



# Newsletter



9/10/17

## Football Champions

Congratulations to our footballing superstars from years 3 & 4. On Friday they went to Wembury to spend the day playing in a competition against twelve other schools. They played six matches and won them all, scoring over thirty goals and conceding only one. They fully deserved the winner's trophy that they brought back to school with them. Thanks are due to Mr Winders and Mr Langley for the training.

## Awards

We were very pleased last week to have confirmation of two awards that we have been granted. The first was being recognised as a STEM Ambassador School. This is due to the number of Science Technology Engineering and Maths opportunities that we offered to our children last year. The second award was even more of an achievement. Schools that use the Read, Write Inc programme are normally set a target of three years if they want to be recognised as Read Write Inc 'Badge' School. A handful of very good schools achieve the award within two years but the director who visited us earlier this term said we were the only school she knew of who had achieved the award in just **one year**. This really is a remarkable achievement for the team of teachers and teaching assistants who work so hard to ensure the building blocks for reading are embedded in our children at the earliest opportunity. Last year every year 1 child, who had learned through the Read Write Inc programme with us, achieved the required level in the phonics screening test. Mrs Shores leads this team and deserves huge credit for this unique achievement.

## Last Full Week

This week is the last 5-day week for the children for a little while. Next week their last day of school is on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, as teachers have a training day on the Friday. The following week is the half term holiday.

The children return to school on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October but the Friday of that week (3<sup>rd</sup> November) is another training day so school will not be open on that day.

## E-Safety

"Icebreakers" is an initiative from the mobile phone company O2, as part of its partnership with the NSPCC, to help all children and families in the UK stay safe together online. They have created a series of weekly emails for parents and carers to help them start a conversation with their children about online safety. It is free to sign up: <https://nspcc.o2.co.uk/>

## School Council

The new school council met for the first time last Friday. They discussed a number of items, one of which concerned sweatshirts for PE. They have decided that a cheaper alternative should be open to children to wear a warm top while doing PE outside in colder weather. We will be negotiating with Tesco to add a grey sweatshirt to the menu of options they offer to parents on their website. The School Council were very clear that the sweatshirt is just for PE and is not an alternative to our royal blue school jumper. We will let you know when the sweatshirt is available. Thank you to the parents who have changed grey skirts to navy or trainers to school shoes in recent weeks. If you have not been able to make the trainers to shoes change immediately for financial reasons please can you do so by the end of the half term holiday.

## Parking

We have 188 children on roll at the moment whereas six years ago we had only 112. One consequence of that is that parking problems are more likely to occur. The best solution of course is to leave the car at home and walk, or bike/scoot to school. If that is not possible please bear in mind safety and our neighbours when deciding where to park. The parking bays on Raglan Rd are private property and should not be used by school parents. On the Chapel St side please bear in mind property owners when parking and do not block the lane leading up to the Police Station. The solution that we promote is to park in Brickfields big car park and walk the 150m to school and back. Please do not stop on the zigzag lines outside the Raglan Rd gate when dropping off or collecting, they are there for our children's safety.

## Acts Of Worship

A number of parents have been asking about joining Acts of Worship led by classes 3 & 5. These are planned for next half term. Foundation children will join in in the new year.