

# 'Blue' Briefing



www.blueschool.co.uk

September, 2009

Keeping you in touch with events at St. Columb Minor School

## *This Suits Us!*



*Posh suits and well groomed Year 6 boys at our end of year prom in July!*

**Learning to ride the wave of life**

Welcome to the 'Blue School' newsletter.

Our newsletter is a vital link between home and school. It is issued to each family at the beginning of each month. It is also published on our website on the same day. If your paper copy doesn't arrive at home with your child please ask where it is! You will also see copies of it around the community, as we welcome all members of our community to be involved with our school and share our successes and celebrations. We try to put as much information as possible into the newsletter to reduce the need for lots of little bits of notes home which are easily lost in transit. You will also find the reply slips for a whole range of activities at the back of the newsletter. You don't need to read the news from every year group if it's not relevant to you, but you do need to read all of the important articles in between. Remember that if you lose your copy you can find it on our website with back editions (see address below).

We welcome all new families to our school. Please feel free to pop in and get to know us! I am certainly looking forward to another exciting year at the 'Blue School'!

*Inside.....*

*News from all year groups*

*Reply slips for all occasions!*

*Events in school this Autumn*

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*Visit our school website at [www.blueschool.co.uk](http://www.blueschool.co.uk)*

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## Staffing News

As we start a new academic year I would like to welcome Emma Stewart to our teaching staff. Emma will be joining the Year 6 team as the classteacher for Whales. She is an experienced teacher who is keen to develop her career further in our school. We welcome her and hope that she will enjoy being a member of Blue School!



## Foundation Stage News Starfish and Jellyfish

We welcome you all to Starfish and Jellyfish classes!! This is the day that you have all been waiting for! We are confident that your children will have had a good first day and know that they will settle into school very quickly.

Miss Stephanie Begley (teacher) and Mrs Andi Wheal (teaching assistant) are looking after Jellyfish. Mr. Nathan Bennetts (teacher) and Mrs Sharon Dunn (teaching assistant) are looking after Starfish.

We were pleased to get to know so many of you at last term's **Learning Together sessions** and we will soon be issuing you with a questionnaire to get some feedback on how you think those sessions went and whether you have any good ideas about making them even better! For those of you who have only just arrived please come in and introduce yourselves to us and we will help you to get to know the other parents!

We do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join our **Foundation Stage Parents' Meeting on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 3-30 pm**. We will talk more about the Foundation Stage and how we plan to work together as a team to support your child. We will go through the daily routines and talk about the best way to communicate between home and school. There will be an opportunity to ask any questions and as always to suggest any new ideas!

Our topic this half term is '**All About Me**' and we will be finding out about ourselves, our school and where we live. We will be inside, outside and all around! Needless to say we aim to have lots of fun, that is what learning is all about!

Could we please remind you of the importance of **labelling EVERYTHING!** Sewn in labels are the most successful way of ensuring items are returned to you. We like the children to have water bottles, PE kit bags and our blue reading bags. We put letters, messages and any supporting work into the blue bags each day.

Any issues, however unimportant they may seem to you may be of real importance for your child. Please come and talk to us, we are there for you!



## The Vision for our School

The beginning of the school year is a good time to review our vision, mission and aims. The staff annually spend time discussing what we want to achieve across the year and in the future. We are still happy with our vision statement but made amendments to our aims this year.

We have a vision statement, motto, strap line (whatever you want to call it) that is in keeping with the local area. We originally thought about why people come to this area and many of our ideas took on a nautical theme. We thought about the journey of life and how unpredictable it is and that reminded us of waves. We also thought about the fact that all of us are always learning and our prime purpose is to prepare our children for the future for whatever may come their way. We agreed on the following:

**Learning to ride the wave of life**

### Our mission statement:

We believe in...

