



# Churchstanton Catch-up

Churchstanton  
Primary School  
Somerset  
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## Newsletter: 13th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy start to the summer term we have had! Teachers have shared their exciting plans for this term's topics with you already and I know the children are enjoying learning about the Royal Family across the school, just in time for our Jubilee celebrations after half term. More on this to follow before our break begins on Friday 27th May. You may notice that the half term includes an additional Bank Holiday for you on Monday 6th June. This is our rolled-over Platinum Jubilee holiday and quite nicely gives you a 5 day break over that jubilee weekend. I hope you can make the most of it!

The Year 6 have completed their SATs this week and we are very proud of their efforts. Whilst we as a school recognise how important English & Maths are, we also highly value the rest of the curriculum and will continue to ensure that your children's talents in The Arts, STEM, Humanities & Sport are celebrated too. I'm sure you'll agree that SATs are only one way to measure a child's success. Our pupils are encouraged to shine in every way that they can.

Tea & chat has returned and it would be lovely to see you all next month on Tuesday 7th June at 2.45pm in the school library. It's a perfect opportunity to catch up on what is going on in school, feedback your own thoughts about what is working well or what could be improved and meet other parents at the same time. Put the date in your diary!



We would like to welcome Mrs Thomas to Churchstanton as our new Teaching Assistant in Hedgehog Class. She speaks three languages, enjoys being active and owns several owls! I am sure you will make her feel welcome when you see her around school. She has already proved herself to be a super new addition to the team.

Attendance has begun to improve lately after being severely impacted by COVID. Attendance below 95% equates to 10 school days missed over the year. I have attached our Attendance Leaflet for your information and urge all parents to encourage your children to attend every day. Now the worst of the pandemic is behind us, we can return to our pre-pandemic attitudes regarding sniffles and colds. Thank you for your support with this.

As you may know, we have been trying to source a new provider of hot lunches for the school for some time. Information regarding a taster day with a prospective new School Lunch Provider can be found on the notices page of the Catch-up. I look forward to seeing you there!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards,

Mrs C Halstead

**Safeguarding:** We take child protection extremely seriously at our school and this is especially important during any school closure. If you have any concerns you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk)



## Notices and reminders:

### New Head Teacher Announcement

On behalf of the governors, it is with great pleasure that I am able to announce that we have offered the Head role to Mr Matthew Watson and that he has accepted.

Mr Watson comes to us from Two Moors Primary in Tiverton where he is KS1 and Literacy lead and where he has had great success in driving up the levels of achievement at the school.

Mr Watson is really excited to start in September and cannot wait to start working with everyone in continuing to drive the school forward. Over the coming half term he will be visiting for transition days and is looking forward to meeting everyone.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Wishes

Jon

Chair of Governors

### Hot School Lunches

Lunch bookings: Please ensure that lunches are booked and paid for, if applicable, for up to and including at least the **6th June** and by no later than **Sunday 15th May**. If you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact the School office who will be able to help you.



### Sharing Assemblies for Parents

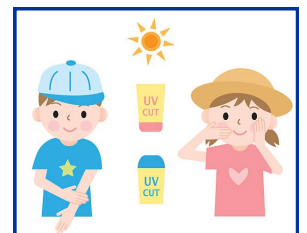
We are really pleased to share some dates for parents/carers to attend our regular Sharing Assemblies during the summer term. This is an opportunity for you to come and see the children talk about their work and achievements that week in the school hall.

Dates are:

- ◆ Friday 13th May 2:40pm—3:00pm
- ◆ Friday 1st July 2:40pm—3:00pm

### Sunscreen and Sun Hats reminder

As we are supposed to be having a bit of a heat wave towards the end of May, please could we remind you of the need for pupils to have **named** sun-hats and/or sunscreen in school. (Pupils need to be responsible for applying their own suntan lotion)



# Celebration Catch-up

## Headteacher Certificates

### Hedgehog Class

Cameron for showing a positive attitude towards his learning - keep it up!

