



# WIDCOMBE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

No. 19

5th February 2016

## The Main Gate

The feedback we have received from our trial of using the main gate for access in the mornings has been very positive. We shall continue to use the main gate from now onwards. The gate will be opened at 8.40 and be closed promptly at 9.00. If you arrive late to school you would need to report in to the Main Reception.

## Sharing Afternoon next Thursday

Parents and carers are invited to come into school to look at their child's work on Thursday afternoon from 2.45pm. This is a lovely opportunity for children to share their recent learning, so we hope to see you there! You are free to take your child home after they have shared their learning.

## The Skip!

You may have noticed the big, yellow skip in the staff car park! We are having a big de-clutter and a freshen up in school. Up behind the adventure playground, we have a fair amount of woody garden waste which needs to go into the skip. So, if you have a bit of time and fancy a workout, your help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## Choir

"Calling all Year 6 children". Currently, we don't have any Year 6 children in the school choir and their absence is apparent. Being in the choir in Year 6 is rather special as you will have the opportunity to sing in the church at your Leavers' Ceremony. Parents, if you feel your child has a talent, or just likes a sing-song, please do your best to encourage them to see Julia and join the choir. Other year groups are also welcome to join the choir.

## Safer Internet Day

We hope that you had time to have a look through the Digital Parenting magazine that we sent home a couple of weeks ago. It is packed full of useful and up to date information on how to stay safe online. Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day. In school, we will use this day to raise awareness of staying safe whilst online. If you would like more information about Safer Internet Day visit:

[www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)

## Year 4 Gymnastics Festival

It will be lovely for the Year 4 children to be all together, as a cohort, to participate in the Gymnastics festival at SDCC next Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school. Parents are to collect their children from SDCC at 4pm.

## Guide Dogs in School

We are very excited because we have some visitors bringing two Guide dogs into school next Wednesday to talk to all the children in assembly. Afterwards they will be going into Webburn and the children will have a chance to learn more about them and pet them if they would like to. If your child is anxious around dogs please let us know.

## This Week's Learning Superheroes

*Congratulations to:-*

**Ollie**

**Nancy**

**Jonathan**

## ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Well done to Webburn for their excellent attendance this week

Webburn	97%
Upper Dart	95%
Lower Dart	94%

## EVENTS NEXT WEEK

### Monday 8th February

Maths Breakfast Club @ 8.10am  
Living Word Library (Lunchtime)  
Board Games Club

### Tuesday 9th February

SAFER INTERNET DAY  
Football Club

### Wednesday 10th February

Maths Breakfast Club @ 8.10am  
Year 4 Gymnastics Festival at SDCC  
from 2-4pm

### Thursday 11th February

Sharing Afternoon for Parents  
from 2.45pm  
Gymnastics Club

### Friday 12th February

Literacy Breakfast Club @ 8.10am  
Webburn Library Day  
Widdy Tots in School from 1.15pm

## Emailed or sent with the Newsletter

*Menus for next 3 weeks  
Year 4 Gymnastics Festival Letter  
Book Fair Leaflets  
Ashmoor Half Term Activities  
Primary Times*

**Webburn Visit**

Unfortunately the planned visit by children in Webburn to Yellow Frog Café has now been postponed until after half term. We will send more details out again soon.

**School Dinners**

Menus are attached for next week and the two weeks after half term. Please log into ParentPay to check your child's balance and pay in advance for the meals they will be having over the next 3 weeks.

**ParentPay**

This is another reminder for parents to please log into ParentPay regularly to make sure you are up to date with payments. Items on ParentPay at the moment are school dinners, annual contributions, residential visit, Football Club, Body Language t-shirts and contribution towards Body Language costs if no annual contribution has been made.

**Scholastic Book Fair**

After half term we will be holding a Book Fair in school. You will find attached details of some of the books that will be available, with some money off vouchers to use. We will also be running competitions in each class to win a £5 voucher to spend at the book fair.

**Nits/Headlice**

There have been some headlice spotted in classes this week, so please could we ask all parents to check their child's hair this weekend and treat if necessary.

**Upper Dart Body Language**

Please remember to return your slips to order tickets for this year's performance of Body Language at South Dartmoor on 1st March. If you would like to order a t-shirt please make sure you have your order in by next Wednesday 10th February. There is an option on ParentPay to buy your t-shirt online if this is more convenient.

**Lost Jacket**

Stanley in Webburn has lost a blue Next puffa jacket, age 5, which has his name in. Please can you check in case this has come home by mistake.

**Des Stokes**

**Head of School**

**Thank you from Pre-school!**

On Saturday 23rd January, our Pre-school teas, jumble sale & subsequent Bag2School collection raised £239.50 which is absolutely fantastic!

Thank you to all those who donated items, baked scones, set-up, sold items, cleared up & came to support us on the day.

We couldn't do it without you.

## UPDATE ON LIBRARY REFRESH

### ***Funding for the refurbishment approved***

*Friends* have confirmed they can fund the refurbishment of the library - which is amazing news. Through their fundraising and hard work, we are able to fund our whole refurbishment plan (i.e. fixtures, fittings and the materials to refresh and adapt the space).

### ***An audit and spring-clean of the books we currently have in the library***

However, the refurbishment is only part of the story.

We need to make sure the books, the signage and displays are all fit for purpose. There would be no point in having a sparkly library space if no-one wanted to read the books it held.

So we are in the process of asking a variety of professionals, including the Head of the SDCC library, for their input and advice.

With their help, the ambition is to carry out a full audit of the books in the library and classrooms - some of which are out of date or in need of repair. From this, we can then assess any gaps that are missing in terms of subject matter and pull together an intelligent shopping list of 'need to have' and 'would be nice to have' books, both non-fiction and fiction.

We can also update the signage tools, adjust shelving and learn some display techniques to engage and stimulate.

### ***Fundraising support from everyone to help find purchase of books for all our children***

To help fund the purchase of new books, *Friends* have already donated £500.

We hope that with everyone's help on some specific fundraising events for new books in the near future - we can add to this book budget and buy some *beautiful and useful* books for all our children.

The refurbishment of the library space will commence when we have done the audit and we feel in a good position to launch a new library space that will not only look great - but be full of fantastic books.

### ***Volunteer Parent librarians***

Abi Evans and Emma Perrett have volunteered to be Parent Librarians. Supporting the Year 6 librarians in this project and beyond.

Their role is to develop the library into a place where everyone feels comfortable and encouraged to borrow and return books regularly; to share and discuss ideas they have discovered in the books they read and motivate everyone to use the library with respect and care. We hope this will become a legacy role, with these parents handing the role over to another team of parents when the time comes.

Thanks for your support - and keep an eye out for *Friends* fundraising activity to help buy new books for our children. Any one for a sponsored read-a-thon?

**(Abi & Emma and the Year 6 Librarians)**