

Dear Parents/Carers

2022 has started really positively for our learners, with a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities providing lots of interesting challenges and enrichment, despite the weather!

We thank parents and carers for their patience during the last half-term - with Covid-19 leaving us temporarily short-staffed, some sessions had to take place via remote learning from home. We hope everyone is over the worst of it now, and that as the year progresses (fingers crossed!) we can all start to settle back into a more normal routine, without too many disruptions.

In 2022, Queen Elizabeth II will be the first British monarch to celebrate seventy years on the throne. There is an additional public holiday to mark this Platinum Jubilee, so please note that both Schools will be closed for an extra day on Friday 27th May (the day before our half term holidays).



Pete Jenkins, Executive Principal

NEW STARTERS

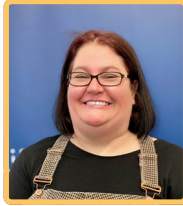
We welcome the following new staff to the school:



Cara Porter
Speech & Language
Therapist



Emma Seaman
Marketing Manager



Helen Sivyler
Reception & Exams
Officer



Eloise Cole-Munday
LSA



James Kavanagh
LSA



Taylor Simmonds
LSA



Owen Penrice
LSA



REMINDER!

Please remember that the school day ends at 3:10pm.

Thank you!

OFSTED

We're delighted to have retained our 'Good' rating across all areas, following November's standard Ofsted inspection.

Life Chance CEO Hannah Moon says, "This is a huge tribute to the hard work and commitment of staff and leadership, who have again been praised by Ofsted for providing a highly nurturing environment for young people who have experienced childhood trauma."

To read the full Ofsted report [click here](#).



If you want any support or advice from any of our Multi-Disciplinary Team; they can all be contacted via our school reception phone number.



Please note: 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



At College House we have been as busy as ever, with lots of new opportunities for our young people across all six classes.

Forest School activities continue to be popular, even in the depths of winter, though we're really looking forward to some drier weather so we can develop the area further and spend time outside

without getting quite such muddy feet!

It's also been fabulous to see our young people making regular use of our kitchen area with Marc - they are producing some incredibly tasty food, and learning about the benefits of healthy eating and nutrition while acquiring new life skills. The only downside is that the lovely aromas wafting through the school make all the staff feel hungry...

We're looking forward to more adventures this Spring half term and I'm sure we'll have lots of positive stories and pictures to share with you by Easter!



TAMAR CLASS

Tamar have had a great start to the Spring term despite the challenges of COVID and remote learning.

We have been working on building and maintaining friendships within the classroom and have been enjoying the new social play interventions with our Trauma Recovery Practitioner, Nathan.

As a class, we ended the half term with a trip to Paignton Zoo and spent the day exploring, playing and celebrating all of our hard work and progress. Well done Tamar!



DEER CLASS

This half-term we have been spending lots of time outside and in nature.

We have been exploring local parks and coastal sites as part of our "Wild Tribe" award.

Katie has been supporting us to build a new tree house in Forest School, using all-natural resources. We can't wait for the finished product and to spend time eating smores and drinking hot chocolates in there!

We have also been getting in touch with the nature around us along the South West Coastal path and have even spotted a seal or two and some dolphins along the way!



TAW CLASS

Taw Class have been continuing to explore their local area and been walking on Dartmoor and the different tors.

They have used their time up on Dartmoor to begin photography and are engaging well with photo editing tools.

Catering on a Wednesday has resulted in some favourite meals made from scratch – including Homestyle Taco Bell Burritos, Chicken Pasta Bake and Cornish Pasties.

Both students continue to engage in Functional Skills English and Maths, with exams week at the end of March.

AXE CLASS

Axe have had a productive start to this term. In our PSHE sessions, the students have been concentrating on emotions and feelings and why it is acceptable to feel different ways at different times, they have started to comprehend that this happens to all of us and have moved on considerably.

