

Dear Parents,

The children have loved **Science week** and realising that everyone is a scientist. The boats all looked fantastic and the children were absolutely thrilled to test them on Milborne stream.

Thank you to staff, parents and children for all the hard work in making it happen. Hope you enjoyed it.

Today for **Red Nose Day**, the children are writing up their jokes which we hope to have ready for viewing in the railings by the end of the day to bring a smile to the school and wider communities. There is still time to make your donation if you haven't already done so. Please see the just giving link below to make your donation. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/milbornefirstschoolcomicrelief>

This year, we will not be having parent consultations as we usually would at this time of the year but will continue as normal with the end of year reports. We are busy settling the children back into learning routines and establishing those characteristics of learning with others. There is some assessment taking place too, although we are trying to keep this to a minimum to get the balance right.

We are planning on going ahead with the **Easter Decorated Egg Competition** if we can, but this will need to be slightly different. We will need the eggs to be brought into school, in advance for 72 hours before the actual day.

These will be viewed by the children and judged on Thursday 1 April. Please can you send your egg entry to school by **Monday 29th March**.

For those who have not been part of this annual event at Milborne your child's challenge is to decorate **one** egg or create a character or scene around **one** egg. There is usually a very high standard so no pressure!

For those in Year 4 you will know that we usually have a residential trip each year. Over the last few years this has been to **Hooke Court**. Last year, we were unable to go for reasons known to you and we are really keen to do what we can this year. We have been looking at all the options available to us and we have a plan that we can now share with you. This is a plan and I hope it will all go ahead as such, but I don't know for sure what the next few months will bring. More detailed information will be sent out nearer the time but I thought you would all like to know where we are currently.

We are going to go ahead and go to Hooke Court but we will not be with any other school. We will be camping for two nights in a field there rather than sleeping in the dorms. We will be given meals as usual from Hooke Court and activities will be organised by Hooke Court staff throughout the days. We usually share the cost of travel with Puddletown First School but that won't be possible so the cost of the trip is more. The children will depart on **Wednesday 7th July**. The bonus may be that we get super weather!

The payment request has been amended and already set up in the Schoolcomms (Gateway) app. Thank you to those who have already made some contribution towards the original payment request or paid this off in full, the balance owing will be the transportation costs previously mentioned were not included in the original request. The full payment of £180.00 will now need to be paid by 2nd July, therefore you have a few extra months to make the payments.

Mad4Animals will be paying us a visit on the 28th April. They will be bringing various bugs and other small animals for the children to learn about and there may be an opportunity to hold some of the animals IF they would like to. There is a small parent contribution towards this event of £4.00. Please could all parents consent for your child to take part and make your online contribution via Schoolcomms (Gateway) app. I am sure the children will have lots of fun during their session. Photos will be taken and shared via the usual methods.

Hope you have a relaxing weekend and remember to complete the Census on Sunday!

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Hunt

External information:-

- **Dorset for You - Easter in Dorset:-** If you are on a low income or are in receipt of Income Support and JobSeekers Allowance, please see the attached flyer for more information or follow this link below. In order to access these activities, children and young people do need to be registered and to receive a passcode by email/text message. Families can register online: <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/easter-in-dorset> or by calling: 01305 221090
- **Families Dorset e-Magazine link:-** Here's **the LINK to our new Mar/Apr Easter issue** for sharing with your parent community, or click on the link below
https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/familiesdorset_17_marapr2021?fr=sYmQ4MTMyODM2NTk
- **E-Census - 21st March:-**
Census Day is **THIS** Sunday 21 March. The census helps to plan and fund public services in your area, including your school, transport and the NHS. The information provided will help to make sure that services meet the needs of our changing society. Please help us spread the word, so we can let everyone know how important it is to fill in the census questionnaire.
- **All Stars and Dynamos Cricket at Bere Regis Club:-**
Please follow the link for their online flyer/newsletter or see the attached PDF file BRCCLeaflet.
- **Steve Treble Sports Club:-**
Please see the attached flyer for more information regarding Steve's Easter club being held at Prince of Wales School in Dorchester, or follow the link to his website www.stevetrebleschoolsports.co.uk to find out more information and to place bookings.
- **Kev's Easter Football at Spetisbury Primary School:-**
Please see the attached flyer for more information