

Dear Parents / Carers

This half-term has been a busy one with many achievements! We have seen society in general starting to look a bit more normal, allowing the planning of school trips to begin, which is very exciting for the students. The students across both sites have resumed swimming lessons again, a skill the school feel is essential when living near the coast. Our two year 11 students have been sitting KS4 Functional Skills and GCSE exams, as well as ASDAN. This is a huge achievement for the students, helping them to take their next steps in education.

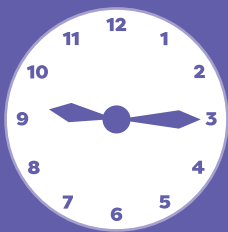


Thank you for all the replies regarding the proposed change to the school day. After half-term the leadership team will consider all the responses and contact individual parents that have requested a further conversation on the proposal.

Although May has been a wash out with the weather, we anticipate a sunnier outlook for next half-term so the students can take advantage of our wonderful outdoor spaces we are fortunate to have on both sites.

We hope you have a super half-term break and look forward to seeing the students back in school on Monday 7 June.

Pete Jenkins, Executive Principal

**IMPORTANT!**

Please let the school know of any absence by 9:15am by calling 01626 244086.

Thank you!

NEW STARTERS

This term we welcome new staff to the school.



We would like to welcome our new Curriculum Lead, Emily Hanbury. Emily has started working with us for a few days this term in preparation for her September start. She has a wealth of experience in curriculum design in mainstream and special school settings. She is really excited about the opportunity of working alongside our teachers and enhancing the curriculum.

We will be posting any updates on how we continue to respond to guidance about Coronavirus and what this means for our students on our website www.sfit.co.uk and also on Class Dojo.

You can also find out more on the government website at www.gov.uk/coronavirus



Please note: New school mobile phone number 07806 768 241

PLEASE TEXT to notify the school of any absence/sickness of students, collection information etc. Availability to access it is in term time only.



A MESSAGE FROM LEWIS HARBEN



This half-term has seen us returning to normality as facilities are opening up.

As well as making the most of our local outdoor surroundings, the students have been visiting the swimming pool at Seale Hayne each week which has been a hit

in all classes. Some classes have been visiting a local gym, whilst others have been working with staff to develop our Forest School area on site.

We have also invested in a VR headset - immersing students in different countries, periods in time and even different worlds! We now look ahead to next half-term with excitement as we plan more amazing experiences to engage our students in their education at Sfit.



DEER CLASS

This half-term Deer class have been busy learning how to tell the time on analogue clocks and are picking up the concept well. They have worked exceptionally hard on this. They have also been attempting to solve the conundrum of our new soft play blocks, and are getting closer all the time! They have been exploring art both digitally and also in the more traditional manner with paint and a brush.

Ryan enjoyed his recent lessons at Combe Pafford - learning about Hair & Beauty, and trying out his new skills on our staff, Lee and Sam. Well done Ryan!

So far a fantastic half-term!!



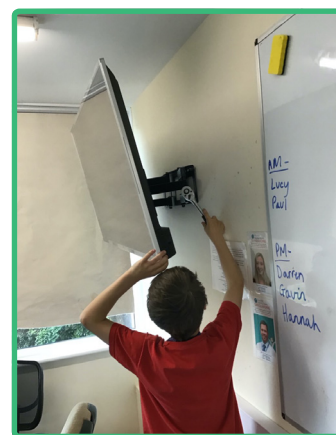
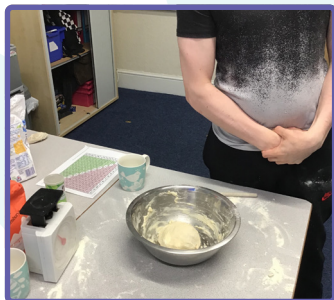
TAMAR CLASS

Tamar have really enjoyed our topic "Land Ahoy" this half-term! We have been learning all about pirates in our literacy and topic lessons and are excited to the end the term with a trip to the Golden Hind in Brixham! We have spent a lot of time this term focusing on friendships and team work within the class and are all so proud of the progress they are making!



EXE CLASS

This half-term Exe have been taking a look at eating disorders and how to eat healthy, balanced meals as part of their PSHE. We took a deep dive into the subject and explored the social pressure around losing weight and how it effects young people and their mental health. Exe started visiting a local Gym in Newton Abbot which will continue weekly, as well as swimming.



AXE CLASS

This half-term has been brilliant in Axe Class!

We have been lucky enough to start swimming again in the Hydro Pool at Seale Hayne and have loved being back in the water!

In English we have been reading "The Twits" by Roald Dahl and have really enjoyed getting to know more about the pranks that Mr and Mrs Twit play on each other.

Our Topic this term is Law and Order and we have been researching the Civil Rights Movement and the importance of Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King.

We have also enjoyed local walks to the park and cooking our favourite dishes in our Life Skills lessons.

