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A message from Mr Bladon:

I hope you had a restful Bank Holiday weekend. It was so hot for our year 6 Exmoor Challenge teams who battled through record breaking temperatures for 16 miles. Both teams managed to run over the finish line! I know all of us are very grateful to Mrs Jones for her hard work in the run up to the big day and of course her support on Saturday. The children feel extremely proud of themselves and rightly so. Take a look at the school website where there are some fantastic pictures from parents – thank you for your contributions.

Some of the year 5 children had another brilliant residential in Dorset last week. They found fossils at Lyme Regis, learned about Tudors at Beaulieu and discovered fascinating facts at the Mary Rose Museum, to name just a few experiences. Thank you to Mrs Bull and Mrs Wensley for accompanying them.

Year 3 also had a wonderful time at Tiverton High School at their athletics festival – you can see some of the pictures on Twitter. We have a few more events scheduled with THS over the next term and I know the children will enjoy them.

The Viking Theatre Day was a great success – the children really enjoyed getting involved in the play and the activities across school. Thank you for all the cardboard donations – there were some beautiful shields made and Mrs Wensley was very appreciative!

It's been a busy couple of weeks for us in school with staff sickness. Thank you to everyone who has stepped in or worked different timetables to cover. It is really appreciated.

We have used the pool a couple of times this week and hope to use it more, including KS1 swimming lessons after school. Thank you to everyone who has already stepped in to volunteer. If you can spare ANY time, please see the office, as we cannot run the pool without your help.

At the beginning of term, we had some new I.T. installed in the Hall (work in progress!) and a new server. We are still working on the server to get it "just right" and it's part of a wider development of IT infrastructure across the whole school. We will bring you exciting news on this soon.

Following the year 5 Bikeability scheme recently, it's been wonderful to see so many of the children using their bikes to get to and from school. This week I was approached by a parent who had driven behind one child cycling and he complimented him on his conduct and good road skills. Lovely to hear! Next week is Bike to School week, so perhaps we'll see even more families cycling to school!

With the weather improving, don't forget to ensure that children have **sun cream** applied if the forecast is good and to bring hats with them for outside play. There's a Bampton logo cap available from Tesco's which looks very smart but any plain

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

Mon 14 May: Y6 SATs week (*all the paper dates are on the school website calendar and have been emailed to Y6 parents*)

Weds 16 May 3pm: Parent Voice

Thurs 17 May 5-7pm: Y5 THS Parent Open Evening

Mon 21 May: lunchtime BSGT auditions

Tues 22 May: lunchtime BSGT auditions

Weds 23 May: KS2 Art Day with West Buckland School

Thurs 24 May: Wilcombe Wobbler

Friday 25 May: NDTSA Aquathlon

7.15pm: PTFA Bingo Night@ Riverside Hall

Mon 28 May – 1 Jun: Summer Half Term

Fri 8 Jun – Sun 11 June: KS2 PGL Barton Hall

Wed 13 June: Bickleigh Swimming Gala

Thu 14 June: PTFA Bampton School's Got Talent

Thu 21 June: Y2 Shark Sleepover

Next newsletter: 25th May

baseball cap will suffice.

We've been interviewing for an extra TA position today and also have an advert out for an extra KS1 teacher for next year. I will keep you posted on those appointments. It's been great to have Mrs Chesterfield in and around school today as well. She's spent some time with Stag class and is getting to know them ahead of her starting with us after half term.

I know the year 6s have worked hard towards next week's SATs and hope they have a good weekend with a couple of good nights' sleep!

If anyone has any outgrown wellies that they'd like to donate, both Fieldmice Nursery and Woodland School would be very grateful!