



Thorner's Church of England VA Primary School

Newsletter No 1

Friday 18th September 2020

Archery: All of the children are enjoying their weekly sessions with bow and arrow.

Clubs: Several clubs have started including Breakfast Club, After-school Care Club, Chesil Creative, Forest School and Art.

Reception: The new children are full time from Monday and have settled in extremely well. "Lunch" proved to be a particularly favourite lesson last week!

SCHOOL MEALS: Please remember that all Litton and Chesil children are entitled to Free School Meals. You still need to order the meals a week in advance from Local Food Links. You can do this online, for which you will need a unique code. If you do not have this, please ask Marion.

You still need to register for Free School Meals (if you are in receipt of qualifying benefits) to enable the school to receive additional funding. This information can be obtained on the Dorset for you website page:

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/free-school-meals> will give parents an immediate response.

IXL: Just a reminder that the school subscribes to this online maths programme which supports the children's learning. All children from Year 3 upwards have their username and password and can access the programme at home as well as at school. Set tasks will be provided for homework but feel free to explore the site with your child.

Cars: The one-way system for School Lane appears to be working well. Please drive up School Lane from the main village road and on leaving the LATCH car park turn right.

Breakfast Club: Our club operates from 8am every morning with juice, toast, fruit, cereal etc provided for the children. Please email the office for costs and a booking form should you wish to use this service.

Data sheet: A data sheet is coming home with your child. Could you please check, update and return the data sheet as soon as possible. Please include your up-to-date **contact details**; these are needed in case of emergencies such as illness or changes to going home arrangements. Could I please remind you that mobile phones often do not work in the valley.

Apples: Our small orchard in the Discovery Area is groaning with apples of all varieties so next week the children will start to harvest them and turn them into apple juice using our press. Each class will have a go at picking, washing, cutting, making a pomace, pressing and drinking their own class apple juice.

COVID: I really appreciate how all parents have followed the required procedures concerning testing. I do understand how disruptive it can be with work/commitments due to having your children at home and the added difficulty we are all facing in getting hold of prompt, local tests. Let's hope availability improves. Thank you. Happy to report all tests have been negative to date.

Forest School Club: This is running for Reception class at present - other classes will have a chance to attend as we move through the year.

Art Club: It has been lovely to see KS2 enjoy their sessions with Miss Newbury again this term with some fantastic creations being made in a range of artistic materials.

Music Lessons: Guitar, drums, fife and keyboard lessons are all available this term. Please email the office for details of costs and dates should you wish your child to start an instrument.

School Garden Design Competition: Next week all children will be offered the chance to enter our design a garden competition to turn the remaining timbers of the old gazebo into a new area for flowers, wildlife and produce. The winner will then have their design turned into reality over the coming academic year.

Email: In order to save paper, we email newsletters and other communications to parents; please let Marion know if you would prefer a hard copy.

Parent Governor Election: Don't forget to send in your parent governor election choice to the office by midday on **Thursday 24 September 2020.**

Yours sincerely
Mike Sitch
Headteacher