

Letter from Mrs Huish 04.07.23

Dear Families,

Only a few weeks of this academic year left now. How quickly it has flown!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all. This year, more than ever, we have felt the community partnership in school, and we have listened to your feedback and have already planned in some actions next year to help us improve even further. Some of those changes to support you to feel even more involved and active in your child's education, I have listed below:

- 1. You told us that you wanted more opportunity to experience the classroom and get to know the staff alongside your children. So, next year, we have planned in 6 open classroom opportunities with dates already mapped out so you can book them in your diaries ahead of time and won't miss out.
- 2. You told us that you wanted dates in advance. So, next year, we have mapped out key dates for the year ready for you on the first day back.
- 3. You told us that you wanted more choice in your child's home learning. So, next year, we will be introducing a home learning menu that gives you options and choices to fit with your family life and child's preferences.
- 4. You told us that you wanted to know more about the curriculum. So, next year, we will be running curriculum overview sessions within the open classrooms to inform you about what your child is learning.

We understand that we do not always get everything right all the time and that is why we trust in you, our parents, to give us a gentle nod when you see an area to improve so we can listen and adapt to offer the very best educational offer and personal development for our pupils. It is always lovely to hear from you when we are doing things well too. Thank you to everyone who takes their time to speak with us. We are always there on the gate in the morning, or you are welcome to book an appointment through the office or email. Warm wishes.

Mrs Huish

Community News: Sports Day

What a wonderful community event sports day was! The sun shined and there were lots of smiles and cheers throughout. We were blown away by the healthy competition and compassion shown by all competitors. A huge thank you to all the parents for joining us to make the event such a success. The PTFA felt hugely supported and raised a whopping £105 profit from their first event – wow! All the funds from the PTFA go back into the opportunities and resources for the children.



Community News: Our New PTFA



We now have a new PTFA who are hoping to plan out some exciting events over the next academic year. Jade has been appointed as the chair and she has a great team alongside her with over 30 members on their PTFA Whatsapp group. If you would like to get involved in any way (no matter how small), Jade is happy for you to contact her via WhatsApp on her mobile 07968 800 992.

The PTFA are already arranging their next events after the success of Sports Day so come and get involved!

Community News: Year 4 Residential

Our Year 4 children joined up with children from Charleton, West Alvington and Thurlestone school this week when they went on an exciting camping trip to Forest and Beach where they slept under the stars and explored the gorgeous surroundings of the South Hams. They all had a wonderful time and despite the lack of sleep came back excitedly recalling their adventures with their new friends!







Community News: Year 6 Residential

Year 6 sailed off to Plymouth last week for their water based residential. They showed their courage and problem-solving skills in a range of activities such as coastal traversing, kayaking, paddleboarding, archery, orienteering, rock pooling and wall climbing. We were so proud of their resilience and determination to try all the activities with huge smiles on their faces!



Community News: Ben and Natalie Win Competition

The kingfishers and Woodpeckers loved seeing Ben and Natalie's 'Show and Tell' last week. This linked in with our DT learning from Spring term 2 on building free standing structures. They chose different creations, Ben's was a colossal squid clock, which he entered into a competition held by PLACE architects and won 3rd place!

Community News: Good Luck Mrs Foucher!



I wanted to write a few words to say goodbye to the Dartington community, as I now know that I won't be returning to you all in September.

Having taken this year out to study, it seemed like the perfect time for me to find a new challenge. After 12 years of working at the school, and 20 years of teaching, I'm finally hanging up my teacher's whistle to take on a number of new roles and projects. I will mainly be working in education publishing and I'm also really excited to be helping to write two different books about teaching. I have loved being a teacher and am incredibly proud of every single one of the children I have taught in my career, so I'm really happy to now be able to support other teachers with their work. My family and I have loved being part of the Dartington family for such a long time, thank you all for being so fantastic to teach and work with. I will definitely keep in touch to see how you all get on.

With the very warmest of wishes, Mrs Foucher

Dates for your Diary 2022-2023:

4th July – Transition morning in new classes

7th July Totnes Rare Breeds Farm trip

10th July – 14th July – Year 5 bikeability (group 2)

14th July - school reports come home

17th July/19th July - Parents evenings

17th July Year 5 Riverford Farm Field Kitchen trip

18th July School Disco! More info to come.

20th July - Year 6 performance Alice in Wonderland 13:30 start

21st July - Year 6 performance Alice in Wonderland 10:00 start

24th July - Year 6 leavers' service at St Mary's Church 13:30 start

Dates for your Diary 2023-2024:

Mon 4th Sept – Non pupil day

Tues 5th Sept – First day of new academic term

Thurs 7th Sept – Meet the teacher open classroom 2:30 - 3pm

Thurs 12th Oct - Curriculum Open Classroom Event 2-3pm

16th Oct/18th Oct - Parents evenings

Wed 6th Dec - Christmas Lunch Day

Thurs 14th Dec - Curriculum Open Classroom Event 2-3pm

Thurs 25th Jan – Curriculum Open Classroom Event 2-3pm

29th Jan/31st Jan – Parents Evenings

Thurs 28th March - Curriculum Open Classroom Event 2-3pm

Thurs 23rd May – Curriculum Open Classroom Event 2-3pm



