Newsletter 24

Dear Parents and Carers

We had a wonderful day on Thursday to celebrate World Book Day with the children. Thank you so much for all the amazing costumes the children were wearing, including some truly breath-taking homemade outfits. Sofia in Y2 wore a full table of Alice in Wonderland tea party items that were all made at home. All the staff have been calling in to Year 2 to admire it!

I’m so proud that you all get involved. It’s the one day of the year when we as parents and educators can inspire all the children to love books. We know that it is the single most important indicator of future success for our children to develop enthusiasm and competence in reading. Keep encouraging them!

**Year 3 and 4 Play - 'You are Special' is on Tuesday 1st April at 2pm and Wednesday 2nd April at 5.30pm (Church Carpark open)**

Rehearsals are now under way with tickets on sale at the school office from today @ £1 per ticket.  There will be a limit of 2 tickets per performance initially, then more after the first week of sales.

Tickets must be paid for at the time of purchase please, not reserved for payment on the day.

**Mental Health Support Team**

The Dorset MHST Participation team are running a forum for parents to have a say in how the service develops and reflects the needs of our community. See the poster attached for details, it’s on 25th March, on Teams, at 6.30pm.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*LAST DAY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Swimathon – Sunday 16th March at Coombe House pool – (Bookings close on Monday 10th March).**

**We have 11 swimmers from our school signed up for this event. Due to the lower than expected numbers, Abbey have been given one swimming slot at 11am, arrivals by 10.45am, changed and ready to swim. I’ll be there to cheer them on.**

**There is still time to enter, it would be great to have a few more swimmers. All children who swim will get 2 House Points!**

There is a sponsorship form attached to this newsletter and a link below to select the time you would like your child to do their swim (if you have more than one child, please click on the link for each child separately). They have 20 minutes to swim as many lengths of the pool as they can. We will let you know if too many children are booked in for a time slot, to see if you can do it at a different time. Please arrive 15 minutes before your allocated time with the children changed and ready to swim.

Prizes will be awarded for the best participants and fund-raisers.

All the details are on the information sheet attached.

**This will be a fantastic community event, with swimmers from our school and Shaftesbury Primary coming together to raise money for our local charities. Please encourage your children to take part!**

[**Swimathon**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JL1ZvEsvOUSih0_sDC0CtWpXICym8w1NoiYCXomrRuhUMlNNUU04OFlTNVBKU01PNVlOWElMVkxNTi4u)

**Lunchtime Supervisor**

We are looking for someone to join our lunchtime team, from 11.45-1pm each day during term time. Please contact the office if you’d like to have a chat about this role.

**Red Nose Day – Wear something Red for a £1 donation – 21st March**

Our Year 6 children will start selling Red Noses on Friday 14th March at the top of the school and children are encouraged to wear something red on 21st March to support this great charity.

**Easter Camps at Abbey**

Please see the attached information about activity camps here at school during the Easter break.

**Violin Lessons**

Please see flyer attached from Victoria Mogridge if you might be interested in your child having violin lessons.

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Staff have asked that all children wear really warm clothes (including thick socks) when the weather is cold during Forest School sessions.

Year 1 have their third Forest School session this week. Reception will be next, from 19th March, then Year 4 from 2nd April. Then Year 3 have two sessions from 30th April.

Children need to have trousers and long-sleeved tops, wellies and a **waterproof coat** (with over-trousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

**Message from the new Children and Young Peoples social prescriber:**

*My name is Sharon - I am the new Children and Young Peoples social prescriber covering the Blackmore Vale GP Practice (Shaftesbury and Sturminster) my role is to signpost children and young people to non-clinical services in the community or online. The idea is to empower children and young people for what matters to them.*

*I can support children and young people to attend groups/services to introduce them if needed. I work on the basis of about 3 or 4 contacts- if they need more then I would refer to more specific services.*

*I can signpost to services and also help them to navigate apps online etc to show them how to get support independently.*

*I can also meet with parents to signpost to services available on a 1:1 basis or drop in at school if required.*

*If you would like to contact me directly my details are below*

*Sharon Sibley*

*Children and Young persons social prescriber*

*01747 856786*

*Mobile 07944947690*

*My working hour are Wednesday-Friday 8.30am-4.30pm*

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2024 – 2025**

**Spring Term**

Children start back                                      Monday 6th January 2025

Spring half term                                            Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Spring Term ends                                          Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holidays                                              Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025

**Summer Term**

Schools due to start back                            Tuesday 22nd April 2025

MAY DAY Bank Holiday                                 Monday 5th May 2025

Summer half term                                          Monday 26th May to Friday 30st May 2025

**INSET DAY                                                       Monday 2nd June 2025**

Summer Term ends                                       Tuesday 22nd July 2025

**INSET DAY                                                       Wednesday 23rd July 2025**