- A safe, caring and stimulating environment
- Equality of opportunity
- Respect for all individuals, valuing diversity
- Quality teaching and learning
- High expectations of achievement and behaviour

### Our school aims to:

- promote high self esteem through the recognition of individual qualities
- encourage self respect, forgiveness, honesty, confidence, humour and independence
- foster an informed appreciation of cultural diversity and international understanding
- demonstrate our commitment to global citizenship
- realise the intellectual and physical potential of all
- develop enthusiasm, independent thinking and learning enhanced by an international perspective
- promote an understanding of spiritual and moral values which reflects the core virtues of our school
- inspire imagination, creativity and a sense of awe and wonder

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## Clams and Oysters Year 1 News

Welcome to the start of a new school year and to the Year 1 team. Miss Sarah Cunningham and Mrs Jane Mounter enjoyed getting to know the new Limpets during the Learning Together sessions in the Summer Term and Mrs Nikki Cotterill and Mrs Lesley Rogers got to know the new Clams very well too. We have had a great first day back to school and are all looking forward to an exciting Autumn Term.

We expect the children to settle in quickly and would like them to begin to come in on their own in the mornings. They all look so smart in their uniforms and we are really pleased to see so much uniform with names in! (If you have a few items unnamed, please do this soon as it really helps when items become separated from their owner!)

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the **Year 1 Welcome Meeting** which is on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm**. At the meeting we will outline what your child will be learning this year and how you might support them with their learning. Following the meeting we will send you a summary letter covering all the main points so that you can refer back to this over the term.

Thank you to the many parents and family members who have already volunteered to come and help in the classrooms. Your help is so valuable and very much appreciated. If you would like to come in for just an hour to hear readers or help with spellings, painting or anything else, please see your child's teacher – the more, the merrier! It doesn't matter if you have never been in before, all are welcome.

We would like you to continue helping your child to learn at home by reading each evening and practising their tricky words. It really does make a difference to their progress in class when they read regularly at home.

Our first topic this term is **'Ourselves'**. We will be having talks by people from the community like the police, the fire brigade, dentists, nurses and paramedics and we are looking forward to this. Perhaps you can talk with your children about people in the community, the jobs that they do and the uniforms they wear. If you are one of those people and want to come to talk to the children, then please let us know!

Please can you make sure that your child has their PE kit in school **every day**. This includes plimsolls as we will be doing outdoor PE in the first half of this term. Please make sure that all PE kit is named!

We look forward to welcoming so many of you into the classroom over the term. Do not hesitate to come and ask us if there is anything you need help with.

All the teaching and support staff in Year 1.



## Mussels and Limpets Year 2 News

Welcome back to school! We hope that you had a good summer break and are now rested and ready for an active school year. Having met our new classes at the end of last term we are very much looking forward to some fantastic learning!

We would like to introduce the Year 2 team to you!  
**Mussels**– Mrs Mary Hoyle, Mrs Tina White (Teaching Assistant) and Mrs Jo Justice (Midday Supervisor)  
**Oysters**– Mrs Sarah Woodfinden, Mrs Sue Scott (Teaching Assistant) and Mrs Katja Drew (Midday Supervisor)

Our topic for the first half term is **Buildings and Structures**. We will begin by looking at castles and we have organised a trip to Pendennis Castle on **Thursday 17th September**. You will receive further information about this shortly in a separate letter. Please start collecting and sending in boxes of various shapes and sizes as the children will be making castle models!

Our focus (host) country in Year 2 is **India** so if you have any artefacts, fabric etc. we would be pleased to receive items on loan. During our topic we will be finding out about homes and important buildings in India.

We hope that you will continue to hear your child read regularly and spend some time together talking about the books they are reading. This year your child will have **spellings** to learn which will be brought home on a **Monday**. The test will take place on the following **Monday** when they will be given their new spellings. A thorough knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables in Maths is vital so the children will be receiving a Times Tables booklet to help you support them with this at home. The children will also receive a Rainbow Wall maths target to work on, about every 3 or 4 weeks. Please keep practising number bonds with your child.

