

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

Whimble Primary School

Issue 10

29.06.23

The children have had a good week and thoroughly enjoyed participating in the 'Operation Moonbase' Skills Builder Challenge Day. This has involved using all the skills taught throughout the year in a very practical project. More details (and photos) will follow in the curriculum newsletter later in the term. It feels a bit strange finishing the week on a Thursday, although tomorrow will be a very useful day for teachers to start planning for next year.

Oak Class - don't forget it is your class trip on Monday. (I am sure they won't forget!)

Summer Fair - Saturday 15th July, 11am - 3pm

This event is one of our key fundraising events for the year and can involve every family whilst also enjoying what is on offer.

What you need to know:

All games stalls will be run by parents from each class on a rotational basis with the support of their children. Class reps are recruiting for the games stalls so please come and find them to sign up for an hourly slot - if everyone gets involved this is easily manageable. All activities, resources and prizes (if required) will be provided - we just need your hands (and brains!)

All goes at the games are paid for with tokens - £1 for 5 (20p each) available on the gate.

Some games will cost two tokens to play.

The class reps and games stalls are as follows:

ELM: Ali Shorer & Helen Heriz-Smith

Tin can alley and Lego play stall

ASH: Catherine Evans-Martin

Wheel of fortune and Nerf gun shooting range

OAK: Polly Luscombe & Danielle Holmes

Lucky Dip and Fidget spinner challenge

BEECH: Katy Hill & Becky Steadman

Penalty kicks and Paper Aeroplane throw

WILLOW: Susan Pearce

Bean bag throw, Keepie Uppies and Lego Launcher

We also need parent volunteers to help on the bar and ice cream stall, please email whimble.pta@gmail.com with any questions or if you can help.

The more help we have—the easier it is for all involved, so please sign up as soon as you can to help with planning this great event.

Thank you to those who contributed to Bags2School an amazing £90 was raised.



Ottery St Mary Library Summer Reading Challenge

Your child is invited to sign up for this year's [Summer Reading Challenge](#). Sign up at Ottery library from Saturday 8th July!

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays - and to enjoy anything they like to read! Children aged 4-11 are invited to set a reading goal (often 6 books) and collect rewards for their reading.

It's **FREE** to take part, and last year 75% of children taking part improved their reading skills over the holidays.¹

Why should my child sign up?

They will be **better prepared to return to school** in the autumn.

The Challenge **supports the move into a new year group**.

Becoming more independent in their reading boosts children's **confidence and self-esteem**.

The library provides **free access** to books and fun family activities all through the summer.

Library staff are on hand to offer support and book recommendations.

Your child will be part of a UK-wide programme developed by [The Reading Agency](#) and delivered in partnership with the [public library network](#).

How can my child take part? (Library OR online)

In the library. Visit your local library and sign up. Your child will:

Set a reading goal for the summer and borrow and read books, eBooks and audiobooks. Your child can choose anything they like to read!

Receive a Challenge folder and collect special stickers and rewards for reading.

OR

Online. Take part online at summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

When?

Throughout the **summer holidays**. We are launching the challenge at Ottery St Mary Library on Saturday 8th July and you can join the challenge from this date onwards. We have lots of events happening at Ottery St Mary Library over the summer holidays - more details on this to follow.

Head to your local library this summer and sign up! If you have any questions, please contact Ottery St Mary Library: ottery.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk / 01404 813838.

Yours faithfully,

Kerry & the team at Ottery Library

[1] The Reading Agency (2022) [Summer Reading Challenge 2022: Annual Report](#)

Want to know more?

Find out more about the importance of reading and its impact on children's success [here](#).

Visit the [official Summer Reading Challenge website](#) for free activities, competitions and videos.

Keep up-to-date! [Follow @SummerReadingChallengeUK on Facebook](#).

What do families think?

*"I never liked reading before because of this challenge I got the **courage** to read more books and I have more interest in books. This has been the **greatest experience** ever in my life to read more books than before thanks."*

Girl, aged 12+

*"The challenge encouraged my child to **read more often**, and in turn encouraged **myself** as well."*

Parent/carer of 6-7 year-old boy

*"Enabled us to have some fun **cheap days out** and reading together has **brought us closer** than before."*

Parent/carer of 8-9 year-old girl

Dates for your diary

July

Monday 3rd July	Oak Class Trip
Monday 3rd July	Civic Award Presentation Year 6
Wednesday 5th July	School Closed due to Strike Action
Friday 7th July	Non-uniform day for tombolo donations
Friday 7th July	Colyton Maths Competition
Friday 7th July	Elm Forest School
Friday 14th July	Year 5 Sleepover
Saturday 15th July	Summer Fayre 11am to 3pm
Monday 17th July	Rock Steady Concert
Thursday 20th July	Summer Sounds Music Event - Year 4 and 5
Friday 21st July	Leavers Assembly Year 6 (afternoon, time approx. 2pm)

Term dates for pupils - 2023/24:

AUTUMN TERM 2023

6th September to 15th December 2023

Half term - 23rd to 27th October 2023

SPRING TERM 2024

4th January to 28th March 2024

Half term - 12th to 16th February 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

15th April to 25th July 2024

May Day holiday - 6th May 2024

Half term - 27th May to 31st May 2024

Non-pupil days (i.e. staff only): 4th and 5th September, 3rd January, 3rd June and 28th June 2024

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