



School Newsletter

Monday 1st October 2018

As many of you will be aware, last term the governors and I wrote to and met with Sir Oliver Letwin, our local MP, about the financial situation of the school. This term, Sir Oliver has been in contact again and is exploring ideas to support us with a focus on pupil numbers. Our concerns about the financial situation we, as well as schools across the country, face continue. Headteachers from across the country have been working under the banner of the Worth Less? campaign.



Headteachers will have the full support of their Governing Bodies/Trusts as we continue to champion the best possible funding for all our schools. I/we will remain steadfastly determined, relentlessly reasonable and act without any political bias. These have been the hallmarks of our campaign work to date.

You will be aware of the challenges that schools up and down the country are facing. A mixture of rising costs and stresses on other support services has meant that for many years we have been being asked "to do more with less".

Under a challenging period of austerity for the Government we understand that there is not a bottomless pit of money. Accordingly, schools have played their part to work even harder and with greater efficiency on behalf of the children and families that we serve.

It is clear to all Headteachers, however, that matters are unsustainable. Frequently, we do not have enough money to meet the demands placed on our schools. On the ground, services and resources are cut to the bone and class sizes are increasing. At times, schools are even having to prop up our budgets with monies that should be targeted at those students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds, or those that have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Under the umbrella of the campaign group 'Worth Less?', Headteachers have shone a light on the funding difficulties that we are facing. We acknowledge that the Government should be given credit for introducing a new National Funding Formula. Unfortunately, however, the formula itself is not adequately resourced/funded and therefore our budgets remain in an unacceptably poor state.

In July, the Institute for Fiscal Studies echoed what we have been saying for a long time and confirmed that, **in real terms**, school budgets have been slashed by 8% since 2010. <https://www.ifs.org.uk/publications/13143>

It is simply not good enough for the Government to state that "more money is spent on schools than ever before", when independent evidence clearly states that in real terms, this is simply not the case.

Headteachers will gather at Downing Street to insist that the chancellor and his colleagues at the Department for Education use the upcoming autumn statement to invest properly in our schools and your child's education. Many of the real terms cuts to our budgets should be reversed and urgent investment is required for SEND and post-16 budgets.

The support that we have enjoyed from parents and carers has been very welcome and we will continue to update you on all of our forthcoming actions. We are determined to campaign until a much better and fairer settlement is reached in order to support your child/children and the future prosperity of the country as a whole.

Thank you for your continued support.

Laura Cornish

Thursday 4th October

Please ensure your children are wearing the correct uniform. Family photo's will be available from 8.30.



Star Celebrations

The following children were recognised in our celebration assembly on Friday for their learning, attitudes and demonstration of our values and ethos. Well done!

Billy R, Daisy S, Rosie, Bailey, Emily W, Billy M, Lucy M, 'Little' Adam, Esme T, Kitty A,
Hector

Class Attendance

Well done **Dophins** class for the highest attendance last week with 98%.

Whole school attendance last week:

94.4%

Government expectation: 96%

"A huge thank you all the parents and children who supported our Table Top Sale on Saturday by baking cakes, hiring tables, serving refreshments and turning up to support the event on a rainy Saturday morning!

It was a great community event with lots of positive comments on Facebook. We raised £127.00 for Charmouth Primary School and our young stallholders made a nice amount of pocket money and gained a new set of entrepreneurial skills too!

There will be another sale in the October half term week at Wesley Close Hall Charmouth, date to be confirmed.. So please contact Jackie Williams on jawilliamsuk@yahoo.co.uk or 07947803069 if you would like to book a table for yourself or your child. Price will be £5.00 Adult table, £3.00 Child table and also please bring along a cake/biscuit contribution.

Thank you again for all of your support. It is very much appreciated."

Harvest

Harvest Festival will be this Friday 5th October. There will be an open assembly for KS1 and reception parents at 9am. KS2 will have their assembly at 2.30. Please note the assemblies will be the same just repeated. Parents are welcome to come and join the school in celebration. Food donations can be handed in to your class teacher. It will be donated to LymeForward.



Key Dates

Thursday 27th September—Woodroffe Open Day
Friday 5th October—Harvest Assembly—9am (EYFS and KS1) and 2:45 (KS2)
TBC—end of topic assembly
22nd —26th October—half term
Thursday 20th December—last day of term
Friday 21st December—INSET

Shoe Box Appeal

The school will be collecting full boxes or items to be made into boxes by Karen.

**For disadvantaged children
in Albania, Montenegro,
Moldova and Romania**

