

School Calendar! 2018

June

Diary Dates Week Commencing 25th June 2018

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| Monday 25th June | - Class 1 & 2 PWA - Fun Run
- Yoga Club & Chess Club |
| Tuesday 26th June | - Small Schools Swimming Gala
- Card Games, Sewing & Knitting Club |
| Wednesday 27th June | - New Reception Parent Induction - 14:00
- Violin Concert VH Class 2 - 14:30
- Wind in the Willows & Coding Club |
| Thursday 28th June | - Moving Up Sessions - All classes
- Book & Stay and Play Club |
| Friday 29th June | - Celebration Assembly
- Reading Teachers/Pupils Everyman Yr 5/6
- PE Class 1 & 2
- Music lessons
- Sports Club |

Diary Dates Week Commencing 2nd July 2018

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| Monday 2nd July | - Class 2 Ebworth & Class 1 PWA
- Yoga Club & Chess Club |
| Tuesday 3rd July | - Card Games, Sewing & Knitting Club |
| Wednesday 4th July | - Wind in the Willows & Coding Club |
| Thursday 5th July | - Sports Day Cricket Club 10:15 Picnic back at school
- Book & Stay and Play Club |
| Friday 6th July | - Celebration Assembly
- Moving Up Sessions - All classes
- Recorder Concert 2.45pm Class 1
- PE Class 1 & 2
- Music lessons
- Sports Club |



Sheepscombe Primary School

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22nd June 2018 Newsletter

94%
attendance

Dear Parents & Carers,

Wow! What a week we've had in school this week! As you'll know we've just completed a 'week of inspirational mathematics' which we have all very much enjoyed and which has certainly ignited yet further the children's love of mathematics. I'd like to thank all of those people that have been involved in this event - our Mathematics Governor, Chloe Turner, has done an amazing job to organise this and we have been incredibly lucky to have so many talented and experienced people give up their time to visit the school to lead activities or give talks to the children.

We have had visits from Kevin Thacker (husband of Debby, our English Governor) who led a well-received activity in Class 2 about how Euler, the famous mathematician, went about solving a problem. The children learnt how to use this mathematical approach to themselves investigate 'The Bridges of Konigsberg'. Chloe Turner gave up her entire week and has led Computer coding in Class 1 using our programmable Lego kits and also taught Chess to Class 1 as well as planning and resourcing our maths Olympics event and helping with all of the other events. In her lunchbreak she rushed home to pick up a bigger house and run for our ducklings which she swiftly put back together within half an hour before joining the next activity. Sounds to me as if she has all of the required qualities to be a member of staff here!

Kate Buckingham, a secondary teacher (and Mum to Penny in Class 1) led a session that explored concept of ownership and production of art, inspired by Sol LeWitt's 'The Art of an Idea' instruction pieces. Kate called in some favours too and her mother, an experienced teacher and also her mother in law, likewise an experienced teacher both came in to lead activities, one was connected with mosaic and Paul Klee 'Castles and Sun' picture and the other was about Fibonacci sequences and snails. Much enjoyment was had by all and we are very grateful to them all for giving up their time to share their expertise.

At Forest School the children looked at symmetry in nature and created their own symmetrical insects from sticks and natural materials found at Ebworth and George Hibell who comes to school each week to lead the Prince William Award taught the children about mazes and how to solve problems through teamwork, perseverance and resilience.

The Cheltenham Science group came in to teach the children about the geometry of coinage and to make coin sorters and we were even lucky enough to have a visit from a special visitor from GCHQ who led Class 2 on a code breaking cryptography extravaganza, but of course I can't tell you anything more about that due to it being a secret! The children weren't even allowed to know his surname or take photos with him in!

The week ended with our Maths Olympics event yesterday in the Village Hall. Again, we were lucky enough to have great community and Governor support with this event. The children participated in a range of hands on events and Duncan Thacker (Debby's son) gave a truly fantastic talk on 'Big Numbers' which was enjoyed by all, even our Little Lambs children were captivated. Amongst other things the children found out about our place in the universe, patterns in the world and the galaxy, fractals in nature, the Sierpinski Gasket and the Mandelbrot Set along with some indisputable mathematical laws such as the law of gravity. He also showed the children the Game of Life which is a two dimensional universe in which patterns evolve through time. It is one of the best examples in science of how a few simple rules can result in incredibly complex behaviour. It's also incredibly cool to watch! I'll be looking at all of these things again at home over the weekend with Jemma and I know a lot of the children will want to revisit these too.

Steve Lomax, leader of the Gloucestershire GLOWMaths hub came to this event and kindly brought 6 'just qualified' secondary teachers with him so they could see maths in action in Primary Schools. He was really impressed at the standard of the children's knowledge and their ability to articulate their ideas as well as the range of activities we have had on offer this week - we definitely are a tiny school with big ideas!

Sheepscombe Open Gardens event was also a huge success. It's the first time I've been to this event and once again I'd like to thank all of the parents involved and the wider community, there are so many of you I can't mention you all by name. The support you give the school makes a real difference and we are all very thankful for your hard work.

A couple of other things for your attention too. Firstly, please check your children for headlice as we have had a couple of cases again in school. Prevention is easier than cure so please check your child's hair regularly so we can prevent any spread early on. Secondly, please also check your child's uniform to ensure it is theirs and that they have not picked up someone else's in error. We have had a lot of uniform go missing in the last couple of weeks and we are keen to reunite the right items with the right people. Thirdly, school staff are going to run a raffle on the evening of the school play and would be grateful for any donations of prizes. Please give any contributions to Mrs Powell. Raffle tickets will only be sold on the night. Many thanks.

Next week is no less busy as we look forward to meeting our new Reception parents, the Stroud Small Schools Swimming gala, the Reading Teachers: Reading Pupils event at the Everyman for Mr Ringer's book group, the Prince William Award Charity Fun Run, violin and recorder concerts to which you are warmly invited to attend and whole lot of singing and rehearsing for the play which sounds incredible already as well of course, as some regular work!

Finally, I'd also like to thank all of the staff for all their hard work this week - we've packed so much in and I know I've asked a lot! I hope you and your children have a very well earned, restful weekend.

'An inspiring setting where all children flourish' what more could we say?

Mrs Vicky Barron Co-Headteacher

