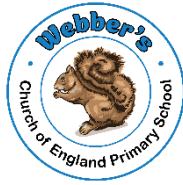


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Head Teacher
Mr. Robert Roffey

Dear Readers,

As we draw close to the final month of this academic year, end of term plans and activities are in full swing.

Year 6 children from both schools have started their Enterprise Project. This entrepreneurial approach gives children the opportunity to raise money (by selling ice-creams after school and washing cars on specified afternoons for willing volunteers) for a trip to Exmouth by train in the last week of term. On the trip, children will go swimming, go bowling and have time to play on the beach and in the park. This has become a rite of passage for children as they leave primary school and it gives me great pleasure to ensure that year 6 children from both schools receive the enrichment opportunity as historically, this has only taken place at Burlescombe. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Barbary-Sprague of Crosses Ice-Creams for generously donating twelve tubs of ice-cream for children from both schools to sell. Do keep an eye out for Crosses at local events; I can personally recommend many different flavours of their ice-cream! 😊

Another end of term enrichment activity (that has become a firm rite of passage at Webber's) is the year 6 Pool Party. Again, this has historically only been available for children at Webber's school. We were presented with the challenge this year of the pool not being in a safe, usable state, so we have drawn upon one of the benefits of being in a trust: Mrs. Lully Newman, the headteacher of Bampton Primary School (which is the other school in our mid-Devon cluster) has kindly offered us the use of their pool for the afternoon. So year 6 children from both schools will this year have a joint pool party together, which will be fantastic! Thank you to Mrs. Newman for opening Bampton's pool for us to use; I would also like to thank the PTFAs from both schools, who have agreed to fund the cost of the coach to Bampton and back.

In the final week of term, children in year 6 will also be hosting Cream Teas for their parents to come into school, and another tradition that has developed in primary schools recently is the presentation of Leavers' Hoodies, which children will also receive in the final week. With the Awards Ceremonies and Leavers' Services on the penultimate and final days of term at both schools too, it is certainly going to be a busy last few weeks for the eldest children in our schools.

Children in years 1 and 4 have recently completed external assessments too: children in year 1 have completed the National Phonics Screen, which assesses children's ability to use their phonic knowledge to read real words, as well as (hopefully) spotting those grotty pseudo words (we call them alien words). Children in year 4 have been using especially generated daily codes from the DfE to practise for their Multiplication Times Tables Check (MTC), which is a series of 25 multiplication

questions (based on the 12x12 tables) with a 3-second pause in between each question. Both year groups completed the assessments with a fantastic attitude, and we could not be prouder of their efforts.

Recently, girls in year 5/6, who **volunteered** to take part, have been representing their school in the Girls' Football at Uffculme displaying **courage, determination, cooperation** and above all a great sporting attitude. Thank you to everyone who chose to take part.

It has been wonderful to welcome our new intake children for next year into both schools recently. As part of the induction process for children starting in September, children are invited into school for 5 visits, starting with an hour and a quarter with parents in school too, and building to the final visit, which is all day without parents. It is all too easy for us to forget what a daunting experience starting school is, so these visits are invaluable for children to meet staff, meet future friends and start to see what an exciting place school will be for them. I would like to thank Mrs. King (LSC committee member and parent at Webber's school) for giving up her time to provide tea and biscuits for parents on the visit.

Sports Days have come and gone for both schools too. Webber's is very lucky to be able to use the wonderful school field there, with the field in Bray Close available for Burlescombe to use. Sports Days are such a good example of children displaying the character virtues that we teach throughout the school year, and it always gives staff great pleasure to see children trying their hardest, but also displaying virtues such as **generosity, kindness** and **co-operation**.

Finally, I wanted to bring your attention to a slight change in the format of the article I write for the Parish Magazine. Historically, this article is written a month in advance, which can make conveying what has taken place in both schools challenging as very often things will have taken place by the time the article is read, but haven't yet taken place at the time of writing. To aid with this, I intend to write this article retrospectively, which will allow me to celebrate events in school, which have taken place recently. This does mean that there will be no entry for the September edition, as this would have been written in August. October's edition of the Parish magazine will contain all the wonderful beginning of the year events that have taken place in September.

I hope you enjoy a wonderful summer with your families. Until next academic year,

Take care and Climb to your Highest.

R. Rosley