



**TATWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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**Somerset**  
**TA20 2RX**

**"A Village Academy"**

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4<sup>th</sup> September 2015

No 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone has had a lovely restful summer break and all the pupils have returned to school ready for the challenges of this academic year.

### **Forest School and Sport**

This year we will be introducing an activity afternoon for Y5/6 on a Wednesday and a Thursday for Y3/4. The purpose of the afternoon is to give the children opportunities to take part in competitive sport or Forest School activities. We hope the children will enjoy these afternoons and appreciate the break from academic work.

The Sport will be run by Mr Bulbeck and Mrs Churchill and this term we will be focussing on girl's hockey and boy's football however the girls will have opportunities to play competitive football as the school will be taking part in the football tournament organised by Holyrood and we will continue running a girl's football club after school. We have separated some of the sport into girls and boys teams because we feel this will benefit the girls in particular. Girl's teams helps build confidence as some of the girls can be intimidated playing alongside boys; we were very successful in my last school at getting significant numbers of girls joining sports clubs out of school. The school will continue entering mixed teams into the Holyrood tournaments and into inter-house events.

We have enclosed a diary of events for the term which includes all the sports fixtures for this term. A paper diary for each term will be sent out at the beginning of each term from now on. This is work in progress and I would like to have organised more fixtures, in time the fixture list will grow. As this will be the first taste of competitive sport for many of our children we may well suffer some heavy defeats in our first year but again as the children's skill and team-work improve results will get better. **We have arranged transport for the sports fixtures against other schools but we are hoping parents will be able to help transport children to the area events.**

Forest School will be run by Mr Pavey on a Wednesday and Mrs Steed on a Thursday (Mrs Steed runs a Forest School in Taunton). We have organised the children into those children who we feel will enjoy the Forest School, and those more likely to enjoy the competitive sport. When children have not got a match arranged they will join Forest School for that afternoon. There will be glitches and problems to sort out in the first few weeks in getting all this off the ground, please be patient and let me know if there are any problems and we can talk things through.

**Company number: 7700773**

## **Volunteer Helpers**

We are very fortunate to have had a wealth of volunteers in school last year. We would like any existing helpers and anyone new who would like to help, to make contact with the office and Ms Hart will be in touch to make the necessary arrangements.

## **U11 Chard Area Football**

On Tuesday the U11 team will take part in the Area Football at Holyrood, permission letters have already been sent home which also asked parents to help with transport, we need these returned by Monday so we can make the transport arrangements. The squad members are: Oliver Board, Hayden Hull, Aaron Aston, Flynn Smith, Alfie Rowson, Wylyam Speed, Monty Willis & Harrison Larcombe.

## **Punctuality and the new school gates.**

You will have seen that the school has new, electronically controlled gates to the front office and the car park. The work on the gates will be completed by the end of next week. The gates will be locked at 8:50 and opened again at 3:20.

Getting to school on time is **critically important** particularly now as we have introduced whole school phonics sessions at 9am for Reception to Y4 and spellings for Y5/6. So the children must be registered and ready to start at this time. To help us do this the teachers will be raising their hands to get the children into line at just after 8:45 so the children are in or are moving in their class for 8:50. So the children need to be at school for **8:45. Please support the school in helping us making a prompt start to the day.**

## **Uniform**

The children **must** arrive with either sweatshirts or cardigans on, black shoes (no trainers) and either dark grey or black skirts or trousers or shorts.

## **Clubs**

I am pleased to tell you that we have some new clubs starting this term, Dance, Kempo & Gymnastics in addition to our usual Football, Hockey, Computer, Choir & Orchestra clubs. All clubs will start week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> September and will run for 12 weeks until 11<sup>th</sup> December. Please see the school calendar sent home today for further information. Due to the costs involved to school for hiring in the specialised coaches we have had to change the charging arrangements to parents. Parents are asked to pay £3 per club session termly in advance, £36 per club. These clubs will run from 3:45- 4:45. If you would like your child to attend please complete and return the permission slip attached. From these permission slips we create registers which ensure that we keep all children safe after school.

## **Cross Country Club**

In addition the early morning Cross Country Club will run on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays from 8.15am until 8.30am, there is no charge for this club. This club will be run by Mrs Churchill and myself. Children must arrive all changed ready to go with inhalers on them if needed.

## **Extended Services**

Our popular Breakfast Club and 'Stay and Play' After School Club are open each morning from 7.45am and each afternoon from 3.30 until 5.00pm. This provision is open the all years. Charges are £3 per hour for each child. We have reviewed our charges and are now unable to offer concessionary charges for siblings, so each child will now be charged at £3 per hour. We do feel that this extra service still offers parents very good value for money. If any parents are interested in using this facility please do call into the Green Room before or after school and see the club in action.

**Instrumental Lessons**

Please find attached a letter from Miss Morton about music lessons offered in school and instrument hire or a paper copy can be collected from the office.

**Holidays in Term Time**

Parents are asked not to take their children out of school during term time, last year I did not fine any parents who had unauthorised absences, but I will start this year if need to. I would ask parents to support the school as we need to bring the school into line with others in the County. I strongly disapprove of parents taking children out for term-time holidays and I will not authorise any request for absence other than for exceptional circumstances. Please work with me and **talk to me** if you feel there are exceptional circumstances for making a request.

Yours sincerely



Steve Clarke  
Principal

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**School Club Reply Slip:**

Name of child: ..... Class ..... Club .....

I give permission for my child to attend this club after school.

Signed .....

I enclose £36 payment per club for this term.

(Please return any money in a named envelope)

\*\*\*\*\*Dates for the Diary \*\*\*\*\*

- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2.00 Chard Area Football U11 at Holyrood PT
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Sports Practise/Forest School Y5/6
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Sports Practise/Forest School Y3/4
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Inter-house Hockey
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Sports Practise/Forest School Y3/4
- 8.30 Premises and Curriculum Governors Meeting
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> 2.00 Chard Area Girl's Football Holyrood PT
- Wednesday 23<sup>th</sup> 3.00-4.30 Y5/6 Girls Hockey A & B teams V Kings Hall, Taunton (A)  
(inc tea) ST
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Inter-house Hockey Y3/4
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> 4-5.30 Y5/6 Girl's Hockey V Stockland  
Y3/4 Girl's Hockey V Stockland at Holyrood on Astro ST

\*\*\*\*\*PAFOTS Events \*\*\*\*\*

- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 6.00 PAFOTS AGM Meeting