We will be holding a **Welcome Meeting** for Year 2 parents on **Monday 7th September at 3.30 p.m.** where we will be able to give you much more information about life in Year 2. This is, of course, an important year where your child will be assessed formally against the national curriculum learning goals. We will talk to you about how this works and how best to support your child so that the year is an exciting and enjoyable one with no unnecessary pressures.

As always we look forward to a happy and productive term. In the meantime we are always grateful for help in the classroom.

We hope that your child will enjoy the forthcoming year. However, if you do have any concerns please get in touch straight away.



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## Term Dates for the Year

### Autumn Term 2009

3rd Sept—18th Dec

Half Term Fri 23rd Oct—Fri 30th Oct

Closure day for staff training Friday 23rd Oct

### Spring Term 2010

5th Jan—1st April

Half term Mon 12th—19th Feb

Closure day for staff training Friday 19th Feb

### Summer Term 2010

20th April—22nd July

Half term Mon 31st May—4th June



### For Year 6 Parents !!!!!

**Year 6 SATS week 2010 is May 10th—14th, 2010**

It is **very important** that your child is in school this week and

in the weeks prior to the tests. No holiday leave will be sanctioned during SAT's week for Year 6 pupils.



## Important dates in September

### 4th—15th September Year group

**Welcome Meetings** These meetings are very important as they set the scene for the coming year. All staff who are involved with your child will be represented. The meetings provide advice about how to support your child with their school work and homework. Please make every effort to attend.

**14th September Messy Play** resumes! This is a session from 2.00 to 3.00 on Mondays for Pre-school aged children. If you are a carer at home with a child of any age below school age you are welcome to join us for lots of messy activities, music and refreshments.

**9th / 10th Year 5 Day visits to Goonhilly** (separate letter issued)

**9th September Friends of Blue School** 1st meeting of year. (FOBS) This is a meeting for people interested in supporting the school with fund raising activities. We are always looking for new ideas and new members. Join us in the staffroom at 6.30 p.m.

**17th September Year 1 Day visit to Pendennis & Year 3 Day visit to Trevone Rockpools**(separate letters issued)

### 21st September Parents' Forum 2.15 Staffroom

This meeting is open to **all parents / carers**. It is an opportunity to talk with Jennie Walker (Headteacher) and Jessica Fergusson (Chair of Governors) about ideas and developments for the school.

**23rd—25th September Year 5 Residential to Delaware** (separate letter issued)



## Mackerel and Cod News Year 3

We hope that you had a restful break and are looking forward to a fun and active school year.

For the first 8 weeks of this term we will be investigating **habitats**, both within our own locality and in our host country **Peru**. We are excited that this year, we will be able to develop a link with a school in Peru. We hope to raise money to provide them with Solar Power, which will ultimately allow us to send email and use a video link to find out more about life there.

We are organising a variety of visits, including a local walk around St. Columb Minor in the morning of **9<sup>th</sup> of Sept** and a trip to **Trevone rockpools on Thursday 17th Sept**. We are currently looking for volunteers to help on these trips. If you are available please let us know! We will be leaving school to walk around the village at around 9.30 am and will return by lunchtime. The children will wear their school uniform for this activity.

In the classroom, children will be finding out how things grow in different habitats, and how changes can affect their growth. We will also be finding out the different ways in which people live their lives and finding out how homes are built to conditions. In Art we will be finding out, and experimenting with natural dyes from our habitat and are hoping to have a visitor in school to help us with this.

To encourage your child at home, **trips out to different habitats**, eg sand dunes, cliff tops, woodlands etc, and talking about what you see and find there, would be useful activities. We would love to see any photos of such explorations if they would like to bring them into school.

This year your child will have a spelling book which will be brought home on **Monday** ready for a test on **Friday**. From time to time your child will also receive homework for other subjects. Children usually enjoy following up class work in this way and we are grateful for your help. Maths targets involving learning number facts will also be issued. Practise at home will maximise their progress and give them a sense of achievement. Further information about this will be given our Parents Welcome Meeting on **Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 3.30** . If you are unable to attend please come and see us.

