



Furzeham Primary and Nursery School

'Inspired to learn, inspired for life'

Head Teacher: Mr Adams

Telephone: 01803 853347 www.furzehamprimary.org

Newsletter No: 1 Autumn – September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new academic year at Furzeham Primary and Nursery School. It has been lovely to see all of the children again and to welcome our new starters. We are looking to build upon the many successes of last year. 2018 data demonstrated a success across the whole school and we are exceptionally proud of our children. Our priorities last year were to engage children in more problem solving and reasoning tasks in maths and children have been seen to enjoy maths sessions and are more reflective learners. We also worked on ensuring the Early Years children secured outcomes in line with national averages. We exceeded that target. Our phonics results in year 1 rose dramatically with children achieving a good understanding of phonics by the end of year one. Attendance was high on our agenda last year. Ofsted state that attending school consistently is fundamental to learning and achieving every child's potential. Thanks to the parents and children we have managed to raise that figure this year to 95.14%. Our writing in key stage two exceeded the national averages. We have had success with all our sporting events and performances illustrating resilience and perseverance. Our children excel themselves at welcoming new people to our community and school demonstrating two more of our key values; friendship and respect. A very big well done to all.

This year, our priorities are achieving the national % for attendance which is 96%, developing reading speed and increasing vocabulary and developing writing across the school. We will also continue to develop maths across the school with problem solving and number understanding.

We are excited to announce that we are looking more closely at our curriculum and how we can further inspire our children to learn through a variety of different subjects.



We have been very lucky to be able to secure a mini bus for our school from the diligent fund raising of the Parents and Teachers association. Thanks to everyone organising and attending these events and helping us to achieve this goal. We hope to use the mini bus to get out on trips and visits. We are also looking at our school environment and creating inspiring spaces.

Our children in year 5 and 6 have already been on our first inspiring residential trip to Potheridge House on Dartmoor and have had a wonderful time, coasteering, climbing, problem solving and canoeing. As ever, we have many more exciting things to look forward to in the school year and continue to have very high expectations of the children in and around school.

Start of the school day

The main gates are open at 8.45am for your child to arrive in school. The school day begins at **8.55am** with registration. All children in our school learn phonics and spellings at 9.00am so it's vital your child is in school at the correct time and ready to learn. School gates will be closed at 8.55am. Arrival after this time will be via the main office.

End of the school day

The main gates to the school will be open at 3.10 in order for you to come on site for collection of your child. School ends at 3.15pm. Please ensure that your child is collected at this time. Children not collected at 3.15 will be put in to after school club where a charge may be applied. If you are aware that you are running late please contact the main office. We would respectfully ask that once you have collected your child you leave the school site as entrances and exits will need to be secured for children that remain at school.

Home Learning

At Furzeham Primary school we expect children to learn at home as well as school. We set home learning on a Friday and expect it on a Wednesday (this is a slight day change) Our home learning consolidates children's learning in the classroom and therefore we expect the same level of quality and care. Children are to use pencil and in KS2 expected to date and title their work underlining with a pencil. **Pen is not to be used in these home learning books.** We do offer a home learning club on a Friday for those children on occasions where a situation has prevented them for learning at home. Any queries surrounding weekly home learning please encourage your child to see the class teacher in the early part of the week. Your child should now have been given a reading book and reading diary. We would encourage your child to read every night and record this in the book. As a parent of a child in Early years or Key Stage one (year 1 and 2) please write the page number and sign and date. If your child is in Key stage two (year 3,4,5,6), you can write in the book but sometimes your child may write in the book too. Your child will also have some spellings to learn. The government has created a spelling list for the children to learn across Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6. We will send the list home so you can help the children to know and spell these. We hope you will endeavor to provide a quiet space for your child to work and encourage them to succeed.

Safeguarding

Your child's safety is the single most important thing at school. We ask you to give your teachers passwords if someone else is picking up your child and a note in the morning to the teacher to explain arrangements. We will not allow children to go with people we do not have permission to collect your child. **Mobile phones are strictly not allowed to be used on site at any time.** This is to safeguard yourselves and others. Children bringing mobile phones to school are to be collected in to the teacher's desk until the end of the day. They cannot use the phone until off the school premises. We would ask parents dropping children off to school to park in the adjacent roads and walk the children to the gate. This is to safeguard children on the road outside school. If your child is unwell you will need to contact the school office at the earliest convenience. We need to know your child is safe. If you have any concerns over any safeguarding issues please make an appointment to see Mrs. Shuttleworth or Mr. Adams.

Attendance

As you will be aware, good attendance is paramount to children progressing well and reaching their full potential. As a school we are held accountable for every child and every child's attendance. If your child is unwell with a cough and cold we can accommodate this in school by allowing the child to possibly 'stay in' during break times or allowing medicines in school. (please see office regarding forms to allow staff to administer.) If your child is actually sick then our 48 hour policy remains, to ensure the sickness isn't passed on. Our attendance target for this year is 96%. If you have any concerns about attendance please contact Mrs. Shuttleworth through the school office and she will endeavour to support.

On the first day of your child's absence please ensure that you:

- Inform the school before 9.15am explaining the reason for their absence via either telephone (01803 853347) or email admin@furzehamprimary.org
- If unable to speak directly to the office please leave a message on the answer phone.

