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"Live, Love and Learn Together"

5th February 2018

Dear Parents,

Thank you for coming to your child's parents' evening. This is an opportunity to find out about your child's learning and progress.

As a whole school we have a continued focus on ensuring all children achieve their potential from their individual starting point. As you are aware, we have to ensure that our statutory assessment data and attainment is in line with national expectations.

We shared a summary of our Key Stage 2 Data with you in December when this was published by the Department of Education. This is the data which is reported in relation to all primaries. These results for the end of the Key Stage 2 placed us above the national expected standards across the board. However, as a school, we do have to maintain this and ensure all of our pupils continue to achieve in relation to national expectations.

Statutory assessments are at the end of:

Reception Year-the Foundation Stage Profile.

Year 1 Phonic assessment.

Year 2 Statutory assessments papers are sat in reading and maths.

Year 6 where assessment papers are sat in reading, maths and spelling, punctuation and grammar.

For pupils in both years 2 and 6, their writing is teacher assessed against a writing criteria outlined by the government. As a school, we quality assure our marking and moderation of writing. We are working with schools both within Eastern Area CAST, local schools and external moderation from Dorset County Council trained moderators.

This academic year, we are also undertaking assessments each term, along with all of the schools within CAST. These cover reading and maths and are marketed by Pira and Puma Assessments.

To ensure that our pupils are taught the necessary skills to meet the challenges facing them, we are continuing our focus on the acquisition of basic skills in terms of being ready to learn from entry into our school. The children develop their phonic knowledge so that they can apply this in their reading, writing and spelling across the curriculum. We ensure children can use and apply the four rules of number, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Our teaching within school has had to respond to these demands as well as enthuse and engage our pupils.

We hope you have found the termly curriculum leaflets useful in showing you the creativity of the teachers in delivering these expectations.



As with the development of all skills, practice makes perfect, so your continued support in your child's learning is essential at all times. As a school, we see homework as an extension and deepening of learning which takes place within the classroom. Therefore your encouragement in the development of these increasingly independent learning skills in the form of homework as your child progresses through the school is vital. Our job is to enable our pupils to grow and be ready for the next stage of their learning when they leave us after their seven year journey.

The national expectations of the curriculum of what your child should know and be able to use is extensive and this is from entry to school. We would very much like to inform you further about methods taught and some of the terminology used. So in the questionnaire with this letter, there is a request as to what further guidance you would like to help support your child. Please help us to help you by indicating what you would like to know and the most convenient times and we will endeavour to accommodate this.

Alongside all of our academic learning, we also ensure that pupils have the opportunity to have a range of physical activities. It is essential that your child has their PE/Games kit in school at all times. Therefore your co-operation is needed to ensure this happens because we expect all of our pupils to take part in these lessons.

I have included a sports update from Mrs Franklin and Mr Toohill.

You will also find enclosed your child's attendance to date. I am sure you are aware that I am no longer able to authorise any holidays in term time. As from 1st September, Dorset County Council are issuing fixed penalty notices for unauthorised attendance beyond 10 sessions due to holidays. We work closely with the attendance service and in our regular register checks they will query any periods of nonattendance or patterns. However through good communication i.e. you as parents telephoning regarding any absence through illness or if we have any other concerns regarding attendance, we will make contact with you to meet to address any concerns.

In light of some recent advice we have received, I would like to highlight a future planned date. On **9th May** in the summer term we will be holding – **our E-Safety day**. We will also be holding an Internet Parents' information session in conjunction with Dorset Police. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Miss Thomas our e-safety lead would also like me to draw your attention to something you may have seen in recent days via social media and certain news outlets rumours of the very popular app Roblox dangerously exposing children to predators. Miss Thomas has been sent a copy of a letter from a Kent Primary school giving an alarming message to parents from the Kent Police. Having done some fact checking, please can we urge you to be wary of social media scaremongering. The Kent Police did not issue the warning, and we can find no evidence that this app is any less safe than other similar apps.

If your child uses Roblox, make sure you have correctly entered their age when installing the app, (Roblox claim to filter the chat of under 12s). Discuss who they are friends with – it should be no-one you do not know. The very safest thing to do is to make sure all the privacy settings are turned to "off"; they can still play the game but won't be able to send or receive messages.

Parental controls in Roblox and other apps only work when parents hold up their end of the requirement by using them. To find out how to do this in the Roblox app follow this link:



<https://blog.roblox.com/2017/03/keeping-community-safe/>

As a school, we would urge you strongly to stay informed of and interested in your child's activity online, make sure you know what they are doing or who they are talking to – it is the very best way to keep them safe. We look forward to seeing you at the session on the **9th May. Times to follow** you will receive sensible advice on the swift changes in this hugely important area of your child's care.

We look forward to an exciting and productive second half of this academic year where I know we will also see some amazing and interesting learning opportunities unfold in our classrooms.

If you could complete the parent questionnaire and post in the box in the school office we would be very grateful as it will help us plan our future information sessions and give us useful feedback.

May I take this opportunity to wish you an enjoyable half term break and we return to school on Monday 19th February.

Yours Truly

Frances Guppy

Head teacher

St Catherine's P.E. report for the Autumn Term 2107

During the autumn term all teaching staff have had training in delivering Gymnastics as part of the sporting curriculum. 3 members of staff have also had training in netball coaching which took place offsite. As a result, we are all looking forward to seeing our netball club do well this year. More CPD training will follow in the spring term.

All pupils take part in PE /Games Lessons as part of their normal timetable.

We have several after school clubs running which are well attended. Running – 20 pupils, Fitness club – 20 pupils, Netball – 15 pupils, Football – 15 pupils and Circuit Training – 20 pupils.

Our pupils have had some great sporting opportunities this term. See below for our successes.

Netball – Friendly matches and the HIGH 5 tournament where we came 6th out of 9 teams that entered. This was a good score considering the team are fairly new to the game.

Football – So far we have competed in 2 Kenway cup games which resulted with a 2-2 draw and a 5-0 win.

The running club is run by Parent volunteers who give up their time each week to support and guide the children. For this we are very grateful. Thank you .In the first part of the term the club was open to 30 children. After half term this dropped to 20 for some intense training. Some Year 7 children



came to help with the training at Colmers Hill and we are very proud to hear Oakley Winters-O'Brien went onto compete in the National Cross Country Championships.

Cross country running competition at Colmer's Hill.

Our team consisted of pupils from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The girl's team came first with two individuals coming 2nd and 3rd. The boys' team were 3rd overall with Jonny coming first with the fastest time in 16 years.

Primary cross country race Sir John Colfox.

We entered 20 runners from across Years 2,3,4,5, and 6. In the Year 2/3/ race our team came 2nd and a Tilly Lu came 2nd also. In the Year 4/5/6 race the girl's team of Beth, Emily, Imogen and Maisie Grace came first and Jonny came 2nd in the boys' race with the boys' team coming 2nd.

Year 5 pupils went to the Primary Leadership Academy which has enabled them to become our new sports ambassadors.

Year 5 also went to a Badminton festival and Y1 and 2 went to the Multi-skills festival at Colfox.