As always we look forward to a happy and productive term. In the meantime we are always grateful for help in the classroom, particularly with hearing children read.

We hope that your child will enjoy the forthcoming year. However, if you do have any concerns, please get in touch.

Emma Lawton, Helen Willson and Simon Rowe



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## September Sports News

Welcome back sports fans! This month sees the start of all of our Key Stage 2 clubs at Blue school with various matches already in the process of being secured. In this issue I have set out a list which shows our clubs for this term. They all start on the week beginning **21st September**. Please encourage the children to take part in these fantastic club opportunities which improve their skills and confidence.

We are hoping for continued success this year in all of our sporting competitions. Please remind the children that they must choose quickly and fill in the forms at the back of this Blue School News as numbers are limited.

To avoid confusion would **each child fill in one form for each club that they want to attend** and return it to MR. WITHERS as soon as possible. (Returning it to anyone else may waste time and lose you the chance of a place!)

Club	Club leader	When /Where	Year gp?
Cross country	Mrs. Pearce and Mr. Withers	Mr. Withers room at 3.15 – 4.15 Mondays	Yrs 2,3,4,5 and 6
Football Club	Mr. Boutwood, Mr. Withers/ Mr.Cook	Mr. Boutwood's room 3.15- 4.15 Thursdays	Yr 5 and 6 boys only.
Netball	Miss. Taylor Miss Begley	Miss Taylor's room at 3.15 – 4.15 Mondays	Yr 4,5,6 only
Tag Rugby	Mr. Rowe Mr. Bennetts	Mr. Rowe 's room 3.15– 4.15 Tuesdays	Yr 3,4,5,6 only
Writing	Mrs. Major Mrs Hoyle	Mrs Hoyle's room 3.15 – 4.15 Tuesdays	Yr 5,6 only
Science	Miss Irons Mr. Rowe	Mr Rowe's room Thursday Lunchtime	Yr 3,4,5,6
Gardening	Mrs Wilson	Yr5 work area Tuesdays 12.45-1.15	Yr 2,3,4,5,6
Girls Football	Mr. Cook	Mr. Withers Room 3.15 – 4.15 Wednesdays	Yr 4,5,6
CC4G	Miss Simpson	Library 3.15 – 4.15 Wednesdays	Yr 6
Dance	Miss Lawton	Hall 3.15 – 4.15 Fridays	Yr 5,6
Film Club	Mrs Woodfinden Miss Simpson	Mrs Woodfinden's room 3.15 – 4.15 Tuesdays	Starts with Yr 6 only
Ocarina	Mrs. Walker	Mr. Rowe's Room Tuesday lunchtimes	KS2 separate letters issued



## Early Doors

All entrance doors are opened at 8.45 a.m. and all children should enter school through the designated entrance for their year group / class. The teaching staff are in a briefing session from 8.30 a.m. and are not in their classrooms to be able to open doors or supervise children before 8.45. The official start time for lessons is 8.55 a.m. and all children need to be in class and ready to learn by this time. Doors cannot be opened earlier, even on wet days, because of the need to ensure appropriate supervision levels. Occasionally children will be given permission to wait in the front entrance area if this is negotiated with Mrs. Walker.



## Attendance Issues

**Please call the school if your child is absent.**

This is essential so that we know that your child is safe. If we have no message Anne Woolcock will phone you to check that your child is safe and so that we can record the absence under a correct coding.

As a school we have attendance targets to meet and we monitor attendance regularly. We would like to keep you informed of your child's attendance figure too. Termly we send letters to those pupils whose attendance is under 85%. This letter offers support if there is anything we can do to improve the attendance of your child. It is school policy to record your child's percentage attendance on holiday application forms. It is school policy not to authorise holidays if your child's attendance is below 85%.

### The value of regular attendance.

Research shows that pupils perform better if their parents or carers emphasise the importance of attending school.

