



## Newsletter 9

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Updates

Thank you to all those who attended the parent consultation meetings this week. It was lovely to see so many of you there. If you were unable to meet with your child's class teacher, then please do make contact with the school as we will be able to rearrange a meeting, even if it's via a phone call.

We are encountering an increasing number of online safety incidents. As a result, we have planned an online safety workshop for parents on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February, at 3:40pm. We will provide childcare for school-age children during this workshop. We will also do an electronic workshop for those parents that are unable to make the date. Details will be sent out separately.

You are now able to order school meals for the week commencing the 19<sup>th</sup> February.

We are still having issues with cars **parking** directly on the yellow zig-zag lines and directly outside the main school gates. Could I once again remind parents not to park directly outside the old part of the school building. This is purely for the safety of our children.

### Staffing

We would like to say a huge thank you and farewell to Mrs MacCormick, Mrs Askew and Mrs Dadd who are leaving the school this half term. Mrs MacCormick has been fantastic as the school SENDCo during Mrs Elkington's maternity leave, and we wish her the very best as she moves to one of our other Trust schools, Wellesley Park.

Mrs Askew has worked incredibly hard with Year 3, and on behalf of the school, we would like to say a big thank you and good luck. Mrs Askew will remain on our supply register, so we will see her again in the future. We are looking forward to Mrs Cole returning from her maternity leave after half term.

Mrs Dadd has worked hard across Year 1 & Year 4, and we would like to wish her the very best as she moves back to Kingwood.

Congratulations also to Mrs Tate who has secured a role in the administrative team at the secondary school. She will be leaving on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, ensuring a smooth transition over the coming weeks.

After half term, we will be welcoming Oliver Wild, Amelia Jones and Trina Baker as Teaching Assistants until the end of the year. I am sure you will join me in giving them a big Uffculme welcome.

Finally, I am delighted to share with you that Mrs Kumeta is expecting her third child later this academic year. We are all really excited for her and will ensure she is well looked after. Mrs Kumeta is likely to start her maternity leave at May half term. For the last half term, Mrs Cole will teach in Year 3 for four days, and Mrs Pethick will teach the children on Fridays.

## **Free School Meal Entitlement**

We are mindful of the pressures facing families during this period of rising costs of living. If your financial or living circumstances have changed, your children may be entitled to Free School Meals. Parents/Carers can make applications for free school meals online through the Devon Citizens Portal [Citizen Portal - Sign in \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk/citizen-portal) If your application is approved, your child will receive free school meals during term time, and you may be eligible for additional support during the holidays with supermarket vouchers. If you have any other questions about free school meals, your eligibility, or how to apply, please contact the school office on [admin@uffculmeprimary.bep.ac](mailto:admin@uffculmeprimary.bep.ac).

## **Trust Fundraising Efforts**

A massive thank you to the whole school community for raising a huge amount of money for North Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team. Challenge week last week saw most children achieving a half marathon or 10K distance across the course of the week. The children celebrated the end of our fundraising efforts today by taking part in a whole school non-uniform day, and KS2 children took part in a Joe Wickes style HiiT workout with the secondary school.

So far, we have raised a massive £1998.51. This will make such a difference to the NDSRT charity. We hope that families and children have enjoyed 'getting active' during January.

There will be further updates and photographs across our social media accounts so please keep an eye out for these.

## **Diary Dates**

<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024- Half Term Break</b>		
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	3:30pm	Online Safety Workshop
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am	Year 6 – watching Beauty and The Beast (The Venue)
<b>MARCH</b>		
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>		World Book Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>		Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	Reception Vision Screening
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	1:45pm	Easter Service at St Mary's Church Last day of Spring Term
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - Easter Holidays</b>		
<b>APRIL</b>		
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>		First day back of Summer term





Yours sincerely,  
*Fraser Wallace*  
**HEADTEACHER**