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**Head Teacher
Mr. Robert Roffey**

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Autumn Term Newsletter No.01

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to be able to extend to you a warm welcome back to school for the new academic year. It has been a genuine pleasure to see children returning to both our schools so positively, and dressed so smartly, with such a spring in their step. I would like to extend an especially warm welcome to our new families with children who have just begun their educational journey with us in reception. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your **generosity** with the gifts for school staff at the end of last year – they are truly appreciated...thank you.

At Burlescombe school, I am delighted to confirm that swimming starts next week on Wednesday 13th September and will commence for a total of 12 sessions finishing on Wednesday 6th September. Whilst swimming in KS1 is not mandatory, we believe that it is an important life skill and with both schools situated close to a canal, I am very pleased that we can extend this important enrichment activity to children. Thank you to the Burlescombe PTFA, who have kindly offered to pay for the cost of the coach to transport children to and from Tiverton swimming pool; without their support, the cost per session would be considerably more expensive. Swimming at Webber's school will commence in the spring term for half the school and continue in the summer term for the other half.

This is a good opportunity for me to remind you of the excellent, and much needed, valuable work of the PTFAs at both schools. The money they donate to the school (funded by your engagement with their events throughout the year) enriches the education of children at both our schools, and in the current educational funding environment, it is much needed. If you would like to join either schools' PTFA, and contribute to shaping and organising the event they hold throughout the year, I know that you would receive a very warm welcome. Please speak to either Mrs. Sophie Cornish at Webber's, or Mrs. Claire Davies at Burlescombe.

Premier Sport-led clubs begin next week, with details being sent out today. If you would like your child to take part in one of these excellent sporting enrichment opportunities, do sign up as soon as possible, as there are limited spaces, and they fill up quickly. Teacher-led clubs will begin the week after; again, details will be sent out today. Teachers choose to run these clubs to enrich

All children in EYFS and KS1 are entitled to a free government-sponsored school lunch, which is delicious. If you are a family in receipt of a low income, please do email either school office for help with how to apply for free school meals (FSM) at any age in primary school – each school receives additional funding for families in receipt of a low income, so this is an important step you can take for us, as well as being of benefit to your family.

Regarding food, I would like to make you aware that we have children with severe **NUT ALLERGIES** across both schools and therefore request that you do not send in nuts for ANY meals or snacks, to help keep these children safe. If your child has ANY **allergies** or **medical requirements**, please notify the school office as a matter of urgency.

Uffculme School Open Evening is being held this year on Thursday 28th September from 6pm-8pm, so if you're child is in year 6, and is likely to transfer to Uffculme school, do consider attending.

I am pleased to confirm that we have appointed a new **Social Inclusion Officer** to replace Jen Marshall, who started the role last year. Her name is Hannah Gleeson, and more information about her, and her role, will be included in the next newsletter. This represents Alumnis' continued commitment to the support of teachers, children and families in our communities, and we are very lucky to be in receipt of her services.

I am very pleased to announce that both schools now have representation on social media. Webber's and Burlescombe now have Facebook pages, on which you will find (in time) pictures of children engaged in their learning, comments from staff and photos of developments in school. Please do check them out and help us spread the word of all the good work going on in our schools.

I have some exciting news to share about Burlescombe school. Staff have been working very hard over the summer holiday to create our new, discrete **library**. This is an area which will be used to work with small groups of children and also gives children a relaxing, comfortable space to choose and read books. Have a look on Burlescombe's new Facebook page to see what it looks like. I would like to

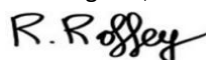
children's experience at school, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for willingly giving their time to do so. Could I please ask all parents to check that you are signed up to the School Comms app, as this is the primary form of communication that both schools use. You can also pre-order school lunches for your child, make payments and give consent for enrichment activities quickly and easily. Your child is able to order their school lunch at the beginning of each day in either school, but you can use the app to pre-order if you prefer.

Curriculum Information Letters will be released next week, which detail the exciting learning that will be taking place in each class this term. **Parent Meetings** will also be taking place over the next 2 weeks – these are a chance for you to meet your child's class teacher, find out about school routines, and ask any questions you might have. These will be scheduled on a Tuesday or a Thursday at 3pm, so please do attend if you are able.

thank the staff at Burlescombe school for working so hard to create this wonderful new space.

Finally, I would like to make you aware of an exciting opportunity that has arisen at Webber's school. We currently have a vacancy for a teaching assistant to work in Key Stage 2 supporting the learning of children under the direction of the class teacher. This position is 0.6 (mornings only) and is a 12-month fixed term contract in the first instance. If you would like any further information, please do contact me at r.roffey@alumnismat.org.