### Your legal responsibilities.

You have a legal duty to make sure your child attends school regularly and punctually. The school and the Local Authority monitor your child's attendance and will take action if it is poor.

### Absence for a family holiday.

The Government recommends that family holidays are taken outside school terms. Headteachers will sometimes give permission for a pupil to go on holiday during term time. The Headteacher will consider the reasons for the holiday, the pupil's past attendance and the effects the absence will have on the pupil's learning. The Headteacher will not normally give permission simply because holidays cost less during term time and will not give permission for more than 10 days' absence for a holiday in any school year. Only in exceptional situations will the Head teacher give permission for a longer absence.

### Planning your holiday.

We publish dates of the school terms well ahead. This is to help you plan your holidays. When you do plan holidays please check that it does not clash with the school term.

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### Applying for absence because of a family holiday.

If you have to take your family holiday during school term, please complete the appropriate form. Please do not assume that you will automatically get permission for the absence because you have filled in the form. Please wait to hear if the Headteacher agrees to your request. We will endeavour to make sure the agreement is returned to you promptly via your child. If you do not hear anything please check with **Anne Woolcock** in the school office.

Tamsin Irons  
SENCO/Assistant Head



### Music Lessons

Just a quick reminder that the music service lessons will start on the week beginning Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> September. There are no changes to the times of the lessons so children should make their way to the place they had their lessons last term. Children who applied to start lessons in this term will receive notification of the time and place of the lessons from me. Ocarina classes will also start in the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> September.

There are a number of places available for children who want to start musical instrument lessons and parents should contact Mrs. Jenkin at school for further details.

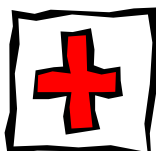
The KS2 choir will start rehearsals at 12.15 and KS1 at 12.35 on a Thursday lunchtime in Mrs. Jenkin's classroom 17<sup>th</sup> September. All children from KS1 and 2 are welcome to join as we prepare for Christmas!!

Julie Jenkin Music Subject Leader



### French Club

This club restarts on 16<sup>th</sup> September. It is on Wednesdays from 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. It is run by Madam Maggie Reeves. (ex—parent and voluntary helper of our school). If your child is interested in joining please send them along to the first session after speaking to the teacher. Telephone Maggie if you are interested—Tel. 01637 874239



### DANGER!!!!

Please ensure that the drop off zone at the front of the school is clear each day to allow parents to drop off and pick up children. We also need this area to be clear to allow coaches to pull in to pick up classes for visits or swimming. **THIS IS NOT A PARKING AREA** When cars are parked in this area it means that children are being dropped off in the road. This is not safe! Please work with us to keep your children safe! PCSO Phil Clatworthy will be helping us to enforce this across the term.



### Lunchtime Arrangements

We have **fourteen** midday supervisors to look after your children. That means one supervisor to each class. The lunch hour is split into three twenty minute sections and children are either at lunch, on the back playground or on the front playground.. Our children are organised and happy. Whilst on the playgrounds there are opportunities for the younger children to play with the older children, something that all of them enjoy.

Whilst in the 'Café Blue' dining area, children can choose from the colour coded menu. This system ensures that every child is provided with a balanced and healthy diet. The set meal price is currently £1.76 per day for the main meal and sweet. Water and milk is available for all children and juice can still be purchased at an additional cost. During September prices are expected to rise by about 10p.

Packed lunches are eaten in the hall and classrooms and children are expected to put any uneaten food or rubbish back into their lunchboxes so that **you know exactly what has been eaten each day**. Please do not send fizzy drinks or glass bottles as these pose a safety risk. Please also avoid sweets and bars of chocolate as we try to encourage a healthy balanced meal at lunchtime.

We place a great emphasis on table manners and encouraging children to enjoy the social side of sharing a meal with friends.



### Musical Theatre

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all those who came along and supported our **Big Green Adventure** production at the end of the Summer term.