In Mathematics we have studied doubling, halving and working further on our 2, 3 and 5 times tables.

We undertook a few sessions of outdoor learning to see how this would work for the students and the outcome was extremely positive so this may be something we continue this year, hopefully the weather will allow us! The weather though, does not stop their superb sessions at forest school in which Katie has developed a superb programme of learning, the students in Axe have been highly engaged with these.

The students expressed a desire to learn more about The Titanic- now 110 years ago, it still captures the imagination. For this reason, it has become a focus within Topic sessions for the next few weeks.

Overall, it's been a superb term so far, with amazing behaviour - it's been great to witness and be a part of! Well done Axe and keep earning those DOJO points!



EXE CLASS

Exe have continued to work hard this term. We have carried out painting & decorating and horticulture at Combe Pafford. The aim of this is to keep upskilling our students and to provide them with qualifications and skills that can be used once they leave school. We have also continued to improve our culinary skills in catering and improve our practical skills in our weekly forest school session.

We looked at perimeter and area in maths, letter writing in English and work on managing feelings in PSHE.



PLYM CLASS

Plym have enjoyed visiting different places outside of school, despite the weather. We've been building connections with different members of staff and peers within the class.

We also been doing lots of baking, learning new cookery skills - this has been extremely yummy and enjoyed by everyone!



FOREST SCHOOL - NEWTON ABBOT

We've had a busy few weeks in Forest School. Now we have our area safely fenced off, we have started to create different zones. We've started an amazing platform in the trees, built three shelters and have begun to make pathways through the site. As well as this, we have cooked some delicious nachos, pancakes, fry-ups and fajitas. It's been busy, and often very muddy, but a lot of fun.



FOREST SCHOOL - ASHBURTON

Last half-term in Forest School at Place House we engaged in a number of activities with different classes. In Erme and Teign we revisited how we lash sticks together. We previously looked at this through making picture frames, however this time we took it a step further and created god or devil eyes. Here we lashed two or three sticks together and created a spiral effect from the centre of the eye out to the edge making lovely decorative features.

With these two classes and Tavy class we made forest school popcorn with our home-made caramel sauce. Our whittling skills continued through making wooden Valentine's Day love hearts. Overall enjoyment has been high throughout and we hope to see this continue to next term where amongst other things we will try and create our outdoor xylophone.

A MESSAGE FROM LUCY GRENN



Wow! Christmas seems such a long time away! What a half term we have had!

We have continued to have weekly swimming sessions at the pool and the children have also been on trips to Exeter Cathedral and Paignton Sea Front. Children

who are in Year 9 have been doing Animal Care at Combe Pafford on a Wednesday afternoon and will study Painting and Decorating and Horticulture this term.

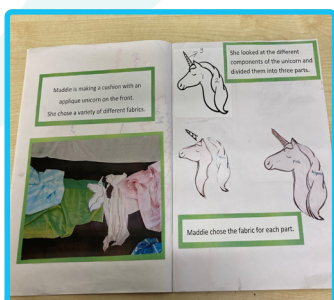
On site we have developed the outside spaces further to include more play equipment and seating outside. Our inside spaces have changed and the hall has been made into a soft play area for the children to enjoy.

We have also welcomed three new LSAs to our team and we have also appointed a teacher for the summer term. We have also got a new team member who will be our Exams Officer and our receptionist and admin support here at Place House – welcome to Helen!

CREATIVE CRAFTS

Learners have been enjoying their craft sessions with Tessa - some really impressive skills are being developed!

We've been designing and then making applique cushions and bags, and we're sure you'll agree that the creative results are both useful and fabulous!



TEIGN CLASS

Last half term Teign Class got up to lots of fun stuff!

We have read the book 'Wonder' and then made our own portraits based on Treacher Collins Syndrome which is a key part of the book, using descriptive words about ourselves (Jack B's is pictured) and we wrote fact files about it too.

