

Tintagel Primary School Newsletter

September 2019

See this newsletter and more on our school website www.tintagel.cornwall.sch.uk



Dear parents and carers

Firstly, we would like to wish you a very warm welcome back after the summer break, especially to those parents and children who have joined the school for the first time. We have had a lovely start to the new term with pupils and coming back refreshed from their rest.



This will be a year of exciting curriculum innovation at Tintagel Primary as I invite the whole school

community to work alongside me to refine our vision for our children's learning.

As we move forward and share our aspirations for the future, we will strengthen the bonds between both schools, share our skills and broaden opportunities whilst making a strong commitment to protecting the uniqueness of each school within its local community.

So now our work begins again...

What does it mean to truly belong?

As we start a new autumn term here at Tintagel Primary School, the staff and pupils have begun to explore the theme of 'Belonging'. What does it mean to truly belong, and how can we work together to shape a new vision for our school? Our shared INSET Day was spent considering the true meaning of childhood, and our responsibilities in making sure our children thrive and reach their best potential, as we prepare them for life in a future we can hardly imagine, such is the rate of technological change. We shared our aspirations for their future and began to communicate ideas which will take the school forward and offer the entire school community fantastic opportunities for learning. It goes without saying that at the heart of this vision is partnership with our families. We sincerely invite you to work alongside us at every step of the way. To kick start our year, we are undertaking a whole school exploration of our locality of Tintagel, centring on the Old Post Office. If you have any information or artefacts that would enrich this, please talk to your child's teacher.

And we have agreed that every day, all our diverse achievements should be celebrated and respected. Whatever dreams and talents your child brings to our school, we hope we can nurture them to their fullest potential.

Class Organisation from September 2019

We still await the return of some of our staff from maternity leave. 2018-2019 was definitely the year of babies!

Here in Tintagel, Mrs Binney and Miss Williams will be rejoining us over the next few weeks. This completes our TA team. Mrs Kirkman is still relishing her time at home with her young family but will return in February. In the interim, our fantastic team are working so hard to keep the school running smoothly and I am in touch with the team each day – even when I am working from other schools.

This year, we are delighted to welcome Mrs Tara Sharp to Class 1. Tara is newly qualified but has had really strong placements and brings with her fresh ideas, new energy and a commitment to ensuring your child settles quickly and feels secure enough to meet new challenges and explore new learning opportunities.

We would also like to inform you that Mrs Robson – teaching in Class 4 – is reverting back to her maiden name and so will be using Miss Thomas from now onwards.



Improvements To The School Environment

The relentless drive to improve our school environments has kept up its momentum over the summer break.

The new school fence now ensures that the children are completely safeguarded when in the playground and on the field. Please rest assured that it is not there as a barricade to parents – we still welcome you into our school. In addition, our Early Years classroom has been redecorated, new fire compliance work has been carried out and our amphitheatre has been refurbished. Special thanks must go to Lynore – our fantastic school cleaner – for all the effort she has put into making

the school look spectacular. We really should be proud of our exceptional environment. Not all schools look this good!

Important information about drop off and pick up.

In our absolute commitment to the highest standards of safeguarding, could we please remind parents that we are unable to hand children over to adults at the end of the day, unless they are named on the contact sheet or we have had a message directly from a parent giving permission for a last minute change. Children will always be handed to an adult when eye contact is made. It helps us if parents can stand back a little so we can see who is who. Clubs are released from the front of the school.

Morning Protocols.

We are now training children to line up alphabetically so that they are ready for any emergency and fire drills. Please could you say a swift goodbye to them in the playground so that they can focus on their class line and lead in confidently. It really helps us.

Meet and Greet

The staff have a strong commitment to working in partnership with parents and we absolutely know that this dialogue around each child helps us to personalise provision and therefore shape a more positive school experience for them. For that reason, we would like to welcome you into your child's classroom environment at this early stage of the year so that each teacher can share routines, key messages and give you a flavour of expectations. You will also have the opportunity to ask general questions so we can clarify any concerns you may have from the outset. No concern is too small. A sequence of early Meet and Greet sessions will be held the week beginning 16th September at the end of the day before pick-up and a letter will be sent home detailing these next week.

School Uniform

The children look fantastic in their smart new uniform this week. Thank you. To help us keep control of lost property, please name everything. We will check for named clothing next week. A particular thank you to all those parents who have ensured their children have the correct PE kit.

Water Bottles

We really encourage all children to have access to a school water bottle. The links between good hydration and better learning have been confirmed for many years now. Only clear, school water bottles are allowed in the classrooms. These are available from the school office for £1.75 via ParentPay. It is imperative that staff can monitor what and how much is being drunk in class. The posh metal containers are unsuitable for this and also are a hazard if they fall off surfaces. Any questions about this, please just contact the office to talk to Mrs Cox. We appreciate your support for this policy.



Homework and Clubs

Homework is a vital opportunity to nurture independent learning, gives you regular insights into what your child is learning and enables children to approach learning in their preferred learning style. We aim to balance creativity with the more formal overlearning and practising of skills. This will all be clarified at the Meet and Greets. Some parents have expressed concerns that homework can become a burden at home. If you are experiencing difficulties with homework just contact your child's class teacher. Together we can sort it out.

Our club list is hot off the press and should have come home with the newsletter. I am delighted with the range and breadth of opportunities on offer for such a small school team. It really does reflect the commitment of the staff to enriching every child's experience in school. If your child signs up to a club, please do ensure they commit to it, as places are wasted if they do not attend when other children could benefit from them.

Diary Dates

An overview of term dates is available on our website. We will publish a list of dates until Christmas in the next newsletter. Please be aware that KS2 SATs dates for 2020 are the week commencing 11th May. It is vital that all Year 6 children are in school for these end of Key Stage assessments.



Key Dates

Wednesday 18 th September	PTFA Meeting in Foyer at 9am
Friday 20 th September	Individual School Photos
Monday 23 rd September	Class 3 & 4 Swimming weekly
Wednesday 25 th September	Class 1 & 2 Swimming weekly
Thursday 17 th October	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 28 th October	First day of Term 2
Friday 29 th November	Half Price Book Sale
Friday 20 th December	Last day of Term 2
Tuesday 7 th January	First day of Term 3
Thursday 13 th February	Last day of Term 3
Monday 24 th February	First day of Term 4
Friday 27 th March	Last day of Term 4
Tuesday 14 th April	First day of Term 5
Friday 8 th May	May Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 11 th May to 15 th May	Y6 SATS
Friday 22 nd May	Last day of Term 5
Monday 1 st June	First day of Term 6
Monday 1 st to Thursday 4 th June	Y6 Bristol Residential
Friday 5 th June	RCS – Community Cohesion Day – school closed
Wednesday 22 nd July	Last day of Term 6