



February 2022 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & Carers

We've had a very productive and enjoyable half term in school and we're all very much looking forward to Spring 2 when we will begin to resume a more 'normal service'. Please see details of changes within this newsletter.

Thank you for the great response we received to the parent/carer survey. We really appreciate all of your very positive comments and your recognition of the great work across the school. A more detailed breakdown of the report can be seen in this newsletter but I'd like to let you know of some decisions we've made already following your feedback, which was mostly around three main points:

- 1) Increasing after school clubs. After half term we will have 4 sports clubs running, two art clubs (KS1 and KS2 clubs), Spanish club, choir, cookery club and craft club. We want to ensure that all children in school have the opportunity to go to at least one after school club, so each half term we will change the offer for clubs from KS1 to KS2 and alternate. We will also continue to run our own after school club which runs through until 5.30pm. Any parents wishing to run a club or who have further ideas do come and see me!
- 2) To move more whole school communications to the school website (please sign up to the newsfeed notices). We'll also limit the amount of messages home and move these to the newsfeed on the website. However, communication is a two way process and we do urge you to read communications as we will still get a number of parents sometimes not reading letters or texts.
- 3) Parents in school. We know how hard it's been for parents not being able to come into school. We will start to invite parents back in for a class led worship on a Friday. These will take place fortnightly and teachers will ensure parents are aware of dates. We'd also like to invite you back for shared events in school too and are hoping to have some lovely Easter activities! Later in the Summer term we will arrange Open Days for parents to come into school to see children's learning and share in activities with the children. We're also hoping to resume normal service with our Summer Fayre and the usual end of year events!

Parents' evenings will take place on 4th & 6th April. We will offer both virtual and face to face meetings - more details to follow. We will also provide meetings the week before for parents and carers of children with additional needs. This will allow us to share individual learning plans with you and have enough time to discuss your child's progress in full.

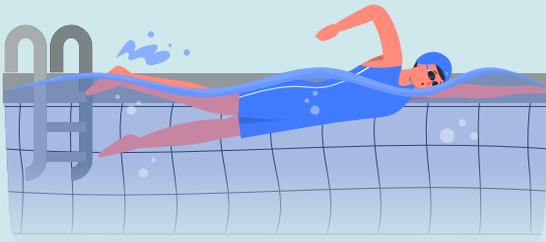
So, please rest assured that we'll do all that we can to ensure you are very much involved in the education of your child. Have a lovely half term break!

Best wishes,

Katy Burns Headteacher



Swimming



The pandemic and lockdowns have clearly had a significant impact on parents' ability to take children to swimming lessons. We understand and appreciate the challenges for you! Lessons this year have shown that we've had a sharp increase in the numbers of children who are unable to swim and staff are concerned at the amount of tuition that some children will need to 'Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres'.

We have been taking half a class to Brixham pool on alternative weeks but 3 or 4 lessons a year is not sufficient to ensure the required level of competence. Mr Johansen, as PE lead, is reviewing our provision around swimming so that we can ensure all children leave school able to swim the required 25 metres. The school has always funded lessons itself but given the challenges over the last couple of years we are considering asking parents to pay for the coach costs to the pool as many other schools do. This will allow the whole class to swim for a longer period of time. We may need to consider children who are weaker or non-swimmers. So please bear with us whilst we review our swimming curriculum. A letter will be sent out soon giving details of the new arrangements.

Please do not rely on the school to teach your child to swim! It's so important, given where we live, for children to be confident swimmers. Now that pools have re-opened please do try to arrange lessons so that school can take on a 'booster' rather than a 'beginning swimming' role (both Brixham Admiral Centre and Torbay Leisure Centre run excellent swim schools and have sessions running currently).

Pastoral Care

The emotional health and well being of our children is of great importance to us. Many children, at some point, may need a little additional support to help them cope with the challenges and changes they face, especially as a result of the pressures we've all faced over the last couple of years.

So, we're really pleased to now have a good plan in place to support children that require more than the adults in class can offer. Mrs Fisher has now taken on the role of Pastoral Lead as part of her overall role as Inclusion Lead. Mrs Ansell has taken on the role of Pastoral Support Assistant. We will be running a variety of nurture / thrive / pastoral programmes from 11.30am everyday in our Beach Room. Teachers and TAs in class will continue to offer their support and find time to ensure your child is happy in school.

