



Yealmpton Primary School

www.yealmpton-primary.devon.sch.uk

A partner school in the Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST)



WESTCOUNTRY
SCHOOLS TRUST

Friday 14th January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we plough through the middle of Winter, the children continue to shine with their positivity, engagement and appetite for learning. In Key Stage 1, the children have been developing their understanding of number, starting their new History sequences and exploring computer programming.



In Year 4, the children have received a visit from a Viking, taken part in a Viking sea journey, played Viking games and held a battle between the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings!



In Upper Key Stage 2, the children have been immersed in the Battle of Troy, Wild Tribe allotment preparation and outdoor learning in the stunning backdrop of a frosty, sunlit, January morning.



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A brief update on the Covid situation – From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Please continue to remain vigilant and take precaution in and around school to ensure we can operate as normal as possible through this challenging period.

A brief word on trees – In the last week of the Autumn term, the tree surgeons from Dartforest came in to carry out maintenance work. The team removed major deadwood and epicormics growth on the main trunk of the Lime tree and they reduced the north and north eastern crown by approximately 3 metres and reduced overextended limbs. In addition, they severed ivy at the base and removed epicormics growth at the base of the Sweet Chestnuts. Finally, the team carried out a trunk decay assessment of the large Horse Chestnut tree using a PICUS tomograph. From the report we've received from them, there is no concern about decay around the trunk base, however Dartforest have given recommendations around reducing the upper crown and overhanging limbs of the Horse Chestnut.

I have since spoken to our local tree surgeon, Mr Trinder, who is in the process of arranging a suitable date for this to be completed, so we may open up the area once again to our children. Once I have a date, I will be sure to share this with you.

We continue our focus in school on our dreams and goals and our school value of 'being positive'

With this in mind I leave you with a few reflections –

Our aspirations are our possibilities – Shoot for the moon, even if you miss you will land among the stars

No pessimist ever discovered the secrets of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new heaven to the horizon of the spirit – Be Positive!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

'Be the Best you can Be'

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