



Headteacher's Newsletter – October 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

We have had a busy and fun filled first half term.

School Communication

We have been working on reducing paper communication and increasing our use of electronic communication, following feedback from parents and carers. We are now sending most letters home via email or messages via text/app.

Pupil Librarians

We are very pleased to announce that we have appointed 14 pupil librarians, who will be responsible for ensuring our library is kept clean and tidy (and remind others to do so too).

All our librarians responded to a 'job' advert, filled in an application form and attended an interview. We are very proud of them all and the confidence they have shown throughout this process.

Well Done everyone.

We will keep you updated on the work our librarians will be doing in our library and around the school.

Parent Forum – Quids 4 Kids

Our next parent forum is booked for the Wednesday 13th November 2019, 1.00-2.30pm at school. Caroline Harris from Citizens Advice Exeter will be talking about what benefits are available and how to claim them.

If you would like to attend please either ring the school or email veulbarker@millwater.devon.sch.uk to confirm your place.

Halloween Fancy Dress

Children have the option of dressing up for Halloween on Thursday 31st October 2019, if they wish to do so.

SEND Improvement Programme – Newsletter now available

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDEVONCC/bulletins/25a69f0>

The Friends of Mill Water School PTFA

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 29th October in school at 9.45am-11.30am.

Also, just as a reminder, The Friends of Mill Water School now have a Wonderful.org page. This is an online fundraising platform for anyone wanting to run their own event/race to raise money for The Friends of Mill Water. You can also raise money by using the Friends of Mill Water Easy Fundraising page.

Severe Weather Information - Arrangements for Winter 2019-2020

We will always do everything possible to keep the school open throughout the winter without compromising the safety of your children. **Severe Weather Information...**

- A text will be sent to parents by 7.30am if the school is going to close. Parents are asked to avoid calling the school as staff will be busy and cannot answer. Also, calling the school blocks the lines for staff to report in or essential calls to be made.
- Information will also be **posted on the front page of the school website.**



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- Notifications will also be on the [Devon CC school closures page](#)
- If conditions deteriorate during a school day a decision may be made to close the school early **PLEASE NOTE SOMETIME TRANSPORT WILL MAKE THIS DECISION AND ARRIVAL TIMES WILL BE DEPENDANT ON EACH ROUTE**. A text will always be sent to parents to inform them of any changes.
- Closed schools will be announced on the local radio stations and listed on the DCC website.
- If you do not hear from the school then assume it is a normal day and we are OPEN.

Parents should not take any unnecessary risks in trying to get their children to school.

Please note that school transport may be cancelled but you will be informed directly.

Please see the school website for more information including criteria we consider before closing the school - https://www.millwater.devon.sch.uk/web/severe_weather_information/428356

We wish you all a lovely time over half term and look forward to seeing the children again on Monday 28th October.



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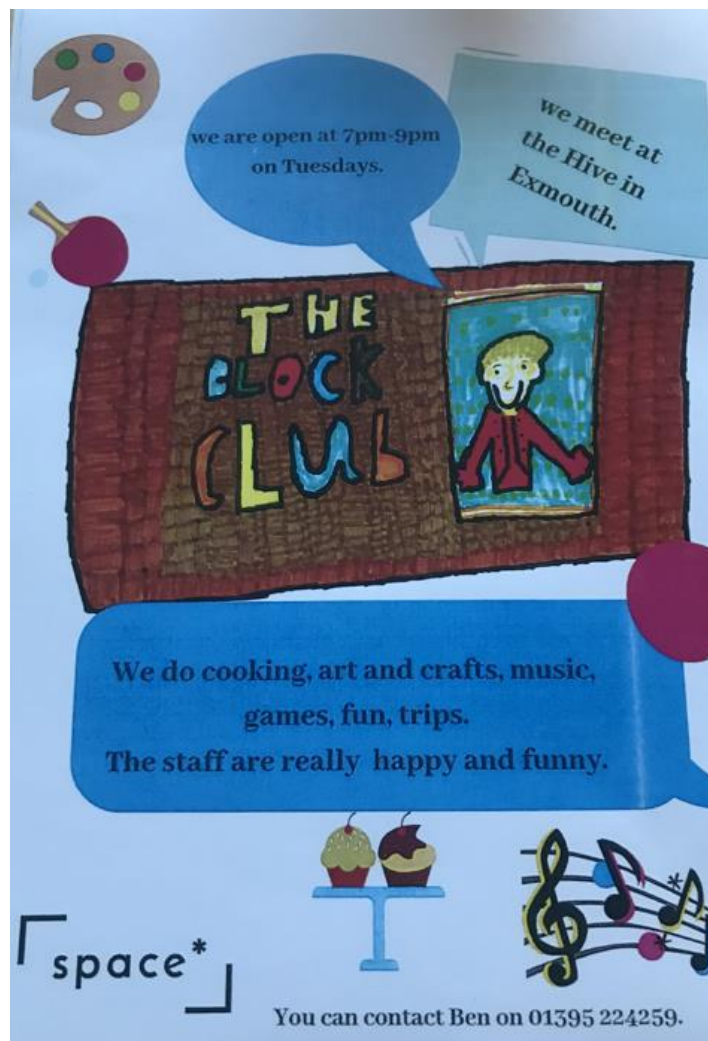
Signposting

Esteem - a bespoke support service for children with additional needs, offering art and music sessions, yoga, lego therapy, advocacy, enabling, speech and language support etc. www.esteemteam.co.uk

The Block Club – The Hive, Exmouth - It is run by qualified youth workers, they have disabled access and toilets, it is for young people from 11-19 with additional needs and they always have a music and art activity. It is run by Space, which was known as Devon Youth Service.

The first session is free and there after its £1 a session.

There is a separate social group for over 18's.





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Dates for your diary			
What	When	Time	Where
Half Term	Monday 21 st – Friday 25 th October 2019		
School Start after half term	Monday 28 th October 2019	9.00am	School
PTFA Meeting	Tuesday 29 th October 2019	9.45-11.30am	School
Halloween Fancy Dress (Optional)	Thursday 31 st October 2019	All day	School
Parent Forum – Quids 4 Kids (Information Session with Caroline Harris)	Wednesday 13 th November 2019	1.00-2.30pm	School
School Closed (Occasional Day)	Friday 22 nd November 2019		
School Closed (Occasional Day)	Monday 25 th November 2019		
PTFA Meeting	Tuesday 26 th November 2019	9.45-11.30am	School
AGM PTFA Christmas Fayre	Friday 06 th December 2019	10.00-11.30am	School
Father Christmas Sleigh Visit (Rotary Club)	Tuesday 17 th December 2019	10.00am	School
Classes 1, 2, 3 Christmas Show	Tuesday 17 th December 2019	1.30-2.30pm	School
Christmas Lunch (for children)	Wednesday 18 th December 2019	Lunchtime	School
Classes, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Christmas Show (1 st show)	Wednesday 18 th December 2019	1.30-2.30pm	School
Classes, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Christmas Show (2 nd show)	Thursday 19 th December 2019	10.00-11.00am	School
Upper School Carol Service	Friday 20 th December 2019	10.30-11.30am (to be seated by 10.20am please)	St Peters Church, Budleigh
School Closed for Christmas Holidays	Monday 23 rd December – Wednesday 08 th January 2020		
School Start for Spring Term	Wednesday 08 th January 2020	9.00am	School