Jack has also been doing lots of cooking with Marc including making prawn biryani and chicken curry.

We also visited Exeter cathedral on our RE/PSHE school trip!



DART CLASS

Dart Class have had a spectacular half term. We have focussed on outdoor learning, including trips to Stover to make dens and cook food on a fire.

In English we studied 'Of Mice and Men', practicing GCSE question techniques and learning how the context of a specific time influences literature.

The boys have also all picked an ASDAN course to complete individually. We are really excited to see how the boys progress this half term and can't wait to see what they can achieve.





PARRETT CLASS

In Parrett class last half term, our topic was 'That's Life!'

At Combe Pafford we've been learning how to care for animals such as rabbits, tortoises, guinea pigs, geckos, bearded dragons, chickens and much, much more.

In Life Skills, we have been following some animal inspired recipes with fantastic results. Our keyworker sessions have also been a huge success, with students choosing activities they would like to complete with their trusted adult. Liam chose to make scotch eggs which were delicious!

In PSHE we've been learning about what makes a healthy relationship and in Maths we have been using our times tables knowledge to solve problems involving fractions. We've also enjoyed board games, including 'Exploding Kittens' which left Mr Woodger wearing the 'Cone of Shame'!

Congratulations go to Liam and Holly who have been voted class representative and deputy representative respectively.



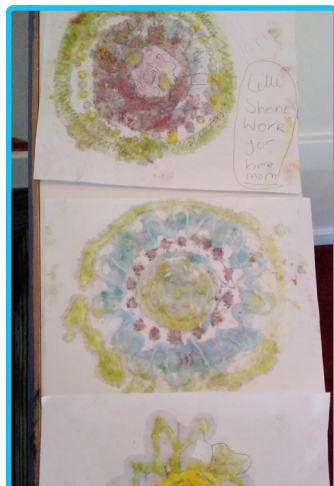
ERME CLASS

Wow - we have learned so much... in Life Skills we've been learning how to Hoover and use the washing machine, as well as cooking simple meals, personal hygiene and ironing.

We've introduced a cute Worry Monster who allows children to write and share things that are on their mind.

PSHE - we created our own happy balloons to express what helps us feel in the green zone.

Our topic was the Great Fire of London. We created a model using different resources and then set it on fire in forest school!



TAVY CLASS

Tavy had a lovely day at Paignton beach on Tuesday 15th Feb - we got very wet but enjoyed playing in the park!

For our topic we looked at religions of the world - we learned about how Hindus celebrate Diwali and tried making some of the different foods they eat.

BLU

Blu has had a very exciting half term - just before we broke up for the holidays, we heard that he has successfully completed his training and is now an official assistance animal!

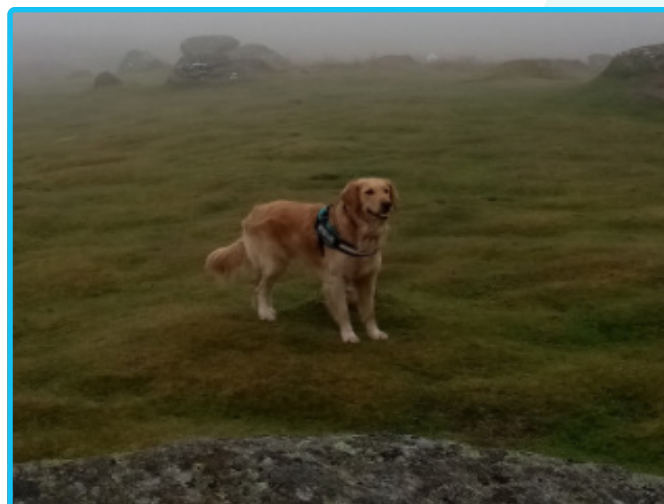
Staff had extra guidance from our trainer at Bale's Buddies about how to work effectively with Blu to support our learners, and he was awarded his certificate and a new 'Assistance Dog' patch for his harness.

