

## **Moorland Hub update**

The first few weeks of the academic year have seen the new Moorland Hub – Boasley Cross, Bridestowe, Lydford, Milton Abbot and Northlew – begin their journey of working together for the benefit of all our children.

This week, children from the hub came together to form two teams at the Okehampton Area Year 5/6 football festival. All the children had a great time with friends being made – 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Bridestowe/Milton Abbot team and 4<sup>th</sup> for the Boasley/Northlew team was a great achievement. The highlight of my day was on leaving hearing a child say to a new friend “Thanks, mate, see you next week at the Cross Country!” – testament to the aim of building relationships in our small schools. Similarly, last week Year 3/4 Boasley children travelled to Bridestowe for a rugby festival.

Also, this week, we have confirmed our annual trip to the Pantomime on December 13<sup>th</sup> where all 5 schools will come together for a fun Christmas celebration. Residential for Year 3/4, hosted at Bradford primary with outdoor activity and surfing in late June and Year 5 to Bristol at the end of June. These will include all Moorland Hub, Ruby Hub and Exbourne primary, bringing together all the small schools (Under 100 pupils) in Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust. Information sessions for the Trust wide Year 6 trip to France are also upcoming.

At Boasley this week, the first Stay and Play session was a huge success with 10 families joining the event. It was lovely to welcome new babies and toddlers to our school and meet new adults. Look out for similar events at all the Hub Schools.

Bridestowe welcomed Devon Wildlife Trust to the school with a focus on identifying trees from their leaves and making nature crowns – a lovely event to be part of! Forest school is an important focus for all Moorland Hub Schools.

At Lydford last Sunday, a family working party day attracted nearly 30 adults and children coming together to tidy the forest school. A fantastic event with real community spirit – thank you to all who took part. Look out for similar events at all the Hub Schools.

Northlew joined Boasley this week for a trip to Paignton Zoo – a fantastic day for all which mirrored Lydford’s trip last week. The children loved seeing the animals and exploring the sustainability messages.

Milton Abbot have been enjoying meeting new friends from the Hub this week and taking part in the aforementioned football with friends from Bridestowe was a real high. The team finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, only being pipped 1-0 by Okehampton C.

A final word to thank families for their support with positive attendance. I am aware my approach to attendance this term has caused some discussion, however I am pleased to report that the Moorland Hub has the highest attendance figures for the Trust with Bridestowe topping the table for attendance and the lowest amount of persistent absence. The evidence is irrefutable that high attendance directly correlates to positive achievement and I thank you for your continued support.

As ever, please feel free to contact me with comments, questions or discussion.

Mr Hill



### The importance of a school community!

Partnership is a word that is often used in education and rightly so. For each pupil to reach their full potential we all need to work closely together. The relationships between school, parents and most importantly the child is a key factor in achieving this. To make this work, communication is something we strive to make as open and honest as possible. You would have recently received an email asking you to book a parent consult with your teacher. This is a dedicated time slot, where you can talk openly about your child's education so, please do attend if possible. Your child's class teacher is looking forward to welcoming you and discussing how you can support your child to flourish.

Attendance – It is fantastic to see the children arriving promptly and happily each morning. Our whole school attendance was up slightly from last week which is great to see as we know that high attendance has a direct impact on your child's achievement, wellbeing and wider development.

### **Whole School Attendance**

**96.6%**

### Stars from the Weeks



#### Last week

**Katie** - showing ambition in all areas of learning.

**Seb** - showing ambition in his learning and respect for our school rules and values.

**Bonnie** - For flourishing at school.

**Maisie** - Showing ambition in her learning.

#### This week

**Lyla** - being respectful of others and have followed all rules in owlets.

**Mollie** - flourished in maths showing a secure understanding of place value.

**Ethan** - Shown great ambition in reading.

**Molly Eales** - flourished in book club with your retrieval and inference skills and showing your understanding.

### Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival will take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm at St Bridget's church.

We will be collecting donations for the food bank. As you know, in recent years, the rainbow has been a symbol of hope and thanks to those working on the frontline during the pandemic. For us to be able to create a harvest rainbow we please ask that children in different class bring in different coloured food/food packaging.

Owlets – Red

Tawny Owls – Orange and Yellow

Snowy Owls – Green and Blue

Barn Owls – Purple

Tins could be covered in coloured paper (at home or in school) if you find it difficult to source the colours.

### World Mental Health Day

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October it is World Mental Health Day. We will be encouraging the children to speak out and take part in ITV's Britain Get Talking and #Helloyellow by children marking this day by wearing 1 item of clothing or an accessory which is yellow. This could be a hairband, tie, badge, socks.

### **The Fox and The Star**

As a whole school our first English unit focused on the text 'The Fox and The Star', which had a strong focus of coming together and community. The children have created their own versions of the story and artwork. We have created a whole school display to celebrate the children's learning and hard work.



