



Newsletter - Friday 28th September 2018

Aim Aspire Achieve

Theme of the Week - Kindness

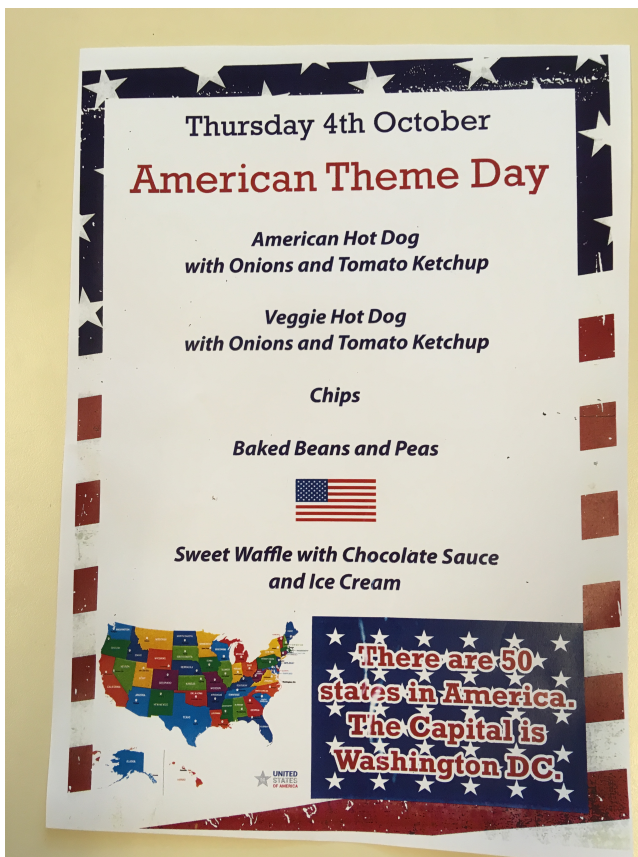
Dear Parents and Carers

Parents Information Evening

Thank you to the parents who attended this event. We were pleased to share our hopes and aspirations for the term for each class, along with some great food samples from the kitchen. Mrs Ellis and Mrs Fewings, who are employed by Chartwells, tempted our taste buds with

food chosen from the menu.

Next Thursday is a really important day in the school year. Known as Census Day, it is the day when the school has to report a range of information to the local authority and in turn, the Department of Education. The information collected is used in part to determine our school funding for the forthcoming year. One particular aspect we need **your help** with is school lunches, particularly for children in reception and years 1 and 2. The funding for the universal free school meals for KS1 is not decided, as you would imagine, by working out how many children claim the lunches each day. Instead it is decided by two census days in the year: one on Thursday and another in the spring. The take up on those two days is averaged out and this number becomes the figure that our funding is based on for the year. There is the danger that we will end up taking money out of school funds to pay for the 'free' school meals for KS1. To encourage as many KS1 pupils (Oak/Chestnut/Beech) pupils as



possible to have lunches on that day, we have a particularly child friendly menu (see photo). Jacket Potato and School Packed lunch are also available. If possible please encourage your children to have a school lunches on THURSDAY even if they don't normally have them. There is no charge for KS1 and it will really help us, so with the American Themed menu why not give it try?



Harvest Festival THANK YOU!!!

I returned from my meeting in Exeter (where I met up with Mr Alford) to a hall packed with goodies. The two charities, Okehampton Food Bank and St Petrock's in Exeter, are going to be very pleased to receive such a wonderful collection from us, including a £10 donation. Thank you, Mr Foreman and Reverend Weldon, for leading the Harvest festival and Mrs Dunn and Mrs

Ware for preparing one of my favourite songs, which I believe was sung with gusto. Finally, thank **you** for all the generous donations. I'll be putting a call out for volunteers to help load the cars when needed please.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAY

Year 6 pupils attended Okehampton College this week and took part in activities to prepare them for their imminent move into Year 7! They had a tour of the site and came away with lots of information to help them make the decision about their education once they leave our school. The time will fly by so the preparation is well underway to ensure that they are ready.

YEAR 6 JUNIOR LIFE SKILLS This event was held at Parklands Leisure Centre in Okehampton. Pupils were shown how to resuscitate a patient (a dummy I hope!). They had a lesson about internet safety, including how to recognise dangers and how to stay safe online. A Dartmoor Ranger gave advice on walking on the moors and the Fire Service were on hand to demonstrate the dangers of chip pan fires!!!

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB – TWIGLETS

This valuable provision is run by experienced and qualified practitioners every TUESDAY and THURSDAY after school. Session times are 3:20 – 4:20, or 3:20 – 5:20. They offer a wide variety of activities and even use the school pool to keep the children happy and engaged. If you are interested please speak to Mrs Salter, Mrs Reynolds or Mrs Grant, or pick up details from the school office.

VERY IMPORTANT ALLERGY NOTICE

Two pupils have started school with us in the Foundation Stage Unit. Both pupils have SEVERE allergies. If they touch or eat any of these products it could result in a severe life-threatening reaction, needing immediate medical attention with an Epipen. We are currently seeking further guidance about how we can safely manage this in the school environment. In the meantime, we ask that you do not include these ingredients in your child's packed lunch.

NO LENTIL EGG NUT products

CLUSTER EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW

Mrs Fox and Mrs Marvin accompanied me on a learning walk around the school on Monday. We were delighted to see the children working hard throughout the school. Teachers were given immediate feedback, and with a joint staff meeting planned before half-term, we can share ideas and agree on ways in which we can help to strengthen links between the two schools. I then had the opportunity to repeat the exercise at South Tawton on Tuesday.

OUT OF HOURS DANGEROUS BEHAVIOUR

It has been brought to my attention by a number of concerned parents and carers that some of our pupils are unsupervised and have caused many near misses on the road. They are riding on bikes and scooters around the town, without wearing safety gear, and are acting in a very dangerous way. As a school community we work very hard to teach our children about the importance of road safety, and we also need the full support of every parent/carers. As the nights draw in and visibility decreases, please be extra vigilant.

Monday 1 st October	Vision Screening 5yr olds	
Tuesday 2 nd October		
Wednesday 3 rd October		
Thursday 4 th October	SCHOOL CENSUS DAY YSL training	
Friday 5 th October	Little Seedlings CANCELLED this week Hall needed for the schools to attend the Tournament (thank you)	9 – 11am in school hall week
	Netball and Football Tournament Closing date for Administrator Vacancy	

ADVANCE NOTICE

Tempest Photography **OCTOBER 8th for individual and family photos.** Watch this space for more details.

Have a great weekend while the sun continues to shine
Miss Chauhan

FONTS QUIZ NIGHT
 1st October 2018 7pm The Fountain Inn
 and
 5th October 2018 7pm Town Hall