Our new Nurture Policy, including how we will assess children for support, can be found here. [Click for more details.](#)

CAP Safeguarding all children

Children from Reception to Year 6 took part in CAP workshops (Child Assault prevention) last week. These workshops helped children to understand how they can stay Safe, Strong and Free with their peers, strangers and people they know both in person and online. Children were given strategies to help empower them so they have strategies to use in situations where they don't feel safe, including a safety yell! These sessions were delivered mainly by role play and children had opportunities to discuss issues that were raised by these role plays as classes. CAP demonstrated to the children how they could ask for help from a trusted adult if they ever felt unsafe and how to seek help from online platforms such as the report abuse button on websites.

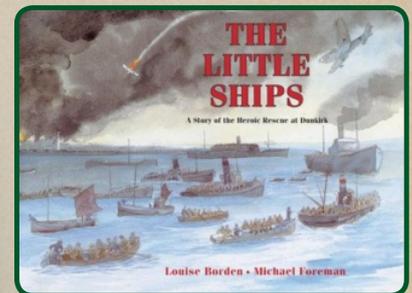
Our History Learning Enquiry

'How do leaders reflect determination? A case study of Dunkirk, 1940.'

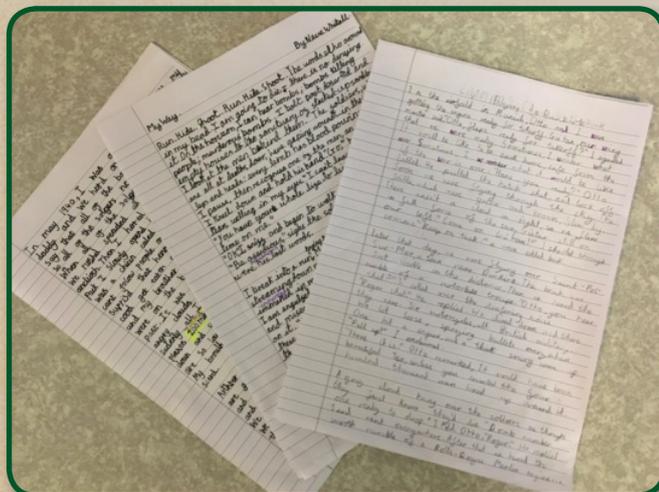
Y6

In this Learning experience, year 6 used a brilliant picture book called 'The Little Ships' by Louise Borden, along with historical video footage, 1st hand accounts and modern film clips to understand the levels of leadership and determination that were involved in the evacuation of over 338,000 British troops from the beaches of France in 1940.

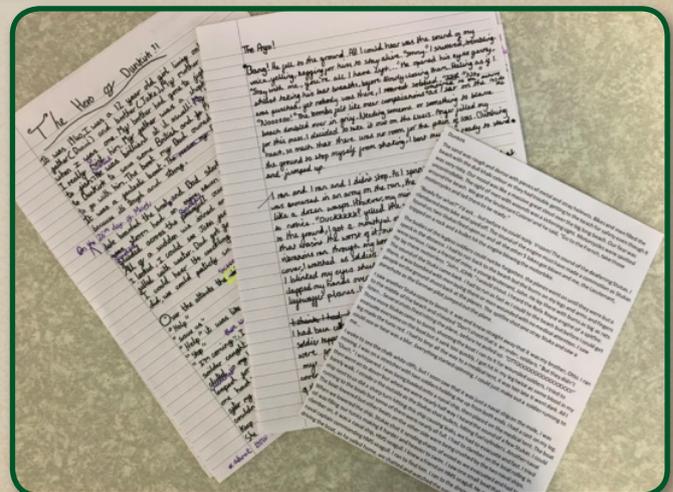
Along the way, the class worked collaboratively to prepare and deliver presentations, teaching each other about aspects of the war and the leaders involved. They also researched the events using first-hand accounts from different levels of leadership (from Churchill, to the civilians involved in the rescue) and produced empathy maps. The class culminated their learning by writing fantastic narrative stories of courage and determination that reflected a level of determination/leadership through a character involved in the evacuation.



