



# United Schools Federation (USF) St. Catherine's C. of E. Nursery and Primary School



## Newsletter

**28<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

It feels like winter has been very wet and cold this year. The children also had an unexpected treat with 3 snow days but thankfully spring is just around the corner and the days are getting brighter and longer. The children are working brilliantly well in school and we could not be prouder of all they are achieving both in and out of school.

### Since the last newsletter

- The year 2 attended a Theatre trip to see *George's Marvellous Medicine*.
- Some children from the year 6 took part in the bikeability.
- World Book day (both!) was a great success raising over £60.00 in donations which we will use to buy new books for the library.
- We had this term's work showing, which was really well attended.
- The majority of classes have now shared their class assembly.
- We have received good feedback for the Parents Evenings which were well attended.

### Friends of St Catherine's

Well done once again to our fabulous "Friends" team who are currently in the process of re-arranging the Easter Bingo. Unfortunately this co-incided with the Parents Evening and had to be changed. They have also offered to pay for the Year 6 to go to Woodlands this year which is very generous. Keep up the good work!

### Forest School

Mrs Wood has continued to run the Forest School sessions and this has been a massive hit with all of the children. Please don't forget the spare clothes and wellies on the days your child/ren have it.

Monday - Stephenson

Tuesday - Newton

Wednesday - Darwin

Thursday - DaVinci

Friday - Edison

### Healthy Eating

Please could I remind you to encourage the children to have a healthy diet. It has been brought to my attention that children have chocolate bars in their lunch boxes which we do not allow.

### School Car Park

You will have noticed that we have a new barrier to the car park. We are currently waiting for Devon County Council to paint the school lines outside of the gates also. We appreciate that this does cause congestion outside of the school but would urge you to please consider our neighbours. We have received several complaints from some of the houses in the immediate area, of blocking driveways and actually parking on their gardens. Please consider how this would make you feel if you lived in these houses. We are currently looking into ways of improving the congestion, such as 'Walk to School Schemes and Rewards'.

### School Meals - price increase

Our meal prices have been one of the lowest in a Devon school for numerous years. However, with costs ever increasing please take this as advance notice that our school meal charge will increase to £2-25 per two course meal from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April (first day following the Easter break). We endeavour, as always, to keep costs to an absolute minimum and will continue to do so. Your support in taking advantage of the free meal offered to Key Stage One children and also, where appropriate, by signing up for Free School Meals is much appreciated.

### Attendance

Our attendance this month is currently 95% which we appreciate is due to illness. Please help us by reminding the children about personal hygiene and the importance of hand-washing in order to keep bugs to the minimum. Don't forget to telephone the school, before 9-10 a.m. if possible, to let us know the reason for your child's absence.

### Swimming

A reminder swimming will take part after the half term.

DaVinci	16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup> April and 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Edison	18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> April and 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> May
Newton & Darwin	4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> June and 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> July.
Stephenson	6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> June. 4 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> July

### Dates

We will send information about specific events as appropriate during the term but in the meantime here are a few diary dates for your calendar:-

Easter Hols	30 <sup>th</sup> March - 14 <sup>th</sup> April
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Years 3,4 & 5 to Paignton Zoo
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 trip to Woodlands
4 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 residential to Dewerstone Cottage
11 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 residential trip to Escot
23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 residential trip to Skern

Thank you for your on-going support, wishing you all a Happy Easter.

Kindest regards.

Marcus West