

To Parents of Upper Dart  
Summer Newsletter 2018

A big welcome back to you all, it was great to be welcomed back to school with some sunshine last week. We made the most of it with some observational drawing of the church up in the village, swimming and quick cricket on the playground. We also had a great start to the Medieval Widecombe topic this term, by meeting a Harris Hawk, a Barn Owl and an American Kestrel from the Devon Bird of Prey Centre. We also learnt about the hunting birds that were used in Medieval times.

This term we have Miss Liron training with us in class and we will have TA support from Fiona and Ella.

Here is the SATs timetable for the week beginning 14th May. These are statutory tests and during the time that the Year 6 children are sitting them, the Year 4 and 5 pupils will be sitting similar assessments and the results will be used as progress markers in the school. We will be emphasising to the children that they must not get anxious about the tests. They are very much about measuring the levels of achievement reached by the children during their Primary School years.

Leading up to these tests, we will be doing some revision in class time, and, in lieu of homework, we will encourage the Y6 children to take some time to look at past papers or go online to Bitesize Revision for particular points they would like to revisit at [www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize)

We will also be running a Maths revision Breakfast Club at 8:00 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings

SATS timetable for May 2018

<b>Test</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>English grammar, punctuation and spelling test</b> Paper 1: short answer questions (45 minutes) Paper 2: spelling (15 minutes)	<b>Monday 14th May</b>
<b>English reading test</b> Paper 1: Reading comprehension (60 minutes)	<b>Tuesday 15th May</b>
<b>Mathematics</b> Paper 1: arithmetic (30 minutes) Paper 2: reasoning (40 minutes)	<b>Wednesday 16th May</b>
<b>Mathematics</b> Paper 3: reasoning (40 minutes)	<b>Thursday 17th May</b>

Our topic this term will be 'Medieval Widecombe'. The children will learn about life in Medieval Britain as well as exploring medieval history within Widecombe and investigating the archeological site at the North Hall Manor site.

This theme will run through much of the children's studies, particularly within history, geography, literacy, ICT and art and design.

If any family members have information regarding local medieval history I would be very grateful if this could be brought into school to share with the rest of the class.

Homework will be set on Thursdays and due in the following Wednesday. The children will also have some occasional consolidation work for numeracy and literacy, depending on those groups each week that would benefit from further practice. There will also be project based home learning in the form of two to three week assignments. A note will be posted in homework books every week with details about current home learning, this will also give parents the opportunity to add any comments they wish the teachers to read. Year 6s will have some revision tasks instead.

Children will have a PE lesson on Wednesday and swimming on Friday, however, we may have additional sessions on other days of the week this term. Please could they have full, named PE kits and swimming kits where possible, in school at all times. The Year 5 and 6 summer residential to Dartmouth is from Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 29<sup>th</sup>. All Year 4s will take part in a mixed curricular activity week in school.

Thank you for supporting our work in school by encouraging your child to read for 20 minutes each day, completing homework and having their books and PE kits in school. If you have any queries, or are at all concerned about your child, please do come and see us.

Lucy Carr and Des Stokes