent to families this week, so please check you've received them and redeem them as soon as possible before they expire. Please get in touch with our free school meals team if you were expecting to receive a voucher but didn't.

Email freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk or call [0345 155 1019](tel:0345 155 1019).

If you didn't previously qualify for free school meals but your income has recently reduced or stopped, [please visit our website](#) or call [0345 155 1019](tel:0345 155 1019) to check if you are eligible for this support as soon as possible.

More information about the free school meals holiday voucher scheme is [available on our website](#).

New Arrivals



We have 2 new arrivals in school. The children have chosen to name our Wild Tribe rabbits Jacky and Sausage. Please let the office know if your child has an allergy to rabbit fur.



Curriculum Updates

Here is a sample of some of the exciting things that have been going on this half term. If you would like to know more, please see our website.

Nursery & Reception:

Hazel, Rowan and Cherry Class enjoyed a visit from Really Wild Learning as part of their 'Super Safari' and 'Creepy Crawlies' topic.



We were introduced to Waffle (the bearded dragon), Mango (the corn snake) and many other incredible creatures. The children learnt about how animals sense the world around them, the types of habitats they live in and what they like to eat. The children have used this learning to create their own animal habitats - Cherry Class built a bug hotel and Reception created shoebox habitats.

Reception also had an amazing time at Paignton learning lots about lions and giraffes. They also enjoyed exploring the different enclosures to see which animals they could find.



Jess Bailey worked with the Key Stage 1 children to create a dance to retell the story of The Gunpowder Plot. Through combining music and dance, the children performed the Guy Fawkes and Robert Catesby story, sneaking into the houses of parliament and attempting to blow up King James I and the government. The children performed to parents and carers at the end of the day.



Year 3 & 4:



As part of their Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Scots topic, LKS2 children had the opportunity to visit an Anglo-Saxon village and take part in a range of activities at Wildwood, Exeter. The children were able to immerse themselves into Anglo-Saxon life, creating bread, exploring huts and creating brooches. As part of this fantastic day, children were also able to explore some of the animals and even have a go on the drop slide! It was a fantastic day that really brought this part of history to life.



Year 1 & 2:

Year 5 & 6:

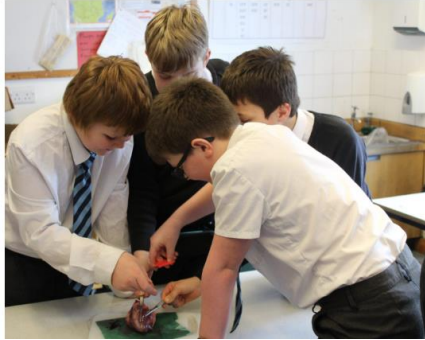
Children in Year 5/6 had a visit from Hands on Science to bring together and apply all of their science learning about the circulatory system.



Throughout the workshop, the children joined in with an amount they were comfortable with, to deepen their understanding of:

- the function of the heart and how to keep it healthy
- circulation of blood through the heart and lungs
- the anatomy of the heart and the roles of the different parts
- how to dissect a lamb's heart safely and identify the main structures
- diseases of the heart and how surgeons can repair defects such as holes in the heart.

The children were fully engaged throughout the experience.



Sports News



Our Y3/4 Lionesses entered a girl's football tournament organised by LJD Coaching. There was a real feel of friendship throughout the whole tournament and the girls left with huge smiles on their faces having played their socks off! Well done girls!

Lego League Winners!

Our Lego League Team represented our school at our very first time at First Lego League and came away with the Innovation Project Award!

Over the past few months, our team have had to experiment and grow their critical thinking, coding, and design skills through hands-on STEM



learning and robotics, building habits of learning, confidence, and teamwork skills along the way. At the competition, they applied their skills to compete with the robot they had designed to overcome a variety of Lego challenges. They also had to present an innovation project that they had worked on so superbly as a team, and the judges were so impressed by, that they won an award for! Well done team!



World Book Day:

We had great fun:

- Reading for pleasure!
- Listening to a range of stories from different adults on our 'Reading Run'
- Playing 'Mystery Reader'
- Swapping books
- Dressing up
- Searching for golden tickets
- Entering competitions
- Thinking about 'Reading Our Way'

- A special World Book Day Assembly thinking about how we're going to spend our book tokens



Community STEAM Event:

It was lovely to see so many of you attend our first STEAM event. The feedback from the children showed that they loved showing you their scientific understanding and exploring the following activities with you:

Cognition Learning visited us who used Lego Education Spike Prime and Lego Duplo to explore the concept of the future and the constellations.