I am sure you will all agree that the children were absolutely fabulous. I was very proud of them. A show of that size takes a lot of work and commitment by all involved and we feel that we worked really well as a group and pulled it off.

Thanks must go to all the staff involved who gave up their free time to help with lights, sound, music, dancing, staging, costumes etc. I am truly grateful to all of you.

If any of the children from this years 4 -6 feel inspired by the show then they will have an opportunity to join my Musical Theatre group in the next Summer term in 2010.

In the mean time to coach their singing skills I would love new members to attend Choir as mentioned also in this edition of Blue Briefing.

Thanks again for all your support.

Julie Jenkin  
Musical Theatre Leader.

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## Eco-Schools Green Flag status!!!!

Fantastic News – We have now received confirmation that we have achieved Eco-School Status and have been awarded the Green Flag. We will be celebrating this achievement during our International week which will be held early in September and hope that you will all get involved in a special event to mark this award. **We will send out a flyer at the beginning of the term to tell you how you can get involved and be part of the celebrations.** A big thank you must go to our pupils on the Eco-team and everyone who has contributed to making our school more sustainable.



Don't forget that we still need your help to maintain our garden plots, so if you are able to spare a few hours a week or even once a month – please see your child's class teacher to arrange a convenient time – we really appreciate your support.

### Garden Produce

The children in Y6 decided to start selling our garden produce on Thursday afternoons in July. This was a great success – they made £40 which will go back into the garden to grow things next year. We expect that there will still be a large amount of produce in September so will be selling the fresh vegetables on a Thursday afternoon 2.45 – 3.15 pm on the front and back playground. If it is raining we will sell it in the Y5 workspace – so please look out for this on a Thursday afternoon – if you would like to order any produce in advance please see Jane in the office and we will



### VOUCHERS

Firstly a BIG THANKYOU for the many vouchers that have been handed in for Tesco, Sainsburys etc.

We are always collecting vouchers of some kind! Ongoing ones are Nestle Box Tops, Books for Schools and



Milk Bottle Tops.



But new starting this week is the **Morrisons Let's Grow!** Where last year we collected a staggering 22,000 – can we beat that this year!! Just pop any vouchers just inside the door of the library or see Miss Simpson. THANKS

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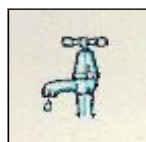
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## Otters and Seals News Year 4

Welcome to Year 4. We are ready for an exciting and challenging year. Are YOU?!

This term sees Mr. Russell Withers join us as the new teacher for Otters with Miss LindenTaylor looking forward to her second year in Seals. We have Mrs Jane Robinson (Seals) and Mrs Jane Browning (Otters) supporting the classes as our teaching assistants. The children are also supported throughout lunchtimes by Mrs Sarah Munday and Mrs Jane Robinson as our midday supervisors.

This term our topic is **Airports**. We link as much of our learning to this topic as we can, to make the learning as meaningful and interesting as possible. We will include all the usual subjects. In Science we are studying **Friction** and **Staying Healthy**. In Religious Education we are looking at **stories and symbolism in Christianity**. In Personal Health Social Education we consider **New Beginnings**. In Geography we are doing **map work** relating to the World.

This year our host country is once again **Kenya**. The first few days of this term will particularly focus on improving our knowledge and understanding of this country. As the year continues and we look at different topics we will compare and contrast life both here in Cornwall and in different areas of Kenya. Any artefacts knowledge, photos or links you might have about this country will be gratefully received. We are hoping to pursue the active link with Kenya that we established last year.

We will be holding our Parents Welcome meeting on **Thursday 10th September at 4.30pm** to discuss the programs of study for the year, class routines and expectations. This meeting is really useful as it will be a time for you to become familiar with the Year 4 team and our way of working. We will also answer any queries you may have.

We set homework on **Mondays**, please could you support your child with this activity and ensure it is returned for marking on a **Friday**. PE and Games take place every week. Please ensure the appropriate kit is in school throughout the week and that it is named.