Rupert for working hard in all areas and for showing super progress - well done!

### Squirrel Class

Asher for being a Mega-Motivator with his handwriting, focussing on his finger spaces.

Freya for writing a fantastic letter to the Queen - excellent work!

### Badger Class

Matilda for being a Mega-Motivator and creating a fantastic Queen Elizabeth II artwork.

Lewis for sharing excellent knowledge in science as a real Inspector Curiosity!



Special Mention for sporting Achievement goes to **Isaac** who represented our school at a golden Mile Cross Country event recently. We are very proud of you Isaac - well done!

## House Points (so far this School year)....

**Fantastic effort! Keep working hard for your team!**



**Blackdowns** 2,014

**Brendons** 1,979

**Mendips** 2,068

**Quantocks** 2,084



## Attendance

This week, the Golden Gnome is awarded to ...

**Hedgehog Class!**

Well done! Good attendance is directly linked to good progress. Keep it up!





# Classroom Catch-up



## Hedgehog Class

In Hedgehog class we have been reading traditional tales. We are retelling the tale of the Elves and the Shoemaker. The children have drawn story maps and retold the story using puppets. We found fairy/elf homes in our forest and we have made our own fairy/elf glens. In Science the children have been testing materials ready for designing and making their own splendid shoes. We have started to learn about the Queen and the royal family and the children are looking forward to celebrating her Platinum Jubilee.



## Squirrel Class

This week Squirrel Class have been writing letters to the Queen to mark her Platinum Jubilee. They have worked hard on their handwriting and presentation and have told her all about the different ways that they will be celebrating this special event.

They have been learning about solids, liquids and gases in Science and found out how water changes into both ice and steam.

In music, they listened to 'Peter and the Wolf' and learned all about the different instruments used to represent the different characters. They were able to listen out and hear when a character was about to appear by listening to the different orchestral instruments.



## Badger Class

First of all, I would like to say a huge 'Well done' to the year 6 members of Badger Class, who have worked extremely hard all week to complete their SATs tests. They have all given it their absolute best and they should be really proud of themselves.

Whilst they have been doing those tests, Year 5 have been working on all kinds of exciting projects with Mrs Archer and Miss Jones. They investigated a fictitious robbery at school and wrote reports about it—even going as far as to interview some of the 'suspects'. They have also been reading about evacuees during the Second World War and preparing some performances and videos all about this.

We have managed to fit in some important RSHE work this week and also do some gardening and learn about throwing and catching in PE. We look forward to lots more fun learning next week now that things are getting a little back to normal!



# PTA Catch-up



Churchstanton Primary PTA



working on behalf of the school

## Churchstanton Primary School needs you!

Please do come along and volunteer. It's a great way to make friends, help improve our school and make a difference to all the pupils who attend here.

Wonderful news, we have a new PTA secretary!! We would like to welcome Laura Bamford to the officers team:

Chair: Becca Granger (Becca Royce on Facebook.)

Vice Chair: Rosie James

Treasurer: Amy Day

Secretary: Laura Bamford

Lots of exciting dates for the diary and lots more than this happening, paid for, and organised by the PTA for the children's enrichment. Get involved and ensure we have funds to make all this happen.

## Dates for your diary:

### Jubilee PTA & Churchinford:

- **Thursday 2nd June:** 5pm Churchinford Community Field: PTA serving Pimms/drinks, BBQ, family sports, crafts and fun in the community field.

- **9.45pm** The lighting of the Beacon in the village centre, with music prior.

- **Friday 3rd June:**

- Live music and hog roast at The York Inn.

- **Saturday 4th June:**

- 9am-12pm the PTA serves yummy food & drink at the village hall market.

- **Sunday 5th June:**

- In the village centre (road closure)

- -12pm Children's Banquet.

