

# Newsletter

## Summer 2: 2022



### Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has been action packed as usual and all of the children deserve praise and credit for their continued hard work in all areas of the curriculum.

During our SATS weeks, we had an unannounced monitoring visit from a Devon Advisor to ensure that we are following the very strict guidelines for administering the Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2 SATs. The visit lasted over 4 hours. We were delighted to be described as 'gold standard' and thrilled to hear the incredibly positive feedback about our Year 6 children, their focus, engagement and excellent behaviour during the observed morning. We are incredibly proud of all our Decoy children but we must take the time to say well done to our Year 2 and Year 6 cohorts for their efforts during the statutory end of Key Stage 1 and end of Key stage 2 assessments. Well done!

### Jubilee Bank Holiday

Please remember that **we are closed this Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> May** for the additional Jubilee Bank that schools were asked to set.

### Eco Council update

The Eco Council would love to say a huge thank you to everyone who sent donations in for our Spring Hat Parade! It was so lovely to see children from across the whole school community getting involved and as a result, we managed to raise £180 towards the new lid for our school composter; the Eco Council are really looking forward to being able to use it again.



In other eco news, Mrs Lawton's class recently did some research into the benefits of using recycled paper and used it as the focus of some persuasive writing. They wrote some incredibly passionate letters to Mrs Poustie asking if Decoy could make the switch to recycled paper and we are very excited to announce that we have now made the change. The children are so pleased that their actions have had such a positive impact on the school and the environment - well done!

### Attendance and Punctuality

At Decoy, like all schools, we want the very best for all of our children and your child and their welfare is very important to us. With this in mind, we have recently been reviewing children's attendance. Regular attendance throughout the year is essential for their success and fulfilment. Our current attendance target range for all children is 96%-100%.

We are pleased to note that there have been fewer absences this term than during the previous two terms and we hope that we can build upon that further. We would like to take this opportunity to remind all of our families that holidays taken during term time are very unlikely to be authorised and could trigger a penalty notice from the local authority.

If a child arrives in class after the register has closed (9:10am) simply because they are 'late', we have to follow statutory registration codes and this counts as an unauthorised absence. Mr Lee and I try to be on the gate in the morning as often as possible but we do need to close the gate at 8:55am to encourage families to arrive promptly. We also have to get to pre-planned meetings etc. However, the number of children then arriving via the school office because the main gate is locked has increased recently. This leads to disruption for children in class as their learning is interrupted when other children arrive late. We hope that a gentle reminder will mean that all of our children are in school ready for the start of the school day at 8:55am.

### **Trips and clubs**

I am pleased to let you know that there will be more extra-curricular school clubs, either over lunchtime or after school, in the second half of the Summer Term. During June and July there will be:

Multi-Skills Club  
Coding club  
Choir x 2 (KS1 and KS2)  
Yrs. 5 and 6 cricket  
KS2 girls' football  
Drawing Club  
Lego Club

More information will be following soon with a timetable of the confirmed timetable of clubs.

### **Jubilee**

On Thursday 26th May, as part of Decoy's celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the children will play games and complete activities to mark the occasion. We will also be holding an 'afternoon tea' picnic on the field where the children will be able to have a drink and cake (provided by school) before singing the National Anthem together. We have also asked children (and staff) to come to school dressed in red, white or blue clothes for the day to celebrate. There is no expectation for children to dress up in anything other than clothes that they already have at home! Families do not need to buy any additional items for this day.

### **Parent Questionnaire**

It is really important to get feedback from parents as we value your opinion. To help us, we would like as many parents as possible to complete and return a questionnaire that can be accessed by the following links.

For Reception – Year 6 <https://forms.gle/xUkURowhWCUj34Wj6>

For Nursery <https://forms.gle/QrkqJxKyd4Ym3Yqt6>

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely half term.

Kind regards



Heather Poustie  
Headteacher