In Year 4 we have an 'open door' policy, so please feel welcome to drop in to discuss any issues you may have, or to offer your own expertise to support the children's learning.

We look forward to meeting you all on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

The Keepers of the Otters and Seals



## New Children in School

A warm welcome is extended to all of our new Foundation Stage children and their families. We hope you have enjoyed your first few days of school life.

At the beginning of September eight new children are expected to join other year groups throughout the school!

We hope that all of our new children will settle into our school brilliantly. We hope that both the children and their families are enjoying their new environment and wish them every success living in the area.

Anne Woolcock  
Induction Tutor

## FILM CLUB **Calling Year 6!**

Your season of films is about to begin! Film Club restarts on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September in Oysters Classroom. A separate permission letter will be issued to you. Check out the web site at [www.filmclub.org](http://www.filmclub.org) and let Miss Simpson or I know any films you would like to request!

**Year 4**-your season begins straight after half term on Tuesday 3rd November-Watch this space!

Mrs Woodfinden and Miss Simpson



## Friends of Blue School FOBS!

A warm welcome to everyone! A special welcome to all of our new families!

Our group runs to support the school. Principally we are fundraisers but we like to think of ourselves as 'fun' raisers as well! Over the past few years we have worked hard to raise money to buy many extras that the school would not have been able to afford from its main budget.

Over the last few years we have been able to support the school with many of its projects including buying new musical instruments and a new sound system for the hall. We helped fund a kit car and provided the Foundation Stage outside area with a 'grass' surface.

Anyway WE NEED YOU!!! This is about OUR CHILDREN and we as parents need to come together to support the school. If you are interested please come to one of our meetings. We usually meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 6.30 p.m.

**PLEASE COME!!!!!!**

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## Dolphins and Swordfish News Year 5

It is lovely to be able to write to you so early in the term, the Year 5 children are already excited about being in Year 5 and are settling into their new classes very well.

On 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> September we have a trip to Goonhilly Earth Station booked and you should have details of this trip. There is no cost for this visit, so we are not asking for contributions this time, but we do require you to return the permission as stated on the letter. We are also all looking forward to the visit to **Delaware on 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September** and it will be great to get to know the children better and take part in some exciting activities. We also have some special plans for the children who are staying behind in school that week.

We begin the year with our **'Mission To Mars'** investigating all aspects of space travel to the red planet and whether life can be sustained on Mars including growing plants from seed in various conditions. The end product of this unit will be the construction of a model space station and rocket ship. We will be studying the **USA** as our International host country and for this we will be comparing such things as population, housing and the geography of America and Britain and how America has developed with a diverse population and large land area.

We have super classes this year who are already showing us how much effort they are prepared to make in their thinking and presentation. We hope they keep up their high standards as they start to take their homework home. We would really appreciate your encouragement with this.

We would also appreciate your help in ensuring that your child has PE kit in school on Tuesday and only take it home on a Friday for washing. Part of the PE curriculum this term will be outside. As the weather starts to get colder, it would be a good idea to ensure that your child has suitable tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt. They will also require a separate 'indoor' P.E kit. **Please name everything!!!!!!!**

We are very much looking forward to meeting you all at the parents meeting and camp meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September. Welcome Meeting 3.30 and Camp Meeting 4.30.

If you have any worries or queries about your child at school, your child's progress or wish to discuss any aspects of the Year 5 curriculum please feel free to call and make an appointment to see us.

Paul Boutwood, Julie Jenkin and all of the Year 5 team.



## Sharks and Whales News Year 6

Firstly welcome back! We hope you all had a fantastic summer break and the new Year 6 have already shown that they are enthusiastic and motivated in what is a very special year for them. We must take this opportunity to introduce Miss Emma Stewart as the new teacher for Whales and an exciting new member of the Year 6 team.