The Institution of Engineering and Technology brought along their small robots for the children to program and a Micro:Bit based guard dog

Vodafone (Submarine Cable Engineers in Bude) conducted some route planning around undersea features and cable repairs.

Lego and Beebot Challenges, Invisible Ink, Make it fly, Measuring time, Time travelling



programmers, Pendulum creating, Explorify challenges and much more!

Lots of children left commenting about how they'd love a future career as an engineer too!

Easter Bonnet Parade and Church Service:



Thank you for joining us on our Easter Bonnet Parade and Church Service to celebrate Easter.

Year 5 Experience Easter



'Experience Easter' was so brilliant! The children had a wonderful morning at the Methodist Church, they rotated around planned activities to represent each part of the Easter story - they walked up a path of hopes (adding their own hopes to it), they cleaned their shoes, they learnt about the symbol of the cross and the significance of the wine and bread, They also got to create crafts linked to the Easter Story. There was wonderful feedback from the team who organised it about the interest and engagement of our pupils.

STEM visitor/Cleaner Seas Project/Disability Awareness Day?

This half term, we've also been lucky to have a STEAMazing, Cleaner Seas and Bascule Disability Awareness assembly and workshops.



Year 3 & 4 Residential:



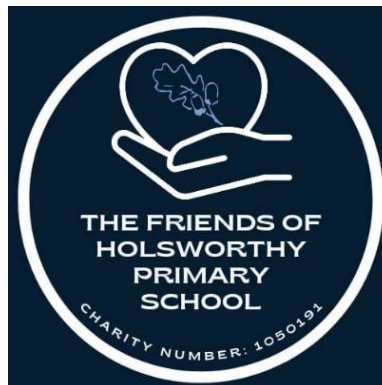
Children in Years 3 & 4 had a great time on Dartmoor for their first residential. They enjoyed a star-gazing night



walk and then a day of scrambling and weasling on Dartmoor.

FOHPS News:

Many thanks for all of your support with our Schools



Lottery, Golden Ticket event, Tuck Shop and our Easter Eggstravaganza. All funds raised go directly back into enriching your child/children's education with subsidising visitors and visits. We are also

continuing to fundraise to improve the playground provision.

In order for us to continue organising these fundraising events, we would welcome more volunteers. If you're interested in joining the friends, please contact us via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofholsworthyprimaryschool>

Upcoming Fundraising Dates:

- 17th April - Coffee Morning in Holsworthy Memorial
- May (Date TBC) - AGM
- May (Date TBC) – Uniform Sale (Holsworthy C of E Primary Uniform and Holsworthy Community Colleg)
- 28th June - Non School uniform (Bring a Bottle)
- Friday 5th July - Summer Fair
- Thursday 18th July – Holsfest

Finally, thank you for taking time to read through this newsletter. We would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter. We look forward to working with you in the summer term.

Kind regards,



Amy Frost & David Barnett
Interim Headteachers

Dates for the Summer Term

16.04.24 – First day of term
06.05.24 – May Bank Holiday
07.05.24 – Maple trip to Stover Country Park
08.05.24 – Willow trip to Stover Country Park
09.05.24 – Sycamore trip to Stover Country Park
13-16.05.24 – KS2 SATS
22.05.24 – Summer Music Concert
27.05.24 – 31.05.24 – Half-Term
25 & 26.06.24 – Y6 Transition Days at Holsworthy Community College
26-28.06.24 – Y5 Residential
01 & 02.07.24 - Sports Days
04.07.24 – Pine, Birch and Oak trip to Rosemoor
08-10.07.24 – Y6 Residential
10.07.24 – St Peter's Fair Day (School Closed)
11.07.24 – Hazel & Rowan trip to Rosemoor
15.07.24 – Annual Reports Issued
23.07.24 – Y6 Leavers Performance
24.07.24 – Last day of Summer Term

Dates for 2024-25

05.09.24 – First Day of Autumn Term
28.10 – 01.11.24 – Half-Term
20.12.24 – Last Day of Autumn Term

07.01.25 – First day of Spring Term
17.02 – 21.02.24 – Half-Term
03.04.25 – Last day of Spring Term

22.04.25 – First day of Summer Term
05.05.25 – Spring Bank Holiday
26.05 – 30.05.25 – Half-Term
09.07.25 – St. Peter's day (school closed)
23.07.25 – Last day of Summer Term