His owner Chris Logan is delighted that Blu has made the grade - they are looking forward to lots more outdoor adventures at both schools, especially as we move into Spring (and hopefully the weather starts to improve!)

Congratulations Blu - you have come such a long way!



Reading Canine Body Language: T-E-M-P.				
(with Tickle the Pit Bull)			Tail, Ears & Eyes, Mouth, Posture	
Relaxed (down)	Relaxed	Submissive / Happy I'm Not A Threat	Happy	Ready To Play
Submissive Deferential	Please Leave Me Alone	Anxious Stressed	Terrified	Fearful Ready To Fight
Alert	Wary / Unsure Suspicious	Stalking	Defensive Territorial	Angry Ready To Fight



A MESSAGE FROM JULES SANDERS



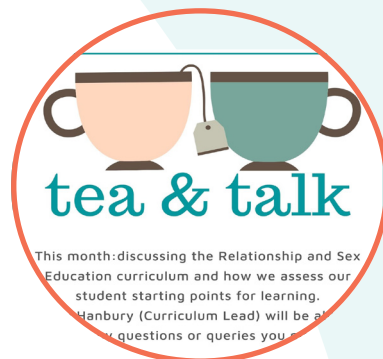
The Multi-Disciplinary Team have been busy supporting our current students and families and any students and families who are new to our school this term.

Our team have been delivering continuous professional development (CPD) to both our school staff and to other organisations, such as the University of the West of England (UWE).

Cara Porter, our new Speech and Language Therapist, has joined us - bringing with her a wealth of experience from both Health and Education. We are delighted to welcome Cara to the team!

Tara Acton, our Play Therapist, started her maternity leave in January and has now given birth to a beautiful baby girl. We look forward to welcoming Tara back to SfiT next year.

Our recent Tea and Talk was a great success, and we were delighted to welcome Emily Hanbury, Curriculum Lead, to talk about Relationships and Sex Education. The session was engaging, interesting and informative. We all loved the Biscotti cheesecake too!



CREATIVE SESSIONS

Our first Creative Session for parents and carers will be on 7th April from 10.30-12 at College House.

Everyone is welcome - it's a lovely chance to spend some mindful 'me-time' making something creative, while catching up with other parents and the MDT team. If you can't attend in person, you are welcome to zoom in - just let us know so we can send you out a craft pack in advance!

If you'd like more information, please contact Fay Hooper, Family Practitioner.

TEA & TALK

A big thank you to all parents and carers who attended our Tea & Talk session with Emily Hanbury, supported by our family workers Charlotte Robertson and Fay Hooper.

We had a good discussion about our new PSHE and Relationships curriculum and had great feedback from those who were able to attend!

We will let you know the timing and topic of our next session via Class Dojo - it will be held on Friday 20th May, so please save the date!



FREE FRUIT & VEG FOR FAMILIES!

Devon County Council are working with local fruit and veg suppliers to provide 3 FREE fruit & veg boxes in March for Healthy Start recipients.

The aim of the project is to increase access to fresh fruit and veg, especially local, seasonal, and sustainable produce; you'll also be helping support the local economy in the process!

Families can order boxes directly from local suppliers - to be eligible, you must be receiving Healthy Start and resident within a Devon County Council area.

Find out more and order your boxes on: <https://www.devonfoodpartnership.org.uk/home/healthy-start-scheme/>



School for
Inspiring Talents

School Term Dates 2021 / 2022

Term Lengths

Autumn Half Term

- 7 Sep - 15 Oct

Half Term to Christmas

- 1 Nov - 17 Dec

Winter Half Term

- 5 Jan - 18 Feb

Half Term to Easter

- 28 Feb - 8 Apr

Spring Half Term

- 25 Apr - 27 May

Summer Half Term

- 6 Jun - 22 Jul

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Key

 Holiday

 Bank Holiday