

# CONIFERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

2 July 2018



Dear Parent/Carers,

As the children of Conifers - and to be honest, a few of the staff, start to look forward to the end of term, we look back on a busy month of learning with, again, many opportunities to do so outside the classroom.

Year 1, 2, 4 and Year 6 have all enjoyed their time at the Weymouth Outdoor Education Centre this month, where our children participated in Team Challenges, Rock Climbing on the Tower, or squeezing themselves through the Tunnel System. Congratulations to some of our staff, who also put themselves through the same torment, I mean, excitement of 'ferreting' their way through the darkness!

Our Year 6 have spent a day each Abseiling the East Cliffs of Portland, Coast-steering around the rocky bays of Portland Bill, Climbing and Kayaking. The motto for these days was 'Challenge by Choice' and I am proud to say that everyone rose to the challenge. Redwood class also enjoyed a day's sailing and Paddle Boarding (SUP) where the wind was, to say the least variable, but the weather for Paddle Boarding was excellent. Truth be known, there was not as much paddling as there was swimming or having water fights, but everyone ended the day with huge smiles on their faces. Hawthorn class have a chance to experience this watery fun early in July. I believe that all the children will take those happy memories with them as they start their new schools in the autumn of 2018. I hope, that along with this, the Dartmoor residential and the many other opportunities afforded to them, that they feel Conifers, 'served them well'.

Year 3 spent a lovely warm day, Rock Pooling at Newton's Cove and found all manner of sea creatures, some of which, were less happier than others at being captured and scrutinised in a bucket. However, the children had a marvellous day, and my thanks to staff and parents who helped provide that valuable opportunity.

Whilst on the theme of parents, I would like to say thank you to the 'Friends' of Conifers, our PTA, who have been working tirelessly, all year, both behind and in-front of the scenes to raise money for the school. We had an extremely successful Summer Fair, and their time and effort in organising this certainly paid off. My thanks to all who participated, either running a stall or spending money at one! We raised over £2000, well done everyone.

Conifers will say farewell to some staff members at the end of this term, in fact, one is preparing to 'make a run for it', as you read this newsletter, but we will let her off, as her baby is due quite imminently. Mrs Chapman has our very best wishes for the future, as she starts her journey into parenthood and sleepless nights. Two other members of support staff also leave us; Mr Cartwright to further his studies at university, if he can avoid the lure of the student bar and Mrs Patrick, who is moving to the Channel Islands to follow a life-long dream, I can think of worse places to do so. Again, our best wishes to them both.

**Please can you make sure all your children have water bottles and sun hats in school with the heat wave thank you.**

Fingers crossed for the continuation of the glorious weather and the form currently being demonstrated in Russia!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr A Johnson  
HEADTEACHER

## SPORT AT CONIFERS

What a successful summer Conifers is having! It has been a delight to take children out to sporting events this term and we have managed to win a trophy or two! The term started with a very hot and sunny day at Redlands for the Kwik Cricket tournament, the Year 6 team won the event, beating DMS in the final game. The year 5 team came a brilliant 2nd place, losing out to Wyke Regis in the final game.

On Friday 15th the Athletics team travelled to St Osmunds for the South Dorsets, Year 4, 5 and 6 children took part in a variety of track and field events. We had our most successful day, with 7 children reaching the county finals. A huge congratulations to Theo Dodds, Oakley Henson, Phoebe Fishlock, Daniel Heath and Corey Vanstone for qualifying in the long jump; to Scarlet Paul for qualifying in the 75m sprint and to Cara Dodds for qualifying in the throwing. The children head to King's Park in Bournemouth on Friday and we wish them lots of luck.

On Wednesday 20th June the Year 4 Tri-Golf team travelled to Bryanston for the county finals along with 20 other children taking part in the Can Do Multi-Sports Festival. The Tri-Golf team played extremely well, but narrowly missed out on a medal coming 4th. Everyone had a fantastic day in the sunshine and were able to try out new activities like, indo-boarding, boogie bounce, circus skills and ultimate frisbee.

On Thursday, the Year 4 rounders team played in a tournament at Budmouth and secured another trophy, beating 4 teams to be crowned champions! The year 5 and 6 teams play this week in the final tournament of the year.

Exciting news, we have a new county champion at Conifers. Congratulations to Theo Dodds who won Friday's long jump at the South Dorset's. All the rest of the team did fantastically well and flew the Conifers flag for the South and West.