### **Numbot/Times Tables Rock Stars**

Your child will be bringing home a personal log-in for either NumBots (EYFS AND Key Stage 1) or Times Table Rockstars (Key Stage 2). Times Table Rockstars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times table practice. NumBots supports children with their understanding, recall and fluency in mental addition and subtraction so they move from counting to calculating. Please support your child to log into their account. Regular practice really is key to your child making progress in these areas.



### **SEND Surgery**

Mrs Pickett-Jones, our hub SENDCO, is offering a SEND surgery for parents and cares of pupils at our school. Appointments are available on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> between 11am and 2pm. Please contact Mrs Pickett-Jones at [bpickettjones@dmatschools.org.uk](mailto:bpickettjones@dmatschools.org.uk) or 07938482542 (which is a school mobile and available between 8.30am and 5pm term time only) to make an appointment.

### **Lunches**

Thank you for bearing with us with the changes to the lunch ordering system. Things have settled down this week – we really appreciate your patience! Just remember to order by Thursday for the following week's lunches.

### **Website**

The school's website is a great resource for communication. You can see upcoming dates and key information on there but more importantly access the Learning Hub. This is where you can see all the exciting things that have been happening in school. Teacher's update these throughout the week so keep an eye out for anything new – it is a great discussion starter to have with your child!

### **Reminders**

As the weather has taken a turn for the worse, please remember to send your child in with a waterproof coat so they can enjoy playing outdoors as much as possible. Please could children bring a spare pair of socks in their bag for PE days. If we use the field for sport this can result in wet feet and a change of socks would be helpful. Thank you.

## Owlets

The Owlets have been discussing families as part of their PSHE. They made the people that are special to them out of pebbles and match sticks.



## Tawny Owls

The Tawny Owls had their session with the Wildlife Trust on Thursday. They explored and classified different types of leaves and created beautiful crowns.



## Snowy Owls

The Snowy Owls were joined by children from Boasley Cross School to take part in a Tag Rugby Festival run by

OCRA coaches. The children were able to develop their ball skills and take part in mini games - a great morning was had by all.



### **Collaborative Artwork**

To mark the start of the new academic year, every child in the school read the book 'The Dot' and painted their own dot. The Dot, written by Peter Reynolds, is a wonderful picture book that encourages children to try new or challenging things, to explore their creativity and to have confidence in their abilities. A great book to spark discussions about our ambitions as individuals and a school for the coming year. We look forward to seeing all of the children flourish this year just like the character in the book.



### Time to Talk

As part of our school focus on getting children talking and improving their Oracy, we have a topical, weekly question and picture for you to discuss as a family:-



We have been discussing the school values – Respect, Ambition, Flourish – in assemblies as the children are settling into new classes and possibly experiencing new lessons, such as French, or activities through after-school clubs.

**Is it okay to feel nervous about something new?**

Our whole school 'Word of the Week' for next week is collaborate.

Next Week	
Monday	World Mental Health Day Assembly
Tuesday	World Mental Health Day – Wear something yellow *Sports 3.30 -4.30pm
Wednesday	Harvest Festival 3pm St Bridget's Church *Drama Club 3.30 – 4.30pm
Thursday	Owlets Wildlife Trust Workshop KS2 Cross Country Run at Simmonds Park *Dance Club 3.30-4.30pm
Friday	Open the Book *Tag Rugby Club 3.30 – 4.30pm

\*Your child must be booked into after-school clubs via School Gateway in order to take part



# Diary Dates

## October

11 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival @ St Bridget's Church, 3pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Owlets Wildlife Trust Workshop KS2 Cross Country Run
13 <sup>th</sup>	Open the Book
18 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations, including time to look at your child's book.
19 <sup>th</sup>	Wildlife Champions Workshop Parent Consultations, including time to look at your child's book.
20 <sup>th</sup>	Homework Share 3.30 – 3.45pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term Break
30 <sup>th</sup>	Open Afternoon for September 2024 starters

## November

9 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 5/6 Cross Country @Castle Drogo
13 <sup>th</sup>	Book Look – 8.40 – 9am Whole School Forest School (TBC)
17 <sup>th</sup>	Open the Book
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bouldering Experience – children TBC
27 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Forest School (TBC)
28 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Vaccinations
30 <sup>th</sup>	Book Look – 3.15 – 3.30pm

## December

1 <sup>st</sup>	Open the Book
7 <sup>th</sup>	Owlets Nativity and KS2 Christmas Carols, St Bridget's Church, 2.45pm
8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day
11 <sup>th</sup>	Book Look – 08:40 – 9am Whole School Forest School (TBC)
12 <sup>th</sup>	Tawny Owls Nativity, Methodist Hall, Time TBC
14 <sup>th</sup>	Homework Share, 3.30 – 3.45pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Dinner
18 <sup>th</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Christmas Break

## January

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Non-Pupil Day
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pupil's Return to School



BRIDESTOWE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'With Respect and Ambition, We Flourish Together.'

Dartmoor  
Multi Academy  
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Please join us at Bridestowe  
Primary School for an open  
afternoon to see our  
exceptional EYFS provision and  
whole school.

Discuss your child's entry to  
Primary School in September  
2024.



