



Tavistock
Primary

Tavistock Primary & Nursery

Weekly Newsletter

Autumn Term 2019

Date: 6th September

Welcome to a new school year!

At the start of this new school year we have 2 classes of new Reception Year pupils and an additional 18 new pupils to other classes across the school—you are all very welcome and I hope that you will flourish and enjoy your learning experiences at Tavistock Primary.

Thank you to all families for presenting the children so smartly in their uniforms this week as I appreciate the cost and effort this represents.

The parent survey from last term is now available on our website and we are using your feedback to plan our priorities and improve our work. For example, this revised style newsletter is in response to what you told us about communication—'weekly preferred with a bigger font'. Please let me know if this is better!

Our formal parents' evenings are just before half term but we have a genuine 'open door' policy. All teachers are available on the playground before the start of school for a quick message, or after school for a longer discussion- please arrange a time through the school office. Either Mrs Handel (Deputy Head) or myself are available everyday to support our children and families.

Here's to another great year at Tavistock Primary! - Mrs Selbie

School Priorities for this year

- Staff wellbeing and workload—review our practices and procedures.
- Curriculum—evaluate what we include in our curriculum, how we teach it and how much the children remember and learn.
- Reading— promoting ways to increase 'the skill' (being able to read) and 'the will' (wanting to read regularly) for all children.
- Vocabulary—ensuring that children have a wide vocabulary in order to communicate their knowledge, skills and understanding.

Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead: Mrs L Selbie

Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs L Handel

School Business Manager: Mrs S Gawman

Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator: Mrs C Smith

Email: admin@tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk Telephone: 01822 616044

GOVERNING BOARD

The Governors of this school work together as a board to fulfil the following statutory requirements:

- Set the vision, ethos + strategic direction
- Hold leaders to account for educational performance and performance management of staff
- Oversee financial performance including pupil premium

Minutes of all meetings are available on our website.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Last year we achieved 96.6% for all children in the school and this is above the national average. It is vital that children attend regularly and absence is monitored by the school and the Education Welfare Officer. We do not authorise holidays in term time and any unavoidable absences need to be applied for on a form from the school office.

DIARY DATES— calendar available on our website www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk

September

Tues 10th—Governors 6pm

Wed 11th—Swimming starts for Yr4

Fri 13th—Sports' Leader training Yrs 5 and 6

Mon 16th—Theatre Alibi Yrs 1—6

Wed 18th—Tempest Photography—individual and family

Wed 25th—Junior Life Skills Y6

Mon 30th—Bikeability Y5 for the week

Mon 30th—Education Welfare Officer monitoring attendance

October

Wed 2nd—Football Tournament

Mon 7th and Tues 8th—Parents' Evenings 3.30—6pm

Wed 9th—Goose Fair, school closed

Mon 14th—Flu Vaccination Yr R—6

Thurs 17th—Girls' Football Tournament

Fri 18th—C5, C6, C7 Family Assembly

CELEBRATIONS

In July, the following awards were made:

Skills for Success—Risk Taking

C2—Eva

C3—Faye

C5—Finley

C6—Charlie

C7—Zekai

C8—Sophie

C9—Josh

C10—Layla

C11—Maisie

C12—Gracie

C13—Marsha

C14—Alfie

C15—Hayden



Good to be Green

Foundation—Iris

Key Stage 1—Daniel

Key Stage 2—Mason and Josie

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

All parents are automatically members of this home school linked group. During the year, the HSA organise a number of events in order to socialise and raise vital funds to spend on all children.

This year we are asking all parents to give **just 1 hour** of their time to support the school.

Option 1. Goose Fair Car Parking—

Wednesday 9th October—sign up for 1 hour car park attendant (last year this raised £1700 in just 1 day!)

FOUNDATION STAGE BUILDING

You can see the walls going up with the roof beams due in the next couple of weeks. We now have an estimated finish date of Spring 2020 and we will keep you updated with progress.

HEALTHY EATING

We promote the eating of a balanced diet through our school lunches, assemblies and taught curriculum. Our school dinners follow national nutritional guidelines and 'Change 4 Life' has ideas for packed lunches. Packed lunches should contain no more than 1 cake/ biscuit bar and NO sweets are allowed. Following all of the medical and dental advice, we have a policy of WATER in bottles and encourage children to drink regularly. This month is SUGARSMART September and the return to school is a really good time to review eating habits.

RIVERFORD ORGANIC VEG BOXES

Riverford will donate £25 to the school for every parent who becomes a customer, on their 3rd delivery. Weekly boxes full of seasonal veg, with free delivery cost from £11.45. Visit www.riverford.co.uk and add the ID code SCH1174 for our donation.

PIANO LESSONS

Mrs Phelpstead has a few spaces for paid lessons within the school day. If you are interested, please contact her directly. Tel:810635.

HOMEWORK CLUB KS2

This club will start next week and run for the rest of the term. All KS2 children are welcome to attend. Fridays in C14 3.15-4pm.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS and PUPIL PREMIUM

If your child is entitled to 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school. Additionally, you will get a 50% discount on future residential trips for your child.

RECYCLING

We are collecting and recycling:
Paper and cardboard
Batteries
Toothpaste tubes and mouthwash bottles
Felt pens and writing pens

GARDEN DAYS

We ran successful 'forest school' sessions for some years but this was only for groups of children. We are now able to have 'Garden Days' for all children and all classes. Every half term each class will have a 'garden day' when they will come to school in old clothes, coats and wellies and spend the day outside. They will be involved in a range of activities including building, sorting, designing, cooking, camp fires and many more. We have applied to Tesco for a community grant (fingers crossed!) and have also asked the HSA to support with resourcing.

ROTARY CLUB**YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION**

You are invited to submit 3 photographs based on the theme 'Through My Eyes'. They can be digital or print and in colour or black/white, any size up to A4. The age group for our school is 7-10 years based upon age as at 31.8.19. Start taking your photographs and entry forms will be available from the school office in the next couple of weeks.

JUNIOR TAVISTOCK HOCKEY CLUB

Y2 upwards
Thursdays 6-7pm
Mount Kelly Astro, Parkwood Road
Free taster sessions
Kit: gum shields and shin pads. (Spare sticks are available for taster sessions)
Cost: £90 per season Sept—March
www.tavistockhockeyclub.co.uk