This term the children will take on a variety of special roles in school ranging from front desk and hall monitoring to helping in Key Stage 1 at lunch time and watering the school plants! We expect them to display a mature attitude, already they seem keen to learn.

We would like to invite all of our parents to our **Year 6 Parents Welcome Meeting on Thursday 10th September at 3.30pm** in Mrs. Major's room. This meeting is designed to give an introduction to our year, telling you all you need to know in order to help your child succeed. We will cover all areas of school life in the meeting including trips, uniform, the curriculum and SATs! We hope to see you there.

Can we take this opportunity to thank all parents for the high standard of the children's uniform. They are looking very smart. We would also like to remind parents that children need their PE kit in school every day taking it home on Fridays for a wash if necessary. This is obviously an important year for the children and we are very pleased with their initial start. Because of the obvious academic focus due to SATs we believe that a variety of school opportunities are vital. Please encourage your children to join the various clubs offered by filling in the slips at the back of this briefing. Over the summer we hope your children have been researching CHINA as their new IPC host country and our first unit **"The holiday show"** is focusing on travel around the world. The children will be coming home with more tasks and questions relating to this!

You will have received or soon will receive a letter from the local education authority about how to apply for a secondary school place. This year you are encouraged to apply on line. The website for this is [www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). If you would like to apply on line and need some assistance our ICT support Maggie Simpson would be happy to help. You can, of course, choose to apply on paper and send in your form to school. Whichever route you take please be aware of the closing date on the letter.

If you have any concerns we are generally available for a chat before or after school. Feel free to pop in!

Kind regards

Ali Major & Emma Stewart





## Do you understand how your child is supported if they are finding life in school or learning challenging?

In an attempt to keep all parents better informed about how we are supporting their children's learning I am suggesting a regular meeting for those who are interested.

I will be at the meeting, along with the Special Educational Needs governor and any relevant outside agencies that you as parents may find useful to speak to.

I hope this will become a way of you finding out more about ways to support your child's learning and how you may support each other.

I anticipate that we will meet half termly with a focus "topic" decided on by you the parents and time just to chat amongst ourselves about issues relevant to your children and our school.

**The first meeting will be at 2.15pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October in the Inclusion Office.** (The mobile classroom.)

I look forward to seeing you.

Tamsin Irons  
SENCO/Assistant Head with Responsibility for Inclusion.



## Netball Club

If you would like to play a fun, fast team game, then this is the club for you! We need boys **and** girls, especially from Year 5 and 6 as there will be a mixed tournament for you!

Sign up for netball and you will learn an exciting attacking and defending game.

The Netball Teachers  
Miss Taylor and Miss Begley



## Netball For Adults

Do you fancy having fun and keeping fit in a relaxed supportive environment?

Netball For Adults meets on **Mondays 4.30-6pm at Treviglas Dome.**

It is for men/women from our school community, any age group, beginners or more experienced players.

Please come along and boost our numbers!

Sarah Woodfinden



## Governor Corner

I can't believe it has been twelve months since I wrote my last governor corner article. A year ago I had been on my first Year 6 camp and then seen my eldest daughter leave Blue school.

Here I am again having been on another Year 6 camp and now my second daughter has just left Blue school. The July Leavers Assembly was a great success and again, for me, a very emotional experience.

Year 6 camp in July was at Okehampton again and thankfully the weather was so much better than the previous year and I didn't have to wear my waterproofs. We managed to do all of the activities which was great. The children were on a real high all week, full of enthusiasm and excitement. The gorge scrambling was a favourite and the Okehampton Castle trip was really interesting as we had a guide telling us about it and why it had been built the way it had. All in all it was a very successful trip and everyone came back tired and happy!

I think the camp is a fantastic end to our children's time in Year 6, something special for all the hard work they have done.

Thank you to all the staff, children and governors for making Blue School such a good school to be involved in. Hopefully the next few years will go a bit slower for me before the time when my youngest daughter is due to leave!

Gerry Hudson. Parent Governor



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Relevant medical information.....

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