

The Beacon

Academic Year 2019/20

Issue No: 3

Date 20th Sept 2019

Hello from Mrs Hunter

This week Miss Clegg and I had the first meeting of our latest pupil voice group, The Zoo Team. We spent time meeting all the animals (apart from Bess) and thinking what we needed to know about them to find out more about how to look after them so that as a group we can ensure that we are looking after our 'zoo' as well as we can: Assistance Dog, Guinea Pigs, Chickens, Stick Insects, Goldfish, Tortoise. We started to think about what they all have in common in terms of the things that we need to give them and what a responsibility it is to have animals in school. I love our zoo. I love the additional sense of family and home it gives us, the opportunities for responsibility it gives and the awe and wonder too. Watching a child find a freshly laid egg is a magical experience. The children continue to be amazing in their training of Bess and being so patient when they just want to be with her. She does still have a little way to go though. She still jumps up when she is too excited and is currently going through a barking phase when she wants attention – I am not sure if we are still at the toddler stage or have moved straight on to teenager. However, every day she shows us how happy she is to be in school. She is relaxed, her tail wags all the time and she is eager to get walking around the corridors with me practising her lead walking and learning to sit, lie down, wait and come, even when there are distractions around her. I am sure that as parents you will empathise with me that the energy and patience it takes to keep working on consistent good behaviour and manners is exhausting, time consuming and often frustrating. However, it is so worth it!

I just wanted to let you know that we are looking at our various communication methods. We have so many ways to get in touch with you and I appreciate that it can be confusing as to where to find what. I had a brilliant chat with a lovely mum last year about this and how we can alter what we do. I was early days in my role here at the time so if it is you please come and remind me as would love to let you know where I have got to!

Have a great weekend and enjoy this beautiful weather.

Mrs Hunter



School Term Dates for 2019/2020

Fri 27th Sept - MacMillan Coffee afternoon

Wed 9th Oct – Harvest Festival

Thurs 17th Oct – Tempest Individual & Family Group photos for Foundation & KS1

Mon 21st to Fri 25th Oct – Half term

Mon 28th Oct – Tempest Individual & Family Group photos for KS2

Thurs 31st Oct – Parent Forum, 9.00am

Fri 29th Nov – Non-Pupil Day

Fri 20th Dec – Fri 3rd Jan 2020 Inc. – Christmas Holidays

Mon 6th Jan – Non-Pupil Day

Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb Inc. - Half term

Mon 30th March – Mon 13th April Inc. – Easter holidays

Tues 14th April – Non-Pupil Day

Fri 8th May – Bank Holiday – *please note the change of date*

Mon 11th May - Yr6 SATs

Sun 17th – 22nd May – Yr 6 Bude

Mon 25th – Fri 29th May - Half term

Fri 26th June – Non-Pupil Day

Wed 22nd July – end of term

Thurs 23rd July – First day of summer holidays

A Message from Monty!



Hi Parents and Carers,

One of the e-safety issues that some of you raised in our recent e-safety questionnaire was how to report e-safety concerns.

One of the best websites for advice is the UK Safer Internet Centre. Their website provides helpful advice and contact details for a range of other organisations depending on the nature of the issue you wish to report.



The main help page for the reporting of issues can be found at

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/need-help>

There is also a really useful parents and carers page at

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Hope that's helpful,
Monty

Not receiving the Beacon?

Not receiving the Beacon? It is advisable to add lettershome@eschools.co.uk to your contact list so that your service recognises the emails as "friendly" and not spam, thus blocking them.

School Chicken Volunteers

If you have previously volunteered to look after the school chickens, and received the training, could you let the school office know if you are able to join the existing rota, to help look after them please. Thank you.

Year 3 News

A huge thank you to the parents that came to the Meet the Teacher on Wednesday, we hope that it answered any questions that you may have for the year. A letter will be going home today with the information that was spoken about for anybody unable to attend. We are all looking forward to the class trips on Monday and Tuesday, it will be MUFTI for all children on BOTH days. The children that aren't on the trip on either of the days, will be taking part in an outdoor learning day around the school.

Many Thanks
Year 3 Team

Plymouth Herald First Class Supplement

Plymouth Herald are publishing their 'First Class' supplement in all their print titles, which will include the majority of schools from each area.

The Plymouth Herald is being published next Tuesday on 24th September, 66 schools included.

Year 1 and 2 Coffee mornings.

The cafe will be open this term for all Year 1 and 2 parents/Carers on Wednesdays from 8.45-9.30am. To enable as many as possible parents to attend, as a trial the day will change each half term. Staff from Year 1 and 2 will be popping in to say hello at some point through the sessions. We do hope you will be able to join us.

In addition to this, next week on Tuesday 24th September you are invited to join with all year group parents in the cafe as Nicky Heally our Police Community Support officer will be joining us.

We look forward to meeting with you soon.

Jane Gilbert, Parent Support Advisor

Friends and Families

On Wednesday 16th October, Mandy Chapman from Friends and family will be joining us for coffee and will be able to informally talk to us. Friends and families are a Plymouth based charity that help support families with children with additional needs, diagnosed or not. They offer parents 1 to 1 support and facilitate parent drop in sessions.

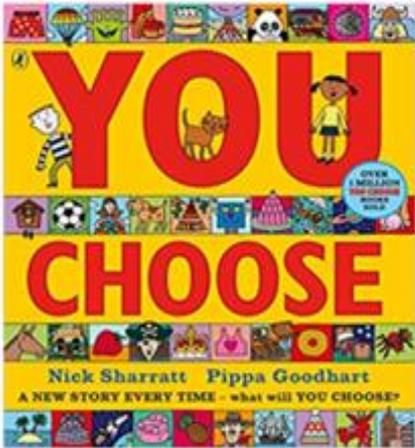
They offer training and workshops eg; understanding Autism, Makaton, massage therapy and lots more.

They also hold Social and leisure activities for the whole family and support young carers through their fun and freedom club. If you think may be of interest to you please do come along on the 16th. If you would like more information, please contact me.

Jane Gilbert, Parent Support advisor

Book of the Week

**BOOK
OF
THE
WEEK**



No matter how many times you share this story, it is never the same.

I love how it encourages children (and grown-ups) to use their imagination and talk to each other.

If you could go anywhere, where would you go? Seaside, forest, volcano, desert, city or outer space?

If you have shared a book with your child and would like to recommend it, please email me. daniellejones@mpsplymouth.net

St Boniface's Catholic College

Open Evening

for Year 4, 5 & 6 students and families

Tuesday September 24, 2019 at 6pm



**Dream.
Believe.
Achieve.**

Meet our new Headteacher - Mrs Cox, and take part in student-led tours of our school

New leadership - Bespoke curriculum for boys - New dedicated pastoral team
Central location on major bus routes - 160 years of history - Proud traditions
New teachers - Focus on extracurricular sports & enrichment opportunities