We have enjoyed completing Lego Therapy sessions with Nay and love the different sets that we put together and the teamwork involved!

Thank you for all your support this half-term and we hope you have a relaxing break.

PLYM CLASS

We've had a great half-term both in and out of the classroom!

Jordan has been busy making improvements to our class layout, introducing a 'chill zone' with a tv, and a 'work zone'. He got stuck into the DIY, taking the TV off the wall, drilling new holes and putting it back up. He also measured up for new curtains!

The boys worked really well together using soft play equipment to make various dens. They demonstrated great teamwork and thought carefully about where to place the pieces.

A MESSAGE FROM LUCY GRENN



We have had a lovely half-term at Place House. Swimming has started again every Thursday for all students and our Year 9 children have been attending sessions at Combe Pafford and taking part in sessions delivering Motor Vehicle, Painting and

Decorating and Hair and Beauty. The grounds are looking really lovely with flowers out and the Forest School continues to be developed by our children and staff. The children enjoy their walks to the shop and into Ashburton to explore the local area. We have lots of exciting things planned for next term – all children are being given the opportunity to go kayaking at Decoy Park. We will also be spending much more time outside now that the weather is getting warmer.



TEIGN CLASS

This term our topic has been Land Ahoy where we have been looking at pirates. We have really enjoyed the book *The Antlered Ship* and have created our own night time scene in art. We have also written some amazing character descriptions of pirates.

We've loved exploring the outdoors and finding lots of gems in the community such as our beloved stream, parks, and a farm!

We've enjoyed many different sensory experiments in Teign such as strawberry smelling snow and kinetic sand.

In our fizzy pirate coins science experiment we found that the vinegar and bicarbonate of soda created bubbles. We learned that vinegar (an acid) and bicarbonate of soda (an alkali), react together to neutralise each other. This reaction releases carbon dioxide gas, which causes the bubbles you see.

We have loved food tech this term and have made swashbuckle smoothies, cheese and apple pirate ships, chocolate brownies and hard knuckle biscuits, but our favourite topic has been swimming! We've absolutely loved it!



ERME CLASS

Our theme of the week was Pirates, Land Ahoy with the children exploring this in all areas of their learning. The children looked at 'The Pirate Next Door' story, eating sausage squids and making pirate masks in art. In science, we made screaming balloons which is a great way to explore sound. The children enjoyed feeling the vibrations when moving the balloon slow and fast.

In our topic Awe and Wonder, each day we have a tray that contains different sensory ingredients for the children to play with. We have been talking about how they feel, how they smell and their different texture.

DART CLASS

Dart class have been up to some fantastic and exciting things this term. We have been really engaging with Dungeons and Dragons. Students have been creating some exciting and thrilling back-stories for their characters, as well as ancient maps and art work for the story. Moreover, Dart class have created some super 'affirmation stars' for Teacher Day, on which they have written some really nice and heart-warming things about themselves to help boost their self-esteem. In addition, the boys have been going on weekly excursions to Combe Pafford, where they have been enjoying lessons in Mechanics, Animal Care, and Hair and Beauty. Lee especially loved the salon experience, after Charlie gave him a makeover and dyed his hair green!



PARRETT CLASS

The students in Parrett class have loved engaging in physical education this term. They have been completing fitness circuits as well as participating in hockey and tennis, which they have really enjoyed. They have also really enjoyed cooking this term making various meals, including omelettes, pork stir fry, enchiladas, salmon with veg and pretzels. All the students have been very proactive and amazing at preparing the ingredients.

We also have two Year 11 students who are completing GCSE's and Functional Skills exams at the moment. We are all extremely proud of them for working so hard and look forward to celebrating their achievements at the end of the school year.

TAVY CLASS

The topic in Tavy has been Land Ahoy with the students looking at 'The Pirates Next Door' book and creating a character description of our pirate. All the students contributed with their ideas, using their imagination and visual prompts. Art was linked to pirates with the children looking at the differences between a nice beach and a dirty beach and why it is important to look after our beaches for wildlife. Group discussions in class always bring the students together and we love hearing and seeing their confidence grow. For the last week of half-term they are planning on making a pirate ship cake with treasure on the inside!



Over the last half-term, we have been focusing on another of the Five Ways to Wellbeing – Keep Learning. As we head towards the end of another academic year, people may start to feel a little tired but we know that learning new things can help you

feel more confident – and it's fun!

Students across the school have been trying their hand at new things such as swimming lessons, singing, gardening and learning new languages. It's important to remember that we won't always be good at new things when we first try them and although that can be frustrating – practice is often all we need.

As restrictions start easing and we start going back to things we used to do – it would be easy to think that we will go straight back to “normal”. It's ok to feel a little worried about getting out and about again.

