

Whole School News

Parent Portal

We are delighted to be launching the Parent Portal for Prep School Parents. Those parents who have children in the Senior School will have already had access to this and will know the benefits. Later today, those of you who do not have children in our Senior School will be receiving an activation email which will allow you to log on and access the information pertaining to your child or children. We have attached a copy of guidance to help you through the initial steps.

The Portal will include information held by the school which includes: -

- Parent contact details
- Child's details
- Medical details
- Child's timetable
- Rewards received (ie Merit badges, Head Master's Commendations)
- School Reports
- EAGs (Years 3 – 6 only)
- Subject/Form teachers and their emails
- Links to:-
 - My Blundell's which includes the list of events and what is on today
 - Website
 - Prep Sports page

We will also load letters for you in the documents section on a Friday rather than emailing these. Initially we will email to let you know that there is a letter for you on the Parent Portal.

Please be aware that there are search facilities and that you may have to set the date to earlier, for example the start of a term, in order to gain access to some of the information.

Half Term

Half Term starts at **4.30pm on Wednesday, 19th October**. Provision will be made for children unable to be collected at this time and they can be collected at **5.30 pm**. If your child has a sibling at the Senior School they may leave at **1.00pm** before lunch. **Could we ask that you notify the School by email in advance if you are intending to pick your child up at this time and that you collect from the Prep School before collecting from the Senior School.** As usual on a Wednesday, no minibuses will be running.

Cooking Workshop

Our Cooking Workshop, which was postponed from earlier this term, will be taking place on Friday, 18th November. Craig, our Senior School chef, and Sarah will be helping you make a variety of canapés ready for the Christmas season. The cost for this will be £10.00. Places are limited and will be booked on a first come first served basis and only once payment has been received.

Christmas Cards

In addition to the Christmas card competition each child has designed their own Christmas card in school. Sample cards will be sent home shortly for each family to look at and you may then order packs to send to families and friends. Do look out for them in your child's book bag and please order early so that we can take delivery of the cards in good time for the Christmas Fair on Saturday the 12th of November.

Christmas Card Competition

We are inviting all the children in the school to enter our Christmas Card Competition. The winning entry will be used for the School's official Christmas card. All entrants will receive a prize for taking part. The closing date is Friday, 14th October.

If your child would like to enter the competition please remember the following:-

- Mr Southgate would like a bright, colourful Christmas card
- Draw your design on an A4 sheet of paper (either portrait or landscape)
- Use felt tips or paint (not glitter or collage please)
- Write your name and form clearly on the back of your picture
- Please do your picture at home
- **Good Luck to all Entrants**

Prep News

Effort and Attainment Grades, Friday, 14th October

The format of our Effort and Attainment grades (EAGS) has changed to include additional comments on your child's progress from English, Maths and Science teachers. These will be ready to view on the Portal on Friday, 14th October. If anyone has a query on grades or a problem with viewing them, then please do pop into the school office and the ladies will help put you in contact with the appropriate member of staff.

Year 6 visit to Exeter Race Course, Tuesday, 18th October

On Tuesday, 18th October the children in Year 6 will be visiting Exeter Racecourse as part of their Mathematics Curriculum. They will leave and return during the school day and will wear school uniform including blazer. Please could each child also bring a pair of wellington boots in a bag, warm coat, gloves and hat. The children will travel by minibus and school will provide a packed lunch.

Year 3 Outdoor Learning Workshop, Wednesday, 19th October

Please could Year 3 children come to school wearing **old** home clothes including a waterproof coat, wellington boots and waterproof trousers (optional). The activity that the children are taking part in is very muddy! Please ensure that School Uniform is brought to School for the children to change into.

Year 4 Trip to the Synagogue, Thursday, 3rd November

The children in Year 4 will be visiting the Synagogue on Thursday, 3rd November as part of their Religious Education Curriculum. They will be leaving after assembly and will spend the morning at the Synagogue. Those children who play for our A teams will stay in Plymouth and transfer to their matches. Those in the B teams will return to school. All the children will be issued with a packed lunch from school. Could we ask the children to wear to school clean tracksuits and trainers and to bring a waterproof coat.

Parents' Evenings

Letters containing information about booking times for the Parents' Evenings below will be sent home by separate emails today and also be available on the Parent Portal. If you are unable to attend a Parents' Evening please contact the Office who will arrange another time for you meet with your child's teachers.

3WH **Wednesday, 2nd November**

3SH **Wednesday, 9th November**

Year 4 **Monday, 31st October**

Year 5 **Monday 7th November**

Year 6 **Monday, 28th November** (The letter for this Parents' Evening will be sent in November)

PE Lessons

After half term during PE lessons all of the boys in Years 3 – 6 will have Hockey skills and drills as part of their lesson and will therefore require a gum shield and hockey stick for their PE lesson. The girls in Years 3 - 6 will have netball skills and drills as part of their PE lessons. This is in preparation for next term.

English Helping Your Child at Home

Our English department has now issued 'Helping you Child at Home' documents. These can be found on the Website in the 'Prep' drop down under 'English'. They are located in the left hand bar under resources. Please take the time to look at these documents as they have a wealth of advice and support for you and your child.

Bush Craft

Please could all children who attend Bush Craft Club on a Monday ensure that they have old home clothes, wellington boots and a waterproof coat each week.

Pre-Prep News

Parents Evenings

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our Nursery Parents' Evening last Monday. We enjoyed spending time reporting on the progress that your children have made since the start of term and we hope you found it informative and helpful.

We look forward to welcoming the parents of Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 children on Monday, 10th October from 4.00 pm.

Multi Sports Club Monday 10th October

There will be no Multi Sports Club on Monday, 10th October due to Parents' Evening but Yoga Club will run as normal. Children who usually attend this club can be booked into Siblings or Owls until 4.30 pm instead.