Willow, Daisy, Alistair & Neve with their fabulous journals & final stories



Willow, Neve and Alistair's fantastic stories of determination



Daisy, Millie & Hugh's powerful stories of leadership and bravery

Spring 2 Changes – Back to Normal!

After half term we will return to only using the main school gate for entry / exit to the school. Although we needed to separate larger groups of children using one entrance, it has been problematic on a number of levels. So, Years 3, 4 and 5 will enter and leave from the main gate and not the hall door after half term. Please remember to follow any guidance and where we're asked to do so, do please distance yourself. We are very happy for Years 5 and 6 to arrange to meet parents in the Village at an agreed point, but please ensure the class teacher is aware of this and a walking home consent form has been completed and submitted (the Walking To and From School Alone Policy can be found on the school website policies section).

We will mark out areas of the playground to ensure children can find their parent / relative / carer at the end of the day. Please try to stick to the 'class area'. Where parents have more than one child please stand by the youngest child's nominated area and make sure your child is aware of your meeting place. Please ensure children are collected promptly. Staff often have meetings after school and are sometimes late to these meetings as children haven't been collected. We understand the odd difficulty and the challenges of parking in the Village but repeated lateness will mean we take children to our after school club where we will ask for payments to be made for childcare.

Attendance Matters

Every month we review each child's attendance. During this academic year, Covid has caused some disruption, as well as chicken pox and other childhood illnesses. However, thankfully, we seem to be in a better place since the New Year has started.

When we are informed of absence, notes are entered onto the system so that detailed reports can be produced when necessary, hence we do need pertinent information from parents when ringing in for a poorly child. Please remember that should your child be a little unwell, we can often make children more comfortable in school if you provide us with calpol etc. There is a form to complete for us to be able to administer medicines, which can be found on our website, or requested from the office.

As we start to emerge from Covid restrictions, we will return to sending letters home to keep parents informed of when a child's attendance figure has dipped below the 90% threshold. Please be assured this as an informative exercise rather than a critique so that you are aware of your child's attendance.

However, to put attendance into context, pupils who only maintain annual attendance of 90% (or below) throughout their school life, will effectively miss out on an entire year of learning.

Parent Survey Results

Below are the results from our recent Parent Survey and our average scores out of 5

My child is happy at Galmpton Primary School.

119 Responses

4.66 Average Rating

I feel welcome when I come into Galmpton Primary School.

119 Responses

4.66 Average Rating

My child feels safe at Galmpton Primary School.

119 Responses

4.78 Average Rating

My child makes good progress at Galmpton Primary School.

118 Responses

4.53 Average Rating

I receive valuable information from Galmpton Primary School about my child's progress (parents evenings etc)

117 Responses

4.18 Average Rating

My child is taught well at Galmpton Primary School.

118 Responses

4.63 Average Rating

My child receives appropriate homework for his/her age.

118 Responses

4.31 Average Rating

Galmpton Primary School has high expectations of my child.

117 Responses

4.38 Average Rating

Galmpton Primary School makes sure its pupils are well behaved.

117 Responses

4.50 Average Rating

Galmpton Primary School deals effectively with bullying.

114 Responses

4.31 Average Rating

Values and attitudes promoted by the school have a positive effect on my child.

118 Responses

4.64 Average Rating

My child is well looked after at Galmpton Primary School.

119 Responses

4.76 Average Rating

My child knows who to go to if he/she feels unhappy.

119 Responses

4.56 Average Rating

Staff are approachable

119 Responses

4.64 Average Rating

The website (<https://galmptonprimary.org>), Dojo and Facebook gives me clear information about Galmpton Primary School.

118 Responses

4.39 Average Rating

Galmpton Primary School is well led and managed.

118 Responses

4.58 Average Rating

I would recommend Galmpton Primary School to another parent.

119 Responses

4.70 Average Rating

Galmpton Primary School responds well to any concern I raise.

118 Responses

4.58 Average Rating

I am informed when there is a problem.