Finally, I'd like to thank all parents who have supported their child in sports events this year. It has been great to see so many children involved in clubs and representing the school.

Miss Frampton  
PE Co-ordinator



## SPORTS DAY INFOMATION

As you are aware our Sports Days take place on the last week of term. Reception, Year 1 and 2's Sports Day takes place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July from 9.30am. With Year 3, 4 5 and 6's Sports Day taking place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July from 9.30am-11am in the morning and from 1.40pm in the afternoon. Please ensure that your child either comes to school on their Sports Day in their PE kit or that they have a full PE kit in school to change in to, children are encouraged to wear their house colours. Parents are welcome to come along and watch the events. Please also ensure that your child has a drinks bottle, sun hat and sun cream in school, clearly labelled.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on Sports Day.

## YEAR 3

Year 3 loved their rock pool visit. Whilst there we had the opportunity to investigate a variety of rock pool animals that involved using a key to identify animals. The children also created some beach art, created a sketch map of the local area and combed the beach to help keep it clean and look for interesting items.

Mr Young and Miss Nokes  
Year 3 Classteachers



## CLEAN AIR COMPETITION

Conifers School, Weymouth have been working with crews from Weymouth fire station to educate the local community about the importance of clean air, to celebrate Clean Air Day 2018.

To encourage the children to think about how they can stay safe and well, the children learnt how clean air is important for their health and are promoting this in their local community by producing posters and entering a colouring competition.

Anne Newell, Watch Manager of Blue Watch, Weymouth Fire Station, who came up with the idea of the competition says "The firefighters here at Weymouth were concerned about the air pollution around the schools from vehicles and smoking materials. As children's lungs are still developing, air pollution can have a bigger impact on children's health than it does on adults.

She added: "There are a few things you can do to help: Walk or cycle instead of using the car (but don't forget to wear your cycle helmet), try to avoid routes where you will be sitting in traffic jams and turn the engine off instead of idling. We are delighted that Conifers School have got involved in our competition and are teaching their families and communities that we can all do something small to help with air pollution."

Seth Why, Head of Prevention for DWFRS says "I was delighted to award the winners of the competition their prizes, kindly donated by Asda and Safewise. It is great to see the children working so hard to help their community. Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service are committed to helping people make safer and healthier choices, all the entries were fantastic and Angel's poster shows the importance of healthy lungs and the damage smoking and other air pollution can have. We are very thankful to Asda and Safewise for donating prizes and displaying the entries"

The winners were:

Reception: Leo and Imogen

Year 1: Olivia and Finley

Year 2: Tiana and Angel (the overall winner)

Year 3: Alesha and Bella

Year 4: Bronson and Evelyn & Sophie (joint entry)

Year 5: Toby and Jasmin



Here is a photo of the firefighters from Blue Watch who judged the Clean Air competition and a picture of all the winners, well done!

## YEAR 1 BEACH TRIP

Year 1 really enjoyed their trip to the beach. We looked at the local area and compared the natural and manmade features. Following the trip the children wrote a lovely poem about the beach using their 5 senses.



## BIKE BREAKFAST

We are holding our Bike Breakfast this Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July from 8.15-8.45am. If you ride a bike or scooter on that morning, you will be required to park it in the bike shelter or the scooter pod. Children will NOT be allowed to ride around the playground. Your child will then be given a sticker to show that they are eligible to a light breakfast. This includes a piece of fruit and a drink. We look forward to seeing them!!

## TEAM DAY

There will be a House Day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July for RRS/ Global Citizenship House. Children can wear their own clothes on this day for a donation of £1.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

Bike it Breakfast  
Changeover Day  
House Day (Children can wear their own clothes)  
Leavers Presentation to Parents - am and pm  
KS2 Sports Day  
KS1 Sports Day  
Children break up for the summer at 1.30pm

## LEAVERS ASSEMBLY - PERFORMANCE OF GREASE

Year 6 have been working hard on their up and coming production of *Grease*. The parental shows will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July. The morning performance will commence at 9.15am and will last for approximately 2 hours. The afternoon performance will be at 1.30pm and will also last approximately 2 hours. If you have any younger siblings they will be held in the Library if the show overruns.

Please also note that the whole school will be watching the performance of *Grease* the following day and we would like you to know in advance that although it has been adapted somewhat for a primary audience, the show is still very true to the original format of *Grease*.



Thought for the Day .....

"Parents need to fill a child's bucket of self-esteem so high that the rest of the world can't poke enough holes to drain it dry."

— Alvin Price