**Milborne Message 10.01.20**

**Message from Sharon Hunt!**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and a very **Happy New Year** to you all! I hope you managed to spend some time with family and friends and relax together and are ready for all the exciting things planned for the Spring term.

It was lovely to see the photos and videos of **Christmas experiences on Tapestry**. Thank you for taking the time to share these with us.

As you know we subscribe to **Doodle Maths and English** so please make sure we are getting good value for money by making these a regular part of your child’s activities.If you haven’t tried them yet then now is a good time to start. They are personalised to your child’s level and balance challenge and building confidence really well. The children who use them regularly are making very good progress across key areas of these subjects and have lots of fun doing so.

We also subscribe to **Rock Stars Times Tables**, but this hasn’t been used so much recently but has had excellent results in the past. I know some of the children had mislaid passwords so we have reissued to Year 3 and 4 currently and they should be in their class diaries. I have challenged the Year 4s to a Times Tables showdown each week, starting with 2x tables next Friday. Speed is key here so practise will be needed.

We had a **school council meeting** this week and the children are now ready to hand out notices for those parking inappropriately in the disabled bays as well as in the Drop off zone.

Isaac was invited to present his ideas to the council after he was inspired to take action from learning about the impact of the bushfires in Australia on the animals and wildlife. He is also concerned about the impact of plastics in the ocean. To this end, the school council would like to promote awareness of both issues focussing first this term on helping to save the koalas. They have arranged a sale with 5 stalls (books, cakes, games and toys, bookmarks, second hand clothes including uniform) for **Friday 20th March**. This will be held at the end of the school day.

Sophia and Isabella were also invited as they raised money for the school by making bookmarks and selling them before Christmas. The council have suggested that we use this money to buy litter pickers which could be borrowed from the school for families to use at weekends when visiting parks and beaches. I will research this and let you know what was decided.

**Parent Forum** met this morning . Look out for the minutes on the website over the next week. We reported on progress against the School Development Plan across the three areas - Curriculum, Communication and Behaviour, discussed the new class feedback sheets which I talked about before Christmas and discussed possible changes for next year such as potentially moving the KS2 performance from Christmas to the end of the summer term.

If you haven’t already done so, please send in your **Fill the bucket** slips for our display (these were on the December Newsletter)

Yours sincerely,



Sharon Hunt

**Key information**

* **OE -** If there are any parents who are able to help for a couple of hours during our OE lessons in the afternoon on either a Wednesday or Thursday (see Website Calendar for dates), please could you let Miss Wittman know. A rota will be set up, so if you are able to help with any dates over the course of the year Adrian our OE instructor would be grateful. Thank you.
* **SCHOOLCOMMS -** Please see the letter home before Christmas holidays regarding this new online consent and payment method for all internal clubs, school trips and any payments required from parents.

This is a new system, admin wise, to Mrs Hosford, so please bear with us whilst we ‘iron out’ any initial glitches. All credits from Libacura have been manually transferred over and are now available on your Schoolcomms accounts. If a credit has been transferred, you will have received an email ‘thanking you for your payment’.   
If you would like to pay by childcare vouchers, this is still possible by the same method as you have already been doing as these details are still the same. The only difference being, they need to be paid in advance i.e a month in hand, so the payment can be input as a credit on your Schoolcomms account which will then enable you to use the credit, rather than having to make a card payment at the time of booking.

If you have any issues please either come into the office or phone / email the office and I will endeavour to answer all your questions from a parent user point of view as I use.

* **BASKETBALL Club -** There are still 9 spaces available if your child would like to attend. Please book and pay for your child's place via Schoolcomms.
* **ROBINS -** Shire Hall school trip on Monday - **Please remember** your child’s VICTORIAN lunch, water bottle and weather appropriate coat.
* **RABBITS -** Friday 17th Jan - all Reception parents are invited to the Writing Stay and Play session from 9 till 10:20am. Children are also able to come to school in their Pyjamas for the PJ party in the afternoon, see previous message from Miss Wittman.
* **Wellington Boots - *Please can all children make sure they have brought back their NAMED wellington boots for use during playtimes and OE.***
* **HOT School Meals** **-** Please could all parents check and double check that meals have been ordered for their child right up until the 28th February. Thank you.
* **Safer Internet:-** Many children are talking about playing the game Fortnite at home. Please be aware that this game has a PEGI rating of 12 years old and is therefore not suitable for children under this age. More information about online safety is available on the school website.
* The next **FoS meeting** will be on 21st January 2020 @ 8pm in the Royal Oak Pub.
* **The Sun Newspaper - Thank you** for all the tokens handed into the office so far. Last count we have received 563 So please continue to ask Family, Friends and co-workers who buy The Sun newspaper to please keep the tokens printed daily. The deadline is looming at the end of January, so there is still time to collect as many as we can.
* **Libacura -**  Please ensure any outstanding balances have been paid as soon as possible.

**Key Dates:-**

* 13th Jan - Robins Shire Hall trip ***(Victorian packed lunch required)***
* 15th Jan - School Nurse drop-in session (8:45 - 9:15am)
* 17th Jan - Rabbits Pyjama Party (come to school in PJ’s)
* 17th Jan - Rabbits Writing Stay and Play session
* 21st Jan - FoS meeting (8pm in Royal Oak pub)
* 31st Jan - Reception Dance Showcase @ St Mary’s Middle School
* 5th Feb - YEAR 4 - Tree Planting with Trees 4 Dorset (am)
* 5th Feb - Year 2 - Bud Identification (pm)
* 11th Feb - Robins Class Assembly (9am - 9:30am)
* 12th Feb - Year 4 Hooke Court Parent meeting (3:10pm till 3:45pm)
* 13th Feb - **LAST DAY OF TERM**
* 14th Feb - **INSET** - Teacher Training day (no children in school)
* 17th Feb to 21st Feb - Half Term Break
* 24th Feb - First Day back for children
* 26th Feb - The Book People Bus Visit (8:30am till 4pm)
* 28th Feb - Rabbits - Maths Stay and Play (9am till 10:20am)
* 4th March - School Nurse Drop in Session (8:45 - 9:15)
* 4th March - Year 4 & 3 DASP Music Concert (6pm @ Thomas Hardye School, Dorchester)
* 5th March - World Book Day
* 6th March - CLASS Photos
* 13th March - Comic Relief Red Nose day
* 20th March - School Council Sale (raising money for Koalas)
* 24th March - Parent Consultations
* 26th March - Parent Consultations
* 3rd April - Egg rolling / Decoration morning (Only 1 egg to be decorated)
* 3rd April - **LAST DAY OF TERM** (pick-up @ **1:15pm finish**)
* 6th April to 17th April - Easter School Holidays
* 20th April - First Day back for children
* 22nd to 24th April - Hooke Court Residential Trip (Year 4’s)

**Wider Community Information:-**

* **FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE -** Please follow the link to the latest newsletter and information:- <https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/novemberfisnewsletter?e=5ad5011868>
* **Baby & Toddler Groups** - Please visit [www.playandbloom.co.uk](http://www.playandbloom.co.uk) for more information.
* **AS Divas and Dudes meetings** - Please see the attached flyer and also in Main Reception.