**EYFS Open  
Afternoon**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup>  
October 2023

1.15pm – 5pm



Staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



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'With Respect and Ambition, We Flourish Together.'

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Multi Academy  
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...everyone in our Trust.



# Forest School

## Stay and Play Toddler Session

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

2.15pm – 3.15pm

All children, birth - 4 years are welcome to join us with their carer for a stay and play session in our Forest School Area at Bridestowe Primary School.

Wellies, coats and waterproofs are essential.





ARGYLE  
COMMUNITY  
TRUST

## GIRLS PDC'S EAST CORNWALL/NORTH DEVON OPEN TRIALS

### HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Monday term time  
18:00-19:00 Years 3 & 4  
19:00-20:00 years 5 & 6

### LAUNGESTON COLLEGE

Monday term time  
18:00-19:00 Years 1-6  
19:00-20:00 years 7+

### ASHBURY GOLF HOTEL

Thursday term time  
18:00-19:00 Years 1-4  
19:00-20:00 Years 5+

### CALLYWITH COLLEGE

Tuesday term time  
18:15-19:15 Years 3-7+

For more information please contact:  
joshua.chalk@paafc.co.uk

[argylecommunitytrust.co.uk](http://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk)

## LEARN. PLAY. SUCCEED



JOIN US ON  
YOUR RUGBY  
JOURNEY

TEAMWORK, RESPECT,  
ENJOYMENT,  
DISCIPLINE,  
SPORTSMANSHIP



**TAVISTOCK  
JUNIORS RFC**  
**ALL BOYS & GIRLS  
FROM SCHOOL YEARS 1 TO 11  
OF ALL ABILITIES ARE WELCOME TO JOIN**



SCAN ME

OR CONTACT US ON  
07508 719440  
SANDY PARK, TRELAUNY ROAD,  
TAVISTOCK, PL19 0JL

\*CONTACT US FOR DETAILS

**ENJOY 4 TRIAL SESSIONS BEFORE SIGNING UP  
MEMBERSHIP FROM £40 PER SEASON\*  
SIBLING DISCOUNT & OTHER  
SUPPORT AVAILABLE\***



TAVISTOCK RUGBY CLUB JUNIORS AND MINIS



## The White Hart Bridestowe



**2023 Charity Duck Race & Auction of Promises**  
**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Oct from 1.30pm**

Full Afternoon Race Card  
6 Races with Commentator

Only £2 per Duck Minimum Stake  
Programme and Race Card only £1  
available from the White Hart

Cash Prize for First across the line  
in each race

Followed in the Evening by an Auction of  
Promises with Fantastic Items including

- A free days outdoor work
- Meal for 2 at the White Hart
- Evening Fly Fishing with Host
- Weekend for 2 in Brixham
- Free Cut and Blow Dry

Don't drive yourself Quackers!!

Get yourself along for a fun day of  
Alternative Sport  
in support of  
World Horse Welfare  
&  
2024 Bridestowe Ram Roast

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# FUN PALACE

Join our Fun Palace at  
OKEHAMPTON LIBRARY

SATURDAY 7TH  
OCTOBER

09:30 - 12:30

Pop in and try  
something new!  
It's FREE



Libraries  
Unlimited

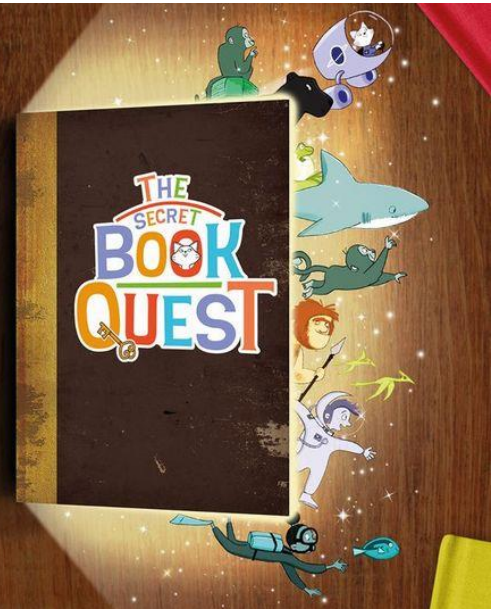


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## COME ON A READING ADVENTURE...

EXPLORE 10 THEMED WORLDS,  
DISCOVER BOOKS YOU'LL LOVE,  
COLLECT THE STICKERS,  
DECIPHER THE CODE  
AND GET YOUR SPECIAL FINISHER'S PRIZE!

Sign up for  
**FREE**  
at your local  
library!



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION  
**16+**  
in UK and Europe;  
rest of the world 13+

...MSG ME...

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

## EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

## CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

## FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

ONLINE

## 'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

## CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

## VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

## Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

### ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

### THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

### CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



...HEY OSCAR...



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/107709839582332> | [https://faq.whatsapp.com/36005896189245/shelprf=hc\\_inov](https://faq.whatsapp.com/36005896189245/shelprf=hc_inov) | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private> | <https://www.ausa.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>



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