**NEWSLETTER (11/1/2019)** 

Happy New Year everybody – welcome back to what is going to be another busy term so we hope you have all had a relaxing break!

**Amazing Africa!**

The start of our whole school cross curricular programme of study, Africa, was truly AMAZING!! All the children, as well as staff, parents, grans and babies, joined in the fantastic dance. Louis Roger Eboa was one of the very best experiences I have seen. We have lots of great photos. Unfortunately, that evening he was nearly knocked down by careless driving in the car park. No matter how congested it is everyone has got to drive, reverse and ensure safety – it could have been a child too – no excuses please.

**PTA Meeting Monday next, 14th January**

Our next PTA meeting will be taking place at The Rydon, Holsworthy, 7.30pm on Monday next, 14th January. This will be to look at ideas for the new year so please come along and have your input – your support would be very much appreciated.

**Swimming for Badger Class**

Swimming sessions start on Monday afternoon and will be initially for Badger Class, at least until half term, unless a child does not meet the National Curriculum requirements, then it will be longer. We will be transported by coach to Aqua Stars and the children must remember to bring their swimming kits. Unfortunately, the transport costs make this activity very expensive for us (£225 per session) and we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £15 to cover the 5 sessions.

**Special ‘Mary Poppins’ lunch menu – Thursday 17th January**

Thursday is Census day and we need to encourage **everyone** entitled to a free meal (including all children in Year R, 1 & 2) to have a school lunch so Sue is putting on a very special ‘Mary Poppins’ menu which is attached. Even if your child is a fussy eater, please encourage them to take part (even if they bring a packed lunch as a back-up). We receive Universal Free Meal funding based on take up across the census days (£437 per year for every child who is eligible and takes up a meal); this enables us to cover our catering costs and release more funds to spend on the children’s education!

**Clubs – Spring Term**

Clubs will start next week, apart from Tony’s music clubs which will be late January to give children time to sign up. KS2 Football Club starts on Monday next, 14th January 3.30-4.30pm with Rob Francis (information went out in the previous newsletter including a reply slip which we have duplicated below). The club will run for 10 weeks and there will be a charge to help towards costs of £12.50 for the whole term. Rob has asked us to emphasise that the club is **only** for KS2 (ie children in years 3-6 inclusive) and legally KS1 children are not allowed to play against KS2. We are happy to put on a KS1 club later in the spring term if there is sufficient interest but would need a reasonable number to make it both viable and meaningful. Reply slips/payment need to be in by Monday. Thank you.

Monday Football Club Years 3-6 3.30-4.30pm Rob Francis £1.25

 Variety Club! Reception, Yr 1 & 2 3.30-4.30pm Jaime Paget

Tuesday Flute Club Limited Numbers Lunchtime Tracey Vickery

Wednesday Choir All Lunchtime Tony Jones

Pocket Trumpets Years 3-6 3.30-4.30pm Tony Jones £2

Thursday Ukulele Years 3-6 Lunchtime Maryl Steyn

Friday Recorders Years 3-6 Lunchtime Vicky Marwood

**Music**

Our new music tutor, Tony Jones, will be offering a couple of clubs as well as private lessons. Private lessons will be available for brass (trumpet, cornet, baritone), vocal coaching and music theory, these will be lunchtime and after school on Thursdays. The cost will be £10 per a 20-minute lesson, or for any children that are already competent, a one hour lesson for £20. Tony can do a one-hour group lesson for up to 5 children if there is sufficient interest (with the charge shared accordingly). Tony hopes to make instruments available through his Holsworthy Town Band connection. Music clubs will be choir on Wednesday lunchtimes and Pocket Trumpet Club which will be for 1 hour after school on Wednesdays (there will be a £2 charge to help towards costs). We have a class set of instruments on hire and children will be able to borrow those – parents will be required to sign to take responsibility for any instrument being borrowed through the school. In order to demonstrate what he can provide, Tony will be doing a session to which parents are invited on Friday 18th January at 2.45pm. We are still looking for a drum and keyboard tutor.

Carly will also be running a handball club for Years 3 & 4 in the run up to the handball competition which takes place on 1st April. We will also run a Dance Club for KS1 in the run-up to their Dance Festival on 4th March – details to follow.

**Residential – 2nd Deposit**

Can all outstanding second deposits of £40 be sent in as a matter of urgency please.

**KS2 Dance Festival**

Badger Class will be taking part in the KS2 Dance Festival on Wednesday 23rd January. This is being run by CJs Dance and will take place in the leisure centre and the Purple Circle at the college. The event starts at 12.45 and runs until 2.30pm and we will need parents to help with transport – please indicate on the permission slip below whether you are able to help. Carly will be accompanying the children at the event.

**MTA/Preschool Bank Vacancies**

We are still looking for a Mealtime Assistant to join the team until the summer at least –– if someone would be willing to do all 5 days 12.15-1.15pm that would be ideal, alternatively it could be a job share. We are also looking for new staff to join our Preschool Bank – staff don’t necessarily have to have an Early Years qualification and it would be to cover occasional days eg for staff training and sickness absence. For more information about either vacancy, please speak to Alison in the office. All positions are of course subject to normal safeguarding recruitment procedures, including an enhanced DBS check.

**Odd Jobs!**

We have lots of little jobs doing around the school and preschool so if anyone has a bit of spare time and would be willing to come into school and ‘get stuck in’ that would be fantastic. Thank you to the couple of parents who have already got involved, still plenty of room for more though ……!

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**Music Lessons & Clubs**

Dear Tony,

My child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would be interested in taking part in:

Pocket Trumpet Club (£2 per session) Yes/No Choir (free) Yes/No

Private lessons:

Brass 20 mins/1 hour individual/ 1 hour group Voice Yes/No Music Theory Yes/No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Contact Details (phone/email): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**KS2 Football**

My child/ren \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would like to take part in the Spring Term KS2 football club (Yrs 3-6 only) and I enclose £12.50 for 10 sessions (cash or cheques payable to Devon County Council please).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Badger Class**

Dear Teacher,

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to take part in the KS2 Dance Festival on Wednesday 23rd January. My emergency contact number for the day is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for any necessary medical treatment to be administered (including an anaesthetic where appropriate).

I am/am not able to help with transport and can take \_\_\_\_\_ children with seatbelts and have appropriate insurance cover.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Badger Class**

Dear Teacher,

My child is water confident Yes/No Can swim Yes/No Approximate distance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £15 (cash or cheque payable to Devon County Council).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_