If we have not had confirmation of your child's absence by 9.15am, then we will contact you to check on their safety. (Please ensure your contact details are up to date).

School uniform

It is lovely to see children arriving back at school looking smart and in Furzeham uniform. Please ensure that all **clothing is labelled**. Your child needs to wear appropriate **black shoes** with no bright colours or logos. Details of our uniform and expectations are on our website. Lost property box is located in the hall in the annex.

Lunches

A reminder that lunches are now ordered online and need to be ordered in advance. If you have any queries regarding this please see the main office in school. A new deli bar has been introduced where children can choose their lunch wrap or baguette.

Holiday requests

As you are aware, Head teachers may not now grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. This means that unless there are exceptional circumstances the absence request cannot be authorised. Any Parent/Carer who does take their child out of school without authorisation could be subject to a £60 penalty notice per child, per parent from the Local Authority.

Secondary transfer forms– Year 6 pupils

Parents of pupils in Year 6 are reminded that application forms for transfer from Primary to Secondary School must be returned by 31st October 2018 (hard copies are available from the school office) or forms completed on-line at https://www.torbay.gov.uk/CCSEnterprise_Admissionsonline_LIVE

Pupil premium

Did you know Just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school gets extra money to spend on pupils?

The Government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their best. This funding is called "Pupil Premium".

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. First, check if you qualify – it is not just if you are unemployed, so please look at the list below.
 2. Registering is really quick and easy – if you think you qualify, contact the school office where someone will help you to register.
 3. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more than £350 a year), extra benefits and the school receives £1320 extra per pupil.
 4. If you do not want your child to have the school meals they can continue as normal – as long as you qualify and are registered, the school still gets £1320 extra.
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DO YOU QUALIFY?

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you get any of these benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' – the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Application forms are available from the school office.

Flu Immunisation – Reception to Year 4

Letters will be sent out to all parents of Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 regarding the flu immunisation. Please could all parents return letters stating if permission has been granted or refused.

PTA

We have a wonderful and extremely hard working PTA who organise lots of fabulous events through the year. We start a new fundraising project this academic year and hope to secure funding towards an all- weather pitch in the lower playground. If you can help in any way, even if it's small, please contact Margret Fensome or Heather Ingram via the school office.

Diary Dates

- 17th September - Brixham College Open Morning – 9.00am – 12.00noon
- 20th September - Mr Bennett's Class Orienteering at Brixham College – pm
- 21st September - Christian Aid Harvest Assembly
 - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- 24th September - KS1 out and about in the Community this week looking at buildings
- 27th September - Miss Wilkinson's Class Quicksticks at Brixham College – pm
- 28th September - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- 4th October - Miss Shears' Class Cyclo Cross at Brixham College
 - Open afternoon for new reception children September 2019
- 5th October - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- 9th October - Open morning for new parents - Reception Class 2019
- 11th October - Mr Ward's Class High 5 Netball at Brixham College
- 12th October - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- 16th October - Parents Evening
- 17th October - Parents Evening
- 18th October - Year 6 Parents Evening
- 19th October - KS1 Harvest Festival - 9.30am
 - Foundation Harvest Festival – 2pm
 - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- HALF-TERM - 22nd October until 26th October**

- 29th October - Return to School**
- Bikeability Week
- 1st November - Mrs Chapman Class Problem Solving at Brixham College
- 2nd November - Autumn PTA Disco PM - Times TBC
- Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
 - Tempest Photography - Individual and Sibling photos
- 8th November - Mrs Bowers Athletics at Brixham College
- Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- 15th November - Mrs Hewitt's Athletics at Brixham College
- 16th November - Children In Need Day
- Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
 - PTA Lantern Workshop – 3.30pm
- 22nd November - Miss Smoothy class - Multiskills at Brixham College
- 23rd November - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- PTA Lantern Workshop – 3.30pm
- 26th November - Teachers Rock Youth Choir - Exeter Cathedral - All Day
- 29th November - Mr Bennett - football teams from Yr 3/4 and Yr 5/6 at Brixham College
- 30th November - Swimming - Miss Shears' and Mr Ward's class
- 4th December - Whole school nativity KS1 - Time TBC
- 5th December - KS1 nativity to parents - 2pm
- 6th December - KS1 Nativity to parents - 10am
- Miss Wilkinson Class Triathlon at Brixham College
- 7th December - Christmas Lunch for children
- Miss Wilkinson Class Showcase - 2.30pm
- 12th December - Foundation Nativity to Parents - 10am
- 13th December - Foundation Nativity to parents - 2pm
- 14th December - Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
- Christmas Fayre Day
- 20th December - Last day of Term**

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2018/2019

TERM	FIRST DAY	LAST DAY
Autumn	5 th September 2018	20 th December 2018
Spring	7 th January 2019	5 th April 2019
Summer	23rd April 2019	19 th July 2019

Half Term Holidays

- Autumn Monday 22nd October to Friday 26th October 2018 inclusive
- Spring Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February 2019 inclusive
- Summer Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2019 inclusive

Thanking you for your continued support.

P Adams
Head teacher