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Dear Parents and Carers,

This week all the children get a chance to move up to their new classes on Wednesday and we welcome our new Reception children for their first visits to the classroom through the day. An exciting time for the children and a great time to set new personal goals in their areas of learning and social skills.

Thanks very much to everyone who helped at the PTFA stalls at the Gold Hill fair yesterday, and to everyone who visited the stalls.

**Reading Challenge and Library funding**

On Friday we had our annual visit from the Shaftesbury Library staff to introduce the Summer Reading Challenge which started on Saturday 2nd July. We have a great record of participation in this challenge, one of the highest in Dorset. Please sign your child up for the challenge at the Library, we are aiming for 80 certificates this year. It’s a brilliant way of motivating them to read during the summer break, and we know that reading is absolutely central to success in education.

Everything in the reading challenge is free, the books, stickers, poster, medal and certificate…what a bargain!

On another note, National Book Tokens are currently running a competition to win £1000 worth of tokens to rebuild school libraries. Please click on the link to nominate our school.

<https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools?utm_source=nbt&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rebuild-the-library&utm_campaign=20220607_schools>

**Poetry Recital – Friday 8th July at 2pm**

Each class has been working on poetry and selecting three children to represent the class at this recital on Friday. We are able to invite one adult for each of the chosen children to come to watch the event in the Hall. They will be contacted today.

**Musical performance – Tuesday 19th July at 9.30am**

Our Year 4 class have been learning the Ukelele this term and will play for the school in their final lesson on Tuesday 19th July. The school band and some of Mrs Pugh’s other piano and recorder students will also perform. If your child is performing you are welcome to come along to hear them, we start at 9.30am and finish by 10.15am.

**Forest School Summer Holiday sessions at Fontmell Down**

Please see this message from our Forest School leader, Claire Harding:

*Summer Holiday Forest School Days*

*Fontmell Down National Trust Forest School Site (spread Eagle hill)*

*Wednesday 3rd August  9-4pm*

*Wednesday 10th August  9-4pm*

*Myself (Claire Harding; Level 3 forest school leader, primary teacher, first aider) and Emma Stephens (Level 3 Forest School Leader, first aider) or Emma Henwood (Level 2 Forest School practitioner ) will be the forest school leaders running the days. There will be 2 leaders each day one being myself and one of the Emma’s will join me each day. We are all DBS checked and have many years of experience with children in mainstream and special educational needs.*

*The session will be held at the Fontmell National Trust forest school site. The drop off point for this will be the spread Eagle car park at the top of the hill of the Shaftesbury road just opposite the airfield. (Drop off can be from 8.50-9.15 to ease parking as it’s limited)*

*There is a toilet and water on site and the day will be a day full of crafts, forest school exploring, campfires 🔥 and FUN!!*

*The cost of the day is £30 for all day. (9-4pm) and includes a snack and campfire light tea time meal (will be around 3pm!)*

*I’m happy to offer a 10% sibling discount when attending the same day so this means that;*

*1 place-£30*

*2 places-£54*

*3 places-£81*

*Please email forestyogiminds@yahoo.com*

*For details of how to book. Please state the date you wish to book for as there is more than one!*

**The Three Musketeers – Shaftesbury Arts Centre 6th-16th July**

This will be a wonderful production for children and adults to see at the Arts Centre. It’s a brilliant thing to do for your children to take them to see live theatre, really inspirational for them.

Tickets from the Arts Centre, or by phone 01747 854321, or at [www.shaftesburyartscentre.org.uk](http://www.shaftesburyartscentre.org.uk)

Do go along to keep these things going in our town.

**Chromebook for a family in need**

We have been offered a Chromebook laptop to give to a family in need of one. Please contact me directly if you would like to be considered for this free laptop.

**Summer Fair – Postponed until Friday 15th July, 3.20-5pm**

The school really needs your help to make this event a great success. Volunteers from each class are needed to do a little time running the class stall, donations are needed as shown below, and people are needed to help set up and clear up the Fair. It’s a very big operation and shouldn’t be left to a few dedicated parents to do on their own.

***The Class Stalls are as follows:-***

***Reception: Hook a Duck***

***Year 1 - Toy Stall/Bric a Brac***

***Year 2 - Cafe & Pimms***

***Year 3 - Water & Wine***

***Year 4 - Jolly Jars***

***Year 5 - Inflatables***

***Year 6 Raffle***

*Please speak to your Class Rep to book a slot to volunteer “Many hands make light work”*

*We would also greatly appreciate donations of the following:-*

*Toys & Bric a Brac*

*Cakes for our Cafe (please send these in on the day of the fair). All we ask is that they do NOT contain nuts*

*Wine Bottles - Unopened bottles for our Water & Wine Stall*

*Filled Jolly Jars (the Summer version of Jingle Jars!).  For those that do not know what these are, they are decorated glass jars filled with treats. This can range from sweets to toys. All we ask is that they do NOT contain nuts and are left uncovered so the children can see what’s in the jar! You can of course donate as many jars as you like.*

*Luxury Raffle Prizes*

*Please send in these items via the classrooms this week.*

*Many thanks in advance*

*The PTFA*

**Helmets for Cyclists and Scooter riders**

We are very pleased to see so many children and adults using bikes and scooters to get to school. Please could you make sure your child wears a helmet at all times.

**Pedestrian Safety near school**

Last week there was an incident where an adult was hit by a car reversing in the road in front of the school. Please be very aware of pedestrians in this area. Having cars coming in and going out of the small area opposite the front of school while children are leaving can be very dangerous, please avoid parking there if you can.

**Governor Role**

We have been very pleased to recruit a parent from Milton on Stour Primary School to our Governing Board this year. We would love to find a parent from our school who would be willing to serve on the Milton Governing Board in exchange. If you would be interested in this role, please get in touch with me or the office.

**Summer Holiday Camps**

Please use the link below to book places at summer camps in Shaftesbury during the summer holidays

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/19842/?location=shaftesbury>

**Sun safety**

As the weather gets more sunny, please make sure that your child has a hat to wear outside, a bottle of water and some sun cream if they need it.

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2021 – 2022**

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|  |  |
|  |  |
| Summer term ends | Friday 22 July 2022 |
| Summer holidays | Monday 25 July 2022 to Wednesday 31 August 2022 |

**TERM DATES 2022 – 2023**

Autumn Term

Inset Day Thursday 1st September 2022

Inset Day Friday 2nd September 2022

Children start back Monday 5th September 2022

Autumn Half Term Monday 24 October – Friday 28 October 2022

Autumn term ends Friday 16th December 2022

Christmas Holidays Monday 19th December – Monday 2nd January 2023

Spring Term

Inset Day Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Children start back Wednesday 4th January 2023

Spring half term Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023

Inset Day                                                         Monday 13th March 2023

Spring Term ends Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term

Summer term starts Monday 17th April 2023

May Day Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2023

Summer half term Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023

Inset Day                                                          Monday 5th June 2023

Summer term ends Friday 21st July 2023

Summer holidays Monday 24th July to Thursday 31st August 2023