

# Puddletown CEVC First School

*'Inspiring learners to be the best they can be'*

## Newsletter No. 15

20<sup>th</sup> July 2017

It does seem hard to believe but we really are at the end of another academic year. On behalf of all the staff may I thank you all for your support over the year. The success of your child's learning is down to the partnership between you and the school. Thank you also for your kind words and gifts they are very much appreciated by everyone.

Any end of year brings with it some sadness as we say goodbye to children and valued colleagues and this year is no different.

Mrs Stoker is leaving us to take up post as a YR teacher at Broadmayne First School, our loss is very much their gain. We wish Mrs Stoker every success in her new role and thank her for all she has done in our school, from supporting individual children to teaching Y4 French and from running the school council to running marathons and our Race for Life. Miss Huxley, who has been working in Y4 and in our afterschool club is leaving to take up a teaching post in France.

Mrs Phillips who has been working in Y1 and as a lunchtime supervisor is also leaving us this year. We wish all of them the very best in the future. Obviously we are also losing our Y4 children, they have been an absolute joy to have in our school, they are a credit to the school, their family and themselves. I know that they will make a great success of Middle School and I am looking forward to hearing all about it next year when I visit the Middle School. Daisy in Y3 is also leaving us this year and we wish her every success in her move.

We also have some new arrivals! We are looking forward to getting to know our new YR children in September.

We also welcome Mrs Garside to our team. Mrs Garside joins us from Piddle Valley First School and will be supporting the children in Y2.

As ever the end of term has been very busy, we have tried hard to keep the website updated of the events. I thought Sports Day was brilliant and it was great to see 4 school records being broken in the afternoon events.

I hope that you enjoyed Celebration Afternoon and found the end of year reports useful, as ever any feedback is welcome.

Finally on behalf of everyone at Puddletown First School may I wish you all a very happy and relaxing Summer. I hope that you are able to enjoy time with your families and we are looking forward to seeing you all in September when we can do it all again!

### Holidays in School Time

Please be aware that following the recent legal decision regarding holidays in term time it is now Dorset Local Authority policy to issue fines for children taking unauthorised holiday's during term time where the child is absent for 4 or more consecutive days. This is also true for children that have 4 or more days of unauthorised absence over a 6 week period.

Unauthorised absence does not include illness when the school has been informed. Headteachers have limited freedom to authorise absence.

Therefore if you are planning to take your child out of school for any reason you must as a minimum complete an absence request form, or arrange to meet with me to discuss it.

The fine currently stands at £60 per child rising to £120 if it isn't paid within 21 days.

I know that to date fines haven't been issued but feel that you need to know of this change in policy.

### Communication

All of our communication is added to the school website:

[www.puddletownfirst.eschools.co.uk](http://www.puddletownfirst.eschools.co.uk)

When a new letter is added a text will be sent to the number that you have provided as priority linked to your child. In addition, newsletters are added to the website on a Friday every fortnight. We recommend checking the school website regularly to keep up to date on all the exciting things happening in school.

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](mailto:head@puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk)

### Diary Dates

21 Jul – Inset day

6 Sept – Return to school - Autumn Term

03 Oct – School Photographer

20 Oct – Break up

30 Oct – Inset Day

31 Oct – Return to school

10 Nov – M&M Production – Aladdin

15 Dec – Break up

02 Jan – Return to school – Spring Term

### A message from Miss Rees – our headteacher of the day

Hello parents the school is a nice place and the children have a nice time here. The more they work the better it gets.

I hope you have a nice week.