

# Dates for your Diary

- **Tuesday 23rd April** - Return to School
- **Wednesday 24th April** - Year 4 Athletics Festival
- **Tuesday 30th April** - FOSS Bag2school Collection
- **Tuesday 30th April** - Parent Consultations - Years R-5 3.30pm-6.30pm
- **Wednesday 1st May** - Parent Consultations - Years R-5 3.30pm-6pm
- **Friday 10th May** - FOSS Year 2 Bake Sale
- **Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May** - SATS week
- **Thursday 16th May** - Year 4 Devon County Show
- **Friday 17th May** - Tom Gates Live - Princess Theatre, Torquay
- **Friday 24th May** - Break Up For Half Term (**2 Week Holiday**)
- **Monday 10th June** - Back to School

Term dates until July 2020 are on the school website

[www.shaldonprimary.org](http://www.shaldonprimary.org)

### Advance Notice

**Monday 17th June** - Sports day

**Monday 24th June** - Sports day reserve date

## Bill's Garden



This week saw the formal opening of 'Bill's Garden' at the front of the school. Bill - along with Chair of Governors Simon Girling - gave up their time to create the raised beds that have made the front of the school look so much more welcoming.

With the help of Mrs Yeldham, children have begun to plant out a range of flowers, vegetables and herbs and will be looking after these as they grow over the next few weeks and months.

Many thanks to Bill and Simon

## Dear Parents

Each half-term, we have a particular focus on one of the school values in our assemblies and in class. This term we have been exploring the importance of passion, and how having a love of something (be it music, sport, art, cubs, taekwondo etc.) is an important factor that helps us with happiness and wellbeing.

Through our curriculum, we aim to provide children with a range of opportunities and experiences to help them to find their own passions. Our newsletter sets out some of the engaging learning the children have been involved in over the last few weeks.

As you will see opposite, we say good bye to Mrs Bennett today. She has been involved in supporting almost every child in the school with their reading, and we wish her all the best for the future.

After Easter, Mrs Povey will be providing additional cover for teachers in school. As a result, Mrs Zoe Ellis will be supporting me on welfare and special education needs in school, and will be on the gate most mornings if you have questions or would like information. I hope you have a relaxing Easter break with your children.

*Jonathan Cae*

# Shaldon Primary School

*Achieving Excellence Together*

## Newsletter

### Fond Farewell to Mrs Bennett

Shaldon Primary School would like to say a very big thank you and goodbye to Mrs Bennett who has worked at the school for 25 years and is retiring to spend more time with her family.



## Thank You Ivor

The school would like to express their gratitude to Ivor Watts for being a Governor of Shaldon Primary for 20 years. To commemorate the event, Ivor was presented with a glass trophy at a surprise event on Monday. Ivor was volunteering at the school for an 'Open the Book' assembly, when he was presented with his award by our Deputy Head Girl and Boy, along with his own Golden Ticket for showing the school values! The choir also sang and dedicated a song to him. Thank you Ivor for all your support.



### Year 3 Residential

Our heroic year 3 class enjoyed an exciting residential experience earlier this term. For many, it was the first time they had been away from home overnight. Undaunted by this, the children completed a multitude of challenges over the two days. During the first day, they had to hike their way through the woods to the destination for our overnight stay on the edge of Dartmoor. They had to make their own beds, prepare their own dinner, compete in team games, before settling down for a solid 8 hours sleep! Day two started with a hearty breakfast, which set them up for an adventure walk before returning home for a well earned rest!

## Year 5 *Pbones* Performance

Our Year 5 children have been learning how to play the pbone (plastic trombone) over the past 9 weeks with Mrs Price. At the end of March, they put their new skills to good use by participating in a music festival with other local schools.

During the day they practiced their tunes, including Charlie Puth's song, *One Call Away*, before returning in the evening to give a grand performance to friends and family members.



## Cracking Cross Country



Representatives from years 3-6 took part in the local school's cross country championship at Stover and came away with the best ever results for the school. Spearheaded by Amber Ridgway and Oliver Rowbury (who once again won both the year 5/6 races) our whole team showed outstanding determination and sportsmanship. Our year 3/4 team came 3rd in the overall team competition, and the year 5/6s were crowned champions in their category! Well done to everybody who took part.

## Creative collage

Along with the rest of the school, year 1 have been learning how to make a great collage. They began by visiting Shaldon Zoo, studying the different animals and choosing which one they thought would be good to use in a collage. The children were then very fortunate to have a local artist, Sarah Morris, come into class to show them how to use a variety of printing, textures and materials used to create lively and varied collages. The children used their new skills, as well as the art knowledge they had gathered throughout the term, to create their own beautiful collages of animals from Shaldon Zoo.



## Finding my sporting passion

As well as playing traditional sports, such as rugby, netball and athletics, we are keen to ensure that our children have the opportunity to try out a range of other sporting pastimes that they may not otherwise have the chance to do, such as Handball, competitive mountain biking and 'Dartmoor 3 ball'. Where possible, we will also provide opportunities for the children to take part in competitive events in these sports. Earlier in March, children from KS2 took part in the finals of the local handball competition. All the players did fantastically well to reach the finals and represented the school admirably. Well done to all.



## We're all going to the Zoo

Reception class had an informative visit to Shaldon Zoo at the beginning of this half term. During the visit the children had the opportunity to feed the meerkats with tiny mealworms and hunt for stamps at various points around the zoo. However, the highlight of the visit was handling the bugs in the bug house. The children were able to hold an African land snail, a hissing cockroach and a stick insect. The tarantula was of particular interest to the children, but thankfully, it remained in its cage throughout the visit.



## Year 2 'Fun-Fest'

Towards the end of March, all of our year 2 class took part in a 'Funfest' at Teignmouth Community School alongside other primary schools in the area. The children were involved in a carousel of activities involving various ball games, a dance workshop and a mini assault course. The children showed such dedication and passion towards all the physical activities and they represented the school brilliantly.



## Planting at Homeyards

Year 6 spent an afternoon last week working alongside volunteers at Homeyards botanical gardens. They planted some new heather and some snowdrops on one of the banks near the castle. The local volunteers have been working tirelessly to spruce up the gardens this spring and Year 6 were delighted to be able to lend a hand. As well as the planting, the children also helped to move a mound of fresh mulch onto the newly tidied bank. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time in the gardens and are looking forward to seeing their hard work flourish this spring.

## Year 4 Easter Experience

Although everybody is aware of the importance of Christmas in the Christian calendar, many children in year 4 were surprised to find out at a recent visit to St Peter's that Easter is actually more significant in the Christian story. As part of their RE learning, the children were taken on a journey by a group of volunteers to find out about the events leading up to the death of Jesus and his resurrection, and the importance of this to the Christian religion. When asked what they thought of the day children described it as fun, interesting and very informative. To thank the church, the class created a piece of artwork representing palm leaves (a significant symbol at Easter) and presented this to the volunteers who had run the day.

