

Puddletown CEVC First School

'Inspiring learners to be the best they can be'

Newsletter No. 7

29th March 2018

Dear Parent,

We have certainly had an interesting few weeks at School to end the term! Parent evenings, fun in the snow and OFSTED to name just a few things.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend last week's parent/teacher meetings, I trust that you found them a useful follow up to your child's report. If for any reason you were unable to meet with your child's teacher please do ensure that you make an appointment to do so at the start of next term. The written feedback many of you provided on the reports was positive and indicated that you found them useful. If you have any further feedback on how we are reporting about your child's progress I would love to receive it.

As you will have seen from the photos on the website life at school has continued to be busy. Our visit to Dippy was a great experience for our children and has inspired some budding palaeontologists. The day of snow was great fun for the children and Miss England! The annual Easter Egg competition was a great success as usual with some really creative ideas. I am sorry that I was unable to attend the Easter Service but it was well attended and the children's singing and readings were excellent.

The School Development Plan

As I have said previously a summary of our School Development Plan can be found on our website. There are two areas that you may be able to support us in achieving this.

The first area is in supporting our outdoor learning provision. We aim to take the children outside of the classroom and onto our grounds at least once a week. To do this we need the children to have appropriate footwear available in school. Therefore, if you have any spare wellies or wellies that your child has outgrown we would love to have them in school to fill up our new wellie rack.

Secondly, we are aiming to develop a mastery curriculum in which the children develop skills and attitudes as much as learn content. To achieve this it is important that the children see themselves as learners with infinite capacity for improvement, where challenge, difficulty and mistakes are part of the learning process. You can help by carefully considering the language you use when discussing school. For example rather than saying 'I was always rubbish at.....' (and yes I have said that at home!) try saying '.....was the subject I had to work hard at, shall we try and do it together?'

As ever thank you all for your support over the term, on behalf of all the staff I wish you and your family a very happy Easter.

Ofsted

As you will be aware we had our Ofsted inspection on Friday 23rd March. This was led by Stewart Gale as the HMI (Her Majesties Inspector). Following the inspection Stewart Gale is now writing up our report. Until he has done so and it has been through a period of moderation by Ofsted we are unable to comment on the day.

However, I can say that the children were an absolute credit to the school. Thank you so much for taking the time to complete the Parent Questionnaire. To have not only such a positive response but also so many people responding really did help the inspection process and is very much appreciated by the staff and governors.

As soon as the report is completed we will provide you with a copy.

Communication

If you need to contact me at all please do catch me on the gate in the morning, contact the school office or email me head@puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk

Some Goodbyes

Sadly we have said goodbye to Mrs Hardy, Mrs Hardy has secured a post as a teaching assistant in a local school. Mrs Garside has also left our staff team, although she isn't going far as she will be Deputy Leader at the Pre School. We wish them every success and thank them for all their work for our children.

Diary Dates

29 Mar – Break up for Easter
16 Apr – Return to School
16 Apr – KS1 Summer Sports starts 3.15pm - 4.15pm
18 Apr – KS2 Tennis Club starts 3.15pm – 4.15pm
19 Apr – School nurse drop in session - 9am
20 Apr – Y4 parent 'Hooke Court' meeting – 3.15pm
25 Apr – FOPS Meeting 7pm
2-4 May – Year 4 at Hooke Court
8-9 May – Life Education Van
9 May – FOPS Movie Night
11 May – Y4 'Hooke Court' Open Afternoon 1.45pm
14 & 21 May – Year 2 SATS week
17 May – Pentecost Church Service – all welcome
22 May – Class R 'new parents' meeting 7pm
25 May – Break up
04 Jun – Return to school
5 Jun – Puddleducks 1.15pm
6 Jun – Year 2 trip to Corfe Castle

Not home learning.....

Something to discuss over the dinner table. If you could invent a new kind of weather what would it be?

I would love to hear your answers.