



## A message from Mr Bladon:

Thank you for everyone's response regarding our **Road Safety** Newsletter. The staff and I have noticed big improvements at school pick up and drop off and I have had a few comments from parents pleased with behaviour. Thank you.

We say farewell to **Miss Thornborough** this week. She stepped in to teach Squirrel until **Mr McCutcheon** could start and she has done so with great enthusiasm. I know the children have enjoyed her lessons and we thank her for her hard work over the past six weeks. Mr McCutcheon has been in this week to meet the children and is really looking forward to starting after half term. He and his family are moving from Bristol and I know they will be made very welcome by the school and the wider community here.

Mr Keenan has also been in this week to teach Stag class and the children made him feel very welcome. There is an additional **Parent Voice** scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm for any Stag parents who couldn't make the initial meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Parent consultations** were a success this week despite some ill health - those who could make it were very good on keeping to time! I hope you found the meeting with your class teacher helpful and don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries. Don't forget that the Reading Diaries serve as a good "Home Contact Book" too as teachers check them daily. If you missed an appointment please contact the teacher to re-arrange.

**Safer Internet Day** also went well this week. Although this annual event is a good reminder to all schools to explore this important topic, as a school we try to include it in any conversation with the children about I.T. I hope the leaflets that were emailed home were also of use. They have useful hints on keeping an open dialogue with children.

Our KS1 and KS2 trips to "**We the Curious**" will soon be upon us. Children will get the chance to get involved in the many interactive exhibits there as well as study the stars in the Planetarium and take part in a workshop. As with all of our trips, we do rely on voluntary contributions to ensure they can take place - thank you for money received so far. We'll let you know after half term if the trip has received enough donations to enable it to happen.

We've also secured two days in the summer taking part in the popular KS2 **Surf Lifesaving** days at Putsborough. The children always thoroughly enjoy this experience and it gives them crucial life skills.

Do have a good, restful half term.

**Term Dates** (*more dates on [school website](#)*)

**Mon 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> Feb:** HALF TERM

**Thu 22 Feb:** D&S Fire Safety talks with Y2&Y5

**Sun 25 Feb:** 1<sup>st</sup> Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk

**Thurs 1 March:** World Book Day

**Tues 6-Fri 9 Mar:** Y4 Bristol Residential

**Weds 8-Tues 13 Mar:** Scholastics Book Fair Stall at school (details to follow)

**Sun 11 Mar:** Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk 2

**Tues 13 Mar:** KS1 Trip to "We the Curious"

**Thurs 14 Mar:** KS2 Trip to "We the Curious"

**Fri 16 Mar:** Ilfracombe Swimming Gala

**Sun 18 Mar:** Exmoor Challenge Walk 3 (*please note change from original advertised date*)

*Are you having a clear out this half term? After School Club would very much like any donations of good quality toys, jigsaw puzzles, board games or any resources you might have in surplus. Many thanks.*

Next newsletter: 2<sup>nd</sup> March

There's a Messy Church event in the Community Hall on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 10-12. All ages welcome (under 8s accompanied by an adult please). Lots of crafts, activities, songs, prayers and fun to be had! Flyers went home in book bags earlier this week.