



THE CAREY FEDERATION

Ashwater Primary School Newsletter No. 9 Autumn Term. 23rd November 2023 01409 211228 admin@ashwater.devon.sch.uk

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Good Provider

Dear Parents,

It was great to see children dressed in spots for Children in Need. Thank you for your donations, we raised: **£28.76**



Last week, Sir Geoffrey Cox, MP, visited us. The children asked some excellent and challenging questions. Sir Geoffrey talked to the children about the job of an MP and helped their understanding of the democratic system in this country. I also had the opportunity to raise important issues with him that are affecting rural schools.



Unfortunately the Tag Rugby for Class 2 appropriate was postponed by Holsworthy College this week. This has been rearranged for Monday 15th January.

On Monday 27th November, Bradley Beare will be attending sessions at Holsworthy College designed for pupils with a particular talent in sport. Well done to him for being selected. If your child is attending you should already have received information about this. Please let the school office know your child will be attending.

Parent Consultation

This is your opportunity to meet your child's class teacher for a 10 minute appointment to discuss their academic and social progress this term. We are offering these as live sessions in school or if you would prefer on-line. Please book your appointment via the school office. You can either call, email or drop into the office to make the appointment. If you are unable to make the date offered, please let us know and teachers will arrange to see you at another time.



A short report will also be shared with you. It is not a requirement for schools to provide anything written if there is a face to face parent consultation but we feel that sharing where your child is currently attaining aids the discussion in the meeting.

Apply for Your Child's Primary School Place



Do you or someone you know, have a child born between the 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020? If you do, they are due to start primary school in September 2024. You will be able to apply for their school place from today, the 15th November 2023. Please be aware that the Local Authority is no longer sending any letters out to families

inviting them to apply. You can pre-register your details so that you receive an email and/or a text message when the system goes live for applications on the 15th of November. Please visit the web pages below for further information about the process - <u>https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/</u>

You can register to receive a reminder by completing this form

https://forms.office.com/e/ksWfDUXZKxhttps://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/ apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/

Every day is Open Day!! We don't have an open day for prospective parents because we prefer to offer individual tours to families so you can see us as we are on an ordinary day. Please contact the office if you would like to arrange a visit.

Vision Screening YR

This has now been rearranged for Wednesday 6th December



Christmas Dates

Saturday 2 nd December	12:30 – 2:30 pm Ashwater Christmas
	Extravaganza
Wednesday 6 th December	Christmas Production 9:15 am
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Production 5:00 pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 14 th December	9:15 am Church Service

Next week we will share a Google form for you to book tickets for which showing of the performance you would like to attend.

Safeguarding at Ashwater

The Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Alford

Attendance Officer:

Miss S Revers

Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs A Clark

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Cawsey

Miss H Frayn

Safeguarding

Helping children spot fake news:

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS

The news you see online or on social media isn't always going to be accurate. And it can be hard to tell what's real and what's fake.

Some websites will report fake news or things that aren't completely true. They might do it because they want to scare you or make you do something. Or because they make money from people going to their site.

Fake news can look real, but there are ways to help you spot it.

Check the source

Check the name of the website and its web address to see if it looks real. Some sites will try to look like other websites so you think they're genuine.

Look for evidence

Find out whether it's being reported on other sites that you know and trust. If it's only being reported on websites you've never heard of then it might not be true.

Don't decide straight away

Sometimes headlines or stories are designed to scare or interest you. Read what's in the article carefully, ask yourself whether it seems true and why they're saying it.

Ask someone you trust

Try asking an <u>adult you trust</u> to see what they think. If you're worried about something you've seen online, you can always talk to a <u>Childline counsellor</u>.

	Dates for your diary:	
<u>November</u> 29th	Parent Consultations 1.30pm—6.00pm	P Dates for your dia
<u>December</u>		្នះតិ ភេ ភ
2nd	PTFA Christmas Extravaganza 12.30pm—2.30pm	~
6th	Christmas Production 9.15am	
6th	YR Vision Screening	
7th	Christmas Production 5.00pm	
13th	Christmas Lunch	
14th	Christmas Church Service 9.15am	
15th	End of term	
<u>January</u>		
2nd	Non-pupil day	
3rd	Start of term	
15th	Class 2 Tag Rugby (Rescheduled)	
<u>February</u>		
12th to 16th	Half term	
<u>March</u>		
11th	KS1 Performing Arts Festival Y1 and 2 at HCC	
<u>June</u>		
24th	Yr 5 & 6 Cricket Festival at HCC	
<u>July</u>		
8th	Beach Festival Y3 and 4 at Bude	
Term dates: <u>ht</u>	tps://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-scho	ol/parents/term-dates/





The HAF website

The programme of events for Winter has now gone live in Devon

http://devon.cc/haf-winter-23

Please share far and wide! Places are limited

Places are available for children who are accessing benefit related free school meals

https://devon.cc/haf-parents-info

Please see the following message which we have been asked to share with you by Devon County Council:

We believe that in order for a pupil to fully benefit from their education, good attendance is crucial.

As of September 2013, an amendment to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 came in to force and greater clarity was introduced to the issue of schools authorising absence requests. These changes reinforced the Government's view that every minute of every school day is vital and that pupils should only be granted authorised absences by the school in 'exceptional circumstances'.

A family holiday is not normally considered by the Government to be an 'exceptional circumstance' and therefore will not be authorised by the school.

Should you choose to take your child out of school without the authorisation of the school, then Parental Responsibility Measures could be instigated. This could mean receiving any of the following;

- A Penalty Notice
- A summons to the Magistrate Court which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

Schools are required to notify the Local Authority if a pupil has a number of unauthorised absences. Unauthorised absences can be acquired when;

- 1) Leave has been requested, but the circumstances are such that the school is unable to authorise the leave and it is taken anyway.
- 2) Leave is not requested and/or the school has grounds to believe that the child has been taken out of school for an avoidable reason (example – a family holiday). Only the Head teacher can authorise an absence. This year there have been occasions when schools have been notified that the pupil is sick, but the school later discovers and reasonably believes that the reason given for the absence is not genuine.
- 3) A child continually arrives late after the registration period has closed.

Schools need to notify the Local Authority in all of the circumstances listed above.

Should a Penalty Notice be issued as a result of unauthorised absence then one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £120, which is reduced to £60 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated.

We understand the disappointment that the refusal of a leave request may cause, but as you can appreciate this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards providing your child's education and supporting their future life opportunities.

COULD YOUR CHILD BE ENTITLED TO A SUBSIDY TOWARDS THE COST OF RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TRIPS, SPORTING EVENTS, SCHOOL UNIFORM, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVI-TIES, BREAKFAST CLUB, AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AS WELL AS FREE SCHOOL MEALS IN KS2?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child could be entitled to a subsidy towards the cost of the above:

• Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).

Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

Please apply even if your child is in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives a meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. As well as financially benefiting as described above, your child may receive additional learning support where appropriate because of the additional funding that school receives from Government for known free school meals pupils.

<u>How to apply</u>

Through the Citizen Portal (<u>https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/</u> <u>Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live</u>) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.

Parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

Struggling to top up your prepayment meter?

You might be able to claim fuel vouchers

If you have prepayment meters and can't afford to top them up, we can help. We may be able to give you fuel vouchers, and our specialist energy team can help you find ways to save money on your household bills

Call 01237 879233, email fuelvouchers@ruraldevoncab.org.uk or scan the QR code to request a call back