Kind regards,



Mr. Roffey
Head Teacher

[Communications sent out this week](#)

This week's **TEAM POINT** winners are

WEBBER'S: Beech

BURLESCOMBE: Swans



STARS OF THE WEEK

WEBBER'S		BURLESCOMBE	
Class 1	All Reception Children	Acorns	All Reception Children
Class 2	Oliver	Upper KS2	Kelsy
Class 3	Albie & James	Lower KS2	Issac Bailey-Salter
Class 4	Koray		

Diary Dates – Further Dates to be Added in the Next Newsletter

Mon 11 th September	Webber's	Athlete Visit Event Assembly 9am
Tues 12 th September	Webber's	Class 1 Parent Meeting 3pm
Wed 13 th September	Burlescombe	Swimming at Tiverton Pool
Wed 13 th September	Burlescombe	PTFA Meeting 7pm-9pm
Thur 14 th September	Webber's	Class 4 Parent Meeting 3pm
Thur 14 th September	Burlescombe	Acorns Parent Meeting 3pm
Tue 19 th September	Both schools	Yr1/2 Skill Development Event at Uffculme 1.30pm-3pm
Tue 19 th September	Burlescombe	Oaks class parent meeting 3pm
Tue 19 th September	Webber's	Class 2 Parent Meeting 3pm
Thur 21 st September	Webber's	Class 3 Parent Meeting 3pm
Mon 25 th September	Webber's	Athlete Event Morning 9am-12pm
Tue 26 th September	Both schools	Yr 5/6 High 5s & Basketball at Uffculme 3pm-5pm
Thurs 28 th September	Year 6 - both schools	Uffculme School Opening evening 6-8pm
Tue 3 rd October (TBC)	Both schools	Yr3/4/5/6 Cross Country at Killerton 12pm-2.30pm
Tue 10 th October	Both schools	Yr 5/6 High 5s & Basketball at Uffculme 3pm-5pm
Thur 12 th October	Burlescombe	Mid-Devon Cluster LSC Meeting 4-6pm
Wed 18 th October	Burlescombe	Athlete Visit Event Assembly 9am

Mon 23 rd -Fri 27th October	Both Schools	Half Term
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CHILDREN'S CORNER

Class 1

Class 1 children have had a brilliant start to the new year. The New Reception children have come in with smiles on their faces and have enjoyed exploring their new learning environment and started to develop new friendships. We have all been taking advantage of outdoor play in the sunshine. The children have followed obstacle courses, built a train and houses, searched for minibeasts and have created lots of appetising mud dishes which will explain why some of the children have got a little muddy! We have also been discussing how we are all unique, have different families and like different things. The Year 1 children blew me away with their wonderful writing today. Well done Class 1.

Class 2

2 have enjoyed exploring their new classroom this week and have been very excited to be back with their friends. We have planned and written some very exciting fictional stories set in the summer holidays. Everyone showed great courage when reading their ideas aloud to the class and we were definitely left in suspense by many of our young authors! We have also enjoyed a week of inspirational maths activities which have included making our own tessellating patterns, learning some fun dice games and exploring problem solving in creative ways using shapes. Class 2 have been exploring what it means to have a growth mindset and linked this to the story, 'Giraffes can't dance'(yet)!! As always, the children's love of reading has shone through and many of us have enjoyed using the book corner to share a story this week.

Class 3

Class 3 have settled back into school with a positive mindset and curiosity. They have embraced new routines and reminded each other of the expectations for conduct and personal effort. We have enjoyed some inspirational maths activities and have already embarked on our spelling journey for the year. Reading diaries and spelling books should have been shared already with you at home and we are hoping to continue with access to our online learning platforms in the coming days. It has been lovely to welcome everybody back and to share their stories, and to begin our Class 3 adventure.

Class 4

Class 4 have made an incredible start to the term and are already proving to be responsible, creative, determined and, above all, compassionate Year 6s. We have been so proud of the children enthusiastically stepping up to the responsibilities that being the eldest in the school brings. The children are enjoying their new classroom and it has been wonderful for the eldest and the youngest children in school to be working so closely together- Class 4 have been excellent role models, especially when buddying up with our new children to support them at break times. We have spent time this week preparing our learning mindsets: we enjoyed discussing the brain science behind having a growth mindset and how we can accelerate our learning when we challenge ourselves and face the learning pit! Well done Class 4 - it's so wonderful to have you back in class!

Acorns

Acorns Class have had a smashing first few days of the new academic year, already demonstrating all the ways we can be 'Inspiring Changemakers'. We have been exploring what a growth mindset is and reflecting why it is so important to have one. The KS1 children have then been demonstrating using a growth mindset during our 'Inspirational Maths' work. The reception children have settled in wonderfully; they have had lots of opportunity to 'busy learn' and explore our school environment. They even helped Ms Brainch plant some flowers by the school office - do look out for them when you are next at school!

Oaks

Oaks have made a brilliant start to the year! We have been writing book reviews for display in the library, designing and making tray and peg labels, writing some amazing stories and creating some fabulous cave art drawings! On top of all that, we have been learning about what archaeologists do - finds analysis, dating and carrying out a dig in our school back garden. We even had some real Roman and Medieval pottery and a Neolithic flint scraper to handle. Oaks are shaping up to be a formidable force as the year progresses - watch this space!

Community Section



Wellington



An after-school club for students who love to perform



Wellington

TEAMWORK

CONFIDENCE



COMMUNICATION



FUN



£5 PER SESSION
BOOKING FOR A FULL TERM REQUIRED