Here are some tips for taking things slowly and being kind to ourselves:

- Remember that it's ok for things to feel a bit strange for a while – this year has been very difficult for lots of people
- Take your time
- Spend time with trusted people
- Talk about how you feel with others

We are looking forward to the next half-term which will be focused on Keeping Active.

Megan Hornsby,
Mental Health Practitioner



If you require more support or would like further information on supporting your own or other's mental health, please visit www.nhs.uk/mentalhealth.

7th June – 23rd July

KEEP ACTIVE



(VIRTUAL) TEA & TALK

We had a great Tea & Talk session this half-term, with parents and carers sharing thoughts, knowledge and experiences with us and each other.

A big Thank You to Beth and Hayley from REACH (Reducing Exploitation and Absence from Care or Home) for joining us to chat and answer questions about online safety and risks of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), and to our own IT Officer, Rowan Eden, for providing practical advice on phone safety and IT support.

We are looking forward to our last Tea & Talk of the year being in person at College House! (It will also run on Zoom for anyone who wants to join us virtually). At the end of the next session we would like to film willing parent/carers who would be happy to share their own experiences with us – challenges they've faced, experiences of School for Inspiring Talents, tips or advice for other parents/carers. This would be entirely optional – if it is something you would be interested to take part in then please let Charlotte Robertson know.

Next Tea & Talk: 'Out of School Provision'
- 8 July 2021, 10:30am-12:30pm.

If parents/carers would like to attend in person please can they email Charlotte, Hannah or Fay.



TALK & LISTEN,
BE THERE,
FEEL CONNECTED



DO WHAT YOU CAN,
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,
MOVE YOUR MOOD



REMEMBER
THE SIMPLE
THINGS THAT
GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW
EXPERIENCES,
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,
SURPRISE YOURSELF



Your time,
your words,
your presence

Public Health Nursing - Contact Details (PHN hubs)

The PHN hubs and the Chat Health texting service have continued to operate and been prioritised throughout Covid-19.

Please continue to signpost young people to Chat Health, and advertise this service as widely as possible, where they can access confidential information and advice via a School Nurse.

We have continued to receive and respond to referrals into the service and have been offering a mix of phone contacts, video conferencing and face to face contacts based on the needs of children, young people, and families.

Devon County Council, Children's Services - Public Health Nursing Service

<u>Southern Hub</u> Contact Details T: 0333 234 1901 E: Rde- tr.SouthernPHN hub@nhs.net	<u>Exeter Hub</u> Contact Details T: 0333 234 1902 E: Rde-tr.ExeterPHN hub@nhs.net	<u>Eastern Hub</u> Contact Details T: 0333 234 1903 E: Rde- tr.EasternPHN hub@nhs.net	<u>Northern Hub</u> Contact Details T: 0333 234 1904 E: Rde- tr.NorthernPHNhub@ nhs.net
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Find us online at: <https://devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/health/public-health-nursing>



Schools advice to parents and carers

Keeping our children, schools and communities safe

Currently only people with COVID-19 symptoms need to **get tested**:

A high temperature

OR new, continuous cough

OR loss or change to sense of smell or taste

Visit the 111 **online symptom checker** and **check the government website** for changes to testing guidance.

People without COVID-19 symptoms don't need to get tested, unless asked to by a health professional, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive. Close contacts should isolate for 14 days and only get tested if they develop COVID-19 symptoms.

Stay up to date with the latest coronavirus (COVID-19) advice in Devon at **devon.cc/covid-19** and sign up to receive updates at **devon.cc/connectme**

What if...	You need to...	Return to school...
My child has COVID-19 symptoms?	<p>Keep your child at home and tell school they have COVID-19 symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get your child tested and tell school the result. • Self-isolate whole household while waiting for test result (If unable to get a test, child must self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started and rest of household must self-isolate for 14 days) 	if your child's test result is negative and they feel completely well. They should be without a high temperature for at least 24 hours.
My child tests positive for COVID-19?	<p>Keep your child at home and tell school test result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-isolate your child for 10 days from when their symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms). • Self isolate your whole household for 14 days from when your child's symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) even if someone else in the household tests negative during that time. 	after completing 10 days self-isolation and they feel completely well. They should be without a high temperature for at least 24 hours. They can return to school even with a cough or loss/change of taste or smell as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.

Do it for your ▶ FamilySchoolDevon



School Term Dates 2020 / 2021

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Term Lengths

- Autumn Half Term
 - 7 Sep - 16 Oct (30 Days)
- Half Term to Christmas
 - 2 Nov - 18 Dec (33 Days)
- Winter Half Term
 - 5 Jan - 12 Feb (29 Days)
- Half Term to Easter
 - 22 Feb - 1 Apr (29 Days)
- Spring Half Term
 - 19 Apr - 28 May (29 Days)
- Summer Half Term
 - 7 Jun - 23 Jul (35 Days)

Key

- Holiday
- Bank Holiday