

CONIFERS PRIMARY SCHOOL



HEADTEACHER
Mr A Johnson

30th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the academic year - and welcome to our new parents, who are warmly greeted, as they join the Conifers community.

It has been a pleasure to once again hail the children as they return to school and of course, to meet our new Reception children, who have all had their 'mini tours' of the school and been introduced to various members of staff - many of whom, I'm sure they have promptly forgotten!

It was wonderful to have our first whole school assembly at the beginning of term - and it genuinely gave me goose bumps to see all the children together, in one space, celebrating our Star Readers, Writers and Mathematicians. These certificates are awarded each week, to children across all the Year groups, who have worked exceptionally hard in their Writing, Reading and Maths. They are also recognised by receiving a small gift and having their names and pieces of work displayed on a special board, in the main corridor of the school. Our whole school assembly, which is held every Monday and led by myself, and other members of the school Leadership team, also recognises and celebrates children who have been following our LEARN charter: (L) listen, (E) engage, (A) ask questions (R) respond (N) never give up and the class with the best attendance. So if your child comes home brandishing a certificate on a Monday, after school, you'll know where it's come from.

As a school, our focus has long been on Learning Outside the Classroom (LOT) and this will obviously continue over this term, weather permitting, benefiting not only the academic and social skills of the children but also providing learning opportunities in an engaging and exciting way.

In keeping with this learning style, our Year 6 recently returned from their residential trip to Dartmoor, which was a roaring success, and provided opportunities to develop leadership skills, team work skills, communication and a Growth Mind-set. It also provided a great deal of challenge and laughter, and an opportunity for me to revert back to childhood - I'm looking forward to next year already!



Many of our children have also attended the Weymouth Outdoor Education Centre, for a range of activities, which are also developed to enhance the skills mentioned above. These opportunities will continue throughout the year and be offered to all Year groups.

At the risk of labouring the point - as we are all now 'living with COVID' may I remind all parents and carers that if you receive a 'Close Contact' letter from the school, which will recommend your child taking a PCR test, that you take this seriously and arrange a test as soon as possible. In doing so, we can stop the possible spread of the virus, not only in the school, but in households and the wider community, where more vulnerable people could suffer the consequences of contracting this disease. Please remember, that unless your child actually has symptoms, they do not need to self-isolate, whilst waiting for the results of a PCR test.

Drawing to a close, and primarily for our new parents and carers, if you have any concerns regarding your child, please do feel free to approach their class teacher or send an email, via the office, for their attention. The email address is office@conifers.dorset.sch.uk. If you have any concerns of a more personal nature, you can always talk to Mrs Fry - our Emotional Health/Family liaison lead and/or one of our Assistant Headteachers; Ms Roper or Mrs Newport. If you have a concern of a more serious nature, again, please feel free to contact either Ms Roper or Mrs Newport or, if you're passing, approach me directly, I am on the front gate each morning and afternoon, and we will be happy to assist in any way we can. Our Office Ladies are also very happy to help with any general enquires that you may have.

Parking - please can I remind you not to park outside of the School on the Zig Zag lines when dropping and picking up your child. I would also like to remind you not to park in the disabled bays as parents that genuinely require them are not able to access them, thank you for your co-operation.

To end, may I ask all adults to be mindful of their verbal communications, towards one another, whilst on school grounds and within ear-shot of our children. They should not, under any circumstances, be subjected to offensive or vulgar language, and action will be taken to ensure this remains the case.

All the staff at Conifers are looking forward to a positive and 'normal' academic year, and as always - we thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Johnson
HEADTEACHER



Dartmoor

Year 6 had a fantastic week at CRS Dartmoor. Where they were able to experience a variety of challenging endeavours including a high ropes course, kayaking, canoeing, caving and much more!

Every child challenged themselves to step outside their comfort zone (Teachers included!) and work as a team. The trip also gave us lots of laughs and memories that will last a lifetime.



Primary Futures - Dorset

As a school we are involved in the Primary Futures Dorset project. We had a lovely assembly this month for years 2 - 5, with speakers from different careers, these included an optician, a Facebook Engineer and a banker. Looking forward, we will be hosting a career day for the children on the 15th October. This will include a wide variety of volunteers from the school community and the wider local community. We will be welcoming the fire brigade, forces, musicians, healthcare professionals, students from Weymouth college and many more. This will be a day not to be missed!

Mrs Humphries
Year 2

WOEC

Year 5 (Oak class) went on their adventures to WOEC last week. The children took part in climbing and sailing. Luckily we had some fantastic weather and the children enjoyed every second.

Miss Samuel
Year 5 Class Teacher

Instructions

Please find attached to this Newsletter the instructions from Mrs Tozer on how to set up apps for Android and I- phones, thank you.

