



School Newsletter

Thursday 2nd July 2020

Wider Reopening

It has been lovely to have more staff and children in school this week. Having the buzz of staff in the morning and the sound of play and learning has been an absolute delight this week. At the moment the groups are all full, but if you require a place (eg as a key worker), please contact the school and we can put you on a waiting list for a place.

We are looking forward to welcoming more children back in September. We are still unsure how this will be arranged at the moment as the government guidelines have not yet been released. Once they are, it will take some time to plan how this will apply to our school, but we will continue to update parents as soon as we are able to.

PTA

The last few weeks should have included reminders and requests for support for the Charmouth Challenge, which should have taken place this Saturday. Despite the PTA following guidance and cancelling the event earlier on during this pandemic, a lot of preparation had already gone into this amazing event. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those involved for their continued support and dedication to the event and school.

Behind the scenes, staff and committee members who are also staff have been sorting and clearing the PTA resources in school. The PTA cupboard looks completely different and is fully organised for future events.

I would like to thank all those who have committed time, effort and energy to events and awareness through the year. The support is hugely appreciated and truly makes a difference to what we can offer and provide at school.

Please continue to look out for information from the PTA and consider how you may be able to support their work. Help can come in many forms—including attending events, running a stall at an event, being a committee member or taking on a larger project. It all makes a difference and many hands really do help to make the work lighter. I look forward to another successful year for the PTA next year.

School reports

On Friday reports will be sent via email to all parents. Please make sure you check your junk and spam boxes. Assessment has been made based on progress, attainment and attitude to learning seen before the lockdown. Parents can arrange a telephone consultation with their child's class teacher by contacting the school office. **Please contact the school office by midday on Wednesday 8th July** if you would like a consultation.

Online Safety

In our efforts to continue to support our children's safety, we are planning to regularly update parents with useful resources to support online safety. We have also added clearer links to key online safety resources on the Online Safety page on the website (under Safeguarding). Thinkuknow has produced a series of home activity worksheets to support online safety at home. These can be found here: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/>

Parent Governor

We are delighted to confirm that we have been able to appoint a new parent governor to the governing board. Alex Wiseman will be fulfilling this role. He brings a range of business experience to the board, which will be a great support to the school.

Thank you for continuing to share examples of your learning at home. We are enjoying seeing the outcomes of set work and the additional activities you have been able to complete. It has been lovely to see the preparation taking place for the musical zooms for Dolphins and Turtles! Don't forget to check the website for the weekly STEM, art and music challenges!



Even though "The Winter" began 5 years ago, people were still adapting to this new harsh reality. It seemed to me like, the fact that it never stopped snowing hadn't quite sunk in to the older generations.

Outside, everything was a monochromatic landscape of mainly the colour white. To go outside, you had to wear **AT LEAST** four layers of clothing! You wouldn't see many folk around town, maybe two or four people, family groups - and they would all be doing the same sort of thing. Either gathering food, firewood or water.

As I have been a child during this time, I have a distant memory of how things used to be. I take it for granted that every time I see a person - if they have a dog - it will be constantly vigilant and wary, ready to protect its owner (which seems very sweet). I have a dog called Aki, and he does the same. Even though he is a very small puppy, he will always protect me so I leave never the house without him, as he worries when I go out alone.

Today, it was my turn to go out and get provisions. So, I grabbed my sack, lit my torch, called Aki and headed out the door. As all our houses were sunk into the snow, to get outside, you had to pass through a tunnel to get out. The tunnel was lined with wooden planks, and had many support poles. I climbed up the wooden ladder to the surface.

Even though snow was such a common thing now, I couldn't help but feel happy when I saw it. I always found it enjoyable watching those little flakes bobbing down. But I could do that later, now it was the time for gathering. Today, Aki seemed a lot more laid back and un-protective. All dogs did. He was chasing snowflakes, odd. Anyway, we were first headed to the well. Mrs Packerson pulled up the bucket, sounded like she was going to say something, and gasped. She fell over **BACKWARDS!!!** I rushed over to help her up, and she pointed to the sky, as if she wanted me to look up, so I did. No! It couldn't be! It was so bright! It was the sun!



Charmouth Beavers

The Charmouth Beavers have found a new leader and hopefully will re-start from September. Scouting is a fun way for your child to learn new skills and build confidence with a range of activities from nature hikes to cooking or crafting, through to learning about the environment and community. Beavers welcomes children between the ages of 6 to 8, we run on a Monday at 5.30pm to 6.46pm at the Charmouth Scout Hut. Why not come along, free trial for a month, contact karen.southcott@btinternet.com if interested.