116 Responses

4.54 Average Rating

Victorian Day

IN RECEPTION



This half term we have been learning about playgrounds and games played during the Victorian period. The children have used a timeline to understand that the Victorian period was in the past and that we are now in the present. We have compared similarities and differences between the games that we play and the games that children used to play.

Our outcome was creating a playground of the past. We invited the year 6 children and explained the rules of all the games and we also enjoyed dressing up as Victorian children.



COMIC
RELIEF

RED
NOSE
DAY

Comic Relief Day Friday 18th March

We will be supporting Comic Relief (Red Nose Appeal) on Friday 18th March.

More information coming soon.

After School Club

Please ensure you are booking any in house after school club sessions in advance. The sessions are becoming very busy and we have had occasions where we have been unable to provide the provision when requested on the day. You can book via ParentPay up until midnight the day before. Many thanks

SEND Parent Forum

Friday 11th March, the Galmpton Parent / Carer Forum for children with additional needs will be held in the Beach Room at 9.00-10.30am. This is an inclusive group and we would welcome new people who would like to come along. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Fisher, SENDCo.

END OF SCHOOL

Please could all families ensure that after collecting children from class, the playground is exited swiftly by 3.25pm. The school is only insured for organised activities after school hours. Also, please refrain from allowing younger siblings to climb on the climbing frame outside the KS1 area. Many thanks.



Y6

FOOTBALL

On Thursday 2nd February, Galmpton's mixed Y6 Football Team travelled to Collaton St Mary Primary for their first football match of the year. Our team was victorious, scoring 7 goals in the match. The end score (7-2) did not reflect the competitive match where both teams played fantastic football and displayed wonderful sportsmanship throughout. Well done to all who took part and huge thanks to the supporters who came to cheer on their side.

Churston Church

Dates for your Diaries

On the fourth Sunday of each month we have our **Worship for All Family Service** at 10.00 am.

If you are planning to come along do let me know (janewashington30@gmail.com) so that we can arrange a special role for your child. Refreshments are available afterwards.

Mothering Sunday Service - 27th March, 10.00 am.

Please come along with your family. We invite each child to bring a drawing / painting of their Mum or other special person. At the end of the Service, flower posies will be given out by the children.

(If there are any parents or grandparents who would be willing to donate flowers / greenery we would be very grateful to receive them and if you can spare an hour on the Saturday morning to help put the posies together, we would love to welcome you at the Church at 10.00am)

Easter Egg Hunt - Easter Saturday 16th April

We're very much looking forward to our traditional egg hunt - keep an eye on the school website, "Our Church School Links" page for more information.

Finally, we are considering setting up a **Mother (carer) and toddler group?** If you or anyone you know of would be interested please contact me direct on janewashington30@gmail.com

Mother's Day Service 27th March 10am St Mary the Virgin Churston

It's been a very long while since we shared a Church service with our Parish church. So we're delighted that we've been invited to share in this special service on 27th March. We'll be asking children if they'd like to read, give out posies, take part in an activity or bring along a picture/painting of mum or a special female person in their lives.

Please put this date into your diary. We only do a couple of events in church each year and as a Church school we'll hope you'll understand the importance of our church/school work. The church do much to support the school and it would be great to have lots of our families supporting our local parish. I've asked for the service to be made really appropriate for children and to ensure timings are appropriate too . Everyone welcome!

Galmpton Primary School Calendar Dates 2022

Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day
Friday 11th March	SEND Parent/Carer Forum, Beach Room 9.00-10.30am
Friday 18th March	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 22nd March	Y5 @ Brixham College for Science Show – info to follow
Sunday 27th March	Mothering Sunday Service at Churston Parish Church 10am
Week commencing 28th March	Parent/Teacher meetings for children with additional needs
Monday 4th April 4 & Wednesday 6th April 3.30-6.30pm	Parent/Teacher meetings -face to face or virtual
Wednesday April 6th	FROGs Easter Celebration Day – more info to follow.
Thursday 7th April	Last day of Term
Friday 8th April Friday 22nd April	Easter Holidays (inc extra day for Jubilee)
Sunday 10th April	Galmpton Open Gardens – more info to follow
Monday 25th April	Summer Term Begins