- -1pm Kings and Queens Parade (starting from village hall)

- -1:30pm Banquet for grown ups

- -2:30pm School Choir\*

- (& all school pupils attending for 1 special song!)

- -2.45pm School country dancing\*

- -3:45pm music truck and cream teas.

- (\*choir & country dancers take note of times please. Consent letters due soon & Country dancers uniforms coming home soon)

If you can help with the bbq, pimms/drinks, craft, parade, Saturday kitchen or with anything else, then please let Hannah Foxwell know or email the PTA.



**Congratulations must go to Becca & Richard who became Mr & Mrs Granger during the Easter holidays! All staff and pupils at Churchstanton send their love and best wishes to them both!**

# PTA Catch-up Continued



Churchstanton Primary PTA



working on behalf of the school



## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Churchinford Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June

Thursday 2nd June

Family sports and picnic at Community Field & beacon lighting outside the York Inn.  
In addition to our plans for a family picnic, there will now also be a BBQ and refreshments available to purchase in aid of Churchstanton School PTA.

Friday 3rd June

Live Music & Hog Roast (Vegetarian Nut Roast available) – Outside The York Inn  
Live music will be from 2pm until late

Sunday 5th June

Street Party & Big Lunch – Outside The York Inn  
The free Big Lunch will consist of a piece of Jubilee Tart (Quiche), Coronation Chicken & Celebration Cake. A vegetarian option will be available.  
Please bring your own salads & supplementary food as well as plates and cutlery. Serviettes will be provided.  
The York Inn will be open for drinks only.

REMINDER – Please ensure that you have signed up for the banquet by Sunday 15th May.  
You can do so either on facebook or in the community shop.  
Please bring your own chairs / seating for all events.

If you are interested in getting involved and are able to volunteer to help in any way, please contact the parish clerk, Julie Wardle directly.



Churchstanton School PTA

Fete & Dog Show  
Saturday 2nd July 12-4pm  
Churchinford Cricket Pavillion

# Diary Catch-up

## Dates for your Diary: (Subject to change)

### May 2022

19th-20th - Squirrel Residential to Wildside

27th-5th June - Half Term - **School closed.**

### JUNE 2022

6th June - **School closed** for Queens' Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday

7th June - Return to School

7-10th June - Jubilee Week - lots of celebration activities will take place.

7th - Tea & Chat for Parents & Carers 2.45pm

7th June - Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

Window opens

10th - Kings & Queens PTA Disco

13th - Whole School Photos & Y6 Leavers photos

### JULY 2022

3rd - Tea & Chat for Parents & Carers 8.45am

21st - Leavers Service

22nd - End of term - summer holiday begins.

### INSET dates for 2022-23

**1st & 2nd September 2022**

**20th Feb 2023**

**26th May 2023**

**21st July 2023**

### SEPTEMBER 2022

**1st & 2nd** - Inset days

### OCTOBER 2022

**24th to 28th** - School Holiday

### NOVEMBER 2022

**21st** - Tempest photography, individual photos



## **COVID update**

### **Changes to measures and guidance for managing COVID-19 in education and child-care settings from Friday 1 April**

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the next steps for living with COVID-19 in England from Friday 1 April.

Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends on Friday 1 April.

#### **Updated guidance will advise:**

Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

#### **For education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April:**

Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. Therefore, settings will no longer be able to order test kits.

Residential SEND settings may be advised by their local health protection team to re-introduce some time-limited asymptomatic testing. This would be an exceptional measure, for targeted groups of staff and pupils or students (secondary age or above) in the event of a possible COVID-19 outbreak. These settings are scheduled to receive an automatic delivery of contingency supply test kits during the week commencing Monday 28 March.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) will publish new guidance. Most of the specific COVID-19 guidance for education and childcare settings will be withdrawn from GOV.UK on Friday 1 April. The operational guidance on the testing in education settings document sharing platform will also be removed on the same day.

Further information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/35DcHNb>