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Dear Parents and Carers,

It was fabulous to see so many of you on our school field for the Platinum Jubilee Tea Party on Friday 27th June. The children looked lovely in their red, white and blue clothes and royal outfits. A huge thank you to the amazing PTFA who organised the afternoon, set it all up and cleared up at the end. Everyone is a member of the PTFA, things like this can only happen with plenty of helpers. Please try to do your bit whenever you can. Special thanks to Sarah Adams, Katie Pyke and Kate O’Farrell, and others, for all their hard work.

**Coming out of the pandemic**

It is a real joy to be able to arrange our full programme of residential visits again this year (Years 4 and 5 have already been away, Year 6 go to Minehead this Wednesday), take the choir to Clayesmore Choral festival, go to sporting and environmental events and have class days out. We are gradually adjusting our systems so that any remaining issues can be addressed. One area of focus for us next term is to tighten our expectations for smart uniform. We recognise that whilst we have been asking children to come in PE kit for days when they have PE or a sporting club, it has meant that uniform has become more varied than it used to be. From September, we will ask children to come in the correct school PE kit on their two PE days, but not on other days when they have a sporting club. Black school shoes (not boots or trainers) and the correct items of uniform will be the expectation for all children on these days.

Another area we want to focus on is to return to the excellent levels of attendance we saw before Covid. Children have endured (or enjoyed!) two years of interrupted education, we want to give them the best chance of future success by getting them here for every possible day.

**Forest School**

Year 1 have their final session this Wednesday. From next week, 15th June, Year 5 will have their sessions for three weeks followed by Year 6 until the end of term.

**Change of drop off and pick up after half term**

Please see the message below about the change which will start this week. We have decided that current Reception parents with babies in push chairs only will still be able to use the slope to access Reception for the remainder of this academic year.

*Now that things are getting back to normal, we are keen to stop using the car park area as a pedestrian entrance to school. We only started using it during the pandemic to keep cohorts apart. After the half term break, we will ask parents from Reception and Year 1 to use the side gate to drop off and pick up. Children can be sent through the side gate to walk to their classrooms, or parents can take them to the dorr at the back of the Hall (for Year 1s) or the Reception classroom door. Exit should also be through the side gate.*

**No Nuts please**

We operate a Nut-Free school for the safety of our children. Lunch staff have seen some products with nuts in them recently. Please be very mindful of this when selecting items for packed lunches.

**PTFA Colour Run – Sunday 19th June 9am-3pm on the Turnpike Showground**

Do come and join us for this exciting event for all ages and abilities.  We advise wearing white t-shirts to show up the paint!

Please click on the link below to purchase tickets:

[https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/857700715](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fapp.classlist.com%2Fevents%2F%23%2Fevents%2Fview%2F857700715&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cc0106225e8854f8a0d8508da3cb4a076%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637889043886693433%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5NuhsibMuITCWb%2BgbtFdsOXOdZc3niYGiCOifPpjeG4%3D&reserved=0)

We are also looking for volunteers to help us run the Colour Fun Run.  Please drop us a message if you can help out.

Do we have any talented parents who could make us a balloon arch or do you know of anyone who can?

Please contact Sarah Adams if you are able to help.

**St James' St closing for two weeks from Monday 13th June**

**Please see the message below from the Town Council:**

St James Street will be shut between Ratcliffe Gardens and the new manhole cover and tank near Manor Close from next Monday, June 13th, for two weeks.

When the new bungalow was built next to Millenium Green, they asked to connect to the main sewer, which at this point runs down the middle of the street.  When Wessex investigated, they discovered that the sewer is near to collapse, as it's around 100 years old.

They would have started these works sooner, but decided to wait until after the Jubilee festivities.  They will be laying a new pipe between the new manhole up to the next manhole near Ratcliffe Gardens, a length of approximately 50m.  This will mean that the entire road is unusable so you will be unable to park outside your homes during this period.

Diversion routes will take people either up St John's Hill, to the A30 to the West or up Great Lane to the East and there will be no mention of using Tanyard Lane as a cut-through, you will be relieved to know.

We are very sorry for you all, having just endured a closed road for the new manhole cover, but obviously were the sewer to collapse, the consequences would be far worse than this.

**Sports Days**

We are very pleased to be able to have parents coming along to our sports days again this year.

The younger ones (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) will have theirs on Monday 20th June from 1pm to 3pm. The older ones have theirs the next day, Tuesday 21st June from 1pm to 3pm.Children should come in PE kit that day, wearing a tee shirt of their house colour if possible. The older ones also have their field events during the morning of Monday 20th June, but this session is not open to parents.

House colours are:

St James – yellow

St Peter – red

St John - green

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2021 – 2022**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Summer half term | Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022 |
| INSET DAY | Monday 6 June 2022 |
| 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