

The Morning West Yarn...er

Newsletter

April 2022

Written and published by Year 8

Headteacher's update

Dear Parents/ Carers,

First, I would like to thank the year 8 class for producing such a comprehensive newsletter over the last few weeks.

Looking back, another term has flown by, starting in January when it is cold, wet and windy. Now, coming out the other side of winter into the spring and summer, the weather lifts the spirits, allowing us to make use of the wonderful countryside and opportunities to go on more school trips.

A big thank you for supporting the school in such a turbulent term. We thought after two years of Covid we might be immune, how wrong we were - we have had more Covid this term than at anytime since the start of the pandemic. For those of you who agreed to have your children at home during times when we were unable to provide cover, it was much appreciated. As we know, Covid has not gone away and we may be in for a difficult time in the future, so we continue to ask for your support.

As you will see in the following pages, we have had an interesting time this term. The new forest school site is progressing with lots of new wildlife, some of the tadpoles have arrived in Dan's class and will be cared for until they are hopefully returned to the forest school site as frogs. The students have been helping to plant trees to complete a wildlife corridor across the lower field.

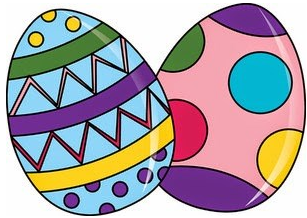
We have had a visit from a local police officer who spent time in all the classes to answer any questions the pupils had. It was great to see the police passing on a positive message to our pupils.

Looking into next term, we are planning for fun summer activities in the last two weeks of July. As some of you will know, we are planning to move our Key Stage 3 pupils to a fantastic new school at Seale Hayne near Newton Abbot. I will be arranging a parent open day when we are ready to move in.

We have included a parent questionnaire for you to complete and return in the stamped addressed envelope. We would very much appreciate your views on how we could improve our provision to meet the needs of your children.

Have a great Easter break and we will see everyone on Tuesday the 26th of April.

Simon.



Visitors

School Visit from PC Jack Hewitt

On Monday 4th April we had a visit from PC Jack Hewitt. He came into school to discuss the work that he does and the impact that it has on the local community.



What is your job title? Police Constable.

Do you wear a uniform? I do but there are other officers who don't.

What hours do you work? We work shifts-early 7am—4pm and late 3pm—12am.

How much do you get paid? The top wage for a PC is £40,000. Which you can earn after 8 years in the job.

Have you been assaulted in your job? Not yet. I like to talk to people. I have been spat at on a couple of occasions.

Have you ever used a taser? Not yet. As a student officer, I have to apply for a taser license. I carry irritant spray, baton and restraints.

Have you been in a police chase? I had an unsuccessful one this week! We had a dog unit with us. I knocked on the door, the male ran away and jumped over a high wall. Unfortunately, we then couldn't find him. However, all units are now aware of him and we will find him.

What events have you been a police officer at? I was an officer at the G7 Summit in Cornwall. I was security for President Biden although I only saw him once!



CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555 111

Call anonymously with information about crime



Forest School Diary

January– The first frog spawn and lots of cold weather.

February– We watched the frog spawn develop and hatch. We noticed that something had been eating the frogs. We set up the wildlife camera and photographed an otter, saw a deer on site and lots of buzzards!

March-planting trees across the long meadow to create a wildlife corridor. The trees (Crab apple, rowan, hazel, downy birch, blackthorn, hawthorn, oak and silver birch) were from the Woodland Trust and are native species which will provide cover for wildlife as well as food. We have heard woodpeckers and increased bird activity, seen bees, oil beetles, spring time flowers and leaves emerging.

Students have participated in the following activities: built and put up bird and hedgehog boxes; built steps and a bridge to make access easier; redirected water to the pond to help with water levels; observed the life cycle of tadpoles and the onset of Spring; rebuilt the cob rocket stove for cooking and built dens.





Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Safer Internet Day 2022 was on the 8th of February and celebrated the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online. It was coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries.

Top Tips for Parents and Carers:

Have a look at the tips and links below with some suggestions on how to get you started and help you to stay safe and positive online. You and your family can #PlayYourPart in creating a better internet by...

- **Having conversations without judgement**

Whether by playing games, watching videos, or doing things your child enjoys, spending time together online is a great way to start conversations about the online world and how they're finding being a part of it. It is important to ask questions and take an interest in what your child enjoys online.

An essential part of having this open dialogue is to not judge, even if their behaviour or life online isn't what you wanted or expected. This ensures that your child feels they can come to you if ever they make a mistake or experience a problem online.

- **Knowing where you can learn more about their favourite apps and games**

Websites like Common Sense Media or The Family Gaming Database can be invaluable sources of information. When your child starts talking about a new game or app, why not do some research into the reporting and blocking options available? Then you can help your child if they come to you with an issue.

- **Getting support if things go wrong**

There are lots of organisations who are there to support you and your family if something has gone wrong. The [Report Harmful Content website](#) can help you with issues such as cyberbullying, impersonation and threats. You can report worrying behaviour towards children to [CEOP](#). Find out more on [Childnet's Get Help page](#).

- **Reassuring your child that whatever happens online, you are there to support them**

Let your child know that the best way to address any problem they have online, is to tell a trusted adult immediately. For example, this might include someone sending them a friend request; an online message; telling them to visit a specific website, or app; or asking them for their personal information. Reassure them that if anything happens online that they are unsure about, or makes them feel worried or upset, they can come to you for help.

Meet the Teacher

Nick is a new teacher who started at West Yarner in February 2022.

Nick became a qualified teacher in 1997. He has been a teacher for 18 years as he took a break when he lived in the Channel Islands.

The favourite subjects he teaches are maths and science. When he was at school, his favourite subject was PE. He did not learn how to swim until he got to university. Nick doesn't have a favourite student he has taught, as he believes that you shouldn't have favourites.

Nick really enjoys sport and his favourite football team is Liverpool. When he isn't playing sport, he likes to relax watching anything science-fiction.



Key Dates for your Dairies

Summer term 2022

Tuesday 26th April - Friday 27th May 2022

Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May 2022

Half term Holidays - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

Monday 6th June - Friday 22nd July

Autumn Term 2022

Wednesday 7th September 2022 - Friday 16th December 2022

Half term Holidays - Monday 24 October - Friday 28th October 2022

Christmas Holiday: Monday 19 December 2022—Tuesday 3 January 2023

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

You are all aware of COVID 19 and the challenges all the schools are still facing. We take every precaution to keep our children and the staff safe while on site and in the community. Unfortunately, the daily statistics shows that the Covid cases are rising and we may not be in a position to have all the children on site due to the staff shortages. Hopefully, this will not be the case and we will work as usual.

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

For more information please see :

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-next-steps-for-living-with-covid>

If your child is unwell, please contact yarneroffice@ontrackededucation.com or telephone on **01803 445943** and let us know that your child will be absent. They can come back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend. We hope you and your families are all keeping well over this Easter period and are looking forward to see everybody back on the Tuesday the 26th of April 22. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

DfE coronavirus helpline—Telephone 0800 046 8687

If you have a query about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to schools and other educational establishments, and children's social care, in England contact our helpline.

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Devon:

0345 155 1071 email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

Torbay Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub:

01803 208100 email mash@torbay.gov.uk

Out of hours please call:

0300 4564 876

Multi Agency Referral Unit Cornwall:

0300 123 1116 email multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk

Simon Wood - 07580412890

Rachel Foot - 07580792583

Yessenia Norgate 07535311761